

hand-knitting yarns are frequently enclosed only by a label and such quantities are covered by the draft Directive; the wording should be amended accordingly.

(b) Hand-knitting yarns can be made of other materials, such as silk and linen, in addition to the types of fibres listed in point 11. This point should be amplified accordingly.

Done at Brussels, 14 April 1987.

The Chairman
of the Economic and Social Committee
Alfons MARGOT

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision concerning the extension of the period of validity of Council Decision 85/214/EEC of 26 March 1985 and Council Decision 86/23/EEC of 4 February 1986

(87/C 150/03)

On 25 February 1987 the Council decided to consult the Economic and Social Committee under Article 198 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community on the abovementioned proposal.

The Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, which was responsible for preparing the Committee's work on the subject, adopted its opinion on 4 March 1987 in the light of the report by Mr Nierhaus.

At its 245th plenary session (meeting of 14 April 1987) the Economic and Social Committee adopted the following opinion unanimously:

1. Introduction

In March 1985 the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, decided to implement a 'long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations' (CADDIA). Shortly thereafter the Council incorporated the CD project (coordinated development of computerized administrative procedures) in the CADDIA programme. Since at that time there was as yet no agreed comprehensive development programme, the Council decided on a two-year initial phase for CADDIA, which will end on 2 April 1987.

As there is still a need for extensive reorganization and coordination of the data acquisition, processing and evaluation systems in the Member States and the tasks and objectives laid down in the CADDIA programme have possibly become even more important, the CADDIA Steering Committee set up by the Council has proposed that the initial phase of CADDIA be extended until the end of 1992.

2. General comments

2.1. The Committee would observe that it expressly endorsed the CADDIA programme and its objectives in its opinion of 4 July 1984 ⁽¹⁾.

2.2. The Committee welcomes the Commission's new proposal which seeks to extend the initial phase of CADDIA until the end of 1992.

2.3. It would also stress the importance that the CADDIA programme has acquired as a major element in the process of completing the Community's internal market by 1992.

3. Specific comments

3.1. The Committee expresses its recognition of the work done so far by the Steering Committee in conjunction with

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 248, 17. 9. 1984, p. 17.

the implementation of the CADDIA programme, but would point out that the steps needed to ensure that the systems in the Member States are largely compatible with CADDIA measures and objectives still have high priority among the Steering Committee's tasks.

3.2. Given the complexity of the problems (which is due not just to the information technology aspect but also to the variety of structures in the agricultural, customs and statistical spheres and to the differences in the levels of development of data acquisition and processing in the Member States), the Committee has its doubts as to whether the proposed extension of CADDIA's time frame will be sufficient.

3.3. The manifold problems of detail connected with the implementation of CADDIA call for the continued very close cooperation of the administrations of the Member States and a gradual approach to solving the problems in accordance with an agreed list of priorities would seem to be appropriate and realistic.

3.4. The personnel concerned must have adequate skills, given the complexity of the problems involved in carrying out the tasks provided for in the CADDIA programme, which may even be further increased if the scope of CADDIA is extended. The Committee therefore urges the Commission to work out ideas in good time and take measures to ensure that the personnel concerned can acquire the necessary knowledge.

3.5. The Committee would point out that there is an urgent need to draw a demarcation line between the activities provided for in the CADDIA programme and other programmes that have been initiated or are planned in the area of data processing.

3.6. In conclusion, the Committee would repeat its observation that faster implementation of the CADDIA programme will make it possible to considerably reduce and speed up customs formalities at the Community's internal frontiers, thereby bringing about an improvement that will be directly tangible to the Community's citizens.

Done at Brussels, 14 April 1987.

The Chairman
of the Economic and Social Committee
Alfons MARGOT

Opinion on the proposal for a Council Directive amending for the first time Directive 83/183/EEC on tax exemptions applicable to permanent imports from a Member State of the personal property of individuals

(87/C 150/04)

On 14 January 1987 the Council decided to consult the Economic and Social Committee under Article 198 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community on the abovementioned proposal.

The Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, which was responsible for preparing the Committee's work on the subject, adopted its opinion on 4 March 1987 in the light of the report by Mr Broicher.

At its 245th plenary session (meeting of 14 April 1987) the Economic and Social Committee adopted the following opinion unanimously:

1. The Committee welcomes the proposal for a Directive. It considers it to be a real contribution towards eliminating formalities in transfrontier movements of goods within the Community and towards implementing freedom of movement for the Community's citizens. This is all the more justified since tax has already been paid on the goods in question and the quantities involved are insignificant compared with the volume of trade between the Member States.

2. The Committee would, however, suggest that:

— the allowances in respect of certain highly taxed goods which generally form part of the personal property involved in removals should be considerably increased,