Opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) repealing Regulations (EEC) No 3690/86 concerning the abolition within the framework of the TIR Convention of customs formalities on exit from a Member State at a frontier between two Member States, and (EEC) No 4283/88 on the abolition of certain exit formalities at internal Community frontiers—introduction of common border posts [1]

(91/C 269/07)

On 31 May 1991 the Council decided to consult the Economic and Social Committee, under Article 100 A of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, on the abovementioned proposal.

The Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services, which was responsible for preparing the Committee's work on the subject, adopted its Opinion on 5 June 1991. The Rapporteur was Mr R. Müller.

At its 288th plenary session (meeting of 3 July 1991) the Committee adopted the following Opinion unanimously.

1. To simplify the formalities when crossing an internal frontier [under the international carriage of goods by road (TIR) procedure, the ATA procedure, the Community movement carnet procedure and the procedure using NATO form 302], the Regulations now to be repealed empower the customs office of entry to carry out the tasks of the office of exit in addition to its own: thus in each case only one customs clearance is necessary.

2. Council Regulation (EEC) No 474/90 [2] abolished from 1 July 1991 the lodgement of the transit advice note in the community transit procedure on crossing an internal frontier. The next logical step is to abolish customs clearance at the internal frontiers also for the other procedures mentioned above. Council Regulation (EEC) No 719/91 [3] lays the basis for this, since it provides that the Community will be regarded as a single customs territory for the purposes of TIR and ATA carnet procedures. Council Regulations (EEC) No 3690/86 [4] and No 4283/88 [5] were thereby rendered superfluous, and the present draft Regulation repeals them. At the same time, the rules laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 719/91 are to be extended to transit under cover of NATO form 302. For the Community movement carnet, however, the simplifications laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 4283/88 must remain in force until that Regulation is completely repealed.

3. The present draft Regulation follows from the decisions already taken, and should therefore be unreservedly endorsed.

[1] OJ No C 143, 1. 6. 1991, p. 11.
[2] OJ No L 51, 27. 2. 1990, p. 1.
[3] OJ No L 78, 26. 3. 1991, p. 6.
[4] OJ No L 341, 4. 12. 1986, p. 1.
[5] OJ No L 382, 31. 12. 1988, p. 1.

Done at Brussels, 3 July 1991.

The Chairman

of the Economic and Social Committee

François STAEDELIN