

**Bulletin
of the
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No 12
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7th year

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The Supplements are published separately as annexes to the Bulletin. They include the official texts of the Commission (communications of the Council, reports, proposals) of the documents published under the double responsibility of the Council and of the Commission. The Supplements are not published in Spanish.

BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

**European Coal and Steel Community
European Economic Community
European Atomic Energy Community**

**Commission of the European Communities
Secretariat of the Commission
Brussels**

**no.12
1974
7th year**

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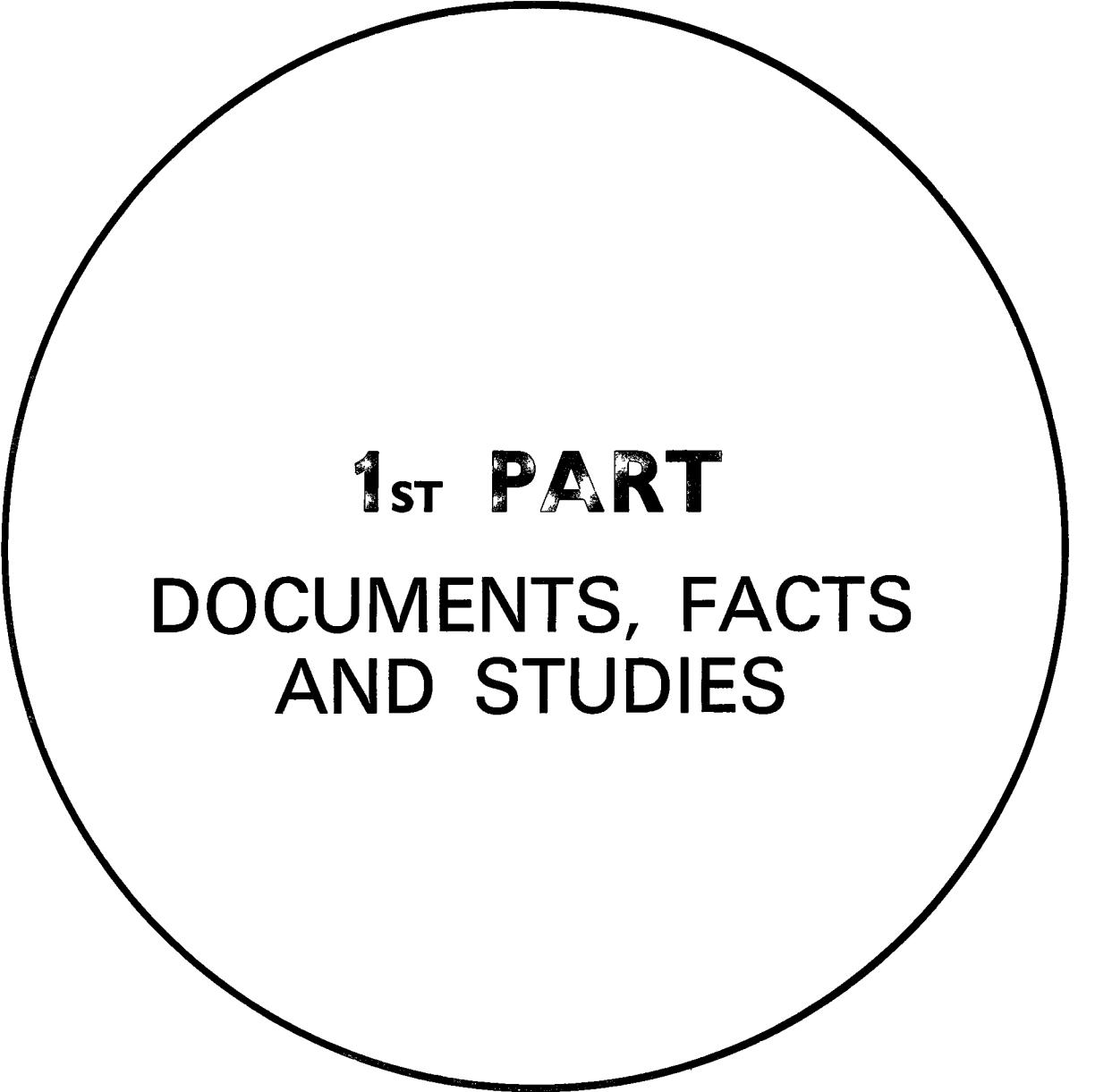
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1ST PART

**DOCUMENTS, FACTS
AND STUDIES**

1. Meeting of the Heads of Government

Heads of Government

1101. The Heads of Government of the Community and the President of the Commission, Mr Ortoli met in Paris on 9 and 10 December. The meeting had been prepared by an *ad hoc* Group¹ whose work had enabled a number of common guidelines to be hammered out.

1102. During its sitting of 9 December, the European Parliament had appealed to the Heads of Government to give new momentum to the process of European unification as expressed in the following Resolution:

Resolution for the Conference of Heads of Government in Paris on 9 and 10 December 1974

The European Parliament,

- welcoming the initiative of the President of the French Republic in calling this Conference at a critical moment for Europe, in view of the need to give fresh impetus to European unification,
- stressing the urgent need to move on in the economic and financial fields as well in the general political field, from declarations of intent to practical decisions, which is a prerequisite for any further progress towards European union and the strengthening of the Community's popular support,
- having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee.

1. Calls upon the Conference:

A. to confirm the commitments entered into at the Paris Conference of October 1972 and the Copenhagen Conference of December 1973 on the progressive development of the Community towards a European Union and to transform them into specific directives;

B. to decide, consequently, on the creation of an overall Community policy designed to:

- fight inflation resolutely,

- ensure a high level of employment and to protect workers' earnings,
- give new impetus to economic recovery,
- implement a Community energy and raw materials policy to safeguard supplies, while maintaining the necessary solidarity, and to organize a dialogue between the producer and consumer countries, a pre-condition for a common energy policy and for successful cooperation between the energy producing and energy consuming countries is full participation by the European Community in the OECD International Energy Supply Agency,
- implement at last, in accordance with votes by the European Parliament, the decision to establish a regional development fund with sufficient resources to aid the less-favoured regions of the Community;

2. Requests that, for the purpose of putting this policy into effect, the decision-making procedures provided for in the Treaties should be restored and applied in the Council;
3. Requests that the transformation of the present political cooperation procedure into a Community procedure be speeded up;
4. Requests that the European Parliament be granted joint decision-making, budgetary and supervisory powers;
5. Requests that the Council be instructed to fix by 30 June 1975 a date for its election by direct universal suffrage not later than 1980;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Conference of Heads of Government, the Parliaments of the Member States, and the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2501, and 11-1974, points 2501 and 2502.

1103. In a letter from its Chairman, Mr Canonge, to the Heads of Government, 'The Economic and Social Committee considers that the Summit Conference should not confine itself to generalities, or draw up a sort of catalogue which would remain a dead letter. The various economic interests and social groups in the Community find it hard to understand why fundamental questions like energy or regional policy have so far led to nothing but statements of intent. They would also fail to understand it if, at a time when men and their families throughout the Community are threatened with the spectre of unemployment, the Summit Conference were to close without making it clear that concrete measures will be taken to combat and begin to remedy this grave situation. The Committee considers that only decisions which lead to concrete action will receive the consensus support of the economic and social forces which it represents.'

1104. After the meeting of the Heads of Government, the following Communiqué was issued:

Communiqué

1. The heads of Government of the nine States of the Community, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the President of the Commission, meeting in Paris at the invitation of the French President, examined the various problems confronting Europe. They took note of the reports drawn up by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and recorded the agreement reached by these Ministers on various points raised in the reports.

2. Recognizing the need for an overall approach to the internal problems involved in achieving European unity and the external problems facing Europe, the Heads of Government consider it essential to ensure progress and

overall consistency in the activities of the Communities and in the work on political cooperation.

3. The Heads of Government have therefore decided to meet, accompanied by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, three times a year and, whenever necessary, in the Council of the Communities and in the context of political cooperation.

The administrative secretariat will be provided for in an appropriate manner with due regard for existing practices and procedures.

In order to ensure consistency in Community activities and continuity of work, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, meeting in the Council of the Community, will act as initiators and coordinators. They may hold political cooperation meetings at the same time.

These arrangements do not in any way affect the rules and procedures laid down in the Treaties or the provisions on political cooperation in the Luxembourg and Copenhagen Reports. At the various meetings referred to in the preceding paragraphs the Commission will exercise the powers vested in it and play the part assigned to it by the above texts.

4. With a view to progress towards European unity, the Heads of Government reaffirm their determination gradually to adopt common positions and coordinate their diplomatic action in all areas of international affairs which affect the interests of the European Community. The President-in-Office will be the spokesman for the Nine and will set out their views in international diplomacy. He will ensure that the necessary concertation always takes place in good time.

In view of the increasing role of political cooperation in the construction of Europe, the European Assembly must be more closely associated with the work of the Presidency, for example through replies to questions on political cooperation put to him by its Members.

5. The Heads of Government consider it necessary to increase the solidarity of the Nine both by improving Community procedures and by developing new common policies in areas to be decided on and granting the necessary powers to the Institutions.

6. In order to improve the functioning of the Council of the Community, they consider that it is necessary to renounce the practice which consists of making agreement on all questions conditional on the unanimous consent of the Member States, whatever their respective positions may be regarding the conclusions reached in Luxembourg on 28 January 1966.

7. Greater latitude will be given to the Permanent Representatives so that only the most important political problems need be discussed in the Council. To this end, each Member State will take the measures it considers necessary to strengthen the role of the Permanent Representatives and involve them in preparing the national positions on European affairs.

8. Moreover, they agree on the advantage of making use of the provisions of the Treaty of Rome whereby the powers of implementation and management arising out of Community rules may be conferred on the Commission.

9. Cooperation between the Nine in areas outside the scope of the Treaty will be continued where it has already begun. It should be extended to other areas by bringing together the representatives of the Governments, meeting within the Council whenever possible.

10. A working party will be set up to study the possibility of establishing a passport union and, in anticipation of this, the introduction of a uniform passport.

If possible, this draft should be submitted to the Governments of the Member States before 31 December 1976. It will, in particular, provide for stage-by-stage harmonization of legislation

affecting aliens and for the abolition of passport control within the Community.

11. Another working party will be instructed to study the conditions and the timing under which the citizens of the nine Member States could be given special rights as members of the Community.

12. The Heads of Government note that the election of the European Assembly by universal suffrage, one of the objectives laid down in the Treaty, should be achieved as soon as possible. In this connection, they await with interest the proposals of the European Assembly, on which they wish the Council to act in 1976. On this assumption, elections by direct universal suffrage could take place at any time in or after 1978.

Since the European Assembly is composed of representatives of the peoples of the States united within the Community, each people must be represented in an appropriate manner.

The European Assembly will be associated with the achievement of European unity. The Heads of Government will not fail to take into consideration the points of view which, in October 1972, they asked it to express on this subject.

The competence of the European Assembly will be extended, in particular by granting it certain powers in the Communities legislative process.

Statement by the United Kingdom delegation

The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom explained that Her Majesty's Government did not wish to prevent the Governments of the other eight Member States from making progress with the election of the European Assembly by universal suffrage. Her Majesty's Government could not themselves take up a position on the proposal before the process of renegotiation had been completed and the results of renegotiation submitted to the British people.

Statement by the Danish delegation

The Danish delegation is unable at this stage to commit itself to introducing elections by universal suffrage in 1978.

13. The Heads of Government note that the process of transforming the whole complex of relations between the Member States, in accordance with the decision taken in Paris in October 1972, has already started. They are determined to make further progress in this direction.

In this connection, they consider that the time has come for the Nine to agree as soon as possible on an overall concept of European Union. Consequently, in accordance with the requests made by the Paris meeting of Heads of Government in October 1972, they confirm the importance which they attach to the reports to be made by the Community institutions. They request the European Assembly, the Commission and the Court of Justice to bring the submission of their reports forward to before the end of June 1975. They agreed to invite Mr Tin demans, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium, to submit a comprehensive report to the Heads of Government before the end of 1975, on the basis of the reports received from the Institutions and of consultations which he is to have with the Governments and with a wide range of public opinion in the Community.

Economic and monetary union

14. The Heads of Government, having noted that internal and international difficulties have prevented in 1973 and 1974 the accomplishment of expected progress on the road to EMU, affirm that in this field their will has not weakened and that their objective has not changed since the Paris Conference.

Convergence of economic policies

15. The Heads of Government discussed the economic situation in the world and in the Community.

16. They noted that the increase in prices is adding to inflationary tendencies and balance of payments deficits and intensifying the threat of general recession. The resulting alterations in the terms of trade are forcing the Member States to redirect their production structures.

17. The Heads of Government reaffirm that the aim of their economic policy continues to be to combat inflation and maintain employment. The cooperation of both sides of industry will be essential if this policy is to succeed. They emphasize that in the present circumstances high priority must be given to economic revival in conditions of stability i.e. action aimed both at preventing a general economic recession and restoring stability. This must not involve any recourse to protectionist measures which, by setting up a chain reaction could jeopardize economic revival.

Member States which have a balance of payments surplus must implement an economic policy of stimulating domestic demand and maintaining a high level of employment, without creating new inflationary conditions. Such an attitude would make it easier for countries which have considerable balance of payments deficits to follow a policy which will ensure a satisfactory level of employment, stabilization of costs and an improvement in their external trade balance without resorting to protectionist measures.

18. In the context of the effort to be made by countries having a surplus, the Heads of Government greet the economic policy measures already adopted by the Netherlands' Government as a step in the right direction. They also note with satisfaction the short-term economic programme

which the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany intends to follow, particularly as regards stimulating public and private investment, and the fact that the Belgian Government intends to follow suit.

They also express satisfaction at the efforts made by the countries having a balance of payments deficit to maintain their competitive position so as to achieve a more satisfactory balance of payments and to improve the level of employment.

19. While acknowledging the special situation of each of the Member States of the Community—which makes a uniform policy inappropriate—the Heads of Government stress that it is absolutely necessary to agree on the policies to be adopted. This convergence will be meaningful only if it works towards Community solidarity and is based on effective permanent consultation machinery. The Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance will be responsible, within the framework of Community procedures, for implementing these guidelines.

20. It is obvious that all these policies will be really effective only in so far as the world's major industrialized countries succeed in arresting incipient recessionary tendencies.

In this connection, they note with satisfaction the account given by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany of his talks with the President of the United States.

They desire that, at his forthcoming meeting with President Ford, the President of the French Republic should, on behalf of the Community, stress the importance of convergence between the economic policies of all industrialized countries along the lines indicated above.

They also wish the Community and its Member States to do the same during the forthcoming international consultations and in the appropriate internal bodies.

21. The Community will continue to contribute to the harmonious expansion of world trade, especially in relation to developing countries, and in order to do so will take a constructive part in the GATT trade negotiations which it hopes to see actively continued in the near future.

Regional policy

22. The Heads of Government have decided that the European Regional Development Fund, designed to correct the principal regional imbalances in the Community resulting notably from agricultural predominance, industrial change and structural under-employment will be put into operation by the institutions of the Community with effect from 1 January 1975.

23. The Fund will be endowed with 300 million u.a. in 1975, with 500 million u.a. for each of the years 1976 and 1977 i.e. 1300 million u.a.

24. This total sum of 1300 million u.a. will be financed up to a level of 150 million u.a. by credits not presently utilized from the EAGGF (Guidance Section).

The resources of the Fund will be divided along the lines envisaged by the Commission:

Belgium: 1.5%;

Denmark: 1.3%;

France: 15%;

Ireland: 6%;

Italy: 40%;

Luxembourg: 0.1%;

Netherlands: 1.7%;

Federal Republic of Germany: 6.4%;

United Kingdom: 28%.

Ireland will in addition be given another 6 million u.a. which will come from a reduction in the shares of the other Member States with the exception of Italy.

Employment problems

25. The effort needed to combat inflation and the risks of recession and unemployment as described above must accord with the imperatives of a progressive and equitable social policy if it is to receive support and cooperation from both sides of industry, both at national and Community level.

In this respect, the Heads of Government emphasize that the Economic and Social Committee can play an important role in associating both sides of industry in the definition of the Community's economic and social aims.

Above all, vigorous and coordinated action must be taken at Community level to deal with the problem of employment. This will require the Member States, in conjunction with the organizations concerned, to coordinate their employment policies in an appropriate manner and to set priority targets.

26. When the time is ripe, the Council of the Community will consider, in the light of experience and with due regard to the problem of the regions and categories of workers most affected by employment difficulties, whether and to what extent it will be necessary to increase the resources of the Social Fund.

27. Being convinced that in this period of economic difficulty special emphasis should be placed on social measures, the Heads of Government reaffirm the importance which they attach to implementation of the measures listed in the Social Action Programme approved by the Council in its Resolution of 21 January 1974.

28. The Heads of Government make it their objective to harmonize the degree of social security afforded by the various Member States, while maintaining progress but without requiring that the social systems obtaining in all Member States should be identical.

Energy

29. The Heads of Government discussed the energy problem and in this connection the related major financial problems created for the Community and for the wider world.

30. They further noted that the Ministers of Energy of the Community countries are due to meet on 17 December.

31. The Heads of Government, aware of the paramount importance which the energy problem has in world economy, have discussed the possibilities for cooperation between oil exporting and oil importing countries, on which subject they heard a report from the Federal Chancellor.

32. The Heads of Government attach very great importance to the forthcoming meeting between the President of the United States and the President of the French Republic.

33. The Heads of Government, referring to the Council Resolution of 17 September 1974, have invited the Community institutions to work out and to implement a common energy policy in the shortest possible time.

Britain's membership of the Community

34. The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom indicated the basis on which Her Majesty's Government approached the negotiations regarding Britain's continued membership of the Community, and set out the particular issues to which the Government attached the highest importance.

35. The Heads of Government recall the statement made during the accession negotiations by the Community to the effect that 'if unacceptable situations were to arise, the very life of the Community would make it imperative for the institutions to find equitable solutions'.

36. They confirm that the system of 'own resources' represents one of the fundamental elements of the economic integration of the Community.

37. They invite the institutions of the Community (the Council and the Commission) to set up as soon as possible a correcting mechanism of a general application which, in the framework of the system of 'own resources' and in harmony with its normal functioning, based on objective criteria and taking into consideration in particular the suggestions made to this effect by the British Government, could prevent during the period of convergence of the economies of the Member States, the possible development of situations unacceptable for a Member State and incompatible with the smooth working of the Community.

1105. The reactions to the outcome of the meeting of the Heads of Government were generally positive both in the Member States and at Community level.

In the evening of 10 December, President Giscard d'Estaing commented to the press on the results of the Summit meeting which he had chaired. Replying to the question whether the crisis in Europe had been warded off, the President said that Europe was a living organism developing in particularly difficult circumstances and in a difficult world. Europe was a creation which for the moment required resolve and patience. He added that in view of the interests involved and the issues which for a long time had blocked the European countries from coming together, the Nine had helped during this meeting to affirm Europe's progress.

During a debate on 11 December,¹ the European Parliament welcomed the results and stressed the need for the Community institutions to keep up the new impetus. Mr *FitzGerald*, Ireland's

Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking as the representative of the President of the Council, said:

'I believe that the meeting of the last two days has seen considerable progress. I should first like to summarize some of the main themes that seem to me to emerge, before looking in more detail at the points in the communiqué. First of all, I think there has been progress towards an overall approach to the internal and external, political and economic problems of Europe. There has been progress in bringing these more closely together in a single framework...'

The fact is that we have made modest, but significant progress over a wider field than most people anticipated and I think we are in a position to build on that but we have an awful lot of building to do before we create Europe.'

Presenting the Commission's opinion to Parliament, President Ortoli said:

'It was undeniably a working Summit where major questions of principle, such as those concerning this House, and practical problems were tackled, and in some cases settled...'

It was a Summit which met with major, specified, limited objectives and it obtained equally specific and limited results, some of which, however, are vital for the future of our Community...

There were indeed decisions, and even more important, prospects unfolded, the extent of which only the future will clearly reveal...

I hope that this summit will bear much more fruit; but in every instance it will be the result of daily effort, since it is in fact the means which have been brought to bear, an instrument, a process which is the process of the Treaty but strengthened in its political drive. It is now up to us to see that it remains the Treaty process and that the political drive finds expression.'

¹ Point 2403.

1106. On 12 December, the Commission published the following statement:

'The Commission notes that the meeting of Heads of Government, which had limited objectives, yielded limited but positive results which offer prospects of progress for the Community's development.

On the institutional side, the arrangements concerning the functioning of the institutions can lead to greater decision-making capacity within the Community framework. On this score, the Commission stresses the importance of the fact that the Heads of Government are to meet regularly in future within the Council, and the importance of the responsibilities assigned to the Foreign Ministers' meeting within the Council of the Community.¹

The Commission will have to follow up the full application of the decision to relinquish the unanimity method, both at Council level and by changing the working methods of the bodies subordinate to the Council.

The Commission emphasizes the value it has always set on the direct election of the European Parliament and the expansion of its legislative powers. The Commission's position on this issue has always been perfectly clear.

Regarding European Union, the Commission notes that the special assignment given to the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Tindemans, respects the responsibilities peculiar to the Community institutions (and in particular Parliament) and that it will create a dialogue with bodies representing public opinion in the Community.

Concerning the passages of the Communiqué which refer to convergence of economic policies, the Commission notes the importance of the forthcoming Council meetings of Economy and Finance Ministers on this issue. The Commission has laid several ideas before the Council enabling it to rule on a number of major questions.

With regard to employment problems, the Commission recalls that they are on the agenda of the Tripartite Conference and the Council's social affairs session early next week. This meeting should lead to a revitalized Standing Committee on Employment.

The Commission notes that the energy problems could not be comprehensively dealt with at the Summit meeting. The Commission will spotlight the importance which should be attached to the determination expressed by the Heads of Government to promote the mounting of a common energy policy.²

The Commission stresses that the decisions to bring the European Regional Development Fund into operation at the earliest opportunity and to endow it for an initial three-year period signal a vital breakthrough. The Commission recalls that, despite all the difficulties encountered, it has perseveringly and singlemindedly fought for the swift implementation of the Fund by sticking to the basic principles of its proposals (for a Fund with a general role as the instrument of a Community policy) and striving to ensure that its resources, although smaller than hoped for, would be focused on the most underfavoured regions.

With respect to the provisions in the Communiqué relating to the United Kingdom's continued membership of the Community, the Commission notes that they refer to a study procedure and not eventual decisions. It will shortly have to consider the internal arrangements to be made by its own organization. The Commission welcomes the spirit of mutual understanding enabling that part of the Communiqué to be adopted.'

¹ Section 3, paragraph 3 of the Communiqué.

² Section 30 of the Communiqué, point 1104.

2. Community energy policy

Community energy policy

1201. During the session on energy problems, which it decided to hold before the end of 1974, and which took place on 17 December 1974, the Council set out the main lines of Community policy in this sector.

In the Resolution which it passed on 17 September 1974,¹ i.e., precisely three months earlier, the Council had decided to hold a session on energy before the end of the year, when it would rule on the target figures for Community production and consumption from now until 1985, on the guidelines and action required for the development of each energy source and on the conditions for the orderly functioning of the common energy market.

Having received a series of relevant Communications and Proposals² from the Commission in November, the Council, meeting in Brussels on 17 December, approved a Resolution on Community energy policy objectives for 1985, a Resolution on a Community action programme for the rational utilization of energy (the full texts of both Resolutions follow in this Chapter) and on several Directives and Regulations and Decisions concerning hydrocarbons.³

The Council is to meet every two months from now on, to deal with energy problems. The next session on energy will take place on 13 February 1975.

Council Resolution on the objectives for 1985

1202. There follows the complete text of the Resolution approved by the Council:

The Council of the European Communities,
Having noted the Commission's communication of 29 November 1974 'Community energy policy — Objectives for 1985';
Considering the Resolution it adopted on 17 September 1974;

Whereas, in accordance with point 10 of that Resolution, the Commission will record every six months and the Council will periodically discuss the progress made in the realization of the Community objectives, and in particular the measures taken at Community and national level;

Whereas, at their meeting in Paris on 9 and 10 December 1974 the Heads of Government of the Member States of the Community called upon the Community institutions to work out and implement a common energy policy as quickly as possible;

Whereas implementation of such a policy involves the drawing up of quantitative joint objectives representing guidelines for national policies and serving as a significant guide for energy producers and consumers in the Community;

Whereas the energy policy objectives of the Community show how much can be achieved by implementing a common policy;

Whereas each of the Member States should be able, according to its own resources and restraints, to contribute to the attainment of these objectives;

Whereas the continuation of a high degree of Community dependence on energy sources, especially oil, imported from third countries, would, under the present and foreseeable conditions on the world market, be such as to jeopardize the economic balance of the Community and economic and social progress; and whereas it is therefore necessary to reduce this dependence as much as possible;

¹ Bull. EC 9-1974, point 1402.

² Bull. EC 11-1974, points 1601 and 2266 to 2275.

³ Points 2268 to 2270 and 2273.

Considering the prospects held out by the various sources of energy for the attainment of this objective, taking account of the time required to put them into use, of their potential long-term contribution, of the economic conditions for making them available and of the need to develop secure and competitive resources and to ensure the protection of the environment;

Whereas it should be possible to apply coherent guidelines to the various energy resources of the Community while complying with the Treaties;

Part I—General objectives

Paragraph 1

Affirms that, on the basis of present prospects within the Member States, the Community's level of dependence on imported energy will reach 50% by 1985.

Total primary energy requirements¹

	For the record		1985 Objectives (figures rounded off)	
	1973 Estimates	1985 Initial forecasts ²	50% dependence	40% dependence
Solid fuels	22.6	10	17	17
Oil	61.4	64	49	41
Natural gas	11.6	15	18	23
Hydroelectric and geothermal power	3.0	2	3	3
Nuclear energy	1.4	9	13	16
Total requirements	100	100	100	100

¹ Internal consumption + exports + bunkers.

² Source: 'Prospects of primary energy demand in the Community (1975 - 1980 - 1985)', supplemented by an estimate made in January 1973 for the new Member States.

Part II—Specific objectives

Paragraph 5

Decides to pursue the following specific objectives:

1. Energy demand

A. Reduce the rate of growth of energy consumption for the Community as a whole in order to achieve by 1985 a level 15% below the January 1973 estimates, bearing in mind that this percentages may be different for the various Member States and without ruling out the possibility of setting specific objectives, depending on circumstances, for saving energy in the shorter term.

B. Alter the pattern in energy consumption by progressively increasing the use of reliable energy sources and relying more and more on electricity as nuclear energy in particular is developed. The Commission feels that in this way electricity would cover 35% of energy consumption by 1985.

2. Energy supply

A. Solid fuels

- Maintain the level of the Community's coal production (180 Mtoe by 1985) under economically satisfactory conditions.

- Increase the possibilities of importing coal from third countries (40 Mtoe by 1985),

- Raise brown coal and peat production to 30 Mtoe.

B. Natural gas

- Step up Community research and production (land and underwater deposits) to obtain at least 175, and if possible 225 Mtoe by 1985;

- Secure imports of 95-115 Mtoe from third countries.

C. Nuclear energy

Provide power stations with an installed capacity of at least 160 GWe and, if possible, of 200 GWe by 1985.

D. Hydroelectric and geothermal power

Establish and develop sites for the production of hydroelectric and geothermal power to raise their contribution to energy supply to 45 Mtoe.

E. Oil

- Restrict oil consumption where it can be economically replaced by other energy sources,

- Step up research and Community production (land and underwater deposits) to at least 180 Mtoe by 1985,

- Cut back imports from third countries to 550 Mtoe (640 in 1973) according to national prospects; the objective proposed by the Commission for other energy sources would enable this amount to be reduced to 420 Mtoe. The percentage of imported oil in the total energy requirements would be respectively 38 and 28% (61% in 1973) or 75 to 70% of oil consumption (98% in 1973).

F. Other sources of energy

Ensure by a technological research and development policy that traditional forms of energy are better exploited and, in the long term, replaced by new sources of energy.

Paragraph 6

Requests Member States to take account of these Community objectives when framing their energy policies.

Paragraph 7

Requests the Commission to submit six-monthly reports to it, the first on 30 June 1975, on the

progress made towards achieving the Community objectives, and in particular on the measures taken at Community and national level.

Paragraph 8

Requests the Commission to submit proposals for the implementation of this Resolution.

Rational Utilization of Energy

1203. The Council recorded its agreement on the Resolution on a community Action Programme on the rational utilization of energy:

The Council of the European Communities,
Having noted that, in its communication to the Council entitled 'Rational Utilization of Energy', the Commission has drawn up a Community action programme in this field;

Whereas, in its Resolution of 17 September 1974, the Council recorded its agreement to the objective of 'reducing the rate of growth of internal consumption by measures for using energy rationally and economically without jeopardizing social and economic growth objectives'; Having regard to the Council Resolution of 17 December 1974 on the objectives of the Community energy policy;

Having regard to the new situation prevailing on the world energy market and, in particular, the rise in the prices of energy resources;

Whereas more rational utilization of energy is intended to improve energy output by reducing losses and gradually eliminating non-essential consumption;

Whereas such action could contribute towards reducing the growth of the Community's energy demand without, however, jeopardizing economic and social growth objective;

Whereas it is necessary for the Member States and the Commission to exchange information on the experience acquired and the measures planned at national and Community levels concerning the rational utilization of energy in order to

ensure that they are coordinated and, as far as is necessary, harmonized;

Whereas the Commission forwarded to the Council on 5 August 1974 a communication entitled 'Energy for Europe: Research and Development',¹

(1) Adopts the objective of reducing the medium- to long-term growth rate of energy consumption for the Community as a whole in order to achieve, by 1985, a level of consumption which is 15% lower than the figure anticipated for that date in the Commission's initial estimates drawn up in January 1973, while bearing in mind that this figure could differ according to the particular situation of each Member State;

(2) Reserves the right to fix special objectives for shorter-term energy savings in the light of circumstances and acting on a proposal from the Commission;

(3) Takes note of the measures defined in the aforementioned action programme for attaining the objective referred to in paragraph (1) above;

(4) Takes note of the procedure proposed for implementing this programme;

(5) Invites the Commission to report back to it, at regular intervals, on both the situation in the Member States and progress towards the Community objective;

(6) Takes note of the Commission's intention of setting up a 'Steering and Coordinating Committee for the Rational Utilization of Energy' composed of national experts of the Member States. The participants in this Committee will exchange information and hold consultations on the experience acquired concerning the rational utilization of energy and on the broad outlines of the measures proposed in this field;

(7) Notes that the Commission will submit appropriate proposals to the Council.

¹ Supplement 5/74 — Bull. EC.

3. Advance on the social front

Advance on the social front

1301. A Council session on social affairs on 17 December and a Conference, the day before, attended by the Council, the Commission, the Member States' Representatives and both sides of industry enabled a major advance to be made with the Community social policy.

The Council agreed two Directives and two Regulations as part of implementing the social action programme. Apart from these practical measures concerning specific matters, the Conference of 16 December discussed the prospects of European social policy.

The results of the Council session

1302. The Council approved four major Proposals, prior to their swift adoption after the texts have been legally finalized.

Equal pay for men and women

1303. The Council recorded its agreement in principle to the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the application of the principle of equal pay for men and women contained in Article 119 of the EEC Treaty.

This Directive is aimed at ensuring observance of the principle of equal pay. This principle means the elimination, for identical work or for work to which equal value has been attributed, of all discrimination on grounds of sex with regard to all aspects and conditions of remuneration.

This Directive is also aimed at eliminating all discrimination which may still exist in certain legal provisions, and at rendering null and void any provisions in agreements or contracts which are contrary to this principle. Member States will introduce into their national legislation such measures as are necessary to enable all employees who consider themselves aggrieved by the non-application of the principle of equal pay

to pursue their claims by judicial process after possible recourse to other competent authorities.

Protection for workers at shop-floor level is also ensured in the event of arbitrary dismissal which could arise as a result of a request for application of this principle.

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training

1304. The Council approved the substance of the Regulation establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training.

According to the Council Resolution of 21 January 1974 the establishment of a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training is one of the priorities laid down in the social action programme. Such a Centre which is a scientific and technical body with a small but specialized staff, will be capable, at Community level, of promoting the exchanges of information and experience, of distributing documentation and of launching research and experimental projects to facilitate the attainment of vocational training objectives set by the Treaty or the Council.

In order to ensure the independence of the Centre, the Council agreed to endow it with legal personality such as will enable it to be autonomous to a significant extent. The Management Board will be composed of thirty members, nine of them representing the Governments of Member States, nine representing workers' organizations, nine representing employers' organizations and three members representing the Commission.

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

1305. The Council agreed to the creation of a European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

The tasks of the Foundation will be to develop and to pursue ideas on the medium and long-term improvement of living and working conditions in the light of practical experience and to identify factors leading to change. The Foundation will take the pertinent Community policies into account when carrying out its tasks it will advise the Community institutions on foreseeable objectives and guidelines, *inter alia*, by transmitting scientific information and technical data to them.

It will deal more specifically with the following issues, endeavouring to establish the order of priorities to be observed:

- man at work,
- organization of work and particularly job design,
- problems peculiar to certain categories of workers,
- long-term aspects of improvement of the environment,
- spatial distribution of human activities and their distribution in time.

The structures of the Foundation will be largely similar to those of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training.

Collective dismissals

1306. The Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to collective dismissals (also agreed by the Council on 17 December) defines such dismissals.

They are dismissals effected by an employer for one or more reasons not related to the individual behaviour of the workers concerned where the number of dismissals—depending on the choice made by the Member States—is:

- either, over a period of 30 days:
- at least 10 in establishments normally employing between 10 and 20 workers,

- at least 10% of the number of workers in establishments normally employing between 100 and 300 workers,
- at least 30 in establishments normally employing at least 300 workers,
- or, over a period of 90 days, at least 20, irrespective of the number of workers normally employed there.

The other main provisions of the Directive are as follows:

- the employer is obliged to hold consultations with workers' representatives when he is contemplating collective dismissals,
- the employer is obliged to notify any proposed collective dismissals to the public authority, it being understood that the dismissals cannot take place for a specific period (30 days), which may be extended under certain circumstances,
- this period may be used to attempt to avoid or reduce dismissals and to mitigate their consequence.

The provisions of this Directive do not affect the right of Member States to apply or introduce laws, regulations or administrative provisions which are more favourable to workers.

The Social Conference

1307. A Conference on the prospects of European social policy was held in Brussels. It was called by the Council and was also attended by the Commission, the Member States' Representatives and both sides of industry.

The Conference was chaired by Mr Michel Durafour, France's Minister of Labour and officiating President of the Council; Dr Patrick John Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission made a statement on the social prospects of European policy, which was followed by a debate.

4. Generalized preferences 1975

Advance on the social front

Employment problems were in the foreground of the Conference proceedings and the Commission presented a paper on the employment market in the Community which also included an appraisal of the outlook and a study of market factors and trends.

The Commission then put forward various considerations on the major issues involved with the deterioration of employment in most of the Community countries. The concern expressed by the Commission is to promote an employment policy which will both boost the retraining of workers and enhance job security.

Broad agreement emerged from the Conference on revitalizing the Standing Committee on Employment and reinitiating meetings between both sides of industry in the different sectors or branches of activity.

1401. Compared with the 1974 configuration, major, well-balanced improvements have been made to the 1975 Community generalized preferences policy.

On the strength of Commission Proposals and Communications, the Council on 2 December¹ approved the Regulations and Decisions required to grant generalized tariff preferences for 1975 in favour of manufactured and semi-finished products originating from the developing countries. On 5 December,² the Commission adopted the necessary Regulations to extend the concept of 'products originating', to cover certain regional groupings of the developing countries.

The dual keynotes of the 1975 generalized preferences programme are the enhancement and equitable sharing of benefits.

Enhancement of benefits approved

1402. Enhancement, which implies renewal of benefits granted for 1974, embraces processed farm produce, semi-finished products and industrial manufactures.

For *processed farm produce*, the 1975 scheme means wider preferential margins, which in many instances go as far as exemption (instant tea being a significant case in point) and the inclusion of new products such as castor oil, honey, cigars and cigarillos, certain standard Indian spices etc. A low-duty tariff quota of 30 000 tonnes of raw tobacco, of the Virginia flue-cured variety, was also approved for 1975, on an exceptional and temporary basis. This was done to help countries like India which are going through a difficult economic period. All the benefits granted in agriculture bear on an import value of 45 000 000 u.a. in 1974 and an estimated value of 600 000 000 u.a. for 1975.

¹ OJ L 329 of 9.12.1974.

² OJ L 336 of 16.12.1974.

The Council also endorsed the reasons behind the Commission's decision to propose that the 1975 scheme covers the inclusion of a certain number of products (some vegetable oils and pepper) on the provisional basis. The Council agreed to implement these inclusions, whose technical application would have to be defined later, once the commercial substance of the new Association Agreement takes effect. This is now under negotiation with the ACP, and might possibly be applied as anticipated.

In the *industrial sector* the improvements consist of:

- a considerable increase in the ceilings of preferential imports; global ceilings were raised by about 15%, (reaching 2 850 million u.a.), including 5% for textiles (with 71 500 tonnes), 12% for the 1974 sensitive products and 21.5% for the less sensitive products;
- a shorter list of products subject to the Community tariff quota (51 products in 1974 now cut to 16 for 1975 including 3 ECSC products);
- a limited reserve share in two tariff quotas;
- an increase in the level of most of the country ceilings (*butoirs*) for products considered sensitive in 1974 (20 country ceilings out of 47 were raised up to 50%).

Equitable sharing of benefits

1403. As regards the equitable sharing of preferential benefits between recipient countries, the Council approved the lines of a new approach which, on the basis of objective criteria and as applied to a certain number of products, consists of holding back any increase in these advantages, for the benefit of some recipients considered to be more competitive than others.

Regarding the rules of origin, the Commission adopted the required Regulations to expand the

concept of 'products originating' in favour of countries in the Central American Common Market, the Andean Pact and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN). Adoption of these measures is an earnest of the Community's political interest in and economic support for the efforts towards regional integration between the developing countries.

Additional measures

1404. These preferential advantages would gain by being better known and more usefully employed. Amplified knowledge of their impact on the various sectors of the Community economy would, *inter alia*, allow suitable measures to be taken to prevent any kind of disruption and this in itself would win the support and participation of the private sector, which by and large is still somewhat cool towards generalized preferences. More forceful advice on the scope they offer to the developing countries could not fail to stimulate the expansion of private investment, especially in those countries. A more systematic approach to exporters, particularly those in the least advanced countries, aimed at familiarizing them with the advantages of the Community scheme, would certainly heighten their awareness, and consequently develop the use of generalized preferences.

The Commission is resolved to make every effort in this direction. The first priority is to perfect a detailed system for collating statistics on preferential imports. The dual aim is to be able to assess as accurately as possible the effects of preferences on the Community's economic activities, and to gauge their impact on the Community's trade with the recipient countries.

A study will be then made on setting up an agency for documentation, studies and advice on generalized preferences. Its job, on a non-profit making basis, would be to help Community industrialists, investors, importers, consumers

5. 1974 report on the situation of agriculture in the Community

and researchers and assist producers and exporters in the recipient countries, on all matters to do with generalized preferences.

Lastly, the Commission has decided to carry on its aid to the recipient countries through information projects and seminars.

