

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: THE NETHERLANDS

JULY-DECEMBER 1991

Meetings and press releases November 1991

<b>Meeting number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
1527 <sup>th</sup>	General Affairs	4 November 1991
1528 <sup>th</sup>	Telecommunications	13 November 1991
1529 <sup>th</sup>	Internal Market	7 November 1991
1530 <sup>th</sup>	Economics/Finance	11-12 November 1991
1531 <sup>st</sup>	Health	11 November 1991
1532 <sup>nd</sup>	Budget	12 November 1991
1533 <sup>rd</sup>	Justice	13 November 1991
1534 <sup>th</sup>	Culture	14 November 1991
1535 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture	18-19 November 1991
1536 <sup>th</sup>	Industry	18 November 1991
1537 <sup>th</sup>	Education	25 November 1991
1538 <sup>th</sup>	Development Co-operation	28 November 1991

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

8943/91 (Presse 187)

1527th Council meeting

- General Affairs -

9th ministerial meeting of the IGC on Political Union

Brussels, 4 November 1991

Presidents: Mr Hans VAN DEN BROEK,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Miss Yvonne VAN ROOY  
State Secretary for Economic Affairs

of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Marc EYSKENS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Robert URBAIN	Minister for Foreign Trade
Mrs Anne-Marie LIZIN	State Secretary for Europe 1992, attached to the Minister for European Trade
Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jorgen ØRSTRØM MØLLER	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Ursula SEILER-ALBRING	Minister of State, Foreign Affairs

Greece

Mr Antonio SAMARAS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Georges PAPANSTAMKOS	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

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Spain:

Mr Carlos WESTENDORP

State Secretary for Relations with the  
European Communities

Mr Miguel Angel FEITO HERNANDEZ

State Secretary for Trade

France:

Mr Roland DUMAS

Ministre d'Etat, Minister for  
Foreign Affairs

Mrs Elisabeth GUIGOU

Minister for European Affairs

Mr Dominique STRAUSS-KAHN

Minister for Industry and  
Foreign Trade

Ireland:

Mr Gerard COLLINS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Desmond J. O'MALLEY

Minister for Industry and Commerce

Mr Sean CALLEARY

Minister of State at the Department of  
Foreign Affairs with special  
responsibility for Overseas Aid

Italy:

Mr Gianni DE MICHELIS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mrs Margherita BONIVER

Minister for Immigration

Mr Vito LATTANZIO

Minister for Foreign Trade

Mr Claudio VITALONE

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Hans VAN DEN BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mrs Yvonne VAN ROOY

State Secretary for Economic Affairs

Mr Piet DANKERT

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Pr João PINHEIRO

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Vitor MARTINS

State Secretary for European Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr Douglas HURD

Secretary of State for Foreign and  
Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Tristan GAREL-JONES

Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth  
Office

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr F.H.J.J. ANDRIESEN

Vice-President

Mr Abel MATUTES

Member

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON POLITICAL UNION

The Twelve and the Commission devoted most of the 9th ministerial meeting of the IGC on Political Union to the proposals submitted by the Presidency, in the light of the discussions of the Group of Personal Representatives, concerning the provisions to be adopted in the fields of justice, internal affairs and social policy.

The purpose of the Presidency's draft as regards justice and internal affairs is to establish a structure in two parts;

- the first relating to the provisions organizing intergovernmental co-operation and the subjects to be covered by that form of co-operation;
- the second relating to the provisions on those areas which would come within the Community's sphere of competence.

The draft also includes:

- provisions for the possibility of, and the detailed procedures for, transferring a number of matters from the framework of intergovernmental co-operation to the Community framework;
- a draft declaration, in response to the German proposal on police co-operation (Europol), to the effect that the Member States state their willingness to consider the implementation of co-operation on certain exchange and information work and agree to examine in the course of 1995 at the latest, on the basis of a report, whether the scope of that co-operation should be widened.

As regards social policy, the aim of the Presidency's draft is to outline precisely the scope of the social chapter, to clarify in particular the voting rules (qualified majority or unanimity) applicable to each field covered in that chapter and to define those areas which cannot be covered by Community action.

At the end of the discussion the Presidency:

- noted, as regards justice and internal affairs, that a large majority of delegations could endorse the approach in the Presidency's draft and the link between subjects covered by governmental co-operation and subjects within the sphere of competence of the European Communities;
- came to the conclusion, from the statements by the Member States and the Commission concerning the draft on social policy, that the Presidency text had an overall balance which might lend itself to progress in the work on a compromise acceptable to all. The Presidency would consider the various specific suggestions made during the discussions with a view to seeing what improvements could still be made to the said draft without upsetting the overall balance.

The Presidency also stated that its aim for the Conclave in Noordwijk on 12 and 13 November 1991 would be to centre discussions on the problems regarded as essential by each Member State with a view to submitting to the Maastricht European Council for arbitration a small number of issues to be dealt with at that level.

For that purpose delegations will receive a working document containing a consolidated text of the Treaty based on the work already carried out. Issues relating to foreign policy and common security will also be dealt with

in the document. Horizontal and institutional aspects common to PU and EMU will be discussed in early December.

In the light of the outcome of the Conclave the Presidency will submit its formal proposals for the Maastricht European Council.



URUGUAY ROUND - COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Council reconfirms its commitment to co-operate fully with its partners in the negotiation to achieve, by the end of the year, a substantial, balanced and global conclusion of the Uruguay Round based on strong commitments concerning market access, agriculture, services, TRIP's and, in a general way, a stronger GATT system excluding any recourse to unilateral action by any partner.
2. The Council expressed its satisfaction regarding the continuous efforts of the Commission in order to contribute constructively to the negotiations in Geneva.
3. The Council urges the Commission to make effective use of every possible occasion to achieve progress in the negotiations. More specifically, effective use should be made of the coming US/EC summit, on 9 November in the Hague, with the objective that the gap between the US and the EC on market access, agriculture, services, TRIP's, rules and disciplines, dispute settlement and subsidies will be substantially narrowed, taking into account the overall interest of a successful completion of the Round.
4. The Council asks the Commission to keep it closely informed of the relationship between the results obtained and the objectives which the Council had set.

THE COMMUNITY'S RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA

The Council welcomed the successful outcome of the Paris Peace Conference on Cambodia.

At the suggestion of the French delegation, and also bearing in mind the positions reached in EPC, the Council agreed that the Community should implement closer co-operation with Cambodia to underpin the Peace Plan, using the various Community instruments available (including support for NGOs, aid for the repatriation of refugees, GSP, co-operation with the developing countries of Asia and Latin America), with a view to a future co-operation agreement.

There will be co-ordination with the measures implemented by the individual Member States.

The Council noted that the Commission had begun examining possible measures and would be submitting appropriate proposals to the Council at the earliest opportunity.

YUGOSLAVIA

Further to the approach defined on 28 October (see declaration by EPC No 106/91), the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, approved restrictive measures which might be applied to Yugoslavia (denunciation of the Co-operation Agreement and immediate suspension of its application; re-introduction of quantitative limits on textiles; removal of Yugoslavia from the list of GSP beneficiaries; suspension of benefit under the PHARE programme) and approved the application of selective positive measures in favour of the co-operating Republics.

In the light of the results of the plenary session of the Conference on Yugoslavia on 5 November, the Ministers of the Twelve will adopt a position in Rome on 8 November, alongside the NATO ministerial meeting, on the actual implementation of those measures. Lord CARRINGTON has been invited to participate in that meeting of the Twelve.

As regards embargo measures, the Twelve agreed to ask the members of the UN Security Council to consider the introduction of an embargo on petroleum products. They also agreed to ask the UN Secretary General to see to the monitoring and actual application of the arms embargo already approved.

Additional restrictive measures are continuing to be considered within the Community.

The Council asked the Commission to submit at the earliest opportunity proposals in favour of Greece, which is the Member State most affected by the proposed measures and generally by the economic consequences of the Yugoslav crisis, based on the notion of "disproportionate damage", as the Twelve have assured Greece of complete solidarity.

RELATIONS WITH JORDAN

The Council approved the position to be taken by the Community at the 2nd meeting of the EEC-Jordan Co-operation Council at ministerial level which was held today (see press release CEE-RHJ 3307/91 Presse 201).

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH POLAND, HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

At the end of its discussions on certain issues still outstanding with regard to the negotiations on the Agreements in question, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining them.

POLICY ON IMMIGRATION FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

In agreement with the Commission, the Council agreed to return to this matter at its meeting on 16 and 17 December 1991.

RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE MAGHREB ARAB UNION

Alongside the Council's discussions the Twelve and the Commission met, on the occasion of a lunch, a ministerial delegation from the MAU led by Mr Abdellatif FILALI, Ministre d'Etat for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Morocco. The following were also on that delegation: Mr Lakdar BRAHIMI, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria, Mr Habib BEN YAHIA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, Mr Ibrahim M. BESHARI, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Relations and International Co-operation of Libya, and Mr Hasni OULD DIDI, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Mauritania.

The meeting enabled both sides to review the situation and prospects for developing their relations in the economic and political fields.

At the end of the meeting the following points were particularly emphasized at a joint press conference:

- complementarity between the two regions, which were united by a large number of common economic and political interests;
- agreement reached to intensify and give more structure to relations between the two parties, also taking into account progress made in the integration progress of the MAU countries;
- with that in mind, agreement to institutionalize meetings between the two parties, which will henceforth be held at the political level at least twice a year to discuss subjects of common interest;
- likewise, agreement to broaden and improve economic relations on contractual bases in accordance with formulas modelled on the Community's co-operation

agreements with other regional organizations in areas adjacent to the MAU;

- the future Portuguese Presidency and the Commission were called upon to contribute to the implementation of these guidelines;
- noted that the political problems which remained between the Community and certain MAU countries would continue to be examined with a view to finding a solution through dialogue.

Furthermore, both parties also discussed the prospects for regional co-operation offered by the Peace Conference on the Middle East, in particular in the context of future multilateral negotiations on regional co-operation.

## MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

### Uruguay Agreement

The Council decided to sign the Framework Co-operation Agreement between the Community and Uruguay, subject to its conclusion. The signing ceremony took place today (see press release 8942/91 Presse 186, circulated separately, which also contains a summary of the content of the Agreement).

The Agreement will be concluded once the respective ratification procedures have been completed. For the Community, that means completion of the procedure of consultation of the European Parliament, as the Agreement is based in particular on Article 235 of the Treaty.

### Baltic countries

In the context of the guidelines agreed upon at its meeting on 30 September and 1 October 1991 on the development of relations with the Baltic States (see press release 8400/91 Presse 155), the Council authorized the Commission to negotiate trade and co-operation agreements with Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and laid down appropriate directives on the matter.

### Environment

The Council:

- adopted the Decision authorizing the Commission to sign, on behalf of the Community and subject to conclusion, the framework Convention on the protection of the Alps and the relevant Protocols.

- The objective of the Convention is to safeguard and protect the Alpine ecosystem by increased co-operation between Alpine countries in areas such as the promotion of the cultural and social identity of Alpine populations, town and country planning, air quality, soil protection and conservation of the countryside, agriculture and mountain forests, tourism and leisure pursuits, transport, energy and waste. The Convention on the protection of the Alps is scheduled to be signed at the interministerial Conference to be held in Salzburg on 6 and 7 November 1991;
- following the agreement reached on 13 and 14 June 1991, formally adopted the Regulation on the import of certain pelts.

Pursuant to that Regulation, importation into the Community of pelts and manufactured products of certain species from countries which use leghold traps will be prohibited as from 1 January 1995. The Regulation also provides for a ban on the use of leghold traps in the Community by the same date at the latest (see press release 6779/91 Presse 90).

#### Appointments

The Council replaced two full members and one alternate member of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions for the remainder of their terms of office.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

8944/91 (Presse 188)

1528th Council meeting

- TELECOMMUNICATIONS -

Brussels, 4 November 1991

President: Mrs Hanja MAIJ-WEGGEN  
Minister for Transport  
and Public Works  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



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Luxembourg

Mr Alex BODRY

Minister for Posts and  
Telecommunications

Netherlands

Mrs Hanja MAIJ-WEGGEN

Minister for Transport and Public Works

Portugal

Mr Vasco VALENTE

Deputy Permanent Representative

United Kingdom

Mr John REDWOOD

Minister of State, Department of Trade  
and Industry (Minister for Corporate  
Affairs)

Commission

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI  
Mr M. Jean DONDELINGER

Vice-President  
Member

APPLICATION OF OPEN NETWORK PROVISION TO LEASED LINES

The Council adopted a common position on the substance of a draft Directive on the application of open network provision to leased lines.

The common position will be formally adopted after legal and linguistic finalization of the texts.

The purpose of the Directive is to ensure non-discriminatory and efficient access by users to public telecommunications networks and services in the provision of leased lines, implementing the general principles harmonized by framework Directive 90/338/EEC on Open Network Provision (ONP).

The common position lays down the open network provision conditions for leased lines, and specifies the nature of the leased lines which are to be provided in the Member States according to harmonized arrangements.

Harmonization also extends to conditions of use, tariffing principles, ordering procedures, control by national authorities and conciliation procedures in the event of any dispute between the user and the supplier of leased lines.

Leased lines are an essential element of public telecommunications infrastructure. They form one of the principal elements of telecommunications networks operated by undertakings for their own requirements or to provide services to third parties, in particular added-value or competing services.

STANDARDS FOR SATELLITE BROADCASTING OF TELEVISION SIGNALS

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the proposal for a Directive on the adoption of standards for satellite broadcasting of television signals.

This new Directive is to replace Directive 86/529/EEC of 3 November 1986 which expires on 31 December 1991 and which lays down the obligation to use the MAC/Packet system for broadcasts transmitted from high-power satellites (BSS satellites).

