

Agenda for next sitting

The President announced the following agenda for the next sitting on Wednesday, 15 September 1976:

10 a.m., 3 p.m. and possibly in the evening:

- Question Time;
- joint debate on the Council statement and the Patijn motion for a resolution on the election of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage;
- Council statement on the outcome of the European Council of July 1976;
- presentation of and first debate on the draft budget of the Communities for 1977;
- introduction of and debate on the Cointat report on draft supplementary budget No 2 for 1976;
- Shaw interim report on the amendment of the Financial Regulation;
- oral question with debate to the Conference of Foreign Ministers on the appointment of the new Commission;
- oral question with debate to the Conference of Foreign Ministers on *détente* in Europe;
- joint debate on:
 - the oral questions with debate to the Council and Commission on the state of agriculture, and
 - three oral questions with debate to the Commission on the drought.

The sitting was closed at 8.50 p.m.

H. R. NORD
Secretary-General

Georges SPÉNALE
President

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SITTING OF WEDNESDAY,
15 SEPTEMBER 1976

IN THE CHAIR: MR G. SPÉNALE
President

The sitting was opened at 10.05 a.m.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of proceedings of the previous day's sitting were approved.

Documents received

The President announced that he had received the following documents:

- an oral question with debate by Mr Alfred Bertrand, Mr Bersani, Mr Noè, Mr Ligios, Mr Girardin and Mr Vernaschi, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, to the Commission on poisonous clouds and their consequences (Doc. 294/76);

- a motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Prescott, Mr Schmidt, Mr Laban, Mr Espersen and Mr Concas on behalf of the Socialist Group on the extension of Community Member States' fishing zones to 200 miles by 1 January 1977 (Doc. 295/76);

This document had been referred to the Legal Affairs Committee as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs for their opinions;

- an interim report from Mr Shaw, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on a draft Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (Doc. 245/76) — (Doc. 296/76).

Question Time

Parliament now considered the following questions put to the Council or Commission of the European Communities (Doc. 284/76):

Questions to the Council of the European Communities**Question No 1 by Mr Berkhouwer: Possible withholding of financial aid from a Member State**

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Berkhouwer and Mr Broeksz.

Question No 2 by Mr Normanton: Severing of relations with Uganda

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, answered the question and a supplementary question put by Mr Normanton.

Question No 3 by Mr Fletcher: Council's Rules of Procedure

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, answered the question and supplementary questions put by Mr Fletcher and Mr Patijn.

Questions to the Commission of the European Communities**Question No 4 by Mr Cousté: Situation in the data-processing sector**

Mr Guazzaroni, *Member of the Commission*, answered the question and supplementary questions put by Mr Cousté, Mr Dalyell, Mr Fletcher, Mr Fellermaier, and Mr Albers.

Question No 5 by Mr Nyborg: Effects of energy extraction on fishing

Mr Lardinois, *Member of the Commission*, answered the question and supplementary questions put by Mr Nyborg, Mrs Ewing, Mr Noè, Mr Normanton, Mr Dalyell and Mr Osborn.

Question No 6 by Mr Nolan on maize-based sugar substitute would be answered in writing since the author was absent and had not named a substitute before the beginning of Question Time.

Question No 7 by Mr Osborn: International sugar negotiations

Mr Lardinois, *Member of the Commission*, answered the question and supplementary questions put by Mr Osborn, Mr Evans, Mr Scott-Hopkins and Mr Nyborg.

Question No 8 by Mr Dalyell: Scots law and the Scots legal system

Mr Ortoli, *President of the Commission*, answered the question and supplementary questions put by Mr Dalyell and Mr Fletcher.

Mrs Ewing spoke.

Question No 9 by Mr Cointat: Aid for marine aquiculture

Mr Lardinois, *Member of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Cointat, Mr Osborn, Mr Scott-Hopkins, Mr Bersani and Mr Cifarelli.

Question No 10 by Mr Herbert on an Irish cross-border study had been postponed to the October part-session at the author's request.

Question No 11 by Mr Dondelinger: Information on the European Regional Fund

Mr Thomson, *Member of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Dondelinger, Mr Giraud, Mrs Dunwoody, Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, Mrs Kellett-Bowman, Mr Hamilton and Mr Molloy.

Question No 12 by Mr Hughes: Recruiting of new staff

Mr Ortoli, *President of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Hughes, Mr Lagorce and Mr Noè.