To sum up, the policy followed on generalized preferences has enabled remarkable and well-balanced improvements to be made in difficult economic circumstances. The decisions taken on the 1975 scheme highlight the faith of the Community institutions (Council, Parliament, Commission, Economic and Social Committee) in cooperation for the development of the poor countries, a cooperation based on the stability of a responsible and progressive European Community.

What of tomorrow's generalized preferences, after four years of application and steady improvement? It is time to think of this, and the Commission is preparing to submit its conclusions to the Council so that the whole subject may be fully discussed at political level.

1501. The Commission of the European Communities recently published its annual report on the situation of agriculture in the Community. The report contains a detailed analytical and statistical description of all the factors relating to agriculture, from the point of view of both producer (production costs, incomes, structures, etc.) and consumer (consumer prices, degree of self-sufficiency etc.). Principal interest lies in those parts of the report which deal with farm incomes and consumer prices. The report was sent to the Council on 3 December.

Farm incomes

1502. The Commission notes that, after 1972 or 1972/73 (according to country) which on average brought farmers an increase in income of about 31%, the results for 1974 will be unsatisfactory due to a rise in their *production costs* and a fall in the prices received by them for their produce. The increase in production costs (feedingstuffs, fertilizers, fuel, machinery) was very marked: for the two years 1973 and 1974 together, it reached 22% in the Federal Republic of Germany, 23% in Benelux, 41% in Denmark, 42% in France, 47% in Italy, 61% in the United Kingdom and 66% in Ireland. Although *farm prices* showed a sharp increase in 1973, ranging from 8% in the Federal Republic of Germany to 30% in the three new Member States, 1974 was a much less favourable year for farmers. With the exception of the three new Member States, where the upward trend of prices continued, the Member States recorded, for the period from July 1973 to July 1974, a decrease ranging from 4.6% in France to 11.4% in Belgium. In proposing prices for the 1975/76¹ marketing year, the Commission took full account of the rise in production costs in 1973 and 1974.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, points 1501 to 1505.

According to Member States' initial forecasts, the result of the divergent trend in production costs and farm prices will be a levelling off or even a drop in *farm incomes* in most Member States. Denmark forecasts for 1974 a decrease of about 15% on 1973 and in France a drop of 5 to 7% is expected for the same period. In the period from May 1973 to April 1974, farm incomes in Belgium are likely to have decreased by 8%, while in the Netherlands incomes for grassland farms are likely to have dropped by 20% though they are expected to have remained unchanged for general farms. No figures are as yet available for Italy and Ireland, but the prospects are not good.

Relatively speaking, the most favourable developments are in the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom: Germany (July 1973 to June 1974) and Luxembourg (1974) forecast an increase of 4%, while cereal growers in the United Kingdom (April 1973 to March 1974) would appear to have almost doubled their incomes. The other types of farm in the United Kingdom would appear to have obtained satisfactory results, with the exception of dairy farms, the income of which has probably decreased. For the Community as a whole, 1974/75 will have been unsatisfactory for horticulture and animal production. Only general and grassland farms will have been less seriously affected.

The Commission emphasized the very considerable differences between member countries in the rate of increase of their production costs, in particular that the increases are less marked in countries with a strong currency than in weak currency countries. It concludes from this that the revaluation in the Federal Republic of Germany and in the Netherlands had the effect of stabilizing their economies whence a smaller rise in agricultural production costs, in particular in 1974, and consequently farm incomes have been less exposed, over the present year, to the adverse effects of inflation.

This argues in support of the dismantling, proposed by the Commission along with the agricultural prices for 1975/76, of certain of the monetary compensatory amounts paid to farmers in countries where there has been an actual revaluation. The Commission does indeed recognize the need for compensatory amounts, provided that they are temporary. In its report, the Commission points out the many disadvantages of the system of monetary compensatory amounts (distortions of competition and of market equilibrium, administrative difficulties) and the measures already taken to lessen the negative effects of the system.

Consumer prices

1503. The Commission report points out that the common agricultural policy has protected Community consumers from the short-term trends on the world market. By introducing export levies for certain vital basic products (cereals, rice, sugar), the Community has not only safeguarded its supplies but also achieved a certain degree of stability in consumer prices. The effectiveness of these measures is shown by the fact the internal Community price for a large number of products is much lower than prices on the world market. For example, in mid-November 1974, it can be seen that world prices for the main cereals are 30-40%, and for oil 70% higher than the intervention prices, while the price for white sugar on the world market is almost five times the Community intervention price.

Finally, if Community consumers had had to obtain supplies of plant products on the world market, they would have paid much more than under the Community system now in force.

The positive aspect of the common agricultural policy from the standpoint of the consumer, is particularly evident in the case of the United Kingdom, which has benefited from the substan-

cial effort by the Community to help consumers, in the form of Community consumer subsidies for butter and meat, subsidies for imports of sugar from non-member countries, subsidies in the form of monetary compensatory amounts, and 'accession' compensatory amounts. As a result of these special measures and the measures taken by the Community to safeguard its supplies and stabilize consumer prices (export levies), the increase in consumer prices in the United Kingdom has been less than if world prices had had their full effect upon the markets for consumer goods.

It is clear from the report that the criticism according to which the fixing of Community support prices makes for an increase in consumer prices is false. An analysis of the development of consumer prices and support prices shows that the former have in many cases risen far more sharply than the latter. For example, the index of the prices received by producers of pigmeat in several Member States, where the figures required to make the comparison are available, varied between 98 and 128 in 1973 (1968 = 100), while consumer prices in the same Member States varied from 129 to 159. Producer prices for eggs varied between 88 and 119, while consumer prices varied between 114 and 166. The same is true of most other agricultural products. The absence of any direct link between consumer prices and the support prices fixed by the Community is also proved by the fact that, even in a period characterized by a drop in prices, such as 1974, consumer prices continue to rise.

2ND PART

**COMMUNITY
ACTIVITIES**

IN DECEMBER 1974

1. Functioning of the common market

Customs union

Customs union

Tariff measures

Suspensions

2101. On 19 December 1974,¹ the Council, on a Proposal from the Commission, adopted a Regulation temporarily and partially suspending the autonomous CCT duties on a number of *agricultural products*. These suspensions, to apply as from 1 January 1975, are valid for a period of six months, i.e. until 30 June 1975.

2102. In addition, the Council also adopted in December 1974 two Regulations on the total or partial suspension of the CCT duties on *a number of agricultural products originating in Turkey² and Malta³*.

2103. In the context of the generalized tariff preferences for 1975, the Council also adopted on 2 December 1974⁴ a Regulation partially suspending the CCT duties on certain jute manufactures, originating in India, Thailand and Bangladesh and on coir products originating in India and Sri Lanka (Ceylon).

Deferred alignment with CCT duties

2104. Pursuant to Article 26 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission, on 11 December 1974,⁵ authorized the *Federal Republic of Germany* (in respect of edible vinegars—subheading 22.10 B) and *France* (in respect of seed potatoes—subheading 07.01 A I) to continue to apply the customs duties in force. The derogations allowed each of these countries since 1969 were therefore renewed. These authorizations are valid until such time as measures for the common organization of the markets for the products in question are implemented or until 31 December 1975, whichever is the earlier.

Community tariff quotas

2105. In December 1974, the Council, acting on Proposals from the Commission, adopted a number of Regulations autonomously increasing certain Community tariff quotas opened for 1974 and opening, allocating and administering Community tariff quotas or suspensions of Common Customs Tariff duties for 1975.

For 1974, this mainly concerns additional Community tariff quotas:

- for newsprint,⁶ the volume of the quota was increased from 3 053 000 to 3 068 000 tonnes; this increase of 15 000 tonnes constitutes the reserve;
- for unwrought magnesium,⁶ the volume of the quota was increased from 17 000 to 22 500 tonnes; this increase of 5 500 tonnes applies to unwrought magnesium not in alloy (1 000 tonnes) and to unwrought magnesium in alloy (4 500 tonnes).

2106. For 1975, this involves the opening, allocation and administration of contractual or autonomous Community tariff quotas for the products listed in table, page 27.

In addition, in December 1974,⁷ the Council decided to open a tariff quota for the United Kingdom, exempt from customs duties, of 110 000 long tons in respect of new potatoes from Cyprus.

¹ OJ L 346 of 24.12.1974.

² OJ L 353 of 30.12.1974.

³ OJ L 329 of 9.12.1974.

⁴ OJ L 3 of 7.1.1975.

⁵ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

⁶ OJ L 339 of 18.12.1974.

⁷ OJ L 353 of 30.12.1974.

Customs union

Customs union

Description of goods	Quota (t) or amount (u.a.) volume	Initial Allocation	Reserve
Unwrought magnesium¹ of which: — extra-pure (containing 99.95% or more by weight of pure magnesium)	700 t	500 t	200 t
— not in alloy (containing not less than 99.8% or more, but less than 99.95%, by weight of pure magnesium)	1 500 t	1 250 t	250 t
— in alloy (containing less than 99.8% by weight of pure magnesium)	9 800 t	8 000 t	1 800 t
Handwoven fabrics of silk or silk floss (schappe) and of silk floss waste ²	2 000 000 u.a.	1 200 000 u.a.	800 000 u.a.
Handwoven fabrics of cotton and velvet plush... ²	2 000 000 u.a.	1 784 000 u.a.	216 000 u.a.
Certain handwoven products ³	10 000 000 u.a.	7 500 000 u.a.	2 500 000 u.a.
This quota is applicable either for the period 1.1 to 31.12 or 1.4 to 31.12			
Deep-frozen beef and veal ⁴	38 500 u.a.	1st part = 22 000 2nd part = 16 500	—
EEC-Turkey Agreement:			
Fresh or dried hazelnuts, even without shells or husked, originating in Turkey ⁵	21 700 t	17 700 t	4 000 t
EEC-Spain Agreement:			
Certain products originating in Spain ⁵			
— dried figs, in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kg or less	200 t	160 t	40 t
— dried grapes, in immediate containers...	1 700 t	1 360 t	340 t
— Sherry ex 22.05 C III a) 1	40 000 hl	32 000 hl	8 000 hl
— Sherry ex 22.05 C IV a) 1			
— Sherry ex 22.05 C III b) 1	210 000 hl	168 000 hl	42 000 hl
— Sherry ex 22.05 C IV b) 1			

Description of goods	Quota (t) or amount (u.a.) volume	Initial Allocation	Reserve
— Malaga wine ex 22.05 C III a) 2			
— Malaga wine ex 22.05 C IV a) 2			
— Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja, Valdepeñas wine ex 22.05 C I a)	15 000 hl	12 000 hl	3 000 hl
— Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja, Valdepeñas wine ex 22.05 C II a)			
— Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja, Valdepeñas wine ex 22.05 C III a) 2	15 000 hl	11 730 hl	3 270 hl

¹ OJ L 339 of 18.12.1974.² OJ L 337 of 16.12.1974.³ OJ L 354 of 30.12.1974.⁴ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.⁵ OJ L 353 of 30.12.1974.

Generalized tariff preferences

2107. The Community will continue in 1975 to apply to the developing countries and territories an improved version of the system of generalized tariff preferences¹ which was first introduced on 1 July 1971. During its session of 2 December 1974,² the Council with this in view, adopted 15 Regulations or Decisions opening these tariff preferences as from 1 January 1975. They consist of:

- six Regulations relating to cotton textile and like products or products of other fibres, depending on whether they have their origin in Yugoslavia or in certain other developing countries;
- four Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of tariff quotas for 13 categories of industrial products, cocoa butter, soluble coffee extract, preserved pineapples and raw flue-cured Virginia-type tobacco;
- one Regulation opening preferential ceilings with special administrative arrangements for

maximum amounts in respect of industrial products previously regarded as sensitives;

- one Regulation opening preferential ceilings for semi-sensitive industrial products;
- one Regulation setting up a preferential scheme for agricultural products, in general processed, falling under Chapters 1 to 24 of the CCT;
- two Decisions opening tariff quotas or preferential ceilings for iron and steel products (ECSC).

Harmonization of customs legislation

2108. On 19 December 1974,³ the Council adopted a Regulation on the *duty-free import-*

¹ Points 1401 to 1404.² OJ L 329 of 9.12.1974.³ OJ L 354 of 30.12.1974.

ation of small consignments of goods of a non-commercial nature within the Community, and at the same time adopted a Directive concerning the corresponding tax exemptions.¹

The Commission also proposed that the Council adopt a Regulation introducing a uniform duty-and tax-free system applicable to small consignments of a non-commercial nature from non-member countries; the objective is to eliminate any difference of treatment between the nationals of the Community countries and, at the same time, to regularize, within the context of the Treaty, national provisions governing such consignments.

Customs arrangements for the movement of goods

Transit

2109. On 20 December 1974,² the Commission decided to relax the formalities relating to completion of the Community internal transit document used to certify the Community nature of the goods, as it had already done as regards the formalities to be observed for goods carried under Community transit procedures.³

Henceforth, where use of the Community transit procedure would not be likely to ease these formalities, an authorized consignor who frequently dispatches Community goods may be authorized to draw up the necessary documents (T2L or T3L) without customs intervention being required for every consignment. A general check on the dispatch operations, carried out by the appropriate customs authorities, and based on the documents held by the authorized consignor, will thus take the place of regular presentation of goods and documents at the time when customs dispatch procedure is being carried out.

Origin of goods and methods of administrative cooperation

2110. On 6 December,⁴ the Council adopted a Regulation concerning definition of the concept of 'products originating' for the application of the customs procedure applicable to certain products from the *Faroe Islands*. Basically, this Regulation sets out similar rules to those applied under the EEC-EFTA Agreements.

2111. On its session of 19 December,⁵ the Council also decided to apply in the Community the Decisions of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committees, suspending one provision (Articles 23(1)) of Protocol No 3 annexed to the Agreements. This measure anticipates the extension for an indefinite period of the 'no drawback' rule in merchandise trade between the Community countries and EFTA.

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2112. At its part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on the Commission Proposals concerning the suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties and the opening of tariff quotas.

Internal common market

Free movement of goods

Removal of technical barriers to trade

2113. In December, the Council adopted three Directives (bringing the total for 1974 up to 13), and 17 Proposals (a total of 33 for 1974) were submitted by the Commission.

¹ Point 2134.

² OJ L 129 of 15.6.1971.

³ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

⁴ OJ L 344 of 23.12.1974.

⁵ OJ L 355 of 31.12.1974.

Directives adopted by the Council

2114. The three Directives adopted in December all involve the measuring instruments sector: cold-water meters, putting up for sale by volume of certain prepacked liquids and bottles used as measuring recipients.

These two Directives were adopted by the Council on 19 December. The first lays down that the *prepacks* must indicate the volume of the liquid (called the 'nominal volume' and that they must also indicate tolerances. The aim is to cut down the number of instances where the volume is too close to other volumes of the same product, which could mislead the consumer. The second stipulates a number of conditions concerning the volume, determination of the volume and the methods for checking. The two Directives are optional. They cover areas of considerable economic importance because of the number of products involved and their links with all the liquid foodstuff sectors.

Proposals by the Commission

2115. The 17 proposed Directives sent by the Commission to the Council in December (nearly half the total for the year) cover eight different sectors.

Motorcycles—This is an important Directive, being the first one on motorcycles, and because it constitutes the relevant basic act of the Community on the subject. It is highly significant in view of the development of the motorcycle market at a time when fuel prices are going up and traffic flow is getting more and more complicated.

Motor vehicles—The Commission's Proposals concern: lighting fittings, number plates, parking lights, full and dipped headlights, towing hooks, safety belts and safety headrests.

The last two Proposals, the most important of all, establish the technical standards for the manufacture, testing and mounting of safety belts, other restraining devices and headrests. They consolidate a series of Directives on the interior fitting of motor vehicles.

The Proposals were made in view of the many disparities between Member States' laws, which frequently take no account of technical progress in this field. The provisions of this proposed Directive set a far higher standard of safety than can be assured by national legislation now in force; they should also be of benefit to Community research on passive safety precautions for drivers and passengers.

Construction machinery and equipment—The three proposed Directives concern the general method of measuring the noise level of machines and equipment and the admissible noise level of pneumatic concrete-breakers and hammer-drills. There are very many different products and the sector is rapidly developing technically. These optional Proposals contain provisions on acceptance and inspection and anticipate the formation of a Committee on Adaption to Technical Progress.

Dangerous substances and preparations—A Proposal concerning the classification, labelling and packaging of pesticides matches two of the Treaty objectives, namely: to improve protection of the Community's health and environment, especially the health of people whose work involves handling dangerous pesticides; and to ensure the free movement of goods within the Community. The Proposal is solely concerned with classification packaging and labelling to indicate the hazards of pesticides placed on the market. This is a sector of major importance, because apart from the size of the building industry, its production is the mainstay of the whole construction sector. It will be consolidated by other Proposals on the authorization,

distribution and use of pesticides, all of which are now being investigated by the Commission.

Like the Directives on toxic substances, this Proposal was prepared with the aim of attaining complete harmonization. It was felt to be a necessary precaution to ensure the protection of people and environment along the lines of Community policy on the environment.

Ceramic articles in use with food—This Proposal would limit the quantities of lead and cadmium which can come out of ceramic articles in use with foods. It was formulated as the result of the disorderly development of national legislation.

Gas appliances—Two Proposals were submitted by the Commission. They cover non-electric heating, cooking and hot-water appliances and instant hot-water heaters.

Electric appliances—The two Proposals cover electric medical apparatus and X ray electro-radiological equipment of 10 to 400 kV.

Tractors—Here the Commission presented one Proposal, which concerns protection against overturning (cabin and frame).

Free movement of individuals

Entry and residence of Member States' subjects

2116. Two Directives in general terms were adopted by the Council on 17 December: the first concerns the right of subjects of one Member State to stay within the territory of another Member State having carried on a self-employed activity there;¹ the second¹ extends the scope of the Council Directive of 25 February 1964, on the coordination of special regulations for aliens with regard to movement and residence justified by considerations of public policy, public safety

and public health, to cover subjects of a Member State exercising the right to remain within the territory of another Member State after a period of self-employment there.

In respect of self-employed activity, the Directives are akin to the Commission's Regulation of 29 June 1970² and the Council Directive of 18 May 1972³ which established the right to remain within the territory of a Member State having previously been employed there.

Right of establishment and freedom to offer services

2117. After the judgment from the Court of Justice on 3 December (Case 33/74 between Maria Van Binsbergen and the Bedrijfsvereniging voor de Metaalnijverheid), it is clear that, from the angle of offering services, Articles 59, paragraph 1 and 60 subparagraph 3 of the EEC Treaty are direct in their effect, and may therefore be invoked before national courts, at all events in so far as they would eliminate any discrimination against the person offering services on account of his nationality, or the fact that he is living in a Member State other than the one where the service is to be offered.

The Court judgement also indicated that national legislation, in requiring permanent residence within the territory, could not bar the offer of services by persons established within the borders of another Member State, since the offer of services was not subject to any particular condition by the applicable national legislation.

The Commission, in turn,⁴ may therefore be expected to withdraw the Proposals for Directives abolishing the restrictions solely on offering services.

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¹ OJ L 14 of 20.1.1975.

² OJ L 142 of 30.6.1970.

³ OJ L 121 of 26.5.1972.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2109.

2118. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on a number of Directives proposed by the Commission to the Council concerning the removal of technical barriers to trade. Meeting on 19 December, the *Economic and Social Committee* issued its Opinions on the same Directives.

Competition policy

General rules applying to undertakings

Meeting of government experts on restrictive agreements

2119. On 17 and 18 December 1974, the 27th Conference of Government Experts on restrictive agreements was held. It was devoted to a discussion of two working papers prepared by the Commission with a view to defining the broad lines of Community action in two important spheres.

With regard to *patent licensing* agreements, the Conference considered, in the light of Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty, the problems raised by certain clauses often included in contracts. In an effort to find a constructive solution that would protect both industrial property rights and the free movement of goods within the Community, the Conference reviewed various problem points submitted by the Commission, namely:

- bans on exports either to the areas of another licensee, or to areas reserved to the licensors;
- restriction of the licence to a specified field of use;

- the limitation to a given period, when the licensing agreement fixes the duration of an agreement for a period longer than that for which the patent is valid, or in the case of several patents granted in the same agreement, when the duration of the agreement exceeds the period of validity of the last major patent;
- the requirement not to compete whereby the licensee is obliged not to manufacture or sell products that might come into competition with patented products, the subject of the licence;
- a quantitative restriction whereby the licensee is obliged to limit his production to maximum quantities fixed in advance.

The Commission is studying the views expressed by the experts and will formulate a clear policy with regard to the clauses.

2120. The purpose of the second paper discussed at the Conference was the improvement, by means of a clearer definition, of relations between the Commission and the appropriate authorities in the Member States in connection with preparatory enquiries into competition cases arising simultaneously under *Community* and *national law*.

Restrictive agreements, mergers entailing dominance: specific cases

Decision against a price agreement

2121. The Commission adopted a Decision finding that the agreement concluded in 1972 between the main *French and Japanese ball-bearing* manufacturers constituted an infringement of Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty.¹

¹ OJ L 343 of 21.12.1974.

This agreement was intended to raise the price of Japanese ball-bearings imported into France in order to bring them closer to those charged for bearings made in France. By thus tending to neutralize the function of price competition, namely to keep prices as low as possible for the benefit of the consumer, the agreement in question constituted a serious restriction of competition within the common market. The impact of this restriction was all the greater since the firms involved are each in their own country the largest producers of ball-bearings.

Since the agreement had not been ratified, the Commission was not required to consider whether it qualified for exemption under Article 85(3). But the Commission did find that such an agreement was unlikely to lead to any of the favourable effects mentioned in that clause, and in particular, to benefit the consumer in any way whatsoever.

This was the first case to which the Commission applied its 'Opinion relating to imports into the Community of Japanese products covered by the Treaty of Rome',¹ in which the attention of undertakings was particularly drawn to the applicability of Article 85 of the EEC Treaty to measures intended to limit imports of Japanese products into the Community or to regulate them with regard to price, quality or in any other way.

In its Decision, the Commission found that the agreement constituted an infringement of the rules of competition but did not call on those concerned to terminate it since the latter had made a formal declaration to the effect that they were no longer bound by the agreement. The Commission also refrained from imposing fines on the undertakings in question in view of the special circumstances of the case and in particular the fact that the agreement in question had been concluded before publication of the Opinion mentioned above.

Fine imposed on a company

2122. In the framework of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty, the Commission fined *General Motors Continental NV*, Antwerp, a sum of 100 000 u.a. Since 15 March 1973 GMC was, under Belgian law, the only agency authorized to issue standards certificates for Opel vehicles that were new or had been on the road for less than six months abroad. Between 15 March to 31 July 1973, GMC charged an excessive price to carry out verification work and deliver the standards certificates and typeshields for all Opel vehicles that had not been sold through its own distribution network in Belgium, but had been imported from other countries. In certain cases, purchasers who had imported vehicles by another channel had suffered a definite loss. The fact of overcharging had the general effect of discouraging car dealers and consumers from importing Opel vehicles into Belgium through any distributors other than those in the General Motors Network. GMC has now terminated the practice complained of.

The elimination of restraints of competition

2123. The French companies *Parfums Christian Dior* and *Lancôme* had organized a selective distribution system formed by a few approved retailers for the sale of their perfumes, beauty products and toiletries in the EEC. This network was organized on the basis of exclusive dealing agreements that both the companies had concluded with their general agents in the various countries in the EEC and on distribution agreements applied by the latter in their respective sales areas.

Further to a statement of objections made by the Commission, the two companies deleted certain

¹ OJ C 111 of 21.10.1972.

clauses constituting serious restraints of competition. These were rules which had the effect of preventing any possibility of trade between the approved Dior or Lancôme retailers, with the result that markets in the EEC were fragmented at the distribution stage, thus helping to maintain retail price disparities, some of which were wide, within the Common Market.

After Dior and Lancôme had modified their sales organization by deleting the restrictive clauses and in view of the abovementioned factors, the Commission took the view that there was no longer any reason to take action under Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty with regard to the method of selecting sales outlets now used by the two companies. It will, however, take care to ensure that the admission of qualified retail dealers to the respective networks, or their exclusion therefrom, is not carried out in an arbitrary manner and is not used as a disguised instrument for preventing freedom of trading between approved distributors belonging to the same network.

Authorization of exclusive dealing agreements

2124. The Commission has authorized two exclusive dealing agreements not ranking for exemption under the Regulation of 22 March 1967,¹ which refers only to agreements covering a defined area of the common market and does not apply to agreements concluded between undertakings of the same Member State concerning the resale of goods within that Member State.

The first agreement was concluded between two enterprises of the same Member State, *Goodyear Italiana SpA*, Rome, and concerned the appointment of *Euram Italia SpA*, Milan as the exclusive distributor in Italy of vitafilm plastic food wrapping material.

The second agreement concerned the resale of products in the whole of the common market. Under this agreement the American company, *Durodyne Corporation*, New York, appointed the Belgian company *Europair SA*, Brussels, as sole distributor in the nine member countries of the EEC, South Africa and Switzerland of a set of Durodyne main items and accessories, mainly for central heating and air conditioning plant.

The Commission took the view that these two agreements qualified for exemption under Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty since the contracts as now worded contain no restrictive clauses other than those exempted by the Regulation of 22 March 1967.

Authorization of a cooperation agreement

2125. On 20 December, the Commission exempted a cooperation agreement in the field of optical precision engineering (lenses and lens controls used in the motion picture industry and in television cameras) from the general ban on agreements caught by Article 85(1) of the EEC Treaty.

This agreement formed the final stage in arrangements made for closer relations in this field between the *Société d'optique, précision, électronique et mécanique* (Sopelem), Paris, and *Rank Precision Industries Ltd.*, London, two firms which have long been in the forefront of research in this field, Sopelem having been the first company to develop the ultra-high-speed cine-cameras (10 million frames/sec.) used by NASA. Their mutually complementary advanced technology and Rank's worldwide network were found in 1967 to provide an ideal basis for coordination of the two firms' R & D,

¹ OJ 57 of 25.3.1967.

manufacturing and sales activities at a time when Japanese competitors were making considerable advances on the world market.

The original version of the contract contained clauses which the Commission was to find incompatible with the rules of competition of the Treaty. Thus, the absolute prohibition on either party to export to the other party's sales territory, restrictions on Sopelem's freedom to administer its patents and protect its inventions, the obligation incumbent upon Sopelem to refrain from using, on termination of the agreement, certain trademarks used prior to the agreement, and the restriction (in effect) of Sopelem's scope for planning other R & D programmes with third parties are all provisions which have disappeared from the final instrument approved by the two companies.

The Commission has therefore found that the new version of the agreement (December 1973) still entailed restraints of competition—specialization and reciprocal exclusive rights—that these restraints also yielded technical and economic advantages for the consumer. The Commission mentions in particular that Rank and Sopelem are free to accept unsolicited orders from each other's territories and that both parties have undertaken to provide on their territories the same after-sales service, on the same terms, for items sold by the other party as for their own items. It has therefore been possible to grant exemption under Article 85 (3) of the Treaty, but obligations have been written into the decision enabling the Commission to monitor developments on the relevant market.

Authorization of standard distribution contracts

2126. In accordance with EEC Treaty competition rules, the Commission authorized the standard form of contract concluded with German Dealers and notified by *Bayerische Motorenwerke AG*, this company having deleted, fol-

lowing representations by the Commission, the clause prohibiting dealers from exporting, and having amended a number of other clauses. BMW's present distribution arrangements in Germany constitute a network of selected dealers required, in respect of the areas assigned to them, to conduct a sales drive for BMW vehicles and parts, and to carry out repair and after-sales service. There is no ban outside the areas.

The crucial point in respect of competition legislation is that the final user—whatever Common Market country he lives in—is no longer barred from purchasing BMW vehicles or parts from BMW dealers other than those responsible for the relevant area. The user's freedom is underpinned by the fact that he can have warranty work carried out by any Community BMW dealer. The BMW approved dealers are entirely free to purchase BMW vehicles or parts from approved BMW resale agents other than their contractual partners. Acknowledgement of these freedoms was regarded by the Commission as a minimum condition if there was to be competition in BMW items at marketing level.

It has also been accepted that garages outside the BMW system can account for their BMW parts requirements by recourse to BMW resale agents. The Commission accepted BMW's decision relating to a limited number of dealers and thus the exclusion of non-approved dealers from retailing BMW products.

The acceptable arguments relied upon by BMW to justify this restraint of competition were that rational distribution favourable to the consumer can be ensured only if the sale of BMW vehicles is supported by after-sales services and by the maintenance of a full range of spares and if BMW cooperates on a permanent and direct basis with a limited number of dealers and direct representatives chosen in the interests of road safety and of developing new techniques which are less dangerous to the environment.

There has also been a change as regards the obligation for dealers not to handle competing products. It is true that BMW dealers may not handle vehicles of other makes without BMW authorization, but such authorization may not be refused without good reason. BMW dealers are also free, at their discretion, to sell for final use accessories other than BMW accessories, where the items are not relevant to the safety of BMW vehicles. Where the repair of a BMW vehicle requires the use of a part of specific relevance to the vehicle's safety, BMW dealers may also use parts of non-BMW manufacture, provided such parts meet BMW quality standards. Otherwise, they may use whatever parts they like.

The Commission decision is valid only until the end of 1977; it includes conditions that provide for intervention in the case of abuse. The Commission will, in particular, see that the selective distribution system does not give use to restraints of trade beyond those contained in distribution contracts.

Cases of concentration in the ECSC industries

2127. On the basis of Article 66(2) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission has authorized the Federal Republic of Germany to acquire a majority holding in Gelsenberg AG, Essen.

The Federal Government intends to incorporate Gelsenberg AG into the VEBA company, which it already controls. In Germany, these two companies taken together account for about 33% of the wholesale trade in coal. The Commission has authorized the project because despite the large share of the market the conditions laid down in Article 66 of the ECSC Treaty are met. In particular, those concerned are in position neither to alter the structure of supply on the coal market nor to fix prices for solid fuels.

Examination of the concentration also covered the activity of those concerned in the economic

sectors subject to provisions of the ECSC Treaty, such as fuel oil, phthalic anhydride (a product used in the manufacture of thermoplastics, etc.), the production of electric power and internal water transport. In this connection, no evidence was found justifying implementation of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty.

The Federal Cartels Office (Bundeskartellamt) had originally forbidden the Federal Republic to acquire a majority share in Gelsenberg AG in accordance with Article 24(1) of the Federal Law prohibiting restraints of competition. The Federal Minister of Economic Affairs, invoking the rules for exceptions provided in Article 24(3) of this Law subsequently authorized the project in view of the advantage for the economy as a whole.

The original rejection of the project by the Federal Cartels Office was based on criteria laid down in the Federal Law prohibiting restraints of competition which differed from those laid down in Article 86 of the EEC Treaty. Pursuant to the provisions of that Law, the Federal Cartels Office can forbid operations likely to create or strengthen dominant positions. A dominant position is presumed to exist when the undertakings concerned, alone or together with other undertakings, hold more than the market share fixed in the Law.

2128. The Commission has also authorized under Article 66(2) of the ECSC Treaty the British Steel Corporation (BSC) to acquire control of Johnson & Firth Brown Ltd. (JFB), Sheffield. BSC is the largest steel producer in the Community. Johnson & Firth Brown Ltd. is the holding company for a group of enterprises that produce and process steel and other products.

The proposed transaction would have no major impact on competition provided BSC does not retain ownership and control of two companies in the JFB group, namely William Beardmore

and Co. Ltd., Glasgow and Johnson and Nephew (Mill Street) Ltd., Manchester. If BSC should take control of Beardmore this would centralize almost 84% and almost 100% respectively of British production of forging ingots and blooms on the market; it would then be in a position to impair effective competition. Johnson and Nephew produce wire rods; if this company were to be controlled by BSC only one major competitor would be left and BSC would control 77% of British wire rod production. BSC would therefore be in a position to prevent effective competition in supplies of rod to British wire manufacturers.

The Commission has therefore cleared the transaction provided that within one year BSC divests itself of all the rights in Beardmore and Johnson and Nephew and meanwhile refrains from any involvement in the management of the two companies and from any curtailment of their freedom to trade.

State aids

Aids for specific industries

Shipbuilding

2129. On 19 December 1974,¹ the Council decided to extend for another six months the validity of the Directive of 20 July 1972² on shipbuilding aids which would otherwise have expired on 31 December 1974.

The proposal transmitted by the Commission to the Council on 5 November 1973, containing in particular a draft third directive covering State aids in the shipbuilding sector was not approved by several Member States.

The Member States' viewpoints differed on matters of substance which made it impossible to reach any agreement before expiration of the

directive of 20 July 1972. Therefore on 11 December 1974 the Commission proposed that the directive be renewed once again for another six months rather than that there should be no specific Community rules with regard to shipbuilding aids. This would give the Council time to come to a decision on the Commission new proposals. This suggestion was accepted by the Council.

State monopolies of a commercial character

France

Compound potassic fertilizers

2130. Further to the receipt of a reasoned opinion from the Commission formulated pursuant to Article 169 of the EEC Treaty, the French Government aligned the procedure for declaration prior to the importation of compound potassic fertilizers³ with the provisions of the EEC Treaty.

With regard to non-compound potassic fertilizers or potassium salts, the new measures adopted at the end of November by the French Government provide that the system for the prior declaration of importation should remain in force until 1 May 1974.

Consequently, on 20 December, the Commission decided to terminate the infringement procedure initiated in connection with the system for the import of compound potassic fertilizers, but to warn the French Government that the Commission would be obliged to open proceedings with

¹ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

² OJ L 169 of 27.7.1972.

³ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2114.

regard to non-compound potassic fertilizers if the Government did not lift, within one month, the requirement, obtaining until 1 May 1975, to make a prior declaration of import.

Italy

Manufactured tobaccos

2131. Several Community manufacturers or associations of manufacturers of tobacco complained to the Commission that the Italian monopoly had ceased to settle their invoices for exports to Italy since the first quarter of this year. In some cases, the amount due had reached such proportions that the manufacturers had ceased to export to Italy, thus threatening jobs.

Taking the view that the effect of this was equivalent to a quantitative restriction on imports and constituted discrimination prohibited under Article 37(2) of the EEC Treaty, the Commission decided on 20 December to initiate against the Italian Government the infringement procedure provided for in Article 169 of the Treaty.

Fiscal policy and financial institutions

Taxation

Standing Committee of Revenue Departments

2132. The Standing Committee of Heads of National Revenue Departments held a meeting in Brussels to discuss the action to be taken in the

years ahead as part of economic and monetary union, regarding the harmonization of direct and indirect taxation and the campaign against international fraud and tax evasion. The Committee also assessed the status of work undertaken on the Commission's initiative concerning the taxation scheme for frontier and migrant workers.

International fraud and tax evasion

2133. On the basis of a Commission Communication,¹ the Council, at its session of 19 December, discussed in detail the problems arising from international fraud and tax evasion.

The Council expressed its political resolve to take action in this area by passing a Resolution which would tighten collaboration between tax authorities. At the Council's request, the Commission, acting within its powers, will take appropriate steps.

Directive on small consignments of goods between private individuals

2134. On 19 December,² the Council adopted a Directive on tax exemptions to be allowed 'on small consignments of goods' *within the Community*. The Directive exempts small consignments of goods between private individuals from all taxes and levies, when the consignments do not exceed a value of 40 u.a. and provided the goods were bought under normal conditions (VAT and charges included) in the country of dispatch and provided that they are not forwarded against remittance.³

The Directive is the outcome of efforts to foster personal and family relationships between private individuals in different Member States by

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2119.

² OJ L 354 of 30.12.1974.

³ Bull. EC 10-1972, point 25.

lowering as far as possible tax barriers obstructing the dispatch of such consignments.

2135. To back up this Directive, the Commission, on 31 December 1974 sent the Council a proposed Directive on tax exemptions applicable to imports in small consignments of a non-commercial nature from *non-member countries*.

Financial institutions

Insurance

2136. On 13 December 1974,¹ the Commission adopted a Decision, whereby Member States as from 1 January 1975 will refrain from making checks on third party liability insurance (green card) in respect of vehicles normally based in Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic. This Commission Decision on implementation of the Council Directive of 24 April 1972² follows two previous Decisions of 6 February 1974, whereby frontier controls were abolished on third party motor vehicle insurance in respect of vehicles from the Member States and a number of neighbouring non-member countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Austria and Switzerland).

As with the two previous Decisions, this latest Commission Decision is based on contracts of agreement concluded among the national insurers' bureaux in the Member States and the insurers' bureaux in the non-member countries concerned. Under these agreements, the national insurers' bureaux in the Member States have undertaken to settle all claims relating to damage or injury caused on their territory by motor vehicles from Hungary, Czechoslovakia or the German Democratic Republic.

In its Decision, the Commission expresses its hope that the three abovementioned East Eur-

opean countries will introduce measures, in the future, to abolish frontier controls on third party insurance with regard to incoming vehicles from the Member States of the European Communities.

Banks

2137. On 12 December 1974, the Commission presented to the Council a Proposal for a Directive on the coordination of regulations governing the activities of credit institutions, together with a Proposal for a Decision to establish a Contact Committee, made up of the authorities responsible for supervising credit institutions in the Member States.³

This Proposal for a Directive is a further move towards creating a common market in banking. A first step in this direction was taken by the Directive of 28 June 1973 which established the principle of non-discrimination, in accordance with Articles 52 and 59 of the Treaty. Further integration in this field is now being sought through the *coordination of the banking regulations* of the Member States.

At present, there are nine distinct and, to a large extent, completely separate banking systems in the Community. The aim is to promote their interpenetration in parallel with the efforts to achieve economic and monetary union.

This objective cannot however be achieved overnight. At the outset of the preparatory work, the Commission departments had planned to draw up a draft directive covering all the major aspects of banking legislation. But with the accession of new Member States, in particular the United Kingdom, in which the banking legislation was not comparable with that in force

¹ OJ L 6 of 10.1.1975.

² OJ L 103 of 2.5.1972.

³ OJ C 12 of 17.1.1975.

in the original Member States, the Commission was obliged to alter its approach and proceed step by step.

Accordingly, on a number of points, the proposed directive merely outlines an answer to certain problems, and on others, is confined to laying down a programme for measures to be taken in future. In this context, the Commission attaches particular importance to the provisions of the Directive relating to checks on solvency and liquidity, and the creation of a Contact Committee made up of the supervisory authorities in the banking sector.

The Directive's area of application is an extremely wide one. To ensure equal conditions of competition, it includes in principle all institutions which normally perform the essential functions of credit institutions, namely receiving funds from the public and granting loans, no distinction being made in respect of their legal structure (for example public or private), their sphere of action (local or national, or even international), their particular specialization, if any, their type of operation (short-, medium- and long-term or universal), the sector of economy they are involved in (agricultural loans, industrial loans, loans to the hotel trade, etc.), or on any other similar grounds. The Directive's provisions are broad enough to apply to all these institutions, with a few exceptions (i.e. central banks, or institutions which, though coming within the loan sector, are subject to special legislation or come under a special supervisory authority).

The Proposal for a Directive includes, *inter alia*, the following provisions:

- Every credit institution will have to obtain authorization before commencing its activities, and this authorization will only be granted if the applicant institution possesses adequate funds of its own, experienced and reputable management, and submits a programme of activities.

