

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(85) 559 final

Brussels, 28 October 1985

Proposal for a  
COUNCIL DECISION  
determining the general guidelines for 1986 concerning financial and  
technical aid to non-associated developing countries

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM1. General background of aid to non-associated developing countries

A recapitulation of the general information relating to financial and technical assistance to non-associated developing countries can be found in the 1984 implementation report. The report outlines the origins of the programme in 1976 and its development up to the present day, the basic objectives and the main conditions governing the aid, the principal procedural points, including the requirement to draw up specific annual guidelines for the coming year's programme.

At the same time, the Commission has begun an overall review of the Community's cooperation with the developing countries of Asia and Latin America, in relation their differing requirements. The results of this review will be presented in due course by the Commission.

2. Experience to date

The 1984 implementation report also takes stock of the experience to date in the implementation of aid to non-associated developing countries. All the projects completed by 31 December 1984 are reviewed. Special attention is given to the necessity of project evaluations and to the conclusions to be drawn from such exercise.

Two important facts should be emphasised:

- As in previous years, the aid has gone - with very few exceptions - to the rural areas and there to the poorer population groups. This shows that the guidelines have again provided an appropriate framework for the achievement of the objectives outlined in the Council Regulation 442/81;
- taking into account the increase of the programme, especially in the previous three years, existence of the administrative provisions becomes more and more important for monitoring and evaluation of projects in order to consider experiences of the past when preparing new projects or extending ongoing ones.

3. Guidelines proposed for 1986

In view of what has been said above and the fact that Angola and Mozambique from 1986 on will participate in the cooperation programmes provided in the Lome III convention, the Commission proposes for the general provisions to renew the guidelines as approved by the Council for 1984, including the geographical allocations for Asia (75%) and Latin America (20%). The remaining (5%) should be kept in reserve to allow a certain flexibility in replying to demands for financing interesting projects which become available in the two regions.

This distribution does not include the additional aid to Central America, which might be decided by the Community following the ministerial meeting in San Jose (Costa-Rica) and the conclusion of a cooperation agreement with this region.

It is also proposed that the aid granted to the People's Republic of China in 1983 and 1985 is continued on comparable terms. Present experience in project preparation indicates already now that aid programmes with this new partner will not only be speedily and efficiently executed but also be in the mutual interest of both sides.

## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Proposal for a Council Decision determining the general guidelines for 1986 concerning financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries***COM(85) 559 final**(Submitted by the Commission to the Council on 24 October 1985)**(85/C 285/11)*

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 442/81 of 17 February 1981 on financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries<sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 9 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas general guidelines should be determined for the administration by the Commission of financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries in 1986,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1***Objectives and priorities**

Community aid shall concentrate on helping the poorest countries and the neediest sections of the population.

Priority shall be given to the rural sector and, in particular, to measures aimed at improving the food situation, as a contribution towards the campaign to combat hunger in the world. Within the rural sector, production and support services shall receive special attention, as well as action in the sphere of social or production infrastructure.

Continued support shall also be provided for regional integration efforts.

*Article 2***Geographical allocation**

The geographical allocation of funds shall be as follows: Asia 75 %, Latin America 20 %. The remaining 5 % will constitute a reserve which may, during the period covered by the budgetary credits, be used for appropriate actions in either region.

*Article 3***Aid implementation**

Aid may be granted for projects and programmes, including, where appropriate, integrated projects and sectoral programmes, in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 442/81 and all provisions applicable thereto.

Funds shall be allocated to projects and programmes, taking due account of:

- the availability and state of readiness of specific operations, their intrinsic value for development and the degree to which they correspond to the priorities of the recipient countries and regions and the needs of the poorest sections of the population;
- the income levels and development needs of the recipient countries, the volume of funding provided in previous years and the experience gained in implementing past aid.

The Commission and the Member States shall continue to make serious efforts to increase the volume of cofinancing, notably between the Community and the Member States.

*Article 4***Special provisions**

The reserve referred to in Article 3 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 442/81 shall be set at between 5 and 6 % of the level of appropriations.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 48, 21. 2. 1981, p. 8.

The Community shall continue to assist international agricultural research. Without excluding aid to other national, regional or international institutes, aid to institutes of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) shall be maintained at the same level as in 1985.

With regard to the cost of administering the 1986 programme (use of outside experts, provision of specialists), the upper limit shall be set at 3 %.

Any additional aid which is allocated by the Community to Central America as a result of the ministerial meeting in San José (Costa Rica, 28 and 29 September 1984) shall be used in accordance with these general guidelines, but shall remain supplementary to the geographical allocation referred to in Article 2.

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