Question No 13 by Mr Kavanagh: Community programme of pilot schemes and studies to combat poverty

Mr Hillery, *Vice-President of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Albers, deputizing for the author, Mr Cifarelli, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams and Mr Laban.

Question No 14 by Mr Evans: Concentration of wealth in prosperous regions of the Community

Mr Thomson, *Member of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Evans, Mrs Kellett-Bowman and Mr Fletcher.

Question No 15 by Mr Prescott: Conviction of Mr Stanley Adams

Sir Christopher Soames, *Vice-President of the Commission*, answered this question and a supplementary question put by Mr Prescott.

Mr Cousté spoke.

Sir Christopher Soames then answered a further supplementary question put by Mr Fellermaier.

Question No 16 by Mr Hamilton: Tax on vegetable oil

Mr Lardinois, *Member of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Mr Hamilton, Mrs Dunwoody, Mr Scott-Hopkins and Mr Frehsee.

Question No 17 by Lord Bethell: Smoking and its effects on health

Mr Hillery, *Vice-President of the Commission*, answered this question and supplementary questions put by Lord Bethell and Mr Espersen.

The following spoke on a question of procedure: Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, Mr Spicer and Lord Bessborough.

Speaking on behalf of the Socialist Group, Mr Fellermaier requested a debate on the Commission's answer to Question No 16. This debate would be held directly after Question Time.

The President declared Question Time closed.

He reminded members that questions which it had not been possible to consider would be answered in writing unless their authors wished to receive an oral answer at the next Question Time.

Welcome to two new Commission members

On behalf of Parliament, the President welcomed Mr Guazzaroni and Mr Vouel, new members of the Commission.

Mr Guazzaroni and Mr Vouel thanked the President for his kind words.

Debate on request: Tax on vegetable oil

In accordance with the request made by Mr Fellermaier on behalf of the Socialist Group, Parliament now held a debate on the Commission's answer to Question No 16 by Mr Hamilton on the tax on vegetable oil.

The following spoke: Mr Laban, on behalf of the Socialist Group, Mr Alfred Bertrand, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Scott-Hopkins, on behalf of the European Conservative Group, Mr Houdet, *Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture*, Mr Frehsee, Mr Hamilton, Lord Reay, Mr Fellermaier, Mr De Koning, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Lardinois, *Member of the Commission*, Mr Frehsee, Mr Laban, Mr Lardinois, Mr Carpentier and Mr Lardinois.

The President declared the debate closed.

The sitting was suspended at 12.55 p.m. and resumed at 3.05 p.m.

Tribute to Mr Dehousse

On behalf of Parliament, the President paid tribute to Mr Fernand Dehousse, a great European and former member and Vice-President of the European Parliament, who had died on 11 August 1976.

In their turn, Mr Ortoli, *President of the Commission*, and Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, also paid tribute to the memory of the late Mr Dehousse.

Election of Parliament by direct universal suffrage

The next item on the agenda was the joint debate on a statement by the President-in-Office of the Council on the direct election of Parliament by universal suffrage, and on a motion for a resolution on the same subject.

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, made a statement on the election of members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage following the outcome of the European Council of 12 and 13 July 1976 and of the Council of the European Communities of 27 and 28 July 1976.

Mr Patijn introduced the motion for a resolution which he had tabled on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee on direct elections to the European Parliament by universal suffrage (Doc. 288/76).

The following spoke: Mr Stewart, on behalf of the Socialist Group, Mr Alfred Bertrand, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Durieux, on behalf of the Liberal and Allies Group, Sir Peter Kirk, on behalf of the European Conservative Group, Mr Boano, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group and Mr Hamilton.

Mr Spicer and Mr Hamilton spoke on a question of procedure.

The following spoke in the continuing debate: Mr de la Malène, on behalf of the European Progressive Democrats, Mrs Dunwoody, Mrs Ewing, Mr Bordu, Mr Sandri, Mr De Sanctis, Mr Espersen and Lord Gordon Walker.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr J. SANTER

Vice-President

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, spoke.

The President declared the joint debate closed.

Parliament now considered the motion for a resolution and first adopted the preamble and paragraph 1.

On paragraph 2, Mr de la Malène had tabled, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, Amendment No 3, which he now moved.

The following spoke: Mr Radoux, Mr de la Malène, Mr Patijn, Mr de la Malène, Mr Patijn, Mr Alfred Bertrand, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Espersen, Mr Radoux, and Mr Stewart, on behalf of the Socialist Group.

Amendment No 3 was rejected.

Parliament adopted paragraph 2.

Parliament adopted paragraphs 3 and 4.