- Pending further coordination, each Member State remains free to make the branch-banks of other Community countries, or even its own branch-banks, subject to authorization, in terms of its own national laws. However, no Member State may refuse authorization to the former simply on the grounds that the head office has a legal form which is not allowed in respect of the local banks (except in respect of private bankers). Furthermore, a Member State must accept the use by such branches of the same name as is used in their country of origin, even if this conflicts with local regulations; in this case, the Member State in question may only require the addition of explanatory terms to avoid the public being misled. This is the case, for example, with the title 'savings bank'. In certain countries, this title is reserved for institutions governed by public law, but the private Belgian savings banks will be able to retain their title; a Member State may simply require that the public be informed of the difference in status compared with that of local savings banks.

- The grounds for the withdrawal of authorization are specified, to prevent this being purely and simply a discretionary matter.

Lastly, the Commission Proposal provides, in addition to transitory measures applicable to institutions already in existence: a clause providing that the branches of third country institutions may not be treated more favourably than those of Community institutions; a provision enabling the Community to conclude agreements with third countries concerning uniform treatment, based on the principle of reciprocity for such branches throughout Community territory; rules concerning the professional secrecy to be observed by the supervisory authorities designed to allow, under conditions of extreme strictness, the exchange of information among these authorities, particularly through the Contact Committee; and a legal right of appeal in respect of any decision involving the refusal or withdrawal of authorization.

2. Economic and monetary union

Fiscal policy

Recent events in the banking sector, particularly on the foreign exchange and Euro-currency markets, have shown that it is urgently necessary to take certain measures to coordinate supervision of banking activities, as stressed by the Finance Ministers of the Community at their meeting on 18 November 1974.

For this reason, the Commission has also presented a second proposal to the Council for the immediate establishment at the Commission of the *Contact Committee*, consisting of the authorities responsible for supervising credit institutions in the various Member States. The work of this Committee will have to be organized so as to ensure close and regular cooperation with the monetary authorities, and especially with the European Monetary Cooperation Fund.

The proposed decision should make it possible to begin promptly discussions between the competent authorities and the Commission to examine, as a matter of particular priority, any measures which can guarantee the financial stability of the credit institutions operating on the Euro-markets. These Commission Proposals were initially discussed at the Council Session of 19 December 1974.

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2138. The *Economic and Social Committee*, meeting in plenary session on 19 December 1974, delivered an Opinion on the Proposal for a Directive, forwarded by the Commission to the Council, concerning the liberalization of operations and coordination of the provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in the field of co-insurance.

Economic, monetary and financial policy

Recycling of oil surpluses: joint Community position

2201. On 12 December 1974, the Commission submitted to the Council a draft Resolution on the recycling of oil surpluses, the aim of which was to enable a single Community attitude to be adopted towards the various arrangements for recycling surpluses accruing in the oil-producing countries, i.e., the arrangements designed to offset, in whole or in part, the transfers of funds from oil-importing countries to producing countries by loans made in the other direction.

The increase in oil prices and the sharp resulting deterioration in the terms of trade for the oil-importing countries, including the Community countries, have brought with them heavy and probably lasting current-account deficits for most of these countries. Since the countries affected by the oil crisis will not be in a position to finance the whole of their deficits from their exchange reserves, the funding of oil imports will have to be covered by borrowing, preferably from the oil-producing countries, which have large foreign exchange surpluses, so that the surplus funds will thus be 'recycled'.

In fact, this is how oil expenditure has been settled so far, the deficit countries borrowing the funds they need either directly from the oil-producing countries (primary recycling), or, more often, on the international capital market, upon which some of the petrodollars have become available (secondary recycling).

However, this process is neither systematic nor reliable, so that there is no way of ensuring that the funds available are always channelled to the countries suffering most from the oil cri-

sis. Moreover, it has become clear that the international banking system will soon no longer be in a position, without accepting major risks, to shoulder main responsibility for the recycling of the funds received by the oil-producing countries. These considerations have led to the establishment, within the Community, of Community loan machinery¹ and to the presentation of large-scale recycling plans by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and the United States Administration.

With these plans now under scrutiny within the international agencies, the Commission's draft Resolution laid before the Council provided that:

- the Community Member States will define a joint position with regard to new recycling machinery and will consult among themselves before using the various devices now existing or to be established;
- the Community will give its support in principle to the creation of various recycling facilities, the IMF, however, is to play a key role in this area;
- the Community declares itself favourable in principle to the creation within the OECD of new machinery to help industrialized countries which have run into external payments difficulties.

Strengthening of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund

2202. On 12 December 1974, the Commission also laid before the Council a proposal for a Regulation amending the Council Regulation of 3 April 1972² establishing a European Monetary Cooperation Fund (EMCF). The aim of the Commission proposal is the implementation of concerted Community action to remedy the situation which has emerged in recent years in

the field of monetary relations, the EMCF to constitute the key component in such action.

The Fund was designed essentially as an agency for administering the Community exchange system set up by the Basle agreement of April 1972. Since then, major changes have supervened in monetary relations, both within the Community and in the world in general.

Under the Commission's proposal the Fund's responsibilities with regard to the Community exchange system would be confirmed after adaptation to present circumstances, and a new area of responsibility would be entrusted to it: the coordination of the Member States' monetary policies. To enable the Fund to carry out these duties, it is proposed that a Director-General be appointed and that permanent specialized departments be made available to him.

The Community's first objective must be to tackle the main source of the disturbances which have occurred within the Community, namely the absence of any effective coordination of monetary policy. Therefore, the Commission proposes that the Fund should now ensure the coordination of the Member States' internal monetary policies to the extent that such policies affect interest rates, capital movements and exchange rates.

However, such action would not be completely successful if it was not supported by the coordination of the external monetary policies, particularly with regard to the international foreign exchange and capital markets. Bearing in mind past experience and the dangers that could well arise in the future if movements of funds between capital markets were to develop along lines which the Community could not influence because it had failed to create appropriate instruments, the Commission proposes that the Fund's

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 1201.
² OJ L 89 of 5.4.1973.

responsibilities should include regular exchanges of information concerning all operations carried out on these markets, and the action to be taken by the central banks to avoid disruption of the monetary situations in Member States.

New approach to the unit of account

2203. On 12 December 1974, the Commission also forwarded to the Council a Communication concerning guidelines with regard to the unit of account. The aim of this Communication is the gradual introduction of a new type of unit of account, which would replace the old unit in most areas and would be used in the carrying out of new work entrusted to the Community.

The use of unit of account in the Community has a twofold objective: in the first place, it is designed to prevent financial contributions agreed jointly from being affected by unilateral decisions; secondly, it is designed to enable the authorities to establish common prices, for the purposes of the implementation of certain common policies, and to ensure, at the time of conversion into national currencies, that prices are in fact the same. For this purpose, prices or financial contributions have been expressed not in national currencies but in a unit of account so far defined in terms of a given amount of gold,¹ which entails a conversion procedure based on currency parities. This is the technique now used in the regulations, decisions, etc., concerning most sectors of Community policy (agriculture, budget, etc.). Since the parity system gave way to floating currencies, this procedure has proved very difficult to implement properly: the 'parity' type unit of account raised no major problems for as long as stable relations prevailed in the international monetary system; but when the exchange rates were allowed to drift away from the parities or central rates, the conversion

operations provided for in Community regulations, etc., lost the foundation upon which they were based.

In this area, the Community therefore faces two different problems: in the first place, the need to adapt conversion rates for the unit of account to actual conditions on the exchange markets; in the second place, the need to devise a unit of account enabling the present disparities between all the Community currencies, whether they are floating jointly or separately to be more fully reconciled.

The new type of unit of account which the Commission has proposed cannot fully offset all the undesirable effects floating currencies have on the working of the common policies, but it will tend to palliate them and to ensure a better distribution of the adaptation burden as between the Member States. For this purpose, the unit of account would be defined on the basis of a 'currency basket' of Member State currencies. The basket contains fixed amounts of each currency of the Member States, selected on the basis of a weighting reflecting a relative share of each of the nine countries as determined by certain objective criteria.

In its construction, the composition of the unit of account in European currencies is invariable, but this is by no means the case for the countervalue of the unit of account expressed in any given national currency: the countervalue of the unit of account in any one of the component currencies can be calculated on any given day by multiplying the amounts of each of these currencies by the rates recorded on the exchanges. Under this formula, sudden variations in the unit of account *vis-à-vis* all the currencies in the basket, resulting from exchange rate movements, can be absorbed: a change in the exchange rate of a currency affects the value of the unit of account

¹ 1 u.a. = 0.88867088 g of fine gold.

only in terms of its relative weight in the basket. Moreover, where currencies move in opposite directions, in the same period, such movements tend to cancel each other out with respect to the value of the unit of account.

As a general approach, the Commission has proposed that a unit of account of this type be introduced gradually into the Community's various areas of activity. It will submit proposals in the near future for the definition along these lines of the unit of account to be used by the new European Development Fund (EDF).

The Commission believes that a 'currency basket' type unit of account would not only provide a useful technical device for solving financial problems arising between the Member States, but that it would also constitute a step towards the establishment of a Community monetary identity: the unit of account would reflect, against a world background of floating exchange rates, the weighted trend of all the Community currencies.

Coordination of economic policies

2204. The three Commission communications mentioned above were considered at the Council meeting held on 19 December 1974 in Brussels, chaired by Mr Fourcade, French Economics and Finance Minister. According to the press hand-out released after the meeting, discussion of economic and financial questions led to the following conclusions:

'1. The Council took note of the decisions taken by the Heads of Government on the occasion of their Conference on 10 and 11 December 1974¹ and conducted a first examination of the consequences to be drawn on three issues:

- the convergence of economic policies;
- the progress to be made towards economic and monetary union;

— a common attitude towards the outside world.

2. In accordance with the mandate to carry out studies conferred upon the Commission and the competent committees at its session of 16 September 1974, the Council examined reports from the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors concerning the definition of a European unit of account, the problem of joint floating and the functioning of the euro-markets.

3. The Council took note of the progress achieved on the study of a new European unit of account, also taking into account a communication which it received on this matter from the Commission.

The Council instructed the Monetary Committee to review the advantages and disadvantages of each of the solutions which it had identified and to study the implications of the adoption of each of these solutions for the different sectors in which the unit of account is used.

4. The Council took note of the opinion of the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors on the problems of implementing a joint float to cover all the Community currencies. It decided to continue studies on this subject.

5. Following the lines set out by the Conference of Heads of Government, the Council took note of a proposal submitted by the Commission for a Regulation designed to strengthen the European Monetary Cooperation Fund. It decided to send this draft Regulation to the European Parliament and to the Economic and Social Committee for their Opinions and to consider the proposal at one of its next meetings, after consulting the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors.

6. The Council examined a draft Resolution presented by the Commission on the definition

¹ Point 1104.

of a common EEC position in international negotiations on the creation of new machinery for recycling the oil-producing countries' surpluses.

7. The Council agreed in principle on the text of the Regulation implementing the Regulation on Community loans, thus completing the necessary framework for the definition and the initiation of the Community guarantee.¹

Medium-term financial assistance for Italy

2205. At a meeting held on 17 December 1974 in Brussels, under the Chairmanship of Mr Durafour, French Labour Minister, the Council adopted formally a directive granting medium-term financial assistance to the Italian Republic.²

Economic situation

2206. In its fourth quarterly survey on the economic situation in the Community, adopted early in December 1974, the Commission reported that economic activity in the Community continued at a relatively high level during the autumn, but that several indicators pointed to a slackening of momentum. In the last business surveys, managements in most member countries were less sanguine about their order-books than in preceding years. They were also more hesitant as regards their expectations about the future growth of their output.

A stimulus has come from the sustained and rapid growth of exports to non-member countries. Internal demand on the other hand slowed down appreciably since the summer. Investment by firms has weakened, the efforts toward rationalization to offset cost increases being insufficient to compensate for the slowdown in other sectors. In most member countries both private and public construction

demand has become less dynamic. Furthermore, private consumers' expenditure has grown more slowly during the autumn, with the exception of the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany.

After being very rapid in the early months of the year, the rate of growth of output in the Community as a whole has significantly slowed down. While agricultural output grew substantially, on average in the Community industrial output marked time in the autumn. Although certain industries achieved quite a high rate of growth, output in other industries fell. The situation has led to considerable sectoral discrepancies in the labour market. Unemployment has tended to increase in all the member countries. The volume of imports from non-member countries has only risen slightly in the last few months. Prices have continued to rise quickly, although at substantially different rates in different countries. There have been some signs of improvement in the balances of payments of the countries in serious deficit, while the surplus of the Federal Republic of Germany has been somewhat reduced.

In the Commission's opinion the economic outlook both inside and outside the Community is fraught with uncertainty. There are strong reasons to believe that economic growth in the Community as a whole will be very weak in the first half of 1975. Undoubtedly there will be some slight downturn in demand from the major countries outside the Community. As for internal demand, there are few signs of improvement, especially since in most member countries the acute balance of payments deficits are either preventing or at least seriously curtailing any active expansion policy. However, in the Federal Republic of Germany and in the Netherlands

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2201.

² OJ L 341 of 20.12.1974 and Bull. EC 11-1974, points 2201 and 2202.

domestic demand will undoubtedly become a little more dynamic owing to the softening of the restrictive budgetary and credit policies, and also, in Germany, the stimulatory impact of the tax reform.

The growth of the gross Community product in real terms, which will probably reach some 2.5% in 1974, should be between 2.5% and 3% in 1975. The situation in the labour market could well deteriorate further in the months to come.

The Commission considers that in most member countries consumer prices will continue to climb. As regards the balance of payments on current account, it is at present very hard to make forecasts since its future depends to a large extent on the price of oil.

Monetary Committee

2207. The Monetary Committee held its 198th meeting in Brussels on 3 and 4 December 1974 under the Chairmanship of Mr Oort. Further to instructions received from the Council on 16 September 1974, it adopted, for submission to the Council and the Commission, a report on the European monetary unit of account and a report on a Community joint-float system. It also discussed monetary policy in the Netherlands and continued its examination of international monetary problems.

The 199th meeting of the Committee, held in Brussels on 18 December 1974, also under the Chairmanship of Mr Oort, was devoted to the work being carried out by the technical Working Party set up by the alternates of the Group of Ten to examine the various proposals made for recycling capital.

Working Party on Short-Term Capital Payments

2208. The Working Party on Short-Term Capital Payments met in Brussels on 17 Decem-

ber 1974. It adopted a new version of its report to the Monetary Committee and considered how it could contribute to the work to be carried out on the coordination of the Euro-markets.

Economic Policy Committee

2209. The Economic Policy Committee held its tenth meeting in Brussels on 16 December 1974 under the Chairmanship of Mr Malinvaud. A draft report on the Community's economic situation and outlook, prepared by the Committee's small 'medium-term' group, was discussed in detail and the Committee then decided, although it did not feel that it could approve the document in its entirety, to send it forward to the Council and the Commission.

The report outlined certain structural factors forming the bases of the economies of the member countries and accounting to some extent both for the diverging trends in the various countries and for the fact that the problems arising vary considerably in severity from country to country; it then presents a number of pilot studies, carried out at the level of the member countries and for the Community as a whole, on the economic outlook and the key problems, notably the problems deriving from the energy crisis, which will arise three or four years from now. The report is thus a first step in the work that the Committee is to embark upon for the preparation of the fourth medium-term economic policy programme.

Working Party on Comparison of Budgets

2210. The Working Party on Comparison of Budgets met in Brussels on 10 December 1974 to examine the draft manual proposed by the International Monetary Fund for the collection of statistics relating to public finance. In the light of the results of its examination, the Work-

ing Party resumed its work on the preparation of a new outline for the presentation of budget operations with a view to the constitution of medium-time series.

Regional policy

New proposals and projects

Statement by Mr Thomson after the Conference of Heads of Government

2211. Following the decisions on regional policy by the Conference of Heads of Government in Paris on 10 December,¹ Mr Thomson, Member of the Commission responsible for regional policy made the following statement: 'I welcome the Summit decision to set up a three-year Regional Development Fund. It marks an important breakthrough for the Community. The Heads of Government have in fact followed closely the compromise proposals put forward by the European Commission during this year. Although the Fund is relatively modest in size, it will be able to bring practical benefits to Europe's most underprivileged regions from 1975. Even more important, it will restore faith in the Community for millions of ordinary citizens who have waited a long time for the commitment to set up a Regional Fund to be fulfilled.'

Financing

2212. Under Article 56(2a) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided, subject to a confirmatory Opinion from the Council, to grant eight industrial development loans, including three block credits, namely:

- a loan of some 3 800 000 u.a., with entirely subsidized interest, to the firm Aciéries du Temple (*France*) to install a new 'cold pressing' facility which will meet the bulk of the needs of the Régie nationale des Usines Renault, for specific parts of any vehicle, and supersede the 'steel' activities of the company. The project, sited at Saint-Michel-de-Maurienne (*Savoy*) is part of the company's redevelopment and will keep about 500 steelworkers in employment;

- a loan of about 9 570 000 u.a., with interest subsidized up to 4 700 000 u.a., to the British Leyland Motor Corporation Ltd., Rover-Triumph Division, Liverpool (*United Kingdom*) to install facilities for the complete manufacture and assembly of a new sports car and to expand current stamping potential. The project will result in the creation of about 1 190 jobs, of which at least 250 will be offered first to former metalworkers now redundant;

- a loan of some 2 380 000 u.a., with entirely subsidized interest, for the firm Globon BV, Hoensbroek (*Netherlands*) to build a works producing castings and modular steel elements, located in the industrial district of Lotbroek. The completed project will create about 160 jobs, 140 of which will be set aside for former Limburg miners;

- a loan of about 300 000 u.a., with entirely subsidized interest to the firm of Rubber-en-Rustoffen—Fabrick RNBI NV, Nuth (*Netherlands*), to build a plant making plastic precision parts and special synthetic rubbers. Of the 50 new jobs involved, 36 have been reserved for former Limburg miners.

- a loan of about 750 000 u.a., with entirely subsidized interest, to the Société Lips Heerlen BV to build a plant making propellers and hydraulic accessories in Hoensbroek (*Nether-*

¹ Point 1104, Nos 22 to 24 of the Communiqué.

lands). This project will mean the creation of 105 jobs, 101 of which have been set aside for former Limburg miners.

2113. The Commission also decided, subject to the Council's confirmatory Opinion, to open three block credits for the eventual issue of individual loans, which may amount to 40% of the total investments in question, on certain terms stipulated by Commission Decisions. The companies formed with the help of these loans must offer a substantial priority of recruitment to miners or steelworkers who have lost their jobs. These block credits will cover:

- some 19 000 000 u.a. released to Finance for Industry Ltd. (*United Kingdom*) intended for investments in small and medium-sized industrial concerns being established in Scotland, Wales and the north of England;
- about 3 200 000 u.a. for the Société financière pour favoriser l'industrialisation des régions minières (SOFIREM), (*France*) to set up several small- and medium-sized industrial companies in the mining districts of the Centre and Midi (Aquitaine, Cévennes, Auvergne, Loire, Dauphiné);
- about 2 000 000 u.a. for the Industrial Credit Company Ltd. (*Ireland*) to start up and develop small- and medium-scale industrial activities in the counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary.

These block credits may be granted interest subsidies up to an amount calculated in terms of the number of jobs reserved for former ECSC workers in the companies obtaining individual loans out of the block credit.

Social policy

2214. A conference was held in Brussels in December initiated by the Council and attended

by both sides of industry. The month also saw a Council session devoted to social affairs, where agreement was reached on major proposals from the Commission, as part of the social action programme.¹

Vocational training and guidance

2215. The *Advisory Committee on Vocational Training and Guidance* met in Brussels on 12 and 13 December, with Vice-President Hillery of the Commission in the Chair. The Committee, attended for the first time by representatives from the new Member States, took note of the status of the work on setting up a European Centre for Vocational Training Development, as decided by the Council on 17 December. The Committee then got down to a review of the position of Community vocational training and the main trends emerging. The meeting ended with a discussion of the prospects for action on vocational training for migrant workers, and women, and for the training and rehabilitation of handicapped persons.

Employment

2216. The terminal session of the second Italo-German exchange programme, sponsored by the Commission, for *employment officers*² took place in Brussels on 9 December.

With a financial contribution from the Commission, the programme was set up to achieve a finer balance between the need for labour and its availability on the various labour markets, and to promote the assisted free movement of workers by means of more practical and detailed information.

¹ Points 1301 to 1307.

² Bull. EC 1-1974, point 2212.

After the results of this experiment had been evaluated with the attending officials responsible for placement policy, it was agreed to renew it in 1975. But owing to the present employment situation, more weight would be put on action to resettle Italian workers who had lost their jobs in Germany.

Free movement and social security of migrant workers

2217. Applying the social action programme, the subject of the 21 January 1974 Council Resolution, the Commission, on 18 December, adopted a Proposal for an *action programme to help migrant workers* and their families. Its aims are (i) to improve the conditions of free movement for Community workers; (ii) to humanize all stages of their migration; (iii) to secure equal treatment, in respect of living and working conditions, for national and migrant workers, whether they are Community subjects or not and (iv) to initiate consultation between Member States with regard to the immigration policies affecting non-member countries.

The programme extends up to the end of 1976 and provides for projects concerning free movement, social security, vocational training, welfare services, housing, schooling and health. It also carries a proposal to bring migrant workers into the civic activities and political life of the host country, plus a draft charter for migrants.

2218. The *Advisory Committee on Migrant Workers' Security* held its first meeting on 5 and 6 December. It gave an Opinion on the adoption of a standard system for paying out family allowances to members of the worker's family living in the country of origin, and on guide-books for migrant workers.

2219. The Audit Board attached to the *Administrative Committee on Migrant Workers'*

Social Security, meeting on 10, 11 and 20 December, faced many, still outstanding questions on technical and financial matters affecting implementation of migrant workers' social security Regulations. Close deadlines and appropriate procedures were suggested for concluding the outstanding agreements to be ratified between Member States, under the revised financial provisions in the Regulations, and for clearing sums still due between Member States' social security agencies under the previous regulations.

Lastly, it was recorded that in 1972, i.e. the final year of application of Regulations 3 and 4 (in force since 1 January 1959), the movement of funds deriving from application of the above Regulations amounted to an equivalent of Bfrs 13 000 million, as against an average of Bfrs 2 500 million per year over the early years.

Social Fund, Reemployment and Readaptation

Social Fund

2220. On 18 December, the Commission approved grants of aid, still in respect of 1974, totalling 107 000 000 u.a. for a sizeable number of projects to do with retraining workers. Several of them include programmes extending into 1975 or 1976.

These approvals of Fund aid by the Commission follow on other decisions, so that aid granted by the Social Fund now amounts to some 254 500 000 u.a. for 1974. Authorizations for projects receiving Fund aid have been given: they represent 90 500 000 u.a. for 1975 and 25 400 000 for 1976.

Readaptation and resettlement aid granted by the earlier Social Fund, now being dissolved, reached 52 800 000 u.a. in 1974, while in the same year aid for pilot-projects ran to 600 000 u.a.

This year credits available for projects to help workers in the less prosperous Community regions, to ease readaptation necessitated by technical advance, or in support of groups of associated companies in difficulty, were all completely used up.

Over the past twelve months, the Social Fund focused its aid on retraining projects for the unemployed and workers threatened by lay-offs. Those who benefited from retraining courses as preparation for a change of occupation included workers leaving the land, or the textile industry, and people finding it hard to get jobs in the less developed Community regions. In some instances, workers threatened by lay-offs due to technical progress are benefiting from a programme of advanced training to enhance their qualifications. Fund aid also went to programmes to help thousands of handicapped persons in finding jobs and, for the first time, to projects facilitating the resettlement and integration of migrant workers and their families.

2221. The Commission authorized the following *studies and pilot projects* to be implemented: a study to finalize a strategy for organizing the return of migrant workers who wish to go back to their native country (Belgium); a study on assessing the need for vocational training as part of a project for the benefit of a region experiencing development problems and with a view to preserving employment in a shipyard in that region (Scotland); a study on the retraining of labour affected by the problem in a subsector of the textile industry in the various Member States; three pilot projects in connection with training welfare officers specializing in help for migrant workers and training instructors in special teaching either for migrant workers' children or for language teaching (Germany and France); two pilot projects in polyvalent training in industrial sectors (France and Ireland); trials to prove equipment developed following a recent inven-

tion, to enable people disabled in the arms to train as typists and take jobs (Netherlands).

2222. As part of the preparatory work for European Social Fund interventions, the Commission ran a *seminar* in Luxembourg from 9 to 13 December on investigating internal personnel training problems (companies, administrations) involved in *switching over to data-processing systems* and in developing the system or its applications. The seminar was held to impart information to those taking part and the various occupational circles concerned on the current situation, on how to tackle the difficulties and on solutions being applied in the different Community countries.

Readaptation measures

2223. Applying Article 56(2) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission decided in December to open the following credits for workers hit by the closure or reduced activity of collieries and firms in the coal and steel sectors: *United Kingdom*: 21 005 053.27 u.a.; *Germany*: 3 844 517.32 u.a.; *France*: 6 450 395.24 u.a.; *Belgium*: 719 318 u.a.; a total of 31 307 159.01 u.a. for 23 602 workers.

Social security and European social budget

2224. The independent experts assigned to define the substance of the study: *Effect of Social Security Charges on Consumer Prices and Competition Conditions*, met on 12 December to study the methodology to be adopted in evaluating the quantitative impact of social charges on consumer prices.

2225. On 6 December in Brussels, the Commission called together the independent experts of the Group on *Social Security in Agriculture*.

ture. They summarized the points of agreement reached with a view to taking action on the Council's instructions of 26 November 1970 as regards updating, expanding and intensifying the study on financing social security in agriculture.

Living and working conditions

2226. As part of the *first instalment* of the *seventh programme* of aid to finance the building and modernization of low-cost housing for personnel in the mining and steel industries, the Commission approved the following construction projects:

- *Italy* (iron and steel): 400 dwellings for a sum of Lit 1 300 million.
- Under the *second instalment* of the same programme, the Commission approved the following projects:
 - *Denmark* (iron and steel): 10 dwellings for a sum of Dkr 400 000;
 - *France* (steel, Nord): 237 dwellings (FF 2 370 000);
 - *France* (steel, Est): 344 dwellings (FF 1 398 600);
 - *France* (iron ore mines, Est): 188 dwellings (FF 670 000);
 - *Ireland* (iron and steel): 26 dwellings for a sum of £39 000;
 - *Ireland* (steel—modernization): 44 dwellings for a sum of £28 786;
 - *Ireland* (collieries—modernization): 45 dwellings for a sum of £34 425;
 - *Germany* (iron and steel): 181 dwellings (DM 1 602 000).

Under the second instalment, the Commission also decided to grant a loan of Dkr 2 500 000 to finance 58 individual dwellings for *Danish* steel-industry personnel.

Industrial and occupational relations

2227. The Joint Committee on the social problems of *farm workers* met in Brussels on 2 and 3 December. Within the new powers conferred on the Joint Committee to foster dialogue and cooperation between agricultural workers' and employers' organizations, the latter started to examine the draft of a joint statement to be prepared on the basis of the early December discussion.

The Committee also noted two draft Community agreements submitted by the agricultural trade unions. The first concerns permanent farm workers and recommends a forty-hour week, a five-day week, a guaranteed work period, a ceiling on overtime (125 hours per year), four weeks paid holiday and a holiday gratuity. The second draft concerns farm workers in mountain and hill areas and aims to ensure them an income comparable with earnings in other less favoured regions, when direct aid is granted to farms, as provided for in the draft Directive now being discussed by the Council.

Health protection

2228. In December, the Commission decided to launch a third research programme, in *ergonomics* and *readaptation* so as to enhance safety and welfare in the coal and steel industry over the next five years. The decision was taken following the favourable Opinion of the ECSC Consultative Committee and the confirmatory Opinion from the Council.

The two previous programmes succeeded in improving safety in many jobs in the coal and steel industries. An appropriation of some 9 000 000 u.a. is anticipated for the new programme, to help the ergonomics teams and scientific institutes make further headway in

ergonomics, the reintegration of the physically disabled, and the effects and reduction of constraints.

2229. On 19 December 1974, the Commission decided to grant financial aid, under Article 55 of the ECSC Treaty, for research in three areas:

- the *campaign against pollution from steel-works* (3rd programme). Twelve projects were adopted and will get financial aid totalling 1 305 443 u.a.

They concern the drive against contamination of residual waters, reduction of dust or gas emissions, measuring pollutants and protecting personnel from silicosis.

- *health in the mines* (3rd programme). Seven projects will get a total of 463 656 u.a. of aid; they cover the measurement and physical properties of dust, methods to combat dust emissions, mining diseases and health in iron ore mines.

- *safety in the mines*. 365 349 u.a. have been granted as financial aid for a second instalment of research on fires and heatings, by the Centre d'études et recherches des Charbonnages de France and the Versuchsgrubengesellschaft mbH in Dortmund.

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2230. At its part-session of 9 to 13 December, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution on the second activity report of the new European Social Fund (financial year 1973).

Environment and consumer protection

Environment

2231. The Commission adopted a Recommendation that those Member States, which

have not already done so, should sign or ratify the Convention on *Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, adopted by UNESCO in 1972, and also encouraging projects undertaken as part of 'Europe's Year of Architectural Heritage' (initiated by the Council of Europe). The problems of town planning and land development come under the second section of the Community action programme for the environment.

2232. Another recommendation adopted by the Commission in December concerns *the protection of birds and their habitats*, for which the Community action programme includes specific action. Since birds play an important part in preserving the ecological balance, the quality of the natural environment is seriously affected by the excessive death rates, due to the depredations of man, among half the species of Europe's native birds.

For this reason the Commission has just urged Member States, which have not already done so, to abide, as promptly as possible, by the International Convention for the Protection of Birds, which was adopted in Paris in 1950 and came into force on 17 January 1963 (the primary aim of the Convention is to ensure the strict protection of all species during their mating and migration season) and to respect the Ramsar Convention of 2 February 1971 on marshland of international importance. The Convention is generally regarded as crucially important for the protection of an irreplaceable natural heritage, without which waterfowl cannot survive.

2233. Lastly, on 13 December the Commission sent the Council a proposed Decision on Community participation in *protecting international watercourses from pollution*. The principle of the Community's participation in the Convention had been approved on 7 November 1974 at the Council session on environment problems.

Consumer protection

Consumer Advisory Committee

2234. The Consumer Advisory Committee, on which are represented all the major European consumer organizations, met in Brussels on 13 December 1974.

The Committee heard with pleasure of the progress which has been made in the formulation of a consumer programme for the whole Community and looks forward eagerly to its formal adoption very soon. The Committee feels this will constitute a major step forward in the recognition of the vital importance of consumer interests throughout Europe.

So that the Committee may adequately respond to the challenge which the consumer programme will represent it has taken a number of steps to improve the efficiency of its own operations so as to ensure that the multiplicity of consumer problems which it will be called upon to consider in the years ahead will be fully and effectively considered and that the advice which it offers to the Commission will be as practical and helpful as possible.

The Committee expressed its warm appreciation of the undertaking given by Mr Pierre Lardinois, Commissioner for Agriculture, at a recent meeting that the consumer's interest will be taken fully into account in the current examination of changes in the CAP and approved measures to ensure regular consultation on this important aspect.

Among the other subjects discussed by the Committee were the labelling of foodstuffs and consumer credit. A resolution expressing the Committee's view on the Community's energy policy was approved.

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2235. Among the Opinions issued by the European Parliament during its session of 9 to 13 December 1974, three bear on problems affecting the environment: (a) reduction of pollution from certain dangerous substances released into the Community's aquatic environment, (b) energy and environment and (c) the results of the third International Parliamentary Conference on the Environment, which met in Nairobi from 8 to 10 April 1974.

Agricultural policy

2236. The basic points of the Commission's Proposal for setting common farm prices for the 1975/76 marketing year, and certain related measures,¹ were detailed to the Council at its session of 9 and 10 December 1974. This enabled the delegations to put a number of questions to the Commission, and make their first comments. A decision will be taken by 1 February 1975. In the fishery sector, the prices for the 1975 marketing year were adopted on the strength of the Commission's Proposal.²

Developments in the market situation in December obliged the Commission to adjust export levies in the cereal, rice, olive oil and sugar sectors. In the last case, white sugar, raw sugar, syrups, and since 20 December 1974, beets and sugar cane have all been put under this scheme.

The pigmeat market remained stable throughout December, with a tendency to rise. Thus, the average market price of slaughtered pork rose above the level of the new basic price applicable since 7 October 1974 (97.65 u.a./100 kg). This can be taken as the outcome of various marketing management measures, such as fixing addi-

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, points 1501 to 1505.

² Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2249.

tional import amounts, export refunds and granting aid for private storage. This last measure has enabled 30 000 tonnes of pigmeat to be temporarily withdrawn from the market since 20 July 1974, 20 000 tonnes of which will have been gradually cleared from stock by the end of this year.

Measures in connection with the monetary situation

2237. The trend in the rates of the *lira* meant that monetary compensatory amounts for Italy had to be reinstated from 2 December 1974¹ and the trend in currency values noted on the exchange market entailed adjustments to the monetary compensatory amounts, from 23 December, for the *French franc*, the *British pound* and the *Irish pound*.

2238. After the raising of the central rate of the *Dutch guilder*, on 17 September 1973,² the Council had authorized³ the Netherlands to grant a seven months subsidy to agricultural producers. Owing to the temporary negative effects on production levels of a fall in farm prices, it proved advisable to retain the subsidies for one year, to offset the drop in prices in the United Kingdom. These subsidies must be terminated by 30 April 1975. The Council took a Decision to this effect on 17 December 1974.⁴

Application of CAP Acts in the enlarged Community

2239. In view of the world market situation, the Council decided⁵ to bring down to Community level the intervention prices for white sugar and raw beet sugar, as well as the minimum beet prices set for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

In February 1972, before the time of the accession, the applicable sugar prices in the United Kingdom and Ireland were below the common price. Through the Act of Accession, these prices were gradually aligned. Today, owing to the effect of world market prices in the two new Member States concerned, the market prices are, if anything, higher than the common price.

Consequently, there appeared to be no longer any reason to retain the special 'accession' price; the 'accession' compensatory amounts can be taken out of the sugar sector.⁶ The only remaining variations are due to the regionalization of prices. The marketing price was also adjusted for sugar imported into the UK within the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement, under Protocol 17 attached to the Act of Accession. The new prices set by the Council will apply from 1 January 1975 until the end of the 1974/75 marketing year (30 June 1975).

Moreover, Protocol 18, annexed to the Accession Treaty, authorizes the United Kingdom to import, for a temporary period, certain quantities of *New Zealand butter* and *cheese*. The quantities decrease considerably between now and 1977. Conversely, the price to be observed must correspond to the average prices obtained between 1969 and 1972. In November, the Council adopted the principle of raising the level of this price. This amendment to the Council Regulation of 31 January 1973⁶ is justified by the increased costs of production, processing and carriage, and by the average rise in the prices of Community butter and cheese which, in both cases, amounts to 19.7% since 1 February 1973, when Protocol 18 took effect. Thus on 9

¹ OJ L 322 of 2.12.1974.

² Bull. EC 9-1973, point 2217.

³ Bull. EC 11-1973, point 2237.

⁴ OJ L 341 of 20.12.1974.

⁵ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

⁶ OJ L 27 of 1.2.1973.

December 1974,¹ the Council raised, from 1 January 1975, the cif price to be observed for United Kingdom imports of butter and cheese from 79.96 to 90.81 u.a./100 kg for butter and from 66.45 to 78.41 u.a./100 kg for cheese, i.e., an increase of 18%, as of 1 January 1975. The Commission therefore amended² the special levies set last October.³

Lastly, as agreed at the beginning of October 1974, when the common farm prices for the 1974/75 marketing year were raised by 5% across the board, the intervention price for butter, applicable in Denmark, was also adjusted.⁴ The variance between the common price and the price applicable in Denmark amounted to no more than 2.1%, which did not warrant retention. So, through the Act of Accession, the intervention price of butter in Denmark will in fact be the common price, i.e., 183.58 u.a./100 kg and will apply from 1 January 1975. This sector will therefore be cleared except for the 'accession' compensatory amounts applicable to Ireland and the United Kingdom.²

Common organization of the markets

Sugar

2240. During its session of 9 and 10 December, the Council did further work on the *new sugar regulations* for the Community.⁵ It adopted⁶ the provisions of the various headings of the new basic Regulation which will apply for the five marketing years 1975/76 to 1979/80, i.e., the price scheme, the intervention measures, trade with non-member countries, the quota system and the general and temporary arrangements.

The Council also agreed that the provisions under the heading covering the preferential import scheme for sugar from the African,

Caribbean and Pacific States, now being negotiated with them, should be eventually incorporated into the new basic Regulation.

The Commission took various measures in the light of the deficiency in the Community sugar supply for the marketing year 1974/75, particularly in Italy and the United Kingdom. On the basis of the Council Regulation of November 1974⁷ setting a scheme of subsidized sugar imports from non-member countries through tenders, the Commission, on 3 December 1974,⁸ adopted a Regulation on a standing tender for determining subsidies for white and raw sugar, and issued⁹ a standing call for tender. In the same vein and on the strength of the 1967 basic Regulation, the Commission set¹⁰ the application terms of a special export levy for beef and cane sugar, which are staple products in this sector, and then (on 16 December) set the first of the levies.¹⁰

Finally, the Commission sent the Council a Communication on *special intervention measures to cope with the deficiency in the Community's sugar supply*. In this paper the Commission set down various measures to boost sugar output in the EEC to alleviate the current shortfall. Seen against the background of intervention, they concern:

- production of sugar from molasses;
- bringing forward the beet harvest to early in September;
- rerouting to sugar production, of beets for distilling;

¹ OJ L 334 of 14.12.1974.

² OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

³ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2238.

⁴ OJ L 338 of 17.12.1974.

⁵ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2229.

⁶ OJ L 359 of 31.12.1974.

⁷ OJ L 311 of 22.11.1974.

⁸ OJ L 324 of 4.12.1974 and L 327 of 7.12.1974.

⁹ OJ C 153 of 4.12.1974.

¹⁰ OJ L 338 of 17.12.1974.

- use of certain substitute products (sweeteners and monosaccharins);
- less chaptalization (addition of sugar to the musts) in wine-making.

At the session of 9 and 10 December 1974, the Council discussed the Communication for the first time.

Wine

2241. Applying the basic Regulation the Council, on 10 December,¹ carried out its annual setting of the activating price for table wines for the period 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975. The activating price for each type of table wine now stands at 94% in relation to the corresponding guide price.

Likewise, on 13 December 1974,¹ the Commission set the reference prices for wine applicable from 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975. Compared with the previous marketing year, they show an increase of some 15% for reds and whites. For liqueur wines, the reference price is unchanged. Conversely, the reference price of liqueur wines for processing into products other than those under CCT heading 22-05 shows a rise of about 7%, and the price of fortified wine, one of 11%.

In view of the surpluses registered in the 1974/75 projection for certain table wines, the Commission on 12 December¹ granted aid for their long-term private storage.

During the session of 9 and 10 December, the Council noted the Commission's September report on the foreseeable development of vineyards and new vineyards in the Community, and on the present ratio of production to use in the vine and wine sector.

