

2.5. The possibility of using Action 1 to promote cooperation between universities from East and West in the early stages of the programme should be looked into. The 'other bodies' should include initial and further training establishments, particularly those run by employers'

organizations, trade unions and other participants in vocational training.

Done at Brussels, 25 April 1990.

*The Chairman  
of the Economic and Social Committee*

Alberto MASPRONE

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**Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 84/636/EEC establishing a third joint programme to encourage the exchange of young workers within the Community**

(90/C 168/09)

On 30 March 1990 the Council of the European Communities 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 Social, Family, Educational and Cultural Affairs, which was responsible for preparing the Committee's work on the subject, adopted its opinion on 9 April 1990. The rapporteur was Mr Dassis.

At its 276th plenary session (meeting of 25 April 1990) the Economic and Social Committee adopted the following opinion unanimously:

1. The Committee endorses the Commission proposal and agrees that a synchronized approach in the phasing of the programme along with the Youth for Europe programme would provide for a more coherent and efficient set of arrangements.

2. The Committee therefore approves the extension by one year of the period of validity of the current programme, so that a fourth exchange programme can subsequently be presented in parallel with the renewed Youth for Europe programme, and in the light of Commission assessments.

3. The Committee would also urge the Commission to envisage measures to reverse the decline in long-term young worker exchanges and to encourage more participation from peripheral or disadvantaged regions. The particular

needs of young workers in frontier areas might also be given more appropriate attention.

4. Clearly, successful participation in the exchange programme would be significantly aided by a stepping-up of Community measures to promote the mutual recognition of training qualifications, experience and diplomas.

Done at Brussels, 25 April 1990.

*The Chairman  
of the Economic and Social Committee*

Alberto MASPRONE

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