

COUNCIL DECISION

of 22 July 1975

on action by the European Social Fund for persons affected by employment difficulties

(75/459/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Decision No 71/66/EEC⁽¹⁾ of 1 February 1971 on the reform of the European Social Fund, and in particular Article 4 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament⁽²⁾;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

Whereas the Heads of Government, meeting in Paris on 9 and 10 December 1974, took the view that vigorous and coordinated action had to be taken at Community level to deal with the problem of employment; whereas they also drew attention to the fact that when the time was ripe, the Council would consider, in the light of experience and with due regard to the problem of the regions and categories of workers most affected by employment difficulties, whether and to what extent it would be necessary to increase the resources of the Social Fund;

Whereas the employment situation regarding young people under 25 years of age, who are unemployed or seeking employment, calls for specific joint action to improve the balance between supply of, and demand for, manpower within the Community;

Whereas, likewise, the Council should deliberate before the end of 1975 on a grant of aid from the Social Fund in favour of persons who are or have been employed in the sectors particularly affected by the employment imbalance resulting from recession, with due regard to the regions most affected by employment difficulties,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. Specific operations to facilitate the employment and the geographical and professional mobility of young people under 25 years of age, who are unemployed or seeking employment, shall be eligible to receive assistance from the Social Fund, under Article 4 of Decision No 71/66/EEC.

2. Priority shall be given to specific operations to facilitate the employment and the geographical and

professional mobility of young people under 25 years of age seeking their first employment.

Article 2

The operations referred to in Article 1 must contribute to the implementation of programmes compatible with the economic and social objectives of the Community. These programmes shall indicate clearly the economic inter-relationship of the operations being planned and shall state the objectives and methods for attaining them.

Article 3

The aid featured on the list laid down in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2397/71⁽³⁾ of 8 November 1971 on aid which may qualify for assistance from the European Social Fund, as amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1761/74⁽⁴⁾, may receive assistance from the Social Fund under the terms of this Decision.

Article 4

By 30 November 1975 the Council shall deliberate on a proposal submitted by the Commission under Article 4 of Decision No 71/66/EEC, with a view to facilitating the geographical and professional mobility of persons who are or have been employed in the sectors particularly affected by the employment imbalance resulting from recession, with due regard to the regions most affected by employment difficulties.

Article 5

This Decision shall enter into force on the fifth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply to operations of which the draft has received the approval of the Commission before the expiry of a period of two years after the entry into force of this Decision, without prejudice to the implementation of Article 11 of Decision No 71/66/EEC.

Done at Brussels, 22 July 1975.

For the Council

The President

M. RUMOR

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 28, 4. 2. 1971, p. 15.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 128, 9. 6. 1975, p. 9.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 249, 10. 11. 1971, p. 58.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 185, 9. 7. 1974, p. 1.