

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

7116/92 (Presse 113)

1588th Council meeting

- GENERAL AFFAIRS -

- POLITICAL CO-OPERATION -

Luxembourg, 15 June 1992

President: Mr João PINHEIRO,

Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Portuguese Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy CLAES
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

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

Germany:

Mr Klaus KINKEL
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Ursula SEILER-ALBRING
Minister of State, Foreign Affairs

Greece

Mr Constantine MITSOTAKIS
Prime Minister,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr George PAPASTAMKOS
State Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Mr Vyron POLYDORAS
State Secretary attached to the Prime
Minister

Spain:

Mr Carlos WESTENDORP
State Secretary for Relations with the
European Communities

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France:

Mr Roland DUMAS	Ministre d'Etat, Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Elisabeth GUIGOU	Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr David ANDREWS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Italy:

Mr Federico DI ROBERTO	Ambassador, Permanent Representative
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Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Netherlands:

Mr Hans VAN DEN BROEK	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Piet DANKERT	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr João PINHEIRO	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Vitor MARTINS	State Secretary for European Integration

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United Kingdom:

Mr Douglas HURD

Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Tristan GAREL-JONES

Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth
Office

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr F.H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

Mr Abel MATUTES

Member

Mr Peter SCHMIDHUBER

Member

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DELORS II PACKAGE

The Council conducted a further, very detailed examination of the various proposals contained in the Delors II package on the basis in particular of a comprehensive report by the Presidency which pinpointed the main issues in respect of which the development of this dossier made it desirable to define guidelines in preparation for the Lisbon European Council, namely: the budgetary cost of the CAP reform agreed upon on 21 March; structural measures; internal policies; external policies; the level of own resources; the structure of own resources, and the Interinstitutional Agreement.

The examination revealed the common will to continue Community action to promote economic and social cohesion in the coming years and, in that context, the determination of all Member States to meet the commitments entered into in Maastricht.

The discussion also enabled the major areas of the future agreement to be defined and underlined the global, balanced results to be attained within this dossier.

The Ministers will continue their discussions at the "Conclave" in Luxembourg on 20 June with a view to extending the areas of convergence and giving clearer expression to some of the guidelines reached in preparation for the Lisbon European Council.

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TREATY ON EUROPEAN UNION

The Council examined a report by the Group of Personal Representatives relating to the detailed procedures for implementing the decision taken in the Treaty on Union to establish, within the framework of the European Community, a Committee of the Regions, with advisory status (see Article 198a and Protocol No 16).

At the end of its examination of the report the Council directed the Group of Personal Representatives to continue its work in the light of the comments made during the Council's discussion.

PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING (LISBON, 26 AND 27 JUNE 1992)

The Council was briefed by the Presidency on the arrangements for the proceedings of the European Council and on a number of topics likely to be dealt with at that meeting.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A EUROPEAN MONITORING CENTRE FOR DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION (EMCDDA) AND A EUROPEAN INFORMATION NETWORK ON DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION (REITOX)

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining this dossier with a view to meeting the deadline of 30 June 1992 laid down by the Maastricht European Council for adoption of the act establishing the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

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SWITZERLAND'S APPLICATION FOR ACCESSION

Having examined the applications for the accession of the Swiss Confederation to the three European Communities, which were deposited on 26 May 1992, the Council decided to set in motion the procedures provided for in the Treaties (Article 237 of the EEC Treaty, Article 205 of the EAEC Treaty and Article 98 of the ECSC Treaty).

The Commission is therefore required to draw up an opinion.

The President of the Council will send the President of the Confederation and the Chancellor of the Confederation three letters acknowledging receipt of the applications for accession and informing them of the Council's decision.

URUGUAY ROUND

The Council was briefed by Vice-President ANDRIESSEN on the current situation in the Uruguay Round negotiations and noted that it was now for the United States to make a contribution to the successful outcome of the negotiations by being flexible in the negotiations on all the issues still outstanding.

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RELATIONS WITH THE MAGHREB

The Council held an initial discussion on the Commission communication on future relations between the Community and the Maghreb.

The discussion, which allowed delegations to comment on the main guidelines advocated by the Commission, confirmed the political importance which the Community attaches to strengthening its links with the Maghreb within the framework of a new partnership.

The Council directed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the Commission communication in the light of its discussion and to report to it at a forthcoming meeting.

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in Annex II.

SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA

The Twelve adopted the declaration set out in Annex III.

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

GATT: Soya Panel

The Council authorized the Commission to request the GATT Contracting Parties to permit the opening of negotiations under Article XXVIII(4) of the GATT for the alteration of tariff concessions in Schedule LXXX-CE, relating to soyabeans, rapeseed, sunflower seed and oilcake made from those seeds, and the initiation of the negotiations and consultations with the Contracting Parties primarily concerned or having a substantial interest, as stipulated in Article XXVIII.

The above Council Decision ensues from the declaration made by the Community at the last meeting of the GATT Council of Representatives on 30 April 1992 to the effect that the Community would submit to the GATT Council before its next meeting, scheduled for 19 June 1992, specific proposals for a solution to the dispute between the Community and the United States on oilseeds.

The Council consequently expects the United States to suspend any unilateral action on the matter.

Albania

After noting with concern that the food situation in Albania is still critical, the Council adopted a Regulation relating to a second emergency food-aid measure for the peoples of Albania for the purpose of improving food supplies.

