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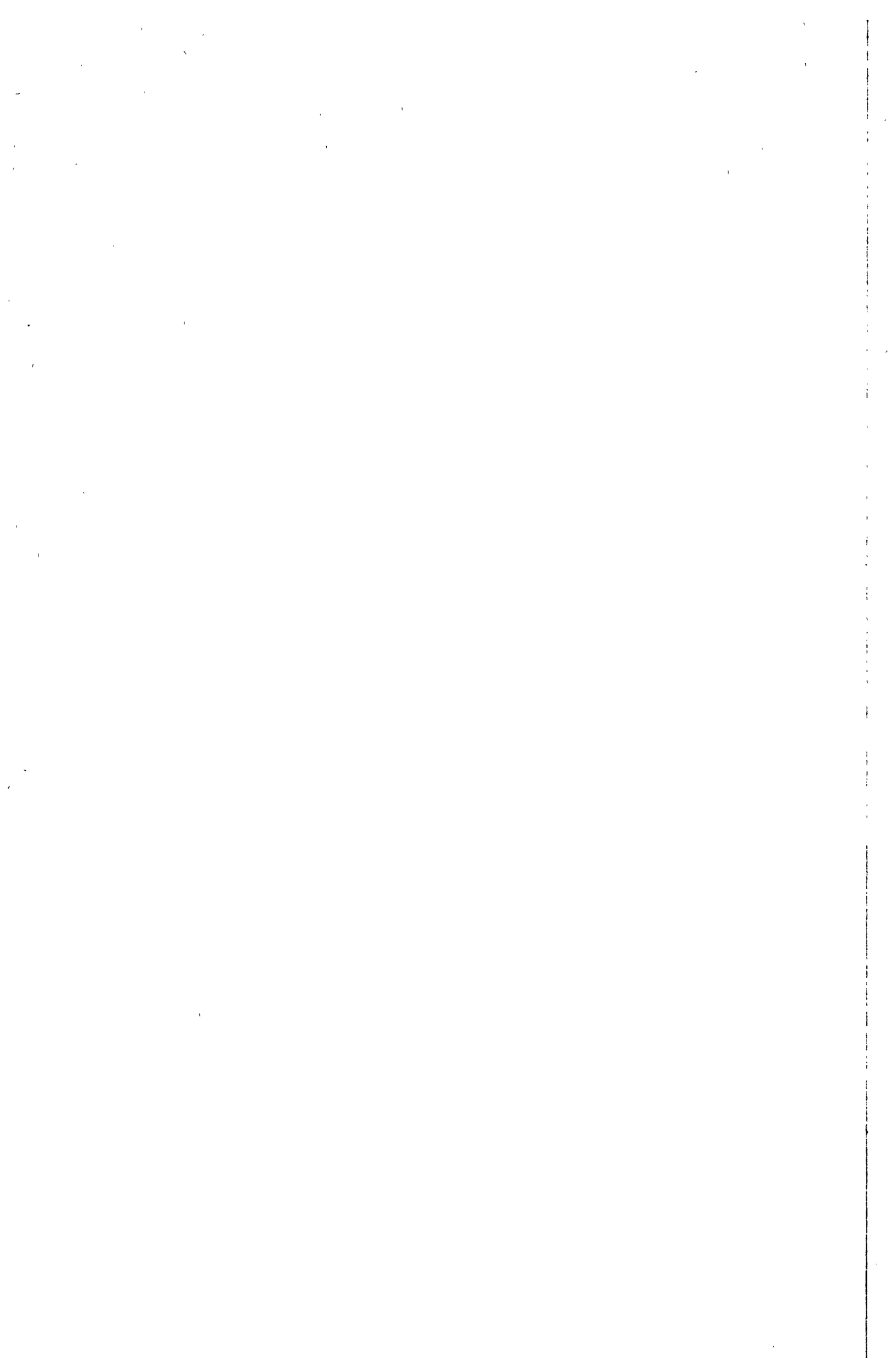
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Oral Questions

Pursuant to Rule 47a of the Rules of Procedure

for QUESTION TIME

on 14 and 16 January 1980



1. Question by Mr DEBRE (H-157/79)

Subject: Conditions of access to the market for manufacturers in the French overseas departments and the ACP countries

Is the Commission aware that under the Lomé Convention the conditions for industrialization of the associated countries are more favourable than for the overseas departments, since the former have automatic access to the markets of the latter, while the reverse is not true? If so, what measures does the Commission intend to take to rectify this inequality, the results of which may be disastrous for the overseas departments?