Beef and veal

2242. In December, the Commission adopted two measures on clearing intervention stocks of beef and veal. This involves a Decision on² the sales of beef and veal preserves to certain consumer groups. Cut-price buying by beneficiaries of social assistance, which had been going on in the Community since July 1974,³ is now extended to meat preserves from intervention stocks, which enables the French Government to operate this social action in the Overseas Departments. The Commission also adopted a Regulation¹ on releasing for tender some 2 400 tonnes of boned beef and veal stored in the Belgian intervention agency.

The Commission adopted a report on applications of the premium scheme for switching beef cattle herds over to dairy production; the report was sent to the Council in connection with the price Proposals for 1975/76.

With an eye to preparing the new basic Regulation, the Commission sent the Council the new guidelines which it feels must be set out, in relation to the Proposals of January 1974,⁴ concerning the trade scheme with non-member countries. The guidelines would keep customs duties at the present rate. They also set out new rules for fixing levies and recommend that special import schemes be terminated, except for specific import prices and the scheme applying to deep-frozen meat for processing.

Fishery products

2243. On 9 December,⁵ the Council adopted four Regulations setting the 1975 prices for

¹ OJ L 334 of 14.12.1974.

² OJ L 6 of 10.1.1975.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2245.

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1974, point 1216.

⁵ OJ L 334 of 14.12.1974.

fishery products. All the Commission's proposed settings were accepted¹ except for the guide prices for plaice and coalfish (raised by 20% and not 25% compared with the previous marketing year prices), whiting (up by about 15% and not 12%) and North Sea hog-fish (rascasse) (increased by 12% and not 10%). The settings are based on the principles of the common organization of the market in this sector.² On the strength of the new guide prices, the Commission approved the withdrawal and reference prices for 1975.

Two Regulations were also adopted:

— the first concerns setting the standard value of fishery products withdrawn from the market during 1975, which is also used in reckoning financial compensation. The standard value represents the revenue gathered when the withdrawn products are disposed of for purposes other than human consumption. The financial compensation paid to the producer organizations is adjusted by that value.

— the second amends the Regulation of 21 December 1973³ regarding the designation of landing areas remote from the main Community consumption centres, and concerning the adjustment coefficients appreciable in those areas. Since fresh developments have occurred in the structures and prices of two already designated landing areas and their neighbouring regions, it has proved necessary to redefine the areas in question and the adjustment coefficients used in computing withdrawal prices applicable there.

Minimum prices

2244. The Council was obliged to prolong⁴ for one year again the minimum prices scheme for certain potatoes and vinegars, because the measures of the common organization of the market for those products have not been put into effect since 31 December 1973.⁵

The extended scheme consists of the following elements:

- application by France of minimum prices for preserved potatoes and by Germany, Belgium, France and Luxembourg for new potatoes;
- raising by France of taxes replacing the minimum prices for potato seedlings and by Germany for edible vinegars and their edible substitutes, except for edible wine vinegars.

Structural policy

2245. On 4 December, in connection with its Proposal on the price settings for various farm products,⁶ the Commission sent the Council a proposed Directive on a *specific subsidy for young farmers* who have been operating for less than five years and are pursuing a development plan.

This special aid is to enable them to deal more easily, not only with charges stemming from the redevelopment of the farm but also with investments under a development plan to modernize it within the meaning of the Directive of 17 April 1972. The aid consists of a sum of 3 300 u.a. payable in annual instalments over the whole period of the development plan, and it will be forthcoming as soon as the modernization expenditure is incurred even if the economic results have still to come.

2246. On 18 December 1974, the Commission sent the Council some Proposals on actual application of the Directive on hill-farming and farming certain less-favoured areas, which the Council adopted on 21 January 1974.⁷

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2249.

² Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2240.

³ Bull. EC 1-1974, point 2232.

⁴ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

⁵ Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2242.

⁶ Bull. EC 11-1974, points 1501 to 1505.

⁷ Bull. EC 11-1973, point 2250 and Bull. EC 1-1974, point 2233.

This primarily concerns a proposed Directive on financial and general arrangements: financial participation by the EAGGF is provided for, to cover 50% of the outlay by the Member States involved, relating to the monetary allowance referred to in the Directive. It will be paid in the form of an annual subsidy to farmers, based on the numbers of mature cattle, or per hectare, and will go to offset the handicaps of natural production problems. The Proposal also provides for a 25% EAGGF contribution to expenditure resulting from farm modernization outlays; to development of craft and tourist activities on farms, and the improvement of collective pasture etc.

The Commission also sent the Council a Proposal concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas where the aid scheme will be applied. The three types of zone concerned (hill regions, less-favoured regions threatened by depopulation and small areas with specific handicaps, particularly islands) account for over a quarter of Community farmland and involve more than a million farms lying in the least-favoured regions, but yield only about 10% of Community output.

The annual cost to the EAGGF for these various aids amounts to roughly 160 000 000 u.a.

2247. On 20 December 1974, the Commission issued its Opinion on the plans sent in by the Member States in compliance with the Directive of 17 April 1972 concerning:

- modernization of farms, aid measures for certain special projects in the *Netherlands*, implementing provisions in the *United Kingdom*, adjustment for 1975 of comparable incomes in *Denmark* and draft amendments for 1975 to the implementary provisions in *Germany*;
- encouragement to withdraw from agricultural activity and the allocation of used agricultural areas for the purposes of structural improvement

in connection with the draft of new implementary provisions in *Belgium*.

Finally, regarding this last Directive, the Council, on 10 December, extended the time-limit for implementing it in *Denmark* until 31 December 1976, as proposed by the Commission towards the end of 1973.

EAGGF

Guarantee Section

2248. Since, for the interventions in the form of buying in, storage and disposal, called the 'second category', the Community financing by the EAGGF Guarantee Section involves the disbursement, in a lump sum, of storage and possible processing charges, the Commission, in the light of short-term economic developments, was obliged to adopt two measures:

— the first, on 5 December 1974,¹ aims at adjusting the interest rate applied in calculating financial outlays on buying in, and intervention storage on the domestic market in the beef and veal, milk and dairy produce, and raw tobacco sectors. The rate goes up from 6 to 8% as from 1 January 1974.

— the second, on 19 December 1974,² is to adjust the level of the lump-sum amounts established for cereals, rice, sugar, milk and dairy produce, oils and fats, beef and veal, and raw tobacco, to offset the net losses incurred by the intervention agencies in handling (moving into and out of warehouses), storage or processing (boning of meat) of the products in question. The new amounts also apply in reckoning losses incurred from 1 January 1974 onwards.

¹ OJ L 326 of 6.12.1974.

² OJ L 36 of 10.2.1972.

Third financial report

2249. The Commission adopted *the third financial report* on the EAGGF, which will be submitted to the Council and the European Parliament. The 1973 report falls into four parts: 'Guarantee', 'Guidance', 'Checks and irregularities' and 'Financial execution of food aid'.

- **Guarantee Section**—1973 was marked by the expansion of Community financing to cover three new Member States, and the need for an additional budget of 864 300 000 million u.a. on various grounds. All in all, the Member States declared expenses for 1973 amounting to 3 659 million u.a., i.e., 50% more than in 1972. This increase stems primarily from expenditure in the dairy produce sector (+ 848 000 000 u.a.), the emergence of compensatory amounts (+ 405 000 000 u.a.) and the extension of Community financing to three new Member States (+ 536 000 000 u.a.).

- **Guidance Section**—Here 1973 was marked by expenditure for a certain number of joint projects (statistical surveys, redevelopment in the cod-fishing sector), and for the adoption by the Council of two new joint projects (premium incentives to meat production, hill-farming). Expenditures for joint projects and special measures has always been on a small scale. The bulk of the credit (150 000 000 u.a.) went to financing 429 structural improvement projects in agriculture, under the Regulation of 5 February 1964,¹ in respect of 1972.

- **Checks and irregularities**—Action was taken to tighten up checks on expenditure in the drive against fraud. Regarding application of the Regulation of 7 February 1972² concerning the notification of irregularities, it should be recorded that, in the Guarantee Section, most of the irregularities involve cereals and dairy produce, and in the Guidance Section, expenditure on non-marketing premiums for milk and dairy produce.

- **Financial execution of food aid**—In 1973 this was characterized by a new scheme of advance aid-financing, akin to the system in the Guarantee Section. Community action has intensified in this sector, and special mention should be made of projects undertaken for the Sahel countries and Bangladesh. For 1973, 119 000 000 u.a. were available for the whole of this sector.

Competition conditions

2250. Under the provisions of Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty the Commission decided to expand the procedure (provided for by paragraph 2 of the same Article) already opened for priority measures to promote stock-breeding, decided in implementation of Italian Law No 118/74, to eleven other draft regional laws in Italy. Under the new procedure, the Commission considers that at this stage of investigation, the aid granted per head of cattle as provided by the foregoing measures, is compatible with the CAP.

2251. The special Protocol concerning Luxembourg annexed to the EEC Treaty provides tax exemption for Luxembourg wine within the borders of Benelux, for a limited time. Acting on a Commission Proposal, the Council decided on 17 December¹ to extend its 1973 Regulation² on Luxembourg farming, either until the end of 1975 or until a decision is taken on harmonizing specific fiscal charges on wine in the Community.

¹ OJ L 34 of 27.2.1964.

Harmonization of laws

2252. With regard to *veterinary legislation*, the Commission, at the request of the German Government, and in accordance with the procedure of the Standing Veterinary Committee, took a Decision authorizing Germany, when bringing breeding or store cattle onto her territory, to apply guarantees relating to the campaign against leucosis. The authorization is valid until 31 December 1976 and from 1 June 1975, a new technique for evaluating blood tests, the result of the Community study, will be applied.

2253. In the *seed and seedling sector* of agriculture, horticulture and forestry, two Council Directives of 9 December 1974¹ broadened the application of the Directive of 9 April 1968² on the marketing of vine propagating material to cover products from outside the Community. The Council also introduced the procedure of the Standing Committee on Agricultural, Horticultural and Forestry Seeds and Seedlings for amending annexes. Other amendments to the basic Directive concern institutional and technical problems.

Lastly, from 1 January 1975, seeds and plantings of most of the varieties officially admitted in the original Member States before 1 January 1973 may circulate freely in the original Community. The list of these varieties will shortly be published by the Commission as the Common Catalogue of Agricultural Species and Varieties.

Agricultural research

2254. On 10 December 1974,¹ the Council adopted a Decision consolidating the Community research programme regarding common and African swinepest. The programme was extended to the new Member States, whose institutes and laboratories will be assigned spec-

ific objectives. This will enable the Community to gain from a substantial contribution, especially in respect of epidemiology

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2255. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament* gave its Opinion on Commission Proposals concerning the following problems: aid for Dutch farm products following the increase in the central rate for the guilder, sugar and beet prices in the United Kingdom and Ireland and butter prices in Denmark, amendments to additional provisions of the basic Regulation for the wine market, extension of the minimum prices scheme for potatoes and certain vinegars, temporary suspension of customs duties for certain farm products, harmonization of laws in certain areas (cocoa products, yeasts), financing of emergency veterinary work, additives in animal feeds.

The *Economic and Social Committee*, meeting in plenary session on 19 December 1974, issued several Opinions concerning Commission Proposals to the Council on setting farm prices for the 1975/76 marketing year, two Proposals which would modify the common organization of the rice and sugar markets and emergency veterinary work.

Industrial and technological policy

Industry

Aeronautics

2256. On 19 December the Council passed a Resolution laying down a permanent procedure

¹ OJ L 352 of 28.12.1974.

² OJ L 93 of 17.4.1968.

for concentration and consultation between the Member States' public authorities in respect of industrial policy in the aeronautics sector. Proposed by the Commission in July 1972 and incorporated into the 1973 industrial policy, the procedure has arrived rather late.

In view of the serious problems now being encountered by the Community aeronautics industry, adoption of the above procedure is a milestone on the way to providing Europe with an integrated aeronautics industry and coordinated realistic policies, since the American industry is dominating the world market. This effort must be sustained financially both from the angle of research and development and on the marketing side.

The Council's Decision certainly constitutes a long stride towards creating an effectively expressed political will by the European authorities.

Technology

Nuclear industry

2257. on 20 December, the Commission gave a favourable Opinion on awarding the Statute of joint enterprise and granting certain tax advantages to the firm *Schnell-Brüter-Kernkraftwerks-gesellschaft mGH* (SBK).

The company, formed by four Community constructors, has undertaken to build a fast-neutron, sodium-cooled nuclear power station, the first of its kind in the Community. SBK will be responsible for its regular operation.

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2258. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the European Parliament gave its Opinion on its Communication to the Council concerning multinational companies *vis-à-vis* Community regulations.¹

Science, research and development, education, scientific and technical information

Multiannual programme

Proposed revisions in the JRC research programme

2259. On 18 December, the Commission adopted a Communication to the Council in the form of a record of the Proposals concerning revision of the multiannual research programme at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and on new activities for the Petten Establishment.

The Council's Decisions of 14 May and 18 June 1973 adopting the JRC's multiannual programme (1973-1976) allowed for revisions early in the second year. But there was nothing definite concerning the future of part of the Petten Establishment, for which the Commission was undertaking to submit suitable proposals.

The relevant Proposals, presented in April² and consolidated in July 1974, were reviewed by the Council authorities and left in abeyance, largely owing to disagreement over the activities planned for Petten, but also because of the priority given to preparing the budget for 1975. In view of this, the JRC departments drew up new activity plans for Petten which received favourable opinions from expert groups and the General Consultative Committee,³ and on 18 December, from the Scientific and Technical Committee.⁴

¹ Supplement 15/73 — Bull. EC.

² Bull. EC 4-1974, point 2242.

³ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2262.

⁴ Point 2261.

The whole original dossier was then updated, to take account of the status of the multianual programme and the latest information on economic developments. The Proposals adopted by the Commission and submitted on 31 December to the Council, involve:

- reassessment of the funding for research objectives set in 1973, mainly to allow for actual and foreseeable pay rises and the growth of certain items of operational expenditure;
- technical reappraisal of certain objectives, with no change in the overall resources, to intensify the work on hydrogen production, reactor safety, the remote sensing of terrestrial resources and the start-up of new activity in thermonuclear fusion (with effect from 1 April 1975);
- new activities for Petten to do with high-temperature materials and standards and organic reference materials, which means a staff of seventy in two years time (with effect from 1 January 1975);
- release of funds for preparing the future programmes of the JRC.

The original programme involved an overall financial appropriation of 178 700 000 u.a. covering the work of 1 676 staff; the new Proposals result in a total of 226 400 000 u.a. and 1 746 staff.

Plutonium Recycling

2260. On 17 December,¹ the Council adopted a research and training programme for recycling plutonium in light-water reactors. This falls into two parts:

- a programme of comprehensive interest which would study general problems involved in the use of plutonium (forward studies, environment problems);

- a ground plan to bridge the gaps in scientific and technical knowledge (use of plutonium isotopes in reactors; post-irradiation tests).

The whole programme is drawn up for a four-year period, starting on 1 January 1975 and is budgeted at 4 500 000 u.a. It will be carried out by contract, with the costs shared between the agencies concerned.

Scientific and Technical Committee

2261. The Scientific and Technical Committee (STC), with Mr Cesoni in the Chair, met on 18 December. The first part of the proceedings dealt with the proposed *revisions to the JRC's multiannual programme*,² including the new work for the Petten Establishment in the field of refractory materials. In accordance with Article 134 of the Euratom Treaty, the Committee issued an official Opinion on the Proposal. It also reviewed the draft of a comprehensive Communication from the Commission to the Council on technological problems in nuclear safety and then issued an official Opinion on that paper.

Finally, the Committee looked at the *organization of scientific and technological research* within the Community institutions, the problem of *uranium supply* and the general handling of *radioactive waste*. The last item will be investigated by the Committee in January 1975.

Advisory Committees for Programme Management (CCMGP)

2262. The CCMGP for the *biology-health protection* programme met in Brussels on 16 and

¹ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

² Point 2259.

17 December 1974, chaired by Dr E. Pochin of the National Radiological Protection Board. The research plans for 1975 were reviewed and a positive Opinion was issued on four new proposed shared-cost contracts presented as part of the programme.

The possible content and form of a future programme for the period 1976-1980 inclusive were discussed for the first time. This uncovered a number of major avenues of research in the following areas: late-developing effects of ionizing radiation, radiation levels and the behaviour of radionucleides in the environment, hereditary effects, short-term effects, dosimetry, application of nuclear techniques to research in agriculture.

Dr A. Lafontaine of the Belgian Delegation was elected Chairman for 1975.

Education and training

Meeting of Education Committee

2263. The second meeting of the Education Committee¹ was held on 9 December under the chairmanship of Rector Guyard (France).

The Committee examined the individual priority themes identified on 6 and 7 June 1974 by the Ministers of Education of the Member States of the Community,² in the light of submissions from the national delegations and the Commission summarizing the relevant activities now going on in each country and the Community and setting out initial views on action to be taken in each field.

It was agreed that the topics of cooperation between higher educational institutions, mutual

recognition of diplomas, and mobility of teaching staff and students in so far as it applies to higher education should be the subject of study in a sub-Group representative of all members of the Committee, and including within national delegations experts drawn from university level.

Regarding the education of migrant workers' children the Commission announced that it intended to submit specific Proposals to the Council in the context of the Social Action Programme for migrant workers and their families and indicated that it hoped to be in a position to send its draft Proposals to the Education Committee for discussion in the spring of 1975.

Scientific and technical information and management of information

2264. The Committee for Information and Documentation on Science and Technology (CIDST) held its 12th meeting from 3 to 5 December 1974 in Luxembourg, with Mr Giles in the Chair.

The Committee had a detailed discussion on some key issues arising out of the first action plan which would create a European information network.³ This first three-year action plan, submitted by the Commission to the Council on 20 September 1974, has been sent to the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee for their Opinions.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2269.

² Bull. EC 6-1974, points 1201 to 1204, and OJ C 98 of 20.8.1974.

³ Bull. EC 6-1974, points 1201 to 1205, and OJ C 126 of 17.10.1974.

In order to prepare the management structures of the future European information network, the Committee set up an *ad hoc* Group to study legal and organizational problems. Another *ad hoc* Group, to look into the methodology and coordination of an inventory of R & D projects in the various fields of activities (biomedicine, environment, agriculture, patents and energy), was also formed.

The Committee also approved the interim activity report of its Working Party on biomedical information and received summary reports from its other specialized Working Parties (technical aspects, economic and financial aspects, training of specialists and user education, agricultural information, information on environmental protection) as well as on the operations carried out by the existing Information System for Metallurgy (SDIM) and Nuclear Science (ENDS).

The Committee welcomed the Commission's collaboration with international bodies such as UNESCO (UNISIST) and the Council of Europe (EUDISED) and was advised of initial contacts made with the ESRO (SDS) information system.

Members of CIDST were asked to participate in the work of the Study Group created by the Council's recommendation of 26 November 1974 which aims at establishing a Community system for the automation of legal documentation.

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2265. During its plenary session of 19 December 1974, the *Economic and Social Committee* issued an Opinion approving the Commission's Decision on the initial three-year action plan for scientific and technical information and documentation.

Energy policy

Preparing and implementing a Community energy policy

Results of the Council session on energy problems

2266. The Council's session on energy problems on 17 December resulted in the adoption of two major Resolutions on the Community energy policy (1985) objectives and the rational utilization of energy,¹ and also saw several Regulations on hydrocarbons approved. The Regulations are studied in detail later in this chapter.

Commission participation in the International Atomic Energy Agency

2267. In response to an invitation from the Chairman of the IAEA Steering Committee, formed within the OECD, the Commission decided, on 11 December 1974, to share in the Agency's work in the same capacity as it has joined in other OECD activities. As a result, it attended the meeting of the IAEA Steering Committee on 18 December.

On the same day, the European Parliament passed a Resolution on the present situation of energy policy with the aim of concluding an international agreement between the OECD Member States with the aim of ensuring energy supplies and setting up an International Agency. The House felt that the European Communities should be party to the agreement and join the Agency.

¹ Points 1201 to 1203.

Hydrocarbons

2268. During the session of 17 December, the Council, acting on a Commission Proposal of July 1973, adopted two Regulations:¹ one extends the Regulation of 18 May 1972² on notifying the Commission of hydrocarbon imports to cover oil products (subheadings 27.10 A, C I and C II of the CCT); the other concerns notification to the Commission of hydrocarbon exports to non-member countries.

Under the second Regulation, Member States are required to notify the Commission, by 30 September and 31 March each year of exports made, per company, during the previous half-year and to advise the Commission by 31 December each year of exports planned for the following year from all companies in the State concerned. To enable Member States to meet these obligations, the exporters are required to supply them with the necessary information.

On the strength of the new Regulations and those of 18 May 1972², the Community will be able to obtain comprehensive data on hydrocarbon movements (crude oil, oil products, natural gas) to and from non-member countries.

2269. Applying the Regulation of 9 November 1973 on supporting Community projects in the hydrocarbon sector,³ the Council, acting on a Commission Proposal⁴ agreed supporting measures for 21 technological projects in the operation, prospection, storage and transport of hydrocarbons which are crucial to the Community's security of supply. With this Decision, the Council authorized the Commission to immediately negotiate and draw up the required contracts with the beneficiaries to implement the support, which totals some 42 500 000 u.a.

As regards application of this Regulation for the budgetary year 1975, the Commission, on 13 December 1974, approved a Communication, since published in the Official Journal of the

Communities,⁵ requesting those concerned to submit, by 28 February 1975, the applications for support which could be considered.

2270. Applying Article 3 of the Council Regulation of 18 May 1972 on notification of hydrocarbon imports,⁶ the Commission, having consulted the Energy Committee, asked the Member States to forward the *hydrocarbon import programmes for 1975*, per half-year and by company to enable the Commission to appraise the supply position. Import estimates for natural gas will be sent in annually.

Coal

2271. The Commission submitted its Communication to the Council of 21 November 1974 on 'medium-term guidelines (1975-85) for coal' to the ECSC Consultative Committee for consultation; this took place on 16 December 1974.

2272. On 17 December 1974, the Commission approved a Communication to the ECSC company associations and coal and steel firms on the coverage of the provisions relating to *long-term contracts* under the specific scheme of *aid for coking coal*; Article 2(c) of the Commission Decision of 25 July 1973⁷ lays down that 'aid may be disbursed only for blast-furnace supplies of coking coal and coke delivered under a long-term contract'. The Communication was published in the Official Journal of the Communities.⁸

¹ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

² OJ L 120 of 25.5.1972.

³ OJ L 312 of 13.11.1973.

⁴ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2273.

⁵ OJ C 159 of 21.12.1974.

⁶ OJ L 120 of 25.5.1972.

⁷ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2269.

⁸ OJ L 259 of 15.9.1973.

⁹ OJ C 160 of 30.12.1974.

Electricity

2273. During the session of 17 December 1974, the Council approved a Directive on *limiting the use of natural gas in electric power stations*. Under this Directive, Member States must obtain prior authorization before making new contracts, extending current supply contracts and building new electric power stations using natural gas. The authorization may be granted only when it is not feasible to allocate the natural gas for other purposes or when technical or economic needs require it. The Directive does not bar the Member States from retaining or applying the most restrictive relevant measures.

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2274. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament*, which had already approved a Resolution on the energy policy position and the creation of the IAEA, passed an additional resolution on the pollution and nuisance problems involved in producing energy.

Transport policy

Transport problems and the Council

2275. On 11 December 1974 the Council held its second session this year on transport. The outcome was most satisfactory, the results indicating solid headway in developing the common transport policy, since the Council finally reached agreement on the issue of harmonizing the rules governing financial relations between the railway companies and the States. It was thus decided to move together towards rationalizing the railway situation in Europe.

The following problems were examined.

Community quota

2276. The Council agreed a *Regulation* extending and amending the Regulation of 28 December 1972, relating to the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road.¹ It prolonged the 1972 Regulation² by one year, while raising by 20% the Community transport authorization quotas available to the Member States. For 1975, the Community quota consists of 2 363 authorizations allocated as follows: Belgium 265; Denmark 169; Germany 427; France 409; Ireland 50; Italy 319; Luxembourg 70; Netherlands 382; United Kingdom 272.

The authorizations entitle the bearers to carry goods by road for others' account throughout all the intra-Community traffic networks, except for internal traffic within the territory of a Member State, and to route empty vehicles through any Community territory.

Bracket tariffs

2277. The Council extended and amended its *Regulation* of 30 July 1968³ on introducing a system of bracket tariffs, to apply to intra-Community road freight haulage. The extension is for one year. For the same length of time, the new Regulation makes certain amendments to the basic text, particularly in respect of its application to carriage wholly or partially by sea, stopping the monthly publication of private contracts, and no application of bracket rates to the carriage of live animals.

Combined road and rail transport

2278. The Council adopted a *Directive* on laying down common rules for certain combined

¹ OJ L 349 of 28.12.1974.

² OJ L 298 of 31.12.1972.

³ OJ L 194 of 6.8.1968.

intra-Community road and rail freight transport. The Directive will free, from 1 October 1975, the foregoing operations from any quota and authorization scheme. It will apply to freightage whereby tractors, lorries, trailers, semi-trailers or their detachable superstructures are routed by rail from the goods-yard nearest the loading point, as far as the yard nearest to the point of unloading.

Checking procedures are provided both as regards the documents to be carried by vehicles, and where appropriate, the checking facilities at the end of the rail journey.

This liberalization is an incentive to cooperation between the various transport media and will help to relieve road congestion and save fuel.

The Directive will apply until 31 December 1978. The Commission is to report to the Council by 30 December 1977 on its application and, if required, submit fresh Proposals, so that the Council may rule, before the Directive expires, on the system to be subsequently applied.

Railway companies

2279. The Council agreed in principle a Decision on putting railways on a sound footing and harmonizing the rules governing their relations with States. From the company management angle, the Decision lays down the principle of adequate autonomy for railway companies, to enable them to gradually attain financial balance and ensure their administration according to economic principles. It also aims at fostering cooperation between railway companies on a Community-wide basis. This is a major step in harmonizing competition conditions between the various modes of transport.

The basic points of the Decision follow the main lines of the Resolution on relations between

railways and States, which the Council passed at its session of 27 June 1974. To ensure that the provisions of the Decision are consistent with the constraints deriving from the aid scheme, the Council will make its final ruling when it is also in a position to adapt the Regulation on transport aid.

Temporary lay-up of river boats

2280. The Council also agreed a Decision amending and consolidating the Directives adopted in December 1972 on negotiating an Agreement with Switzerland to implement rules for the temporary laying-up of vessels for the carriage of goods on certain inland waterways. The Community will thus be able to resume negotiations promptly and reach an agreement with Switzerland.

National tax schemes for commercial vehicles

2281. The Council took note of an interim report on work being done in the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the first Directive concerning the application of national taxation on commercial vehicles. The Directive concerned would harmonize national tax structures in respect of commercial vehicles, by basing taxation on the marginal usage costs to the road system caused by the various vehicles categories, taking levies on gas-oil into account. An outstanding difficulty on this point was the question of working out marginal costs.

The Council instructed the Committee of Permanent Representatives to follow up its work along the lines of the report's findings, to allow the Council to rule on the Directive and the technical annex, if possible by 30 June 1975.

Fuel exemptions

2282. After a brief discussion concerning the proposed Directive to amend the Directive on standardizing the provisions for duty exemption in respect of fuel in the tanks of commercial road vehicles, the Council agreed to tackle this question again at its next session.

Social conditions in road transport

2283. After the statements by the French and Dutch Delegations, the Council got down to a discussion of the problems involved in applying certain social legislation relating to road transport in its Regulation of 25 March 1969.

After the debate, it took note of a Commission statement requesting adoption of the second social Regulation for road transport, now on the Council's desk. Solutions to the problems of applying the Regulation of 25 March 1969 can be sought during forthcoming discussion of the second social Regulation.

*Weight and dimensions
of commercial road vehicles*

2284. During its session, the Council simply summarized the problems arising from the Directive on the weight and dimensions of commercial road vehicles.

*Statement by Vice-President
Scarascia Mugnozza on development
of the transport policy*

2285. At this session, Vice-President Scarascia Mugnozza of the Commission made a statement to the Council in general terms, appraising the current status of the common transport policy, and outlining a view of future work. He stressed the interdependence between transport policy and other Community policies, such as energy, regional and industrial policy.

Against this background, he also broached the question of the stance to be taken by Member States towards the United Nations Convention instituting a code of conduct for shipping conferences.

Lastly, the Vice-President highlighted the value attached by the Commission to maintaining the dialogue between the Commission, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, concerning the Commission Communication of 24 October 1973 on developing the common transport policy.¹ He much appreciated the favourable Opinions on the Communication from the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza hoped that the dialogue on the Communication would now be taken up with the Council, who had indicated they were prepared to act accordingly.

Infrastructures

2286. On 12 and 13 December, the Commission ran two meetings of government experts, which reviewed the initial calculations made by the Member States, of the *marginal costs of using railway and inland waterway infrastructures*. On the strength of the results, some improvements were made to the methodology originally planned. The final calculations will be made on this new basis and they should be completed by the end of first quarter of 1975.

¹ Supplement 16/73 — Bull. EC.

Harmonization

2287. The Federal German Government had sent the Commission the texts of two draft laws which, from 1 January 1975, would amend the general law on *railway* operations and the law on *road passenger transport*. The planned amendments will mean that compensation for charges outside normal operations, or deriving from the concept of public service, will be payable to railways other than the Federal railway system (DB), which already benefits, and also to road passenger carriers.

On 19 December 1974, the Commission decided to write to the Federal German Government advising it that this compensation was compatible with the Community rules in force.

2288. On 5 and 6 December, Commission departments held a meeting with Government experts on various problems raised in applying the Council Regulation of 25 March 1969 on harmonizing *social legislation in the road transport sector*. These include checks on and penalties for infringements, and how to apply them in the Member States in accordance with Community provisions. The experts recommended that information sheets on the key provisions of the 1969 Regulation should be published, for distribution to the drivers of vehicles of non-member countries engaged in road haulage within the borders of the Community.

Functioning of the market

2289. On the strength of Article 70(4) of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission had authorized, in 1972, application of *Special Tariff 214 of the Federal German Railways (DB)* for the carriage of solid fuels from Ahlen (Westphalia) to Alsdorf (Aachen), between a mine and a coking works belonging to the same company. The Commis-

sion had conceded that the tariff cut was necessary to maintain a sufficiently remunerative volume of traffic for the German railways, and that from the state of the coal market at the time, there was no reason to fear that this move would have any adverse effects on the functioning of the common market. But the authorization was to expire on 31 December 1974. The German Government asked the Commission to prolong it, claiming that the same justification still held.

But in its *Decision* of 20 December, the Commission did not authorize Special Tariff 214 to be retained beyond 31 December 1974. It found that the coal market in general and the coking coal market in particular had changed and that they would probably be disrupted, if the Tariff was retained.

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2290. During its part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament* passed a Resolution 'on permanent links crossing certain sea straits'.

3. External relations

Commercial policy

Multilateral negotiations

2301. At its session of 19 December 1974, the Council got down to an initial discussion of the Communication concerning the multilateral trade negotiations which the Commission had presented on 29 October.¹

The aim of the Communication was to determine, from the overall concept adopted by the Council on 25 and 26 June 1973,² the Community's attitude towards the negotiations which could actually start as soon as the Governments involved had been vested with the necessary powers. On this score, the Council noted the point reached in the procedure of approval by the United States Congress of the Trade Reform Act.³

The Council reiterated the importance, highlighted by the Paris Conference of Heads of Government on 9-10 December 1974,⁴ which the Community attaches to the multilateral trade negotiations within GATT.

The Council's considerations permitted an initial discussion of the main problems set by the negotiations. It was agreed that the Council would consider these matters again at a session scheduled for early February.

which had been established over imports from Japan of certain *electronic calculators* was prolonged until 31 December 1975 and extended to imports from all the member countries of GATT and countries treated as such.

Previously, the Commission had decided by a Regulation of 25 November 1974⁶ to establish Community surveillance over imports of certain *stockings made from acrylic fibres* originating in the Republic of Korea (South Korea) or Taiwan. These had increased considerably in recent years and prices were relatively low, thus prejudicing Community producers of similar products.

Trade agreements: renewals, derogations or authorizations

2303. On 9 December 1974,⁷ the Council authorized the extension or tacit renewal of a series of trade agreements, numbering almost forty, concluded between Member States and third countries.

Credit insurance and export credit

2304. On 5 and 6 December 1974, a further meeting was held in Brussels between the experts of the Member States, the United States and Japan, and the Commission to draw up technical solutions to various problems relating to the conclusion of the gentlemen's agreement on the rate of interest and the duration of trade credits.⁸

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2301.

² Bull. EC 6-1973, point 2342.

³ The Trade Act, of which an initial draft had been laid before Congress on 10 April 1973, was finally approved by Congress on 20 December 1974 and signed by President Ford on 3 January 1975.

⁴ Point 1104.

⁵ OJ L 346 of 24.12.1974.

⁶ OJ L 316 of 26.11.1974.

⁷ OJ L 352 of 28.12.1974.

⁸ Bull. EC 9-1974, point 2303.

Commercial policy

Preparing and implementing the common commercial policy

Surveillance measures

2302. By Commission Regulation⁵ of 19 December 1974, the Community surveillance

The Coordination Group for credit-insurance, guarantee and financial credit policies, meeting on 11 December, examined the comparative table of technical solutions put forward by all sides. Following this, the Group instructed the Commission to forward the results of the experts' work to the representatives of the United States and Japan.

Particular measures of commercial policy

Textiles

2305. Pursuant to the multilateral arrangement concerning international trade in textiles concluded under GATT, the Community, as already reported,¹ began negotiations in November with *Pakistan* for a bilateral agreement covering this sector. The negotiations, which continued in December, may be completed in the early months of 1975.

Steel

2306. On 17 December 1974,² the Commission adopted a Decision, derogating from Recommendation 1-64, to permit the importation at a zero rate of duty, for the first quarter of 1975, of limited quantities (totalling approximately 60 000 t) of iron and steel products produced in inadequate quantity or quality in the Community (wire-rod, magnetic sheet, worn rails). On 19 December, it granted another derogation from the Recommendation, in this case to authorize imports at a zero rate of duty during 1975 of iron and steel products from the developing countries.³

In both cases, this involved authorizing the Member States to apply their corresponding Decisions adopted on 2 December 1974.

Scrap metal

2307. In December, the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC opened export quotas for steel scrap of low quality. The total amount agreed was fixed at 164 000 tonnes for the first quarter of 1975, it being understood that, of this, 24 000 tonnes were granted on a conditional basis: a review of the market situation as at 15 February will determine whether the authorizations in respect of this fraction of the permitted export quantity will be suspended.

Development and cooperation

Development and cooperation policy

The Community and the United Nations' emergency operation

2308. At its meeting on 3 October 1974, the Council confirmed its decision to contribute on behalf of the Community to the United Nations' emergency operation to assist those developing countries most seriously affected by international price movements,³ on the terms and conditions set out in the letter sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the President of the Council on 25 June 1974.⁴ The Council decided on that occasion to make an immediate initial contribution to the emergency operation of \$150 million.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2302.

² OJ L 5 of 9.1.1975.

³ Bull. EC 9-1974, points 1501 to 1504.

⁴ Bull. EC 6-1974, point 2309.

Since then, \$30 million of the \$150 million have been paid into the special account of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

As regards the balance of \$120 million, which is to be used directly by the Community for the benefit of the most seriously affected countries, the Council adopted, at the session of 2 and 3 December, the overall programme for the utilization of this balance which was submitted by the Commission on 21 November 1974 following exploratory talks with the developing countries most severely hit by the present crisis.

The Council adopted the Commission proposal to concentrate use of the initial instalment on assisting 17 developing countries. The primary objective of the operation is to maintain these countries' capacity to import essential goods, and the principal criterion adopted by the Council was the countries' residual balance of payments deficit. However, account was also taken of other sources of aid open to some of the countries severely affected by the crisis. At the same time, special account was taken of the situation of those developing countries identified by the United Nations as the least advanced.

Amongst the principal beneficiaries from this first instalment are India, which is to receive \$50 million, Bangladesh (\$22 million), Tanzania (\$9 million), Kenya (\$6 million), Sri-Lanka, Mali and Niger (\$5 million each). Other beneficiaries are Madagascar, Honduras, Pakistan (\$3 million each), Upper Volta, Chad (\$2 million each), Dahomey, Rwanda, Haiti, Senegal and Somalia (\$1 million each).

It emerged from the talks held by the Commission with the countries which are to receive Community aid that they proposed to use the sums allocated to them for the purchase—generally within the Community—of foodstuff fertilizers, insecticides and medicines, and certain capital goods and services essential for their economy.

Generalized preferences

2309. During its session of 2 and 3 December 1974, the Council adopted the Regulations and Decisions concerning the application for 1975 of the generalized preferences in favour of the developing countries.¹ The Community thus agreed to a further effort to help the developing countries and especially the poorest of them.

Food aid

Community aid in the form of skimmed-milk powder

2310. On 9 December 1974, the Commission proposed to the Council that 100 000 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder from intervention stocks be set aside for food aid and emergency relief. These 100 000 tonnes would be made available, at a reduced price, to international organizations responsible for food aid programmes and to charitable bodies and organizations in the Community for delivery to developing countries. In the event of a natural disaster, these supplies could be sold direct to ensure swifter action. They would be sold by intervention agencies at 50% of the price they themselves originally paid.

The Commission stresses the increased protein requirements of developing countries. It also points out that the sharp rise in the price of skimmed-milk powder on the world market is a limiting factor on the quantities that relief organizations and the like can make available to developing countries. The Commission feels that the Community can help to ease the present

¹ Points 1401 to 1404 and OJ L 329 of 9.12.1974.

supply problems being experienced by developing countries by offering part of its intervention stocks at a reduced price.¹ The action proposed by the Commission can be valued at approximately 45 million u.a.

Sahel, Ethiopia, Somalia

2311. On 17 December 1974, the Council agreed to an *interim programme* of aid for 1975 for the Sahel countries, Ethiopia and Somalia.

This interim programme—which may of course be adjusted—is necessary because these countries are still faced with grave problems caused by the drought, although sufficient data is not yet available to assess their needs.

The supply of 60 000 tonnes of cereals, 14 000 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder and 6 000 tonnes of butteroil will in part be drawn from the 1974 reserves and in part deducted in advance from the 1975 implementation plan.

2312. At the request of the Somalian authorities, the Community has undertaken to bear the expenses, up to 135 000 u.a., of flying 72 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder and 34 tonnes of butteroil from the Community to Somalia. The Community took this step in view of the severe hardships suffered by the nomad population from the drought and for want of available dairy produce to relieve their plight.

2313. The Council decided to grant financial aid of 240 000 u.a. still on hand from the 1974 budget (Community aid to disaster victims) to the Somalian Government since conditions in Somalia have considerably worsened. These funds will help to meet the needs of the stricken population, in medicines, clothing, foodstuffs, etc.

International organizations

United Nations

2314. The 29th Session of the United Nations General Assembly ended in December. For the first time, the Community, as such, was able as an observer to attend the proceedings of the Assembly² and especially the meetings of the Second Committee (Economic and Financial). With a statement by the Commission representative, the Community made its viewpoint known on the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, which the General Assembly finally adopted in a version which produced a negative vote or abstention on the part of some developed countries, including the members of the Community.

Other work by the General Assembly, involving the Community, crystallized into voted resolutions on: the multilateral trade negotiations, the report of the Trade and Development Board and the preparations for the special session of the Assembly devoted to development and cooperation in 1975.