At the end of the discussion, the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examination of the Directive, in particular in the light of the Opinion of the European Parliament expected in November 1991, with a view to reaching an agreement at a further ministerial meeting to be held before the end of the year.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON MARKET FOR SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT

The Council recorded its agreement on the following Resolution on the development of the common market for satellite communications services and equipment.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Green Paper on the development of the Common Market for telecommunications services and equipment,

Having regard to the Green Paper on a common approach in the field of satellite communications in the European Community,

Having regard to the Opinions of the telecommunications and broadcasting sector, telecommunications and space industry, the trade unions and in particular the users and service providers,

Whereas the Green Paper on the development of the common market for telecommunications services and equipment and the subsequent implementation action plan single out as a priority the working out of a coherent European position regarding the future regulation and development of satellite communications in the European Community;

Whereas the Council Resolution of 30 June 1988 on the development of the Common market for telecommunications services and equipment considers as a policy goal in telecommunications the "working out of a common position on satellite communications, so that this new information medium can develop in a favourable environment, taking account of the general rules of operation and exploitation of the network environment, as well as the competition rules of the Treaty and existing international commitments of the Member States";

Whereas, subsequently, a number of Directives, Recommendations, Resolutions and Decisions have been adopted to devise and implement a European telecommunications policy, the principles of which should be extended to the fields of satellite communications;

Whereas the Community must adopt measures with the aim of progressively establishing the internal market, over a period expiring on 31 December 1992; whereas, to this end, the present Resolution defines an action plan for the progressive achievement of a competition-oriented Community-wide satellite communications market and the strengthening of European competitiveness in this field;

Whereas the social, regional and trade aspects must be kept carefully in mind during the progressive implementation of such a plan, namely by taking into account the need for transitional periods with respect to liberalization policies in certain Member States, where they are justified by the level of development of their terrestrial networks;

Whereas the industrial aspects must be kept carefully in mind, including the need for an internationally competitive European industry in the field of satellite communications,

Whereas the access to space segment capacity of separate satellite systems should

be left to the providers of that capacity,

WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO FUTURE DECISIONS, CONSIDERS THE FOLLOWING POINTS AS MAJOR GOALS IN SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY:

1. Harmonization and liberalization for appropriate satellite earth stations, including where applicable the abolition of exclusive or special rights in this area, subject in particular to conditions necessary for compliance with essential requirements;
2. Harmonization and liberalization as far as required to facilitate the provision and use of Europe-wide satellite telecommunications services, subject, where applicable, to conditions necessary for compliance with essential requirements and special or exclusive rights;
3. Separation in all Member States of regulatory and operational functions in the field of satellite communications.
4. Improved access to the space segment covering as well access to the space capacity of intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems and effective and accelerated procedures for the establishment of and access to separate satellite systems;

THEREFORE GIVES ITS SUPPORT:

to the general goals of the Commission's Green Paper on a common approach in the field of satellite communications in the European Community.

NOTES WITH INTEREST THE INTENTION OF THE COMMISSION:

1. to propose where required, the measures necessary to achieve these goals set out under 1 to 3 above, in particular for the creation of a competitive common market for satellite telecommunications services and equipment and taking account of the different situations of national terrestrial networks and also of the existing international commitments of Member States and the necessity of international co-operation in this field as well as of the external dimension of these measures.

These should include measures on the basis of the appropriate Community procedures:

- (a) for the extension of the principles concerning competition in the markets

for telecommunications terminal equipment and telecommunications services to aspects of trade and use of the appropriate satellite earth stations before 1 January 1993;

- (b) for the approximation of the laws in the Member States concerning appropriate satellite earth stations including the mutual recognition of their conformity in line with the principles already established for telecommunications terminal equipment, before 1 January 1993;
  - (c) for the establishment of a harmonized regulatory framework for the licensing of satellite networks and satellite services, before 1 January 1993;
  - (d) for strengthened co-operation with CEPT following the principles of the Council Resolution of 28 June 1990 with respect to the frequency aspects of the provision of satellite services in the Community;
  - (e) to ensure the free circulation and facilitate transborder use of mobile and transportable satellite earth stations throughout the Community, before 1 January 1993;
2. to analyse the effects of the abovementioned measures on the European satellite communications industry and to make proposals, as required, with the aim of establishing competitiveness with regard to third countries, in particular in the following areas:
- relations with third countries;
  - standards processes;
  - research programmes;
3. to report periodically on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the abovementioned measures.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES to work as quickly as possible towards

- 1. the development of effective, non-discriminatory and accelerated procedures for the establishment of separate satellite systems;
- 2. the improvement and broadening of access to the space segments of intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems, taking account of the special or exclusive rights for the provision of public telecommunications services and working along the following lines of action:
  - active participation of the Member States within the intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems to work towards that



goal;

- the development of effective procedures e.g. along the line of Signatories Affairs Offices as an initial step;
- elaboration of conditions for fair, non-discriminatory and transparent access to space capacity for earth segment operators.

#### COMMON INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE ACCESS CODE

The Council reached a consensus on the principles of a draft decision on a common international telephone access code in the Community, paving the way for the adoption of the Decision before long, once the Opinion of the European Parliament has been delivered.

The draft provides that the Member States must introduce the code "00" <sup>(1)</sup> in public telephone networks as a common dialling code for access to the international service, by 31 December 1992 at the latest.

However, Member States faced with particular technical, financial or organizational difficulties may defer adoption of the common access code until 31 December 1998.

Special arrangements concerning telephone calls between neighbouring localities on different sides of a border between Member States may be made or maintained.

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(1) At present, there are seven different codes for access to the international telephone network, viz. "00" (Belgium, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Luxembourg), "009" (Denmark), "07" (Spain), "19" (France), "010" (United Kingdom), "16" (Ireland) and "09" (Netherlands).

PRESS RELEASE

9124/91 (Presse 192)

1529th Council meeting

- INTERNAL MARKET -

Brussels, 7 November 1991

President: Mr Piet DANKERT  
State Secretary  
for Foreign Affairs  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER                      State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Ms Anne-Brigitte LUNDHOLT                      Minister for Industry

Germany:

Mr Johann EEKHOF                              State Secretary, Federal Ministry of  
Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr George VLACHOS                              Secretary-General, Ministry of  
Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr Carlos WESTENDORP                              State Secretary for Relations with the  
European Communities

France:

Mrs Elisabeth GUIGOU                              Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Desmond J. O'MALLEY                              Minister for Industry and Commerce

Italy:

Mr. Pierluigi ROMITA                              Minister for Community Policies

Luxembourg:

Mr Jim CLOOS

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Piet DANKERT

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Vitor MARTINS

State Secretary for European  
Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr John REDWOOD

Minister of State, Department of Trade  
and Industry (Minister for Corporate  
Affairs)

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Commission:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Vice-President

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE COMPLETION OF THE INTERNAL MARKET**

The Council discussed a Presidency note taking stock of the proceedings on the completion of the internal market. The note, which met with a very favourable reception, was intended to encourage a maximum collective effort to adopt the entire legislative programme necessary for the completion of the large market in the near future.

**MOTOR VEHICLES**

With a view to the adoption of common positions at its December meeting the Council discussed the three proposals concerning:

- the masses and dimensions of motor vehicles of category M1,
- safety glazing and glazing materials on motor vehicles and their trailers and
- pneumatic tyres for motor vehicles and their trailers.

The European Parliament has not yet delivered its Opinion on the tyres proposal.

On the conclusion of the discussion the Council established that there was complete agreement on the technical content of the three Directives designed to set up the Community motor-vehicle type-approval procedure provided for in Directive 70/156/EEC. Community type approval, which is an essential part of the completion of the single market for motor vehicles, will help to reduce the number of administrative steps that manufacturers must

take and simplify the registration procedure to be completed by members of the public who buy motor cars. So far forty-one of the forty-four Directives that are necessary have been adopted in the framework of the implementation of Community type approval. The three Directives concerned here will complete that implementation process.

With a view to the adoption of common positions planned for the December meeting, the Commission will continue its analysis of any links that may exist between the completion of Community type approval and the application of the rules of competition (Article 85(3) of the EEC Treaty) to certain categories of motor-vehicle distribution agreements.

#### THE STATUTE FOR A EUROPEAN COMPANY

The Council discussed in depth certain aspects of this dossier, the importance of which in the context of the completion of the internal market was confirmed by the European Council at its meeting in Luxembourg on 28 and 29 June 1991.

Inter alia the Council discussed methods by which European Companies (SE) might be formed and employee participation.

On the subject of formation, the Council established that broad consensus existed on the four methods proposed by the Commission, namely

- the merger of two companies with a view to the formation of a new SE,
  
- the creation of a holding company,

- the creation of a joint subsidiary and
- the conversion of an existing public limited-liability company.

The need to establish mechanisms to provide effective protection for creditors and minority shareholders when an SE was being formed was stressed.

On the conclusion of its discussion of methods of formation the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives to continue the discussion and provide the SE with formation methods that took as much account as possible of particularities of national law and were attractive to European undertakings.

A more detailed analysis will be made of, inter alia, the formation of an SE by merger by acquisition and the possibility of a natural person's forming an SE holding company, possibly through a single-member company.

As regards employee participation, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the discussions actively taking account of the wish expressed by a number of delegations that the different systems operated by the Member States be respected.

#### **FOOD AND FOOD INGREDIENTS TREATED WITH IONIZING RADIATION**

The Council continued its discussion of the proposal for a Directive harmonizing the provisions on the ionization of foodstuffs in such a way as to eliminate the obstacles to the free movement of foodstuffs while protecting human health.

The proposal for a Directive applies to the treatment and marketing of food and food ingredients treated with ionizing radiation, which could be marketed only if they complied with the Directive.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the discussion on the basis of a compromise involving the following:

- a framework Directive to be adopted to harmonize the conditions of use of the ionization process as regards equipment, labelling and inspection;
- a second Directive that would list all the products ionization of which would be permitted throughout the Community (aromatic herbs, spices and vegetable seasonings);
- a transitional period during which foodstuffs the ionization of which is authorized by national departments would still be allowed to circulate throughout Community territory;
- any subsequent addition to the list of products the ionization is authorized at Community level would be decided on by the Council by a qualified majority on a Commission proposal and the opinion of the Scientific Committee for Food.

#### SWEETENERS FOR USE IN FOODSTUFFS

The Council confirmed the political agreement reached at its meeting on 22 July 1991 on the common position on sweeteners for



use in foodstuffs.

More particularly, the Council agreed on an arrangement to state in the annex to the Directive the categories of beer to which sweeteners might be added and in a footnote the conditions governing the banning of the use of sweeteners in traditional alcohol-free and low-alcohol beers.

The solution found will safeguard the right of establishment of breweries and the freedom of movement of beers throughout Community territory.

### IMPACT 2

The Council adopted the Decision on the IMPACT 2 programme (Information Market Policy Action), which is intended to create an internal market in information services. The programme will last four years and have a budget of ECU 64 million.

The proposal for an IMPACT 2 Decision follows the implementation of a first plan of action, which lasted two years (1989-1990) and had a budget of ECU 36 million. IMPACT 2 takes over the general objectives of the first action programme, adjusting the lines of action and the intervention mechanisms in the light of the experience gained and the developments identified on the market. IMPACT 2 seeks, more particularly, to:

- set up an internal market in information;
- increase the competitiveness of European suppliers of information services;
- promote the use of advanced information services;

- promote a Community policy on information services;
- exploit the results obtained in conjunction with other national and Community programmes.

To achieve those objectives actions will be pursued in the following areas:

- improvement in knowledge of the information market on the part of potential users;
- elimination of legal and administrative obstacles to the development of a European market in electronic information services;
- improvement in the user-friendliness of information services and the information culture;
- support for strategic information initiatives carried out on a shared-cost basis jointly with public- and private-sector operators.

The possibility of third-country participation is also being considered.

#### PENSION FUNDS

The Council heard an oral report from the Commission on the proposal for a Directive on pension funds. This proposal is intended to liberalize the services offered to retirement funds, in the fields of financial management and funds deposits in particular.

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In view of the importance of this matter in the context of the completion of the internal market, the Council undertook to start discussing the proposal for a Directive as soon as possible.

**TRANSEUROPEAN NETWORKS**

The Council heard an oral communication from the Italian delegation, which asked that this item be put on the agenda for a forthcoming Council meeting. It pointed out that the Council adopted a Resolution on the subject in January 1990 and that in December 1990 the Commission submitted a communication including a programme for implementation.

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OTHER DECISIONS IN THE INTERNAL MARKET FIELD

Statistics relating to the trading of goods between Member States

The Council adopted the Regulation setting up a permanent system for the collection of statistics on the trading of goods between Member States to operate from 1 January 1993 after the elimination of physical frontiers.

Reliefs from customs duty

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 918/83 setting up a Community system of reliefs from customs duty. This amendment extends the Community system of reliefs from customs duty to goods of negligible value (not exceeding ECU 22 in value per consignment), scientific instruments and appliances imported exclusively for non-commercial purposes or for medical research and items specially designed for purposes of education, employment and social promotion.

Frontier controls

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4060/89 on the elimination of controls performed at the frontiers of Member States in the field of road and inland waterway transport.

The Regulation adopted provides for the possibility from 1 January 1992 of the Commission's proposing amendments to the arrangements for national controls on means of transport and the relevant documents for the transport of dangerous goods and perishable foodstuffs to take account of technological progress.

## MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

### Research

The Council adopted the Decision giving the Commission directives for the negotiation of a memorandum of understanding for co-operation between the EAEC and the Government of Canada in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion. The purpose of the memorandum will be to extend to Canada the co-operation agreement on the international thermonuclear experimental reactor (ITER) project which the Community has negotiated with Japan, the USSR and the United States.

### Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted a draft Decision of the Council of ACP-EEC Ministers on the cancellation of the undertaking given by ACP States to contribute to replenishing the resources of the system of stabilization of export earnings (STABEX) under the first, second and third ACP-EEC Conventions. It should be recalled that the least-developed ACP States were already exempt from this obligation, which in the fourth Convention was abolished for all ACP States.

With this important Decision the Community is writing off past debts, some of which date from the start of STABEX, and at the same time freeing the ACP States from the concern of having to repay all or part of the transfers they have received, which amount to ECU 899 million under Lomé I, II and III. This arrangement, which is intended to release the financial constraints weighing on the ACP States by means of STABEX, the specific instrument of ACP-EEC co-operation, is in response to the requirement, stated by the European Council meeting in Rome, that the principles underlying international strategy for the treatment of official debt be complied with. This measure accompanies the new provisions

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of the Lomé Convention on debt and the efforts being made bilaterally and in the competent bodies by the Member States to lighten the debt burden of the most indebted poor countries. Finally, this Decision illustrates the Community's continuing political commitment to its ACP partners.

