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I

(Information)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

WRITTEN QUESTION No 64/73

by Mr Johnston

to the Commission of the European Communities

(26 April 1973)

Subject: Reciprocal arrangements for the collection of maintenance payments

Will the Commission consider introducing means whereby reciprocal arrangements are made for the collection of maintenance payments within the Communities?

Answer

(30 November 1973)

There are several international instruments relating to maintenance payments:

- the United Nations Convention, signed in New York on 20 June 1956, on the recovery abroad of maintenance;
- the two Conventions of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, 'on the law applicable to maintenance obligations towards children', signed on 24 October 1956, and 'concerning the recognition and enforcement of decisions relating to maintenance obligations towards children', signed on 15 April 1958. (Two other Conventions on the law applicable to maintenance obligations towards adults are being prepared by the Hague Conference);
- Bilateral Conventions and Agreements.

There is now a Community Convention which, in the civil and commercial fields, has changed the situation regarding jurisdiction at the level of judgments on the merits and also as regards enforcement of judgments: it is the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Civil and Commercial Judgments, formulated pursuant to Article 220 of the Treaty and signed by the Member States in Brussels on 27 September 1968. This Convention covers maintenance obligations. It was ratified by the six original Member States and came into force on 1 February 1973.

As provided for in Article 63 of this Convention, and in order to fulfil the undertaking by the new Member States contained in Article 3 of the Act concerning the Conditions of Accession and the Adjustments to the Treaties, negotiations are in progress to make the necessary amendments to the Conventions before its entry into force in the new Member States.

Until it can gauge the results of the application of the Convention, the Commission will not be in a position to judge whether this instrument covers the full scope of maintenance obligations and whether supplementary measures are required.

The Commission considers that the specific Conventions in this field (United Nations Convention of 1956 and the Hague Conference Conventions of 1956 and 1958) should be ratified by the new Member States, which have not yet done so.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 169/73

by Mr Cousté

to the Commission of the European Communities

(19 June 1973)

Subject: Charges equivalent to taxes

Can the Commission state in which Member States charges equivalent to taxes are in force or were recently still in force for the benefit in particular of professional, national or regional bodies?

Could the Commission specify the percentages of the various charges and their assessment basis in the different Member States?

Could the Commission also state its view on such charges within the European Economic Community?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

In view of the number and the extremely diverse purposes of parafiscal charges levied in the Member States, the Honourable Member will appreciate that it is not possible for the Commission to give a list of these charges with details of their rates and assessment bases in the scope of an answer to a Written Question.

The Commission's attitude to these charges is based on the following principles:

In themselves, parafiscal charges do not raise any particular problems as regards their compatibility with the ECSC Treaty provided that they are not discriminatory in respect of products imported from the other Member States and provided that they are not incompatible with other Community provisions, in particular with the common agricultural policy; the Commission merely checks that they do not have any effects of this nature.

The situation is different when these charges are used to finance aids for the exclusive or predominant benefit of domestic products. In such cases, the Commission considers that the levying of charges on products imported from the other Member States is incompatible with the provisions of the EEC Treaty. The Commission's point of view has, moreover, been confirmed on two occasions by the Court of Justice in its judgments in Case No 47/69 concerning aids to the textile industry in France and Case No 77/72 concerning Italian aids in the press and paper research sector.

State aids must in any case be communicated to the Commission in accordance with Article 93 (3) of the EEC Treaty, whether financed directly from budgetary resources or from the resources obtained from parafiscal charges.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 262/73

by Mr. Cousté

to the Commission of the European Communities

(26 July 1973)

Subject: USSR/France-Italy gas pipeline project

Can the Commission of the European Communities give financial and technical details of the gas pipeline project to convey gas from the USSR to France and Italy?

Could the Commission indicate the principal terms of the agreements concluded with the Soviet Government in regard to their duration, the price of gas delivered to France and Italy and the conditions for financing this gas pipeline?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

Deliveries of natural gas from the USSR to Italy will commence in the spring of 1974 and, after a run-up period, will reach 6 000 million m³ a year, while the deliveries to France will commence on 1 January 1976 and attain a volume of 2.5 thousand million m³ a year. The duration of both contracts will be twenty years. The Commission has received no official information on the prices and conditions of sale specified in these two contracts.

The USSR will deliver the gas to the Austrian-Czech border at Baumgarten, near Bratislava. From there it will be pumped through the Trans-Austria Gasline (TAG), currently under construction, to northern Italy. At Gemona the TAG will link up with a transport system intended to carry Algerian gas which, from the Italian port of Monfalcone, where the liquefied gas will be regasified, will pass through northern Italy, western Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany and reach the Franco-German frontier near Karlsruhe.

The Austrian contribution towards the financing of the Baumgarten-Gemona gas pipeline will be provided by the TAG-FINCO company and the Italian contribution by SNAM. Gaz de France will

participate as to the whole or part of its investment share. Financing for the gas pipelines from Monfalcone to Karlsruhe will be sought by the respective companies to be set up for the Italian, Austrian and German sections, in which Gaz de France has a guaranteed share.

In view of the particular importance of these projects as regards the Community's natural gas supplies, the European Investment Bank will contribute towards the financing of these gas pipelines.

To this end, an initial loan of 25 million units of account is being allotted to the ENI and will be used in its entirety to help finance the TAG gas pipeline. The cost of this line, which is 384 km long and has a capacity of 10 000 million m³ a year, is estimated at 170 million units of account.

A second loan of 19.8 million units of account is being granted to Gaz de France to enable it to finance the transit rights acquired by it in the gas pipeline network, and in particular in the TAG. Both loans are for a period of twenty years and bear interest at the rate of 7.75 % per annum.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 263/73

by Mr Cousté

to the Commission of the European Communities

(26 July 1973)

Subject: Aid to the countries of the Third World affected by drought

Can the Commission give a brief account of aid provided by the European Community to the countries of the Third World affected by drought?

Can it specify what form this aid has taken, how it has been arranged and how it will develop?

Is the Commission in a position to indicate what each of the affected countries has received from other international organizations?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

1. The countries of the Third World particularly affected by the 1972/73 drought are the Sahel countries, i.e., Mali, Mauretania, Nigeria, Senegal, the Upper Volta and Chad. Northern Nigeria, Ethiopia and certain regions of the Indian subcontinent can also be included.

European Community aid is of two kinds: food and money.

2. For 1973, Community aid in the form of food to the countries of the Sahel may be estimated at 27 million units of account, breaking down into:

— cereals 107 000 tons 19 million u. a.

— milk powder 13 120 tons 8 million u. a.

As an exception, the Community bore the costs both of the transport by sea of the products and a major portion of the internal transport costs.

