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BRUXELLES, LE 20 SEPTEMBRE 1982.

NOTE BIO (82) 386 (SUITE 1) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX CC. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

CONSEIL AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

EEC-STEEL EXPORTS TO THE USA (SPECIAL ATTENTION WASHINGTON NEW YORK) (W.HELIN)

AFTER HIS TALKS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION OVER LAST WEEK-END, VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON INFORMED THE COUNCIL ON MONDAY MORNING ON THE PRESENT SITUATION OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE US REGARING STEEL EXPORTS.

EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT A NOVELTY, THE COUNCIL HAS HEARD ABOUT THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON THE WASHINGTON SCENE I.E. THAT THE DEADLINE OF 1 OCTOBER 1982 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STEEL ARRANGEMENT CONCLUDED ON AUGUST 6 IN WASHINGTON WILL PROBABLY BE POSTPONED UNTIL 15 OCTOBER. AS VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON INDICATED TO THE PRESS AT NOON-TIME (INFORMAL BRIEFING AT THE COUNCIL) THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAS INDEED INFORMED US THAT ITC WILL TAKE MORE TIME THAN SCHEDULED TO PASS ITS FINAL JUDGEMENT ON INJURY CAUSED TO THE US STEEL INDUSTRY BY IMPORTS OF EUROPEAN STEEL.

AS FAR AS THE TEN MEMBER STATES ARE CONCERNED, SAID MR. DAVIGNON, THEY REGRET THIS NEW DELAY BUT, OUR END STICKS TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF AUGUST 6 AND THE COUNCIL EXPRESSEDLY INDICATED THAT A DEBATE WAS NOT TO BE REOPENED ON THIS ISSUE.

BOTH THE COMMUNITY AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT REGRET THAT AMERICAN INDUSTRY HAS NOT YET ACCEPTED THE AUGUST ARRANGEMENT. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON SAID THAT THE HAS DONE ALL THE LEGAL AND TECHNICAL HOMEWORK SO THAT THE ARRANGEMENT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED AS FROM 1 OCTOBER, HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY US INDUSTRY WOULD OK THE ARRANGEMENT BEFORE THAT DEADLINE 'LETS FACE IT' HE SAID " WE COULD HAVE USED STRONG WORDS TO DENY THE ARRANGEMENT, AS IT APPEARS THAT THE 1 OCTOBER DEADLINE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE MET: THIS WOULD HOWEVER NOT HAVE HELPED THE SITUATION IN ANY FASHION "

QUESTIONED ON A DEAL ON TUBES AND PIPES, VICE-PRESIDDENT DAVIGNON STRESSED THAT ANY SUCH DEAL COULD ONLY MAKE SENSE IF AND WHEN WE STAND ON FIRM GROUND AS FAR AS THE GLOBAL ARRANGEMENT OF AUGUST 6 IS CONCERNED.

HE SAID THAT EXPLORATORY TALKS ON TUBES AND PIPES WERE TO RESUMED AND CONFIRMED THAT SUCH A DEAL WAS NEITHER LEGALLY NOR TECHNICALLY COMPARABLE TO THE GLOBAL ARRANGEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE US AND THE COMMISSION ON AUGUST 6. VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON EXPLAINED THAT A DEAL ON TUBES WOULD BE DIFFERENT IN NATURE: ITS NOT A QUESTION OF SELF-RESTRAINT BUT OF EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN MARKET FOR THESE PRODUCTS.

AMITIES,

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M. SANTARELLI COMEUR 16.00///+

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