The atmosphere of conflict which marked the 29th Session sometimes prevented the Member States of the Community from adopting common positions, but did show that through the combined action of its members, the Community could make a constructive contribution to the debates and could play a useful part in reconciling attitudes.

2315. On 3 December 1974, Mr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, points 1401 to 1407.

² Bull. EC 10-1974, points 1101 to 1105.

received Mr de Guiringaud and Mr Krag in their capacity as leaders of the EEC delegation to the 29th Session of the General Assembly. The communiqué issued after the meeting stressed that 'the EEC acted as such in all the discussions on matters falling within its authority'.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

2316. The Working Party, formed to investigate whether the Agreement between the European Communities and the *Lebanon* was compatible with the provisions of Article XXIV of GATT, met in Geneva on 11 and 13 December. Whilst the signatories, supported by some other members of the Working Party, felt that the Agreement was compatible, a number of other countries took the opposite view. The report, to be submitted to the GATT Council, will present the conflicting opinions, but will neither draw any conclusions nor make any recommendations.

Another Working Party met from 9 to 13 December to review, on the strength of the General Agreement provisions, the customs tariff applied on a trial basis by *Romania* since 1 January 1974, and its implementary regulations. A report will be sent to the Council.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

2317. The OECD *Agricultural Committee's* Working Party on meat met in Paris on 11 and 12 December, to examine the current situation on the meat market and the outlook for the next two years, from the supply and demand and international trade angles. The group came to the conclusion that over the next two years beef

and veal production will expand still further, and that supply will exceed world demand, which will certainly raise thorny problems for the trade. Moreover, in order to remedy the lack of a permanent and sound meat information system, the Working Party set up a new procedure enabling it to study the position continuously and thus to help in substantially improving market knowledge.

Western European Union

2318. The Commission was represented at the second part of the 20th session of the WEU *Assembly* held in Paris from 2 to 6 December 1974 and chaired by Mr Nessler. Throughout the often heated debates, which heard speeches by the Belgian Foreign Minister, Mr van Elslande and the Netherlands Defence Minister, Mr Vredeling, the Assembly expressed its concern for greater coordination of defence policies in Western Europe, but did not bridge the now traditional gulf between the advocates of an independent Europe, and those who were prepared to accord a dominant role in the western world to the United States. The conclusions reached by the Assembly included recommendations to the WEU Council to expand the Agreements associating Greece and Turkey with the EEC, in anticipation of their membership, and to give preference to the products of European aero-equipment constructors.

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2319. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament* passed a 'Resolution on the present status of the energy policy, with the aim of concluding an international agreement between the Member States of the OECD to ensure energy supplies, and to set up an international oil agency'.

EFTA countries

Joint Committee

2320. The Joint Committees provided for in the Agreements between the Community and certain countries in EFTA (*Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland*) met in Brussels from 9 to 12 December 1974.

During the meetings, the delegations were pleased to note that the Agreements were working without any major problems, that trade was developing satisfactorily and that the third cut in customs duties would take effect on 1 January 1975, as scheduled. The delegations extensively discussed the current economic situation and its problems, chiefly inflation and raw material supplies, and their impact on payment balances. They also appraised the operational outlook for the Agreements in 1975. Here they stressed the value of close cooperation between the European countries in dealing with these problems by fully exploiting the existing consultation procedures.

The Joint Committees noted the substantial headway made in streamlining administrative and customs formalities and the rules of origin. They instructed the Customs Committees to continue their work on questions still outstanding.

Switzerland recognizes the Community laissez-passer

2321. Following an exchange of letters on 5 December 1974, the Swiss authorities have recognized the laissez-passer issued by the EC to officials and certain servants of its institutions, as being a valid travel document within the borders of the Confederation. This measure will take effect from 5 January 1975.

Mediterranean countries

Greece

2322. On Monday 2 December 1974,¹ the EEC-Greece Association Council held its first meeting at ministerial level since the re-establishment in Greece of a fully democratic régime following the 17 November 1974 elections. This was the 37th meeting of the Council since the Athens Agreement came into force on 1 November 1962.

Mr Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister and officiating President of the Association Council, welcomed the Greek Delegation, led by Mr Panayiotis Papaligouras, Minister for Economic Coordination and Planning. Mr Sauvagnargues expressed the satisfaction felt by his colleagues and himself at seeing the representatives of a free and democratic Greece taking their place within the Council once again.

The Association Council noted that this meeting at ministerial level demonstrated the will of the parties to the Athens Agreement to get the institutions of the Association running normally again in accordance with the Declaration adopted by the Council of the Communities in September 1974.

The Association Council also noted that *financial* aid to Greece would be resumed by mutual agreement. The President of the Council has already written to this effect to the President of the European Investment Bank; the Greek authorities and the responsible Bank officials are already in touch to ensure that the financing of certain projects of interest to Greece can be put in hand without delay. It was also understood that the two parties agreed to conclude a second

¹ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2321.

financial Protocol. Negotiations would be speedy, in accordance with arrangements to be determined by the Association Committee.

On the *trade* front, the Association Council noted the agreement already concluded, by the written procedure for reasons of urgency, so that certain provisions of the Athens Agreement could be extended beyond the normal expiry date, in accordance with the wish expressed by the Greek Government. This refers in particular to Article 18 of the Agreement dealing with the possibility of measures to help new industries.

As regards *harmonization of the agricultural policies* of Greece and the Community, the Association Council confirmed its plan to achieve this objective in accordance with the provisions of Article 33 of the Athens Agreement. The Community declared its readiness to resume negotiations immediately, taking account of the new factors which have cropped up since 1967, with a view to defining the conditions for this harmonization in the five sectors concerning which the Community and Greece had in 1962 adopted the declarations provided for in the Agreement. These sectors are fruit and vegetables, cereals, pigmeat, eggs and poultrymeat.

As for the temporary scheme applicable to imports into the Community of products covered by these five sectors, particularly fruit and vegetables, pending the harmonization of agricultural policies, the Association Committee will study, at the request of the Association Council, questions outstanding in the light of the declarations adopted on 2 December by the two Delegations.

Regarding the additional protocol designed to extend the Athens Agreement to the three new Member States of the Community, the two parties recorded their determination to sign this protocol shortly, with the understanding that the arrangements applicable to Greek wine imports will be dealt with in the context of harmonization of agricultural policies.

The Association Council agreed to instruct the Association Committee to finalize the arrangements for the temporary scheme applicable to such *wines* in 1975, by drawing up for the three new Member States of the Community provisions similar to those currently applied on the basis of the Athens Agreement to imports of these wines into the six original Member States.

Finally, by Decision No 7/74, the Association Council decided to maintain until 28 February 1975 the provisions of Paragraph 3 of Protocol No 10 annexed to the Athens Agreement. Under these provisions, the prior agreement of Greece is necessary when the Community wishes to open tariff quotas, for certain products, including raw tobacco, in favour of non-associated third countries, or to suspend duties beyond certain limits.

Algeria

2323. The *negotiations* between a Community Delegation and a Delegation from the Algerian Government for a global cooperation agreement, which began on 10 and 11 July 1972, continued in Brussels on 2 and 3 December 1974.

This negotiating session showed that both sides held similar views on the basic principles which should govern a long-term global cooperation agreement between Algeria and the Communities.

While taking account of the improvements made in the Community proposals, the Algerian Delegation still felt that they were still inadequate to meet the objectives desired and would have to be re-examined in the light of the Algerian proposals.

Moreover, the Algerian Delegation asked that the approach to the 'economic, industrial and financial cooperation' aspect should bear closer relation to the Algerian Development Plan. It requested also that the 'labour' side should be

reappraised and geared more closely to the rights and interests of the Algerian workers. The two delegations agreed to resume their work in the near future.

Israel

2324. A fresh round of negotiations took place between the Community and Israel on 9 and 10 December 1974. Apart from one question, the two sides reached agreement on all the outstanding matters. It is hoped to finalize the negotiation, by an exchange of letters, for early 1975.

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2325. During its part-session of 9 to 13 December 1974, the *European Parliament* adopted a Resolution on the present situation of the refugees in Cyprus.

African, Caribbean and Pacific countries

Negotiations

2326. The faster pace which the ACP States and the Community have put into their proceedings since the Kingston Ministers' Conference last July,¹ their determination to succeed and their concern to respect the deadlines all carried the negotiations into their final Phase.

During an extended meeting of unrelieved but successful effort, from 7 to 9 December, first among the specialized sub-Committees and bureaux and then within the full Ambassadors' Committee, the text of a draft Convention was compiled, covering everything to do with future EEC-ACP cooperation.

The text incorporates a number of still open questions. They include matters to be settled at ministerial level during the final stage of the negotiations, such as the volume of financial aid. On other political issues, the ACP or the Community still have to reach unison on their own side; some of the issues are significant, and bear on the very nature of the Convention, either within the context of the trade scheme, the institutional framework, the range of consultation between the contracting parties or the machinery for decisions on financing. Finally, other questions involve negotiation tactics.

As regards sugar, the week-end of 14-15 December was spent in talks between the Community and the ministerial delegations of the producer-countries concerned. Broad agreement was obtained on the main lines of future arrangements. The focal question of prices was also initially discussed. Agreement is yet to be reached on this. The negotiations on sugar, especially prices, will be resumed forthwith, at a level to be decided.

The fifth stage of the negotiations was successfully wound up. The Community and the ACP are now finalizing their common positions; the ACP Ministers met in Dakar on 18 and 19 December for this purpose. It was agreed that the EEC-ACP negotiators would come together at Ambassador level early in January 1975, to prepare a joint session between the Community Ministers and their counterparts from the African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

Meanwhile, on 18 December, the Commission presented its Proposals to the Council concerning the temporary measures to be adopted, from 1 February 1975, in relations between the Community and the ACP States. Based on the implementation of certain provisions of the

¹ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, points 2332 to 2338.

forthcoming EEC-ACP Convention, as part of an interim Agreement, the temporary measures should, according to the Commission, consist early on of a 'status quo' system, extending the schemes which have been in operation for some months, so that the necessary practical preparations can be made in the matter of regulations and technical details for putting such an interim Agreement into effect.

Yaoundé Convention

European Development Fund

New financing Decisions

2327. After a favourable Opinion from the EDF Committee, the Commission on 6¹ and 20 December 1974² adopted ten new financing Decisions. The projects concerned will get non-repayable grants of 15 893 000 u.a. (new commitments of the 3rd EDF) and 2 365 000 u.a. resulting from the adjustment of appropriations previously earmarked for the 2nd and 3rd EDF. The projects involved are:

Mauritania: Formation of a rural engineering works team to build dams in the Hodhs regions. The project will cost about 2 031 000 u.a. With the aid of portable equipment, it will carry out a scheme of repair work and build eighteen flood barriers, including their subsequent maintenance, in the Hodhs regions to the east and west.

Central African Republic: Additional finance of 2 114 000 u.a. has been granted to carry out the Bangui slaughterhouse project.

Mali: Infrastructure of the housing estate for young administrative personnel, at Bamako-Bad-

alagoucou. Mali will receive a subsidy of 1 800 000 u.a. for the preparation of a 23-hectare site in Bamako-Badalagoucou for building 430 dwellings to be made available to Malian administrative personnel under a hire-purchase scheme.

Upper Volta: Construction of the Ecole Inter-Etats de Techniciens Supérieurs de L'Hydraulique et de l'Equipement Rural (ETSHER). The project will cost approximately 1 098 000 u.a. The school, of regional status, will train higher-grade technicians of various French-speaking States in rural infrastructure and water engineering.

Malagasy Republic: Construction of three bridges on the East Coast. A credit of 6 161 000 u.a. has been authorized for this project. The ferries now in service will be replaced. The new bridges will improve the main road network of all-season highways and open up the regions concerned.

Following these Decisions, the total commitments under the 3rd EDF now amount to 793 722 000 u.a. for 293 financing Decisions since the 3rd EDF became operative on 1 January 1971.

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2328. During the part-session of 9 to 13 December, the European Parliament passed a 'Resolution on the negotiations which have begun between the EEC and the ACP for the renewal and enlargement of the Association'.

¹ OJ C 157 of 14.12.1974.

² OJ C 2 of 4.1.1975.

Non-member countries

Non-member countries

Non-member countries

Industrialized countries

United States

2329. The ninth round of regular high level *consultations* between the Commission and the United States Administration took place on 5 and 6 December in Washington. The Commission Delegation was headed by Vice-President Sir Christopher Soames, the US Delegation by Deputy Secretary of State Robert L. Ingersoll.

The substantive talks between these delegations covered a broad range of subjects of mutual interest, including new developments since the last consultations, which were held in Brussels in June 1974.¹ Both subjects concerning bilateral relations in the field of commercial and agricultural policy and those covering relations of the European Community and the United States with third countries, including multilateral trade negotiations, energy problems, and policies towards developing countries were discussed.

Besides these consultations, Sir Christopher Soames has had separate meetings with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, US Treasury Secretary William L. Simon, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz and other leading figures in the US government.

Australia

2330. As part of a world tour lasting five weeks, Mr Whitlam, the *Australian Prime Minister*, visited the Commission in Brussels on 17 December 1974, accompanied by senior Australian Government officials. After seeing Mr Ortoli, President of the Commission, Mr Whitlam held private discussions with Sir Christo-

pher Soames, Vice-President of the Commission, followed by a meeting with Mr Cheysson and senior Commission officials on matters of mutual interest.

On *energy*, in the light of the substantial growth in Community demand for uranium from the late 1970's and Australia's resources of uranium representing some 20% of known world uranium deposits, the need for follow-up discussions was established. Talks will also be entered into for the supply of coal to the EEC.

On the forthcoming multilateral trade negotiations, both sides stressed the importance of a successful conclusion. In the agricultural field, discussion centred on the Community's import ban on beef and on Community sugar supplies. The Community's aid programme was outlined by Mr Cheysson.

The need for regular consultations was reconfirmed and the first round will take place in 1975 in Brussels, probably in June.

Canada

2331. The Canadian *Secretary of State for External Affairs*, Mr A. MacEachen, called on Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-President, on 10 December. The discussions centred on the present state of Community/Canada relations and the prospects for 1975, as well as on international developments in the energy sector.

Asian and Latin-American developing countries

India

2332. The *Joint Commission* set up under the Commercial Cooperation Agreement between

¹ Bull. EC 6-1974, point 2350.

Non-member countries

India and the European Economic Community held its second session in New Delhi on 17 and 18 December 1974. The session was formally inaugurated on 16 December by Professor D. P. Chattopadhyaya, Indian Minister of Commerce.

The Joint Commission considered the reports of its two specialized Sub-Commissions. The first of these has responsibility for the implementation of the sectoral agreements on Indian exports to the Community of jute and coir products, cotton textiles and cottage industry goods, while the second is concerned with a wide range of cooperation measures including the efficient utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences and possible liberalization measures for products of particular interest to India.

With a view to encouraging the development and diversification of trade between the Parties, proposals were discussed for mutually advantageous cooperation in various fields including cattlefeed and edible oils, leather and leather manufactures, engineering goods and computer software.

Sri Lanka and Pakistan

2333. Negotiations were resumed on 3 and 4 December 1974 on a Commercial Cooperation Agreement with Sri Lanka, similar to, but not identical with, that concluded with India. These were successfully concluded, apart from a few details which remain to be clarified on the Community side. It is hoped that the Agreement may be formally signed towards the end of January 1975.

Negotiations were also continued on 11 and 12 December 1974 on a similar Agreement with Pakistan. Good progress was achieved on discussing the draft text of the Agreement, but it was not possible to reach agreement in the course of this session on tariff and other concessions affecting certain products and the negotiations were therefore adjourned.

Non-member countries

Argentina

2334. The *Joint EEC-Argentina Committee*, formed by the Trade Agreement signed on 8 November 1971, held its third regular annual meeting on 13 December 1974. The items on the agenda were a review of application of the Agreement, the development of trade and the problems involved, and prospects for the future.

Regarding application of the Agreement, the Argentine delegation, feeling that its content was inadequate to meet crises, like the one now besetting the world beef and veal market, and to develop economic and trade cooperation between the two sides, reiterated its government's request, made to the Commission on 24 April 1974 to negotiate promptly with the Community for a more extensive Agreement on economic and trade cooperation in general with special reference to beef and veal.

Trade between the EEC and Argentina has developed, as previously, to the advantage of the latter. In fact, the deficit regularly recorded in the Community's trading balance with Argentina has tripled in 1973 to reach nearly US \$1 000 million. On this score, the Community delegation stressed the difficulties encountered in Argentina by Member States' operators as a result of export and import curbs imposed by the Argentine Government.

On her side, Argentina highlighted the problems she had to face due to the suspension of beef and veal imports imposed by the Community in July 1974, and the trouble which had arisen in 1974 in the handling by certain Member States of the deep-frozen beef and veal quota, consolidated with GATT.

Lastly, the Joint Committee noted the assent of both sides to prolong the Trade Agreement for one year, according to Article 9(2) of same. The Agreement was to run for three years and normally expires on 31 December 1974.

Fifth Community—Latin-America meeting

2335. The second round of the fifth ambassadorial meeting between the Community and the Latin-American countries took place on 6 December 1974. It was mainly devoted to trade and trade problems and to the development, now made possible as regards Latin-America, by some of the Resolutions passed by the EEC Council meeting of 30 April on development and cooperation. Other matters broached included the question of beef and veal exports to the Community, the 1975 generalized preference scheme, and the first steps taken or intended by the Community for 1975 to help the promotion of exports from the Latin-American countries regional integration.

The Joint EEC - Latin-American Group on trade questions, whose brief was renewed for one year, was instructed to carry on its work, at expert level, on the technical operation of generalized preferences and to follow up the Community aid programme planned for 1975, to promote Latin-American exports.

State-trading countries

2336. In accordance with the Decision of principle taken on 12 November 1974, the Council, on 2 December, adopted the *import schemes*, applicable in the Member States in respect of State-trading countries, for products subject to quantity restrictions.¹

The Decision is motivated by the concern to ensure continuity of trade with the State-trading countries, pending conclusion by the Community of trade agreements with each of those countries, which could supersede the trade agreements made by the Member States, and expiring on 31 December 1974. In the main the Community has provisionally renewed, for 1975, the import quotas laid down for 1974.

By the end of March 1975 the Council will approve the adjustments which must apparently be made to the import schemes established by the Decision of 2 December 1974.

Diplomatic relations of the Communities

2337. On 3 December,² the President of the Council and the President of the Commission received HE Ambassador Nestor Kombot-Naguemon, Representative of the *Central African Republic* to the European Economic Community, who presented his letters of credence as Head of his country's Mission to the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC).

On the same day,² they received HE Ambassador S. Othello Coleman, who presented his letters of credence as Head of the Mission of the Republic of *Liberia* to the European Economic Community (EEC). Since Ambassador Coleman is the first Liberian Head of Mission to the EEC, the Missions accredited at the end of 1974 now number 99.

Lastly, and again on 3 December,² the President of the Council and the President of the Commission received HE Ambassador Ebou Momar Taal who presented his letters of credence as Head of Mission of the Republic of *Gambia* to the European Communities (EEC, ECSC, EAEC). The new ambassador succeeds Mr Sherif Mustapha Dibba, assigned to another post.

¹ OJ L 358 of 31.12.1974 and Bull. EC 11-1974, point 1301.

² OJ C 159 of 21.12.1974.

4. Institutions and organs of the Communities

European Parliament

European Parliament

Part-session from 9 to 13 December 1974 in Luxembourg

2401. The first half of the December sittings¹ was overshadowed by the meeting of Heads of Government in Paris on 9 and 10 December which coincided with this part-session.

Before Parliament finally adopted the EEC general budget for 1975 on 12 December, when it had the final say on part of the expenditure, the House, in the afternoon of 11 December, heard first-hand accounts of the results of the Summit Conference from Ireland's Foreign Minister, Mr Garret FitzGerald, who from 1 January 1975 will preside over the Council, and from President Ortoli of the Commission, so that on the strength of those reports, the House could make its final decision on the question of the European Regional Fund.

As the rapporteur of the Budgets Committee pointed out, the approval of the new EC budget by the decision-making representatives of the European peoples with the absolute majority of its members, coupled with the Summit results was a breakthrough to solidarity.

Where the national States could no longer be effective, owing to their outdated structures, they considered that it was their job to try and make the Community effective.²

Financial matters

Community draft budget—Completion of procedure (10 and 12 December)

2402. On 12 December Parliament drew up the final draft of the Community's general bud-

get for 1975. The final division, when 101 MPs voted for the draft (only the Communist and Allied Group voted against it on considerations of principle) closed the new budget procedure applied this year for the first time.³

The House again had to deal with the draft of the general budget, since the Council, for its part, had altered a number of Parliament's draft amendments and had not incorporated all its proposed modifications.⁴

The Council had agreed Parliamentary amendments to the extent of some 44 million u.a. In addition to this, there were corrections which the House had to deal with in respect of the Council Decision concerning staff expenditure in its own budget estimates (about 4 million u.a.).

The Council accepted 12 Parliamentary amendments in the Commission section as they stood, including an increase of 35 million u.a. in the resources of the European Social Fund and more funds for various activities involving vocational training, health protection and the European

¹ The report on this sitting of Parliament was prepared from the German edition of 'Informations' published by Parliament's General Secretariat.

The Political Group and nationality of members speaking in the debates are indicated in brackets after their names and abbreviated as follows: C-D = Christian Democrats, S = Socialist Group, L = Liberal and Allied Group, C = European Conservatives, EPD = European Progressive Democrats, COM = Communist and Allied Group (SF, Ind. Sin.); B = Belgium, DK = Denmark, G = Federal Republic of Germany, F = France, IRL = Ireland, I = Italy, L = Luxembourg, NL = Netherlands, UK = United Kingdom.

² The complete texts of the Resolutions passed by Parliament are reproduced in OJ C 5 of 3.1.75 and the verbatim report of the sitting is contained in OJ Annex 184.

³ Bull. EC 7/8-1974, point 2487; Bull. EC 9-1974, point 2445; Bull. EC 10-1974, points 2404 and 2454; Bull. EC 11-1974, points 2402 and 2457, and Bull. EC 12-1974, point 2470.

⁴ For the procedure, see Bull. EC 11-1974, points 2402 and 2457.

accounting centre in Luxembourg. The relevant items in the draft budget are thus established. The Council trimmed a Parliamentary amendment concerning the European Vocational Training Centre (0.6 instead of 1.1 million u.a.). Five further amendments (funds requested for the Foundation for Improving the Environment and Living and Working Conditions, education policy activities, research and development in respect of the labour market, pilot-projects for disabled workers) were changed by the Council in respect of their form, although their substance is unaltered. The Council proposed to put the funds in question into the Chapter of non-allocated appropriations, where they are frozen for the time being.

The Council rejected the increased resources for the European Regional Fund (300 million u.a.), for innovation and industrial development contracts (10 million u.a.), for development aid by private bodies (10 million u.a.) as well as for building loans for officials (2 million u.a.) and three staff positions plus two entries concerning income guarantees for workers under retraining, and seigniorage.

Of Parliament's proposed modifications, on which the Council has the last word (compulsory expenditure) the Council approved the deletion of funds for the denaturing of cereals (23.5 million u.a.) and sugar (1.6 million u.a.). The rest of the proposed modifications were rejected, which included increased funds for improving agricultural structures (100 million u.a.), hill-farming and farming in underfavoured regions (50 million u.a.), food aid (53 million u.a.) and farm-price revisions for 1975/76 (200 million u.a.).

The House used its authority of 'last word' cautiously. It altered the Council's modifications to the amendments approved by the House on 4 November on only one major point and raised the research and investment expenditure for the JRC by 1 244 000 u.a. These funds will

be used to ensure safety in the installations and protect the staff working there. It also authorized the inclusion of 13 781 192 u.a. under the same budget heading: these funds had been frozen in the Chapter covering non-allocated appropriations. Implementation of the multiannual research approved by the Council in the spring of 1973 is thus ensured. Under social expenditure, the House included a token entry for guaranteeing the income of workers under retraining.

The remaining draft amendments, of which three concern the reinstatement of 300 million u.a. originally provided for the Regional Fund, were withdrawn by those who tabled them in the light of the outcome of the Paris Summit Conference.

In its final version the draft budget for 1975 established by Parliament amounts to 5 825 283 360 u.a. as against 5 079 465 923 for 1974, i.e. an increase of 11.5%.

The resources of the European Regional Fund, for which both the Commission and Parliament had proposed a basic endowment, are to be approved at the proper time through a draft supplementary budget.

In the Resolution the House felt that the goodwill and pragmatic approach pervading relations between the Council and the Assembly had enabled an acceptable compromise to be reached in respect of the 1975 budget. But the procedure of Article 203 of the EEC Treaty was criticized. It was ambiguous and prevented the positive development of Community policy and Parliament's budgetary powers.

Regarding the classification, in connection with its budgetary authority, of expenditure in compulsory and non-compulsory items, the House welcomed the classification of expenditure relating to the Regional Development Fund as non-compulsory expenditure (i.e., on which Parliament has the last word). It confirmed the same

principle for expenditure under the United Nations' emergency aid programme for the poorest developing countries.

The House considered that the corrections it has made to its own budget were not amendments within the meaning of the budget procedure and were therefore not to be included in the scope for increases available to Parliament in respect of the draft general budget.

Under the 1975 budget procedure, the House did not fully utilize its scope for increasing funds. As confirmed by the President of the Council, Mr Poncelet, Parliament will have a free hand in 1975 with the 7.8 million u.a. still to be allocated for specific purposes.

The four-hour debate was opened by Mr *Poncelet*, the officiating President of the Council. He put forward the Council's view on the points of the budget procedure where opinions still differed. The Council had respected the expenditure classifications taken by Parliament. But the compulsory or non-compulsory nature of expenditure had to be redefined on the basis of the respective relevant Regulations to be enacted. On legal grounds, the Council had not been able to endorse the interpretation of the maximum rate, which according to Parliament did not apply to new political action. But he could appreciate why the House had established this political principle, even if the maximum rate by itself did not prevent him from respecting the further development of Community policy.

The rapporteur of the Budgets Committee, Mr *Aigner* (C-D/G) pointed out that the legal concepts were not clearly defined, which led to opposing viewpoints on the part of the Council and Parliament as budget authorities. In its policy within the 1975 budget procedure, the House had been guided by two principles. Firstly with the help of Parliament's financial scope, the Council should be prodded into the obligatory decisions on which it had default-

ed. In this the House had been aware of the difficult situation in the Member States and full use had not been made of the room for manoeuvre. Secondly, through its amendments it had tried to obviate a policy of supplementary budgets, which Parliament found unacceptable.

But on the question of the Regional Fund, there was no avoiding a supplementary budget, which Parliament and the Council would decide jointly.

Mr *Aigner* went on to mention the reasons why the House was not renewing various amendments which the Council had not accepted. In some instances the Council had undertaken to examine the problems concerned together with Parliament (staff matters for example). In other cases, the House had been able to endorse the Council's viewpoint (information policy, research on the labour market, the European Vocational Training Centre, industrial policy). But, in Mr *Aigner*'s opinion, the refusal to allow funds for the JRC was irresponsible. Substantial resources were needed, if only to maintain the capital investment. The House had therefore reinstated the funds for research. Keeping the entry for a Community scheme to guarantee workers' earnings during retraining was to emphasize the Community's special responsibility.

For the Commission, Mr *Cheysson* deplored the fact that the Council had rejected the funds for food aid, which was incompatible with the attitude of the responsible Ministers at the World Food Conference in Rome. He also had reservations to make on the classification of funds for the United Nations' emergency programme. This complicated the procedure and limited Parliament's scope for increasing appropriations for other activities.

The Chairman of the Budgets Committee and the Socialist Group, Mr *Spénale* (F) stressed that approval of this first budget to be financed out of the Community's own resources had not been

a simple matter. The adverse economic situation had imposed heavy constraints.

The new procedure had brought in limits on expenditure through a statistically computed coefficient and strict rules on the quorum and on voting majorities. Mr Spénale confirmed that in future the House could not accept that new activities or new political activities tied to development dropped below the margin of the statistically set maximum rate. The Socialist Group considered the budget to be sound, fair and relatively well balanced. The unused margin of increase of 7.8 million u.a. should be utilized as a short-term economic reserve. Mr Spénale opposed the idea of a 'fair return', meaning the rechannelling of EC budget funds back to the Member States according to their financial contribution.

The spokesmen of the EPD Group, the Liberal and Allied Group and the European Conservatives largely endorsed the main points made in the statements by the rapporteur and the Chairman of the Budgets Committee. For the Communist and Allied Group, Mr Fabbrini (I) rejected the budget on points of principle. He called for a reappraisal of the financing machinery of the CAP and of the budget procedure within the meaning of Parliament's amplified authority.

ECSC levy rate and operational budget (10 December)

2403. Parliament approved the draft of the ECSC operational budget for 1975 and the levy rate of 0.29%, retained for 1975.

In the Resolution the House emphasized the exemplary nature of the own resources system applicable to the ECSC budget and of the budget procedure which had facilitated real cooperation between the institutions involved. The House approved the Commission's efforts to limit

expenditure as an anti-inflation measure and welcomed the new moves on aid for coal research and on low-cost housing.

Paris Summit Conference (11 December)

2404. The Irish Foreign Minister, Mr Garret *FitzGerald*, representing the President of the Council, Mr *Sauvagnargues*, reported to Parliament on the outcome of the Summit Conference held in Paris on 9 and 10 December.¹

On 9 December Parliament had expressed its hopes for the Summit meeting in a Resolution¹ based on a report by Mr *Giraudo* (C-D/I).

Mr *FitzGerald*, who in January 1975 will take over the Presidency outlined the results of the Summit Conference, giving particular attention to how far Parliament's expectations had been met in the final Communiqué.¹ The most important result, according to Mr *FitzGerald*, was the overall approach to Europe's internal and external political and economic problems and the increased determination to hold general elections for Members of the European Parliament by 1978. The United Kingdom and Danish Delegations, however, were unable to agree unreservedly to general elections being held so soon. Another positive feature was the agreement to give the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr *Tindemans*, the task of drawing up a comprehensive report on European Union.

The participants at the Conference were also aware of the urgent demands of economic policy. The long-awaited decision on financing the European Regional Fund was finally taken, and differences of opinion on energy policy largely reconciled. It could justifiably be assumed from the general atmosphere that the United Kingdom would remain in the Community.

¹ Point 1105.

Of particular importance to Parliament was the statement in point 12 of the Communiqué that it would participate in the further construction of Europe and that certain of the Community's legislative powers would be assigned to it.

In future the Council would also answer Parliament's questions on political cooperation.

During the debate general satisfaction was expressed that the period of paralysis appeared to be over.

The following questions were raised by the spokesmen of the various Groups:

(i) Who should draw up proposals on extending Parliament's powers and should these powers be extended before or after general elections.

(ii) With regard to regular meetings of Heads of Government, should the planned administrative secretariat be regarded as the forerunner of a political secretariat and could these meetings in the various capitals be a step towards a European Government.

(iii) The problems of energy policy which were not dealt with in detail in the Communiqué.

(iv) The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the problem of the impending increase in unemployment.

Summing up, Mr FitzGerald stated that the results of the Paris Conference were better than those of Copenhagen even if prospects could not be described as 'rosy'. The Commission was to draw up Proposals on Parliament's legislative powers, although Parliament's opinion would play an important role. On the 'vicious circle' issue of electoral powers, he stated that it was important that both aims had been mentioned in the Communiqué. If the Communiqué seemed 'weak' on certain points it was at least realistic. The statements on energy policy were the result of a pragmatic approach. He supported the idea of regular meetings of Heads of Government in the various capitals. This might

increase public interest in Europe. These meetings were not to be regarded as Council sessions since they covered only one or two major subjects.

In answer to the question on the legal status of the new 'administrative secretariat' Mr FitzGerald pointed out that this term was written with small letters in the original French text of the Communiqué...

Mr Ortoli, the President of the Commission, who had also taken part in the Summit Conference, said that it had opened up new perspectives; future developments would test their worth. In the Commission's view it was important that there should now be political cooperation within the Community. In general it could be said that past achievements had been preserved and new stimuli given. The Commission and Parliament would have to discuss the question of legislative powers together and set themselves realistic but ambitious goals.

Industry

Multinational companies and Community law (12 December)

2405. In its Resolution on the Commission Communication to the Council on multinational companies and Community rules Parliament urged that an international body be set up to supervise the activities of multinationals. It should operate in the context of a general agreement on taxation and investment, similar to GATT, carry out surveys and make recommendations.

It noted that the development of multinationals had a positive effect on productivity and technical progress, but at the same time had created problems and dangers, which could not be dealt with owing to the lack of internationally valid

legal instruments, particularly as regards employment, competition, liability to taxation, international currency relations and security of supply with regard to raw materials. It welcomed the Commission's efforts to restrict this development and approved the measures the latter had envisaged.

Parliament requested the Commission to draw up a proposal for a European law on collective wage agreements. This should promote the creation of a trade union counterweight 'to help solve a large number of employment problems'. The unions would have a long way to go to catch up with the multinationals.

Parliament attached great importance to the surveillance of dominant positions under Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty and to the abolition of trade restrictions. It would like to see increased and more detailed use of the existing information procedures between the Community's anti-trust authorities and the corresponding bodies in the other OECD countries.

The gathering of precise quantitative and qualitative data on multinationals of a certain size and the publication of this information would, according to Parliament, make their activities more transparent in the future. All undertakings of a certain size should be compelled to publish their annual accounts regardless of their statutes.

It should be ensured through close cooperation with the developing countries, in particular those which had special relations with the Community, that investment by private firms met the various requirements of these countries. Measures relating to the supervision of undertakings and development aid should be coordinated.

The Resolution was supported by all except the Communist and Allied Group.

During the debate Mr Notenboom (C-D/NL) pointed out that companies with their business

headquarters in the Community should not under any circumstances be put at a disadvantage compared with those with head offices in non-member countries. It should be borne in mind that the creation of larger economic units was one of the main aims of the Treaty. The unions should restrict their demands to discussions and participation; 'freedom of production' must not be interfered with. Mr Notenboom's Group regarded the Resolution as a compromise.

Mr Normanton (C/UK) also warned against the danger of taking decisions in the Community which could harm production and the free exchange of goods.

Mr Lange (S/D), the Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, stated that the Socialist Group supported the Resolution since international companies must be provided with a context and a basis for their activities. He gave examples of the business practice of these companies in justifying the need for international laws in this field. Part of a country's earned national product could be written off as a result of 'agreements on the transfer of profits' between parent and subsidiary companies. Multinational companies could gain certain advantages from the angle of prices and competition since they could manipulate part of the world market unhindered by market laws and unaffected by market developments.

Mr Bousch (DEP/F) stated that it was not so much a question of creating a counter-balance as of guiding the multinationals in order to create greater stability from the economic, monetary and employment angle.

Mr Bordu (F) on behalf of the Communist and Allied Group demanded nationalization of the large companies, control of American investment in Europe and worker participation.

Mr Altiero Spinelli, Member of the Commission responsible for industrial policy, considered that nationalizing the multinationals was not the

proper solution and would not have the desired effect. He stated that the Commission had asked for balance sheets from them. A few reports had already come in and were now being reviewed. But considerable time would be needed for the Commission to finish its work.

Indexing of incomes (12 December)

2406. In an Oral Question to the Commission, Mr *Couste* and Mr *Terrenoire* (EPD/F) declared that the anti-inflation policy recommended by the Commission would, in the present situation, surely lead to an economic recession. They asked whether positive results might not be achieved by concluding agreements in which wages, interest- and tax-rates were fixed in real terms, i.e. corresponding to the general level of prices, and not in nominal terms.

Mr *Gundelach* of the Commission, referred in his answer to the structural aspects of unemployment. As regards the indexing of incomes, the situation was different in the various Member States. Indexing had certain effects on social security benefits and on the labour market. It was in no way a substitute for an overall economic programme and at the very least should not be seen in isolation.

Energy policy (11 December)

2407. In a Resolution tabled by Mr *Springorum* (C-D/G), Parliament called on the Council to take immediate action to ensure the Community's participation in the OECD oil supply agency. The establishment of this agency had been expressly approved by the European Parliament, and the Commission should speak for all the Member States within it. A lack of unity in the Member States concerning energy policy could lead to a final loss of European identity. The

Committee therefore called for the systematic implementation of the energy policy decisions adopted at the Copenhagen Summit Conference.

Mr *Springorum*, the Chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, stated that the basis of the motion was the concern that a divergent energy policy might lead to the final break-up of the Community. Action should be taken in good time to ensure that this did not happen.

The Christian-Democrat and Socialist Groups recorded their agreement. Mr *Noè* (C-D/I) and Mr *Kater* (S/G) referred to the importance of the agency for ensuring oil supplies through solidarity in sharing crude oil, exchange of information on the activities of the multinational oil companies, cooperation in exploring new sources and negotiations with the producer countries. Mr *Leonardi* (I), on behalf of the Communist and Allied Group, rejected the Resolution on the grounds that this agency did not represent the true interests of the EC countries, which would be better served by close cooperation with the producer countries.

For the Commission, Vice-President *Simonet* stated that the Commission's Proposal that the Community join the agency was still 'on the desk'. He hoped that the differences between the eight Member States that had joined and France would be solved pragmatically—while waiting for the still 'fluid' situation to settle down.

External relations

Negotiations with the ACP countries (10 December)

2408. In her assessment of the Association to date, Miss *Colette Flesch* (L/L) rapporteur, painted a picture which, by and large, was

favourable, while at the same time pointing out that the Association was the only concrete instance of a fully-fledged development policy. The formulation of a new and enlarged Association Agreement was taking place at a time when relations between the developing countries themselves and relations between the developing and industrialized countries had undergone radical changes as a result of the oil crisis and inflation. The decision of the European Community to establish closer political and economic ties with 44 developing countries (including some of the poorest countries in the world) was of outstanding political importance.

The Resolution passed by Parliament contained a number of proposals regarding the new Association Agreement. These proposals took as their basis the final statements by the Joint Committee of the Parliamentary Conference of the Association on 30 May and 25 October 1974. In allocating finance from the new European Development Fund, the following factors should be considered: the benefits accruing to the existing associated countries must be reckoned with and the new associated countries placed on an equal footing. Special consideration should be given to the increase in demographic weight brought about by the entry of the new associated States, the real purchasing power of the aid and the real economic and social development needs of these countries.

Parliament considered that safeguarding the interests of the sugar-producing ACP countries was a moral and economic obligation which must include a guarantee to purchase 1.4 million tonnes of sugar at a price which would ensure equitable export earnings for the producer countries, these prices to be reviewed annually having regard to the production costs, the prices paid to European producers and world market prices. Furthermore, Parliament regarded the introduction of a system to stabilize export earnings as an essential element of the new Agreement.

Parliament hoped that the permanent character of the Association would be recorded in the preamble to the new Agreement, which should provide for a review after five years. Parliament also urged that the Parliamentary Conference of the Association should remain in being.

Every effort should be made to ensure that the new Agreement could be signed before the Yaoundé and Arusha Agreements expired, failing which immediate measures would need to be taken for the benefit of the poorest countries. African States which had not yet achieved independence should be given the chance of joining the Association through a simplified procedure.

