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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(73) 635 final

Brussels, 27 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

on measures to be taken in application of point 16
of the Hague Communiqué

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

setting up of a Committee for Youth Questions

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

setting up of a Youth Advisory Committee

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council)

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INTRODUCTION

In the present memorandum to the Council, and with reference to its previous memorandum of 14 April 1970, the Commission presents its views and proposals on concrete measures to be taken in application of point 16 of the Hague Communiqué.

In doing this, the Commission has taken account of the exchanges of views within the organs of the Council and has extracted from the report of the ad hoc Working Party of senior officials responsible for youth questions certain points that could be examined by the Council.

It has become clear to the various bodies involved that the implementation of the declaration of intent embodied in point 16 of the Hague Communiqué involves a number of highly complex problems.

The report of the ad hoc Working Party of senior officials, however, has shown that there is some agreement on the ways in which the young generation can be involved in the development of the Community:

- the prior condition of better and more thorough information,
- organization of the consultation of youth and the participation of young people in certain actions.

The ad hoc Working Party furthermore believes that a Committee for Youth questions should be set up as a deliberating, promoting and orienting body, consisting of officials of the Member States and representatives of the Commission.

A. Definition of the term "youth"

The Commission considers that this term comprises all young people belonging to various social groups: school children, university students and young members of the working population.

However, in view of the objective to be achieved, i.e. to improve information for these young people on Community problems and establish adequate forms of consultation and participation, it should be pointed out that the age group between 15 and 25, when young people are

continuing their education at school or University or start vocational training and take an active part in professional, social, civil or even family life, is particularly concerned.

Although this remark should not be construed to imply that the Community has no concern for the youngest sections of the population, it should be taken into consideration in formulating objectives and methods of action and in examining problems arising from youth representation. In seeking solutions for these problems, the Communities do not have to start from scratch; they can base their activities on youth policies pursued by most Member States, which have led to various forms of representative bodies of the young, with advisory status.

B. Youth information

In agreement with the Permanent Representatives Committee and the ad hoc Working Party of senior officials responsible for youth questions, the Commission believes that more information should be provided for the young and that the forms which this information could take should be re-examined.

The Commission believes, however, that this provision of information is subject, in very wide terms, to the following conditions:

- The participation of each of the Member States in this field should be intensified. The organization of this participation is one of the reasons why a Committee for Youth Questions should be set up;
- Youth representatives should be consulted on the most adequate forms and methods for this information; organization of this consultation is one of the considerations justifying the creation of a Youth Advisory Committee.

C. Committee for Youth Questions

a) Motivation

The Commission confirms its belief that a committee should be set up consisting of civil servants responsible for youth questions. The Commission regards the creation of such a committee as a first initiative to be taken in application of point 16 of the Hague

Communiqué. The Commission's motives for this opinion are set out in the following considerations:

- In all of the Member States there exist government agencies that formulate and assume the responsibilities for youth policy.
- The Community institutions will have to call on the Council and the regular support of the above government bodies in order to study the social and economic problems facing the young in the conditions actually existing in their respective countries.
- The solution of the difficult problems involved in organizing youth representation within an Advisory Committee requires the advice and support of those government agencies which have had to solve similar problems in their own country.

b) Creation of the Committee

The Commission proposes that the Committee for Youth Questions be created by Council decision. It considers that this is the most adequate procedure in view of the tasks to be assumed by the Committee, which would include the coordination between the Member States on one hand, and between the Member States and the Commission on the other.

In view of the above, the Commission proposes that the Committee should operate with both the Council and the Commission, the latter providing the secretariat.

c) Composition of the Committee

Taking up the suggestions formulated by the ad hoc Working Party, the Commission proposes that the Committee should consist of the representatives of the Member States' Governments and of the Commission responsible for youth affairs.

The Member States and the Commission each appoint two members

to the Committee and may also designate two deputies. The term of office of the Committee members and deputies will be two years and will be renewable. The Committee will be able to obtain the assistance of experts where it has to deal with special fields in which action appears necessary.

d) Tasks of the Committee

The Committee's task will be to concert, in a general manner, measures involving the interests of young people to be taken at Community and at national levels as between the Member States, on the one hand, and Member States and the Commission on the other.

The Committee would act as a forum for the discussion of ideas, encourage action, formulate guidelines and examine in the initial stage the initiatives already taken before formulating new measures.

