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**NOTE D'INFORMATION**  
**NOTA D'INFORMAZIONE**  
**TER DOCUMENTIE**

Luxembourg, April 1974  
Brussels,

REVISION OF THE MULTIANNUAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The Commission has just accepted a proposal for revision of the multi-annual research programme. This four-year programme was laid down on 5 February 1973, and at the time that decision was taken, the Council had intended to carry out a revision at the beginning of the second year. This revision mainly concerns the operations of the Joint Research Centre (JRC).

The proposals do not involve any profound changes in the programme, but are aimed more at promoting operations in the energy field, so as to take account of the recognised priority of this sector.

In view of this, there will be greater emphasis on the "reactor safety" aspect. In the programme for the production of hydrogen through decomposition of water, the revision places more stress on contractual participation of outside laboratories and industry. In the fusion sector, the JRC will contribute to the joint technological studies. The funds available for "remote detection of earth resources" will be increased.

To allow this reorganisation to be implemented without having to increase total expenditure on the programme, the Commission intends to close the reactor ISPRA I, since the ISPRA complex still has a neutron source in the ESSOR reactor.

In the "training" programme, the Commission intends to pursue the course already started, which is aimed at making the ISPRA Center into a scientific meeting-place.

When the present programme was adopted, the Council and the Commission gave a firm promise that there would be new work for the Petten Center. To keep this promise, the Commission now proposes a double programme comprising research for the administration of the customs union and research in coal technology.

The Commission has proposed that these decisions should come into force on 1 July 1974.