

up a new suggestion. This has, however, only happened once.

The law provides no rules on reappointment. But it has become established practice that the same person should not serve as „Wise Man“ for more than six consecutive years.

The fact that the chairmanship consists of several persons, working closely together for several years, provides an opportunity of choosing members with different interests and background — including different basic political viewpoints in the broadest sense of the word. We have tried to take advantage of this opportunity. At the same time, our reports have, so far, never contained any dissenting viewpoints. We try to find out how far we are able to agree — a process which usually includes very heated discussions — and this joint ground is covered by the reports.

11. On the whole, we have good relations with the press, although some problems are bound to exist, among other things because the meetings of the large Economic Council

are confidential. We have tried various innovations in our attempts of briefing the press in a fair and impartial way. For instance, when our model of the Danish economy, designed to bring out the effect of changes in different fiscal-policy instruments, was presented in our report last autumn, we subsequently held a rather successful one-day seminar for Danish top reporters and commentators, trying to explain what the model is about.

In fact, instead of describing our role as outside advisers of the government, it might — with a lot of obvious reservations — be described as one of outside advisers of the press. Or — going even further — as having more or less the same role as the press itself. Comparing us with e.g. the staff of *The Economist*, we have the advantage of not having to appear as frequently and at the same time being able to concentrate on fewer subjects, although at the expense of not being able to express ourselves in such a lucid prose — not even in Danish.