II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 23 November 1973

granting assistance from the European Social Fund, as provided for in Article 125 of the Treaty, to the Kingdom of Belgium for expenditure on vocational retraining operations carried out by the Fonds National de Reclassement Social des Handicapés

(ESF files Nos 71.065, 71.123, 72.020)

(Only the French and Dutch texts are authentic)

(74/67/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2396/71 [1] of 8 November 1971 implementing the Council Decision of 1 February 1971 [2] on the reform of the European Social Fund, and in particular Article 12 thereof;

Whereas in its applications of 28 July 1971, 23 December 1971 and 31 May 1972 the Kingdom of Belgium requested assistance from the European Social Fund, as provided for in Article 125 of the Treaty, for expenditure on vocational retraining operations amounting to a total of Bfrs 1 829 612;

Whereas, pursuant to Article 12 of Regulation (EEC) No 2396/71, such assistance is granted for operations initialled before 1 May 1972 and terminated before 1 July 1972, and whereas the applications for assistance submitted must be examined pursuant to the provisions of Council Regulation No 9 [3] of 25 August 1960, as last amended by Council Regulation No 37/67/EEC [4], and to the provisions adopted pursuant to that Regulation;

Whereas, in accordance with Articles 1 and 3 of Regulation No 9, the applications referred to above from the Kingdom of Belgium relate to vocational retraining operations carried out on the responsibility and at the expense of the Fonds National de Reclassement Social des Handicapés, a body which was added to the list of public law bodies referred to in Article 18 of Regulation No 9 by a Commission Decision of 4 March 1966 [5] concerning the updating of that list;

Whereas the applications containing the information required under Article 20 of Regulation No 9 and relating to operations terminated during the period 30 July 1969 to 31 December 1970 inclusive, were properly submitted within the time limit laid down in Article 19 of Regulation No 9;

Whereas the examination of those applications and the checking of their material and financial aspects, carried out pursuant to the provisions of Commission Regulation No 113/63/EEC [6] on the detailed rules for the examination and checking of applications for assistance submitted to the

(1) OJ No L 249, 10. 11. 1971, p. 54.
(2) OJ No L 28, 4. 2. 1971, p. 15.
(3) OJ No 56, 31. 8. 1960, p. 1189/60.
(4) OJ No 33, 24. 2. 1967, p. 526/67.
(5) OJ No 46, 17. 3. 1966, p. 631/66.
(6) OJ No 153, 24. 10. 1963, p. 2563/63.

European Social Fund, revealed that these applications comply with the conditions laid down in the relevant rules, except, however, that certain sums have been wrongly included in the total expenditure as a result of an arithmetical error; whereas the correction involves the sum of Bfrs 7 367, which is to be deducted from the amount for which the application was submitted;

Whereas it was also revealed that three persons had not been registered, during their training period, at an employment agency as persons in search of employment, pursuant to Article 2 of Regulation No 9; whereas, moreover, the training given to those three persons formed part of the normal education system especially for young people, which is excluded from receiving assistance from the Fund by Article 3 (2) of the Regulation referred to above;

Whereas, consequently, no assistance from the Fund can be given for those three cases contained in the applications, expenditure for which amounted to Bfrs 282 972;

Whereas, consequently, the Fonds National de Reclassement Social des Handicapés is entitled to receive assistance from the Fund for its expenditure provided that a total of Bfrs 290 339 (Bfrs 7 367 plus Bfrs 282 972) is deducted, and whereas the amount of assistance to be granted by the Fund pursuant to Article 125 of the Treaty is therefore Bfrs 1 829 612 — Bfrs 290 339, i.e. Bfrs 1 539 273;

Whereas in its opinion of 3 May 1973 the Committee of the European Social Fund reached the same conclusions, for the reasons given above;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The applications for assistance submitted to the European Social Fund by the Kingdom of Belgium for expenditure by the Fonds National de Reclassement Social des Handicapés on vocational retraining operations terminated during the period 30 July 1969 to 31 December 1970 inclusive, comply with the rules governing the operation of the Fund as regards the sum of Bfrs 1 539 273. The remainder of the expenditure contained in the applications does not comply with those rules.

Article 2

The amount of assistance from the European Social Fund to be granted pursuant to Article 125 of the Treaty to the Kingdom of Belgium for the Fonds National de Reclassement Social des Handicapés shall be Bfrs 1 539 273 (equivalent to 30 785·46 u.a.).

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium.

Done at Brussels, 23 November 1973.

For the Commission
The President
François-Xavier ORTOLI