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A draft for a Council decision on the composition and the tasks of the Committee is annexed to this memorandum.

The Commission recommends that the Council adopt this decision.

D. Procedure for the involvement of the young: creation of a Youth Advisory Committee

a) Motivation

The Commission proposes that a Youth Advisory Committee be set up.

On examining the situations existing in most Member States, the Commission has found that the young are represented and consulted in these States within "Councils" or "Committees" consisting of representatives of youth organizations recognized by the governments.

In Member States where such consultation has not yet been institutionalized, the authorities maintain regular contacts with youth organizations. The Commission itself has also consulted youth organizations several times with regard to Community problems.

The Commission considers that consultation of the Community's youth through a representative Committee, which can formulate its views in complete independence, will be an important step towards involving young people in building the Community.

b) Creation of the Advisory Committee

In the opinion of the Commission, the Advisory Committee should be created by Council decision.

The secretariat should be a permanent body designated by the Committee members.

All operating expenses of the Committee and its secretariat should be financed from funds earmarked for this purpose in the Community's budget.

c) Composition of the Advisory Committee

In view of the existence in all Member States of national youth Councils or Committees or representative youth organizations, it will be relatively easy to extrapolate this system to Community level. With the aid of the Member States, the existing national Youth Councils or Committees or national youth organizations could delegate

members to the Advisory Committee at Community level.

The Commission therefore proposes that the Member States be represented on the Committee as follows:

Belgium	4
Denmark	3
France	9
Federal Republic of Germany	9
Republic of Ireland	3
Italy	9
Luxembourg	2
Netherlands	4
United Kingdom	9
	52

The Commission furthermore proposes that the following procedure be adopted for nominating members:

- The Member States present to the Council a list of representatives, chosen from among national youth organizations, containing twice as many names as there are seats for the country in question;
- In order to promote the creation of youth organizations at Community level, account shall be taken not only of the extent to which the persons proposed are representative of their country's youth but also of their membership of international youth organizations at Community level;
- The Council shall appoint the members of the Committee after having heard the opinion of the Commission.

d) Powers of the Advisory Committee

The Committee will be called upon to submit opinions not only on measures provided for in the Treaties but also on other initiatives that could involve the young in the work of the Communities. The Committee will be consulted on the initiative of the Commission or the Council on subjects covered by the Treaty and on new initiatives to be taken to associate the younger generation with the work of the Communities.

The Commission considers that two spheres of competence should be distinguished :

- As regards the matters covered by the Treaties, the Youth Advisory Committee may be asked to present opinions on questions concerning youth employment and unemployment, mobility of young people, operations of the Social Fund, vocational training and guidance, problems of special interest to young farmers, freedom of establishment and the mutual recognition of diplomas, protection of youth at work, the promotion of the social and cultural interests of young people, exchanges of young workers and the participation of young people in certain development aid programmes. This enumeration is not exhaustive;
- As regards new initiatives, the Committee may be asked to present its opinion with a view to promoting new measures to involve the young in the work of the Community (educational measures, exchange programmes, etc.) or to improve living conditions and training facilities for the young in 11 Member States.

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A draft for a Council decision on the composition and the tasks of the Advisory Committee is annexed to this memorandum.

The Commission recommends that the Council adopt this decision.

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

concerning the creation of a Committee for Youth Questions

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Commission's recommendation,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the economic and social Committee,

Whereas the creative activities and the actions conducive to European growth will be assured of a greater future if the younger generation is closely associated with them, as was recognized by the Heads of State or Government met at The Hague on 1st and 2nd December 1969;
Whereas, in order to facilitate the formulation of the procedure for the association of the young in the Community's work and to make its achievement possible, a procedure should be provided instituting permanent coordination of the activities of the Member States and of the Commission and within a Committee for youth questions,

D E C I D E S :

Article 1

A Standing Committee for Youth Questions (hereinafter called the "Committee") is hereby established.

Article 2

The task of the Committee shall be to ensure permanent coordination and consultation between the Member States and the Commission to study measures to be taken :

- to inform the younger generation in the Member States more thoroughly of the objectives and implementation of the Treaties establishing the European Communities;
- to associate the young with the study and achievement of certain actions in application of the said Treaties;
- to promote new initiatives associating the young in the work of the Community.

