# TRADE UNION RESEARCH AND STUDY DEPARTMENTS

(Economic and Technical Problems)

## International Trade Union Conference

Vienna (9-12 December 1958)

EUROPEAN PRODUCTIVITY AGENCY

Organisation for European Economic Co-operation

3, Rue André Pascal, Paris XVI ème

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*The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation comprises the following Member countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. The Organisation came into being with the signing of the Convention for European Economic Co-operation on 16th April 1948, when Member Governments pledged themselves 'to combine their economic strength, to join together to make the fullest collective use of their individual capacities and potentialities, to increase their production, develop and modernise their industrial and agricultural equipment, expand their commerce, reduce progressively barriers to trade among themselves, promote full employment and restore or maintain the stability of their economies and general confidence in their national currencies'. Representatives of each of the Member countries meet daily at the O.E.E.C. headquarters, Château de la Muette, Paris, to discuss their economic problems and work out common solutions. The United States and Canada participate in all the work of the Organisation as Associate Members. Spain participates, as a full Member and on an equal footing with the Member countries, in the work of the agricultural bodies of the Organisation and is associated in its other activities. Yugoslavia is represented by an observer and like Spain also participates in the work of the European Productivity Agency.*

*The European Productivity Agency, which is responsible for the publication of the present report, was set up as a new branch of the O.E.E.C. in May 1953. Its task is to stimulate productivity, and thereby raise European standards of living, by influencing not only Governments but also industrial, agricultural and research organisations, private and collective enterprises and public services. One of its primary aims is to convince management and workers alike of the benefits of productivity and to enlist their co-operation.*

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