

3. The Committee also calls on the Council to adopt this proposed Regulation as soon as possible and hopes that all the conditions will be fulfilled

which will enable the planned Community aid to be effectively implemented.

Done at Brussels, 25 October 1979.

*The Chairman
of the Economic and Social Committee*

R. VANNI

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats

The text referred to the Committee has been published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* No C 210 of 22 August 1979, page 12.

A. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE OPINION

On 7 August 1979 the Council referred the abovementioned proposal to the Economic and Social Committee in accordance with Article 198 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

B. OPINION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Committee prepared its opinion on the above matter at its 172nd plenary session held in Brussels on 24 and 25 October 1979.

The full text of the opinion is as follows:

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 198 thereof,

Having regard to the request made by the Council of the European Communities on 7 August 1979 for an opinion,

Having regard to the decision taken by its chairman on 4 September 1979 instructing the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs to prepare the Committee's work on the matter,

Having regard to the opinion issued by the Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs at its meeting on 2 October 1979,

Having regard to the oral report submitted by the rapporteur, Mrs Clark,

Having regard to the discussions at its 172nd plenary session held on 24 and 25 October 1979 (meeting of 24 October 1979),

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING OPINION

unanimously:

The Committee welcomes the Community's signing of the Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats.

It feels that approving the Convention represents a great step forward in ensuring that wild flora and fauna are conserved in their natural habitats, especially those species and habitats whose conservation

requires the cooperation of several States. This is particularly important in the case of endangered and vulnerable species.

In view of the fact, however, that the Convention has already been signed at the time of expressing this opinion and changes are self-evidently precluded at this stage, the Committee has a number of preoccupations.

It seems that a number of Articles of this Convention need further clarification, in particular Articles 8 and 9 and their related Annex 4.

In addition, an important consideration is the protection of eco-systems, i.e. the protection of the inter-related balance between flora and fauna and their surroundings.

For these reasons, the Committee considers a study in depth should be undertaken to permit a close examination and thereby a more precise interpretation of the Convention. This could, at a later stage, be the basis of a revision of the Convention.

Done at Brussels, 25 October 1979.

*The Chairman
of the Economic and Social Committee*

R. VANNI

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States

The text referred to the Committee has been published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* No C 193 of 31 July 1979.

A. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE OPINION

On 30 July 1979 the Council referred the abovementioned proposal to the Economic and Social Committee in accordance with Article 75 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

B. OPINION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Committee prepared its opinion on the above matter at its 172nd plenary session held in Brussels on 24 and 25 October 1979.

The full text of the opinion is as follows:

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 75 thereof,

Having regard to the request made by the Council of the European Communities on 30 July 1979 for an opinion,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1018/68 of 19 July 1968⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3062/78 of 19 December 1978⁽²⁾,

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 175, 23. 7. 1968, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 366, 28. 12. 1978, p. 5.