

# **Conférence de presse d'Ivor Richard sur le changement technologique et la dimension sociale**

**Date : 26 janvier 1984**

**Cote de la bande : PI 1261**

0'46 : Début du son

Sur le Rapport de la Commission sur le changement technologique et les mutations sociales (and the scope on social adjustment)

1'06 : « The importance to Europe's economic future of the new technologies... is clear... also a huge human challenge... and social dimension... JUSQUE jeopardized 2'24 »

**A SELECTIONNER sur retard des Européens dans la politique technologique:**

3'07 ; « It's a great irony that ... human ressources... the lack of suitably skillman power... JUSQUE 4'08 ou éventuellement JUSQUE to the needs of industries » 4'32

**A SELECTIONNER**

5'25 : « We are not concerned... JUSQUE 6'26 »

6'40 : Questions des journalistes

**A SELECTIONNER :**

7'50 : « The new technologies...JUSQUE 9'48

12'20 : difficile de chiffrer avec précision les conséquences de l'introduction des nouvelles technologies sur l'emploi (sans doute plus de 4 millions d'emplois concernés...)

13'40 : Fin du son

PI 1264  
255/106/05  
uncl.

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NOTE BIO

BRUSSELS: 26 JANUARY 1984

BIO (84) 44 TO NATIONAL OFFICES  
CC TO MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

PRESS CONFERENCE OF MR. IVOR RICHARD: TECHNOLOGICAL  
CHANGE AND SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT (J. ROBINSON)

PRESENTING THE COMMUNICATION ON TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND  
SOCIAL ADJUSTMENT WHICH THE COMMISSION APPROVED ON 25 JANUARY  
(COM(84)6; SEE ALSO P-11); MR. RICHARD STRESSED THE CENTRALITY  
OF THE SOCIAL DIMENSION IF EUROPE WERE SUCCESSFULLY TO MEET  
THE COMPETITIVE CHALLENGE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES.

"THE CASE FOR NEW INDUSTRIAL, R+D AND INNOVATION POLICIES  
TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY'S POSITION IS CLEAR. WHAT IS LESS  
FREQUENTLY EMPHASISED IS THAT SUCCESS IN THESE FIELDS IS AT  
ROOT ALSO A HUMAN CHALLENGE. IT IS AS MUCH ABOUT PEOPLE'S  
SKILLS, EDUCATION AND ATTITUDES AS ABOUT COMPANY FINANCE AND  
INDUSTRIAL REORGANISATION," SAID MR. RICHARD.

THE COMMISSIONER CONTINUED: "NO AMOUNT OF MONEY CAN BUY  
SKILLS WHICH ARE NOT THERE TO PURCHASE; NOR CAN CHANGE BE  
IMPOSED SUCCESSFULLY ON A SOCIETY WHICH SOCIETY IS UNWILLING TO  
ACCEPT. THIS IS THE STARTING POINT OF OUR COMMUNICATION:  
WITHOUT AN OVERALL STRATEGY WHICH FULLY INTEGRATES THE SOCIAL  
DIMENSION INTO THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES, THE  
SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT WILL BE REDUCED  
AND EVEN JEOPARDISED - WITH LONG TERM REPERCUSSIONS ON  
EMPLOYMENT".

THE THREE MAJOR AREAS WHERE EEC-WIDE ACTION WAS NEEDED, SAID  
MR. RICHARD, WERE:

#### 1. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

HERE THE COMMISSIONER STRESSED THE BASIS PROVIDED BY THE  
RESOLUTIONS ON NEW TECHNOLOGY AND RESPECTIVELY EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL ON 3 JUNE 1983. BUT NEW  
INITIATIVES WERE ALSO NEEDED; AND HE SINGLED OUT THE IDEA OF  
"PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMES", WHICH THE COMMISSION WOULD SEEK TO  
SUPPORT; "LINKING INDUSTRY, HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND  
RESEARCH INSTITUTES".

#### 2. NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF WORK:

THE COMMISSION INTENDS TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING THE IMPACT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AT  
ENTERPRISE AND SECTORAL LEVEL ON EMPLOYMENT; WORKING TIME;  
REMUNERATION AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF WORKING AND LIVING  
CONDITIONS.

#### 3. PARTICIPATION IN TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN THE FIRM

"THE SOMETIMES PROFOUND CHANGES THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW  
TECHNOLOGIES CAN MAKE IN THE LEVEL, NATURE AND ORGANISATION OF  
WORK HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF INVOLVING WORKERS IN THAT

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PROCESS. WE ARE NOT JUST CONCERNED WITH AVOIDING THE ABRUPT  
IMPOSITION OF ANY CHANGES WITH BAD CONSEQUENCES FOR EMPLOYMENT  
AND WORKING CONDITIONS - NOT A LITTLE WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN  
DONE ON THAT FRONT. WE ARE AS MUCH, OR EVEN MORE, CONCERNED  
ABOUT GENERATING POSITIVE ATTITUDES AND USING WORKERS' OWN  
SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE GOOD  
CONSEQUENCES."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE P-11.

AMITIES:

A. SANTARELLI COMEUR 13.30+