Article 3

1. The Member States and the Commission shall each appoint two members to the Committee.

They can also designate two deputy members.

The members of the Committee and the deputies appointed by the Member States shall be chosen from among the senior officials responsible for youth questions in their own country.

The term of office of the members of the committee and the deputies shall be two years. It shall be renewable.

2. The Committee shall elect its bureau for a two-year term of office.
3. The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure and submit them for approval to the Council, which shall give a valid decision on them after hearing the opinion of the Commission.
4. The secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the services of the Commission, which shall be responsible for preparing the Committee's work and for maintaining the necessary contacts with existing committees or working parties.

Article 4

In pursuing its tasks as laid down in Article 2, the Committee shall, at the request of the Council or the Commission, at its own initiative, compile reports and issue opinions.

The Committee shall address its reports and opinions to the Council and the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

concerning the creation of a Youth Advisory Committee

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Commission's recommendation,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the creative activities and the actions conducive to European growth will be assured of a greater future if the younger generation is closely associated with them, as was recognized by the Heads of State or Government met at the Hague on 1st and 2nd December 1969;

Whereas, in order to facilitate the formulation of the details of such association and to enable its achievement, a procedure should be provided for establishing close cooperation between the Community and representatives of youth organizations within a Committee with advisory status and able to express its opinions in complete independence,

D E C I D E S :

Article 1

A Youth Advisory Committee (hereinafter called the "Committee") is hereby established.

Article 2

The Committee shall be consulted on the initiative of the Commission or the Council on measures provided for by the Treaties and on new initiatives to associate young people in the work of the Community.

- As regards measures provided for by the Treaties, the Committee may be asked for opinions, in particular in the following spheres:
questions concerning youth employment and unemployment, mobility of young people, operations of the Social Fund, vocational training and guidance, problems of special interest to young farmers,

freedom of establishment and the mutual recognition of diplomas, the protection of young people at work, their social and cultural advancement, exchanges of young workers and the participation of young people in certain development aid programmes.

- As regards new initiatives, the Committee may be asked to give opinions with a view to promoting fresh forms of action to involve the young in the work of the Community (educational measures, exchange programmes, etc.) or to improve their living conditions and training facilities in all the Member States.

Article 3

1. The Council shall appoint the members to the Committee after having received the Commission's opinion. To this end, the Member States shall present to the Council a list of representatives chosen from among national youth organizations containing twice as many names as there are seats for the country in question. The 52 seats are distributed as follows :

Belgium	4
Denmark	3
France	9
Federal Republic of Germany	9
Republic of Ireland	3
Italy	9
Luxembourg	2
Netherlands	4
United Kingdom	<u>9</u>

52

In order to promote the creation of youth organizations at Community level, account shall be taken not only of the question whether the persons proposed are representative of their country's youth but also of their membership of international youth organizations at Community level.

2. The term of office of the members of the Committee shall be two years. It shall be renewable.
3. The Committee shall elect its bureau for a two-year period.
4. The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure and submit these for approval to the Council which shall give a valid decision after having heard the opinion of the Commission.
5. The secretariat of the Committee shall be a permanent body designated by the members of the Committee. All operational expenses of the Committee and its secretariat shall be financed from an amount earmarked for this purpose in the Community's budget.

Article 4

In pursuing its tasks as defined in Article 2, the Committee shall compile reports and issue opinions at the request of the Council or the Commission. The Committee shall address its reports and opinions to the Council and the Commission.

- I. Assessment of the budgetary implications of the proposal for a decision concerning the creation by the Council of a Committee for Youth Questions.

Only expenditure arising from the participation of eighteen government experts who are members of the Committee in four two-day meetings per year shall be financed from the Community budget.

Allowances and travel expenses shall be paid from the specific credit managed by the Commission (estimated at $\pm$ Bfrs. 500.000).

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- II. Assessment of the budgetary implications of the proposal for a decision concerning the creation by the Council of a Youth Advisory Committee and its permanent secretariat, under the terms of the proposal for a decision (of Article 3 (5):
"The operating expenses of the Committee and its secretariat shall be financed from an amount earmarked for this purpose from the Community's budget").