2. Question by Miss DE VALERA (H-182/79)

Subject: Training of teachers in consumer protection

On the basis of a seminar held in 1977 on consumer education in schools, the Commission set up a working group on the training of teachers in consumer protection. What results have been achieved so far?

3. Question by Mr DE LA MALENE (H-189/79)

Subject: US oil imports

Can the Commission confirm that oil imports into the United States increased considerably in both volume and value during the early months of 1979 compared with the same period in 1978 and state whether this policy of strategic stock building puts pressure on the world market?

4. Question by Lord BETHELL (H-198/79)

Subject: Free medical care in the Member States

What plans have the Commission to simplify and extend the reciprocal medical services available to Community citizens on production of the E-111 form? Do they believe that eventually any Community citizen should be entitled to free medical care in any Member State on production of his passport or identity card?

5. Question by Mr DONNEZ (H-201/79)

Subject: Introduction of a European official holiday

Since all over the world 8 May marked the end of the Nazi dictatorship in Europe, would it not be desirable to make this day a European official holiday which would be celebrated in all the Member States?

6. Question by Mr HABSBURG (H-340/79)^x

Subject: Policy of the Commission towards liberation movements

Is there a political guideline within the Commission on contacts between its members and liberation movements?

If not, on what principles are the talks between individual members and the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe - Rhodesia or the PLO conducted?

7. Question by Mr ALMIRANTE (H-333/79)^{xx, xxx}

Subject: Italian shipyard crisis

Italian shipyards are in a state of serious crisis because of the world surplus of ships and over-production in non-European countries, particularly Japan.

The European Community's Davignon plan, which provides for a significant reduction in European and Italian ship production, is contributing to this crisis.

This crisis has brought production to a standstill, particularly in shipyards in southern Italy and the Neapolitan area, and made hundreds of workers dependent on the fund to supplement earnings, with the result that they justifiably fear loss of their jobs.

1. What initiatives does the Commission intend to take, particularly as regards revision of the policy adopted to date, in order to cope with non-European competition and to collaborate with Italy in launching a systematic plan to stimulate the shipping industry, particularly in the South?

^x Former oral question without debate (0-124/79) converted into a question for Question Time

^{xx} Former oral question without debate (0-100/79) converted into a question for Question Time

^{xxx} Will not be called if items 154 and 156 are kept on the agenda

2. What initiatives does it intend to take to prevent shipowners from using unseaworthy ships, often flying flags of convenience, and to make it compulsory for shipowners to overhaul their ships properly and thus create new work for shipyards?
3. What initiatives does it intend to take to encourage the granting of credit to shipping firms which purchase new ships in Italy?

8. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-264/79)

Subject : Cuban-Congolese deportation of 600 children

To ask the Commission whether it will make representations to the Government of the People's Republic of the Congo about the combined Cuban-Congolese deportation of 600 children from the People's Republic of the Congo to Cuba for purposes of political indoctrination against the wishes of their parents, which constitutes a flagrant breach of human rights by a signatory of the Lomé convention ?

9. Question by Mr SPICER (H-284/79/rev)

Subject: Raw materials exports from and imports into Zaire and Zambia

What consultations has the Commission had with the governments of Zaire and Zambia with a view to improving transport facilities for their raw materials exports and imports?

10. Question by Sir Peter VANNECK (H-290/79)

Subject: Implementation of the directive on the inspection of meat and meat products

Can the Commission confirm that its inquiry into the qualifications of non-veterinary personnel responsible for the supervision and certification of meat products establishments and their products is limited to the United Kingdom, or has it been extended to all the countries of the Community?