Following the statement by Miss Flesch, rapporteur, many members expressed either satisfaction with or concern over the progress of the Association negotiations. Mr Deschamps (C-D/B) warned the Commission against undue hesitation and parsimony, since the money invested in the Development Fund would find its way back to European industry in the form of orders for delivery. Mr Glinne (S/B) pointed to the importance of simplifying the accession procedure to help the African territories which had not yet achieved independence. He also drew attention to the problems facing Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho, which had customs union ties with South Africa. Lord Reay (C/UK) emphasized the positive effects which the UK's accession to the EEC had had in unifying the African countries. Mr Laudrin (EPD/F) urged that measures be taken to safeguard the interests of the French overseas territories. Mr Sandri (C/I) demanded that there should be no more talk of development aid, but rather of cooperation. Investments in the countries concerned should be geared to the needs of those countries and not to the possible profits they might bring. Mr Van der Hek (S/NL) made the point that the new Agreement must not be allowed to harm the interests of third countries which were not apply-

ing for membership of the association. As an example, he cited Sri Lanka's tea exports.

Mr Cheysson, speaking for the Commission, presented a report on the outcome of the association negotiations to date. When speaking of cooperation, one had to bear in mind that it was only the actual decision to cooperate which was political; the cooperation itself was of an economic, technical and cultural nature. Every country had the right to pursue its own course of development, as it saw fit.

Relations with the Arab States (10 December)

2409. An Oral Question was put to the Commission by the following Members: Mr Jahn, Mr Lücker, Mr Springorum, Mr Bertrand, Mr Vandewiele, Mr Klepsch and Mr Noë (C-D). Pointing to the continuing uncertainties of the energy supply situation, the Community's failure so far to define unequivocally its Mediterranean policy and the continuing uncertainties over the position of the Arab States *vis-à-vis* the joint development policy, the Members sought clarification from the Commission regarding the principles and objectives underlying its negotiations with the Arab States. Was there a clearly defined Arab position in these negotiations? Was there any prospect of a lasting solution to the energy and balance-of-payments problems and how did these negotiations fit in with the international discussions which were going on?

Speaking on behalf of his fellow questioners, Mr Jahn pointed out that one year after the end of the Middle East war the political problem which divided the parties concerned had still not been resolved. Considering, among other things, the effects of the oil crisis, it was the duty of the Community to find a solution to the pressing problems associated with the Arab countries.

Speaking for the Commission, Mr Cheysson replied that the discussions arising out of the

European-Arab dialogue were being conducted by the Nine in collaboration with the Commission. In addition, the Commission was conducting direct negotiation with a number of Arab League countries, the ACP countries Mauritania, Somalia and the Sudan and also eight Arab League countries which were included in the Community's global Mediterranean concept. Preferential agreements were being negotiated with Egypt, Jordan and the Lebanon and, as part of its Mediterranean concept, the Commission was also conducting negotiations with Israel.

The interests of the countries concerned (some rich, some very poor) varied; what they had in common, however, was their desire for development and independence. These negotiations were not the best forum for finding a solution to the energy problems, since only a proportion of the oil-producing and oil-consuming countries were represented. No parallel discussions were being conducted at international level.

Cooperation agreement with the USSR (11 December)

2410. Throughout all stages of the recently completed negotiations between France and the USSR, on the one hand, and the Federal Republic of Germany and the USSR, on the other, the Commission had been kept fully informed as regards the conclusion of cooperation agreements. As was generally well known, cooperation agreements, unlike commercial policy, did not yet come under the competence of the Community. The Community was ready to conclude trade agreements with any East European State-trading country which wished to do so.

This was the content of the reply by Mr Gundelach, member of the Commission, to an Oral Question from Mr Jahn, Mr Burgbacher, Mr Härschel, Mr Klepsch, Mr Mitterdorfer, Mr Mursch, Mr Schwörer and Mr Springorum

(C-D). These Members had asked the Commission what information it possessed regarding US-Soviet cooperation agreements or bilateral and private economic cooperation in general and the exploitation of Soviet raw material deposits. Mr Jahn, who had upbraided the Member States for systematically undermining the Community's commercial policy by the conclusion of cooperation agreements, called on the Governments to stop being so secretive about the cooperation agreement negotiations. Full information on the terms of the agreements should be made available to the appropriate European Parliamentary Committees.

Aid to refugees in Cyprus (13 December)

2411. The Council should make available forthwith a further 5 000 tonnes of cereals for refugees in Cyprus as well as taking further humanitarian relief measures. These demands were contained in a Resolution passed by Parliament under the emergency procedure. The Resolution, which had been moved jointly by the six Parliamentary groups, pointed to the Community's obligations *vis-à-vis* its Association partner, Cyprus.

Question time (11 December)

2412. During question time Mr Destremau, the President-in-Office of the Council, Sir Christopher Soames, Dr Hillery and Mr Simonet, Vice-Presidents of the Commission, and Mr Borsclette, Member of the Commission answered 12 Oral Questions.

The seat of the European institutions

Question by Mr Noè (C-D/I) to the Council:

'Does the Council not believe that it is becoming increasingly necessary to decide on a single seat for the

Parliament, the Commission and the Council of the Communities in order to increase the efficiency of the drafting and decision-making processes of these institutions?'

2412a. Mr Destremau pointed out that the governments of the Member States were responsible for deciding on the seat of the Community organs. In 1965 they had confirmed the towns of Luxembourg, Brussels and Strasbourg as provisional working locations. The Council did not think that this hampered its work.

Various supplementary questions were put pointing out the enormous waste of energy and public money through the continual shuttling between the various towns, and an alternative, was suggested that Parliament should leave Luxembourg, but this was answered tersely to the effect that the matter was not the Council's responsibility.

Euro-Arab dialogue

Question by Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker (C/UK) to the Council:

'What further progress has been made in the discussions between the Council and the representatives of the 20 Arab countries?'

2412b. Mr Destremau replied that the first talks after the President of the Council had been empowered to begin the Euro-Arab dialogue in February 1974, should have taken place on 26 November in Paris but had been postponed at the request of the Arabs. The Community was still prepared to take part in talks. He emphasized that the Council was aware of Israel's legitimate interests.

Question by Mr Terrenoire (EPD/F) to the Council:

'What conclusions does the Council draw from the postponement of the meeting of the "General Committee", which was to have been held on 26 to 28 November to determine a strategy for the European-Arab dialogue?'

2412c. Mr Destremau stated that the governments of the Member States had not been in agreement on the question of Palestinian representatives taking part in the planned meeting. In view of this difficulty the Arab States had decided not to come to Paris on 26 November. The question of Arab participation in aid to the poorest developing countries was dealt with as part of UN emergency aid.

Trade with State-trading countries

Question by Mr Blumenfeld (C-D/G) to the Council:

'Is it true that the Council's decision on common commercial policy towards State-trading countries under which commercial policy towards the Socialist State-trading countries may only be conducted jointly as from 1 January 1975, was reached in the face of objections from the Federal German Government and that the latter has already taken action against this decision?'

2412d. Mr Destremau replied that the following legal provisions applied from 1 January 1975 to trade between the Community and the State-trading countries and that all members of the Council had agreed to them: all negotiations for trade agreements would be carried out by the Community. The terms to be offered were laid down in an *aide-mémoire*.

On 2 December 1974 the Council had laid down import Regulations for imported products subject to quantitative restrictions. On 22 July 1974 the Commission had decided on a consultation procedure for cooperation agreements. The Council had made a clear distinction between trade relations and long-term cooperation agreements.

Apart from the consultation procedure, the latter were still the responsibility of the governments.

He saw no reason to doubt the readiness of Member States to respect these agreements.

The debate on Palestine within the United Nations

Oral Question by Mr Patijn (S/NL) to the Council:

'Why, in one of the votes following the UN debate on Palestine, did a Member State decide at the last moment to depart from the voting procedure previously agreed by the Nine within the framework of European political cooperation?'

2412e. Mr Destremau replied that this was not the case. The Nine had been unanimous on the first UN resolution at the end of Mr Arafat's speech. This is however not the case with the second resolution on the question of observers from the Palestinian Liberation Organization being present at the United Nations. France as the EEC country holding the Presidency should have made a statement when voting on the first resolution but at the last minute there was a decision to the contrary.

Israel in Unesco

Question by Mr Laban (S/NL) to the Council:

'Is it true that in the vote at the Unesco General Assembly of 21 November 1974 in Paris on the possible admission of Israel to the Unesco European Regional Group, no agreement could be reached within the framework of European political cooperation on a common voting position of the Community countries and if so for what reason?'

2412f. Mr Destremau confirmed that there had been differences of opinion between the EEC countries on this matter. One Member State was in favour of grouping Unesco countries geographically. It had not been possible to include Israel in any geographical group. He could however give no details on who had voted for and who against Israel's inclusion in the European regional group. Mr Destremau confirmed that EEC representatives at Unesco were in daily contact with one another.

Mutton and lamb

Questions by Mr Brewis (C/UK) and Mr Nolan (EPD/IRL) to the Commission:

'1. When does the Commission intend to put forward a regulation on sheepmeat?

2. In the light of the current stocktaking of the CAP by the Commission following the Resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers on October 2, 1974, does the Commission intend to deal with the question of sheep in its submissions with a view to the early adoption of proposals for a common agricultural policy for sheep?'

2412g. Sir Christopher Soames replied that the Commission could not say exactly when it would submit Proposals on a common organization of the market for sheepmeat. It was now far more important to straighten out the beef and veal market. The Commission had already drawn up general guidelines on improving the CAP in its Memorandum of October 1973.

Irish beef exports

Question by Mr Gibbons (EPD/IRL) to the Commission:

'Does the Commission, as guardian of the Treaties, intend to ensure that the principles of free movement are observed, so as to allow Irish beef cattle to be exported to all the Community Member States, and to see that a generalized intervention system is introduced in respect of beef cattle such as would assure both producers and exporters a fair return?'

2412h. Mr Borschette emphasized that the Commission would of course observe the principles of free movement of goods. Moreover he referred to the Commission Decision of 29 November 1974 which, *inter alia*, provided for the constant use of intervention measures in Great Britain, and also pointed to the latest price Proposals for beef which would also benefit cattle breeders in the peripheral areas of the Community.

The fight against poverty

Question by Mr Marras (COM/I) to the Commission:

'Can the Commission indicate what criteria it adopted in preparing its document entitled "The Control of Poverty" and whether it does not feel that participation by the authorities in the solution of their problems can only come about through a social programme which provides for full employment, safeguards the purchasing power of wages and guarantees decent pensions to workers?'

2412i. Dr Hillery quoted the following principles as the criteria which the Commission took in drawing up their programme for the fight against poverty: it must be innovative and fit in with future comprehensive measures. Those concerned should participate in implementing it and if possible in planning it too. The measures must be of Community interest. Transborder projects were to be included.

Oil reserves

Question by Mr Radoux (S/B) to the Commission:

'Has the Commission been able to ensure compliance by the Member States with the obligation to maintain reserve oil stocks equivalent to 90 days' consumption, which came into force on 1 January 1974?'

2412j. Mr Simonet answered that the aim of a 90-day reserve, in the whole Community was almost achieved. In view of the latest price rises these reserves were all the more necessary. He could not give precise details.

Divorced or separated women

Question by Mr Thornley (S/IRL) to the Commission:

'Does the Commission not consider that it would be particularly appropriate, in the light of the fact that 1975 is to be "Women's Year", to undertake the examination, (promised in answer to my written

question No 195/74),¹ of the problem of the rights to state support of women who are divorced, separated or deserted by their husbands, and to take whatever measures that lie within its power, to resolve this problem?"

2412k. Dr Hillery replied that a study of this problem could certainly not be completed in one year. The Commission was, however, quite prepared to deal with this question in connection with certain measures in the EEC social action programme, such as the expansion of social security and action to eradicate poverty.

Social policy

The new Social Fund (9 December)

2413. Comments in Parliament on the Commission's second annual report on the activities of the new European Social Fund in 1973 were on the whole positive and Parliament noted that the bulk of the allocations had actually gone to those Member States facing the most pressing social problems. It approved the generally preventive measures selected by the Commission. But the Fund's resources were still insufficient. In this connection it was to be regretted that the Council had reduced the appropriations proposed by the Commission for 1975. In the present situation of economic recession these funds were the only instrument the Community could use to act in the employment sector.

During the debate speakers of all parties stressed the need to supplement the financial resources of the European Social Fund. They demanded that the Fund's resources should benefit primarily the financially weaker countries where unemployment was more widespread. In view of the current situation on the labour market, the Fund's administrators should regard employment policy as their main field of activity.

The Communist and Allied Group abstained as they regarded the Community's activities in the

social field as highly unsatisfactory. In their opinion, and in spite of the duties expressly laid down in the Treaty, European social policy was a sideshow and was merely providing *ad hoc* aid.

Environmental protection and health

Energy and environmental protection (12 December)

2414. In its Resolution Parliament welcomed the Commission's preliminary report on pollution and nuisances originating from energy production.¹ It regretted that the report was confined to individual aspects of environmental pollution (waste heat, sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides) and urged the Commission to turn its attention to other pollution problems arising from energy production. Parliament added a number of amendments to the Commission's Proposal for a draft Council Resolution on energy and the environment.²

Mr Lagorce (F), the speaker for the Socialist Group and responsible for drafting the opinion of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, called the Resolution a 'catalogue of good intentions' and said that one could only hope that deeds would follow.

For the Commission, Vice-President Scarascia Mugnozza, told the House that the Resolutions embodied in the Proposal had already been adopted by the Council.³

EC environmental action programme (12 December)

2415. Of the Christian Democrats, Mr Jahn, Mr Springorum, Mr Noè, Mr Vandewiele and

¹ OJ C 101 of 31.8.1974.

² Bull. EC 4-1974, point 2218.

³ Bull. EC 5-1974, point 2221.

⁴ Bull. EC 11-1974, point 2419.

Mr *Van der Gun* asked the Commission whether the measures planned by the ED as part of the environmental action programme would be submitted and adopted on schedule, or to give reasons if there was to be a delay.

Representing those putting the question, Mr *Jahn* (G) detailed those subjects on which, under the environmental action programme, the Commission was due to submit proposals by 31 December 1974, but had failed to do so. He stated that he was not able to accept the Commission's excuse that it did not have the necessary personnel and financial resources.

Mr *Scarscia Mugnozza* replied for the Commission. He referred to Proposals submitted on schedule by the Commission and explained that, in the field of environmental protection delays had occurred because Member States had often been slow in submitting information.

Conference on the Environment in Nairobi (13 December)

2416. From over fifty Parliaments, 129 MPs met in Nairobi to attend the third International Parliamentary Conference on the Environment from 8 to 10 April 1974. They examined measures adopted following the recommendations made at the UN Environment Conference in Stockholm in June 1972. Mr *Della Briotta* (S/I) and Mr *Jahn* (EPD/G), the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment represented the European Parliament. Of the 32 Resolutions adopted in Nairobi, the main points were supported by the European Parliament or amended in further proposals.

With its Resolution, Parliament hopes to help in intensifying the Community's activities in environmental protection through coordination of measures to be applied at international level. It stresses the crucial importance of the third Inter-

national Parliamentary Conference on the Environment as regards more effective parliamentary control of government activities in this sphere, and considers it urgently necessary for parliaments and their members to keep each other informed of protection measures and action taken in their countries. This would enable effective action taken in one country to be applied elsewhere.

The House emphasizes the need for a swift expansion of the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) and the International Referral System for Sources of Environmental Information (IRS) and asks the Commission to take an active part in the work of the GEMS and IRS Boards in order to involve the European Community more closely in these important activities.

Parliament is in favour of uniform pollution standards being applied throughout the world to counteract the tendency of some companies to construct their industrial plants in economically weaker countries to evade more stringent regulations. It also renews its request for an early solution to the environmental problems of the Rhine basin and welcomes the agreements between those States with common river or coastline frontiers. The House supports the call for creating a balance in agriculture between production capacity and maintaining the natural environment and human health.

Legal provisions for yeast (9 December)

2417. The report by Mr *Brégégère* (S/F) on the Commission proposal for a Directive on yeasts and yeast residues gave rise to lively controversy between the Socialist and European Conservative Groups. At the November meeting it had been decided to submit the reports to the Committee on Public Health and the Environment because of all the requests for amendments made by the Conservative Group.

The Commission proposal aims to harmonize the laws of the various Member States on the composition, production characteristics, packaging and labelling of yeasts and the establishing of minimum public health requirements for yeasts intended for human consumption.

The Rapporteur, Mr Brégégère, and the Vice-Chairman of the Socialist Group, Mr Fellermaier (G) accused the Conservatives of allowing obvious industrial interests to use them as a lobby group. Mr Fellermaier said that it was an extraordinary manoeuvre for the Conservatives to use a plenary session to submit thirteen amendments (which had already been rejected at the Committee stage) to a report which the appropriate Committee on Public Health and the Environment had spent one and a half years examining and had then unanimously adopted (i.e. Conservative Committee members included). This manoeuvre was all the more peculiar since one of these amendments sought to raise the maximum permissible lead content and thereby to reduce public health protection. Public health should be given a higher priority than the commercial convolutions of any trade associations. Mr Scott-Hopkins (UK) replied for the European Conservative Group. The amendments aimed at creating greater flexibility. They expressed the interests not of lobbyists but of experts. The Commission's proposals were unsatisfactory and should therefore be rejected at this stage. His Group had attempted to reconcile the different processes for manufacturing yeast on the continent of Europe, in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Dr Hillery, Vice-President of the Commission, associated himself with the views of the Rapporteur and the Socialist Group and praised the work of the Committee's experts. There was no foundation for the amendments sought by the Conservative Group since the Commission had consulted the relevant industries in the Member States before drafting the proposal.

Despite Conservative opposition, Parliament authorized the Commission Proposal. In its Resolution it supported the Commission's efforts to establish minimum public health requirements for yeast intended for human consumption but added a rider that this should not be allowed to obstruct technical advances in manufacturing methods.

Parliament again emphasized that the whole problem of packaging hygiene should be regulated by one general Directive. Any information given on the packaging should be given at least in the language of the country in which the product is sold.

In all, Parliament expressed the opinion that the implementation of the Directive should be speeded up. Parliament's amendments concern the bacteriological purity of drinking water used in the production of yeast and the prohibition of products harmful to health.

Water pollution (13 December)

2418. Parliament approved the Commission proposal concerning the reduction of pollution caused by the discharge of dangerous substances into the aquatic environment. This is a matter of coordinating the provisions contained in three important Conventions on water pollution: the Paris Convention on Water Pollution from Land-based Sources; the Strasbourg Convention on the Protection of International Waterways; and the Draft Rhine Convention.

Mr Premoli (L/I), rapporteur, was in favour of a joint monitoring body which would eliminate any differences as to jurisdiction, as well as of drawing up an inventory of the present level of pollution in the Community's aquatic environment.

Transport

Shipping in the EC (12 December)

2419. The Resolution motion moved by the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport in the *Seefeld* (S/G) report was rejected on 12 December by a majority consisting of Conservatives, European Progressive Democrats and right-wing Independents. This was a report, tabled in November, on the problems of shipping in the Community which took as its starting point the fact that in the expanded Community the 'blue frontiers' had gained in importance compared with the 'green frontiers'. The report contained proposals for a common shipping policy which should be reflected in a joint approach to the question at world level and in the harmonization of tax, social security and safety provisions. The most favourable means of transport from the overall economic viewpoint should be supported, and at the same time the availability of shipping tariffs for public scrutiny should be reviewed. The Committee on Regional Policy and Transport had also called for Community action to combat sea pollution.

Fixed transport connections over sea straits (12 December)

2420. A report drawn up by Mr Hill (C/UK) on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport dealt with the handicaps of such straits on regional development and the remedy to be applied by building bridges or tunnels (Italian mainland and Sicily, Danish islands, Denmark and Sweden, Great Britain and the Continent).

In the Resolution, the House thought that fixed connections in the form of bridges or tunnels could make considerable savings in transport costs and time and would also help to switch industrial growth from the conurbations into

areas with structural unemployment. Examination of such projects, and the question of joint financing for access routes, would have to be coordinated at Community level, with reference, *inter alia*, to their economic and social consequences for the Community as a whole. The rapporteur warned against the hope that the creation of fixed transport links would automatically result in the development of the areas in question. Improvement of the transport network could in fact spur the process of migration, unless parallel measures were taken to improve social and industrial structures.

Mr Concas (S/I) and Mr De Clerq (L/B) cited the channel tunnel and the bridge over the Straits of Messina as the most urgent projects. There was a great opportunity here for the European Regional fund. Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker (C/UK) felt that there was more available capital in the world than there were profitable investment projects. He thought that the channel tunnel should be financed as a Community project by the European Investment Bank.

Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission, declared that he saw nothing to prevent financing these projects through the European Investment Bank, which had jointly financed the bridge over the Bosphorus. He called on the Members to make representations to their respective governments, so that the Commission plans could be publicized.

Agriculture

Additives in animal feeds (13 December)

2421. In applying the Directive amending the Directive of November 1970 concerning additives in animal feeds, protection of human and animal health must be fully ensured. With this proviso, Parliament approved the Commission

Proposal. As a result of this Directive, the use of certain additives previously requiring the approval of the Member States will be subject, for a specified period, to Community checks.

*Aid for agricultural products
in the Netherlands
(13 December)*

2422. Parliament approved the Commission's Proposal for a Council Decision authorizing the Netherlands to go on paying their farmers, until 30 April 1975 and in future with no EAGGF subsidy, the aid authorized on 19 November 1973 until 30 April 1974. This further authorization will cover, retroactively, the period that has elapsed for which no aid has so far been disbursed. The aid, which may not exceed 2% of the selling price, is aimed to compensate the loss of income incurred by Dutch farmers as a result of the 5% revaluation of the guilder in September 1973.

Council

During December the Council held six sessions on general affairs, agriculture, transport, social affairs, energy, and economic and financial questions.

**317th Session—General matters
(Brussels, 2 and 3 December 1974)**

2423. President: Mr Sauvagnargues, French Foreign Minister.

From the Commission: Mr Ortoli, President, Sir Christopher Soames, Dr Hillery, Mr Haferkamp, Vice-Presidents, Mr Borschette, Mr Cheysson, Mr Thomson, Mr Gundelach, Members.

Generalized Preferences: The Council adopted, in the Community languages, the Regulations and Decisions on applying for 1975 the generalized preferences in favour of the developing countries.

United Nations emergency operation: Regarding the first instalment of the Community's contribution of \$150 million, the Council adopted an overall programme using \$120 million which are to be directly utilized by the Community for the benefit of the hardest hit countries, with \$30 million having been paid in to the special account of the United Nations Secretary-General.

Relations with State-trading countries: The Council adopted a decision establishing the import schemes applicable in the Member States in respect of State-trading countries for products subject to quantity restrictions.

Inventory of the economic and financial situation: The Council went on with its discussion of problems raised by the British Delegation and concerning which the Commission had sent the Council the Communication entitled 'Inventory of the Economic and Financial Situation of the Community since the Enlargement and Survey of Future Prospects'.¹

Budgetary powers of the European Parliament: The Council agreed the substance of Treaty amendments concerning the budgetary powers of Parliament and the formation of a Court of Auditors. It also approved the text of a joint statement by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the conciliation procedure between the Council and Parliament.

Consideration was also given to the negotiations with the Mediterranean countries as part of the global approach, and to the negotiations now running with the ACP countries for a new association convention.

¹ Supplement 7/74 — Bull. EC.

Finally, the Council decided to appoint Mr Paul Gaudy as ECSC Auditor for the period 8 December 1974 - 7 December 1977.

318th Session—Agriculture

(Brussels, 9 and 10 December 1974)

2424. President: Mr Bonnet, French Minister of Agriculture.

From the Commission: Mr Lardinois, Mr Brunner, Members.

Setting the 1975/76 prices: The Council heard an introductory statement by the Commission which presented the basic elements of its Proposal on setting the farm prices for the 1975/76 marketing year and on certain related measures. This enabled the Delegation to put a number of questions to the Commission and make their initial comments. The Council agreed to take up this matter again during the sessions of 13-14 and 20-21 January 1975 so as to reach a final Decision by 1 February.

Common organization of the sugar market: The Council did further work on the new Community sugar regulations. It approved the headings under the schemes of prices, trade with non-member countries, and quotas. It also agreed the general provisions of the Regulation on the common organization of the markets and on the Regulation concerning the setting and adjustment of basic quotas.

Fisheries: The Council adopted the Regulations setting the prices in the fishery sector for the 1975 marketing year.

Vine and wine sector: The Council adopted the Regulation setting the activating prices for wine for the period, 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975, at 94% of the guide price.

Minimum prices: The Council adopted the Decision extending the minimum price scheme for potatoes and certain vinegars until 31 December 1975.

319th Session—Transport (Brussels, 11 December 1974)

2425. President: Mr Cavaille, French State Secretary for Transport.

From the Commission: Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President.

Commission Statement: Vice-President Scarascia Mugnozza of the Commission gave a statement to the Council summarizing the current status of the common transport policy and outlining the shape of future work.

Railway companies: The Council agreed in principle the Decision on putting the railway companies on a sound footing and on harmonizing the rules governing financial relationships between the railways and the States.

Combined road and rail transport: The Council adopted the Directive on establishing joint rules for certain combined road and rail freight haulage between Member States.

Bracketed tariffs for road transport: The Council agreed the Regulation extending for one year the scheme of bracketed tariffs applied to intra-Community road freight haulage.

Community quota: The Council also adopted the Regulation extending by one year and adjusting the Community quota for intra-Community road freight haulage.

Temporary laying-up of river vessels: The Council agreed a Decision amending and consolidating the Directives for negotiating an agreement on implementing rules for the temporary laying-up of vessels for freight transport and applicable to certain inland waterways.

The Council also considered (a) the proposed Directive concerning the adjustment of national taxation schemes covering commercial vehicles, (b) the Directive on the weight and dimensions of commercial road vehicles, (c) the standardiza-

tion of provisions on customs duty exemption for fuel held in the tanks of commercial road vehicles and (d) the problems involved in applying certain social provisions of the Regulation for transport, mostly concerning driving time.

320th Session—Social affairs

(Brussels, 17 December 1974)

2426. President: Mr Durafour, French Minister of Labour.

From the Commission: Dr Hillery, Vice-President.

Equal pay for men and women: The Council agreed in principle the Directive on approximation of Member States laws concerning application of the principle of equal pay for equal work contained in Article 119 of the EEC Treaty.¹

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training: the Council agreed the substance of the Regulation on creating a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training.

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: the Council reached agreement on setting up a European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

Collective dismissals: the Council agreed the content of the Directive on the approximation of Member States' laws concerning collective dismissals.

Standing Committee on Employment: following the wishes expressed at the Tripartite Conference of 16 December concerning the resumption of the Standing Committee's work, the Council agreed to convene the Committee and approved the allocation of seats on it.

Social Fund: the Council took note of the second activity report of the new European Social Fund covering the financial year 1973.

Agreement was also reached on an interim aid programme for 1975 in favour of the Sahel countries, Ethiopia and Somalia.

321st Session—Energy

(Brussels, 17 December 1974)

2427. President: Mr d'Ornano, French Minister for Industry.

From the Commission: Mr Ortoli, President, Mr Simonet, Vice-President.

Objectives of the Community energy policy: the Council passed a Resolution on the objectives of the Community energy policy.¹

Rational utilization of energy: the Council also agreed a Resolution on a Community action programme for the rational utilization of energy.²

Exports and imports of hydrocarbons: the Council adopted two Regulations to enable the Community to obtain the necessary statistical data to give a complete picture of the movement of energy products, and more comprehensive information which is essential to allow the Commission to make appropriate proposals with the aim of establishing the common energy policy.

Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector: the Council agreed on support measures for a number of Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector which are of technological interest at Community level in the areas of operation prospection, storage and transport of hydrocarbons.

Limitations on the use of natural gas in electric power stations: the Council agreed a Directive concerning limitations on the use of natural gas in electric power stations. A similar text was

¹ See point 1202 for the complete text of the Resolution.

² See point 1203 for the complete text of the Resolution.

also reviewed concerning limitations on the use of oil products in electric power stations.

International cooperation on energy: the Council heard a communication from the French Minister on the talks between President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing concerning the prospects for cooperation in respect of energy, between the importing countries themselves and between them and the oil-exporting countries. It was agreed that the positions of the Community and the Member States on the problems involved would be defined during discussions within the various Community authorities as from January 1975.

The Council also agreed to meet every other month to deal with energy problems.

322nd Session—Economic and financial matters

(Brussels, 19 December 1974)

2428. *President:* Mr Fourcade, French Minister for Finance and the Economy.

From the Commission: Mr Ortoli, President, Mr Haferkamp, Mr Simonet, Sir Christopher Soames, Vice-Presidents, Mr Borschette, Mr Gundelach, Members.

Economic, financial and fiscal matters: the Council got down to a first review of the conclusions to be drawn from the decisions by the Heads of Government, at their Conference of 9 and 10 December. This was mainly concerned with the convergence of economic policies, progress to be made towards economic and monetary union and the position *vis-à-vis* the rest of the world.¹ Consideration was also given to the proposed sixth Directive on laying down a uniform basis for VAT and to the problems arising from international fraud and tax evasion. A Resolution was agreed on strengthening collaboration between tax authorities.

Multilateral trade negotiations: the Council discussed for the first time the Commission's communication on the subject and restated the importance that the Community attaches to the multilateral trade negotiations within the GATT.

Renegotiations between the Community and Canada under Article XXIV(6) of the GATT: It was agreed to give a positive reply to the proposal by the President of the GATT Council to extend for two months the time limit indicated in Article XXVIII(3) of the General Agreement.

Duty exemption for small consignments: the Council adopted a Directive on tax exemption in respect of imports of goods in small consignments of a non-commercial nature within the Community, and a Regulation on imports of these goods free of charges.

The Council also sent the European Parliament and the Commission the draft of the joint statement by the Council, Parliament and the Commission concerning the budgetary concertation procedure.

Commission

Renewal of the mandate of the President of the Commission

2429. After consulting the Commission, the Member States' Government Representatives decided on 19 December 1974 to appoint Mr François-Xavier Ortoli President of the Commission, for the period 6 January 1975 to 5 January 1977.²

¹ Point 2204.

² OJ L 1 of 3.1.1975.

Activities

2430. The Commission held three meetings in December. Proceedings centred on the meeting of the Heads of Government, economic and monetary problems, energy policy and implementation of the Regional Fund.

Meeting of the Heads of Government: The Commission reviewed the results of the meeting of the Heads of Government and, in general, considered the outcome to be positive.² The Commission feels that the decisions of the Heads of Government bear out the hope that new progress will be achieved in several key areas, where decisions have long been blocked and that they offer significant prospects for the future. The institutions will be called on to play a greater role in a Community working with new dynamism and flexibility. The Commission will have to bear more responsibility and early in 1975 will face considerable tasks in a revitalized Community. The Commission at once issued the first Directives to its departments, to implement the decisions of the Heads of Government.

Regional policy: Following the decision of the Heads of Government on setting up the Regional Fund, the Commission agreed to introduce as soon as possible a preliminary draft supplementary budget for 1975 to activate the Fund at budgetary level. The decision of the Heads of Government reflects the views of the Commission, which has always championed the principle of a comprehensively applicable Fund which could be used by all the Member States to help their handicapped regions and would be the instrument of an overall Community policy.

Economic and monetary policy: Feeling the need for the Community and Member States to adopt a joint attitude in discussions within the Group of Ten, the Commission prepared a Memorandum to the Council on capital recycling, and outlined the initial guidelines for such a position.

Commission prepared a Memorandum to the Council on capital recycling, and outlined the initial guidelines for such a position.

The Commission also continued its discussions on using a European unit of account for certain Community activities, and on strengthening the European Monetary Cooperation Fund.

Euratom loans: The Commission adopted a Proposal, to be forwarded to the Council, by which it would be authorized to contract loans under Article 172 Euratom, to finance nuclear safeguards.

Energy: The Commission decided to take part as an observer in the OECD International Energy Agency.

Social policy: The Commission adopted an extensive action programme for migrant workers and their families, and drew up the second list of projects to be supported by the European Social Fund during the 1974 financial year.

Agricultural policy: The Commission adopted a Proposal to be forwarded to the Council on compiling the list of regions eligible for funds from the EAGGF Guidance Section, under the Directive on hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas of the Community.

Research policy: The Commission adopted a Proposal on the 1975 revision of the JRC's multiannual research programme. In addition, draft programmes for research and development activities in the energy sector were laid before the Commission.

Financial institutions: The Commission adopted a proposed Directive coordinating measures for the supervision of banks and other credit institutions. It also proposed that a Contact Committee be formed to supervise credit institutions.

¹ Point 1106.

Budget: The Commission noted that the new budget procedure based on the Treaty of 22 April 1970 and implemented for the first time when the 1975 general budget was drawn up, had been running satisfactorily and had enabled Parliament to play a much greater role.

Winners of the VIIIth European Communities' prize

2431. Three prizes each worth Bfrs 150 000 were awarded on 18th December 1974 by a panel of European academics to honour university theses in law, economics and politics making an important and original contribution to the knowledge of problems relating to European integration.

The three winners, who were chosen from among forty-six candidates are:

Mr E. Röhling (University of Münster) for his thesis on interprofessional technical norms as non-tariff barriers in the Common Market ('Überbetriebliche technische Normen als nicht-tarifäre Handelshemisse in Gemeinsamen Markt');

Mr H. Gaese (University of Hohenheim) for his thesis on the development of agricultural protectionism in Western Europe ('Der Einfluß europäischer Integrationsbestrebungen auf die Entwicklung des Agrarprotektionismus in westeuropäischen Industrieländern nach dem zweiten Weltkrieg');

Mr A. Fernandes (University of Heidelberg) for his thesis on the AASM and African aspirations for economic integration ('Die Assozierung der Afrikanischen Staaten und Madagaskar (AASM) mit der europäischen wirtschaftsgemeinschaft (EWG) und das afrikanische Streben nach wirtschaftlicher Integration').

The panel of judges was presided by *Mr P. Pescatore*, Judge at the Court of Justice of the European Communities and professor at the

University of Liège; members included *Mr J. de Meyer*, professor at the Faculty of Law of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven; *Mr I. Gasparini*, professor at the Faculty of Economics and Commerce of the 'L. Bocconi' Commercial University of Milan; *Mr C. D. Jongman*, professor at the Europa-Instituut of the University of Amsterdam; *Mr J. D. B. Mitchell*, professor at the Faculty of Law of Edinburgh University; *Mr P. H. Teitgen*, professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Paris I, and *Mr G. Ziebura*, professor of political Science at Konstanz University.

The official prize-giving ceremony will take place at the headquarters of the Commission of the European Communities, in Brussels, on 21 February 1975.

Research scholarships

2432. The Commission awarded 24 research scholarships under its policy of fostering and supporting University research on European integration. The winners were selected from 154 candidates.

Court of Justice

Composition of the Court

2433. By the decision of the Member States' Government Representatives of 10 December 1974, *Mr Aindrias (O'Keeffe) Ó Caoimh* was appointed a Judge of the Court of Justice for the period 12 December 1974 to 6 October 1979. He is replacing *Mr Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh* who was elected President of Ireland. *Mr (O'Keeffe) Ó Caoimh* took the oath on 12 December 1974.¹

¹ OJ C 14 of 21.1.1975.

After the resignation of Mr Ó Dálaigh, the Court, on 12 December 1974, elected Mr Josse Mertens de Wilmars as President of the First Chamber, for the period ending 7 October 1975.¹

The Court has made up its First Chamber as follows:

Mr J. Mertens de Wilmars, President;

Mr A.M. Donner, Mr R. Monaco, Mr A. (O'Keeffe) Ó Caoimh, Judges;

Mr J.P. Warner and Mr G. Reischl, Advocates-General.

On 12 December 1974, the Court also appointed Mr Alberto Trabucchi first Advocate-General for the period ending 7 October 1975.¹

New Cases

Case 91/74—Hauptzollamt Hamburg-Ericus v Hamburger Import-Kompanie GmbH, Winsen-/Luhe

2434. On 11 December 1974, the Bundesfinanzhof asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the classification of agricultural products falling under either subheading 20.07 B II a) 1 or subheading 20.07 B II b) 1, between which there is a distinction on the basis of the value per unit net weight of the product imported.

Case 92/74—Melkproduktenmaatschappij G. van den Bergh BV, Nijmegen, v Produktschap voor Zuivel, Rijswijk

2435. The College van Beroep voor het Bedrijfsleven, dealing with a legal action concerning the refusal to grant the denaturing premium for skimmed-milk powder because of its excessive fat content, asked the Court of Justice on 12 December 1974 for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of the word 'fats' in

Article 1(c) of Regulation No 986/68¹ laying down general rules for granting aid for skimmed-milk and skimmed-milk powder for use as feed.

Case 93/74—Società Pastificio Triestino, Triest, v Amministrazione delle Finanze dello Stato

2436. La Pretura de Trieste, dealing with an application for a court order for the repayment of monetary compensatory amounts paid in respect of the export of pasta products, asked the Court of Justice on 13 December 1974 for a preliminary ruling. The main point of issue is whether the charge on imports, within the meaning of Article 4a(2) of Regulation No 509/73¹ amending Regulation No 974/71 on certain measures of short-term economic policy to be taken in agriculture following the temporary widening of the fluctuation margins of certain Member States' currencies, consists, for the products in question, solely of the variable component or also of the fixed element provided for in Regulation 160/66² laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods processed from agricultural products.

Case 94/74—SpA IGAV v Ente Nazionale Cellulose e Carta

2437. On 16 December 1974, la Pretura d'Abbiategrasso asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling (i) on whether a duty, the payment of which is made compulsory by a public body other than the State, on certain products such as paper, cardboard and cellulose constitutes a charge having an effect equivalent to customs duties, as prohibited by Article 13(2) of the EEC Treaty; (ii) on the direct applicability

¹ OJ L 169 of 18.7.1968.

² OJ L 50 of 23.2.1973.

³ OJ 195 of 28.10.1966.

of this provision and (iii) on the compatibility of this duty, the revenue from which is intended to subsidize the national production of newsprint, with Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty.

Cases 95 to 98/74—Union nationale des coopératives agricoles de céréales, Paris v the Council and Commission

2438. On 19 December 1974, four French agricultural cooperatives or undertakings submitted claims to the Court of Justice for damages to make good the loss suffered by the applicants as a result of the difference between the monetary compensatory amounts received by them for exports of cereals to non-member countries and those they ought to have received by virtue of the Community regulations in force on the day on which the export certificates were obtained.

Case 99/74—Société des grands moulins des Antilles SA, Pointe-à-Pitre, v Commission

2439. On 19 December 1974, a company having its registered offices in Guadeloupe initiated an action against the Commission for damages to make good the loss incurred by the implied refusal of the Commission to pay the export refunds on flour and bran to non-member countries and the compensatory allowance for stocks for the 1972/73 cereal marketing year.

Case 100/74—Société Cam SA, Paris v the Council and Commission

2440. On 19 December 1974, a French company brought an action before the Court of Justice for the annulment of Regulation No 2546/74¹ concerning certain measures to be taken, following the raising with effect from 7 October 1974 of the threshold prices for cereals and rice, as regards licences for those products where the import levy or export refund is fixed in advance.

Case 101/74—Former Council Official v the Council

2441. The aim of this appeal is to annul the explicit refusal to the plaintiff, on 20 September 1974, for the grant of an allowance increment for invalidity and for the conversion rate to be used which is provided in Article 63 of the Staff Regulations for disbursing all the allowances paid to the plaintiff.