To the above figures should be added 5 000 tons of cereals and 120 tons of milk powder given to Ethiopia. In view of the situation with which this country is faced, the Community has also borne the cost of transporting these products.

As regards the next financial year, the Commission is now studying the supply situation in the countries concerned, particularly in the light of the current harvest and, on the basis of the conclusions drawn, will determine the proposals to be submitted to the Council by the end of 1973.

3. Under the heading of financial aid, the Community decided back in 1971 to grant exceptional aid of 11 million units of account in order to combat the effects of local droughts to five of the Sahel countries which are at present disaster areas.

More recently, in February 1973, the Community earmarked 19 million units of account for the six Sahel countries for a series of special projects concerning in particular the preservation of crops, animal foodstuffs, water supplies, human health and animal health protection.

The amount granted to each country was determined, by agreement with the governments concerned, according to the gravity of the disaster. The aid was made available as quickly as possible using exceptional procedures for the awarding of contracts and the implementing of projects on the spot. The

bulk of the planned projects have thus already been carried out, while the rest (consisting mainly in animal protection) is currently in progress and will be finished before the end of the year.

4. In addition to Community aid, there is the large amount of aid in kind and in cash—granted in particular to facilitate the transport of food—provided by the various aids of the Member States (who supplied about 80 000 tons of cereals in 1973).

5. Data available on the help given by other donors show that the Community and the Member

States will account for a total of 40 % of the food delivered to the Sahel countries in 1973.

Available information concerning financial aid is less detailed. However, the exceptional aid allocated by the Community represents a major part of the aid received hitherto by the countries concerned.

6. In order to establish a longer-term plan aimed at protecting such countries against further periods of drought, the Sahel States have set up a Coordination Committee in Ouagadougou. The Commission is following the work of this Committee with great interest and intends to take steps to enable the Community to play a large part in carrying out any projects decided on.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 266/73

by Mr Cousté

to the Commission of the European Communities

(1 August 1973)

Subject: Countries participating in the breeder reactor construction programme and the state of studies in the Soviet Union and Japan

Could not the Commission provide some idea of the stage reached by studies on and the construction of breeder reactors, a field in which Europe leads the United States, with a view to finding a more general solution to the energy crisis threatening Europe?

Could it indicate what Community countries are participating in this programme?

Could the Commission also give details of the studies and achievements of the Soviet Union and Japan in the same field?

Answer

(30 November 1973)

1. Three programmes covering the entire fast reactor family are currently under way in the Community:

The French programme: the Phénix reactor went critical on 31 August 1973; the tests which will be performed during the last quarter of this year will enable it to be raised to full power and coupled to the French grid, to which it will deliver 250 MWe.

— the British programme, also aimed at putting a PFR prototype reactor (250 MWe) into service by late 1973/early 1974;

— the joint West German-Benelux programme, aimed at putting the SNR prototype reactor (300 MWe) into service around 1979.

In addition, a smaller-scale programme is in progress in Italy, its primary objective being the construction

of the PEC materials-testing reactor, which could be in service by 1976 at the earliest.

2. As regards the next stage in the development of fast reactors—that of big power plants of about 1 000 MWe—the Commission is happy to note the agreement concluded between the electricity producers RWE, EdF and ENEL for the joint construction of two plants of this type, the first in France and the second in West Germany.

Furthermore, it is intended to begin construction of a CFR in the UK towards 1976.

3. The marketing of this reactor family is generally envisaged in the 1980s at the earliest. The rate at which it penetrates the market will depend to a large extent on the operational performance of the first 1 000 MWe reactors.

4. In the United States the development of sodium-cooled fast reactors was given top-priority 'national project' status some time ago. Aimed at marketing this type of nuclear plant around 1985, the project is generously funded, backed up by a very wide variety of research facilities and an appropriate industrial infrastructure and is being coordinated at all levels of development by the USAEC, which is managing the programme and at the same time channelling most of the resources committed to this field.

In particular, this programme has as its aim the commissioning of a 400 MWth advanced test reactor

in 1976 and the construction of a demonstration reactor (about 350 MWe) starting in 1975.

5. In the Soviet Union the BOR 60 test reactor has been in operation since 1969. The BN 350 plant, which was completed at the end of 1971, went critical in November 1972 and is currently operating at half its designed power. This is a dual-purpose plant with a power output of 150 MWe, which will also produce 100 000 metric tons of fresh water a day. In addition, a 600 MWe power plant (BN 600) is nearing completion and should be in operation by 1975/76 at the latest.

6. Japan's fast reactor programme began several years behind schedule, but is now making rapid progress. A 100 MWth experimental reactor is now under construction and should enter service in 1974, and the design of a 300 MWe prototype reactor (due to be completed in 1978 or 1979) has begun.

7. The bulk of the work mentioned above is directed towards the development of sodium-cooled fast reactors. On a secondary level, all of the countries concerned (with the exception of Italy) are also engaged on the development of gas-cooled fast reactors. Although this type of reactor would appear to be a fall-back solution in certain countries, it is, in principle, being developed with a view to its subsequent marketing.

Furthermore, development in this area is closely linked with the marketing of high-temperature gas-cooled thermal reactors.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 284/73

by Mr Willi Müller

to the Commission of the European Communities

(9 August 1973)

Subject: Introduction of a system of plebiscites on environmental problems

How does the Commission view the idea, put forward by the major environmental protection societies and citizens action groups, of a system of plebiscites on environmental problems which, based on the Swiss model, could effectively supplement environmental measures taken by the public authorities?

Answer*(3 December 1973)*

Environmental protection associations and citizens' action groups have in some respects the right to take action with public bodies and in the courts not only in Switzerland and the United States but also in several Member States. In other Member States, the law can be seen to be evolving along the same lines.

The Commission, which is at present examining the question whether such a procedure should be made to apply generally, had already pointed out in its Second Communication to the Council of 22 March 1972 concerning the environmental programme of the European Communities that any association or group of citizens, in particular users' or consumers' associations, has the right to inform it of cases of non-compliance with regulations.

The Commission also decided recently that a scientific study was to be prepared on ways of strengthening private initiative in the field of environmental protection. From it there should emerge general principles on which to base new forms of solutions to the problems raised by the Honourable Member.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 286/73**by Mr Spénale****to the Commission of the European Communities***(9 August 1973)*

Subject: Budgetary correctness of butter exports to the USSR

1. The Community has exported 200 000 tons of butter to the USSR, on which an exceptional refund of 1 500 units of account per ton was granted; this represents a cost of approximately 300 million units of account to the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF.