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9131/91 (Presse 199)

1530th meeting of the Council

- ECOFIN -

9th ministerial meeting of the IGC on EMU

Brussels, 11 and 12 November 1991

President: Mr Wim KOK

Minister for Finance  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Anders FOGH RASMUSSEN Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Horst KÖHLER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Mr Johann EEKHOFF State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Eythymios CHRISTODOULOU Minister for Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr Carlos SOLCHAGA CATALAN Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance

Mr Pedro PEREZ State Secretary for Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Pierre BEREGOVOY Ministre d'Etat, Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs and the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Padraic MacKERNAN Ambassador, Permanent Representative



Italy:

Mr Guido CARLI	Minister for the Treasury
Mr Rino FORMICA	Minister for Finance
Mr Emilio RUBBI	State Secretary, Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER	Minister for Finance
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Netherlands:

Mr Wim KOK	Minister for Finance
Mr Marius van AMELSVOORT	State Secretary for Finance

Portugal:

Mr José BRAZ	State Secretary, Treasury
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United Kingdom:

Mr Norman LAMONT	Chancellor of the Exchequer
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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS	President
Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN	Vice-President
Mrs Christiane SCRIVENER	Member

Also attended:

Mr Cees MAAS	Chairman of the Monetary Committee
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MULTILATERAL SURVEILLANCE

The Council conducted a first examination of the Italian Programme of Economic Convergence (1992-1994). It expressed its appreciation for the actions started in 1991 and for presenting this programme.

This marked the first occasion on which a national medium-term programme of economic convergence was presented in the framework of multilateral surveillance. The Council will as soon as possible examine programmes from the other Member States.

The macro-economic objectives of the Italian programme combine fiscal adjustment and convergence towards sustainable and non-inflationary growth. At the end of the period covered, the budget deficit is targeted to be reduced to 5,5% of GDP and the inflation rate to decline to 3,5%. The targets are ambitious but they are the minimum necessary and progress would have to be pursued beyond the programme's horizon to put Italy fully on course for EMU.

The macroeconomic assumptions lying behind the programme may prove to be rather optimistic. They presuppose a strong expansion of private investment and of exports. The Italian Government should therefore stand ready to take additional prespecified measures should macroeconomic developments at any time prove less favourable than expected.

With regard to the need to establish sound public finance conditions, the Council particularly appreciates the explicit commitment to respect the deficit targets in nominal terms whatever the underlying macro-economic developments, by taking the necessary corrective measures. As far as convergence towards price stability is concerned, the Council considers that along with the exercise of fiscal

restraint, the role of incomes policy especially salaries in the public sector and of structural measures enhancing market competition is central.

The programme will have to become more detailed on these issues in order to allow the Council to assess fully the adequacy of the measures proposed to achieve the targets. In particular, it will have to indicate the timescale and the extent of the proposed pension reform. It will also have to indicate the assets to be privatized and it will have to contain a specific commitment to reduce state aids.

At the same time the Council stresses the necessity for institutional changes for budgetary discipline, the rapid implementation of which are crucial for the success of the programme.

The Council invited the Commission to monitor in close co-operation with the Monetary Committee the implementation of the Italian programme, in respect of both the quantitative targets and the measures adopted, and to report back regularly.

#### ABOLITION OF FISCAL FRONTIERS

The Council agreed on two presidency compromise texts regarding the transitional VAT arrangements and administrative co-operation in the field of indirect taxation.

These are the first legislative texts to emerge from the guidelines drawn up by the ECOFIN Council in the context of its proceedings on the abolition of fiscal frontiers after 1992.

Approval of these texts fourteen months before the internal market enters into

force will give Member States' tax authorities and undertakings sufficient time to adjust to the new provisions.

The VAT text lays down the basic rules for the operation of the new VAT arrangements after 1992. Under these new arrangements, intra-Community transactions between taxable persons relating to goods will be taxed as the intra-Community acquisitions of goods in the country of destination. Differentiated treatment is laid down for distance selling, the purchase of vehicles in another Member State and acquisitions by bodies which are exempt or non-taxable in another Member State.

In principle, these transitional VAT arrangements will be replaced from 1 January 1997 by arrangements based on taxation in the country of origin. After examining a Commission report on the operation of the transitional arrangements, the Council will adopt before 31 December 1995 the provisions necessary for the entry into force and operation of the definitive arrangements.

The text on the transitional VAT arrangements will also allow the Member States to apply the system of tax-free sales to intra-Community travellers until 1 July 1999.

As regards administrative co-operation, the compromise is based essentially on a concise Regulation limited to the features essential for operation of the new VAT arrangements after 1992. The other aspects of administrative co-operation will be dealt with in the framework of the existing 1977 general Directive on the subject and, in the case of excise duties, the framework of the proposal under discussion by the Council on the new excise duty arrangements after 1992.

The Council also instructed the ad hoc Working Party to find a solution to the last remaining problems regarding the draft text on the new excise duty

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arrangements so that these texts could be adopted at the December Council meeting.

RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE

(a) Soviet Union

The Council

- authorized the Commission to implement, with the necessary circumspection, the credit guarantee of ECU 500 million already agreed on for that country;
- asked the Commission to submit to it before 25 November 1991 proposals for a first tranche of the total assistance of ECU 1 250 million to the Soviet Union, the principle of which was agreed on by the ECOFIN Council on 7 October 1991 (see press release 8404/91 Presse 159).

(b) Financial assistance to Bulgaria and Romania

At the initiative of the Presidency, the Council discussed implementation of the financial assistance agreed on by the Council in June and July 1991 for Bulgaria and Romania.

The Council noted that the contribution of the other G-24 members did not equal that of the Community. Consequently, in view of the conditions it had set itself as regards burden sharing, the Community would be unable, unless these conditions were relaxed, to grant these two countries the aid which it had promised, at the very time when they needed substantial financial help to back up the necessary reforms of their economic systems.

Following this exchange of views, the Council asked the Presidency and the Commission to contact the IMF with a view to updating the analysis of the financial requirements of Bulgaria and Romania in the light of the contributions made by the international community to their adjustment programmes. In particular, the IMF should undertake to maintain its support for the balance of payments of these countries after payment of the Community contribution, regardless of commitments entered into by the other G-24 members.

The Council agreed that if this examination found that the Community contribution - as announced before the summer - remained essential to safeguard these countries' structural adjustment programmes, a derogation from the rule whereby the Community and the other G-24 members were to contribute equal amounts could be decided for Romania and Bulgaria and the promised amounts paid.

The Council also invited the Presidency and the Commission to urge the other G-24 members to undertake to make an overall contribution as great as the Community's, given their role in the world economy (share of gross national product, balance of payments situation).

Finally, the Council agreed that at a later date it would examine, on the basis of ideas to be put forward by the Commission, the possibilities of establishing a more structural link between Community and IMF action to help the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

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REVISION OF THE FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE FOR 1992

Following its examination of the Commission proposals, the Council noted that the unanimity of delegations necessary for an amendment of the financial perspective for 1992 could not be achieved.

In view of the link between this matter and the 1992 budget, the Presidency will inform the Budget Council on 12 November 1991 of the situation.

9TH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

The 9th Intergovernmental Conference on Economic and Monetary Union examined in depth a number of important issues: cohesion, democratic legitimacy, role and operation of the European Monetary Institute (EMI), role of the ecu during Stage Two and capital movements.

The Ministers will continue discussing EMU at the next IGC on 25 November 1991.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9132/91 (Presse 200)

1531st meeting of the Council

- HEALTH -

Brussels, 11 November 1991

President: Mr H.J. SIMONS,

State Secretary for Welfare, Health  
and Cultural Affairs of the Kingdom of the  
Netherlands



The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Lode WILLEMS Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Ms Ester LARSEN Minister for Health

Germany:

Mr Baldur WAGNER State Secretary for Health

Greece:

Mr Georges SOURLAS Deputy Minister for Health

Spain:

Mr Julian GARDIA VALVERDE Minister for Health and Consumer Affairs

France:

Mr Bruno DURIEUX Minister for Health

Ireland:

Mr Rory O'HANLON Minister for Health

Italy:

Mr Franco DE LORENZO Minister for Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Johnny LAHURE Minister for Health

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Netherlands:

Mr H.J. SIMONS

State Secretary for Welfare,  
Health and Cultural Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Jorge PIRES

State Secretary for Health  
Administration

United Kingdom:

The Baroness HOOPER

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of  
State, Department of Health

Commission:

Mrs Vasso PAPANDEOU

Member

LABELLING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND PROHIBITION OF MARKETING OF CERTAIN TYPES OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS FOR ORAL USE

The Council adopted a common position regarding the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the labelling of tobacco products and the prohibition of the marketing of certain types of tobacco products for oral use.

This Directive amends Directive 89/622/EEC which mainly concerned cigarettes. It does so both by extending the obligation to print specific health warnings on the unit of packaging to tobacco products other than cigarettes and by imposing a ban on the marketing of certain types of tobacco for oral use.

The system of specific warnings, which must cover at least 1% of the total surface area of the unit of packaging, is as follows:

- in the case of smoking tobacco products other than cigarettes: genuine alternation between the four warnings "Smoking causes cancer", "Smoking causes fatal diseases", "Smoking damages the health of those around you", "Smoking causes heart disease";
- the arrangements applicable to rolling tobacco are the same as those laid down in Directive 89/622/EEC with regard to cigarettes;
- in the case of tobacco products which are not destined for smoking the single warning "Causes cancer" must appear.

As far as tobacco products destined for oral use are concerned, the Directive aims to ban the marketing of new products which pose particular risks. In specific terms this means: tobacco products for oral use in the form of powder,

fine particles or any combination of these forms - particularly those presented in sachet portions or porous sachets - or in a form reminiscent of an edible product. Such products hold a particular attraction for young people and have already been banned altogether in certain Member States.

The Member States must bring the Regulation concerning the marketing ban on certain types of tobacco for oral use into force by 1 July 1992 and the other provisions of the Directive by 31 December 1993. Products existing on that date which do not comply with the Directive may continue to be marketed until 31 December 1994.

AMENDED PROPOSAL FOR A DIRECTIVE ON TOBACCO ADVERTISING

Whilst awaiting the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council has undertaken an exchange of views on this amended proposal for a Directive designed to impose a total ban on advertising for tobacco products.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue with the proceedings in the light of the opinion of the European Parliament so that the Council can deliberate on the matter the next time it meets.

FUNDAMENTAL HEALTH POLICY CHOICES

Following the discussions which took place on the occasion of the Health Conference held in Noordwijk on 8, 9 and 10 October 1991, the Council adopted the following Resolution on the subject of health.

RESOLUTION  
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH,  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

concerning fundamental health-policy choices

THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

EMPHASIZE that it is a matter for the Member States to determine the organization and funding of their health-care systems and to make fundamental health-policy choices;

TAKE NOTE of the findings of the Conference on Health held at Noordwijk, Netherlands, on 8, 9 and 10 October 1991, which:

- underline the importance of such fundamental choices and indicate that closer co-operation and collaboration between Member States is both desirable and necessary;
- recognize that Member States need to make allowance for the effects that the completion of the internal market may have on the operation of health-care services and their nature and extent;
- point out that Member States face comparable fundamental health-policy choices

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and can therefore help one another to make such fundamental choices more effectively;

- also urge Member States that, in order to assist with this process, they should work together to identify common problems and, where appropriate, find common solutions in order to contribute to the proper development of their health-care policy and thereby meet the legitimate wishes of consumers, so that the availability of necessary prevention, treatment and care facilities of an acceptable standard is ensured for all inhabitants of a Member State;
- consider it necessary for Member States to bear in mind the changes in costs of health care and their implications for the availability of the requisite health-care services of proper quality;
- emphasize that in this respect Member States should make full use of the opportunities afforded by the Community and by international organizations such as the Council of Europe and the World Health Organization;
- consider that health-policy choices and priorities are important topics which should regularly appear on the agenda of the Council of Ministers for Health;
- consider that the Council of Ministers for Health should be able to discuss aspects with health implications of any decision to be taken at Community level;

TAKE NOTE of the following topics, singled out at the Noordwijk conference, which warrant joint consideration, regular joint discussion and/or joint efforts to

assist Member States in framing their health policy:

- drawing up comparative data, for example by establishing common databases and exchanging data and by setting up relevant information systems, on the basis of priorities set in advance. Examples of relevant subjects are information on the state of health of the population in Member States and, if possible, on the efficiency of the medical services, use of such services and new technological developments in medicine, the propagation and control of contagious and other diseases, post-marketing monitoring of pharmaceutical products and medical apparatus. Moreover, careful preparation will be necessary before agreement is reached on the definitions to apply when data is gathered;
- continued application of specific Community programmes (evaluation of medical technology, possibilities of reducing divergences in states of health within and between Member States, the problem of rationalizing health benefits and planning medical, paramedical and other staff requirements;
- development of strategies to facilitate choices and the setting of priorities in the health policies of the Member States;
- stimulation of scientific and public debate through the media, for example, and associating medical professionals in this process in order to contribute to the adoption of appropriate decisions in the context of a fair distribution of the resources available;
- revision of medical studies syllabuses in order to incorporate the relevant economic, legal, ethical and social aspects necessary to ensure that practitioners dispense adequate health care;

- analysis of the probable impact of completion of the internal market on national health policies, the medical sector in the Member States and medical and paramedical staff and, in this context, analysing the consequences for the consumer;
- analysis of the Community's possible contribution to removing current disparities between supply and demand owing to shortfalls of various kinds (for example in areas such as transfrontier supply of health care, the availability of organs for transplants, planning medical and paramedical staff requirements and mobility);
- pursuit of exchange of views on questions relating to the demography of the health professions;

CALL ON the Commission to prepare a report for the Council, in co-operation with the Member States, as a first step towards more detailed discussions on topics within the Community's field of competence, and which warrant joint consideration, regular joint discussion and/or joint efforts to assist Member States in framing their health policy and to submit an initial progress report to the Council before the end of 1992.



HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Council has adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION  
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH,  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

on health and the environment

THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH OF THE MEMBER STATES, MEETING WITHIN THE  
COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Treaties establishing the European Communities;

Whereas the quality of life is largely determined by one's state of health;

Recognizing that health and well-being are dependent on a number of factors,  
including the quality of the environment;

Considering the transfrontier nature of health issues related to the environment  
and the interdependence of countries in finding solutions; whereas the Member  
States, the Community and neighbouring countries should co-operate in that  
respect;

Whereas a knowledge of, and information concerning, the effects of environmental  
factors on health are matters to be taken into account in drawing up a health  
policy;

Taking account of national, Community, international and, in particular, World  
Health Organization projects under way in this field;

Emphasizing that it is important to ensure that health-policy aims are taken into account in Community policies;

INVITE the Commission, in close co-operation with the competent authorities of the Member States, to take stock of the knowledge and experience available in the Member States, the Community and international organizations regarding the relationship between health and the environment.

On that basis, the Commission will be able to examine:

- how to gather and exchange such knowledge and experience;
- how the available knowledge can be improved and how it can be made accessible and usable in all the Member States, within the framework of their health policies;
- how to promote efforts to clarify the links between health and the environment;

INVITE the Commission to report to the Council on the progress of activities at regular intervals, and for the first time, including a report on the abovementioned stocktaking, before 1994.

TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS SERVING SENTENCES FOR CRIMINAL OFFENCES

The Council has adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION  
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH,  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,  
on the treatment and rehabilitation  
of drug addicts serving sentences for criminal offences

THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR HEALTH OF THE MEMBER STATES, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Whereas the abuse of narcotic drugs and other psychotropic substances poses a serious social problem for the Member States;

Believing the extent and complexity of this problem to be closely bound up with the socio-cultural, legal, medical, socio-psychological and economic factors prevailing in the Member States;

Whereas these factors, which may be different in each of the Member States, have a bearing on their policies in the field of drugs;

Whereas furthermore, in addition to these national characteristics, the addiction problem is increasingly assuming an international dimension;

Having regard to the relevant health and social objectives stated in the European Plan to Combat Drugs (section III, A, 2(D)), according to which it is necessary to promote the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts serving sentences for

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criminal offences by means of medical and social support in prison or in alternative systems to detention where they exist;

Believing that this problem also needs to be tackled from the angle of drug demand; whereas this is an area for action of common interest falling within the terms of reference of both the Ministers for Health and the Ministers for Justice and whereas effective action in this area implies close co-operation between the various authorities concerned;

Having regard to the activities and meetings on this problem conducted by other bodies, in particular the Pompidou Group;

Recalling the conclusions of the Council and the Ministers for Health, meeting within the Council, of 4 June 1991 on the monitoring of action taken to reduce drug demand, which instructed the Commission to draw up regular reports on action to reduce drug demand;

AGREE that, within the context of a reduction of drug demand, particular attention should be given to a systematic inventory of Member States' social and health policies, measures and actions concerning persons in penal establishments or in an establishment subject to judicial supervision;

REQUEST the Commission, within the framework of its regular reports, to prepare this systematic inventory, in close co-operation with the Member States;

ALSO INVITE the Commission to promote the exchange of views and experience in this field, if possible through the organization of a Conference to that end.

DRUG ABUSE

On the basis of a memorandum from the Presidency, the Council proceeded to discuss policy on reducing demand for drugs. More specifically the Council discussed the desirability of establishing a political frame of reference in this field, with a view to improving the coherence and co-ordination of the proceedings and decisions of all of the authorities concerned, namely the Community, the WHO, CELAD and the UN.

At the end of the discussion, the Council called upon the Working Party on Drug Abuse to work together with the Commission in studying the current distribution of tasks in the fight against drug abuse, as well as ways of achieving greater transparency and better co-ordination of the relevant activities at both national and Community level.

EUROPEAN CODE TO COMBAT THE USE OF DRUGS IN SPORT

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission proposal as soon as it is submitted, so that the Council can adopt the code as quickly as possible and if possible in time for the Albertville Olympic Games.

FUTURE SYSTEM OF FREE MOVEMENT OF MEDICINES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The Council proceeded to discuss this question, with the deliberations of a forthcoming "Internal Market" meeting of the Council in mind.

At the end of the discussion, the Council noted that it could subscribe to the principle of a European system of drug licensing, though it would be necessary to look into the procedures and structures of this future system in greater detail.

The Presidency will inform the Internal Market Council of the outcome of the discussion held within the Health Council.

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The Council finally took note of the following statements:

- statement of the German delegation concerning medical aid to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and
- statement of the French delegation concerning the question of the demography of the medical professions and the Commission report on the free movement of blood products.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade policy

The Council took a number of decisions on trade arrangements applicable to imports of certain products originating in third countries. It adopted the following Regulations or Decisions:

(a) EFTA

- Regulation opening and providing for the administration of reduced or zero-duty Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural and fishery products originating in Austria, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1992. This represents the implementation of commitments already entered into by the Community with these countries within the framework of agreements concluded in 1986.
  
- Regulation opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen peas originating in Sweden. This Regulation, which forms part of the implementation of the agreement concluded in 1986, makes provision for the opening of a 6 000-tonne quota for the products in question for the period from 1 January until 31 December 1992, 4 500 tonnes being reserved for Spain. Within the framework of this quota, the applicable duty is reduced to 4,5% for Spain and to 6% for the other Member States.

- (b) State-trading countries: Decision relating to import quotas applicable to the State-trading countries in 1991. The Decision involves forthcoming amendments to the import quotas set for 1990 for the countries concerned in order to adjust them to the economic situation in 1991.

- (c) Regulation applying temporary suspension of autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties at 0% and 10% for haricot beans (code NC 13 ex07133390) and cooked lobster meat (code NC 26 ex16053000), respectively, with effect from 1 January 1992.

Measures with regard to Yugoslavia

The Council formally adopted the legislative instruments required in order to implement the conclusions of the extraordinary EPC Ministerial Meeting held in Rome on 8 November 1991. This involved the formal adoption of the following Decisions or Regulations:

- Decision suspending the application of agreements between the Community, its Member States and Yugoslavia;
- Decision denouncing the ECSC agreement;
- Regulation (EEC) suspending the trade concessions provided for in the Co-operation Agreement;
- Decision (ECSC) suspending the trade concessions provided for in the Co-operation Agreement;
- Regulation (EEC) on the import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia;
- Regulation (EEC) withdrawing Yugoslavia from the lists of GSP beneficiaries for 1991;
- Decision (ECSC) withdrawing Yugoslavia from the lists of GSP beneficiaries for 1991.

In addition, the Council indicated its agreement on the contents of the draft Decision denouncing the Co-operation Agreement and agreed to request the assent of the European Parliament by means of the emergency procedure.



ECSC

The Council gave its assent, under Article 95 of the ECSC, to a draft Commission Decision authorizing borrowing on the capital market with a view to granting loans to finance investment in the coal and steel sectors (ECSC loans) in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania.

With regard to Hungary and Poland, this Decision permitting the granting of ECSC loans was adopted on 5 March 1990.

Agriculture

The Council adopted Regulations

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2390/89 laying down general rules for the import of wines, grape juice and grape must.

The aim is to extend by three months, until 31 January 1992, the derogating rules whereby a certain relaxation is introduced as regards certificates of origin and analysis reports to be submitted by the United States, on condition, however, that the United States offer specific guarantees accepted by the Community;

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1873/84 authorizing the offer or disposal for direct human consumption of certain imported wines which may have undergone oenological processes not provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 822/87.

This amendment is intended to extend by three months, until 31 January 1992, the derogation granted to wines originating in the United States with regard to the application of certain oenological practices permitted in that country but not permitted in the Community.

These two three-month extensions should be sufficient to allow the Community and the United States to complete the negotiations, now in their final phase, with a view to concluding an arrangement in the wine sector.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9292/91 (Presse 202)

1532nd meeting of the Council

- BUDGET -

Brussels, 12 November 1991

President: Mr Piet DANKERT,  
State Secretary for  
Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom  
of the Netherlands

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Ms Wiviana DE MEESTER State Secretary for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Jorgen ØRSTRØM MØLLER State Secretary,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Jochen GRUENHAGE Deputy Permanent Representative

Greece:

Mr Ioannis PALAIOKRASSAS Minister for Finance

Spain:

Mr Antonio ZABALZA MARTI State Secretary for Finance

France:

Mr Michel CHARASSE Minister for Economic Affairs,  
Finance and the Budget, with  
responsibility for the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Eamonn RYAN Deputy Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Emilio RUBBI State Secretary for the Treasury

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Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER

Minister for the Budget

Netherlands:

Mr Piet DANKERT

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mrs Maria Manuela FERREIRA-LEITE

State Secretary for the Budget

United Kingdom:

Mr Francis MAUDE

Financial Secretary to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Peter SCHMIDHUBER

Member

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MEETING WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Before returning to the 1992 budgetary procedure, the Council met a European Parliament delegation, led by Mr CATHERWOOD, Vice-President of the European parliament, and comprising Mr VON DER VRING, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr LAMASSOURE, first Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr CORNELISSEN, second Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets and Rapporteur on Section III of the Budget, Mr TOMLINSON, Rapporteur on Sections I, II, IV and V of the Budget and Mr COLOM I NAVAL, Mr LO GIUDICE and Ms THEATO, Members of the Committee on Budgets.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the parliamentary delegation to submit the outcome of the first reading of the draft budget for 1992 to the Council and to draw attention to the priorities which Parliament had selected.

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CONTINUATION OF THE 1992 BUDGETARY PROCEDURE

After the meeting, the Council held its second reading of the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1992.

The Council adopted positions on all the proposed modifications and amendments for which the European Parliament had voted on a first reading.

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The main expenditure agreed on by the Council on its second reading of its draft 1992 budget amounts to:

	(in million ECU - provisional figures rounded off)	
	CA	PA
EAGGF, Guarantee Section	35 008,0	35 008,0
Monetary reserve	1 000,0	1 000,0
Set-aside and income aid	280,0	280,0
Structural Funds	17 585,3	16 039,6
PEDIP (Specific Programme for Industrial Development in Portugal)	127,7	121,6
Support programme	16,0	13,9
IMPs (Integrated Mediterranean Programmes)	466,9	302,4
Research (framework programme)	2 037,9	1 562,7
Research (other than framework programme)	181,9	183,8
Other policies	5 135,6	4 111,1
comprising: Food aid	518,0	552,7
Aid to latin America and Asia	553,9	349,0
Mediterranean countries	397,7	280,3
Central and Eastern Europe	1 033,0	570,0
USSR	400,0	320,0
Administration - Commission	1 849,6	1 849,6
- Other Institutions	1 053,3	1 053,3
Depreciation of Agricultural stocks	810,0	810,0
Refunds to Member States	82,0	82,0
	<u>65 634,2</u>	<u>62 418,0</u>

The rates of increase for NCO thus amount to 13,25% in the case of commitment appropriations and 15,83% in the case of payment appropriations.

The Council instructed its President to forward the outcome of its second reading of the draft budget to the European Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 for 1991

The Council conducted the second reading of draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 for 1991, with amendments by the European Parliament.

Draft supplementary and amending budget No 3 for 1991

The Council established draft supplementary and amending budget No 3 for 1991, entering the surplus for 1990 (ECU 225,7 million), the result of the definitive financing of the compensation granted to the United Kingdom in respect of 1987, the refunds to Spain and Portugal resulting from an increase in expenditure and the adjustment and correction of VAT and GNP balances from previous years, and an increase in the administrative costs of the Commission and the Court of Justice (ECU 40,9 million).

Letter of amendment No 1 to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1992

The Council established letter of amendment No 1 for 1992 by entering the estimated balance from 1991 (ECU 938 million), the result of the definitive financing of the compensation granted to the United Kingdom in 1988, the budget headings under borrowing/loan operations for Romania and Algeria and the changes to be made in 1992 to the allocation for certain specific programmes under the third framework programme and to the Council's budget.



**COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

1533rd meeting of the Council

- Justice -

Brussels, 13 November 1991

President: Mr. Hirsch Ballin  
Minister for Justice, The Netherlands

The official press release was unavailable. A summary of the meeting has been reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 11-1991.

## 1533rd meeting

1.7.9. Ministers for Justice meeting within the Council  
(Brussels, 13 November).

- Previous meeting: Bull. EC 5-1987, point 2.4.18

*President:* Mr Hirsch Ballin, Dutch Minister for Justice.

*Commission:* Mr Schmidhuber and Mr Van Miert.

### Main items

Protection of the Community's financial interests: resolution adopted (→ point 1.5.10).

Celex system: resolution adopted (→ point 1.2.204).

### Other business

European training for judges: discussed.

## Protection of the Communities' financial interests

1.5.10. Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, concerning the protection of the financial interests of the Communities.

### References:

Draft Treaty amending the Treaties establishing the European Communities so as to permit the adoption of common rules on the protection under criminal law of officials and other servants of the Communities: Tenth General Report, point 151

Council statement on the fight against fraud affecting the Community budget: Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.5.11

Parliament resolution on the legal protection of the Community's financial interests: OJ C 305, 25.11.1991; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.1.9

*Adopted on 13 November.* The Ministers, aware of the acute problems raised by fraud, in particular, at the expense of the financial interests of the Communities and the risk of the organization of offences becoming internationalized as a result of the free circulation of goods, persons and capital, decided to devote particular attention to measures likely to increase the effectiveness of anti-fraud operations by both the Community institutions and the Member States. The Ministers also asked for a re-examination of the relevance of the Commission proposal of 1976 to incorporate in the Treaties common rules on the legal protection of the financial interests of the Communities. Turning to the discussions on the Intergovernmental Conference on Political Union, they expressed their satisfaction at the arrangements proposed for examining matters of common interest in both the legal sector and internal affairs. They also welcomed the report on the relationship between Community and criminal law drawn up by a group of government experts in the context of European cooperation and asked it to continue its study, taking into account the judgments of the Court of Justice and other legal developments, and to re-examine the Commission's proposal dating from 1976. Finally, it asked the Commission to complete, and to present to the Council in the first half of 1993, a comparative study of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States, in order to see whether action should be taken to arrive at greater compatibility of those provisions.

The resolution is reproduced in full in point 2.4.1 of this Bulletin.

## 4. Measures to combat fraud

2.4.1. Resolution of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, concerning the protection of the financial interests of the Communities.

'The Council of the European Communities and the representatives of the governments of the Member States of the European Communities, meeting within the Council,

A. Concerned about fraud (including tax evasion and customs fraud) being committed on a large scale and with an international impact and conscious of the importance of taking effective and powerful measures aimed at preventing and combating inadmissible practices by which harm is done to the financial interests of the Communities;

B. In appreciative recognition of the various efforts that have already been made on the part of the Commission of the European Communities to expose and help prevent fraud relating to the income and expenditure of the Communities;

C. Conscious of the great concern that also exists in the European Parliament and the European Court of Auditors at the extent to which fraud is believed to be committed at the expense of the financial interests of the Communities;

D. Aware, in this regard, of the report and the resolution of the European Parliament of 24 October 1991 concerning the legal protection of the financial interests of the Communities;

E. Recalling the statement made by the Council on 8 July 1991 concerning the fight against fraud affecting the Community budget;

F. Recognizing that large-scale fraud relating to the income and expenditure of the Communities often assumes cross-border forms and that the increasingly free movement of goods, persons, services and capital can also increase the risk of the organization of fraud offences becoming internationalized;

G. Convinced that a responsibility rests with the Community institutions as well as with Member States, each within their own sphere of competence, where necessary in close cooperation, to take suitable measures to analyse, prevent and combat this phenomenon;

H. Recognizing, however, that the Commission's proposal dating from 1976 containing a draft to amend the Communities' Treaties so as to permit the adoption of common rules on the protection under criminal law of the financial interests of the Communities, has not as yet received a favourable

opinion by the Council, but that in the light of recent developments there might be reason to re-examine the merits of this proposal;

I. Stressing their interest in the development which was started in the framework of the Intergovernmental Conference on Political Union and trusting that suitable attention will be paid to problems relating to the combating of fraud against the financial interests of the Communities;

J. Recognizing that in the context of political union a more clearly defined structure for consideration by Member States of matters of common interest in areas of justice and internal affairs is envisaged, that measures to combat fraud against the financial interests of the Communities would be appropriately dealt with in that framework and that nothing in this resolution is intended to prejudice decisions to be taken in that framework:

1. Take the view that combating fraud of an international dimension should be one of the first topics to be addressed under the new arrangements which it is hoped will emerge from the intergovernmental conference and that in this perspective the points cited below should be noted;

2. Welcome the proposals to bring about:

(a) a form of voluntary cooperation among interested Member States for setting up an easily and generally accessible documentation network for scientific information relating to cross-border crime, including fraud at Community level, and

(b) improved contacts on a European scale in respect of projects for scientific research into such forms of cross-border crime;

3. Have noted with interest the report submitted to them on the relationship between Community law and criminal law, the report being the result of a study by an *ad hoc* group of government experts in the context of European political cooperation;

4. Are of the opinion that the study needs to be continued, taking into account the judgments of the Court of Justice in cases which are still pending and other relevant legal developments and provisionally invite the *ad hoc* group of government experts in the context of European political cooperation to pursue this task until further decisions are taken in the light of the new structures resulting from the Intergovernmental Conference on Political Union;

5. Instruct the *ad hoc* Working Party of the Council to re-examine, in the mean time, the Commission's proposal dating from 1976 for a draft to amend the Communities' Treaties so as to permit

the adoption of common rules on the protection under criminal law of the financial interests of the Communities, taking into account recent developments in order to evaluate its usefulness and actuality;

6. Take the view that the Member States should not simply adopt for themselves the necessary general or specific measures to ensure the upholding of Community law and effective operation of the Communities themselves, but that it is likewise important to have in place an effectively functioning system of instruments for administrative and criminal cooperation for the purposes of preventing and combating infringements of Community law and other practices by which the interests of the Communities are damaged;

7. Invite those Member States which have not yet done so, to consider becoming party, as soon as possible, to the relevant Conventions in the field of judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

8. State that cooperation between the Member States in the prevention and combating of fraudulent practices by which harm is done to the financial interests of the Communities is enhanced by a compatibility of norms in the legal and administrative provisions of the Member States by which such conduct is sanctioned;

9. Emphasize the urgency for the Commission to complete, in the course of 1992, the study currently undertaken and request the Commission to conduct, as soon as possible, a comparative law study of the abovementioned legal and administrative provisions of the Member States, in order to see whether action should be taken to achieve greater compatibility of these provisions;

10. Request the Commission to pay particular attention in such a comparative study to the following aspects:

- (i) definition of concept of fraud (levy fraud, subsidy fraud);
- (ii) components of offence;
- (iii) territorial applicability;
- (iv) applicable sanctions;
- (v) liability, including liability for legal persons;

11. Invite the Commission to submit the results of these studies to the appropriate forum as soon as possible but not later than in the first half of 1993.

12. This resolution does not prejudice the question of distribution of competence between the Community and the Member States.'

## Celex

1.2.204. Council resolution on the operation of the computerized documentation system for Community law (Celex).

- Reference: Council resolution on the automation of legal documentation: OJ C 20, 28.1.1975; Bull. EC 11-1974, point 1108

*Adopted on 13 November.* The Council stressed that a computerized documentation system which can be easily accessed in all the Community languages is of crucial importance for improving the knowledge of Community law and the relevant national legislation.

In particular, it invited the Commission to speed up completion of the Celex database and to devise ways of creating an appropriate structure to ensure that the system functions properly.

**COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

1534th meeting of the Council

- Culture -

Brussels, 14 November 1991

President: Mrs. Hedy D'Ancona  
Minister for Welfare, Health and Culture, The Netherlands

The official press release was unavailable. A summary of the meeting has been reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 11-1991.

## 1534th meeting

1.7.10: Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council (Brussels, 14 November).

- Previous meeting: Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.7.5

*President:* Mrs D'Ancona, Dutch Minister for Welfare, Health and Culture.

*Commission:* Mr Dondelinger.

### Main items

European cultural networks: resolution adopted (→ point 1.2.206).

Archives: resolution adopted (→ point 1.2.207).

Promotion of theatrical events in 1993: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.208).

Conservation of Yugoslavia's cultural heritage: declaration adopted (→ point 1.3.25).

### Other business

Cultural action in the Community: discussed.

Strategy for high-definition television: exchange of views.

Movement and export of cultural property after 1992: statement from the Commission.

Books and reading: report examined.

European literary and translation prizes: report examined.

## European cultural networks

1.2.206. Resolution of the Council and the Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council on European cultural networks.

*Adopted on 14 November.* Given that increased awareness of the European dimension in the cultural sphere has led to the formation of a growing number of European networks linking non-governmental cultural organizations, Ministers stressed the importance of their role in cultural cooperation in Europe, agreed to encourage the active participation of cultural organizations in their respective countries in non-governmental cooperation on a European scale and invited the Commission to present an inventory of European cultural networks and, with the Member States, to explore the opportunities for them to play an enhanced role in future cultural action.

Bull. EC 11-1991

## Archives

1.2.207. Resolution of the Council and the Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council on arrangements concerning archives.

- **Reference:** Council Regulation (EEC/Euratom) No 354/83 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community; Commission Decision No 359/83/ECSC on the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Coal and Steel Community: OJ L 43, 15.2.1983

*Adopted on 14 November.*

'The Council and the Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council,

in view of the twofold role of archives as a basis for decision-making in the public sector on the one hand, and as a vital component of a nation's cultural heritage on the other;

in view of the increased intermingling of public records among Member States and between Member States and the Community, and bearing in mind the legislation concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the Community;

bearing in mind that the European archival heritage provides an indispensable resource for writing the history of Europe or of an individual nation;

considering that well-kept and accessible archives contribute greatly to the democratic functioning of our societies;

considering that an adequate archives policy and efficient archives management create the conditions for the accessibility needed;

invite the Commission:

to set up a group of experts appointed on the proposal of the Member States, for the purpose of examining to what extent greater coordination of archives policy and practice within the Community is desirable;

to transmit a progress report by the group to the Council before the end of 1992.'

## Theatre

1.2.208. Conclusions of the Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council on the promotion of theatrical events in 1993.

- **Reference:** Resolution of the Ministers for Culture meeting within the Council on 7 June on the promotion of the theatre in Europe: OJ C 188, 19.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.224

*Adopted on 14 November.* The objective is to mark the bicentenary of the death of Carlo Goldoni and the 400th anniversary of the death of Christopher Marlowe in 1993 by organizing a programme of events connected with the theatre in the Member

States, as part of the follow-up to the resolution of 7 June 1991 on the promotion of the theatre in Europe.

The following events are being considered for inclusion in the programme:

- (1) a European conference on the theatre to be held in Italy in 1993 on the occasion of the bicentenary of the death of Carlo Goldoni;
- (2) special measures in 1993 to encourage theatrical co-productions involving producers from the various Member States;
- (3) promotion of closer contacts between drama schools in Europe, e.g. stepping up exchanges of teachers and students in 1993;
- (4) the organization, if possible at the beginning of the 1993/94 theatrical season, of an 'open door' evening in each Member State to encourage a better understanding by the public of the world of the theatre;
- (5) special efforts in 1993 to involve theatres in Central and Eastern Europe in these initiatives.

Ministers recommended that the programme be organized in full consultation and cooperation with international organizations, such as the Council of Europe, and with European and national professional bodies concerned with the theatre. They also invited the Commission to cooperate in the preparation of the events.



1.3.25. Declaration on the conservation of Yugoslavia's cultural heritage.

*Adopted by the Ministers for Culture, meeting within the Council, on 14 November.*

'The Ministers ...

draw attention to the proposals made by the Community and its Member States for achieving a peaceful settlement of the conflict' and to their condemnation of the attacks on Dubrovnik;

appeal to the parties concerned to:

- observe the international conventions of 1954 and 1972,<sup>1</sup> which were signed by Yugoslavia;
- take the necessary steps to ensure the preservation of Dubrovnik and Split and more generally of Yugoslavia's cultural heritage, the conservation of which is threatened;

support wholeheartedly the efforts of Unesco to preserve Yugoslavia's cultural heritage.'

PRESS RELEASE

9299/91 (Presse 209)

1535th Council meeting

- AGRICULTURE -

Brussels, 18 and 19 November 1991

President: Mr Piet BUKMAN,

Minister for Agriculture,  
Nature Conservation and  
Fisheries  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER                      State Secretary for European Affairs  
and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Laurits TOERNAES                      Minister for Agriculture

Mr Nils BERNSTEIN                      State Secretary for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE                      Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture  
and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL                      State Secretary, Federal Ministry of  
Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Sotirios HATZIGAKIS                      Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES MIRA                      Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mr Louis MERMAZ                      Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael WOODS Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN Minister for Agriculture and  
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Piet BUKMAN Minister for Agriculture,  
Nature Conservation and  
Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Arlindo CUNHA Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Food

Mr Alvaro AMARO State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

United Kingdom:

Mr John GUMMER Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Mr David CURRY Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture

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Commission:

Mr Ray MAC SHARRY Member

DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The Council discussed in depth the Commission proposals relating to arable crops and cereals, tobacco and sheepmeat.

In the course of the discussion delegations commented on and raised points of concern to them regarding adjustment of the CAP as advocated by the Commission. The major problems encountered in each of the sectors in question were very carefully examined.

These problems are

- arable crops and cereals:

- . price-reductions accompanied by compensatory payments
- . set-aside
- . regionalization of compensatory payments
- . durum wheat
- . base area
- . small producers
- . protein products and legumes
- . price hierarchy and Community preference
- . co-responsibility levy;

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- tobacco:

- . future level of the maximum guaranteed quantity and distribution of quotas
- . grouping of varieties
- . principle of a single premium per group
- . control agency
- . inter-branch organizations;

- sheepmeat:

- . need to improve the system
- . quota system (principle and detailed rules) and freezing of the stabilizer at its 1990 level
- . linkage between premium entitlement and land number of eligible ewes, qualifying for the full premium.

This full and fruitful discussion was seen by the Council as an encouraging sign for its further discussions.

As regards the remaining proposals in this field, namely those relating to beef, mlk and milk-products and back-up measures, the Council noted that the preparatory work was making active progress. The results of these proceedings would be submitted to the Council at its December meeting.

URUGUAY ROUND - AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS

The Commission reported to the Council on the current state of the Uruguay Round negotiations.

During the exchange of views that followed, the Council reaffirmed the Community's will to work towards a globally positive outcome and stressed that all parties to the negotiations should make a constructive contribution to that end.

In conclusion, the Council reaffirmed its support to the Commission for the continuation of the negotiations and agreed to follow their progress closely.

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OTHER AGRICULTURAL POLICY DECISIONS

The Council adopted Regulations:

- amending Regulation No 1799/87 on special arrangements for imports of maize and sorghum into Spain from 1987 to 1990. The amendment is designed to extend the period of validity of the Regulation by one year with retroactive effect as from 1 January 1991;
- opening and providing for the administration of a Community quota for chemically pure fructose originating in third countries not bound to the Community by a preferential trade agreement (1992). The quota is for 4,504 tonnes at 20% customs duty, with exemption from the variable component;
- amending Regulation No 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and the common customs tariff and Regulation No 2915/79 determining the groups of products and the special provisions for calculating levies on milk and milk products. The purpose of the amendment is to regroup all fresh cheeses, whether fermented or not, under one heading of the tariff nomenclature with the aim of simplifying customs checks.

The Council also adopted Directives:

- on the protection of animals during transport, amending Directives 90/425/EEC and 91/496/EEC and repealing Directives 77/489/EEC and 81/389/EEC. The Agriculture Council on 21 and 22 October 1991 had already signified its agreement to this Directive (see Press Release No 8741/91 (Presse 173));



- laying down minimum standards for the protection of
  - = calves
  - = pigs.

These Directives were approved by the Agriculture Council on 21/22 October 1991 (see Press Release No 8741/91 (Presse 173)).

#### OTHER DECISION

##### Fisheries

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate fisheries agreements with Ecuador and Venezuela in accordance with the Directives already adopted on 29 October 1990 in respect of certain Latin-American countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay).

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9298/91 (Presse 208)

1536th Council meeting

- INDUSTRY -

Brussels, 18 November 1991

President: Mr J.E. ANDRIESSEN

Minister for Economic Affairs  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium

Mr Lode WILLEMS Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark

Mrs Anne-Birgitte LUNDHOLT Minister for Industry

Germany

Mr Jochen GRÜNHAGE Deputy Permanent Representative

Greece

Mr Andreas ANDRIANOPOULOS Minister for Industry

Spain

Mr Alvaro ESPINA MONTERO State Secretary for Industry

France

Mr Dominique STRAUSS-KAHN Minister with responsibility for Industry and Foreign Trade

Ireland

Mr Desmond O'MALLEY Minister for Industry and Commerce

Italy

Mr Guido BODRATO Minister for Industry

Luxembourg

Mr Robert GOEBBELS Minister for Economic Affairs



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THE EUROPEAN ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY

The Council adopted the following Resolution concerning electronics, information and communication technologies:

"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Communication from the Commission concerning industrial policy in an open and competitive environment: guidelines for a Community approach,

Having regard to the Communication from the Commission concerning the European electronics and information technology industry: state of play, issues at stake and proposals for action,

Whereas the approach of the Community to industrial policy centres on the completion of the single market and the application of the competition rules at international level to ensure, on the basis of a balance of rights and obligations, that competitor's markets are as open as the Community market;

Whereas the Community's electronics, information and communication technologies have a paramount importance for the competitiveness of the Community's economy;

Whereas equal access to markets and fair competition on a global scale are, as a matter of urgency, a first priority in the areas of electronics, information technology and telecommunications; whereas the Community aims at the positive and timely conclusion of the current GATT negotiations;

Whereas the main responsibility for improving industrial competitiveness lies with the economic actors themselves, but public authorities have to provide them with a clear and predictable framework for their activities;

Whereas trans-European networks and computerized telecommunications links between administrations and services of general interest should respond to user needs;

Whereas the Community's support for research and development, in particular in areas which are vital for the development of technology and its application by

users, is a significant contribution to the future competitive position of this industry; whereas industrial co-operation is to be encouraged, to develop in Europe key technologies which are internationally competitive, particularly in a long-term perspective;

Whereas small and medium-sized enterprises are important as innovators and disseminators of these technologies; whereas aspects of economic and social cohesion and regional development have to be taken into account;

Whereas the use of electronics, information and communication technologies within the European economy depends crucially on the availability of people with the relevant skills,

HAS ADOPTED THIS RESOLUTION:

The Council:

1. Emphasizes that, in order to support the Community's pledge to free and fair international trade and competition:
  - the Community must be in a position to ensure rapid and effective action against unfair competition and practices;
  - the efficiency of the Community's trade policy instruments, such as anti-dumping, should be enhanced in order to promote free and fair trade;
  - the Community should continue to support the establishment of more effective multilateral rules on non-discriminatory market access for users and suppliers, including compliance measures;
  - the Community should maintain its efforts to support the establishment of competition rules, with a view to achieving the elimination of practices restraining competition and their effective application in each of the Community's main trading partners;
  - the GATT rules should be further developed and improved with regard to their effectiveness.
2. Takes the view that in the light of the results of the Uruguay Round negotiations additional bilateral initiatives of the Community, without prejudice to existing GATT obligations, may be necessary to create effective market access with equal opportunities.