A) Permanent secretariat: the staff of the secretariat shall be designated by the members of the Committee. It should at least include:

- 1 Secretary-General, whose salary and related charges will be at the level of an official of the A 3 category ;
- 1 Assistant (at B 1 level) ;
- 2 Secretaries (at C 1 and C 3 level).

The salaries and related charges are

estimated at Bfrs. 2.300 000
(46.000 U.C.)
Apart from salaries, a small amount should be
set aside for costs incurred by this staff
while on mission $\pm$ Bfrs. 250.000
(4.000 U.C.)

Operating expenditure of the secretariat:

The assessment of this expenditure would have to be based on different criteria depending on :

- a) whether the secretariat is accommodated by the Council, with which it will be set up;
- b) or whether the secretariat would need to have its own accommodation.

In the second case, the following expenditure items would need to be taken into account:

Rent and related charges (heating, electricity, maintenance, telephone subscription, etc.)	±	1.600.000 Bfrs.
Interpreters' fees for Committee Meetings	±	400.000 Bfrs.
Mail: production of duplication of documents and their distribution	±	150.000 Bfrs.
Documentation	±	100.000 Bfrs.
		2.250.000 Bfrs.
		(45.000 U.C.)

B) Expenditure for Committee meetings, based on the following data

Four three-day meetings per year:

for 52 Committee members (Belgium 4, Denmark 3, France 9, Federal Republic of Germany 9, Republic of Ireland 3, Italy 9, Luxemburg 2, Netherlands 4, United Kingdom 9).

Overall estimate: Bfrs. 1.869.000 rounded off to 1.900.000 Bfrs.
(38.000 U.C.)

Recapitulation II

<u>Secretariat:</u>	A) Staff	2.300.000 Bfrs. (46.000 U.C.)
	Funds for mission expenditure	± 200.000 Bfrs. (4.000 U.C.)
	B) Operational expenditure	2.250.000 Bfrs. (45.000 U.C.)
Committee meetings:		1.900.000 Bfrs. (38.000 U.C.)

- For each German and French delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance Bfrs. 1.250 + Bfrs. 1.675 2.925

per diem allowance 1.250 x 3 3.750

6.675

for 4 meetings 6.675 x 4 26.700

for 9 German and 9 French delegates

18 x 26.700Bfrs. 480.600

(9.612 U.C.)

- For each Italian delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance 1.250 + 10.300 11.550

per diem allowance 1.250 x 3 3.750

15.300

for 4 meetings 15.300 x 4 61.200

for 9 delegates

9 x 61.200Bfrs. 550.800

(11.016 U.C.)

- For each Dutch delegate and for each meeting :

travel allowance 1.250 + 900 2.150

per diem allowance 1.250 x 3 3.750

5.900

for 4 meetings 5.900 x 4 23.600

for 4 delegates 23.600 x 4Bfrs. 94.400

(1.888 U.C.)

- For each Luxemburg delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance 1.250 + 1.050 2.300

per diem allowance 1.250 x 3 3.750

6.050

for 4 meetings 6 050 x 4 24.200

for 2 delegates 24.200 x 2Bfrs. 48.400

(968 U.C.)

- For each United Kingdom delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance Bfrs. 1.250 + Bfrs. 4.200	5.450
per diem allowance 1.250 x 3	<u>3.750</u>
	9.200
for 4 meetings 9.200 x 4	36.800
for 9 delegates	
9 x 36.800	Bfrs. 331.200

(6.624 U.C.)

- For each Irish delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance 1.250 + Bfrs. 7.500	8.750
per diem allowance 1.250 x 3	<u>3.750</u>
	12.500
for 4 meetings 12.500 x 4	50.000
for 3 delegates	
3 x 50.000	Bfrs. 150.000

(3.000 U.C.)

- For each Danish delegate and for each meeting:

travel allowance Bfrs. 1.250 + 7.800	9.050
per diem allowance 1.250 x 3	<u>3.750</u>
	12.800
for 4 meetings 12.800 x 4	51.200
for 3 delegates	
3 x 51.200	Bfrs. 153.600

(3.072 U.C.)

- For each Belgian delegate and for each meeting:

per diem allowance 1.250 x 3	3.750
for 4 meetings 3.750 x 4	15.000
for 4 delegates	
4 x 15.000	Bfrs. 60.000

(1.200 U.C.)

Total Bfrs. 1.869.000

(37.380 U.C.)