2. Can the Commission answer the following questions:

- (a) were the costs resulting from this decision shown in the initial budget for 1973?
- (b) if not, how was it possible to balance the resulting deficit in a proper manner?
- (c) is the cost of this operation to be regularized by means of a supplementary budget?
- (d) if so, does the Commission consider it proper for such expenditure to have been committed before this supplementary budget has been formally adopted and before it has even been submitted in draft form?
- (e) does the contract with the Soviet Union include escape clauses which may be invoked if the Parliament refuses to endorse the proposed conditions or their cost to the Community?
- (f) if the contract has no escape clauses, what actual effect, or indeed what power of influence, will the European Parliament be able to have on the consideration of the supplementary budget, particularly if it wanted to reject the principle and the cost of such an arrangement when, in fact, the 200 000 tons of butter, in accordance with the terms of the contract, have already been delivered?
- (g) if it will in fact have no effect or power of influence, is the Commission prepared to admit that the European Parliament, in its capacity as budgetary authority, has had no chance whatsoever to influence a decision with not inconsiderable budgetary implications?

- (h) does the Commission, in its capacity as the institution responsible for implementing the operational budget of the Communities, consider that it has the duty to make certain, before carrying out a decision, that the necessary funds have already been included in an existing budget and, at the very least, that every budgetary authority has been properly consulted?
- (i) if not, how does it argue its case given the budgetary provisions at present in force?
- (j) if so, does it not consider that, both from the point of view of the correctness of relations between institutions, and of the legality of its action, it has placed itself in a situation which could warrant a vote of censure?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

The Honourable Member is asked to refer to the answer given by the Commission to Oral Question No 84/73 during the September session of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Debates of the European Parliament, No 165, page 59.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 293/73

by Mr Spénale

to the Council of the European Communities

(14 August 1973)

Subject: Petroleum crisis and position of independent undertakings

1. The current shortage of processed petroleum products on the American market resulting from inadequate development of refining capacities in that country has caused the major American companies to purchase all the available quantities on the European market in recent months.

This indiscriminate purchasing appears to be the main cause of the considerable rise in prices recorded on the European market.

As a result, independent importers and distributors of petroleum products in the Community who do not dispose of large stocks are unable to obtain supplies:

- either on the European market because of the disparity between domestic prices and the prices quoted in Rotterdam and in Italy, which have doubled in six months,
- or on the markets of Eastern Europe which now refuse to deliver or to renew their contracts,
- or on their domestic market where refiners refuse to deliver at prices compatible with domestic price structures.

2. Does the Council consider:

- (a) that the rise in prices can be entirely justified by the increase in the cost of crude oil which is apparently to a large extent compensated by the depreciation of the dollar?
- (b) if not, that the cartel formed by the major companies is benefiting considerably from this price increase and wishes to maintain it in order to achieve objectives such as:
- exploitation of new bituminous shales hitherto not a profitable proposition,
 - investment in Alaska and transport infrastructures,
 - installation of new refining capacities in the USA,
 - elimination of independent importers and distributors ⁽¹⁾?

3. Does the Council consider this matter its concern, or does it intend to allow the major oil

⁽¹⁾ Cf. in this connection the position adopted by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which has recently instituted proceedings against eight major integrated companies for infringement of the anti-trust laws. Mr Ward, Director of the FTC, stated that independent distributors should not be forced out of business by being refused supplies in times of shortage. It should be remembered that in the USA a large number of service stations, 3000 to date, belonging to independent oil companies have had to close down for lack of supplies in the last few months.

companies to continue with this policy until the independent operators are eliminated?

Is it aware in this connection of the measures taken both outside the EEC and by certain Member States to ensure the survival of the independent importers and distributors whose role is statistically unimportant but marginally essential to the preservation of competition and market stability ⁽²⁾?

Can the Council state what measures it has already taken and intends to take in the near future to support, extend, reinforce and possibly coordinate the steps already taken by some Member States? As a logical extension of its philosophy that supply policy should not be determined by the major oil companies alone, is distribution to become their monopoly?

⁽²⁾ — In Belgium, an order has allegedly been issued, fixing margins for finished petroleum products (for the first time since 1946). Combined with that country's legislation on refusal to sell, this order would compel refining companies to sell products at reasonable prices to the independent distributors and importers.

— In West Germany, a special quota for imports from the USSR at competitive prices, reserved for independent undertakings, has allegedly just been opened. The quantity involved is approximately one million metric tons of high-grade petrol.

— In Great Britain, the government is said to be on the point of opening an inquiry which could result in the six biggest oil companies operating in the country being brought before the Monopolies Commission. The latter has always maintained that it was not in the public interest to allow companies to acquire an unlimited number of service stations.

Answer

(5 December 1973)

The Council proposes to return to the question raised by the Honourable Member at a later date.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 321/73

by Lord O'Hagan

to the Commission of the European Communities

*(6 September 1973)**Subject:* Migrant birds

Does the Commission think that the Community's acquiescence in the netting and trapping of migrant birds in Member States is in keeping with the Community's new concern for the environment?

Will the Commission bring pressure to bear on France and Italy to outlaw these barbaric practices?

Will the Commission help to bring about a ban on the import of pickled birds from Cyprus, Turkey, and other countries where trapping and netting remain legal?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

Every day a number of individuals and organizations draw the Commission's attention to the fate which befalls millions of migratory birds as they fly southwards in the autumn. The Commission is particularly aware of this problem as it feels that the birds concerned are a part of the heritage of Europe as a whole.

The problem has not escaped either the Commission or the Council. The programme on the environment adopted by the Council on 19 July 1973 contains a paragraph dealing with the protection of birds and certain other animal species (paragraph II.1 f). Nevertheless, the paragraph provides the Commission with very limited means of action.

The Commission's task under this programme is to:

- encourage joint action by the Member States within the Council of Europe and other international organizations, and

- to study national legislation on the protection of animals, and, in particular, migratory birds, possibly with a view to harmonization.

The Commission intends to request an eminent expert in this field to carry out a study which will in particular:

- provide data on the quantities and percentages of birds captured per species in each region and season, the threat to the survival of the species in question and the direct and indirect ecological or economic damage;
- analyse the various relevant laws in the Member States and non-member countries concerned, examining in particular the implementation of and compliance with such laws, the effectiveness of control measures and the penalties exacted.

On the basis of the results thus obtained, the Commission and representatives from the Member States will examine possible courses of definite action at the Community level and, if necessary, submit the appropriate proposals to the Council.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 348/73

by Mr Kater and Mr Willi Müller

to the Commission of the European Communities

*(26 September 1973)**Subject:* Standardization of basic and advanced managerial training

1. Is it true that the Commission has taken steps towards putting the various establishments providing basic and advanced managerial training in Europe on a par with one another?
2. How does the Commission propose to set about standardizing basic and advanced managerial training in the Community and what will its objectives be?