Case 102/74—Commission official v the Commission

2442. This action is for the annulment of the Commission's implied decision rejecting the applicant's complaint concerning the Commission's failure to draw up staff reports.

Judgments

Case 33/74—Mr J.H.M. van Binsbergen, Beesel, v Bestuur van de Bedrijfsvereniging voor de Metaalnijverheid, Den Haag

2443. On 15 May 1974, the Centrale Raad van Beroep had requested the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on the direct effect of Articles 59 and 60 of the EEC Treaty (freedom to provide services) and on the interpretation of these articles, particularly the final sentence of Article 60.

In its judgment of 3 December 1974, the Court held that the first paragraph of Article 59 and the third paragraph of Article 60 of the EEC Treaty must be interpreted as meaning that the national legislation of a Member State may not render impossible, by requiring permanent residence in the territory of that State, the provision of services by persons established in the territory

¹ OJ L 271 of 5.10.1974.

of another Member State, seeing that the provision of services is not made subject to any special condition by the national legislation in force. The said provisions have a direct effect and may be invoked in the national courts, at least in so far as the object is the elimination of any discrimination against the supplier of services based on his nationality or the fact that he is resident in a Member State other than that in which the service is to be supplied.

Case 36/74—1. B.N.O. Walrave of Loenen aan de Vecht, and 2. L.J.N. Koch of Utrecht v (1) Association Union Cycliste Internationale of Geneva, (2) Koninklijke Nederlandsche Wielren Unie of the Hague and (3) Federación Española Ciclismo, Madrid

2444. The Arrondissementsrechtbank of Utrecht, dealing with an action concerning a provision of the rules for world championships of the Union Cycliste Internationale whereby, in motorcycle-paced races, the pace-maker must be of the same nationality as the stayer, had asked the Court of Justice on 24 May 1974 for a preliminary ruling on whether this provision is contrary either to Article 48 of the EEC Treaty and Regulation No 1612/68¹ on freedom of movement for workers within the Community, or to Article 59 of the EEC Treaty, or to Article 7 of the Treaty.

In its judgment of 12 December 1974, the Court declared that the prohibition of any discrimination on grounds of nationality laid down in Articles 7, 48 and 59 of the EEC Treaty also applies to a sporting activity in so far as this constitutes an economic activity. This prohibition does not however apply to the composition of sports teams as national teams. The ban on discrimination covers not only the action of public authorities, but also rules of any other kind designed to regulate on a collective basis paid work or the provision of services.

Case 40/74—(1) the Kingdom of Belgium, represented by the Minister for Public Health and Family Affairs; (2) Henri Costers, Wilsele; and (3) Marie Younckx, Wilsele v Berufsgenossenschaft der Feinmechanik und Elektrotechnik, Cologne

2445. Two Belgian nationals had brought an action before the Sozialgericht, Cologne, for the award of accident insurance benefits; this action had been dismissed. They appealed against this decision, not to the appeal authority but to the Belgian Ministry for Social Security, and the Bundessozialgericht asked the Court of Justice on 11 June 1974 for a preliminary ruling on whether a liaison department, such as the above-mentioned Ministry, can be considered, for the purposes of Article 47 of Regulation No 3² on social security for migrant workers, as a 'corresponding authority or agency' to which 'in order to comply with the legislation of one Member State', an appeal may be submitted in order to observe the time-limit for appeal.

In its judgment of 3 December 1974, the Court held that a liaison department, as provided for in Article 3 of Regulation No 4 on implementing procedures and supplementary provisions in respect of Regulation No 3, can be considered as another corresponding agency within the meaning of Article 47 of Regulation No 3 even for the submission of an appeal and that, with certain exceptions, this article cannot apply when the interested party is domiciled or, for the purposes of his application, declaration or appeal, is represented by an agent established in the Member State whose legislation is to apply.

¹ OJ L 257 of 19.10.1968.

² OJ 30 of 16.12.1958.

³ OJ 30 of 16.12.1958.

Case 41/74—Miss Yvonne van Duyn v Home Office

2446. The High Court of Justice, dealing with an action brought by a Dutch national who was denied permission to enter Great Britain to take up employment with the Church of Scientology of California, had asked the Court of Justice on 13 June 1974 for a preliminary ruling on the direct applicability of Article 48 of the EEC Treaty and Directive No 64/221/EEC³ on the coordination of special measures concerning the movement and residence of foreign nationals which are justified on grounds of public policy, public security or public health, and on the interpretation of Article 48 of the EEC Treaty and of Article 3 of the abovementioned Directive.

In its judgment of 4 December 1974, the Court of Justice, while reaffirming that Article 48 of the EEC Treaty and Article 3(1) of the abovementioned Directive are directly applicable and create rights which individuals can assert before the national courts, ruled that a Member State can consider as falling under the heading 'personal conduct' justifying certain limitations on the free movement of persons for reasons of public policy the fact that a national of another Member State belongs to an organization, the activities of which the Member State considers contrary to the public good but which are not unlawful in that State, even if no restrictions are placed upon nationals of the Member State who wish to take similar employment with such an organization.

Case 48/74—Mr Charmasson, Rungis, v French Republic (Minister of Economy and of Finance)

2447. An importer of bananas, considering himself obstructed by a national market organization characterized by a quota system designed essentially to protect national production (Over-

seas Departments of the Antilles) had attacked before the French Conseil d'État an instruction to importers limiting the quantities of bananas that could be imported from countries not benefiting from the privileged treatment. On 5 July 1974, the French Conseil d'État had asked the Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling on whether the existence in a Member State of a national market organization within the meaning of Articles 43, 44 and 45 of the EEC Treaty is such as to preclude the application of Article 33 of the Treaty in the case of the product concerned, and, in the affirmative, what are the distinguishing characteristics of a national market organization of this kind.

In its judgment of 10 December 1974, the Court held that, in contrast to the transitional period, a national market organization could not, after the expiry of this period, impede the application of Article 33. A national market organization of this kind is defined as a body of legal means placing under the control of the public authorities the regulation of the market in the products in question in order to ensure, by increasing productivity and promoting optimum factors of employment, a reasonable standard of living for producers, the stabilization of markets, security of supplies and fair prices to consumers. The permanent maintenance beyond the transitional period of a simple quota system could not correspond to these conditions.

Case 53/74—Commission Official v the Commission

2448. By order of 16 December 1974, the Court ordered this case concerning the revision of the applicant's place of origin to be struck from the Court record.

³ OJ 56 of 4.4.1964.

Economic and Social Committee

126th Plenary Session

2449. The 126th Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Committee took place in Brussels on 19 December chaired by Mr *Canonge*, the regular Chairman. At this meeting the Committee adopted 11 Opinions most of which, to do with very technical matters, were approved without debate. Most of the session was taken up with preparing the Committee's Opinion on the Commission's Proposal to the Council concerning the setting of agricultural prices.

Opinions

Commission Proposals to the Council on setting the prices for certain farm products and on certain related measures

2450. This Opinion prepared from the report by Mr *Rainero* (General Interests, Italy) was adopted by 41 votes against 22 with 5 abstentions. Since the Committee had to speak in a very short time, considering the importance of the subject it simply expressed its Opinion on the main elements of the Commission's Proposals. It stressed the special significance of agriculture in the short-term economic and social situation, which is marked by foodstuff shortages in some major sectors. In view of the disparate trends in the costs and means of production and in farm production prices, the Committee in considering the impact that the Commission's Proposals may have in these circumstances, tried to avoid any risks of seeing the producers disheartened. Although radical differences of opinion emerged, the Committee queried whether it was advisable to limit the average increase for farm products to 9%.

Regarding the agro-monetary problem, the Committee, while sharing the Commission's concern, stressed that the farmers must, in any event, be protected against all chances of eventual distortion of competition or depletion of their incomes for want of a common monetary policy.

Proposed Council Directive on co-insurance, liberalization of operations and coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulations and administrative action

2451. The Opinion prepared from the report by Mr *De Bruyn* (General Interests, Belgium) was adopted by a large majority, with one vote against and one abstention. The Committee approved the proposed Directive and was pleased to find that it was a first step towards establishing the freedom to offer services in direct insurance other than life insurance. The Committee found, however, that the definition of the co-insurance is not altogether satisfactory and asked for it to be amended at the earliest opportunity.

Proposed Council Decision adopting an initial three-year action plan on scientific and technical information and documentation

2452. The Committee unanimously adopted this Opinion prepared from the report by Mr *De Ridder* (General Interests, Belgium). It felt that an action plan in the field of scientific and technical information and documentation should be urgently undertaken, which would mitigate the disparities in creating an effective Community information network.

Proposed Council Regulation on the common organization of the sugar market—Proposed Council Regulation on setting and amending the basic quotas for sugar

2453. This Opinion prepared from the report by Mr *Clavel* (General Interests, France) was

unanimously adopted. Regarding the quota scheme, the Committee approved the scheme proposed for the next five years. But since the world shortage of sugar has been a lengthy one, the Committee stressed the need for the Commission to work resolutely towards a policy which will ensure consumer supply and which will provide adequate assurances for the producers. It emphasized the pressing need for a storage policy as a means of balancing the market and ensuring security of supply.

2454. *Correction* to Bulletin 7/8-1974, point 2465. This should read as follows:

'In this Opinion adopted by a large majority with three votes against and seven abstentions, the Committee, while fully endorsing the Commission's views regarding the necessity for Directive's leading to early fiscal harmonization for manufactured tobacco products, considered the sub-division of cigars into two groups, as envisaged in the Commission's draft Directive, as being too restrictive, having regard to the diversity of cigar products being marketed in the Community. Since the number of groups to be adopted should not be prejudged in isolation from the fiscal structure and rates of duty to be adopted in a harmonized Community system of excise, the Committee proposed that Member States be allowed to retain the option to classify cigars into several groups defined by the nature of the outer wrapper and certain ranges of weight.'

ECSC Consultative Committee

167th Meeting

2455. The ECSC Consultative Committee, attended by Vice-President *Scarascia Mugnozza*

of the Commission held its 167th meeting in Luxembourg on 6 December with Mr *Arnaud* in the Chair.

In his statement on the common transport policy Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza* spoke first about the common system of rates for the use of infrastructures. The initial Proposals on this subject by the Commission were made in 1971. The Commission is now engaged in amending its original text, taking into account the observations by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. Dealing with the charging of infrastructure costs to the users, Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza* said that this was part of the prospective harmonization of competition conditions between countries for each mode of transport and between the modes themselves. The aim is to reach an economic truth which will enable users to choose with full knowledge of the facts and the investors to act with maximum results. After reminding the Committee that the transport market was affected by inflation and the energy crisis, he said that the Commission had had to rethink the transport policy for the sake of a parallel development of the market and the infrastructures.

In its Resolution on the amendment to the proposed Decision on introducing a common system of rates for the use of transport infrastructures,¹ the Committee confirmed the position it had announced earlier, namely that some of the expenditure required to create and operate communication routes must be financed by public authorities. The Committee also asked to be consulted on the rules for determining social marginal costs and equilibrium tools.

The Committee then debated at length the medium-term (1975-1985) guidelines for coal on the basis of a draft opinion presented by the Committee on General Objectives.

¹ OJ C 10 of 15.1.1975.

Several members felt that the draft opinion as presented by the General Objectives Committee did not go far enough, inasmuch as the objective of 253 Mtce should represent only a minimum and that in the present situation, natural coal resources should be exploited to the full.

Social problems in the coal industry were also discussed especially employment and labour problems. Several members, having said that they were not opposed to the main lines of the draft opinion found that it dealt with coal imports too negatively. The draft was finally adopted by 39 votes against 4 with 9 abstentions.¹

The Committee then unanimously approved the aid proposed for an additional programme of coal research for 1974 and a coal research programme for 1975.

168th Meeting

2456. The Consultative Committee, attended by Vice-President *Scarascia Mugnozza* of the Commission met in special session in Luxembourg on 13 December, with Mr *Arnaud* in the Chair.

The Committee was first advised of the ECSC operational budget for 1975. The information included the following data: resources for 1975 are estimated at 101 million u.a., and the proceeds of the levy at 88.6 million u.a. Expenditure will involve 36 million u.a. for redevelopment, 6 million u.a. for the Community's participation in marketing coking coal, 13.9 million u.a. for coal research, 17.4 million u.a. for steel research and 5.6 million u.a. for social research.

The credit allocated for interest allowances will rise from 8 to 14 million u.a., which will enable loans to be granted of up to a 100 million u.a. for 5 years at 3%. These loans will be granted for investments in connection with safeguarding the environment and for financing redevelopment operations.

Mr *Scarascia Mugnozza* briefed the Committee on the meeting of Heads of Government of 9 and 10 December, and the Council of Ministers meeting on transport of 11 December where the results had released the transport policy from its deadlock.

The Committee then examined the forward programme on steel for 1975. In his introductory statement the Commission spokesman highlighted the weakening of demand for steel over the first half of 1974 and indicated that the consumption outlook in some sectors, such as the motor and building industry, was bleak. But he hoped that the recession in these sectors would be partially offset by increased demand in others, such as the tubing, shipbuilding and energy equipment sectors.

In the lengthy debate, every one of the speakers found that the Commission's estimates were over optimistic and likely to create illusions. The producers' representatives pointed out that the short term steel situation had, since October, suffered a reversal of almost unprecedented suddenness and severity.

Observations were also made concerning stocks, which were increasing, domestic consumption which could even drop by 5%, and exports which could scarcely be expected to hold their 1974 level.

The dealers' representatives, on their side pointed out that sales had fallen considerably.

Winding up the debate, the Chairman, Mr *Arnaud*, stressed the importance which the Committee attaches to these forward programmes and summarized the remarks of the Committee members, asking the Commission not to publish the forward programme in its present form, but to revise it and submit it to the Committee on

¹ OJ C 10 of 15.1.1975.

Markets and Prices so that the Consultative Committee can reconsider it at the meeting of 14 March 1975.

In view of the economic and social importance of financial aid for housing in the ECSC industries, the Consultative Committee welcomed the arrangements which have recently been made to implement a new (eighth) financing programme for 1975-1978 to build dwellings and to release an initial instalment of credit of 12.5 million u.a. for 1975-1976. The Committee was expecting these resources to be made swiftly available by a positive decision on the ECSC budget. In view of the development of costs, the Committee asked whether the second instalment of credit for 1977-1978 should not be increased to sustain an effective drive on building housing for miners and steel workers.

European Investment Bank

Cooperation between long-term credit institutions in the Community

2457. The heads of the long-term credit institutions of the Community¹ met in London on 2 December 1974 under the chairmanship of Lord Seebohm, Chairman of Finance for Industry Ltd., to review progress during the six months since their last meeting in Paris.²

Since the signing of the cooperation Agreement on 20 November 1973,¹ discussion has begun involving several institutions in cooperation with EEC institutions and a banking consortium on a nuclear reactor project in France. In addition to major projects involving multilateral financing, a number of projects of bilateral interest are being undertaken. The second major joint activity undertaken by the institutions has been research into economic and industrial problems within

the Community and study of the progress made in financing projects across frontiers. In this connection study groups have been established on a continuing basis and have already begun to make useful progress on a variety of subjects.

On this occasion, the European Investment Bank stated that it had either made available or renewed lines of credit totalling 74 million u.a. to four of the institutions in the club of long-term credit institutions since the cooperation agreement was signed.

Loans granted

Financing of the development of oil and gas fields in the North Sea

2458. The Bank is helping to finance development of the Ekofisk oil and gas fields off the coast of Norway through a loan equivalent to Lit 15 240 million (18.9 million u.a.) to Norsk Agip A/S, a Norwegian subsidiary of Agip S.p.A. (ENI group) and a member of the Ekofisk exploration and production consortium.³

Recoverable reserves of Ekofisk total 200 million tonnes of crude oil and 230 000 million cubic metres of natural gas, but capital outlay on production facilities for the first four deposits, to which this loan contributes, is currently estimated at \$845 million, with Norsk Agip's share at \$110 million.

The EIB loan, which is for a term of seven years at an interest rate of 10.5%, will help to finance, amongst other work, construction of production and treatment platforms and a huge concrete oil storage reservoir on the sea bed.

¹ Bull. EC 11-1973, point 2452.

² Bull. EC 6-1974, point 2490.

³ The Ekofisk consortium comprises the Phillips Petroleum Company and a number of European oil companies, among which is Norsk Afip A/S with a 13.04% stake.

Most of the construction programme is scheduled for completion during 1975, although certain parts will not be finished until 1978.

A 220-mile oil pipeline is being laid linking Ekofisk with Teesside in Britain, and a 268-mile gas pipeline is being laid to Emden on the German coast, from where natural gas will be distributed by a consortium of companies including Ruhrgas (Germany), Gasunie (Netherlands), Distrigaz (Belgium) and Gaz de France.

Ekofisk is of considerable importance to the diversification and security of the Community's energy supplies. On current expectations it could furnish the EEC with around 5% of its oil and about 7% of its natural gas requirements towards the end of the decade.

However, because the project is situated outside the EEC, in Norwegian waters, the Board of Governors of the EIB had to give special authorization for the Bank's involvement, under powers contained in Article 18 of the EIB's Statute.

France

2459. The Bank has granted a loan equivalent to FF 149.3 million (26.5 million u.a.) to Electricté de France to help finance construction of the Bugey nuclear power station at Saint Vulbas (Ain) on the Rhône.

The loan—for a term of 12 years at an interest rate of 10.5%—will help finance the third stage of the project, which will feature a pressurized water reactor with a net rating of 925 MW. The Bank has already granted a loan of FF 119.4 million for this stage in July.

The reactor will be identical to that installed in the second stage of the project, to which the EIB has also provided three loans totalling FF 249.9 million in 1973 and 1974.

Through these five loans for the Bugey nuclear power station (together amounting to FF 518.6 million, or 89.4 million u.a.) the EIB is continuing its work in favour of developing electricity supplies in the Community.

Including this new loan, the Bank has granted, since 1967, 19 loans totaling 353.1 million u.a. for the construction of 10 nuclear power stations in the Community.

2460. Three 'global' loans totalling the equivalent of FF 90 million (15.9 million u.a.) have been granted by the Bank to help modernize the French deep-sea fishing fleet, and also to provide finance for small- and medium-scale industrial projects in Brittany and the Pays de la Loire.

A 'global' loan of FF 50 million (8.9 million u.a.) for a term of 10 years at an interest rate of 10.5% has been made available to Crédit Naval-CMAF, which will on-lend sums, with the EIB's approval, in favour of projects for modernizing the deep-sea fishing fleet, particularly the replacement of older trawlers by new vessels with modern equipment and greater capacity. An important part of the French deep-sea fishing fleet is based on ports in development regions (Concarneau, Lorient, St Malo) or conversion areas (Boulogne), where a substantial proportion of the population depends directly or indirectly on the industry. Renewal of the fleet therefore also plays a major role in safeguarding employment.

Two loans, each of FF 20 million (3.5 million u.a.), and on the same conditions, have been made to Société de Développement Régional de la Bretagne and Société de Développement Régional de l'Ouest. Both will on-lend sums, with EIB approval, for small and medium-scale industrial ventures in Brittany and the Pays de la Loire.

Brittany, with the lowest per capita income of all the regions of France, and the Pays de la Loire, with a per capita income not much larger, suffer from particular development problems, and employment is still very strongly dependent on agriculture.

The loans from the EIB will contribute to efforts being made to strengthen the industrial base in these regions and provide new job opportunities in other sectors.

Italy

2461. The Bank has granted a loan equivalent to Lit 16 700 million (20.8 million u.a.) to ENEL—Ente Nazionale per l'Energia Elettrica—to help finance construction of a pumped storage power station in Sardinia. The loan is for a term of 12 years at an interest rate of 10.5%.

This project is a further development of the Taloro river hydro-electric scheme (in the Province of Nuoro) carried out between 1961 and 1963, to the finance of which the EIB contributed a loan of Lit 7 500 million lire in 1960. During the night, water will be pumped up to two existing reservoirs, and this will then be released at peak consumption periods to provide extra generating capacity. The station will have an available output of 240 MW. The fixed investment costs are currently estimated at Lit 41 700 million.

Completion of this project will be important in the general context of improving electricity supplies for Sardinia, but particularly important for the island's many small- and medium-sized industrial concerns which depend almost exclusively on ENEL for their electricity needs.

2462. The Bank has also granted eight loans totalling the equivalent of Lit 71 300 million

(88.55 million u.a.) to help finance industrial and energy projects in Italy.

To continue its help towards the financing of small- and medium-scale industrial projects in the South of Italy, the EIB has granted to IMI (Istituto Mobiliare Italiano) a second global loan of Lit 22 850 million (28.4 million u.a.), for a period of 10 years at an interest rate of 10.5%. The first global loan (Lit 15 600 million) was made to IMI in 1972, and has enabled the Bank to assist in the financing of 31 small- and medium-scale industrial projects in the Mezzogiorno, which between them have created almost 4 000 new jobs.

- An advanced technology venture at Sarroch (Cagliari) will benefit from a loan of Lit 10 000 million (12.4 million u.a.) granted to ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi) for a term of 15 years at an interest rate of 10.5%. The funds will be on-loaned to Italproteine SpA, a company formed by ANIC SpA, part of the ENI group, and British Petroleum, for the building of a factory to produce animal feed proteins from n-paraffins.
- A further loan of Lit 6 000 million (7.5 million u.a.) has been made available to IMI on the same conditions to contribute to its own financing for this factory.
- A further loan of Lit. 6 000 million (7.5 million u.a.) has been made available to IMI on the same conditions to contribute to its own financing for this factory.
- A loan of Lit 5 000 million (6.2 million u.a.), for a term of nine years at an interest rate of 10.5%, has been made available for an extension of the acrylic fibre plant at the factory of ANIC SpA in Pisticci (Basilicata).
- A further loan of Lit 1 800 million (2.2 million u.a.), for a period of 10 years at a rate of 10.5%, has been granted to the Cassa per il

Mezzogiorno to contribute to the financing provided by ISVEIMER (Istituto per lo Sviluppo Economico dell'Italia Meridionale) for expansion of the non-alcoholic drinks factory of SpA dell'Acqua Minerale di Sangemini at Riardo (Caserta).

- Saipem SpA, also part of the ENI group, has received a loan of Lit 10 000 million (12.4 million u.a.) for a term of nine years at an interest rate of 10.5%, to help finance construction of Castoro VI, a semi-submersible vessel of highly advanced design for laying submarine oil or gas pipelines. To be launched towards the end of next year, it will primarily be used for operations in the Mediterranean and North Sea.
- Another loan of Lit 12 650 million (15.7 million u.a.) has been granted to IMI, on the same conditions, to contribute to its own financing for the vessel.
- A loan of Lit 3 000 million (3.75 million u.a.), for a term of 12 years at 10.5%, has been granted to the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno to contribute to the financing provided by ISVEIMER for the development by AGIP SpA, another ENI group company, of the 'Campo di Luna' natural gas field discovered in the Ionian Sea, off the coast of Crotone. The EIB has already granted directly to ENI, in September 1974, a loan of Lit 5 000 million for this project.

United Kingdom

2463. The Bank has granted a loan to the equivalent of £4 million (7.7 million u.a.) to help establish, on the Isle of Lewis in the Hebrides, a steel fabrication complex for offshore structures.

The loan, which is for a term of 8 years at an interest rate of 10.5%, has been made available to Lewis Offshore Ltd., a company formed

earlier this year by Fred Olsen Ltd. and Aker Group Ltd. of London.

On its completion in 1977, the complex will include two dry docks, an assembly shop and other installations. The company plans to commence first operations in the second half of 1975 fabricating sections for offshore structures, in particular for the Aker H-3 semi-submersible exploration rig. Steel decks and assemblies for offshore production platforms in the North Sea will follow later.

In addition to its importance for the exploration and exploitation of submarine oil and gas fields in Europe, this project will help to limit the number of islanders seeking jobs on the mainland. An estimated 560 new jobs will be created on Lewis between now and 1977 and total employment is expected to reach 1 000 in 1981.

2464. The Bank has granted a loan equivalent to £15.6 million (30 million u.a.) to the Electricity Council to help finance construction of a nuclear power station near Hartlepool in the north-east of England. The loan is for a term of 12 years at an interest rate of 10.5%.

Situated at the mouth of the Tees, the new station will feature two advanced gas-cooled reactors, the first of which is scheduled to come into service during 1978/79 and the second a year later.

This is the first EIB loan operation of this nature in the United Kingdom. Including Hartlepool, 20 loans, totalling 383.1 million u.a. have been granted in the Community as a whole since 1967 to help finance the construction of 11 nuclear power stations.

The Hartlepool power station may be considered as an important contribution to developing the infrastructure which will be required to support

the considerable industrial expansion planned for Hartlepool, at present classified as a development area, in the years ahead.

2465. The Bank has undertaken its first direct lending operation in Northern Ireland with the granting of a loan equivalent to £2.5 million (4.8 million u.a.) to the Belfast aircraft concern, Short Brothers & Harland Ltd.

The loan, which is for a term of five years at an interest rate of 10.5%, will be used to help finance development of the SD3-30, a wide-bodied 30-seat commuter or mixed freight/pas-senger aircraft.

A logical development from the company's suc-cessful 'Skyvan', of which 104 have been sold in different versions to date, the SD3-30 has been designed primarily to meet the need for an economical, high-comfort aircraft for commuter and local air service operations.

Northern Ireland has long-standing problems of unemployment, among the worst in the United Kingdom. In making finance available for the development of this new aircraft, the EIB will be assisting the company—the third largest employer in the Province—to keep its workforce fully employed through the present decade, assuming the SD3-30 follows the success of the 'Skyvan'. Short's aircraft and aerostructures divisions employ some 4 000 workers out of a total company pay-roll of a little over 6 000.

In the context of the European aircraft industry, Short's traditional project cooperation with Fok-ker-VFW will continue, with part of the wings for the SD3-30 being manufactured in the Netherlands.

Turkey

2466. The EIB has agreed to make an impor-tant contribution to financing the exploitation of

a lignite deposit at Elbistan (200 km north-east of Adana) and the construction of a 1 200 MW thermal power station. Accordingly, it has con-cluded a loan, on special terms, of 58 million u.a. (\$70 million) with the Republic of Turkey.

The loan has been granted to the Turkish State for 30 years, including an (eight-year grace period, at an annual interest rate of 2.5%. The State will on-lend the funds to the promoters on conditions suited to the economic and financial nature of the project.

The long-term planning for Turkey's energy requirements is based on a forecast average increase in electricity consumption of 12% per year up until 1987. To meet the demand (38 000 GWh in 1982, 63 000 GWh in 1987), the Turkish Government has decided to go ahead with an investment programme geared as much as possible to developing the country's own energy resources, one of the most important being lignite. The reserves at Elbistan alone are estimated at 3 000 million tonnes. The new power station envisaged under this project will be lignite-fired and will have an output of 7 000 GWh per year. It will supply 20% of the demand for electricity in 1982 and 12% of the demand in 1987 and will therefore constitute an important element in the nation's energy pro-gramme.

The promoters of the project are two public enterprises: for the mine, the State Coal Mines (TKI) and, for the power station, the Turkish Electricity Office (TEK).

The cost of the project is estimated at \$909 million, of which \$631 million will be required in foreign exchange. The finance will be pro-vided by Turkey, with the assistance of several foreign lenders. Apart from the European Inv-estment Bank, these include the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Italy.

This new operation raises to 147.9 million u.a. the total of loans on special terms provided by the EIB under the Second EEC-Turkey Financial Protocol, which came into effect on 1 January 1973. These loans are granted by the EIB on the mandate of the Member States of the Community from the resources made available to the Bank by those States.

Zaïre

2467. The Commission of the European Communities and the European Investment Bank have concluded an agreement with the Republic of Zaïre for the granting of a loan on special terms of 5 803 000 u.a., equivalent to 3.5 million Zaires. The EIB, entrusted with managing the loan, is acting as agent of the European Economic Community.

The loan will be used to finance enlargement of the water distribution system in Kinshasa.

Since 1969 the Zaïre authorities have undertaken projects principally to increase supply capacity through doubling the size of the Ngaliema station on the Zaïre river and commissioning of a new station on the Ndjili river, a tributary of the Zaïre. As a result, the supply capacity available should be able to cope with demand up to 1980. The new scheme will include more than 28 kilometres of water mains and a reservoir of 12 000 cubic metres, thus restructuring the town's distribution system which will then be adequate up to the 1990s.

The loan on special terms is provided from the third European Development Fund for a term of 40 years (with a five-year grace period) at an interest rate of 1% per year.

2468. The EIB, moreover, has granted a loan of 16.6 million u.a. (10 million Zaires) to

'Générale des Carrières et des Mines' (GECAMINES), a state-controlled company in the Republic of Zaïre. The loan will help to finance mining and industrial installations required under the group's second five-year development plan (1975-79). GECAMINES mines important copper reserves in the Shaba region of Zaïre, and has already received (1971) a loan of 16 million u.a. from the EIB to help finance investments under its first five-year development plan (1970-74).

The Bank's new loan will contribute to measures designed to boost the company's copper production from 470 000 to 590 000 tonnes per year and its cobalt production from 16 000 to 20 000 tonnes. The economic effects of this will be very important in terms of increased assets, greater tax revenue and improved foreign exchange earnings. Around 2 200 new jobs will also be created.

Total cost of the new development plan, to the financing of which the World Bank and the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank are also contributing, is estimated at 381.5 million u.a. (230.1 million Zaires).

Financing Community activities

Use of appropriations for the financial year 1973

2469. In accordance with the provisions of Articles 206 of the EEC Treaty and 180 of the EAEC Treaty, the Commission, on 6 December 1974, drew up the management accounts for the financial year 1973 and sent them to the Council and the European Parliament. The expenditure chargeable to the financial year 1973 for all the institutions is indicated as under table: "Use of Credits 1973".

Financing Community Activities

Financing Community Activities

Use of Credits 1973

(in million u.a.)

Item	Appropriations	Appropriations committed or carried over	Use (%)
1. Staff	166.28	157.74	94.86
2. Buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure (except 10 below)	79.21	73.01	92.17
3. Operational expenditure (specific projects)	91.14	83.58	91.71
4. Aid, subsidies, contributions	12.49	12.22	97.83
5. Social Fund, Regional Fund	282.95	282.94	100
6/7. EAGGF, Guarantee Section	3 833.19	3 833.19	100
8. EAGGF, Guidance Section	350.00	182.80	52
9. Food aid Provisional	61.13 2.30	60.88 0	99.59 0
Total	4 878.71	4 686.39	96.07
10. Reimbursement of 10% of Member States' own resources	255.77	250.09	97.78
Grand total	5 134.49	4 936.49	96.14

Apart from the supplementary budget No 4/73¹ for the Social Fund and the EAGGF (Guarantee), use of authorized expenditure in 1973 was broadly in line with the estimates even though this budget had to anticipate the financial impact of the enlargement.

Except for the EAGGF (Guidance), the Commission used 99.5% of its appropriations. The movements of appropriations within the chapters of the Commission's budget were relatively moderate in volume; but there were many of them.

Generally speaking, appropriations were committed at a steady pace throughout the financial

year; but for certain items, such as the Social Fund or the EAGGF (Guarantee) they were mostly charged towards the end of the year.² These time lags are most often due to regulation provisions and the procedures to be followed. The chargings during the second half of the year are, again often for the same reasons, heavier in respect of payments.

¹ With regard to the four supplementary budgets, No 1 did not amend any of the appropriations and Nos 2 and 3 involved a cut in authorized expenditure.

² The global commitments are booked as advances and are made to the Member States, while the detailed charging by budget entry is done much later on account of the time-lags and current procedures.

Of the total appropriations for 1973, 88.6% of them were committed and 3.7% cancelled. The Council was requested to approve the 7.7% carry-over. The EAGGF Guidance Section accounts for 88% of the cancellations and the Guidance and Guarantee Sections together account for 89% of the carry-overs.

The estimates of own resources proved highly accurate globally; but certain discrepancies emerged as to their nature (between agricultural levies, sugar contribution and customs duties) and in respect of the remitting States.

General budget of the Communities for the financial year 1975

2470. At its sitting of 12 December 1974,¹ the European Parliament with its new budgetary powers took the final decisions on the adoption of the Communities' general budget for 1975.

Grand total of 1975

budget	= 5 825 283 360 u.a.
Compared with total of 1974 budget	= 5 224 972 971 u.a.
Shows an increase of	600 310 389 u.a.
	= + 11.49%

The table illustrates the breakdown of appropriations planned by major area.

The expenditure of the 1975 budget is financed from the following receipts:

— Own resources	3 868 878 236 =	66.42%
— Contributions (GNP key)	1 899 242 885 =	32.60%
— Deductions from staff remuneration	28 251 869 =	0.48%
— Proportion of proceeds of ECSC levy	18 000 000 =	0.31%
— Various	10 910 370 =	0.19%
	5 825 283 360 =	100.00%

The general budget in its adopted form does not carry appropriations in respect of the Regional Fund. It was agreed that on the basis of the decision on this matter by the Heads of Government at their Paris meeting on 9 and 10 December 1974; a supplementary budget would be drawn up at the first opportunity early in 1975.

General budget of the Communities for the financial year 1975 (Research and investment)

2471. Chapter 33 amounts to 71 704 848 u.a. in commitment appropriations and 95 955 490 u.a. in payment appropriations, which accounts for the transfer of 12 886 400 u.a. in commitment appropriations and 13 781 192 u.a. in payment appropriations from Chapter 98 to Chapter 33 of the general budget and for additional appropriations, in respect of JRC safety installations, of 1 244 000 u.a. in commitment and payment appropriations. The above changes, as against the draft budget, were initiated by the European Parliament.

ECSC levy rate and operational budget

2472. After consulting the European Parliament which opted² in favour of the Commission's Proposal to maintain the ECSC levy rate at 0.29%, the Commission decided,³ on 20 December, to adopt this rate for 1975.

Considering the other resources expected (revenue from interest on deposits and from unborrowed funds, cancelled commitments, which will

¹ Point 2402.

² Point 2403.

³ OJ L 357 of 31.12.1974.

*General budget of the European Communities
Comparison between the 1974 budget and the budget drawn up for 1975*

Areas	Appropriations 1974	Preliminary draft budget 1975 (including amending letters 1 and 2)	Draft	Draft budget 1975		1975 Budget adopted by Parliament on 12.12.1974	Comparison 1974-75 Col. 6 Col. 1
			(including amending letters 1 and 2) drawn up by the Council on 23.9.1974	Draft amended by Parliament (14.11.1974)	Draft amended by Council (28.11.1974)		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Commission							
Appropriations for administrative expenditure							
Staff	168 146 400	240 572 300	203 734 300	206 114 308	204 064 780	204 064 780	+ 21.36
Operations	52 857 213	69 002 770	63 384 800	64 241 800	64 241 800	64 241 800	+ 21.54
Information	4 742 000	5 920 000	5 150 000	6 300 000	6 300 000	6 300 000	+ 32.86
Aid and subsidies	12 503 000	36 725 000	17 043 300	17 043 300	17 043 300	17 043 300	+ 36.31
Intervention appropriations							
Agriculture	3 754 288 500	4 512 221 750	4 307 805 250	4 635 705 251	4 307 805 250	4 307 805 250	+ 14.74
Social	331 116 000	417 673 200	338 810 500	378 865 200	378 365 200	378 365 200	+ 14.27
Regional	token entry	650 000 000	token entry	300 000 000	—	—	—
Research, technology, industry, energy	113 608 819	157 158 905	124 244 490	137 508 490	124 644 490	125 888 490	+ 10.81
Cooperation & development	387 936 000	607 752 000	229 797 000	292 797 000	229 797 000	229 797 000	- 40.76
Contingency reserve	4 586 949 319	6 344 805 855	5 000 657 240	5 744 875 941	5 040 611 940	5 041 855 940	+ 9.92
Reimbursement to Member States of 10% of sums paid as own resources	2 500 000	5 100 000	3 500 000	3 500 000	3 500 000	3 500 000	+ 40.—
Commission total	315 375 819	406 259 020	386 234 829	396 948 916	386 917 060	386 887 824	+ 22.67
II. Other institutions	5 143 073 751	7 108 384 945 ¹	5 679 704 469	6 439 024 265	5 722 678 880	5 723 893 644	+ 11.29
Grand total	81 899 220	103 539 964	95 631 304	101 346 252	101 346 252	101 389 716	+ 23.80
	5 224 972 971	7 211 924 909	5 775 335 773	6 540 370 517	5 824 025 132	5 825 283 360	+ 11.49

¹ The initial appropriations of the preliminary draft amounted to 6 852 119 845 to which have been added:

amending letter 1: 185 400 u.a.;
amending letter 2: 247 375 000 u.a.;
effect on Chapter 29: 8 704 700 u.a.

² This reduction is due to the fact that the 1974 appropriation includes 40 million u.a. for the Sahel and 124.5 million u.a. for the UN emergency action; no appropriation is envisaged for this in the 1975 budget at this stage.

not be carried out), this decision allows the coverage of needs to be anticipated at 111.5 million u.a., i.e.:

— Administrative expenditure	: 18 000 000 u.a.
— Aid for readaptation	: 36 000 000 u.a.
— Aid for research	: 36 900 000 u.a.
— Aid for coking coal	: 6 000 000 u.a.
— Allowances on interest rates on investment and redevelopment loans	: 14 500 000 u.a.

Conversion rate of the ECSC unit of account

2473. On 20 December, the Commission, after conferring with the Council, decided¹ to renew, until 31 December 1975, the system of conversion between national currencies and the ECSC unit of account, which took effect on 1 January 1974.² A minor amendment was made concerning a reference period of six months instead of one.

ECSC financial activity during 1974

Provisions of the ECSC Treaty

2474. The ECSC Treaty entrusted the Community with the task of facilitating the financing of investments in the coal and steel industries, i.e., the financing of programmes in the productive enterprises themselves, and programmes to lower manufacturing costs or for marketing products under the Treaty. Loans were granted on this basis to mining power stations. The ECSC thus sometimes extends beyond its strictly sectoral framework through financial action either upstream or downstream from coal or steel production proper.

The Treaty also provided for granting redevelopment loans to companies in various economic sectors to ease the re-employment of labour made available through rationalization measures applied in the coal and steel sectors.

ECSC company investments

2475. The latest annual survey on investments, which covered all nine Community countries for the first time, revealed that total investments for the year could reach

- 400 000 000 u.a. in the coal industry,
- 3 100 million u.a. in the iron and steel industry.

In real terms these figures are of course slightly down compared with the sum of investment outlay for 1973. All in all, the main iron and steel producers have apparently not responded as quickly as before to the incentives of the upswing prevailing on the market until recently. In the same vein, the Community coal companies have not, as yet at least, embarked on substantial new investment programmes.

All the same, 1974 was a year of implementing vital decisions taken early in the decade, especially as regards construction and expansion of coastal industrial plants.

Borrowing

2476. The ECSC has continued to make the most extensive use of the various capital markets, in contracting 13 borrowing transactions for an equivalent of 585 000 000 u.a. (as against 260 000 000 u.a. in 1973 and 230 000 000 in 1972).

¹ OJ L 357 of 31.12.1974.

² Bull. EC 12-1973, point 2484.

Financing Community Activities

The sum of 585 000 000 u.a., the highest since the ECSC became operational, was attained despite the pressures which, until recently, were colouring the capital markets and which, for most of the year, made it impossible to issue public loans.

