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ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΤΥΠΟ • INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA • MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS**

Brussels, 18 March 1988

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**MR. DE CLERCQ SATISFIED BY THE OUTCOME OF THE
EEC-US MINISTERIAL MEETING ON CIVIL AIRCRAFT**

At the close of the second EEC-United States Ministerial meeting on civil aircraft, held at Konstanz (Germany) on 18 March, Mr. De Clercq expressed satisfaction with the results obtained. "We knew", he said, "that this would not be the last meeting, but it has made Ministers more aware of the points on which agreement has already been reached in these difficult negotiations and enabled them to give our negotiators instructions so that positive results may be rapidly achieved."

The meeting was attended by Mr. Willy De Clercq for the Commission, Ministers from the four member countries of the Airbus consortium (France, Spain, United Kingdom and Germany) and Mr. Clayton Yeutter, US Trade Representative.

At the press conference following the meeting Ministers drew the following conclusions:

* Since their meeting in London last October very satisfactory progress had been made concerning in particular:

- questions covered by Article 4 (purchase and sale incentives, subcontracting, etc.);
- consultation mechanisms;
- the principle of an escape clause for exceptional circumstances;
- agreement on the principle that for future programmes aid will be granted only for research and development and not for production
- agreement on the need for the agreement to become multilateral at a later date;
- agreement on the principle of equivalent treatment for direct and indirect forms of aid;
- agreement on the principle of appropriate transparency to ensure that the agreed discipline for both direct and indirect support is adhered to;
- agreement on the need for a critical assessment of new programmes before they are launched.

* There is a real political will on both sides to continue the negotiations and reach a satisfactory solution to the questions which are still outstanding, namely:

- the exact conditions for government support;
- the details of the transparency arrangements;
- the definition of "commercial business practices".

Ministers gave their negotiators instructions to continue the negotiations and to show the degree of flexibility required to enable a successful conclusion to be reached.

* A further Ministerial meeting would be held at about the time of the OECD Ministerial meeting (May 1988).