Answer

(4 December 1973)

1. The Commission has not taken any direct steps to harmonize the methods of basic and advanced managerial training at European level.

However in the proposal 'First Steps Towards a Common Policy on Vocational Training' that the Commission forwarded to the Council on 6 November 1972, the following specific action was proposed to promote basic and advanced managerial training.

- training managerial staff in the use of data-processing;
- expansion of the training of business managers.

These tasks have not yet been undertaken because the Council has discussed only those tasks which are to be implemented in 1973 and has deferred reviewing the remaining parts of the programme until after the

social policy action programme laid down by the Paris Summit has been adopted.

2. The Commission is convinced of the importance of basic and advanced managerial training for the economic and social progress of the Community, and believes that the tasks it has set itself in this field will have to be accomplished gradually over the coming years.

The objectives which the Commission is pursuing in this matter stem from the general principles for the implementation of a common policy on vocational training set out in the Council Decision of 2 April 1963 and from the general guidelines for the preparation of an action programme on vocational training at Community level which the Council adopted on 26 July 1972.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 354/73**by Mr Antoniozzi****to the Commission of the European Communities***(27 September 1973)*

Subject: Radio and television programmes on the European institutions in EEC Member States

Can the Commission supply information on the following points:

1. What amount of time is devoted by radio and television networks in the nine Member States of the EEC to broadcasting information on the Community institutions and the various problems connected with them?
2. What measures does it intend taking to give more adequate and detailed information to the press, radio and television of the Member States?

Answer*(26 November 1973)*

1. The Commission does not have the information requested by the Honourable Member.
2. The Commission's Directorate-General for Information is organized in such a way as to provide all the information and help necessary for the radio and TV stations in the Member States. Thus films, stock shots, colour transparencies and photographs are constantly being made available to these stations. Background radio information tapes are currently being produced. In addition, radio and television studios are made available to teams wishing to use them.

The regular collaboration which has been established between the Commission's departments and the radio and TV networks is further supplemented by frequent meetings between the representatives of each side.

The Spokesman's Group and the Directorate-General for Information are also in daily touch with the accredited and specialized press, and supply it with the material for informing public opinion.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 358/73**by Mr Cousté****to the Commission of the European Communities***(27 September 1973)*

Subject: Abolition of the American Selling Price system

Can the Commission confirm that the American administration is really in favour of abolishing the American Selling Price system and that the right occasion for doing this would be the coming GATT negotiations?

Is the Commission at least aware that this move by the United States administration is meeting with opposition from within the US chemical industry and can it specify where this resistance is coming from?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

1. In its Trade Reform Bill of 1973, the American administration requested, amongst other things, the authority to conclude, in the context of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations, agreements with other countries concerning **non-tariff** arrangements, including in particular the ASP system. This bill was discussed by the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives; the Committee's report is at present being put to the House for approval. The report has revealed that Congress, whilst agreeing that the question of the abolition of the American Selling Price system should be dealt with in the coming GATT negotiations, considers that any outcome of the negotiations on this matter, as on other non-tariff arrangements, should be submitted to it for approval.

In their statements to the Ways and Means Committee, the respective associations of American chemical producers expressed their wish that any

initiative taken by the Administration concerning the abolition of the American Selling Price system should be subject to the assent of Congress.

The hearings before the Committee revealed that certain circles in the American chemical industry would be in favour of the abolition of the system, subject to adequate concessions by countries trading with the United States; on the other hand, the representatives of the organic chemical industry are generally opposed to it unless their interests are safeguarded by other means.

2. The Commission is of the opinion that with regard to the multilateral negotiations the ASP problem not be treated separately as a specific measure but should be included in the more general field of customs valuation methods.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 374/73

by Mr Blumenfeld

to the Commission of the European Communities

(3 October 1973)

Subject: Survey of general, professional and vocational education

1. Is the Commission aware that a survey of the organization and structure of general, professional and vocational education, the need for which was indicated in its proposal on first steps towards the introduction of a common vocational training policy, has already been published by the Council of Europe in 1970, under the title 'School Systems — A Guide'?

2. Is the Commission prepared to avoid such clear examples of duplicated work in future and to make appropriate use of existing material produced by other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe and the OECD?

Answer

(30 November 1973)

The Commission is aware of the contents of the study published by the Council of Europe in 1970 under the title 'School Systems — A Guide'.

The report which the Commission is producing on the organization and structure of general, vocational and technical education will certainly make reference to the data and the diagrams contained in this study. The essential aim of this report, however, is to present a detailed survey of the organization and structures, both in school and out of school, of vocational and technical education in the Community countries from the point of view of the implementation of a common vocational training policy. It will pay particular attention to the efforts made by these countries in the field of the education and continued training of adults. In this respect it differs from the study produced by the Council of Europe.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 376/73

by Mr Vals

to the Commission of the European Communities

(3 October 1973)

Subject: Selling price of telephonic equipment

1. Has the Commission taken note of studies published on different occasions by telecommunications experts at European level?

Is it aware that according to these studies the price of telephonic equipment differs greatly between the Common Market countries?

Does it consider it right that the selling price of telephone exchanges should be higher in France than in the Federal Republic of Germany or in the Netherlands (the price being double in some cases)?

2. Does the Commission not consider it advisable to carry out investigations in the Member States of the Community in order to determine the causes of these differences in selling prices and to find out whether agreements between manufacturers are not distorting competition in certain countries and whether they are not contrary to Article 85 of the Treaty of Rome?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

The Commission is unaware of the studies mentioned by the Honourable Member.

It has not been aware until now of the differences in price for telephone exchanges offered for sale by one and the same firm in different Member States, nor has it examined the possibility of initiating an enquiry into conditions of competition in the sector in question.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 382/73

by Lord O'Hagan

to the Commission of the European Communities

(4 October 1973)

Subject: Information Bureau of the EEC — Santiago, Chile

Will the Commission consider moving the Information Bureau of the EEC from Santiago, Chile, to some other South American country, in view of the apparently brutal character of the new Chilean régime?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

The Commission wishes first of all to state that its Delegation in Latin America is responsible for relations with all the countries in that region.

The Commission would point out to the Honourable Member that when the decision to open a Liaison Office in South America was taken in 1965, Santiago, Chile was chosen as its location because of the presence in that city of Latin-American organizations, and in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

According to the information available to the Commission, it does not seem that the headquarters of these organizations will have to be moved. Consequently, the Commission has not thought it advisable to change the location of its Delegation.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 384/73

by Mr Cousté

to the Commission of the European Communities

(4 October 1973)

Subject: Direct investment by the Federal Republic of Germany in France and vice versa

In its answer of 12 April 1972 to my Written Question No 509/71 ⁽¹⁾ the Commission was obliged to limit information on the above subject to the year 1970 ⁽¹⁾. Can it now give up-to-date details of direct investment by the Federal Republic of Germany in France?

