

**Opinion on the proposal**

- for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70 on the common organization of the market in flax and hemp
- for a Council Regulation on the measures encouraging the use of flax fibres for the 1980/81 and 1981/82 marketing years

The text referred to the Committee has been published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* No C 106 of 29 April 1980 pages 11 and 12.

**A. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE OPINION**

On 23 April 1980 the Council referred the abovementioned proposal to the Economic and Social Committee in accordance with Articles 43 and 100 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

**B. OPINION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

The Economic and Social Committee prepared its opinion on the above matter at its 180th plenary session held in Brussels on 2 and 3 July 1980.

The full text of the opinion is as follows:

**THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE,**

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Articles 43 and 100 thereof,

Having regard to the Council's decision of 23 April 1980 to consult the Economic and Social Committee,

Having regard to its Bureau's decision of 28 April 1980 to entrust the Section for Agriculture with the preparation of the Committee's work on the matter,

Having regard to the opinion issued by the Section for Agriculture at its meeting on 5 June 1980,

Having regard to the oral report made by the rapporteur, Mr Bernaert,

Having regard to the discussions at its 180th plenary session on 2 and 3 July 1980 (meeting of 3 July),

**HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING OPINION**

unanimously:

Done at Brussels, 3 July 1980.

1. The Committee approves the Commission proposals subject to the following comments.

2.1. The Proposal amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70 is necessary to allow implementation of the measures contained in the second proposal.

2.2. The Committee notes that the measures provided for in Article 2 (3) of the amended version of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70 are to be implemented in conjunction with the relevant trade organizations.

3.1. As regards the second proposal, the Committee urges that the total funds earmarked for the 1980/81 marketing year should be more on a par with those envisaged for 1981/82.

3.2. While stopping short of the maximum permitted under Article 2 (2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70, as amended, the Commission's contribution could approach the amount deducted from aid.

*The Chairman*  
*of the Economic and Social Committee*  
Raffaele VANNI