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3. Understands the need for a more systematic gathering of information on marketing, market access and distribution practices throughout the main industrial areas in the world.
4. Emphasizes the importance of a favourable business environment for improving the competitiveness of electronics, information and communication technology industries; specifically taking into account the role and interests of users: giving special consideration to small and medium-sized enterprises as well as to regional development.

Means for improving the business environment include:

- full and effective implementation of all the relevant measures, in particular those concerning public procurement, aimed at creating the unified market in the Community, including the application of a system of effective competition;
  - speeding up the process of European standardization and certification to meet the requirements arising from the creation of the internal market;
  - reviewing present-day financing systems in the Community, e.g. with regard to the provision of risk capital;
  - the infrastructure for co-operation between enterprises of all sizes;
  - facilitating co-operation, without distortion of competition in the internal market, between individual enterprises, such as microelectronics, in order to be able to compete on world markets;
  - strengthening the competitive position of subcontractors so as to permit them to meet the exacting and developing needs of contractors;
  - promoting rules and mechanisms comparable to those in the internal market with a view to creating a level playing field for European industry in world markets, in particular in the areas of public procurement, standardization and certification, distribution, competition policy, strategic alliances and foreign investments.
5. Emphasizes the need for trans-European networks and computerized telecommunication links between administrations and services of general interest taking account, insofar as action by the Community is concerned

of decisions to be taken in the appropriate Community fora.

6. Is convinced of the necessity for industry in the Community to be competitive at a world level, particularly when assessing strategic alliances and capital intensive investment in the framework of the rules of competition.
7. Also is convinced that steps should be taken to strengthen the efforts of the Community's R&D activity taking into account also the interest of small and medium-sized enterprises:
  - by focusing in the relevant programmes on areas which are vital for the development of technology and its application by users;
  - priorities should be established and the financial means provided by the Community budget insofar as possible should be allocated accordingly;
  - a better synergy between R&D carried out in the Community programmes and EUREKA is to be promoted while maintaining EUREKA's present flexible structure;
  - measures should be taken for the dissemination and exploitation of R&D results to users across the Community.
8. Emphasizes the need for enhancing efforts relating to the provision of training at all levels in electronics, information and communication technologies above and beyond the current efforts being made by Member States and at Community level.

INVITES THE COMMISSION:

1. To report on:
  - relevant studies undertaken by the Community and its Member States;
  - the most recent agreement between the US and Japan concerning semiconductors, as well as its consequences for European producers and users;
  - the present-day situation of market access in third countries;
  - government practices in the field of electronics information and



telecommunication technologies in the Community and its major trading partners.

2. To establish a centralized point of information, possibly within the Commission services, charged with monitoring marketing, marketing access and distribution practices throughout the main industrial areas in the world.
3. To monitor, in consultation with a high level group composed of representatives of Member States, and with respect to trade-related matters with the Committee referred to in Article 113 of the EEC Treaty, the progress in achieving the goals set out in this Resolution, and to report, at regular intervals and at least once a year, on the progress achieved.

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION:

To take, and where required propose, the measures necessary for reinforcing these basic principles and for pursuing the achievement of the goals set out in this Resolution. These measures should be initiated concurrently as a matter of urgency."

STEEL

- RULES FOR AID TO THE STEEL INDUSTRY

The Council gave its assent to a Commission communication concerning a five-year extension of the rules for aid to the steel industry, subject to a number of amendments.

The current rules which expire on 31 December 1991, allow State aid for research and development, environmental protection and closures only under certain conditions.

As regards regional aid, the new rules allow aid for Greece, Portugal and undertakings established in the new German "Länder".

The Member States must give prior notice to the Commission of any plan to provide State financing for steel undertakings.

- FUTURE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ECSC

In anticipation of the expiry of the ECSC Treaty in 2002 (see press release No 5812/91 of 29 April 1991), the Council requested the Commission to submit, in time for discussion at the next Industry Council meeting in March 1992, a document setting out several options for the ECSC's financial activities and analysing the effect of the various options on the level of the levy and the reserves, including reducing and abolishing the levy and using up the reserves.

COMPETITION LAW

The Council took note of a collection of reference texts on State aid policy which the Commission forwarded to it on 31 October 1991 further to its undertaking of 15 October 1990.

The Council suggested to the Commission a number of changes in the procedure to be followed in presenting the annual report, so that the Council debate could be adequately prepared.

COMPETITIVENESS OF INDUSTRIES IN THE AREA OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

The Council discussed in detail the Commission communication on promoting a competitive environment for industrial activities based on biotechnology within the Community.

That communication, which aimed to examine the development prospects for the biotechnology industry in the Community, defined a Community framework for industrial activities in that area and listed a series of measures deemed necessary to encourage the competitiveness of the industries using biotechnology.

At the close of the discussion, the Council asked the Commission to continue its work in the light of the delegations' comments and to propose appropriate measures in due course.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The Council held a detailed debate on the Commission communication on improving the competitiveness of the Community's textile and clothing industry.

The Council asked the Commission to continue its work in liaison with the Directors-General for Industry in the light of the delegations' comments.

NEW CHALLENGES FOR MARITIME INDUSTRIES

The Council discussed the Commission communication concerning new challenges for maritime industries (shipping, shipbuilding, the service sector, marine equipment and the "resources of the sea", including fisheries).

The communication proposed, among other things, the setting up of a discussion forum composed of representatives of the various parties concerned which could contribute towards a more precise definition of the type of action to be developed in order to improve the competitiveness of maritime industries.

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## MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

### Relations with ACP States

On the basis of a Commission communication, the Council adopted draft conclusions of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers enabling the unexpended balances of emergency aid and aid for refugees and displaced persons under Lomé III to be used for the same types of measure for ACP countries for which Lomé IV has not yet entered into force.

The Council considered it necessary to adopt this first decision without further delay in order to meet the most pressing needs of the populations of the countries concerned, particularly Somalia and Liberia, which are both currently unable to ratify the new Convention. The other suggestions contained in the Commission communication, aimed at using additional funds under the Convention for the same purposes, will be examined by the Council's subordinate bodies in the very near future.

### Commercial policy

The Council adopted Regulations:

- opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota of 25 000 tonnes of fresh or dried hazel nuts, shelled or not, originating in Turkey (1992);
- increasing from 425 000 to 545 000 tonnes the volume of the Community tariff quota opened for 1991 for ferro-chromium containing more than 6% by weight of carbon;

- increasing the volume of the Community tariff quotas for 1991 for certain industrial products;
- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties for certain products intended for the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft on conditions to be laid down by the competent authorities.

#### Environment

The Council adopted the Decision concerning the approval of the Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Elbe.

The Convention was signed on behalf of the Community on 8 October 1990.

#### ECSC

The Council gave its assent to Commission decisions:

- amending the exemption thresholds fixed by volume and value in Decision No 25-67 concerning the prior authorization exemption and exempting certain undertakings from this obligation;
- granting under Article 54(2) of the ECSC Treaty
  - = a loan of DKR 2 940 million (approximately ECU 372,93 million) to Store Belt A/S, Denmark, for financing the consumption of Community steel for the construction of a fixed road and rail link across the Great Belt;

= a loan of FF 880 million (approximately ECU 115 million) to SNCF (TGV Nord) for co-financing the construction of a new line for high-speed trains between Paris and the Belgian border, and between Paris and Frethun (Channel Tunnel) ("TGV Nord").

Appointments

The Council:

- appointed two full members and one alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work;
- replaced the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9551/91 (Presse 213)

1537th Meeting of the Council  
and the Ministers for Education

Brussels, 25 November 1991

President: Mr Jo RITZEN  
Minister for Education  
and Science  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Bernard GENTGES Minister for Education for  
the German-speaking Community

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER Minister for Education and Research

Germany:

Mr Rainer ORTLEB Federal Minister for Education and  
Science

Mr Dieter BREITENBACH Minister for Science and Culture,  
Saarland

Greece:

Mr Vassilios BEKIRIS State Secretary for Education

Spain:

Mr Javier SOLANA MADARIAGA Minister for Education and Science

France:

Mr Lionel JOSPIN Ministre d'Etat, Minister for  
Education

Ireland:

Mr Frank FAHEY Minister of State at the Department of  
Education

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Italy:

Mr Antonio RUBERTI

Minister for Scientific Research and  
Technology

Mr Beniamino BROCCA

State Secretary for Education

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Education

Netherlands:

Mr Jo RITZEN

Minister for Education and Science

Portugal:

Mr Diamantino DURÃO

Minister for Education

Mr Emilio GIL SANTOS

State Secretary for Education

United Kingdom:

Mr Kenneth CLARKE

Minister for Education and Science

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Commission:

Mrs Vasso PAPANDEOU

Member

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INFORMAL MEETING WITH MR E. DNEPROV, MINISTER FOR EDUCATION OF THE RUSSIAN  
REPUBLIC

Before the start of the official meeting of the Council, the Ministers for Education of the Twelve held an informal meeting with the Minister for Education of the Russian Republic, Mr E. DNEPROV. The Minister for Education of the Russian Republic took the opportunity of stressing the essential role that education and vocational training are bound to play in the democratization process and economic reforms currently taking place in Russia.

The Minister also reaffirmed the importance that the Russian Republic attached to international co-operation, especially with the European Community and its Member States, in the field of education. The delegations confirmed their readiness to consider such co-operation.

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HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

The Ministers welcomed the Commission memorandum entitled "Higher education in the European Community", trusting that it would give rise to wide-ranging discussion within all interested circles on the future of higher education in the Member States and at Community level, in particular on questions related to the challenges of the internal market.

The Ministers agreed to re-examine these issues at a forthcoming meeting.

OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

The Council and Ministers noted with interest the Commission memorandum on open and distance learning, emphasizing the importance of this means of education and training.

They also took note of a suggestion by the Italian and Spanish Ministers to integrate certain Community programmes and features of open and distance learning; finally, they noted that the Commission could make proposals in this area if necessary and without creating new structures.

The Council and the Ministers adopted the following Conclusions and Resolutions:

CONCLUSIONS  
OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE MINISTERS FOR EDUCATION  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL

on quality assessment in higher education

Improving the quality of teaching in higher education is a concern shared by each Member State and by every institution of higher education within the European Communities. The increasing importance of the European dimension in general and more particularly the introduction of a single market will widen the range of interested parties concerned with quality in higher education in all the Member States.

In line with recent conferences at Community level on higher education (Leuven in 1989 and Siena in 1990) and recognizing that a significant debate is being launched by the Commission memorandum on higher education in the European Community; arrangements for quality assessment in higher education on a national level could be examined at Community level, with a view to reinforcing national quality assessment systems and to providing a way to improve the mutual recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

Given the diversity of method used for quality assessment on the national level, national experience could be complemented by European quality assessment experience, without affecting existing responsibilities and powers in the Member States and the autonomy of higher education institutions.

It would accordingly be useful for the methods at present used in the Member States for quality assessment in higher education to be investigated in a comparative study. This study could assist examination of the feasibility of developing a limited number of pilot projects aimed at co-operation in this area and possible instruments for strengthening this co-operation at European level, taking into account practical experience of international quality assessment, such as the method of peer review visiting teams. Participation by institutions

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in any Community arrangements would be on a voluntary basis. Work should be undertaken in close contact with other institutions and organizations such as the OECD.

The Commission is invited to undertake this study on the basis of information to be provided by the Member States, within the resources available to it and in consultation with a working group composed of representatives of the Member States and of relevant European organizations active in higher education. The study should be presented to the Council and the Ministers of Education by the end of 1992.

CONCLUSIONS  
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR EDUCATION  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL

on co-operation for the reinforcement of mobility in  
higher education

In line with the conclusions of the Council and the Ministers for Education of 2 June 1983 concerning the promotion of mobility in higher education and the subsequent Council Decisions establishing the COMETT, ERASMUS and LINGUA programmes, there has been a strengthening of co-operation between institutions of higher education in the Member States, and mobility among students and staff has been increasing steadily.

Practical experience of this trend and the results of conferences at Community level on higher education (Louvain in 1989 and Siena in 1990) have brought into focus a number of obstacles to mobility among staff and students on which short-term action could be taken. While recognizing that significant debate on this issue is being launched by the Commission memorandum on higher education in the European Community, the Council and the Ministers for Education consider that action could meanwhile be taken to reduce these obstacles.

Academic credit transfer and educational modules

One step would be to intensify the use of academic credit transfer systems and educational modules among the higher education institutions of the Member States. The widest possible use of systems which are clear, are relatively easy to implement and as far as possible produce similar results in similar cases, could make a contribution to increasing student mobility. In this connection the

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Commission is invited to present an interim report on the working of the European Credit Transfer System (part of Action 3 of the ERASMUS programme) as soon as possible after the academic year 1991-1992.

Commencement of the academic year

Another step worth considering might be a move towards convergence in the date of commencement of the academic year for higher education institutions, which could also facilitate some synchronization of sessions within the academic year.

The Commission is accordingly invited, in co-operation with the relevant authorities and with European organizations active in higher education, to study the dates of commencement of the academic year by the higher education institutions of the Community and to examine the feasibility of suggesting a convergence period which the institutions or other competent authorities could take into account in their decision on the starting-date of their academic year. It should report back as soon as possible to the Council and the Ministers.