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The aforementioned food-aid measure totalling ECU 45 million is in addition to the significant efforts already made by some Member States and constitutes an extension of the similar measure for an amount of ECU 35 million decided upon by the Council on 23 December 1991 (see press release 10394/91 Presse 250).

Macao

The Council decided to proceed with the signing, subject to conclusion, of the Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement between the Community and Macao, and signing duly took place today, 15 June 1992 (see press release 7113/92 Presse 110).

EC-Brazil Co-operation Agreement

The Council decided to proceed with the signing, subject to conclusion, of a new framework Co-operation Agreement between the Community and the Federative Republic of Brazil to replace the Agreement signed in 1980.

This "third generation" Agreement includes the following features:

- respect for democratic principles and human rights is the basis for co-operation and relations between the two partners;
- the Agreement covers a large number of new fields of co-operation - in particular in forward-looking areas - and makes it possible, through a future developments clause, to widen the scope of co-operation further, by mutual agreement;

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- it also establishes bases for intensifying and diversifying trade.

The Agreement is due to be signed on 29 June in Brazil.

International Coffee Agreement

The Council adopted a Decision concerning Community participation in the negotiation of a new International Coffee Agreement and defined negotiating directives to that end.

Serbia and Montenegro

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, adopted a Decision amending Decision 92/285/ECSC prohibiting trade between the European Coal and Steel Community and the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro. The purpose of the amendment is to permit the export to those countries of products covered by the ECSC Treaty for strictly medical purposes, subject to notification of the Committee set up under Resolution 724(1991) of the United Nations Security Council.

Implementation of the POSEIDOM, POSEICAN and POSEIMA programmes

The Council adopted a series of Regulations implementing the programmes of options specific to the remote and insular nature of the FOD, Madeira, the Azores and the Canary Islands, adopted on 26 June 1992.

It will be recalled that the purpose of the POSEIDOM, POSEICAN and POSEIMA programmes is to reduce the cost of supplies and to encourage the economic and social development of those regions, which have a special geographical situation and are significantly structurally backward compared with other regions of the Community.

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The Regulations adopted by the Council provide for a series of multiannual and multisectoral measures to facilitate supplies and to support the improvement of production and marketing, in particular of agricultural products from the regions concerned.

Canary Islands

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, adopted the Decision temporarily suspending the customs duty on imports into the Canary Islands of bars and rods, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils, of iron or non alloy steel (order number 17 0501, code 7213).

Olive oil

The Council approved the Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters with Algeria, Morocco and Turkey extending until 31 December 1993 the additional amounts to be deducted from the levy on imports into the Community of untreated olive oil originating in those three countries, and decided to sign them.

Renewed Plan of Action in the field of radioactive waste

The Council adopted a Resolution based on the EURATOM Treaty renewing the 1980-1992 Community Plan of Action in the field of radioactive waste; the new Plan for 1993-1999 takes into account inter alia technological progress, the new safety and environmental protection requirements and the new context created by the technical and practical issues resulting from the abolition of frontier controls within the Community and the gradual enlargement of the Community.

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The Plan refers to the problems posed by radioactive waste, and is based on the following seven points:

- continuous analysis of the situation;
- development of technical co-operation in the Community in relation to the long-term or final storage of radioactive waste;
- concerted action on the safe management and storage of radioactive waste;
- consultation on management practices and strategies in the context of the abolition of frontier controls within the Community;
- continuity of interaction between research programmes and administrative, legal and regulatory issues;
- information for the public;
- development of an international consensus.

The text of the Resolution is annexed hereto.

Appointments

The Council proceeded with the replacement of:

- an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers;
- a full member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions;
- a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers.

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ANNEX I

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION
ON THE RENEWAL OF THE COMMUNITY PLAN OF ACTION
IN THE FIELD OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the draft Resolution submitted by the Commission,

Whereas the Commission has presented to the Council a communication on a renewed Community Plan of Action in the field of radioactive waste to succeed the Plan which expires in 1992 and which is the subject of the Council Resolution of 18 February 1980 ⁽¹⁾;

Whereas in implementing the new Plan of Action the Commission will be assisted by an Advisory Committee on the Plan, such as that provided for in the said Resolution;

Whereas radioactive waste is produced by the use of nuclear energy and by the utilization of radionuclides in medicine; industrial activities and research.

(1) OJ No C 51, 29.2.1980, p. 1.

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Whereas such radioactive waste must be managed and stored with due regard to the safety of workers and the public and to environmental protection;

Whereas the Community Plan of Action in the field of radioactive waste has been successful, in particular by enabling technical, legal, administrative and social issues and, particularly those relating to information of the public, to be considered within one and the same framework;

Whereas the current Community activities relating to such issues shall be continued and expanded in the light of the results of the research programmes, the more comprehensive approach to safety and environmental protection that is now required and the new context created by the technical and practical issues resulting from the abolition of frontier controls within the Community and the gradual enlargement of the Community;

Whereas it is important to develop co-operation between the Community and third countries, in particular those of Central and Eastern Europe including the republics of the former USSR, in the field of the management and storage of radioactive waste taking into account the new challenges likely to arise following the future dismantling of several nuclear plants using outdated technology,

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REAFFIRMS the important role the Community's research programme on radioactive waste played in providing a better understanding and contributing to a wider dissemination of knowledge, leading to safer and more efficient management, storage and disposal of radioactive waste with regard to industrial safety and the protection of the public and the environment;

APPROVES the Community Plan of Action which forms an integral part of this Resolution;

NOTES that the Commission will take the necessary measures for putting this Plan into effect.