Can it in particular indicate the growth of these investments and also the trend in French investments in the Federal Republic of Germany?

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 42, 28. 4. 1972, p. 8.

Answer*(26 November 1973)*

1. The table given below contains an updated form of the information supplied to the Honourable Member in answer to his Written Question No 509/71.

As before, these statistics refer only to the proportion of direct German investments in France, and French investments in the Federal Republic, which has given rise to international movements of capital included in the balance of payments.

2. Between 1971 and 1972 net direct German investments in France increased by 5.90 %, while net direct French investments in the Federal Republic decreased by 34.33 %. An examination of the period 1965 to 1972, however, shows that both investment flows have increased, German investments in France at the rate of 181.7 %, French investments in the Federal Republic at the rate of 43.45 %.

Direct German investments in France and French investments in the Federal Republic

(Source: France's external balance of payments)

Figures given in million EUR ⁽¹⁾

	Direct German investments in France			Direct French investments in the FRG		
	Investments	Disinvestments	Net investments (+) or disinvestments (-)	Investments	Disinvestments	Net investments (+) or disinvestments (-)
1965	35.0	4.4	+ 30.6	19.6	2.8	+ 16.8
1966	27.5	2.2	+ 25.3	19.6	0.6	+ 19.0
1967	44.6	2.4	+ 42.2	24.5	1.0	+ 23.5
1968	85.3	5.5	+ 79.8	22.9	0.2	+ 22.7
1969	65.8	5.4	+ 60.4	16.6	51.6	- 35.0
1970	89.8	3.0	+ 86.8	28.8	11.5	+ 17.3
1971	90.7	9.3	+ 81.4	53.4	16.7	+ 36.7
1972	97.9	11.7	+ 86.2	54.2	30.1	+ 24.1

⁽¹⁾ EUR, unit of account of the European Communities, the value of which, rounded off to the sixth significant figure is 0.888671 grams of fine gold and corresponds to that of a SDR.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 388/73

by Mr Vals

to the Commission of the European Communities

(5 October 1973)

Subject: The Commission's Information Office in Chile

1. In the light of recent events in Chile, does the Commission intend to keep one of its two Information Offices for Latin America in that country?
2. If so, can the Commission explain how it views the role and activities of the Information Office in Santiago, as well as its relations with the new Chilean regime?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

1 and 2. The Commission maintains a Delegation in Latin America which is responsible for relations with all of the countries in that area. The two offices mentioned by the Honourable Member come under this Delegation.

In its answer to Written Question No 382/73 ⁽¹⁾ from Lord O'Hagan, the Commission stated that it did not think it was advisable to change the location of the Delegation.

⁽¹⁾ See page 15 of this Official Journal.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 402/73
by Mr Kater and Mr Willi Müller
to the Commission of the European Communities

(11 October 1973)

Subject: Consumer product testing

1. In the light of the consumer policy it considers necessary, how does the Commission view the activities of organizations which test consumer products and publish their findings?
2. Does the Commission maintain contact and exchange information with such organizations, for example the 'Stiftung Warentest' in Germany?
3. Does it intend to do more to encourage the work of such organizations, and in particular to promote the establishment of an umbrella organization at the European level?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

1. The Commission is generally in favour of the activities of organizations which carry out comparative tests on products and publish their results. It concludes that such tests not only help the buyer to choose but can also give guidance to the manufacturers.
2. Yes.
3. The Commission is following the efforts of consumer organizations with interest and intends to give them its backing with a programme of information and consumer protection which it hopes to submit to the Council before the end of this year.

In particular, it will be advisable to study the best methods firstly of ensuring the unquestionably scientific or technical character of the standards used to carry out the comparative tests and secondly of helping these associations to publish the results of these studies as widely as possible in the Community.

The establishment of a European coordinating organization would seem to come within the sphere of responsibility of these associations, as they are mostly of a private character.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 412/73

by Mr Willi Müller and Mr Kater
to the Commission of the European Communities

(12 October 1973)

Subject: The Commission's public relations activities

1. What are the Commission's views on the proposal by an all-party group of members of the British House of Lords that a special committee be set up and observers appointed to find out what goes on in the 'back rooms' of Brussels, in view of the 'complete lack of information about what's happening in Brussels'?
2. Is the Commission prepared to accept that this criticism, which is also made by Members of the European Parliament, is above all directed against the inadequacies of the Commission's public relations activities?
3. What does the Commission intend to do or to have done to extend and improve the organization and scope of its public relations activities?

Answer

(26 November 1973)

1. The Commission does not think it needs to express an opinion on a proposal submitted to the House of Lords.
2. The Commission does not feel that it is neglecting its duty to inform the press and public opinion. The Honourable Members may find evidence of this in the programme on information policy which is due to be sent to Parliament very shortly and which the competent Parliamentary Committee will have the opportunity of discussing. The Commission is open to any suggestions which Members of Parliament might wish to put forward in this matter.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 417/73

by Mr Johnston
to the Commission of the European Communities

(16 October 1973)

Subject: EDF expenditure in the Six for 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972

Would the Commission supply a detailed sectorial and regional breakdown of EDF expenditure within each of the Original Member Countries for the years 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

Answer*(26 November 1973)*

The figures which the Commission is required to record under the special accounting plan for operations of the European Development Fund do not enable it to provide the information requested.

On the other hand, the Commission can specify for each State, Country or Associated Territory that has benefited from the Fund, and for each operational sector, the amounts it actually received in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972 from the available balances of each of the three Funds to cover the cost of carrying out projects financed by the European Development Fund.

The sums disbursed are entered as an aggregate without any breakdown between 'expenditures in the beneficiary State, Country or Associated Territory' and 'expenditures in any particular Member State of the Community of the Six'.

The Commission wishes to point out that most of the projects financed by the European Development Fund presuppose the awarding of works contracts and that the place where the holder of this type of contract decides to be credited does not necessarily imply that encashment in any one Member State or Associated State ultimately means an expenditure in this Member State or Associated Territory, the reasons for this being firstly the ease with which capital can be transferred between most of the Member States and the Associated States, Countries, or Territories and secondly the existence of monetary zones.

However, an overall but fairly detailed study carried out by the Commission indicates that the percentage of so-called local expenditure borne by the European Development Fund, i.e. incurred in the countries receiving Community aid, is about 45 % of the total.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 463/73**by Lord O'Hagan****to the Council of the European Communities***(31 October 1973)*

Subject: Meetings of the Council of Social Affairs Ministers

How many Council meetings to deal with social housing are planned?

Since enlargement how many meetings of the Council of Social Affairs Ministers have taken place? How does this figure compare with meetings of Ministers with other responsibilities?