11. Question by Mr Christopher JACKSON (H-295/79)

Subject: Famine in Timor

What steps is the Commission taking to relieve famine on the island of Timor?

12. Question by Mr NORD (H-298/79)

Subject: Staffing policy of the Commission

In the recruitment of staff at all levels is sufficient account taken of the need for as broad a distribution as possible over all the Member States?

13. Question by Mr CAROSSINO (H-302/79)

Subject: Safeguard clauses in respect of floriculture
Regulation (EEC) No. 3280/75

Consequent upon the Lomé agreements of 1975, under which liberalization measures were to be applied to exports of floricultural products to the European market from 1978 onwards, would the Commission not agree that it should effectively implement the safeguard measures provided for in Regulation No. 3280/75 in the event of disturbance of the market and that, in this connection, a system of protection that operated immediately and avoided long delays and exhaustive checks but was based on the current cost price and acceptable values, would better safeguard the interests of European floriculturalists?

14. Question by Mr BANGEMANN (H-310/79)

Subject: Failure to answer Written Question No. 623/79

Why has the Commission not answered my Written Question No. 623/79

15. Question by Miss BROOKES (H-316/79)

Subject: Steel closure at Shotton

As a result of British Steel Corporation's decision announced on 9th November 1979, to close a section of Shotton Steelworks, 6 500 of its employees will lose their jobs, as will many other workers whose jobs depend on steel. Will the Commission take all necessary steps to mitigate the disastrous effects of this closure, in particular by making available all possible financial aid for the re-training of workers, and the future development of Deeside?

16. Question by Miss HOOPER (H-337/79)

Subject: Dumping of Steel Baths

Is the Commission aware of the complaints of British steel bath manufacturers that Italian manufacturers, (and in particular the firm of Merloni Igienico Sanitari S.p.A.) are being subsidised by the Italian Government and are dumping their products on the European market, causing factory closures and loss of jobs; and what action does the Commission propose to take on this?

17. Question by Lord DOURO (H-343/79)

Subject: V.A.T. on bloodstock

Would the Commission indicate what steps have been taken to ensure that the French and Irish Governments comply with Community law in the application of V.A.T. to the import of thoroughbred racehorses and to supplies of training services?

18. Question by Mr MORELAND (H-344/79)

Subject: Commission President's Lecture

Did the Commission President speak in a personal capacity or on behalf of the Commission when he recently lectured in the UK ('Dibleby'-lecture), and if he spoke in a personal capacity will he state if he discussed the contents of his lecture with the college of Commissioners beforehand?

19. Question by Mr O'CONNELL (H-348/79)

Subject: Consumer affairs

Does the Commission propose a widespread T.V. information and education programme for consumers at peak viewing time each week, for all E.E.C. Countries, within the next year?

20. Question by Mr BAUDIS (H-350/79)

Subject: Community legislation on the use of dipped headlights on motor vehicles

Can the Commission give details of the laws in force in the Member States on the compulsory use of dipped headlights on motor vehicles and state whether approximation of these laws is envisaged at Community level?

21. Question by Mrs BARBARELLA (H-351/79)

Subject: Producer associations

Can the Commission indicate why the procedures for implementing Regulation No. 1360 of 19 June 1978 on the formation and encouragement of producer associations have not yet been adopted and state whether this delay is due to difficulty in determining the criteria for recognition of the associations?

22. Question by Mr BATTERSBY (H-352/79)

Subject : The Community's Relations with China

Following the acceptance by China of a low interest loan from Japan of \$1.5 bn at 3 %, announced 7 December 1979, what steps is the Commission taking to ensure that Community firms can compete on equal terms with their international competitors in the China market ?

23. Question by Mr Jørgen BRØNDLUND NIELSEN (H-388/79)^x

Subject: Price trends in agricultural production factors

What trends are forecast by the Commission in the price of agricultural production factors, for example, feedstuffs, fuel and fertilizers in 1980?