Development of a computerized register at European level

A third step would be to improve information on courses in higher education in the Member States by developing computerized data bases and networks. The Commission is invited to intensify activities leading to the development of a data base for student information purposes, containing a compendium of courses offered. It could base these activities on existing networks and initiatives including the National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC) and the Student Handbook, as well as utilizing data provided by relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations. It is invited to make a progress report by December 1992.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE  
COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS FOR EDUCATION  
MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL

concerning a pilot action  
for multilateral school partnerships  
in the European Community

The Council and the Ministers for Education, meeting within the Council, point out that the success of the internal market will depend to a large extent on the creativity of young people and on their capacity for taking initiatives and for working together across frontiers. They consider that co-operation between secondary schools of the Member States plays an important role in developing these qualities.

In line with their Resolutions of 9 February 1976 comprising an action programme in the field of education and of 24 May 1988 on the European dimension in education, as well as the Resolution of the European Parliament of 20 November 1987 in support of school co-operation activities in the Community, they are concerned to promote contacts between pupils and teachers from schools of different Member States.

They note the significant efforts which Member States, relevant organizations and schools within Member States have made in that regard.

In this connection the Council and the Ministers for Education welcome the Presidency's proposal to launch a limited pilot action - in which Member States will participate on a voluntary basis - with up to 40 multilateral school partnerships, covering the school years 1992-1993 and 1993-1994.

The objectives of this pilot action are:

- to encourage partnerships between schools in the Community in order to strengthen the European dimension in education;
- to use these partnerships for improving linguistic proficiency and for gaining knowledge and experience of educational, cultural, scientific and technical matters;
- to improve the methods used in school partnerships and school exchange programmes by evaluating these activities thoroughly.



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In regard to criteria, they agree that the selected partnerships should be:

- multilateral (schools from at least three Member States to take part in each project);
- multidisciplinary;
- reciprocal and ongoing;
- valid from an educational point of view (including, if possible, innovation in teaching and the development of curricula and teaching materials).

They may include various kinds of co-operation, such as:

- teacher exchanges;
- correspondence between pupils (e.g. through electronic mail);
- pupil exchanges.

The Member States taking part in the pilot action would propose appropriate schools for participation (which may already be taking part in bilateral or multilateral partnerships or may not yet have partners).

They would ensure that:

- the schools concerned are provided with the necessary information or advice for the successful running of their partnerships;
- the development of partnerships is followed;
- contacts with the Commission are maintained in order to co-ordinate the activities and information exchanges.

In addition the Member States would facilitate the partnerships in the context of national educational policy and within the limits of available resources.

The Commission is invited to:

- facilitate, in consultation with the Education Committee, the composition of the multilateral school partnerships;

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- co-operate with the Member States in the development of the scheme and provide the link between the different exchange activities in this area already organized at Community level, particularly the exchange of teachers.

The Education Committee is invited to present a report on the pilot action by the end of 1994.

RESOLUTION  
OF THE COUNCIL AND THE EDUCATION MINISTERS

on education research and statistics  
in the European Community

THE COUNCIL AND THE EDUCATION MINISTERS MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Noting the need for a solid foundation of information, adequate statistics and comparative research to enhance the education co-operation which they instituted in their Resolution dated 9 February 1976;

Whereas, to that end, it is desirable to:

- continue the exchanges of information and documentation, and exchanges of experts, already taking place under the EURYDICE Education Information Network, the activities of which were defined in their Resolution of 6 December 1990, and the ARION visits programme;
- step up efforts to establish adequate and comparable statistics on education in the European Community;
- make the best use of national research on education on subjects of value in European co-operation, and intensify comparative research in this area;
- facilitate the implementation of educational research projects for the promotion of co-operation at Community level and the dissemination of the results obtained;

Taking into account education research already carried out not only at national level but also by international and European organizations, both governmental and non-governmental;

A. Education research

ENCOURAGE wider dissemination in Europe of the results of the research projects at the level of the Member States and the Community and of international and European organizations on subjects which are of value to the Member States' education policies and which fall within priority areas for co-operation;

WELCOME the establishment of closer co-operation between research institutes, higher-education institutions and independent researchers engaged in research on education;

ENCOURAGE the organization of joint research projects in a number of Member States and of comparative research covering the whole Community, in priority areas for co-operation such as the enhancement of the European dimension in education and the learning of foreign languages;

CALL ON the Commission to collaborate in stepping up these three activities and to report back on the initial results before 30 June 1993;

B. Education statistics

ENCOURAGE the continuation and improvement of the Commission's action, notably that of EUROSTAT, in close co-operation with the relevant departments in the Member States, the OECD and UNESCO. Where the existence of national statistics permits, this action could be devoted more particularly to the study of indicators and to the gathering of statistics in priority areas for education co-operation.

EUROPEAN DIMENSION IN EDUCATION

The Council and Ministers took note of the interim report from the Education Committee on the implementation of the Resolution of 24 May 1988 on the European dimension in education.

They asked the Education Committee to submit a final report for the first half of 1993, being the end of the four-year period covered by the Resolution.

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QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PROFESSION OF TEACHER

On the basis of a note from the Presidency the Council and Ministers held an exchange of views on questions concerning the profession of teacher. They acknowledged that several questions deserved examination at Community level and invited the Commission to study the matter with a view to submitting proposals for action in the course of the coming year.

CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS FOR EDUCATION

The Ministers took note of the interim report from the Presidency on the draft Convention on the Statute of the European Schools.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONSMeasures with regard to Yugoslavia

As the European Parliament had given its assent on 20 November 1991, the Council adopted the Decision denouncing the Co-operation Agreement between the EEC and Yugoslavia. This Decision supplements the measures taken by the Community and its Member States with regard to Yugoslavia in the light of the discussions of the Twelve in Rome on 8 November 1991 (see Press Release No 9132/91 Presse 200).

Relations with Mongolia

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate an agreement on trade and economic co-operation with the Mongolian People's Republic and adopted the relevant negotiating directives.

The aim of the future agreement will be to promote relations between the Community and Mongolia, in particular by

- stepping up and diversifying trade;
- strengthening economic co-operation, including the amendment of instruments;
- providing development aid.

Relations with Jordan

The Council adopted the Community implementing regulations for two Decisions adopted on origin by the EEC-Jordan Co-operation Council on 4 November 1991.

Relations with Malta

The Council:

- endorsed draft Decision No 1/91 of the EEC-Malta Association Council (with a view to its adoption by the Association Council) amending Annex III to Protocol No 2 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation. This draft Decision aims to restore the preferential situation for certain women's and girl's embroidered outer garments;
  
- adopted the Regulation fixing the provisions for the implementation of the joint declaration appended to Decision No 1/89 of the EEC-Malta Association Council. The purpose of this Regulation is to invest the Commission with the authority to adopt the Community's common position in all instances of application of the declaration.

Romania - ECSC

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, authorized the Commission to negotiate with Romania an agreement on ECSC products, intended to complete the general agreement on trade and commercial and economic co-operation already linking the Community to Romania following the extension of the PHARE programme. They also approved the negotiating directives necessary to that end.

Community membership of the FAO

In the light of the amendments to its Constitution and Rules of Procedure adopted by the United Nations Conference for Food and Agriculture (FAO/OAA) on 18 November 1991, the Council decided to apply for Community membership of the FAO.

A letter was forthwith sent by the Presidency to the FAO, officially notifying it of that decision, on which the FAO Conference, currently meeting in Rome, should act within the next few days.

The Council's decision to apply for Community membership of the FAO is an important act, taken after a complex negotiating process in the course of which it was possible to arrive at terms of accession satisfactory to both the Community and the FAO.

Textiles

The Council adopted the Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol maintaining in force the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA) until 31 December 1992, as agreed by the GATT Textiles Committee on 31 July 1991.

Anti-dumping

The Council:

- took note of, without opposing, the Commission Decision accepting an undertaking given by a Thai exporter in connection with the anti-dumping

proceeding concerning imports of gas-fuelled, non-refillable pocket flint lighters originating in Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. By accepting that undertaking, the effect of which should be to increase export prices to a level such as to end the dumping that occurred, the investigation into the importer in question is terminated and that importer will not be liable to an anti-dumping duty;

- adopted the Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of gas-fuelled, non-refillable pocket flint lighters originating in Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Thailand and definitively collecting the provisional anti-dumping duty;
- adopted the Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of oxalic acid originating in India and China. The rate of duty will be 4,4% for imports originating in India and 20,3% for imports originating in China.

#### Customs Union

The Council adopted the Regulation suspending from 1 January to 30 June 1992 the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain industrial products (in the microelectronics and related sectors).

#### Research

The Council adopted its common positions on the conclusion of bilateral co-operation agreements between the EC and:

- Austria, Finland and Norway, on Science and Technology for Environmental Protection (STEP);



- Iceland and Sweden, on research and development in the field of the environment: Science and Technology for Environmental Protection (STEP) and European Programme on Climatology and Natural Hazards (EPOCH).

Appointments

The Council:

- appointed
  - = two members of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency
- renewed the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training
- replaced
  - = a member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training
  - = an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Nursing Training
  - = a member and an alternate member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9555/91 (Presse 217)

1538th Council meeting  
DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION  
Brussels, 28 November 1991

President: Mr JAN PRONK,  
Minister for Development Co-operation  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Jan PRONK

Minister for Development Co-operation

Portugal:

Mr José Manuel DURAO BARROSO

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs  
and Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mrs Lynda CHALKER

Minister for Overseas Development

Commission:

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

Mr Abel MATUTES

Member

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ani/BS/hmeg

HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council and the Representatives of the Member States meeting within the Council adopted the Resolution in Annex I.

CO-ORDINATION OF EMERGENCY AID

The Council adopted the Resolution in Annex II.

UNTYING OF AID

Vice-President MARIN presented to the Council the Commission's recently adopted communication on the subject of untying - at Community level - the bilateral aid granted by Member States under their co-operation policies with third countries.

The Council noted the presentation and delegations' initial reactions and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission proposal in preparation for a detailed discussion by the Ministers at a forthcoming Development Council meeting.

FACT-FINDING MISSIONS TO ETHIOPIA AND BANGLADESH

The President informed the Council of two fact-finding missions, one to Ethiopia (20 and 21 August 1991), the other to Bangladesh (20 to 22 October 1991).

Portugal informed the Council that it intended to organize a similar mission to Angola early in 1992 under the Portuguese Presidency.

#### CO-OPERATION WITH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

The Council adopted a joint guideline on the Regulation implementing financial and technical assistance to and economic co-operation with the ALA developing countries. This Regulation reflects the Community's resolve, confirmed on a number of occasions by the European Council, to reinforce its co-operation with regions of the world where the level of development is still inadequate and to do so via an increased, co-ordinated and multi-faceted effort on the part of the Community and its Member States.

This Regulation will enable the guidelines on co-operation with the ALA developing countries for the 1990s, which the Council adopted on 4 February 1991, to be implemented.

While confirming traditional fields of action, the Regulation also covers new priorities relating in particular to the environment, the human dimension of development and the promotion of human rights and economic co-operation.

In accordance with the conciliation procedure, this common position will be forwarded to the Parliament.

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STABEX FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

After an initial discussion on extending the STABEX LLDC system, the Council agreed, at the Commission's request, that examination of the Commission's proposal be held in abeyance and resumed in the light of the outcome of the 8th UNCTAD session which will take place in Colombia in February 1992 and of further discussions by Council bodies.

PROGRAMMING OF LOME IV

The Council heard a statement by the Commission on the outcome of the programming of Community aid under the new ACP-EEC Convention, which came into force on 1 September 1991.

It welcomed the highly satisfactory results of the exercise, reflected in the signing of numerous indicative programmes, which embody the priorities of the new Convention and which are the fruit of the Commission's very constructive dialogue with the ACP States.

The Council noted that the Commission intended to pursue its efforts to complete the entire programming exercise as soon as possible; for a very few countries, it had not been possible to conclude programming because of the domestic political situation.

EC INVESTMENT PARTNERS

The Council adopted a joint guideline on the draft Regulation implementing the "EC Investment Partners" financial facility for countries of Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean for a three-year trial period.

This facility, launched by the Commission as a pilot scheme in 1988, is designed to promote mutually beneficial investment by economic operators in the Community, particularly in the shape of joint ventures with local operators in the countries eligible.

In accordance with the conciliation procedure, the joint guideline will be forwarded to the Parliament.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT UNCED

The Council adopted the statement in Annex III.

REHABILITATION PLAN FOR ANGOLA

The Council adopted the conclusions in Annex IV on a Community platform to assist Angola's social and economic reconstruction.



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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPECIAL FOOD AID PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA

Having heard a report by Vice-President MARIN on the implementation of the special food aid programme for Africa decided on in May 1991, the Council thanked the Commission for its work, which, with the stipulated quantities mobilized and for the most part already consigned, had enabled the targets set for the aid to be met in full.

EVALUATION OF CO-OPERATION

The Council welcomed the Commission's co-operation evaluation report for 1990. The Council considered that significant progress had been made in this area in recent years and stressed the need for similar advances in the future.

The Council also took note of a memorandum on the subject submitted by the French delegation which it asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine.

EAST TIMOR

The Council considered the situation in East Timor, about which it expressed its grave concern.

In this connection, the Presidency informed the Council that the Netherlands would stay all decisions on further aid to Indonesia until the findings of the

commission of enquiry were available and had been assessed.

DISPLACED REFUGEES IN KHARTOUM

The Council expressed grave concern at the transfer of a very large number of refugees from camps near Khartoum towards desert regions where living conditions were very difficult.

The Ministers agreed on the need for representations to be made to the Sudanese Government in the framework of EPC and for the issue to be referred to the appropriate bodies of the United Nations.

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ANNEX I

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE MEMBER STATES MEETING IN  
THE COUNCIL  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

1. The Council recalls the European Council Resolution of 29 June 1991 which stated that respect for human rights, the rule of law and the existence of political institutions which are effective, accountable and enjoy democratic legitimacy are the basis for equitable development. It also recalls the 1986 declaration of Foreign Ministers of the Community on Human Rights (21 July 1986) and reaffirms that respecting, promoting and safeguarding human rights is an essential part of international relations and one of the cornerstones of European co-operation as well as of relations between the Community and its member States and other countries. In this regard it stresses its attachment to the principles of representative democracy, of the rule of law, of social justice and of respect for human rights.
  
2. The Council shares the analysis contained in the Commission's communication of 25 March 1991 and acknowledges that human rights have a universal nature and it is the duty of all states to promote them. At the same time, human rights and democracy form part of a larger set of requirements in order to achieve balanced and sustainable development. In this context, account should be taken of the issue of good governance as well as of military spending.

The Council considers it important that the Community and its Member States should have a common approach aimed at promoting human rights and democracy in developing countries. Such an approach would improve the cohesion and consistency of initiatives taken in this field. The objective of the present resolution is to formulate concrete guidelines, procedures and lines of action.