Answer*(5 December 1973)*

1. At present the Council does not plan to hold any meetings specifically devoted to problems of social housing.

The Council dealt with this problem on several occasions in the past when it was called to give its opinion on the second paragraph of Article 54 of the

ECSC Treaty with a view to granting aids to finance the construction of housing for workers in industries covered by the ECSC Treaty.

Moreover, in the framework of the working programme adopted in agreement with the Commission with a view to implementing Article 118

of the EEC Treaty ⁽¹⁾, the Council has invited the Commission to carry out a survey in the field of social housing for the purpose of gathering information on the housing conditions of foreign workers and in particular workers who are nationals of Member States employed in another Member State.

2. In the period between the enlargement of the Communities and 30 November 1973, the Council

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 23, 8. 3. 1972, p. 20.

held two meetings devoted to social affairs: i.e. on 26 February 1973 and 21 May 1973; the next meeting, which will be devoted to discussions on the social action programme, is scheduled for 11 December 1973.

It should be added that during the same period it devoted the following number of meetings to other specific questions: Agriculture 15, Economy and Finance 7, Euratom 2, Budget 1, Development Policy 1, Protection of the Environment 1, Energy 1, Transport 1.

WRITTEN QUESTION No 478/73 ⁽¹⁾

by Mr James Hill

to the Commission of the European Communities

(8 October 1973)

Subject: Community Research Centre on Road Safety

Does the Commission consider that problems of road safety form an integral part of the common transport problem and, if so, has the Commission asked for the means—including financial means—to set up a Community Research Centre on Road Safety?

⁽¹⁾ Previously Oral Question No 125/73, which could not be answered during question time on 17 October 1973 because of lack of time.

Answer

(15 November 1973)

The Commission agrees entirely with the Honourable Member as to the urgent need for additional implementation, within the framework of the common transport policy, of the programme it announced to the Committee of the European Parliament in its memorandum of 8 February 1971. The two proposals of 24 July 1972 for Council Directives concerning driving licences and technical inspection of vehicles are only the first measures under the programme.

It is also fully aware of the fact that implementation of such a programme, given its scale and the difficulties involved, must entail pooling of the results of research carried out and experience gained by the Member States and the international organizations

acting in this field. The Commission has built up close cooperation arrangements with these organizations.

The Commission therefore also appreciates the potential value of Community action in this area. In view of the difficulties, particularly the financial difficulties, involved, it is now studying ways and means of carrying out such an operation. However, it cannot state at the present time what definitive solution it will in fact be adopting.

The Commission will not fail to keep the Honourable Member informed of new developments in its work in this field.

COUNCIL

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

of 17 December 1973

on measures to be taken against rising prices and the maintenance of a high level of employment in the Community

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the draft resolution presented by the Commission;

Whereas at its meeting on 9 November 1973, the Council decided to adopt further measures to be taken against inflation in the coming months;

Whereas the rise in prices of raw materials and in particular of petroleum products, together with problems of supply, is liable to aggravate the inflationary trends in the Community in 1974;

Whereas persistent inflation impairs the competitiveness of the economies of the Member States and threatens the level of employment,

ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

I

In order to combat inflation, and to ensure that the conditions essential for a high level of employment are maintained, the Council agrees that the Member States and the Community should adopt immediately and in parallel the appropriate measures to implement, in the early months of 1974, a vigorous campaign to reduce the rise in costs and prices.

II

As regards budgetary expenditure, the Member States will:

- in the first quarter, curb as strictly as possible increases in current expenditure, in particular by holding back purchases of goods and services and postponing eventual increases in the number of civil servants and employees in the public sector;

- review subsidies to business and trade;

- adjust, where appropriate, the commitments of public investment expenditure in relation to available capacities — particularly in the building and construction industry.

As regards tax receipts, the Member States will refrain from further adjustments to the tax system which are likely to increase the growth of total demand in the first quarter; if possible, they will accelerate the collection of taxes.

In the Member States in which the central government budget shows a deficit, the governments will endeavour to finance the deficit by increased use of medium and long-term borrowing.

The Member States will ensure that the finances of local authorities, and, where appropriate, of public undertakings and social security agencies, are managed in such a way as to contribute to the fight against inflation.

III

The Member States will maintain a monetary policy which will contribute towards curbing rising prices in the Community. To this end, they will work out concerted action particularly in the field of interest rates.

According to the possibilities open to them, they will have recourse to one or more of the following methods of action:

- quantitative control of monetary aggregates, particularly the volume of credit;
- seeking greater selectivity in the granting of bank credit to productive investment, particularly in the energy sector, and at the expense of credit likely to stimulate consumption;

- non-compensation for the contraction of internal liquidity caused by foreign currency sales by the monetary authorities;
- encouraging savings through adjustments of the structure of interest rates;

IV

As regards prices, the Member States will have recourse to one or more of the following methods of action:

- strict surveillance of the conditions in which prices are fixed for goods and services, and possibly limiting profit margins;
- prior notification of price increases;
- strict and even strengthened application of regulations on the posting and disclosure of prices, both for goods and for services;
- freezing of rates and dues charged by the public services during the first quarter of 1974 at the level of 1 December 1973;
- strict or strengthened application of national provisions for the control of abuses resulting from a dominant position on the market;
- launching of an information campaign on prices of consumer products where appropriate with the aid of consumers associations. They will use all appropriate means of information.

The Council invites the Member States and the Commission to organize as soon as possible regular exchanges of necessary and specific information on price movements and comparisons in the member countries.

Member States will aid the Commission in the economic and commercial research required for the systematic application of Article 86 of the EEC Treaty.

V

The success of the measures against inflation depends considerably upon the attitudes of the different economic and social groups. The Council invites them to contribute to its success by considerably moderating their attitude to incomes (industrial and commercial profits, wages, incomes of suppliers of

services and farmers, dividends and rents). Member States will, according to the means available to them, take all the necessary measures to achieve this result without delay.

VI

The Council is of the opinion that the mechanisms of the common agricultural policy, and in particular of the export measures, helps to shield the consumer from appreciable price rises on the world market in respect of a large number of products, particularly for cereals, (including rice) and sugar.

The Council supports the Commission's intention to submit proposals fixing prices for the 1974/75 marketing year which will be compatible with the general policy of the Community in measures against inflation. The Council will ensure that this requirement of compatibility is met.

VII

The Member States will review the quantitative restrictions now applied to imports of certain products from third countries with a view to their relaxation, thereby increasing supplies of those products. The Council hopes that any consultations opened pursuant to the Council Decision of 19 December 1972 ⁽¹⁾ laying down certain transitional measures for the progressive standardization of import terms of Member States as regards third countries will be conducted as quickly as possible. The Member States will facilitate the widest possible utilization of quotas during the first half of 1974.