Would the Commission please make any such forecasts known to the European Parliament?

Does the Commission expect that price rises for agricultural products - partly as a result of the Commission's price proposals will be such as to cover the price rise in production factors and, in addition, to allow a 6-7% rise in agricultural incomes?

24. Question by Mr SCHWARTZENBERG (H-354/79)

Subject: Communications from the Commission on action taken on the opinions and resolutions of the European Parliament

The Commission, through its Commissioner responsible for relations with the European Parliament, traditionally reports each Monday of a part-session on the action taken on the opinions delivered by the European Parliament on proposals for regulations and directives submitted to Parliament pursuant to the Treaties.

Would the Commission kindly inform Parliament in future of action taken on all its resolutions, and not only on the opinions requested of it?

25. Question by Mr DELEAU (H-355/79)

Subject: The Italian iron and steel works at Bagnoli

Seeing that the European iron and steel industry is already suffering from over-capacity, does the Commission deem the planned expansion of the works at Bagnoli reasonable, seeing that this could eventually accentuate the imbalance now in evidence in the flat-rolled products sector?

^x Former oral question without debate (0-156/79) converted into a question for Question Time

26. Question by Mr REMILLY (H-356/79)

Subject: Action by the Commission to combat crisis in iron
and steel industry

Does the Commission contemplate informing the European Parliament
of its intentions concerning a possible continuation of the
DAVIGNON plan in 1980?

27. Question by Mrs EWING (H-358/79)

Subject: FEOGA grants for fishing vessels

Will the Commission make a statement on its latest deliberations on
criteria for and policy on FEOGA grants for fishing vessels ?

28. Question by Mr DIANA (H-361/79)

Subject: Standards applicable to the live plant and
flower sector

What conclusions does the Commission draw from the document
adopted unanimously by the Advisory Committee on Live Plants
regarding the modification of quality standards which was
officially forwarded to it on 27 November 1979, having regard
also to the consequences that failure to implement the safe-
guard clause provided for by the Lomé agreements with the
developing countries has had on the Community live plant and
flower sector in particular? What steps does the Commission
intend to take to protect this sector within the context of
the implementation of the recently renewed convention?

29. Question by Mr MESSMER (H-362/79)

Subject: 'Europole' hovertrain link project connecting the North Sea
with the Alps via Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg

The 'Europole' project initiated under the auspices of the Council of
Europe and intended to link Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg, in
addition to other towns, by means of a hovertrain which will travel at
over 300 km/hour, could help solve the problem of the location of the
Institutions of the European Communities.

Does the Commission agree, and, if so, what measures does it intend to take to promote a thorough-going examination of this project?

30. Question by Mr MUNTINGH (H-365/79)^x

Subject: Environmental action programme

In the second environmental action programme reference is made to a cartographic survey of the environment to be carried out in Europe. A pilot project to ascertain the best method of effecting such a survey is now under way in Ireland. The project is being carried out by the National Institute for Physical Planning and Construction Research in collaboration with AG Landschaftstechnik of Munich. The project should be completed in May 1980.

Would the Commission report on the interim results and progress of this study so that Parliament and the public may be informed about it at an early stage and have the opportunity to comment thereon and to what purpose does the Commission intend to put the eventual results of this environmental study project?

31. Question by Mr WELSH (H-366/79)

Subject: Letter of 19 November addressed to Commissioner Giolitti

When will the Commission answer my letter of 19 November addressed to Commission Giolitti regarding the review of the Regional Fund regulation in 1980?

32. Question by Mr ANSQUER (H-367/79)

Subject: Supervision of Euro-credits

Given the inflationary character of Euro-credits and their threat to the world economy, does the Commission intend to propose a system of supervision without making one country or continent suffer, and without any adverse effect on investments?

