

# ARCHIVES HISTORIQUES DE LA COMMISSION

COLLECTION RELIEE DES  
DOCUMENTS "COM"

COM (79)714

Vol. 1979/0243

### ***Disclaimer***

Conformément au règlement (CEE, Euratom) n° 354/83 du Conseil du 1er février 1983 concernant l'ouverture au public des archives historiques de la Communauté économique européenne et de la Communauté européenne de l'énergie atomique (JO L 43 du 15.2.1983, p. 1), tel que modifié par le règlement (CE, Euratom) n° 1700/2003 du 22 septembre 2003 (JO L 243 du 27.9.2003, p. 1), ce dossier est ouvert au public. Le cas échéant, les documents classifiés présents dans ce dossier ont été déclassifiés conformément à l'article 5 dudit règlement.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

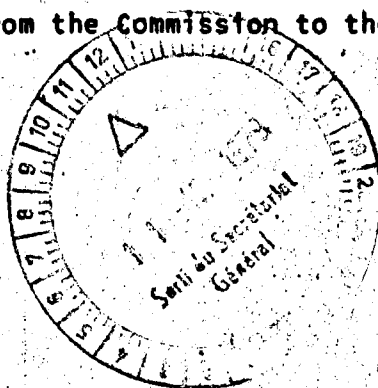
COM(79) 714 final

Brussels, 6th December 1979

**SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT**  
**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNCIL DECISION No 65/271/EEC**  
**OF 13 MAY 1965 ON THE HARMONIZATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS**  
**AFFECTING COMPETITION IN TRANSPORT BY RAIL, ROAD AND**  
**INLAND WATERWAY (1 JUNE 1977 - 31 MAY 1979)**

---

(Communication from the Commission to the Council)



COM(79) 714 final

The report covers the period 1 June 1977 to 31 May 1979 but takes account of the current situation.

\*

\*

\*

## SECTION I : TAXATION

### Articles 1a), 3, 4

No new developments since the 6th biennial report.

Article 1b) : Duty-free admission of fuel contained in the fuel tanks of commercial motor vehicles and inland waterway vessels

The Commission proposal to increase the allowance to 100 litres is still before the Council.

Article 2 : Adoption of a uniform basis for the calculation of tax on goods vehicles and on cargo-carrying waterway vessels

As far as goods vehicles are concerned, the Council has agreed on the text of a Directive on the adjustment of national taxation arrangements for goods vehicles without so far adopting it. There are grounds to believe that the remaining reservations will shortly be lifted.

As regards inland waterways vessels studies on the calculation of the marginal cost of utilisation are continuing and should be completed during the second half of 1979.

## SECTION II : STATE INTERVENTIONS

As stated in previous reports, particularly the fifth biennial report<sup>1</sup>, all provisions have been the subject of Community regulations whose application is covered by the

- 1) "Second biennial report on the economic and financial situation of railway undertakings" (Article 14 of Decision 75/327/EEC<sup>2</sup>)
- 2) Inventory of State aids and compensations communicated to the Member States by letter VII/C-4/15015 of 26 June 1979.

## SECTION III : SOCIAL PROVISIONS

### I. Road transport

1. Council Regulation (EEC) No 543/69 of 25 March 1969 on the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport<sup>3</sup> has been amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2827/77 of 12 December 1977<sup>4</sup>.

The amendments particularly concern the removal of the obligation to carry two drivers for daily distances greater than 450 km where the control device used is a tachograph, the increase in the weekly rest period from 24 to 29 hours, the relaxation of the provisions concerning the daily rest period on board ferries or trains (combined transport), the ban on paying drivers according to distances covered or the volume of goods transported where this might jeopardize road safety.

In addition, Council Regulation (EEC) No 2828/77 has amended Regulation (EEC) No 1463/70 on the introduction of recording equipment in road transport<sup>5</sup> by introducing relief in certain areas and by making some technical changes. Certain points - e.g. spreadover, annual holiday etc. - will fall to be dealt with at a later stage.

2. Under Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2827/77, the Commission authorized the application of stage-by-stage arrangements until the end of 1980 for national transport operations in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

---

<sup>1</sup> COM(75) 301 final of 20 June 1975

<sup>2</sup> COM(79) 447 final of 7 September 1979

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 77 of 29 March 1969, page 49.

(consolidated version OJ C 73 of 17.3.1979) :

: 4 OJ L 334 of 24 December 1977, p.

: 5 OJ L 164 of 27 July 1970, p.1

:

:

3. The application in some Member States of Regulation No 543 has brought about an improvement in the situation but the situation is not yet satisfactory.

European Agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transports (AETR)

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2829/77 of 12 December 1977 amended Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 543/69 such that the provisions of the AETR would apply to road transport operations between the Community and third countries with effect from 1 January 1978<sup>1</sup>.

Under a Commission proposal to the Council of 17 January 1979 (COM(78) 767 final) an attempt is being made to expedite amendment of certain provisions of the AETR in order to bring it completely into line with the amended Community Regulation No 543/69.

II. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the harmonization of certain social provisions in the field of goods transport by inland waterway

The Commission's initial proposal has been amended in the light of opinions given by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

The amendments principally concern the relaxation of proposals on spread over, time spent at the helm, daily rest periods and equal treatment for men and women.

III. Railways

No proposals on the social conditions in railways are envisaged before the work on inland waterways proposals has been complemented (see previous point).

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 334 of 24 December 1977