Before 31 December 1973, the Council will rule on the proposals which have been made by the Commission with regard to the implementation, for 1974, of generalized tariff preferences in favour of the developing countries.

VIII

The Council will examine the results of this programme of action at the latest at its meeting for the review of the economic situation in the Community which is scheduled for March 1974.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 299, 31. 12. 1972, p. 46.

Composition of the Scientific and Technical Committee

By a decision of 15 October 1973 the Council of the European Communities appointed the following as members of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the European Atomic Energy Community for the period from 1 April 1973 to 31 March 1978:

Prof. Arnaldo Maria Angelini
Mr Jean-Jacques Baron
Mr Richard Baumgartner
Prof. D.Phil. Adolf Birkhofer
Ing. Giulio Cesoni
Prof. Ezio Clementel
Mr Alexis Dejou
Prof. P. De Meester
Mr F. W. Fenning
Mr J. Goens
Prof. W. B. Hall, MSc MIMechE
Dr.rer.nat. Rudolf Harde
Dr. L. C. W. Hobbs
Mr Jules Horowitz
Prof. Dr. phil. H. Højgaard Jensen
Dr.ing. Klaus Knizia
Prof. Raymond Latarjet
Prof. Ir. D. G. H. Latzko
Prof. D. C. Leslie, MA D.Phil
Ir. A. Meijer
Prof. Dr.rer.nat. Dr.med. Erik Oberhausen
Prof. Cormac O'Ceallaigh
Mr R. A. Peddie, BSc (Eng) CEng FIMechE FIEE MInstF
Prof. Gian Piero Puppi
Ing. Ambrogio Puri
Prof. Dr.rer.nat. Arnulf Schlüter
Mr Henri Wagener

This decision has been made known to those concerned, who have accepted their appointments.

COMMISSION

FORWARD ESTIMATE FOR THE 1973/74 WINE-GROWING YEAR

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Regulation No 24 ⁽¹⁾ on the progressive establishment of a common organization of the market in wine, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 ⁽²⁾ and in particular Article 3 (1) thereof;

Whereas Article 3 (1) of Regulation No 24 stipulates that each year a forward estimate must be drawn up in order to determine the resources and assess the requirements of the Community, including foreseeable imports from and exports to third countries;

Whereas the forward estimate may be drawn up in particular on the basis of information collected and communicated to the Commission by the Member States in accordance with Commission Regulation No 134 ⁽³⁾ on the declaration of wine harvests and stocks, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1136/70 ⁽⁴⁾;

Whereas the final figures for the 1971/72 wine growing year and the provisional figures for the 1972/73 wine growing year form a useful basis on which to assess this information and on which to draw up the forward estimate for the 1973/74 wine growing year;

Whereas the forecasts shown in this estimate are in accordance with the Opinion of the Management Committee for Wine,

HAS ADOPTED THIS ESTIMATE:

The forward estimate for the 1973/74 wine-growing year is shown in the Annex in the columns relating to that year.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 30, 20. 4. 1962, p. 989/62.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 99, 5. 5. 1970, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ No 111, 6. 11. 1962, p. 2604/62.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 134, 19. 6. 1970, p. 4.

FORWARD ESTIMATE FOR THE 1973/74 WINE-GROWING YEAR

EUR — 9

Headings	Global volumes			Red and rosé		
	1971/72 def. ⁽¹⁾	1972/73 prov.	1973/74 exp.	1971/72 def. ⁽¹⁾	1972/73 prov.	1973/74 exp.
1. Total production	132 964	126 699	161 703	83 794	76 837	99 290
2. Amount of production intended for processing as grape juice	454	371	460	261	193	215
3. Amount intended for vinification	132 510	126 328	161 243	83 533	76 644	99 075
4. Stock at start of season:	80 193	93 109 ^(*)	61 649	51 280	47 234	37 440
— in production	41 332	36 750	27 525	27 520	25 322	17 642
— in the trade	38 861	36 359 ^(*)	34 124	23 760	21 912	19 798
5. Availability at start of season (3 + 4)	212 703	199 437	222 892	134 813	123 878	136 515
6. Imports	2 766	7 650	7 422			
7. Total availability (5 + 6)	215 469	207 087	230 314			
8. Total home use:	140 016	142 117	152 515			
— direct consumption by humans	124 751	128 661	131 658			
— processing	13 990	12 269	19 361			
— of which, distillation:	13 254	11 511	16 500			
— of which grape spirit with a registered designation of origin			11 000			
— of which in conformity with Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70	3 476		500			
— of which, other			5 000			
of which vinegar production	736	758	778			
of which aromatic wines — vermouth production			2 083			
— losses in production	621	690	902			
— losses in trading	654	497	594			
9. Exports	3 429	3 321	3 465			
10. Stock at end of season	72 024	61 649 ^(*)	74 334			
11. Variations in stocks (10—4)	-8 169	-11 460	+12 685			
12. Degree of self-sufficiency (3:8)%	94.6	88.9	105.7			
13. Harvest declaration						
14. Consumption per capita, per annua (litres)	65.5	50.4				

⁽¹⁾ EUR — 6.^(*) Break in comparability.

COURT OF JUSTICE

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT

(Second Chamber)

of 12 July 1973

in Joined Case Nos 10 and 47/72: Mr Nunzio di Pillo v. Commission of the European Communities ⁽¹⁾

(Language of the Case: French)

In Joined Case Nos 10 and 47/72: Mr Nunzio di Pillo (advocate: Me. Marcel Slusny) v. Commission of the European Communities (agent: Pierre Lamoureux), application for annulment of the end of probation report and of the decision to dismiss the applicant and for various claims for compensation, the Court composed of P. Pescatore, President of Chamber, H. Kutscher and M. Sørensen (Rapporteur), Judges, Advocate-General: A. Trabucchi, Registrar: A. Van Houtte gave a judgment on 12 July 1973 the operative part of which is as follows:

1. *The Commission of the European Communities is ordered to pay Mr Nunzio di Pillo a sum of Bfrs 200 000.*
2. *The Commission of the European Communities is ordered to bear its own costs and half the applicant's costs.*

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 31, 28. 3. 1972 and OJ No C 105, 10. 10. 1972.

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT

of 11 October 1973

in Case No 39/73 (request for a preliminary ruling by the Oberverwaltungsgericht): Rewe-Zentralfinanz EGmbH v. the Director of the Landwirtschaftskammer Westfalen-Lippe ⁽¹⁾

(Language of the Case: German)

In Case No 39/73, reference to the Court under Article 177 of the EEC Treaty by the Oberverwaltungsgericht für das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen for a preliminary ruling in the action pending before that Court between Rewe-Zentralfinanz EGmbH and the Director of the Landwirtschaftskammer Westfalen-Lippe on the interpretation of Article

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 36, 1. 6. 1973.