Most of the borrowing was done in US dollars. The latest transaction which involved US \$100 000 000 has just been made in New York. The ECSC was thus the first foreign floater to contract a public loan since the reopening of the United States' capital market. The success of this operation, on a highly selective market, highlighted the creditworthiness of the ESCS as confirmed by the status of 'AAA' debtor again accorded by the specialized American agencies.

Loans

2477. Another feature of 1974 was the considerable growth in the size of ECSC financial interventions. Loans actually reached the figure of 408 000 000 u.a. against 286 000 000 in 1973 and 188 000 000 in 1972. Moreover, further loan approval decisions are being taken which will lead to major disbursals over the coming months.

The sum of industrial loans reached 352 000 000 u.a. (compared with 278 000 000 for the previous year). Of the total, the iron and steel industry loans account for 273 000 000 u.a., the coal industry loans for 67 000 000 and power station funds for 12 000 000.

Listed below are the recipients of industrial loans classified by type of investment programme:

Coal industry

Rationalization and modernization of pits and collieries:

— Gewerkschaft Auguste Victoria, Marl, Westphalia;

Financing Community Activities

- National Coal Board, London (Bettws colliery, South Wales);
- Ruhrkohle AG, à Essen (Grimberg and Haus Aden collieries; Monopol III pits; Ewald and Recklinghausen collieries; Consolidation and Pluto pits; Nordstern colliery).

Increased output of coking coal:

- National Coal Board (Horden and Blackhall collieries, Durham; Easington pit, Durham).

Increased output of coal for electricity production:

- National Coal Board, London (Littleton and Trentham collieries, Staffordshire; Royston pit, South Yorkshire).

Increased carbonization capacity:

- Eschweiler Bergwerks-Verein, Kohlscheid, Aachen (Emil Mayrisch and Westfalen collieries; Westfalen and Erin coking works)

Pithead power stations taking coal:

- STEAG Aktiengesellschaft, Essen (Voerde electric power station).

District heating installations:

- Société de climatisation Interurbaine de la Défense (CLIMADEF), Paris (Courbevoie, power/heating station).

Iron ore mines

- Eisenwerk-Gesellschaft Maximilianshütte mbH, Sulzbach-Rosenberg (Leonie mine).

Iron and steel industry

Creation of coking facilities:

- British Steel Corporation, London (Scunthorpe coking works);
- Italsider SpA, Genoa (Taranto works);
- (Société Marseillaise de Cokéfaction (MAR-COKE SA), Paris (Fos-sur-Mer works);
- Stahlwerke Peine-Salzgitter AG, Peine (Ilsede and Salzgitter works).

Financing Community Activities

- Rationalization of pig-iron and steel production:
- Acciaieria e tubificio di Brescia SpA, Brescia;
 - Fried. Krupp Hüttenwerke AG, Bochum (Rheinhausen works);
 - Mannesmann AG, Düsseldorf (Duisburg-Huckingen works);
 - Società Industrie Siderurgiche Meccaniche e Affini (SISMA SpA), Milan (Villadossola works);
 - Dalmine SpA, Milan.

Rationalization of steel-section production:

- Stahlwerke Peine-Salzgitter AG., Peine (Peine works);
- Badische Stahlwerke AG, Kehl.

Rationalization of flat-product production:

- Creusot-Loire SA, Paris (Creusot factory);
- Klöckner Werke AG, Duisburg (Brême factory);
- Rasselstein AG, Neuwied (Andernach factory).

Expansion of coastal plants:

- Italsider SpA, Genoa (Taranto works);
- Société Lorraine et Méridionale de Laminage continu (SOLMER), Paris (Fos-sur-Mer works);
- Union Sidérurgique du Nord et de l'Est de la France (USINOR), Paris (Mardyk plant).

Production of high-carbon and special steels:

- Società per l'Industria et l'Elettricità Terni SpA, Rome (Terni plant);
- SOFIFOS, Paris (Fos-sur-Mer works);
- Edelstahlwerk Witten AG, Witten.

Protection of the environment

- Badische Stahlwerke AG, Kehl;
- British Steel Corporation, London (Templeborough works);

Financing Community Activities

- Hoesch Werke AG, Dortmund (Westfalenhütte, Dortmund);
- Stahlwerke Röchling-Burbach GmbH, Völklingen, Saar (Völklingen works);
- Ferriere Acciaierie di Udine SAFAU SpA, Udine;
- Rheinstahl Hüttenwerke GmbH, Essen (Henrichshütte, Hattingen);
- Ruhrkohle AG, Essen (Walsum colliery and Prosper, Zollverein and Hansa coking works).

Occupational training:

- Hoesch Werke AG, Dortmund.

Research in special steels:

- Deutsche Edelstahlwerke AG, Krefeld.

In the coal sector, the ECSC is concerned over two problems, namely to preserve a certain Community autonomy, especially in coking coal supplies and to maintain, if not boost, supplies of Community coal to the heating power stations. In the iron and steel sector, it has helped to finance investment programmes with priority rating in relation to the overall objectives.

Certain programmes have benefited from lower interest rates, especially plans to remove bottlenecks in the carbonization industry and certain investments for protecting the environment.

Redevelopment loans rose to 51 000 000 u.a. with the following recipients:

Federal Germany

- North Rhineland/Westphalia: Flachgas AG Delog—Detag, Gelsenkirchen; Deutsche Solvay-Werke, Solingen;
- Saar: Halbergerhütte, Saarbrücken.

United Kingdom

- Scotland: British Steel Corporation, London.

Belgium

— Limburg: Gemeentekrediet van Belgie, Brussels; Bauknecht NV, Strombeek-Bever.

France

— Rhône-Alpes: Société Fasson-France Sàrl (Fasson Nederland, Leyden);

— Auvergne: Société de Panneaux de Particules du Morvan, Neuilly;

— Lorraine: Société Tubes de la Providence, Lexy; Société Viessmann, Faulquemont;

— Nord: Société 'Tubes Euro Lens', Lens.

Italy

— Trentino/Alto Adige: Ferriere Acciaierie di Udine SAFAU S.p.A., Udine.

Netherlands

— Limburg: BV Nederlandse Steenwolfabriek LAPINUS, Roemond; ORNATEX, Kerkrade.

Lastly, loans for low-cost subsidized housing amounted to 5 000 000 u.a. During the period under review, the ECSC's financial interventions were very substantial in Germany (158 000 000 u.a.), the United Kingdom (73 000 000), France (92 000 000) and Italy (73 000 000).

Owing to the interest rates which continued to rise over most of the year, the standard rate for loans, which remained at 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ % until mid-July, had to be raised successively to 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 10%. But the recent easing of pressure is now enabling the ECSC to approve longer-term company loans. The cut-rate of interest for certain industrial loans and for redevelopment loans is now three points below the normal rate.

The sum of the applications to be honoured is still very high: about 750 000 000 u.a. for industrial and nearly 100 000 000 u.a. for redevelopment loans.

The outlook

2478. The latest report on investments indicates that company investment outlay in the Community could signal a fall in 1975 although remaining at a high level. But it appears that companies, anxious to ensure their raw material supplies, are tending to increase their investments outside the Community. Certain applications for aid to finance such investments have already been filed.

The ECSC will therefore probably have to face a heavy demand for capital from the iron and steel industry, the coal industry and the power stations. The current situation of the capital market is still giving rise to problems of ample proportions. But the ECSC will endeavour to perform to the best of its ability, the duties assigned to it by the Treaty.

Euratom

2479. The Community energy policy objectives for 1985 adopted by the Council on 17 December 1974¹ aim to reduce the Community's energy dependence from 63% to at least 50%. This means substantial investments in nuclear power stations. Financing them will set problems for the companies involved.

With all this in mind, the Commission, on 18 December, proposed to the Council to utilize the financial resources provided for in Article 172, paragraph 4 of the Euratom Treaty. The Council was asked for a blanket authorization to issue loans, which will amount to 500 000 000 u.a. per year.

The loan terms are to be negotiated by the Commission in the best interest, according to market conditions and the demands imposed by the duration of the loans.

¹ Point 1202.

5. Institutional questions—European policy

Financing Community Activities

The expenditure and receipts in connection with the loans will be written into the Research and Investment section of the Community budget. Income therefrom will be redistributed in the form of loans to the electricity companies who guarantee them on normal banking conditions.

The loans will be drawn up in the same currency as the borrowing transaction and carry rates, duration terms and guarantees completely covering the loan department and will therefore in principle be no charge on the Community budget.

This financing by the ECSC will be largely based on the Commission's experience over twenty years under the ECSC Treaty. Up to now, the ECSC has issued loans of an equivalent value of 2 100 million u.a.

The Commission's financial participation according to the EAEC Treaty will not replace the customary financing in the energy sector; instead it offers additional financing scope by raising capital to which the electricity companies do not normally have access.

The Euratom loans will in principle not exceed 30% of the other loans contracted by the companies.

Community law and national law

2501. In a letter to the German Government, the Commission expressed sharp misgivings over an important judgment given by the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe on 29 May 1974, but not published until 13 August, on the relations between Community law and the basic laws set out in the Basic Law of the Federal Republic.

2502. The background to this judgment is as follows:

- in 1969, a German import-export company asked the Frankfurt-am-Main administrative tribunal to quash a decision of the Cereals and Fodder Import and Storage Office which, in accordance with the Community regulations in force, had declared a security of more than DM 17 000 forfeit, because the firm in question had only partially used the import certificate issued;
- pursuant to Article 177 of the EEC Treaty, the administrative tribunal requested the Court of Justice to give a preliminary ruling on whether this system of securities was legal under Community law;
- in a judgment of 17 December 1971,¹ the Court of Justice, after reiterating that the basic laws were an integral part of the general principles of law which it upholds, confirmed the legality of the contested Community Regulations.
- not satisfied with this reply, the administrative tribunal requested the Federal Constitutional Court, in accordance with Article 100(1) of the Basic Law, to rule on the compatibility of the Community security system with the Basic Law.

Before ruling on this question, the Federal Constitutional Court had to give a ruling on the

¹ Case 11/70 — European Court Reports XVI/1970, p. 1125; Bull. EC 2-1971, Part. 2, Chapter IV.

objection raised by the German Government, concerning firstly, the fact that the Federal Constitutional Court was not competent to decide on the validity of the standards of Community law, and secondly, the fact that the Court of Justice of the European Communities had already ruled as to the legality of the disputed Community regulations.

The Federal Constitutional Court (Second Chamber) decided by five votes to three to disregard this objection, considering that such a request was admissible as long as the process of Community integration had not reached a sufficiently advanced stage for Community law to possess a valid set of the basic laws drawn up by a Parliament, and corresponding to the set of basic laws laid down in the Basic Law. In fact, however, the Constitutional Court reached the conclusion that the system established by the Community was not contrary to any of the basic laws guaranteed by the Basic Law.

2503. Mr *Brunner* of the Commission indicated at a press conference on 20 December, that the Commission felt that this judgment challenged the fundamental principle of the uniform application of Community law in all Member States, and was an inadmissible and unjustified interference in the powers reserved exclusively for the European Court of Justice, since it was for the Court, and the Court alone, to give rulings on the validity and applicability of Community law and in so far as the Court had, for a long time, based its decisions on the protection of the basic laws. For this reason, the Commission had expressed its misgivings to the German Government in writing. Mr *Brunner* was sure that the German Government would understand since it had taken a similar line during the proceedings. Mr *Brunner* concluded his conference with a reference to the dissenting opinion of three of the eight judges constituting the Chamber which had issued the judgment, and expressed the hope that the Federal Constitutional

Court would soon have another opportunity of ruling on this question in a plenary session (First and Second Chambers together), and thus of revoking a decision which was open to considerable criticism.

Institutional development

2504. At their meeting in Paris on 9 and 10 December,¹ the Heads of Government of the Community took a number of decisions concerning the institutional structure of the Community. These refer in particular to organizing regular meetings of the Heads of Government within the Council, and in the context of political cooperation,² closer association of the European Parliament in the work of political cooperation,³ the decision-making procedures of the Council,⁴ the role of the Permanent Representatives,⁵ transfer to the Commission of executive and administrative powers,⁶ development of new common policies, granting powers to the Community Institutions to enable them to take the necessary action,⁷ extending cooperation between the Nine into new fields,⁸ election of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage,⁹ and European Union.¹⁰

Visit of Mr FitzGerald to the Commission

2505. Mr Garret *FitzGerald*, the Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs and President-in-Office of

¹ For the Communiqué issued at the end of the meeting, see point 1104 of this Bulletin.

² Point 3 of the Communiqué.

³ Point 4 of the Communiqué.

⁴ Point 6 of the Communiqué.

⁵ Point 7 of the Communiqué.

⁶ Point 8 of the Communiqué.

⁷ Point 5 of the Communiqué.

⁸ Point 9 of the Communiqué.

⁹ Point 12 of the Communiqué.

¹⁰ Point 13 of the Communiqué.

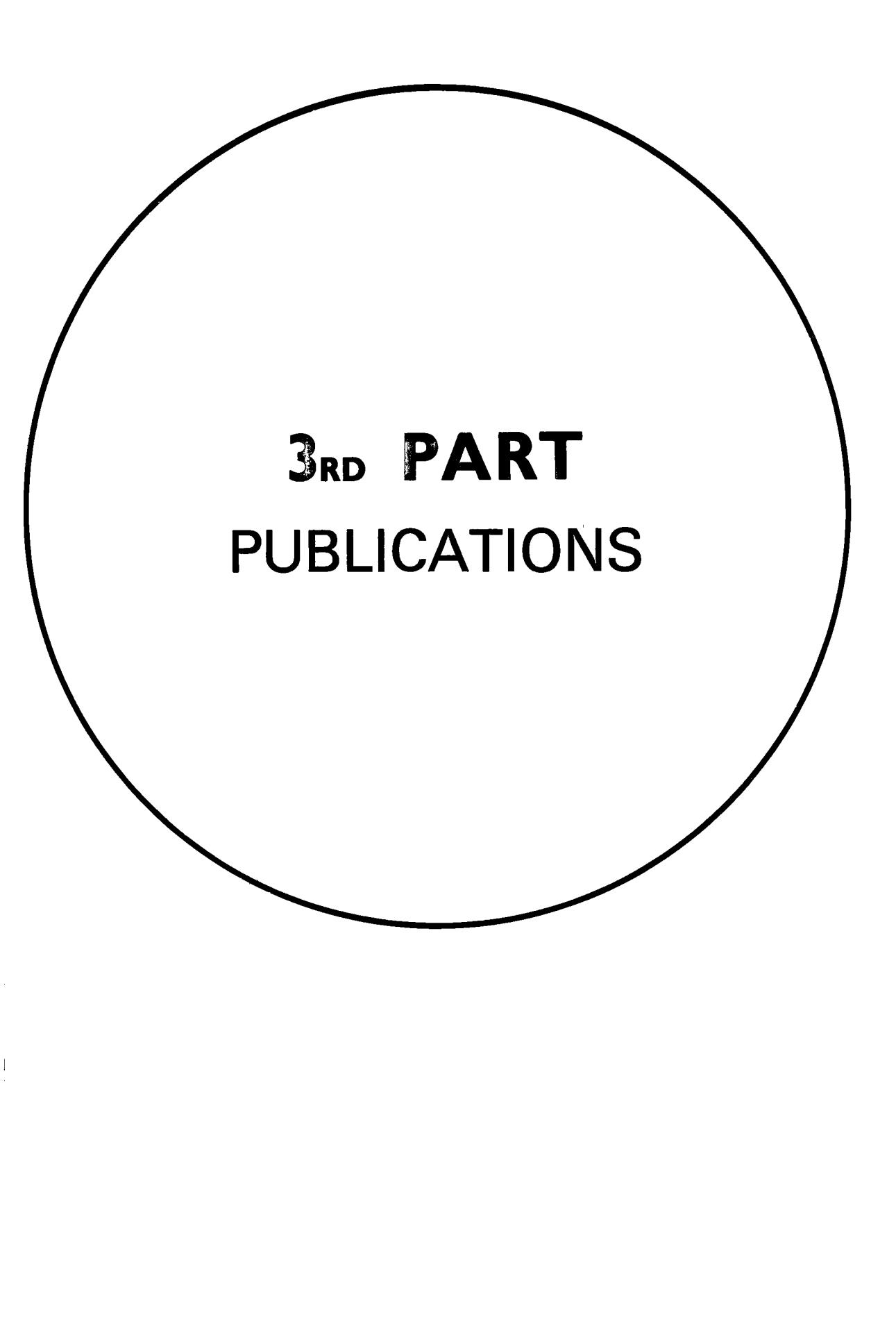
European Policy

the Council for the first half of 1975, visited the Commission on 18 December 1974. He was received by all Members and talked at length with them on organizing the Council's work during his presidency, the priorities to be set, the best procedures to be adopted and dovetailing the Council's work with that of the 'European Council' (i.e., the Council meeting at Heads of Government level). It was agreed that regular and personal contacts will be maintained between the President of the Council and Commission throughout this period. This is the first time that a future President-in-Office of the Council has discussed such matters with the Commission.

Budgetary powers of the European Parliament

2506. At its meeting of 2 and 3 December, the Council, after discussing the results of its meetings with a delegation from the European Parliament, reached agreement on the modifications to be made to the Treaties regarding Parliament's greater budgetary powers and the creation of a Court of Auditors. The Council agreed that, when the time comes, it will send Parliament the texts of the modifications and, in accordance with Articles 236(2) of the EEC Treaty and 204(2) of the EAEC Treaty, will request Parliament's Opinion on holding a Conference of the Member States' Government Representatives at which the Treaty modifications will be formally adopted.

The Council also approved the text of a draft joint statement by Parliament, the Council and the Commission bringing in a consultation procedure between the Council and Parliament. This text was forwarded to Parliament and the Commission on 19 December, requesting their agreement.



**3RD PART
PUBLICATIONS**

Published in the Official Journal

Published in the Official Journal

This tabulation covers the numbers of the Official Journal published during December 1974.

European Parliament

1974-1975 Session

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Monday, 11 November 1974
C 155, 9.12.1974*

Oral question with debate put by Mr Bordu and Mr Sandri on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group to the Commission: Congratulations extended by the President of the Commission to the military in Chile

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs

Opinion on the proposals for:

I. a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for Jerez wines, falling within subheading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Spain

II. a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for Malaga wines, falling within subheading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Spain

III. a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for wines from Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepeñas, falling within subheading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Spain

IV. a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for dried figs, falling within subheading ex 08.03 B of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Spain

V. a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for dried grapes, falling within subheading ex 08.04 B I of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Spain

Resolution on the application of Rule 35 (3) of the Rules of Procedure for the vote on the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1975

*Minutes of the proceedings of the sitting of Tuesday, 12 November 1974
C 155, 9.12.1974*

*Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Wednesday, 13 November 1974
C 155, 9.12.1974*

Question Time

Questions put to the Council of the European Communities:

1 by Mr Noë: Iraqi military action against the Kurdish people

2 by Mr Patijn: Action taken by France, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany in infringement of the EEC Treaty

Questions put to the Commission of the European Communities:

3 by Mr Normanton: Harmonization of the public medical services throughout the Community

4 by Sir Brandon Rhys Williams: Commission proposals to reduce the overall balance-of-trade deficits in the Member States

5 by Lord O'Hagan: Food prices in the EEC

6 by Mr Jahn: Free access to environmental protection technology

7 by Mr Cousté: Closer relations between the Community and Canada

9 by Mr Della Briotta: Increase in price of fertilizers in Italy

Oral question with debate put by Mr Jahn, Mr Artzinger, Mr Härschel, Mr Klepsch, Mr Mursch and Mr Springorum to the Council: Development programme for the border areas between the United Kingdom and Ireland

Oral question with debate put by Mr Jahn, Mr Artzinger, Mr Härschel, Mr Klepsch, Mr Mursch and Mr Springorum to the Commission: Development programme for the border areas between the United Kingdom and Ireland

Oral question with debate put by Mr Herbert to the Commission: Regional policy and cross-border cooperation

Oral question with debate put by the Committee on Development and Cooperation to the Commission: Emergency aid in the form of food and pharmaceutical products for Somalia

Resolution on emergency aid to the population of the Democratic Republic of Somalia affected by drought

Oral question with debate put by Mr Bourges on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats to the Council: Creation of a political secretariat

Published in the Official Journal

Oral question with debate put by Mr Amendola and Mr Ansart on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group to the Council: Extension of the EC headquarters in Brussels

Oral question with debate put by Mr Bourges on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats to the Council: Issue of a Community loan

Oral question with debate put by Sir Brandon Rhys Williams to the Commission: Community loans

Resolution on the crisis of the Economic Community

Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Thursday, 14 November 1974
C 155, 9.12.1974

Resolution on the draft amending and supplementary budget 1 of the European Communities for the financial year 1974

Resolution on the draft amendments to the estimates of income and expenditure of the Parliament for the 1975 financial year (Section I of the draft general budget of the Communities)

Resolution on the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1975

Opinion on the draft Regulation introducing procedures for implementing certain provisions of the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973

Oral question with debate put by Mr Cipolla and Mr Lemoine on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group to the Commission: Competition policy in the sugar sector

Opinion on the proposals for:

I. a Regulation on the common organization of the market in sugar

II. a Regulation on the fixing and alteration of the basic quotas for sugar

Opinion on the proposals for:

I. a Regulation on the introduction of a subsidy on imports of white and raw sugar

II. a Regulation on the financing of the subsidy on sugar imports and the granting of a subsidy on sugar produced in excess of the maximum quota

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the organization of a 1975 structure survey as part of a programme of surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings—changes in financial arrangements

Published in the Official Journal

Minutes of proceedings of the sitting of Friday, 15 November 1974
C 155, 9.12.1974

Resolution on the need for and possible features of a Community policy to promote the production of gas from coal

Opinion on the proposal for a second Directive on taxes other than turnover taxes which affect the consumption of manufactured tobacco

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation laying down basic rules for the supply of skimmed-milk powder as food aid to the countries of the Sahel and Ethiopia

Opinion on the proposal for a Directive amending Council Directive 68/297/EEC on the standardization of provisions regarding the duty-free admission of fuel contained in the fuel tanks of commercial motor vehicles

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation extending the validity of Regulation (EEC) 3576/73 on imports of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry' originating in and coming from Cyprus, and introducing subsidies for similar wine products manufactured in the Community as originally constituted and exported to Ireland and the United Kingdom

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation totally or partially suspending Common Customs Tariff duties on certain products, falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Malta

Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation on the opening of a tariff quota for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff for 1975, originating in Cyprus

Opinion on the proposal for a Decision supplementing the Community programme on research into classical swine fever and African swine fever

Resolution on the results of the first European Community/Latin America Interparliamentary Conference, held in Bogota from 15 to 18 July 1974

Written questions with Replies

Written Question 241/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Whaling
C 156, 10.12.1974

Published in the Official Journal

Written Question 248/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Effect of EEC membership on the cost of living
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 263/74 by Mr Seefeld to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Chemical treatment of foodstuffs
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 295/74 by Mr Knud Nielsen to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Publication of Council resolutions in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 307/74 by Mr Laban to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Suspension of imports of beef and veal
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 313/74 by Mr Seefeld to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Council Regulation (EEC) 1826/74 on the supply of skimmed-milk powder as food aid
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 327/74 by Mr Dalsager and Mr Laban to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Differences in soft-wheat prices between the Community Member States
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 329/74 by Mr Giraud to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Aid to the French overseas departments
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 337/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Consultation with the USA
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 353/74 by Mr Bordu to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: World sugar situation
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 354/74 by Mr Bordu to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Adjustment of agricultural prices for the 1974/75 marketing year and conditions for future price-fixing
C 156, 10.12.1974

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Written Question 355/74 by Mr Bordu to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Export levies on cereals and sugar
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 361/74 by Mr Bourges to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Aid granted to farmers in Sardinia
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 378/74 by Mr Lemoine to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Allocation of appropriations in the Guidance Section of the EAGGF
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 380/74 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Acquisition by the USSR of 50 000 metric tons of beef
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 384/74 by Mr Herbert to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Car tyres
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 386/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Reform of the common agricultural policy
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 389/74 by Mr Della Briotta and Mr Concas to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Incompetence and political insensitivity of the Commission
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 394/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Administrative costs of the Council of Ministers
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 401/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Protection of migratory birds
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 404/74 by Mr Brewis to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Oil subsidies for horticultural production
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 409/74 by Mr Laudrin to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Market prices for cheese
C 156, 10.12.1974

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Written Question 411/74 by Mr Pisoni to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Action programme for migrant workers
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 412/74 by Mr Jahn to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Protection of migratory birds
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 413/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: The Commission's attitude to Cyprus

Written Question 416/74 by Mr Lagorce to the Council of the European Communities
Subject: Community aid to disaster-hit Latin American countries
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 417/74 by Mr Seefeld to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Common transport policy
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 419/74 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Permanent Commission delegation in Ottawa
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 431/74 by Mr Cousté to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Creation of a business cooperation centre
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 439/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: European Architectural Heritage Year
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 445/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Need for economy in running the institutions of the EEC
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 464/74 by Mr Seefeld to the Commission of the European Communities
Subject: Participation by the Commission in the 4th World Congress of Economists held in Budapest in August 1974
C 156, 10.12.1974

Written Question 274/74 by Mr Kater to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Measures to offset the effects of the energy crisis on employment in the Community
C 158, 17.12.1974

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Written Question 286/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Applications to the Social Fund
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 297/74 by Mr Giraud to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Canalization of the Moselle
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 301/74 by Mr Glinne to the Commission of the EC
Subject: North Sea oil reserves and the common energy policy
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 324/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Answer to Written Question 204/73 about harmonization
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 339/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Council of the EC
Subject: Consultations with COMECON
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 372/74 by Mr Seefeld to the Council of the EC
Subject: Competence of the Council
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 393/74 by Mr Marras to the Council of the EC
Subject: Outcome of the working and study visits of representatives of the European Community to Sardinia

Written Question 398/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC
Subject: British Immigration rules
C 158, 17.12.1974

Written Question 415/74 by Mr Lagorce to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Community aid to disaster-hit Latin American countries
C 158, 17.12.1974.

Written Question 423/74 by Lord O'Hagan to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Sale of information about credit-worthiness of individuals
C 158, 17.12.1974.

Written Question 468/74 by Mr Willi Müller and Mr Kater to the Commission of the EC
Subject: Recovery of protein, carbohydrates and vitamins from industrial waste water
C 158, 17.12.1974.

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Regulations

Regulation (EEC) 3038/74 of the Commission of 2 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 71/73 on the sale of butter from public stocks
L 323, 3.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3067/74 of the Commission of 4 December 1974 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of interest subsidies on loans advanced for the retention of young cattle on the farm
L 325, 5.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3078/74 of the Commission of 5 December 1974 on the rate of interest to be used for calculating finance costs in respect of intervention measures on the internal markets in beef and veal, milk and milk products and raw tobacco
L 326, 6.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3088/74 of the Commission of 6 December 1974 laying down detailed rules for the distillation of wine of quality lower than table wine and originating in certain areas affected by adverse weather conditions
L 327, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3089/74 of the Commission of 6 December 1974 deferring the date of taking-over of the beef placed on sale by the intervention agencies under Regulations (EEC) 2073/74 and (EEC) 2320/74
L 327, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3092/74 of the Commission of 6 December 1974 re-establishing the levying of customs duties on portland cement, ciment fondu, slag cement, supersulphate cement and similar hydraulic cements, whether or not coloured in the form of clinker, falling within heading 25.23, originating in developing countries to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3501/73 of 18 December 1973 apply
L 327, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3093/74 of the Commission of 6 December 1974 re-establishing the levying of customs duties on woven fabrics of silk or of waste silk other than noil, falling within heading 50.09, originating in India, to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3505/73 of 18 December 1973 apply
L 327, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3042/74 of the Council of 18 November 1974 on the tariff treatment of certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft
L 328, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3043/74 of the Council of 18 November 1974 on the tariff treatment applicable within the Community as originally constituted to certain products imported from the new Member States for use in construction, maintenance and repair of certain aircraft
L 328, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3044/74 of the Council of 18 November 1974 on the temporary suspension of the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty for mechanically propelled aircraft of an unladen weight exceeding 15 000 kg, falling within subheading ex 88.02 B II c)
L 328, 7.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3045/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain cotton textiles and like products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3046/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening preferential tariffs for certain cotton textile and like products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3047/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain textile products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3048/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening preferential tariffs for certain textile products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3049/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3050/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening preferential tariffs for certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3051/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 on the opening of tariff preferences in the form of a partial suspension of customs duties for jute manufactures originating in India, Thailand and Bangladesh and for coir manufactures originating in India and Sri Lanka
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3052/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3053/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening and providing for the administration of preferential Community tariff ceilings for certain products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3054/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening preferential tariffs for certain products originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3055/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 establishing in respect of certain products falling within Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common Customs Tariff a scheme of generalized preferences in favour of developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3056/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for cocca butter and a tariff quota for soluble coffee originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3057/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for preserved pineapples, other than in slices or spirals, originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3058/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for raw or unmanufactured flue-cured Virginia type tobacco originating in developing countries
L 329, 9.12.1974

Regulation (Euratom) 3096/74 of the Council of 3 December 1974 amending the conditions governing remuneration and social security for the establishment staff of the Joint Research Centre employed in Italy
L 330, 10.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3103/74 of the Commission of 10 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 1579/74 as regards the advance fixing of the import levy on products processed from cereals or from rice
L 331, 11.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3104/74 of the Commission of 10 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 2518/74 on the measures to be taken following the all-round increase with effect from 7 October 1974 of agricultural prices
L 331, 11.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3113/74 of the Council of 9 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 1132/74 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sectors
L 332, 12.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3120/74 of the Commission of 11 December 1974 re-establishing the levying of customs duties on terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, of cotton, falling within heading 55.08, originating in developing countries to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3503/73 of 18 December 1973 apply
L 332, 12.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3121/74 of the Commission of 11 December 1974 re-establishing the levying of customs duties on gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberized, of cotton, falling within heading 60.02, originating in developing countries to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3503/73 of 18 December 1974 apply
L 332, 12.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3122/74 of the Commission of 11 December 1974, re-establishing the levying of customs duties on women's, girls' and infants' under garments, of cotton fabric, falling within heading ex 61.04, originating in India, to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3503/73 of 18 December 1973 apply
L 332, 12.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3123/74 of the Commission of 11 December 1974 re-establishing the levying of customs duties on woodscrews falling within subheading ex 73.32 B II, originating in developing countries to which the preferential tariff arrangements set out in Council Regulation (EEC) 3501/73 of 18 December 1973 apply
L 332, 12.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3124/74 of the Commission of 11 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC)

1770/72 on detailed rules of application relating to the additional conditions with which imported wines for direct human consumption have to comply
L 332, 12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3135/74 of the Commission of 12 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 193/70 establishing the procedure for giving effect to measures to promote the marketing of oranges and mandarins in the Community
L 333, 13.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3136/74 of the Commission of 12 December 1974 fixing for the 1974/75 marketing year the minimum purchase price for oranges supplied for processing and the amount of financial compensation payable in respect of the processing of such oranges
L 333, 13.12.1974

Regulation (Euratom) 3137/74 of the Commission of 12 December 1974 amending Commission Regulation 17/66/Euratom of 29 November 1966 exempting the transfer of small quantities of ores, source materials and special fissile materials from the rules of the chapter on supplies
L 333, 13.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3141/74 of the Council of 9 December 1974 fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A) and (C) to Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 for the 1975 fishing year
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3142/74 of the Council of 9 December 1974 fixing the guide prices for fishery products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) 2142/70 for the 1975 fishing year
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3143/74 of the Council of 9 December 1974 fixing the Community producer price for tunny intended for the canning industry for the 1975 fishing year
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3144/74 of the Council of 9 December 1974 fixing intervention prices for fresh or chilled sardines and anchovies for the 1975 fishing year
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3145/75 of the Council of 9 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 226/73 as regards the price to be observed at the cif stage for imports of New Zealand butter and cheese into the United Kingdom
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3146/74 of the Council of 10 December 1974 fixing the activating prices for table wines for the period from 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3154/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 derogating as regards the final individual invitation to tender for 1974 from Regulation (EEC) 1259/72 on the disposal of butter at a reduced price to certain Community processing undertakings
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3157/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 fixing the reference prices for wines for the period 16 December 1974 to 15 December 1975
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3158/74 of the Commission of 12 December 1974 on long-term private storage aid for certain table wine
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3162/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 laying down detailed rules for the imposition in the event of sugar supply difficulties of an export charge on certain cereal, rice, milk, fruit and vegetable-based products containing added sugar
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3163/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 introducing an export charge on certain agricultural products containing added sugar
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3164/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 supplementing Regulation (EEC) 389/74 and introducing a special export levy on certain syrups
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3165/74 of the Commission of 13 December 1974 introducing an export charge on certain milk products containing sugar
L 334, 14.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3106/74 of the Commission of 5 December 1974 on the definition of the concept of originating products for purposes of the application of tariff preferences granted by the European Economic Community in respect of certain products from developing countries
L 336, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3107/74 of the Commission of 5 December 1974 derogating in respect of the coun-

tries of the Association of South East Asian Nations from Articles 1, 6 and 13 of Commission Regulation (EEC) 3106/74 of 5 December 1974 on the definition of the concept of originating products for purposes of the application of tariff preferences granted by the European Economic Community in respect of certain products from developing countries
L 336, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3108/74 of the Commission of 5 December 1974 derogating in respect of the countries of the Central American Common Market from Articles 1, 6 and 13 of Commission Regulation (EEC) 3106/74 of 5 December 1974 on the definition of the concept of originating products for purposes of the application of tariff preferences granted by the European Economic Community in respect of certain products from developing countries
L 336, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3109/74 of the Commission of 5 December 1974 derogating in respect of the countries which have signed the Cartagena Agreement (Andean Group) from Articles 1, 6 and 13 of Regulation (EEC) 3106/74 of 5 December 1974 on the definition of the concept of originating products for purposes of the application of tariff preferences granted by the European Economic Community in respect of certain products from developing countries
L 336, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3110/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for certain hand-woven fabrics, pile and chenille, falling within heading ex 50.09, ex 50.10, ex 55.07, ex 55.09 and ex 58.04 of the Common Customs Tariff
L 337, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3111/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 implementing Decisions 6/74 and 7/74 of the joint committee set up under the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the application of the rules on Community transit

(i) Decision 6/74 of the Joint Committee EEC—Austria (Community transit) of 6 November 1974 amending Appendix II A to the Agreement

(ii) Decision 7/74 of the Joint Committee EEC—Austria (Community transit) of 6 November 1974 amending Appendix VII to the Agreement
L 337, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3112/74 of the Council of 2 December 1974 implementing Decisions 2/74 and

3/74 of the joint committee set up under the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation on the application of the rules on Community transit

(i) Decision 2/74 of the Joint Committee EEC—Switzerland (Community transit) of 6 November 1974 amending Appendix II A to the Agreement

(ii) Decision 3/74 of the Joint Committee EEC—Switzerland (Community transit) of 6 November 1974 amending Appendix VII to the Agreement
L 337, 16.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3166/74 of the Council of 10 December 1974 amending Annex IV to Regulation (EEC) 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine
L 338, 17.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3167/74 of the Council of 10 December 1974 altering the intervention price for butter in respect of Denmark
L 338, 17.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3170/74 of the Commission of 16 December 1974 laying down detailed rules for the application of the special export levy on sugar beet and sugar cane
L 339, 18.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3174/74 of the Council of 11 December 1974 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff
L 339, 18.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3175/74 of the Council of 11 December 1974 increasing the size of the Community tariff quota for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff
L 339, 18.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3180/74 of the Commission of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 221/72 as regards the maximum tolerance for quantity losses occurring during the storage of beef held in intervention
L 339, 18.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3181/74 of the Commission of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 470/73 laying down general rules for the application of the compensatory amounts applicable to colza and rape seed produced in the new Member States
L 339, 18.12.1974

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Regulation (EEC) 3182/74 of the Commission of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 2300/73 on differential amounts for colza and rape seed
L 339, 18.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3185/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 introducing an export charge in certain goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69
L 340, 19.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3188/74 of the Commission of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 2622/74 as regards the method of calculation of certain transport costs in respect of beef offered for intervention
L 340, 19.12.1974

Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) 3191/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 adjusting the remuneration and pensions of the officials and other servants of the European Economic Communities and the weightings applied thereto
L 341, 20.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3192/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
L 341, 20.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3193/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 fixing for the 1974/75 sugar marketing year the derived intervention price for white sugar, the intervention price for raw beet sugar and the minimum prices for beet in Ireland and the United Kingdom
L 341, 20.12.74

Regulation (EEC) 3206/74 of the Commission of 18 December 1974 laying down detailed rules for the application of a charge on the exportation of certain goods covered by Regulation (EEC) 1059/69
L 341, 20.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3207/74 of the Commission of 19 December 1974 amending Regulations (EEC) 1370/74 and (EEC) 1909/74 as regards declarations of areas of fodder for dehydration
L 341, 20.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3211/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 fixing for 1975 the Community quantitative export quota for certain types of copper ash and residues and for certain types of copper, aluminium and lead waste and scrap
L 342, 21.12.1974

Published in the Official Journal

Regulation (EEC) 3212/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 974/71 on certain measures of conjunctural policy to be taken in agriculture following the temporary widening of the margins of fluctuation for the currencies of certain Member States
L 342, 21.12.74

Regulation (EEC) 3213/74 of the Council of 17 December 1974 amending Regulation (EEC) 3470/73 establishing Community supervision of imports of certain products originating in Finland
L 342, 21.12.1974

Regulation (EEC) 3224/74 of the Commission of 20 December 1974 defining the event in which the subsidy in respect of olive oil becomes due and payable
L 342, 21.12.1974

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(i) Decision 3/74 of the Joint Committee of 31 October 1974 supplementing and modifying Lists A and B annexed to Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation

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(i) Decision 3/74 of the Joint Committee of 31 October 1974 supplementing and modifying Lists A and B annexed to Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation

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(i) Decision 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation
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(i) Decision 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of

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(i) Decision 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation
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(i) Decision 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation
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(i) Decision 4/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation
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(i) Decision 11/74 of the Joint Committee of 2 December 1974 suspending the application of Article 23(1) of Protocol 3 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation
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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of Bangladesh on trade in jute products
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74/591/Euratom:

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74/594/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and Mauritius on the supply of flour of common wheat as food aid

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74/596/ECSC:

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74/597/ECSC:

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74/605/EEC, Euratom, ECSC:

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74/607/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Peru on the supply of butteroil as food aid

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74/608/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Peru on the supply of common wheat as food aid

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74/609/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Arab Republic of Yemen on the supply of common wheat as food aid

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74/610/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Lebanon on the supply of common wheat as food aid

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74/611/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Arab Republic of Syria on the supply of flour of common wheat as food aid

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74/638/EEC:

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74/620/EEC:

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(i) Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of the Philippines on the supply of flour of common wheat as food aid

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74/642/Euratom:

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74/645/EEC:

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74/647/EEC:

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74/649/EEC:

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74/650/EEC:

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74/613/ECSC:

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74/614/ECSC:

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L 335, 14.12.1974

74/615/ECSC:

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74/616/ECSC:

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74/618/ECSC:

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