

Science and Technology Policy

- harmonize disclosure requirements for balance-sheets and profit-and-loss statements;
- give workers a voice in corporate management by seating them on the company's supervisory board.

RAW MATERIALS

A long-term Community policy on raw-material supplies is likely to become an essential part of a common industrial strategy. The Community depends from 70 to 100 per cent on imports of raw materials, lacks diverse supply sources, and suffers from an insufficient willingness by firms to invest in mining and prospecting operations.

In the science and technology sectors, too, Community members seek to pool their efforts, acknowledging that, individually, they cannot finance the wide range of advanced technology projects needed today.

ECSC

The ECSC does research into health and pollution problems found in the coal and steel industries. Working through the national research institutes, the ECSC has spent over \$120 million on research. Projects have included studies of coalminers' "black-lung" disease and of ways of limiting air pollution by sulphur dioxide released in steelmaking.

EURATOM

Euratom does nuclear research at the Community's Joint Research Centre, with facilities in: Ispra, Italy; Karlsruhe, Germany; Geel, Belgium; and Petten, the Netherlands. Euratom has spent over \$1 billion on research. Its work has resulted in some 1,500 patents and 5,000 scientific articles. Projects have included studies of the effects of radiation on plants, animals and insects and a program on controlled thermonuclear fusion.

EEC

The EEC Treaty does not specifically provide for research, but member countries decided that their joint research activities should be extended into key technologies. Data-processing, telecommunications, metallurgy, pollution-control, oceanography, new means of transportation and meteorology were designated priority areas of research. In 1974, the Council of Ministers accepted the Commission's proposed guidelines for

a broad science and technology policy involving:

- co-ordination of every aspect of national research and development not excluded by military or industrial property consideration;
- promotion of basic research within a European Science Foundation;
- forecasts of long-term research needs;
- joint projects for research in each priority field.

The Community opens some research projects to other European countries. In 1973, for example, 15 European countries signed a convention for a medium-range weather-forecasting centre in England. The European Science Foundation will be open to non-member countries.