13 (2) of the EEC Treaty, the Court composed of R. Lecourt (President), R. Monaco and P. Pescatore (Presidents of Chambers), A. M. Donner, J. Mertens de Wilmars, H. Kutscher, C. Ó Dálaigh, M. Sørensen and Lord Mackenzie Stuart (Rapporteur), Judges, Advocate-General: A. Trabucchi, Registrar: A. Van Houtte gave a judgment on 11 October 1973 the operative part of which is as follows:

1. *Pecuniary charges, whatever their amount, imposed for reasons of phyto-sanitary examination of products when they cross the frontier, which are determined according to criteria of their own, which criteria are not comparable with those for determining the pecuniary charges attaching to similar domestic products, are deemed charges having an effect equivalent to customs duties.*

2. *The activity of the administration of the State intended to maintain a phyto-sanitary system imposed in the general interest cannot be regarded as a service rendered to the importer such as to justify the imposition of a pecuniary charge.*

II

(Preparatory Acts)

COMMISSION

Proposal for a Council Directive on a 10th amendment to the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption

(Submitted to the Council by the Commission on 3 December 1973)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community; and in particular Article 100 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

Whereas the Council Directive of 5 November 1963 ⁽¹⁾ on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption, as last amended by the Council Directive of 26 December 1972 ⁽²⁾, provides for the use of thiabendazole under a temporary heading at a maximum level per kg of fruit of 6 mg in the case of citrus fruit and 3 mg in case of bananas;

Whereas experience in the use of thiabendazole has shown that the maintenance of these levels is technologically justified;

Whereas it may be suitable technologically to raise this level to 10 mg in the case of citrus fruit but it is

necessary to complete certain scientific and technical information before considering such a measure;

Whereas on the contrary it is fully justified for technological reasons to maintain the levels at present admitted without limitation in time which in addition does not constitute any risk for the public health having regard to the most recent examinations carried out at an international level,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Under No E 233 of Section 1 of the Annex to the Council Directive of 5 November 1963, paragraph (c) is deleted.

Article 2

Member States shall bring into force not later than 1 January 1974 the necessary legal or administrative measures to comply with this Directive and shall forthwith inform the Commission.

Article 3

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 12, 27. 1. 1964, p. 161/64.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 298, 31. 12. 1972, p. 48.

Proposal for a Council Regulation extending the arrangements made by Regulation (EEC) No 1253/73 on imports of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry', originating in and coming from Cyprus, and the introduction of subsidies for similar wine products produced in the Community as originally constituted and exported to Ireland and the United Kingdom

(Submitted to the Council by the Commission on 6 December 1973)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas Regulation (EEC) No 1253/73⁽¹⁾ introduced arrangements for imports of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry', originating in and coming from Cyprus, and subsidies for similar wine products produced in the Community as originally constituted and exported to Ireland and the United Kingdom;

Whereas these arrangements are applicable until 31 December 1973; whereas, however, pursuant to Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1253/73, if, before 1 September 1973, the Republic of Cyprus enacts legislation on wine production which is in conformity with Community rules applicable to products similar to the products specified in Article 1, the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission in accordance with the voting procedure laid down in Article 43 (2) of the Treaty, is to take all necessary steps to ensure that the arrangements are extended in accordance with the terms of the exchange of letters⁽²⁾ annexed to the Protocol laying down certain provisions relating to the Agreement establishing an association between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Cyprus following the Accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community;

Whereas on 31 August 1973 the Republic of Cyprus adopted new rules governing wine and on 16 October 1973 sent texts for perusal by the Commission;

Whereas, however, consideration of these texts is not yet far enough advanced for a decision finally to be

taken on whether the legislation enacted by Cyprus is in conformity with Community rules;

Whereas the legislation enacted should therefore be examined with the authorities of Cyprus with a view to making any necessary changes thereto;

Whereas the Cypriot authorities have declared their willingness to collaborate with the Commission in order to seek the best ways of applying the exchange of letters referred to above;

Whereas in the meantime any interruption in the arrangements applicable to imports of the relevant products into the United Kingdom and Ireland should be avoided,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the period from 1 January to 31 December 1974, the countervailing charge provided for in the first subparagraph of Article 9 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70⁽³⁾, as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2592/73⁽⁴⁾ of 24 September 1973, shall not be levied on imports into Ireland and the United Kingdom of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry' originating in and coming from Cyprus up to a maximum amount of 200 000 hectolitres.

Article 2

1. The amount of 200 000 hectolitres fixed in Article 1 shall be divided into two quotas, the one of 2 000 hectolitres for Ireland and the other of 198 000 hectolitres for the United Kingdom.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 133, 21. 5. 1973, p. 115.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 133, 21. 5. 1973, p. 95.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 99, 5. 5. 1970, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 269, 26. 9. 1973, p. 1.

2. The said Member States shall ensure that all importers of the relevant product established in their territory have free access to the quotas attributed to them.

3. The extent to which the quotas of these Member States have been used up shall be assessed on the basis of imports of the product in question passed through customs under cover of declarations that it has been released for consumption.

4. The Member States concerned shall inform the Commission at regular intervals of imports from Cyprus actually set off against their quotas.

Article 3

Wine products imported into the United Kingdom and into Ireland free of countervailing charge, pursuant to Article 1, may not be exported to other Member States.

Article 4

1. Subsidies shall be granted in respect of exports effected from 1 February 1973 to 31 December 1974 to Ireland and the United Kingdom of wine products produced in the Community as originally constituted

which are similar to the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry'.

2. The subsidies referred to in paragraph 1 shall be calculated on the basis of the difference, on the markets of the Member States referred to in paragraph 1, between the prices of these Community wine products and the price of the wine product exported under the label of 'Cyprus Sherry'.

Article 5

Detailed rules for the application of this Regulation, in particular those concerning the amount of the subsidy and the Community wine products eligible for aid, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 7 of Regulation No 24 ⁽¹⁾ on the progressive establishment of a common organization of the market in wine.

Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 30, 20. 4. 1962, p. 989/62.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Notice to readers

The text published in the German, French, Italian and Dutch editions of this *Official Journal* (pp. 33 to 46) concerns information on the execution of projects financed by the European Development Fund.

In the light of the technical difficulties in translation, during the present internal organization of the Community, and the transitional measures of the Act of Accession which, on the one hand, exempt the new Member States from the financial contribution to EDF and, on the other hand, do not confer on their nationals the right to participate in the execution of EDF projects, the publication of this text in Danish and English is not being considered.