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PLAN OF ACTION IN THE FIELD OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE

The Plan refers to the problems posed by radioactive waste arising from nuclear power production, from the use of radioisotopes for medical, industrial and research purposes and from possible concentration of natural radioisotopes resulting from industrial activities.

It runs from 1993 to 1999 and is reviewable every three years.

It is based on the following seven points:

1. Continuous analysis of the situation

The Commission will periodically provide the Council with an analysis of the situation and prospects in the field of radioactive waste management in the Member States, with special reference to safety and environmental protection requirements and the requirements of nuclear programmes and activities involving radioisotopes. The Commission will also keep the European Parliament informed of this analysis.

This analysis will set out, in particular:

- the status of research and technological development work under way or scheduled, together with the relevant timetables;
- the applicability of techniques and the situation as regards works and installation construction projects completed, under way or scheduled, together with the relevant timetables;

- the list of the storage installations which the Member States intend to construct and put into service having regard to the nature of the products to be stored; together, where applicable, with the relevant timetable;
 - the list of management practices and strategies defined or to be defined in the Member States in accordance with the safety rules applicable in each Member State;
 - the status of the administrative, regulatory and legal structures and frameworks relating to radioactive waste management in each Member State and in the Community.
2. Development of technical co-operation in the Community in relation to the long-term or final storage of radioactive waste
- Concerted action and information exchange with regard to the study and opening up of long-term or final storage sites.
 - Examination of technical options and programmes concerning demonstration activities in various Member States.
 - Encouragement of technical co-operation in the field of storage.
3. Concerted action on the safe management and storage of radioactive waste
- Concerted action by the responsible national authorities, particularly on matters relating to safety, shall be continued and, when relevant, intensified.

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Such a system should make it possible to:

- develop a common approach and work towards harmonization at Community level on radioactive waste management strategies and practices wherever possible;
- approximate national practices and regulations in the field of safety of disposal, with particular reference to the different waste categories;
- draw up recommendations regarding safety assessment in the storage of radioactive waste and establish the relevant criteria;
- generally speaking, achieve an equivalent and satisfactory degree of protection at the highest practical safety levels for workers, members of the public and the environment.

4. Consultation on management practices and strategies in the context of the abolition of frontier controls within the Community

The national provisions that have been defined or are to be defined in relation to the management and storage of radioactive waste, which merit to be considered in connection with the abolition of such controls, will be identified with a view to seeking, where the need arises, whatever solutions are appropriate to ensure that the requirements of safety and the protection of members of the public, workers and the environment against the dangers of ionizing radiation can be met.

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5. Continuity of interaction between research programmes and administrative, legal and regulatory issues

Regular consultations will be held within the Advisory Committee on the Plan so that:

- a single framework can be provided for considering improvements through technological development to techniques for the final storage of the waste in question as well as for the legal, administrative and social problems that have to be solved;
- a contribution can be made in establishing guidelines for research work in the field of radioactive waste.

6. Information for the public

The public must be informed of the situation in respect of radioactive waste.

In this context, the Member States will continue and intensify their efforts to provide the public with regular information on their activities in the field of radioactive waste management and storage, by drawing up, as far as possible, a common information strategy.

The Commission will do likewise with regard to its own activities; in particular, it will, as far as possible, make available to decision-makers and members of the public the findings and knowledge acquired in the context of Community research.

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7. Development of an international consensus

It is advisable to promote, in accordance with existing Community procedures, concerted action by the Member States on the positions to adopt in such international organizations as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (NEA);

Such a Community approach should contribute to the development of an international consensus in the field of radioactive waste management.

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ANNEX 11

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN: COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of a wide-ranging communication by the Commission, the Council had a thorough discussion on relations between the Community and Japan, in which it shared the Commission's analysis. It adopted the following conclusions.

1. The Council welcomed the political and economic dialogue established by the EC/Japan Joint Declaration as the basic framework for the future development of EC/Japan relations. The Council emphasized the need to explore fully the Declaration in order that both parties should give substance to the goals it sets. The EC/Japan relationship should be marked by a long-term political commitment to a joint partnership.
2. The Council confirms the need for a balanced approach in relations with Japan based, on the one hand, on policies to improve access to Japanese markets by Community firms and, on the other, on the strengthening of dialogue and the development of co-operation in areas of mutual interest.

POLITICAL DIALOGUE

3. The Community and Japan are facing largely the same challenges in today's economically and politically interdependent world. An important current example of this is the challenge presented by the CIS. The Council welcomes the fact that political dialogue between the Community and its Member States and Japan, established as from 1983 onwards, has made a qualitative leap in July 1991 through the adoption of a Joint Declaration. In this framework, which has allowed for the establishment of a comprehensive political dialogue between the Community and Japan, based on the Joint Declaration of July 1991

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and on a regular political assessment, the Council should make a continuous effort to strengthen relations between the Community and Japan in all fields to define possible common actions, taking full advantage of the common interests which link the Community and Japan in many areas. At the same time, the Community and its Member States should make every effort to co-ordinate their positions and to improve co-operation in order to develop a common stance. The Council will reflect on procedural ways of strengthening the dialogue with Japan, taking into account the Joint Declaration of 18 July 1991.

ECONOMIC POLICY

4. The Council welcomes the steps that the Japanese Government has taken in recent years to improve access to certain sectoral markets. It is concerned, however, by the recent deterioration in the Community's trade position with Japan, by the return to growth led by export rather than domestic demand, by the lack of progress in opening specific sectoral markets, by the slow pace of structural reform, and by the growing tendency of the United States and Japan to seek solutions to bilateral trade problems through arrangements that appear discriminatory. It believes that the Member States and the Community together must follow a consistent and global approach towards economic and commercial issues, attaching particular importance to the removal of structural obstacles.
5. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities to resolve the above issues, and in particular:

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Macro-economic questions

- to follow policies that allow a return to growth led by domestic demand, and furthered by structural reform, and a reduction in external imbalances; the Community and the Member States should pursue this approach also in the relevant international fora;
- to follow policies which in the long run will permit the yen to appreciate relative to the European currencies.

Sectoral issues

- to remove barriers to trade in sectoral markets important to the Community, especially in foodstuffs and services, accepting the resumption of direct negotiations if the results of the Uruguay Round prove inadequate or a conclusion is unreasonably delayed;

Structural obstacles

- further to strengthen competition policy and, in particular to enforce competition law so that it has sufficient deterrent effect, to eliminate the exemption of certain sectors from the anti-monopoly act and to study competition issues of concern to the Community;
- to remove specific obstacles to the free distribution of Community goods and services.

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Industrial co-operation

6. The Council underlines the importance of industrial co-operation in the EC-Japan relationship. The Community should:

- co-operate with the Japanese Government in seeking ways of facilitating industry's participation in mutually beneficial co-operation;
- further examine possibilities of facilitating the adaptation by European parts suppliers to the requirements both of the Japanese market and of Japanese companies in Europe;
- maintain and extend its Executive Training Programme (ETP) in order to broaden and deepen industry's understanding of Japanese and of Japan's industrial economy and paying attention to the special needs of small and medium sized enterprises;
- together with the Japanese government, strengthen the EC-Japan Centre for Industrial Co-operation;
- advocate the establishment by the Japanese Government of new, co-ordinated business facilities for Community industrial newcomers to the Japanese market, especially small and medium sized enterprises.

Investment

7. The Council welcomes Japanese direct investment in the Community, especially when it is integrated into the Community's economic fabric so as to make a

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full contribution to industrial development and renewal throughout the Community. In this respect, the Community and the Member States should follow a common line towards the issue.

8. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities to improve the climate for foreign investment in Japan, particularly by facilitating mergers and acquisitions; by clarifying and advising on tax liabilities and other regulatory requirements; by encouraging interest in careers in foreign companies among Japanese managers and students; and by liberalizing the market for support services, such as financial and legal services.

Export promotion

9. The Council supports the Commission's intention to build synergies between the Community's Export Promotion Programme and those of the Member States and to develop complementarity between Community export promotion programmes and Japanese import promotion schemes.
10. Increased Japanese tourism to the Member States of the Community would make an important contribution to the economic and cultural relationship and should therefore be encouraged.

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Public procurement and bilateral arrangements

11. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities:

- to open public procurement further and to avoid discrimination in the awarding of contracts, with greater transparency in tendering and in the criteria for selection;
- to ensure that, in the context of bilateral arrangements and otherwise, contracts are awarded for purely commercial reasons and there is full transparency on the working of these arrangements;
- in information technology and telecommunications, to strengthen co-operation in strategic sectors and to ensure that Japan strictly applies international standards and that Japanese standards are transparent, a condition for making markets more accessible to Community suppliers of equipment and services.

CO-OPERATION

12. The Council fully supports the intention of the Commission to develop co-operation in the following fields and with the following aims in view:

- in science and technology, to strengthen co-operation in strategic sectors, to define areas where collaboration is in the Community's interest, to ensure that benefits flow in both directions to an adequate extent and to

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explore a Japanese proposal for a forum in which to consider further co-operation in this field;

- as regards the environment, further to co-ordinate positions on global issues and to participate jointly in specific programmes and in projects on the ground;
- in development assistance, to better share the financial burden, to strengthen co-ordination so as to make effective the policy reforms adopted by many developing countries, and to develop further collaboration leading rapidly to more operational co-operation, possibly including co-financing;
- in social affairs, to facilitate exchanges of information and the development of a broad dialogue;
- in energy, to discuss co-operation, particularly in areas such as clean technology which have potential industrial benefit for the Community;
- to discuss ways of promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

METHODS

13. To ensure that the Community's policy towards Japan gives concrete results, the Council approves the methods proposed by the Commission, namely:

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- as regards the co-operative dialogue, to use the occasions foreseen in the EC-Japan Joint Declaration to review progress and identify new fields, in close co-operation between the Commission and the Member States;

- as far as the economic relationship is concerned, the Commission will regularly carry out a statistical analysis of developments in the trade of goods and services, in comparison with the Community's performance on the markets of its other comparable trading partners, and the performance of Japan's partners on the Japanese market. After the results of this analysis have been submitted to Member States for their comments, the Commission will proceed regularly to a systematic evaluation with the Japanese authorities, using the Community's performance with other advanced trading partners as a reference. Resulting recommendations will be presented to the Annual High Level Consultations. A general review will be undertaken by the Annual Ministerial Meetings.

The Member States will be associated with this process through appropriate procedures. The purpose of the process will not be to set quantified objectives for trade, but to identify problems, to establish their causes, and to propose action for their timely resolution.

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A CONSISTENT AND GLOBAL APPROACH

14. The Council recognizes that the success of these policies will depend on the adoption of a consistent and global approach. It calls on the Member States and the Commission to achieve this together, on the basis of what precedes.
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COOPERATION POLITIQUE EUROPEENNE

COMMUNICATION A LA PRESSE

P. 65/92

Bruxelles, le 15 juin 1992

DECLARATION SUR LA SITUATION EN YOUGOSLAVIE

La Communauté et ses Etats membres rappellent leur soutien à la résolution 757 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies et soulignent une fois de plus la nécessité de sa pleine mise en oeuvre. Le seul but des sanctions décidées est de trouver une solution pacifique et équitable à la crise yougoslave. Celles-ci ne sont pas inspirées par une quelconque hostilité à l'encontre du peuple serbe et monténégrin.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres saluent et soutiennent la résolution 758 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies du 8 juin, et les mesures prises par le Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies en vue d'assurer la réouverture de l'aéroport de Sarajévo à des fins humanitaires, sous l'autorité exclusive des Nations Unies et avec l'assistance de la FORPRONU. Ils se félicitent de la participation active d'Etats membres à cette opération. Ils sont prêts à assister la Secrétaire Général par tous les moyens qui pourraient faciliter la livraison immédiate à Sarajévo et vers d'autres destinations en Bosnie-Herzégovine d'aide humanitaire requise d'urgence. Ils demandent par ailleurs à toutes les parties concernées de coopérer pleinement avec la FORPRONU et les agences humanitaires internationales afin qu'elles puissent atteindre leur objectif d'aider le peuple de Bosnie-Herzégovine qui a souffert depuis si longtemps.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres soutiennent également la création d'une zone de sécurité comprenant Sarajévo et son aéroport, et expriment l'espoir que celle-ci constituera le début d'un processus de normalisation qui apportera la paix à la Bosnie-Herzégovine dans sa totalité. Ils se félicitent du dernier cessez-le feu négocié par les Nations Unies et demandent instamment à toutes les parties de le respecter. Dans ce contexte, ils prennent également note des mesures unilatérales annoncées par les Serbes de Bosnie, ils s'attendent à ce qu'ils les respectent et demandent aux autres parties au conflit d'agir de même.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres se félicitent de la décision de Lord Carrington de visiter Sarajévo en compagnie de l'Ambassadeur Cutileiro, dès que l'aéroport aura été

réouvert, pour convoquer les pourparlers sur les futurs arrangements constitutionnels pour la Bosnie-Herzégovine sous l'égide de la Conférence de Paix de la Communauté Européenne.

Ils réitèrent de nouveau que seul un accord politique négocié par les trois principaux partis politiques de la Bosnie-Herzégovine sur la base des principes agréés, le 18 mars 1992, pourra apporter une solution juste et durable aux problèmes qui subsistent toujours dans la République.

Par conséquent, la Communauté et ses Etats membres demandent instamment aux dirigeants de ces partis d'assumer pleinement leur responsabilités historiques et les appellent à déclarer publiquement et sans réserves leur disponibilité à reprendre les pourparlers constitutionnels et leur volonté de participer sans ces derniers en faisant preuve de bonne foi.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres ont noté que la situation au Kosovo est potentiellement dangereuse et demandent instamment à toutes les parties à faire preuve de la retenue et du sens des responsabilités nécessaires. Ils demandent instamment aux autorités à Belgrade de s'abstenir de toute nouvelle répression et d'engager un dialogue sérieux avec les représentants du Kosovo. A défaut, il serait fait obstacle aux perspectives de la reprise de relations normales avec la communauté internationale. La Communauté et ses Etats membres réaffirment que les frontières internationales ne peuvent être changées que par des moyens pacifiques et rappellent aux habitants du Kosovo que leur demande légitime d'autonomie devra être traitée dans le cadre de la Conférence de Paix de la Communauté Européenne. Ils demandent également au gouvernement albanais de faire preuve de retenue et d'agir de façon constructive.

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Brussels, 15 June 1992

DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA

The Community and its member States recall their support for United Nations Security Council resolution 757 and stress once again the need for its full implementation. The sole purpose of the sanctions decided upon is to find a peaceful and equitable solution to the Yugoslav crisis. They are not motivated by hostility against the Serbian and Montenegrin people.

The Community and its member States welcome and support United Nations Security Council resolution 758 of 8 June and the steps taken by the Secretary General of the UN to secure the reopening of Sarajevo airport for humanitarian purposes under the exclusive authority of the United Nations, and with the assistance of UNPROFOR. They welcome the active participation of member States in this operation. They are ready to assist the Secretary General in any manner which would facilitate the immediate delivery of urgently needed humanitarian supplies to Sarajevo and other destinations in Bosnia and Hercegovina. They also call upon all parties concerned to cooperate fully with UNPROFOR and international humanitarian agencies in achieving their aim of helping the long suffering people of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

The Community and its member States also support the establishment of a security zone encompassing Sarajevo and its airport, and express the hope that this may be the beginning of a process of normalisation which will bring peace to Bosnia and Hercegovina in its entirety. They welcome the last cease-fire brokered by the UN and urge all parties to respect it. In this context, they also take note of the unilateral measures announced by the Serbs of Bosnia, expect that they will comply with these, and call upon the other parties in the conflict to reciprocate.

The Community and its member States welcome Lord Carrington's decision to visit Sarajevo with Ambassador Cutileiro, once the airport has been re-opened, to reconvene the talks on future constitutional arrangements for Bosnia and Hercegovina held under the aegis of the EC Peace Conference. They reaffirm once

again that only a political negotiated settlement on the basis of the principles agreed by the three main political parties of Bosnia and Hercegovina on 18 March 1992, may bring a lasting and just solution to the outstanding problems of the Republic.

The Community and its member States, therefore, urge the leaders of those parties to fully assume their historical responsibilities and call upon them to state publicly and unreservedly their readiness to resume the constitutional talks and their willingness to participate in them in good faith.

The Community and its member States noted that the situation in Kosovo is potentially dangerous and urge all parties to show the necessary restraint and sense of responsibility. They urge the authorities in Belgrade to refrain from further repression and engage in serious dialogue with representatives of Kosovo. Failure to do so would impede their prospect for the restoration of normal relations with the international community. The Community and its member States recall that frontiers can only be changed by peaceful means and remind the inhabitants of Kosovo that their legitimate quest for autonomy should be dealt with in the framework of the EC Peace Conference. They also call upon the Albanian government to exercise restraint and to act constructively.

Bruxelles, le 12 juin 1992.

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**NOTE BIO (92) 153 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
cc. aux Membres du Service du Porte-Parole**

**PREPARATION DU CONSEIL DES AFFAIRES GENERALES
LUXEMBOURG. 15 et 16 JUIN 1992.**

JAPON (N. Wegter)

Le conseil entamera un débat de fonds en ce qui concerne le rapport récent de la Commission intitulé "Une approche cohérente et globale - Bilan des relations de la Communauté avec le Japon" (voir note P - 31, COM 219 final).

Le gouvernement japonais nous a donné par écrit il y a quelques jours son appréciation à l'égard de cette communication qui vise à dessiner les grandes lignes du développement futur des relations entre la Communauté et le Japon, tant sur le plan politique qu'économique.

A titre de background nous vous diffusons en annexe à votre intention mais pas pour diffusion publique la réaction du gouvernement japonais en la matière.

URUGUAY ROUND (N. Wegter)

Ce point figure pour l'instant encore à l'ordre du jour du Conseil mais il n'est pas certain qu'il sera confirmé. En effet, on vise à profiter de la présence des Ministres à Luxembourg pour faire le point des négociations de l'Uruguay Round. Ce n'est que lundi matin qu'on décidera de la procédure précise, c'est-à-dire soit le maintien comme point normal à du jour, soit une discussion à l'occasion du déjeuner des Ministres.

SIGNATURE DES ACCORDS DE COOPERATION COMMERCIALE ET ECONOMIQUE AVEC MACAO ET LA MONGOLIE. (N. Wegter)

L'accord avec Macao sera signé lundi 15 juin à 18h30, celui avec la Mongolie mardi 16 juin à 12h.

Pour ces deux accords nous espérons pouvoir vous donner des détails dans le courant de la journée de lundi pour Macao, et de mardi pour la Mongolie.

Réaction du gouvernement japonais à la Communication de la Commission

ATTENTION "DIS"

1. It is our recognition that Japan and the EC entered a new era of partnership with the issuance of the Japan-EC Joint Declaration of July 1991, which highlighted their will to strengthen comprehensive relationship between Japan and the EC as global partners. Both sides have since been developing cooperation in a wide range of fields, such as political dialogue, development assistance, environment, science and technology, culture, social issues, and other fields.

Efforts have also been intensified in earnest to enhance trade and industrial cooperation between Japan and the EC : some EC member countries, such as Britain, France, Germany and Italy, have respectively launched initiatives toward strengthening their economic ties with Japan; Japan, on its part, have strengthened their efforts toward this end, by further promoting imports and foreign direct investments in Japan, encouraging Japanese industries to strengthen business global partnership, and taking other measures.

2. Under these circumstances, the Communication of the EC Commission and the Council Conclusions could add further momentum to the development of such positive cooperation emerging between Japan and the EC. It could also serve to enlighten peoples of Japan and the EC on the current Japan-EC relationship. Japan therefore hopes that the Communication and the Council Conclusions will be balanced ones which will encourage the will of Japan and the EC to build cooperative relations toward future, thus serving the purpose of sending a positive message both to Japan and the EC.

3. From that standpoint, we note with appreciation that the Communication, when compared with those issued in the past, attaches greater importance to strengthening trade, industrial, and other cooperation. However, we find it rather discouraging that the Communication, in particular the press release on it, not only focuses on problems in the economic and trade relations but includes references to the closed nature of the Japanese market as opposed to those of other industrialized nations, a description totally unacceptable to Japan. For example, the Communication states, "With regard to Japan, the aim should be the full integration of Japan into the international system by making it as open to foreign trade and investment as other advanced economies".

It is not our intention whatsoever to engage in criticisms for criticisms' sake but to conduct relations with the EC with a view to strengthening dialogues in positive and constructive ways. We should like to set out our comments on the Communication as follows.

4. In trade and economic relations, Japan has been and continues to be endeavoring to ensure sustainable growth without inflation led by domestic demand while making efforts to increase imports through improved market access and other measures. In resolving trade problems between Japan and the EC, however, it is indispensable that the EC member countries and their industries should further increase their interest in Japanese market and continue their on-going efforts to expand exports to and strengthen cooperation with Japan. It is therefore most important

that the Communication should positively evaluate such efforts made by both sides and set out concrete measures or action plans as may be required of the EC so as to enhance the level of efforts of the individual countries to the EC as a whole.

5. In addition, the text of the Communication and the Annex which sets out 22 points as 'Sectoral Obstacles to Japanese Market' include incorrect or inappropriate statement such as those which do not take into account the measures already taken by Japan.

6. It is to be strongly desired, in view of the above, that the Communication be the one which delivers positive and forward-looking message. At the same time, the following points are clear factual mistakes and should be deleted from the Annex.

(1) Problems of liquor tax differentials and taxation of imitation whiskies ((III)-H) were resolved in April 1989 with the amendment of Liquor Tax Law, which made clear the distinction between whiskies and spirits.

(2) Commodity tax on fruit juices ((III)-H) was abolished at the end of March 1989.

(3) Ice cream powder ((III)-J) are classified in Japan according to the HS and its commentary. In 1990, the EC made inquiry on this matter with the Office of Trade Ombudsman (OTO) in Economic Planning Agency and expressed understanding on the matter after explanation from OTO.

(4) As for skimmed milk powder ((III)-J), there is no requirement on minimum protein content in Japan's domestic tax classifications.

7. There are several inappropriate statement in several sections of the Communication, such as 'Japan's economic policy', 'Sectoral issues', 'Structural obstacles', and 'Development assistance', which overlook actual situation of Japan or improvements already made. Furthermore, the Communication proposes a regular and systematic evaluation on a statistical analysis of developments in trade. Though details of the proposal are not necessarily clear, Japan should like to study it and convey its views later.

However, Japan could not agree to setting up the process it should be exclusively oriented toward achieving results, or if its functions should duplicate any of the consulting mechanisms existing between Japan and the EC, since the latter would not be consistent with the Joint Declaration which states, 'both parties will make use of the existing fora'.

FIN DIS.

Amitiés,
C. Stathopoulos



Bruxelles, le 12 juin 1992

Note BIO (92) 153 - suite 1 aux Bureaux Nationaux
cc aux Membres du Service du Porte-Parole

PREPARATION CONSEIL AFFAIRES GENERALES DU 15.6.92
(J. Vale de Almeida)

Le Conseil "Affaires Générales" débutera ses travaux le lundi, 15 juin, à 10h00, au Luxembourg.

L'ordre du jour prévoit une discussion sur le Paquet Delors II suite aux travaux du Conseil Eco-Fin (voir note Bio 146/2 du 10.6.92) et sur les travaux des représentants personnels des ministres sur le traité de Maastricht en ce qui concerne exclusivement le Comité des Régions.

Les ministres s'occuperont aussi de la préparation du Conseil Européen de Lisbonne (26/27 juin). Ils devront se concentrer sur les aspects de procédure, étant donné que la discussion de fond est prévue pour le "conclave" du 20 juin au Luxembourg. Cependant; il se peut que les ministres abordent un des points susceptibles d'être inscrits à l'ordre du jour de Lisbonne, à savoir la politique d'immigration.

En ce qui concerne les points relevant de la compétence de M. MATUTES, l'ordre du jour prévoit une première discussion de fond sur l'avenir des relations CE/Maghreb.

Dans une communication adoptée le 29 avril 1992, la Commission avait esquissé les grandes lignes d'un nouveau partenariat euro-maghrébin axé sur quatre piliers: le dialogue politique, une coopération élargie et renforcée, l'évolution des relations commerciales et la coopération financière. Les ministres devront se prononcer sur ce document de façon à permettre à la Commission d'avancer dans la préparation de nouveaux accords avec les pays de la région qui en seraient intéressés. D'ores et déjà, la Commission maintient des contacts exploratoires avec le Maroc. La Tunisie a également manifesté son intérêt à renforcer ses liens avec la Communauté (le Président DELORS devrait rencontrer aujourd'hui à Paris le ministre des Affaires étrangères tunisien).

Au déjeuner, dans le cadre "coopération politique", les ministres pourraient évoquer la situation en ex-Yougoslavie et en Tchécoslovaquie.

Les points à l'ordre du jour relevant de la compétence de M. ANDRIESSEN font l'objet de la note Bio 153 datée d'aujourd'hui.

Amitiés,


C. Stathopoulos

Bruxelles, le 16 juin 1992

**NOTE BIO(92) 153 (suite 2) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE**

CONSEIL AFFAIRES GENERALES - Luxembourg, 15/6/92 (J. VALE DE ALMEIDA)

Les ministres ont entendu un exposé oral de M. Matutes sur l'avenir des relations CE/Maghreb reprenant l'essentiel du contenu de la communication de la Commission au Conseil du 30 avril 1992. Le Commissaire s'est réjoui de la grande convergence constatée au Coreper autour des quatre piliers sur lesquels devraient se baser, selon la Commission, les futures relations : le dialogue politique, une coopération élargie et renforcée, l'évolution des relations commerciales et la coopération financière.

Un tour de table a permis de constater : un large consensus autour des réflexions de la Commission; un accord pour poursuivre au niveau du Coreper l'analyse des implications commerciales et financières de la nouvelle approche; un accord sur le principe d'une déclaration sur l'avenir des relations euro-maghrébines lors du Conseil Européen de Lisbonne, reprenant les grandes orientations présentées par la Commission sans pour autant prendre des engagements sur les matières encore à l'étude.