Two amendments had been tabled proposing the insertion of a new paragraph after paragraph 4, namely:

- Amendment No 1 by Mr Bersani, Mr Pisoni and Mr Girardin, and
- Amendment No 2 by Lord Gladwyn.

Mr Bersani withdrew Amendment No 1.

Lord Gladwyn moved Amendment No 2.

The following spoke: Mr Brugger, Mr Waltmans, Mr Cifarelli, Lord Bethell, Mr Berkhouwer, Mr Fellermaier, Mr Patijn, Sir Peter Kirk, Mr Bangemann, Mr Boano, Mr Durieux, Mr Fellermaier, Mr Alfred Bertrand and Lord Gladwyn.

Amendment No 2 was rejected.

Parliament adopted paragraph 5.

Parliament adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

on direct elections to the European Parliament by universal suffrage

The European Parliament

- having regard to its resolutions of 14 January 1975 (Doc. 368/74) ⁽¹⁾, 11 March 1976 (Doc. 11/76) ⁽²⁾, 7 April 1976 (Doc. 45/76) ⁽³⁾ and 16 June 1976 (Doc. 174/76) ⁽⁴⁾,
 - having regard to the undertaking given by the European Council on 12 and 13 July 1976 that the act concerning the election of the European Parliament would be signed by the end of July,
 - deploring the decision by the Council of the Communities on 27 July to postpone the signing until its meeting of 20 September 1976,
 - considering that any further delay in the approval of the act by the Council would jeopardize the implementation of the European Council's decision that the elections should take place on the date fixed by it,
 - convinced of the need to broaden as soon as possible the democratic basis of the Community by election of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage,
1. Calls upon the Council of the Communities to finally sign the act at its meeting of 20 September 1976;
 2. Insists that the European Council's decision of 2 December 1975 in Rome that the election will take place in May/June 1978 should be respected;
 3. Notes the total number of seats and their distribution between the Member States decided by the European Council on 12 July 1976 and declares its agreement thereto;
 4. Calls upon the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States to put the ratification procedures in hand as soon as possible after the signing of the legal act and to adopt the necessary implementing measures so that the election can take place on the agreed date;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission and to the Parliaments and Governments of the Member States.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 32, 11. 2. 1975, p. 15.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 79, 5. 4. 1976, p. 27.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 100, 3. 5. 1976, p. 24.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 159, 12. 7. 1976, p. 23.

Order of business

Mr Aigner proposed that Mr Shaw's interim report on the Financial Regulation (Doc. 296/76) should be referred back to committee.

The following spoke: Sir Peter Kirk, Mr Shaw, Mr Aigner, Mr Fellermaier, Mr Aigner, who withdrew his proposal, Mr Notenboom and Mr Fellermaier.

On a proposal from the President, Parliament then decided to postpone the oral questions with debate on the drought (Doc. 276/76, Doc. 280/76, Doc.

286/76 and Doc. 282/76) to the next sitting on Thursday, 16 September 1976, when they would be taken as the second item on the agenda.

On a proposal from the institution concerned and with the agreement of the author it was decided that Mr Cointat's oral question to the Council on the state of agriculture (Doc. 276/76) should be answered in writing.

The following spoke: Mr Scott-Hopkins, Mr Cointat and Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*.

Statement by the President on the Friuli area

The President informed Parliament that the Friuli disaster area had just been struck by another earthquake.

Statement by the President of the Council on the results of the European Council of 12 and 13 July 1976

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, made a statement on the other results of the European Council of 12 and 13 July 1976.

The following spoke: Mr Alfred Bertrand, Mr Dalyell, Mr Ortoli, *President of the Commission*, Mr Brinkhorst, Mr Dalyell, Mr Radoux and Mr Brinkhorst.

Presentation of and first debate on the draft general budget of the Communities for 1977

Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, presented the draft general budget of the Communities for the financial year 1977 (Doc. 291/76).

IN THE CHAIR: Mr L. MARTENS

Vice-President

Procedural motion

Lord Castle proposed that the debate should be adjourned.

The following spoke on this proposal: Sir Peter Kirk, Lord Bruce and Lord Castle.

Parliament rejected Lord Castle's proposal.

Presentation of and first debate on the draft general budget of the Communities for 1977 (continued)

The following spoke: Mr Cheysson, *Member of the Commission*, Lord Bruce, *General Rapporteur on the 1977 Budget*, Mr Carpentier, Mr Notenboom, on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group, Mr Cointat, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats, and Mr Cheysson.