^x Former oral question without debate (0-158/79) converted into a question for Question Time

33. Question by Mrs DIENESCH (H-369/79)

Subject: Adjustments in the application of the co-responsibility
levy

In its proposal concerning the co-responsibility levy for dairy products, has the Commission provided for adjustments for each country based on the cost price of a kilogram of milk, the cost per farm of the agricultural support policy and the efforts made by each country to use skimmed and powdered milk for feeding calves for domestic consumption?

34. Question by Mr KAVANAGH (H-374/79)

Subject : Aid under Community Transport Policy for extension
of Belfast-Dublin road to Wexford-Rosslare

In view of the Green Paper on Transport Infrastructure recently published, does the Commission consider that the continuation of the Belfast-Dublin road to Wexford-Rosslare would constitute a major link of Community interest, which could benefit from funds under the financial Regulation for projects of Community interest ?

35. Question by Mr SPINELLI (H-377/79)

Subject: Conciliation between the Commission and Parliament in the
preparation of the new preliminary draft budget for 1980

How does the Commission propose to involve Parliament in, or coordinate with Parliament the initiatives for the preparation of the new preliminary draft budget for 1980 which the Commission will have to submit following the rejection of the draft budget for 1980 by Parliament?

36. Question by Mr BARBAGLI (H-378/79)

Subject: Distillation of table wine

In view of the exceptional wine grape harvest of the agricultural year 1979-1980, what does the Commission intend to do to facilitate the distillation of adequate quantities of table wine so as to guarantee the stability of the wine market and the incomes of wine growers?

37. Question by Mrs WEBER (H-383/79)

Subject: Thallium pollution

Following the detection of thallium pollution in Baden-Württemberg and North Rhine-Westphalia in the vicinity of a number of cement factories with defective purification filters, what measures does the Commission intend to take to control the use of this metal which is extremely harmful to man, his environment and his food?

38. Question by Mr PININFARINA (H-386/79)

Subject: Aid from the Italian State to partly state-owned industries in the clothing sector

Does not the Commission think that a speedy response to the action brought last May by the European Clothing Manufacturers Association against the Italian Government for violation of Articles 90, 92 and 93 of the Treaty of Rome might help to bring some clarity into an area where irregular competition mechanisms have blocked possibilities of action and in certain cases have threatened the continued existence of healthy and productive enterprises without affording any advantages in the matter of prices policy or of employment policy?

39. Question by Mr BALFE (H-387/79)

Subject: Trade in live horses

Is the Commission aware that there is a considerable trade in live horses between Italy and Greece, and by which suffering is caused to the horses involved in this trade, and will the Commission use the opportunity of the Greek accession to ensure that the conditions for the export of live horses are substantially improved, so that this cruelty is ended?

40. Question by Mr TURNER (H-390/79)

Subject: Application of a measure contained in an order of the European Court of Justice

What steps are open to the Commission, which it considers practical, to ensure in accordance with Article 155 of the EEC Treaty that the measure taken by the European Court of Justice pursuant to the provisions of the EEC Treaty in its Order of 25th September 1979 relating to French importation of sheepmeat is applied?

41. Question by Mr SPICER (H-94/79)

Subject: Aeronautical research

In view of the importance of research and development to the future of the Community's aerospace industries, what steps is the Council taking to give an early go ahead to the Commission aerospace research and development programme?

42. Question by Mr SCHWARTZENBERG (H-293/79/rev.)

Subject: Harmonization of legislation on the death penalty

Does the Council not feel called upon to recommend the harmonization by the Community Member States of legislation on the death penalty in view of its commitment in the preamble to the Treaties 'to lay the foundations of an ever, closer union among the peoples of Europe'?

43. Question by Mr PROVAN (H-312/79)

Subject: Export restitutions for cereal-based spirituous beverages

In view of the Council's failure to agree on further progress with the ethyl alcohol proposals, will the Council now urgently consider alternative methods of ensuring that Community cereal-based spirituous beverage producers receive the export restitutions owing to them?

44. Question by Mr BATTERSBY (H-320/79)

Subject: Community's relations with China

Now that Chairman Hua Guofeng has visited four Member States, will the Council invite China's leaders to visit the Community's Institutions during any subsequent visit to Europe?