3. The Community and its Member States recognize the necessity of a consistent approach towards human rights, democracy and development in their co-operation with developing countries. Development co-operation is based on the central place of the individual and has therefore in essence to be designed with a view to promoting - in parallel with economic and social rights - civil and political liberties by means of representative democratic rule that is based on respect for human rights. They endorse, on the basis of these principles the following approaches, instruments and activities.

4. The Community and its Member States will give high priority to a positive approach that stimulates respect for human rights and encourages democracy. An open and constructive dialogue between them and the governments of developing countries can make a very important contribution to the promotion of human rights and democracy. Various initiatives can be undertaken, for example, through active support for

- countries which are attempting to institute democracy and improve their human rights performance;
  
- the holding of elections, the setting up of new democratic institutions and the strengthening of the rule of law;

- the strengthening of the judiciary, the administration of justice, crime prevention and the treatment of offenders;
- promoting the role of NGOs and other institutions which are necessary for a pluralist society;
- the adoption of a decentralized approach to co-operation;
- ensuring equal opportunities for all.

At the request of the Commission or one of the Member States, the possibility of increased assistance to developing countries in which substantive positive changes in human rights and democracy have taken place will be examined.

5. The Council stresses the importance of good governance. While sovereign states have the right to institute their own administrative structures and establish their own constitutional arrangements, equitable development can only effectively and sustainably be achieved if a number of general principles of government are adhered to: sensible economic and social policies, democratic decision making, adequate governmental transparency and financial accountability, creation of a market-friendly environment for development, measures to combat corruption, as well as respect for the rule of law, human rights, and freedom of the press and expression. The Community and Member States will support the efforts of developing countries to advance good governance and these principles will be central in their existing or new development co-operation relationships.

6. While, in general, a positive and constructive approach should receive priority, in the event of grave and persistent human rights violations or the serious

interruption of democratic processes, the Community and its Member States will consider appropriate responses in the light of the circumstances, guided by objective and equitable criteria. Such measures which will be graduated according to the gravity of each case could include confidential or public démarches as well as changes in the content or channels of co-operation programmes and the deferment of necessary signatures or decisions in the co-operation process or, when necessary, the suspension of co-operation with the States concerned.

The Member States and the Commission will exchange immediate information concerning such measures and consider joint approaches in reaction to violations. They will be informed in such cases through the EPC communications network and particular cases may be further discussed within the Council framework.

7. The Community's response to violations of human rights will avoid penalising the population for governmental actions. Rather than simply discontinuing development co-operation, the Community and the Member States may adjust co-operation activities with a view to ensuring that development aid benefits more directly the poorest sections of the population in the country, for example through non-governmental or informal networks, while at the same time establishing a certain distance vis-à-vis the government concerned. Such adjustment will focus on the choice of partners of projects and of the type of co-operation programmes. In all cases, however, humanitarian and emergency aid, which directly benefit vulnerable populations, will continue to be made available.
  
8. The Council welcomes the efforts undertaken in recent years by developing countries to move towards democracy. It is recognized that governments have to build the

political, economic and social structures to support democracy and that this is a gradual process which will sometimes take a relatively long period. The Community and its Member States will support the process and hold regular informal exchanges of views on the best possible course of action in order to achieve lasting results as speedily as possible.

9. The Council attaches very great importance to the question of military spending. Excessive military expenditure not only reduces funds available for other purposes, but can also contribute to increased regional tensions and violations of international law as well as often being meant and used for purposes of internal repression and denial of universally recognized human rights.

Moreover, in a period in which donor countries are engaged in a process leading to levels of armament not exceeding sufficiency levels, development co-operation with governments which maintain much larger military structures than needed will become difficult to justify. In the dialogue with their partners in developing countries, the Community and its Member States will stress the negative effects of excessive military spending on the development process. They will consider adopting concrete measures in their co-operation in order to encourage developing countries to reduce their military expenditure, which is often excessive in relation to their legitimate security needs, and simultaneously to implement development projects of an economic and social nature, with particular emphasis on the education and health sectors. With this in mind, they may consider increasing support for countries which achieve substantial reductions in their military expenditure, or reducing support for countries which fail to do so. The Council recognises the need for restraint

and transparency in the transfer of conventional weapons to developing countries. It will further examine the question of military spending by developing countries along these lines. The Community and its Member States will request countries with which development co-operation relationships are maintained to co-operate voluntarily with the new UN register of arms transfers.

10. The Community and its Member States will explicitly introduce the consideration of human rights as an element of their relations with developing countries; human rights clauses will be inserted in future co-operation agreements. Regular discussions on human rights and democracy will be held, within the framework of development co-operation, with the aim of seeking improvements.

In order to facilitate timely support by the Community for initiatives in developing countries aiming at the promotion of respect for human rights and the encouragement of democracy and good governance it is intended to expand resources devoted to these ends within the overall allocations available for development. Sound activities in third world countries promoting human rights and democracy, both by governments and by non-governmental entities, will be eligible for financial support. The Community and its Member States undertake in addition to integrate the promotion of respect for human rights and the advancement of democracy in their future co-operation programmes.

The Commission will transmit an annual report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution.

In addition to the consultations and meetings which can be convened as stipulated in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6, a meeting will be held annually by representatives of the Commission and Member States to consider policies and



specific lines of action to further enhance respect for human rights and establishment of representative democratic rule.

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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**CO-ORDINATION OF EMERGENCY AID**

1. The Council, taking account of the conclusions of the Council on 27 May 1991 recalls and reaffirms its resolution of March 1977 on the co-ordination of Community and Member States' emergency and humanitarian aid, completed by the modalities adopted on 28 November 1977. It stresses in particular the importance of coordination as a means of increasing the effectiveness of emergency aid and underlines the need for close co-ordination with the UN in efforts to strengthen the international response to emergency situations.
2. The Council recognises the positive results achieved by the Commission and Member States in the framework of this resolution which have increased the effectiveness of European emergency aid.
3. It recommends to the Commission and Member States to continue and to amplify these co-ordination efforts in Europe and on the ground, and to take appropriate administrative and other measures to this end. It notes the need to continue to work closely with the NGOs which may be responsible for the implementation of much of the emergency aid. These efforts will be complementary to those necessary at the UN level.

4. It invites Member States and the Commission to take measures in order to transmit in due time the necessary information as regards their decisions as well as to ensure closer co-ordination on the ground, including that of the use of military logistic facilities.
5. The Council further agrees that meetings, presided by the Commission, of correspondents on Emergency Aid shall be convened by the Commission on its own initiative or exceptionally at the request of a Member State.

The correspondents will be experts who are involved bilaterally in emergency aid. In addition to dealing with actions of co-ordination of emergency relief operations, such as exchange of information, setting up of combined operations, they will contribute to the stocktaking of available emergency aid means of the Commission and Member States including that of NGOs. Furthermore, they will be informed, as necessary, by the Commission about emergency food aid actions undertaken by the Community and in particular the work of the Food Aid Committee. They may also contribute, through the information provided, to the co-ordination and preparation of emergency aid issues in meetings of UN agencies.

6. The Council supports the formation of co-operation links between the Commission and one or more Member States in order to implement emergency aid where it is clear that such co-operation has an operational advantage over other kinds of channels and aid.
7. The Council requests the Commission to complete, in conjunction with Member States, its stocktaking of emergency aid policy, of resources and possibilities including an evaluation of experience gained in the recent past with the latest logistic facilities available to itself and the

Member States, in order to be better equipped for co-ordinated action in this field and so as also to be able to establish as effectively as possible from that basic information to what extent a co-operation link for the implementation of emergency aid affords a comparative advantage. The stocktaking may also make a contribution to discussions on the matter in the UN.

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Council Statement  
on Development Aspects of the United Nations Conference  
On Environment and Development (UNCED)

1. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 provides a unique opportunity for enhanced cooperation between all nations with a view to achieving sustainable development worldwide.

The European Community and its Member States acknowledge their responsibilities in this process, have played a leading role in the preparatory work so far and pledge their full commitment to contribute to a successful outcome of the Conference. They will work towards adopting at Rio in 1992 an Earth Charter and a relevant and effective Agenda 21, signing the biodiversity and climate change conventions and adopting a declaration on forests to be reinforced thereafter by an international legally binding convention.

The Council has had a preliminary discussion on the UNCED process and in particular the development aspects which they consider to be of great importance. The Council is fully committed to securing that the EC and its Member States continue to play an active and constructive role in the negotiations. The Council emphasizes the need to achieve a positive result that takes into account the special interests and concerns of developing countries.

2. The issues under consideration at UNCED deserve full attention, as each of them forms an important element of a strategy for sustainable development. They should be dealt with in such a way that a balanced and integrated approach to environment and development will be secured.
3. The European Community and its Member States are fully committed to build a strengthened partnership with Governments in the developing world based on mutual commitments by all countries in the light of their relative capacities and their common but differentiated responsibilities.

This principle implies good governance and effective integration of economic, social and environmental policies in all countries.

4. The European Community and its Member States agree on the need for new and additional resources to assist developing countries to deal with global environmental externalities. They also agree on the need for more funding for implementing sustainable development policies at the national level. They believe that the Global Environment Facility should play a leading role in helping developing countries tackle global environmental problems.
5. The European Community and its Member States are committed to cooperate with developing countries to improve their access to environmentally sound technologies, increase the transfer of such technologies on a fair and most favourable basis and to enhance their capacity to use and develop these technologies.
6. The Council agreed that development issues form an important part of the work of UNCED, and therefore welcomed and agreed to the suggestion to hold a joint informal meeting of the

Development and Environment Council under Portuguese Presidency, early in 1992, in order to thoroughly discuss these issues before the 4th session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

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ANNEX IV

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS  
on a Community Platform  
to assist Angola's social and economic reconstruction

Whereas, following the signature of the peace agreement of Estoril, the Community and its Member States issued, in the framework of European Political Co-operation, a declaration on 31 May 1991 in which they reiterate their commitment to participate, as far as their means allow, in the reconstruction of Angola;

Whereas the President of Angola, on the occasion of his visit to the Commission of the European Communities, on 26 and 27 September 1991, called for reinforced European assistance during the current period of democratization and social and economic rehabilitation of his country, especially in the field of the urgent social reintegration of demobilized military personnel, refugees and displaced people and of the reconstruction of the social and economic infrastructure of Angola;

Having regard to the Commission position on this matter,

THE COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:

1. The Community and its Member States, responding to the Angolan appeal, express their willingness to support Angola in the framework of the process of peace, national reconciliation, social and economic reconstruction, and



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democratization of the country, with a special effort and in a co-ordinated way, through the existing channels of co-operation.

2. The Community and its Member States, to this end, will strengthen their internal co-ordination efforts, both in Angola and Europe, in order to participate together, where possible with other donors, in the social and economic rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes for Angola.

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

FISHERIES POLICY

Prices for the 1992 fishing year

The Council adopted the Regulations fixing for 1992 the guide prices for fisheries products listed in Annex I A, D and E (fresh products) and Annex II (frozen products) to Regulation No 3796/81, and the Community producer price for tuna for use by the canning industry.

For the various species the 1992 prices and the percentage change against the 1991 prices are as follows:

A. Guide prices for fresh products: ECU/tonne <sup>(1)</sup>

		<u>% change</u> <u>against 1991</u>
1. Herrings		
- from 1.1 to 31.7 and from 1.10 to 31.12.1992	256	- 3
- from 1.8 to 30.9.1992	217	- 10
2. Sardines		
(a) Atlantic		
- EEC of Ten	476	+ 1
- Spain and Portugal	413	+ 1

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(1) The guide prices for fresh products are used to determine the Community withdrawal prices and, for the species listed in Annex I E, the Community selling price.

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(b) Mediterranean	458	0
3. Picked dogfish	877	+ 1
4. Catshanks	757	- 1
5. Redfish	923	+ 2
6. Cod	1 316	+ 4
7. Coalfish	666	+ 2
8. Haddock	966	+ 5
9. Whiting	822	+ 1
10. Ling	955	+ 2
11. Mackerel (scomber scombrus)	261	- 1
12. Mackerel (scomber japonicus)	322	0
13. Anchovies	950	+ 2
14. Plaice		
- from 1.1 to 30.4.1992	796	+ 3
- from 1.5 to 31.12.1992	1 085	+ 3
15. Hake	3 073	+ 2
16. Megrin	1 922	+ 1
17. Ray's bream	1 557	0
18. Monkfish		
- with head	2 159	+ 1
- without head	5 081	+ 1
19. Shrimps	1 685	+ 3
20. Edible Crab	1 482	- 1
21. Norway Lobster		
- whole	4 392	0
- tails	7 736	- 10

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B. Guide prices for frozen products: ECU/tonne (1)		
1. Sardines	388	0
2. Sea-bream	1 362	0
3. Squid (loligo patagonica)	927	- 9
4. Squid (ommastrephes sigittatus)	808	0
5. Squid (illex argentinus)	808	0
6. Cuttlefish	1 639	0
7. Octopus	1 427	+ 8
C. Producer price for tuna: ECU/tonne (2)		
Tuna (albacore)	1 070	- 7

Common organization of the market

The Council adopted the Regulation on the common organization of the market in fishery products.

The new Regulation is a consolidation of the rules in force and will replace the various Regulations it has incorporated.

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(1) The guide prices for frozen products serve as a reference for the grant, under certain conditions, of private storage aid.

(2) The Community producer price for tuna serves as a reference for the grant, under certain conditions, of an allowance to producers' organizations.

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Conservation and management of fishery resources in the Mediterranean

The Council adopted the Regulation providing for the Community to contribute to the funding of studies and pilot projects in preparation for the introduction of a system for the conservation and management of fishery resources in the Mediterranean.

Under this Regulation, studies and pilot projects will be carried out, under conditions to be determined by the Commission, in the following priority areas:

- the structures of traditional fisheries;
- the development of specialized fisheries such as sponge, coral, sea-urchin and seaweed fisheries;
- the control of fishing activities;
- the development of a statistical network;
- the co-ordination of research and of the use of scientific data.

Technical measures for the conservation of fishery products

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulation No 3094/86 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources.

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The purpose of the amendment is to preserve the protection area for juvenile mackerel belonging to the western mackerel stock off the Cornish coast beyond 30 November 1991.

#### RESEARCH

The Council adopted common positions with a view to adopting Decisions on:

- the specific research and technological development programme in the field of human capital and mobility (1990-1994);
- the specific research and technological development programme in the field of biotechnology (1990-1994).

The Council further adopted the Decision on the specific research and training programme in the field of nuclear fission safety (1990-1994).

(see Press Release 8747/91 (Presse 179)).