The President declared the debate closed.

Order of business

The following spoke on the order of business: Mr Spicer, Mr Cointat and Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*.

The President announced that, on a proposal from the authors and with the agreement of the institutions concerned:

- the oral question with debate by Mr Berkhouwer to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Communities on the appointment of the new Commission (Doc. 278/76) would be answered in writing;
- the oral question with debate by the Political Affairs Committee to the Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Communities on *détente* in Europe (Doc. 274/76) had been postponed to the next part-session.

Supplementary budget No 2 for 1976 (presentation and debate)

The following spoke: Mr Brinkhorst, *President-in-Office of the Council*, and Mr Cheysson, *Member of the Commission*.

Mr Cointat introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 of the European Communities for the 1976 financial year (Doc. 261/76) — (Doc. 293/76).

Lord Bruce and Mr Notenboom spoke.

The President reminded Parliament that the vote on the motion for a resolution contained in the report by Mr Cointat would be held during the next day's sitting.

Financial Regulation applicable to the budget of the Communities

Mr Shaw introduced his interim report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets, on the draft Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (Doc. 245/76) — (Doc. 296/76).

Mr Cheysson, *Member of the Commission*, spoke.

Mr Notenboom asked for the debate to be adjourned until October.

Lord Bruce and Mr Cointat spoke on Mr Notenboom's request.

Parliament rejected this request.

The following spoke in the continuing debate: Mr Clerfayt and Mr Shaw, *Rapporteur*.

On the draft Regulation, Mr Cointat had tabled on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats Amendment No 1 proposing the deletion of Article 2, which he now moved.

Mr Notenboom and the rapporteur spoke.
Amendment No 1 was rejected.

Parliament then adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the draft Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the letter from the Council of the European Communities concerning the draft Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 (Doc. 245/76),
 - having regard to the meeting between a delegation from the European Parliament and the Council on 22 July 1976,
 - aware of the difficulties posed by the opening of the budgetary procedure for 1977 before full agreement could be reached on the Commission's proposals concerning a general review of the Financial Regulation,
 - having regard to the interim report of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. 296/76),
1. Approves the Council's suggestions for an Interim Regulation providing a legal basis for commitment appropriations;
 2. Recalls its firm intention to proceed, as soon as possible and before adoption of the 1977 budget, with the general review of the Financial Regulation, in the light of the strengthening of the European Parliament's budgetary powers as a result of the signing of the Treaty of 22 July 1975;
 3. Considers it vital, therefore, that the dialogue between the institutions should proceed immediately on the other points arising from the Commission's proposals;
 4. Underlines once again the interim nature of this draft Regulation which is to apply to the 1977 budget only.

Agenda for next sitting

The President announced the following agenda for the next sitting on Thursday, 16 September 1976:

11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

- vote on a motion for a resolution contained in the Cointat report on draft supplementary budget No 2 for 1976;

— joint debate on:

- the oral questions to the Council and Commission on the state of agriculture, and
- three oral questions to the Commission on the drought;
- oral question with debate to the Commission on milk production
- second Bourdellès report on the common organization on the market in potatoes;

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| — oral question with debate to the Commission on the common agricultural policy and the Third World; | — Normanton report on competition policy; |
| — oral question with debate to the Commission on the north/south dialogue; | — joint debate on two oral questions to the Commission on pollution. |

The sitting was closed at 10.05 p.m.

H. R. NORD
Secretary-General

Georges SPÉNALE
President

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SITTING OF THURSDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 1976

IN THE CHAIR: Mr G. SPÉNALE
President

The sitting was opened at 11.05 a.m.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of proceedings of the previous day's sitting were approved.

Verification of credentials

On a proposal from the Bureau which, pursuant to Rule 3 (1) of the Rules of Procedure, had checked that the appointment of Mr. Waltmans complied with the provisions of the Treaties, Parliament decided to ratify this appointment.

Supplementary budget No 2 for 1976 (vote)

The first item on the agenda was the vote on the motion for a resolution contained in the report by Mr Cointat on behalf of the Committee on Budgets on draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 of the European Communities for the financial year 1976 (Doc. 261/76) — (Doc. 293/76). This report had been considered at the sitting of Wednesday, 15 September 1976.

Mr Cointat, *Rapporteur*, pointed out that paragraph 5 of the motion for a resolution should read as follows:

'5. Approves draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 for the financial year 1976 and instructs its President to declare it finally adopted.'

Parliament agreed to this modification.

Parliament adopted the following resolution: