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NEWS

EC ENVIRONMENT COMMISSIONER PALEOKRASSAS TO MEET U.S. COUNTERPARTS

Ioannis Paleokrassas, EC Commissioner for Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection, and Fisheries will be in Washington October 15 for the high-level plenary session of the EC-US bilateral meetings on environmental issues.

This is the first time a Commissioner has attended the yearly meeting, reflecting the increased importance of the environment in transatlantic relations, particularly since the November 1990 Declaration on EC-US relations.

The meetings, which begin October 14 at official level, will focus on specific EC-US bilateral cooperation in areas such as chemicals and biotechnology, and also on the follow up to the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development.

Commissioner Paleokrassas and US Counselor for Global Environment Affairs Tim Wirth (joined by Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner and Special Assistant to the President for the Environment Katie McGinty) will open the October 15 plenary session which will focus particularly on climate change, trade and environment, biodiversity and population growth (in preparation for the Cairo Conference).

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Ioannis Paleokrassas

Ioannis Paleokrassas was appointed Commissioner for Environment, Nuclear Safety, Civil Protection and Fisheries in January 1993.

Before joining the Commission, Mr. Paleokrassas served in the Greek Government as Minister for Industry, Energy, Technology and Commerce from August 1992. He was also Minister of Finance from 1990 to 1992. A member of the Nea Dimokratia political party, he served, while his party was out of office (1981-1990), as Secretary General of the Parliamentary Group, Chairman of the Financial Committee of the Party, and Chairman of its Parliamentary Group on the National Economy. In the government of Mr. Karamanlis, he served as Minister of Coordination (1981), Alternate Minister for Coordination (1980) and was also Under Secretary at the same ministry (1977-80). In 1978, he was elected as a Deputy of the Greek Parliament.

A graduate of the London School of Economics, Mr. Paleokrassas began his career in business and worked in shipping, management, planning and consulting. Birth Date: March 27, 1934.

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