TRANSFER TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE OF THE
EXERCISE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION
IN THE SOCIAL FIELD

I. Basis and main principles of the transfer

The basis of the transfer was Resolution (59) 23, adopted by the Ministers' Deputies on 16th November 1959, which also laid down the main principles to be applied.

The principles in question are, briefly, the following:

1. The working methods of the WEU should continue to be applied in the framework of the Partial Agreement. They are, particularly:

   (a) Maintenance of the system of liaison sections in the competent technical ministries;

   (b) Preparation of working papers by the national delegations;

   (c) Maintenance of the confidential nature of documents until it has been agreed to give them a wider distribution;

   (d) The holding of certain meetings outside of the seat of the Council of Europe.

2. Any activity comprised by the Partial Agreement may be extended to other members of the Council of Europe.

3. Committees operating under the Partial Agreement report to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Decisions concerning them are, however, taken only by
the representatives of countries participating in the Partial Agreements. The reports are also transmitted, for information, to the competent Committees of Experts of the Council of Europe.

A chapter on the activities under the Partial Agreement shall be included in the statutory report of the Committee of Ministers to the Assembly.

4. Additional expenses caused by the operation of the Partial Agreement shall be borne exclusively by the countries participating in it.

II. Committees involved in the transfer

The Social Committees of the WEU were the following:

A. THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE, with the following Sub-committees:

Sub-committee on Industrial Safety and Health
(which meets and reports separately on:
(a) Engineering questions;
(b) Chemical questions).

Sub-committee on Labour Statistics
Sub-committee on Social Security
Manpower Sub-committee

B. THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, with the following Sub-committees and working parties:

Sub-committee on Pharmaceutical Products
Sub-committee on the Health Control of Foodstuffs
Working Party on Poisonous Substances in Agriculture
Working Party on Essential Drugs
Working Party on Cancer Statistics

C. JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE REHABILITATION AND THE RESETTLEMENT OF THE DISABLED, with the

Working Party on Brain Injuries
III. The act of transfer (Meetings giving effect to the transfer; activities involved; programmes of the committees involved after the transfer).

Under Resolution (59) 23, the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe was instructed to take, in agreement with the Secretary-General of the Western European Union, the necessary measures to implement the Resolution, particularly with regard to the timing of the transfer of the various activities involved (as listed in a preliminary way in the Appendix to Resolution (59) 23), as well as measures to preserve the archives of the WEU.

Negotiations were, accordingly, carried out between the two Secretaries-General with a view to settling any questions of doubt and to ensure the smooth functioning of the act of transfer. It should be stated that these negotiations, as well as the transfer itself, were carried out in an atmosphere of frank and friendly collaboration. The Secretary-General of the Western European Union, the Deputy Secretary-General and all the staff directly concerned made every effort to facilitate the transfer, inspite of the difficulties, both of a technical and a personal nature, which were obviously involved. The same applies to the interested Committees themselves. The Secretary-General of the Council of Europe would like to take this opportunity to express his thanks to all concerned for this spirit of co-operation which characterised the whole act of transfer.

The details of the transfer were as follows:

A. PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The first meeting of this Committee in the framework of the Partial Agreement (the transfer meeting) was held in Rome on 14th April 1960.

The list of activities which the Committee wanted to continue in the framework of the Partial Agreement is set out in Appendix I to this note.

(1) This is a preliminary account. Once definitely established, the minutes of the transfer meetings will be submitted to the Committee of Ministers.
The Committee wanted to hold its next meeting in Hamburg from 27th to 30th September 1960. The Agenda of this meeting includes in principle all the questions contained in the above-mentioned list of activities (see Appendix II).

No dates were fixed for meetings of Sub-committees or working parties, the intention being to establish their programmes at the meeting of the full Committee in Hamburg.

B. THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The first meeting of this Committee in the framework of the Partial Agreement was held on 6th May 1960, in Luxembourg, where the transfer took place.

The list of activities to be pursued under the Partial Agreement is set out in Appendix III to this note.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Strasbourg from 18th to 20th October 1960. The Agenda of this meeting is reproduced in Appendix IV to this note.

The Committee moreover fixed the place of the next meeting of the Sub-committee on Industrial Safety and Health (Engineering Questions). It should be held in Rome at a date to be fixed by correspondence.

The questions to be dealt with are:

- Measures to prevent accidents in the building industry;
- Tower cranes;
- Mobile scaffolds of all types and metal scaffolding;
- Explosive tools;
- Training of supervisors in accident prevention.

C. JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF THE DISABLED

The first meeting of this Committee in the framework of the Partial Agreement (the transfer meeting) was held in Berlin on 27th May 1960.
It should be noted that the attitude of this Committee towards the transfer differed from that of the other Committees. Instead of presenting a list of activities to be pursued by the members of the WEU, this Committee presented a list of activities in which it wanted all the Members of the Council of Europe to participate immediately. This list is set out in Appendix V to the present note.

The only question which the Joint Committee wanted to pursue in the more limited framework of the Seven was: "Rehabilitation within Industry". The reason was that this study had already reached an advanced stage of preparation, so that a recommendation might shortly be adopted.

In addition, the Committee wanted that all its previous Recommendations be brought to the attention of all the Members of the Council of Europe.

The Committee wanted its next meeting to be held in Paris in the last week of October 1960. The French delegation, which invited the Committee to meet in Paris, stated that in so doing it did not only have in mind the principle of the rotation of meetings, but it wanted to give the Committee an opportunity to study two important centres of rehabilitation and resettlement of disabled persons.

The Agenda of this meeting is set out in Appendix VI to this note. It should be noted that this Agenda is divided into two parts. The first part, intended for a meeting restricted to the Seven, contains only the question of "Rehabilitation within Industry".

As already mentioned in a footnote, the reports of the three transfer meetings, including the lists of activities involved, will be submitted to the Committee of Ministers. The list of activities will also be transmitted for information to the competent Committees of Experts of the Council of Europe. The present note is of a preliminary nature, but it is necessary in view of the fact that certain decisions must be taken immediately in order to ensure the normal development of the work in the framework of the Partial Agreement.

IV. Staff Questions

It has been agreed that, within the Social Division of the Secretariat-General, a separate section will be established to deal with WEU matters. This section comprises the following posts:
One A 4, Head of the Section;
one A2/A3, Deputy Head of Section;
one B 4, Documents officer;
two B 2, one English and one French stenotypist.

The separate section will, administratively, depend on
the Social Division. However, in questions of substance, it
will have direct access to the Secretary-General of the Coun-
cil of Europe.

COMMENTS AND POINTS FOR IMMEDIATE DECISION

The Representatives of the Council of Europe on the three
transfer meetings raised no objections against the lists of
activities presented by the Committees. They were found to
be in harmony with the list appended to Resolution (59) 23.

It was made clear during the meetings that, although the
Secretary-General of the Council of Europe fully appreciated
the importance of the system of rotation of meetings, he could
only undertake to explain the advantages of this system to
the Committee of Ministers. In the last instance, the appli-
cation of the system depended on this Committee, which would
take into account also the financial aspects of the question.

It was also made clear that the possible extension to
other Members of the Council of Europe of the activities
covered by the Partial Agreement did not depend only on the
initiative of the Seven. If one of the other countries wanted
to join in some of these activities and was prepared to res-
pect the principles of the Partial Agreement, the Seven could
not oppose this by a formal vote. However, should a demand
of this nature be made by a country outside the Seven, the
Secretary-General would endeavour to ensure that no decision
were taken before the Experts of the Seven had been given an
opportunity to express their opinion.

Certain other points were raised by various delegations
at the transfer meetings, but it is not considered necessary
in this preliminary note to go into details.

It should be stated, however, that the French delegation
of the Public Health Committee stressed the need for sufficient
personnel in the special section which, within the Social Divi-
sion of the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe,
would serve the Committees under the Partial Agreement.
The posts provided for this section are mentioned under IV above. The Deputy Secretary-General of the WEU has expressed the fear that this staff will not be sufficient in view of the future development of the programme in the framework of the Council of Europe. He pointed out that the Social Division of the WEU, in order to cope with the work, had loaned staff from other sections, either on a temporary or on a permanent basis.

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The Representatives of the Seven on the Committee of Ministers would presumably have to take an immediate decision in order to authorise the holding of the following meetings outside Strasbourg:


2. **Sub-committee on Industrial Safety and Health**: Rome (the date to be fixed by correspondence).


The Representatives of the Seven would also, according to usual practice, take note of the Agendas of these meetings.

It should be added that the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe is expected to invite all Members of the Council of Europe other than the Seven to join in the activities of the Joint Committee on the Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the Disabled, with the exception of the question of "Rehabilitation within Industry".
APPENDIX I

REVISED LIST OF ACTIVITIES TO BE PURSUED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES UNDER A COUNCIL OF EUROPE PARTIAL AGREEMENT

I. Cancer

II. Public health aspects of environment (e.g., noise prevention, measures to control the pollution of the atmosphere).

III. Epidemiological and demographic studies (e.g., poliomyelitis, salmonellosis, rabies, the prevention of congenital malformations and diseases of early infancy, the use of fluoride to prevent dental caries).

IV. Immunisation

V. Protection against ionising radiations.

VI. Health control of sea and air traffic.

VII. Health control of foodstuffs (production and distribution).

VIII. Pharmaceutical products.

IX. Exchange of information on legislation and action in the field of public health to the extent that this is not covered by the Committee of Experts on Public Health of the Council of Europe.
APPENDIX II

DRAFT AGENDA
FOR THE 2ND MEETING
OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (PARTIAL AGREEMENT)

I. CANCER
   (a) Extraneous factors in the etiology of cancer
      1. The possible carcinogenic effects of food additives
      2. The possible carcinogenic effects of pesticides
      3. Tobacco smoking as a potential cause of cancer
   (b) Cancer control

II. PUBLIC HEALTH ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENT
   (a) Noise abatement
   (b) Measures to control the pollution of the atmosphere

III. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STUDIES
   (a) Prevention of congenital malformations and diseases of early infancy
   (b) Poliomyelitis
   (c) Rabies
   (d) Salmonellosis
   (e) Infectious hepatitis
IV. IMMUNISATION PROGRAMMES
   Poliomyelitis

V. PROTECTION AGAINST IONISING RADIATIONS
   Review of international activity

VI. HEALTH CONTROL OF SEA AND AIR TRAFFIC
    (Review of application of the Arrangements)

VII. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON LEGISLATION AND ACTION IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

VIII. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AGENDAS OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

IX. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
APPENDIX III

REVISED LIST OF ACTIVITIES TO BE PURSUED BY THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES UNDER A COUNCIL OF EUROPE PARTIAL AGREEMENT

I. Detailed study of ratification and implementation of selected International Labour Conventions.

II. Youth employment (e.g. vocational guidance; training and apprenticeship; introduction of young persons to employment).

III. Manpower: settlement of practical questions arising from the Multilateral Conventions and exchange schemes which cannot yet be transferred to a larger framework. The Social Committee (Partial Agreement) may recommend that the Council of Europe should consider transferring the study of general manpower policy to OEEC under their agreement with that Organisation.

IV. Information on the social aspects of the activities of the six-Power European communities.

V. Matters arising from the agendas of other international organisations.

VI. Training of supervisors in accident prevention.

VII. Industrial safety and health. The Committee recommends that a final meeting of each section of the Sub-committee should be held to complete work already in progress.

VIII. Labelling of mixtures of dangerous chemical substances.

IX. Labour statistics.
APPENDIX IV

DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 2ND MEETING OF THE
SOCIAL COMMITTEE (MATERIAL AGREEMENT)

I. Detailed study of ratification and implementation of selected International Labour Conventions (minimum age of starting work)

II. Youth employment

III. Multilateral Conventions on Frontier Workers and Student Employees

IV. Further consideration of the report of the 6th meeting of the WEU Sub-committee on Labour Statistics (SOC (59) 52)

V. Report of the meeting of the Sub-committee on Industrial Safety and Health (Engineering questions)

VI. Training of supervisors in accident prevention

VII. Information on the social aspects of the activities of the six-Power communities

VIII. Matters arising from the agendas of other international organisations

IX. Any other business
APPENDIX V

LIST OF THE ACTIVITIES WHICH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF THE DISABLED WISHES TO EXTEND TO THE OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Revision of Recommendation on the rehabilitation of the disabled.

Rehabilitation of those suffering from brain injuries.

Planning and equipment of living accommodation with a view to making it more easily accessible to the physically handicapped.

Transport facilities for the disabled.

Rehabilitation of old people.

The effect of automation on the resettlement of the disabled.

Health education in relation to disabled persons.

Co-ordination of rehabilitation services.

Rehabilitation of those suffering from defects of hearing or speech.

Rehabilitation problems relating to chronic rheumatism.

Developments in the rehabilitation and resettlement of the disabled (exchange of information).

Matters arising from the agendas of other international organisations.
APPENDIX VI

DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 2ND MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT OF THE DISABLED (PARTIAL AGREEMENT)

A. At a meeting restricted to the seven-Powers
   Rehabilitation within industry

B. At a meeting open to other Members of the Council of Europe
   I. Planning and equipment of living accommodation with a view to making it more easily accessible to the physically handicapped.
   II. Transport facilities for the disabled.
   III. Rehabilitation of old people.
   IV. The effect of automation on the resettlement of the disabled.
   V. Health education in relation to disabled persons.
   VI. Developments in the rehabilitation and resettlement of the disabled (Exchange of information).
   VII. Matters arising from the agendas of other international organisations.
   VIII. Any other business.