

recherche et technologie

bulletin édité par les services de presse et d'information
de la commission des communautés européennes

REPRODUCTION AUTORISÉE

Brussels, 29 October 1969

No. 30

Meeting of the Council of Ministers for Science
of the European Community
on 28 October 1969

On 28 October 1969 the Ministers for Science of the six Community countries met at Luxembourg to examine the situation of Euratom and the outlook for European scientific cooperation in non-nuclear sectors (see "Research and Technology" No. 29).

They decided to send the four countries seeking membership of the Community (United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Norway), together with Austria, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland (and perhaps other non-member European countries later on), a memorandum proposing cooperation on the basis of the report by the Community Working Party on Scientific and Technical Research Policy (Aigrain Group).

In the seven fields given priority at a previous meeting of the Ministers, namely, information science, telecommunications, new means of transport, nuisances, meteorology, oceanography and metallurgy (see "Research and Technology" No. 1), the memorandum to be sent to those countries mentions the courses of action that have received substantial approval among the/..

19.269/X/69-e

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ou aux Bureaux de Presse et d'information des Communautés européennes, dont la liste se trouve au verso.

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Community countries. This does not mean, of course, that any of the countries consulted cannot propose other action that they consider particularly worthwhile.

Thus a start has been made on the procedure already laid down (see "Research and Technology" No. 1) of consultation with non-member countries with a view to European cooperative action in the field of science and technology.

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As regards Euratom (promoting of a common nuclear industry policy, common research programme, the question of a European uranium enrichment plant), no decision, except to allow further time for thought. The file, which contains the Commission's proposals (see "Research and Technology" No. 15) and a compromise proposal by the President's office of the Council of Ministers (see "Research and Technology" No. 29) and may be augmented by any new proposal from one or another member country, will perhaps be brought up at the meeting of the Heads of State or of Government to be held at The Hague on 17 and 18 November 1969, and in any case will be the subject of a fresh meeting of the Community Council of Ministers planned for early December.