45. Question by Mr SIEGLERSCHMIDT (H-329/79)

Subject: Directive on product liability

In view of the importance which the Council has recently attained to the expeditious adoption of certain regulations and directives, what progress has it made in its negotiations on the amended proposal on product liability submitted by the Commission on 26 September 1979 and when does it expect to adopt this directive?

46. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-276/79)

Subject: Informal ministerial meetings

What is the Council's opinion of the increasing number of informal meetings of Ministers with full or partial Community responsibilities?

47. Question by Mr FLANAGAN (H-341/79)

Subject: Reform of existing structural directives

With reference to the Council undertaking to reform structural directives and in particular the West of Ireland proposals, what steps is the Council taking to reach a decision on the structural package before the end of 1979?

48. Question by Mr OEHLER (H-342/79)

Subject: Excessive profits of certain oil companies

With several OPEC countries once again denouncing the enormous profits of the oil companies and energy problems under discussion at the European Council's meeting in Dublin, would the Council not agree that it is necessary to tax the excessive profits made by certain oil companies, which encourage speculation on the oil market, and to use the resulting funds to promote research and development programmes in the energy sector?

49. Question by Mr CARIGLIA (H-345/79)

Subject: Energy consumption

Can the Council state which countries have adopted measures, and what those measures are, for reducing energy consumption and to what extent such measures have affected or may in future affect consumption in each of the countries concerned?

50. Question by Mr BUCHOU (H-346/79)

Subject: Statute for a European Company

Why has the Council not yet considered and adopted the directive on the European Company, even though the necessary opinions of the Community Institutions have been in its possession since 1974? Is the connection between the European Company and the 5th directive the reason? In other words, is the Council's failure to act attributable to a desire to adopt legislation embracing the provisions of both directives?

51. Question by Mr O'CONNELL (H-349/79)

Subject: Consumer affairs

Would the Council of Ministers concerned with consumer affairs consider submitting a bi-annual written report to the European Parliament on action taken on consumer policy, and proposals adopted?

52. Question by Mr DEBRÉ (H-357/79)^x

Subject: United Kingdom's contribution to the Community budget

What are the Council's intentions concerning the United Kingdom's contributions to the Community budget?

^x Will not be called if item 146 is kept on the agenda

53. Question by Mrs EWING (H-359/79)

Subject: Common fisheries policy

Will the Council inform the Parliament of its most recent discussions on the common fisheries policy; when these were held; and what decisions, if any, were reached ?

54. Question by Mr PONCELET (H-363/79)

Subject: Strategy to protect the European textile industry

In view of the fact that the European textile industry is suffering from unfair competition from man-made American fibres, the costs of which are lower as a result of the dual price of oil, does the Council intend to draw up a general strategy to give increased protection to European textile products?

55. Question by Mr TUCKMAN (H-368/79)

Subject: Exit controls on individuals

What consideration has been given to the abolition of exit controls on travellers both within the Community and to destinations elsewhere?

56. Question by Mrs DIENESCH (H-370/79)

Subject: Interim programme of research on poverty for 1981 and 1982

Does the Council intend rapidly to adopt for 1981 and 1982 an interim programme of research and pilot projects on the poverty of some of the poorest groups of people in the nine Member States?

57. Question by Mr SIMPSON (H-371/79)

Subject : Statement by the President-in-office on the
Parliament's rejection of the 1980 budget

The Times newspaper of 14 December 1979 reports that the President-in-office of the Council, Mr LENIHAN, commenting on the European Parliament's rejection of the Community budget for 1980, told a radio interviewer that the parliament was rapidly becoming 'a rabble without responsibility'.

If this report is correct, does this statement represent the official view of the Council of Ministers, following Parliament's lawful exercise of its responsibilities under the treaties, and if not, what steps has the Council taken to disavow the statement and to censure Mr LENIHAN ?

58. Question by the Marquess of DOURO (H-375/79)

Subject : Spanish entry to EEC

When do the Council expect to conclude the negotiations with Spain about its accession to the EEC ?

59. Question by Mr MUNTINGH (H-384/79)

Subject: Consultation procedure with regard to nuclear matters

Can the Council inform us of the progress of its work on the adoption of a Community consultation procedure with regard to nuclear power stations which are likely to affect the territory of another Member State?

60. Question by Mr TURNER (H-389/79)

Subject: Adherence to an order of the European Court of Justice

What steps are open to the Council, which it considers practical, to take decisions under Article 145 of the EEC Treaty to ensure that the objectives set out in the EEC Treaty are attained insofar as the adherence of the French Government to the order of the European Court of Justice on sheepmeat of 25th September 1979 is concerned?



QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION

61. Question by Mr NORMANTON (H-210/79)

Subject: Attack on religious freedoms by the new Iranian regime

Are the ministers aware of the growing anxiety amongst the Bahai Community throughout the world at the threat to their Holy Shrine and place of pilgrimage in Shiraz, where the House of the Bab is being destroyed by the new Iranian Regime, and will the ministers take such action as they can to deal with this latest attack on religious freedoms?

62. Question by Mr LOMAS (H-336/79)

Subject: Human rights and China

Having noted the concern shown on many occasions by the EEC and its Member States with regard to human rights in many parts of the world and having regard to the trade agreements reached with China, are the Foreign Ministers aware that a prominent leader of China's Human Rights and Democracy Campaign, Wey Ting Sheng, has been sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment for his human rights activities and have the Foreign Ministers made any representations to the Chinese Government on behalf of Wey Ting Sheng? If the answer is no, why not?

63. Question by Mr BERKHOUWER (H-339/79)

Subject: Improvement of the situation of the Palestinian people

Would the Foreign Ministers indicate what steps have been taken to impress upon the Arab Governments and the PLO that peace with Israel is essential if further progress is to be made towards improving the lot of the Palestinian people?

64. Question by Mrs EWING (H-360/79)

Subject: Human rights in the U.S.S.R.

In view of the continuing arrests in the U.S.S.R. of people who are doing no more than monitoring the Helsinki and Belgrade Agreements on Human Rights, as reported by Amnesty International, will the Foreign Ministers coordinate their policies on foreign relations with the Soviet Union to take account of this disquieting situation?

65. Question by Mr VAN MIERT (H-372/79)

Subject: Situation in the Middle East

What do the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation intend to do in order to step up contacts with all concerned and at all levels in order to end the deadlock in the Middle East?

66. Question by Mr SCHWARTZENBERG (H-373/79)

Subject: Draft international convention on the prohibition of torture

Do the Ministers not think that they should make the necessary representations within the competent international organizations to advance the cause of the draft international convention on the prohibition of torture drawn up by Amnesty International?

67. Question by the Marquess of DOURO (H-376/79)

Subject : Southern Rhodesia

What steps do the Foreign Ministers propose to take to support the United Kingdom in its efforts to bring peace and stability to Southern Rhodesia ?

68. Question by Mr PAISLEY (H-379/79)

Subject : Members of the Community making claims over the territory of Member States

In view of the fact that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic are both members of the EEC and in view of the fact that the Constitution of the Irish Republic claims jurisdiction over Northern Ireland and in view of the fact that a parallel claim is made by Spain over the Rock of Gibraltar, what steps are they prepared to take to require members of the Community to cease making claims over the territory of Member States ?

69. Question by Mr O'CONNELL (H-380/79)

Subject: Political cooperation relating to peace-keeping in the Lebanon

How is the concern of the Nine, expressed by the Irish President-in-Office about the constant harassment of the U.N. peace-keeping forces, including citizens of the EEC in the Lebanon, being expressed in tangible terms, within the framework of European Political Cooperation; and have the European Political Cooperation Directors prepared a research report on these peace-keeping forces, and their problems in carrying out their duties, particularly the Irish troops?