Les ministres ont pris note de l'intention de M. Matutes de lancer deux importantes études (l'une sur l'intégration maghrébine, inspirée par le rapport Cecchini sur le coût de la non-Europe et l'autre sur les perspectives d'une nouvelle division internationale du travail) et ont soutenu les démarches menées par la Commission en vue de la préparation d'un nouvel accord avec le Maroc (contacts exploratoires en cours). Ils ont également pris note de l'intérêt manifesté par la Tunisie dans ce même sens.

YUGOSLAVIE

Les ministres ont adopté la déclaration de coopération politique en annexe. Sur la reconnaissance de la Macédoine, les contacts établis par M. Pinheiro pendant le week-end avec les autorités grecques et des représentants macédoniens n'ont pas permis d'aboutir à une solution (levée de la réserve grecque à la reconnaissance de cette république de l'ancienne Yougoslavie). L'affaire devrait être très probablement reprise lors du Conseil Européen.

DECLARATION SUR LA SITUATION EN YUGOSLAVIE
Conseil Affaires Générales - 15-6-92

La Communauté et ses Etats membres rappellent leur soutien à la résolution 757 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies et soulignent une fois de plus la nécessité de sa pleine mise en oeuvre. Le seul but des sanctions décidées est de trouver une solution pacifique et équitable à la crise yougoslave. Celles-ci ne sont pas inspirées par une quelconque hostilité à l'encontre du peuple serbe et monténégrin.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres saluent et soutiennent la résolution 758 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies du 8 juin, et les mesures prises par le Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies en vue d'assurer la réouverture de l'aéroport de Sarajévo à des fins humanitaires, sous l'autorité exclusive des Nations Unies et avec l'assistance de la FORPRONU. Ils se félicitent de la participation active d'Etats membres à cette opération. Ils sont prêts à assister le Secrétaire Général par tous les moyens qui pourraient faciliter la livraison immédiate à Sarajévo et vers d'autres destinations en Bosnie-Herzégovine d'aide humanitaire requise d'urgence. Ils demandent par ailleurs à toutes les parties concernées de coopérer pleinement avec la FORPRONU et les agences humanitaires internationales afin qu'elles puissent atteindre leur objectif d'aider le peuple de Bosnie-Herzégovine qui a souffert depuis si longtemps.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres soutiennent également la création d'une zone de sécurité comprenant Sarajévo et son aéroport, et expriment l'espoir que celle-ci constituera le début d'un processus de normalisation qui apportera la paix à la Bosnie-Herzégovine dans sa totalité. Ils se félicitent du dernier cessez-le feu négocié par les Nations Unies et demandent instamment à toutes les parties de le respecter. Dans ce contexte, ils prennent également note des mesures unilatérales annoncées par les Serbes de Bosnie, ils s'attendent à ce qu'ils les respectent et demandent aux autres parties au conflit d'agir de même.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres se félicitent de la décision de Lord Carrington de visiter Sarajévo en compagnie de l'Ambassadeur Cutileiro, dès que l'aéroport aura été réouvert, pour convoquer les pourparlers sur les futurs arrangements constitutionnels pour la Bosnie-Herzégovine sous l'égide de la Conférence de Paix de la Communauté Européenne.

Ils réitérent de nouveau que seul un accord politique négocié par les trois principaux partis politiques de la Bosnie-Herzégovine sur la base des principes agréés, le 18 mars 1992, pourra apporter une solution juste et durable aux problèmes qui subsistent toujours dans la République.

Par conséquent, la Communauté et ses Etats membres demandent instamment aux dirigeants de ces partis d'assumer pleinement leurs responsabilités historiques et les appellent à déclarer publiquement et sans réserves leur disponibilité à reprendre les pourparlers constitutionnels et leur volonté de participer sans ces derniers en faisant preuve de bonne foi.

La Communauté et ses Etats membres ont noté que la situation au Kosovo est potentiellement dangereuse et demandent instamment à toutes les parties de faire preuve de la retenue et du sens des responsabilités nécessaires. Ils demandent instamment aux autorités à Belgrade de s'abstenir de toute nouvelle répression et d'engager un dialogue sérieux avec les représentants du Kosovo. A défaut, il serait fait obstacle aux perspectives de la reprise de relations normales avec la communauté internationale. La Communauté et ses Etats membres réaffirment que les frontières internationales ne peuvent être changées que par des moyens pacifiques et rappellent aux habitants du Kosovo que leur demande légitime d'autonomie devra être traitée dans le cadre de la Conférence de Paix de la Communauté Européenne. Ils demandent également au gouvernement albanais de faire preuve de retenue et d'agir de façon constructive.

Amitiés,

B. DETHOMAS

Bruxelles, le 16 juin 1992.

**NOTE BIO (92) 153 (suite 3 et fin) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
cc. aux Membres du Service du Porte-Parole**

CONSEIL AFFAIRES GENERALES (N. Wegter)

JAPON

Au cours de sa session de lundi 15 juin, le Conseil a débattu de la Communication de la Commission au Conseil "Une approche cohérente et globale - Bilan des relations de la Communauté avec le Japon".

Je vous envoie en annexe le texte de leurs conclusions à ce sujet qui ont été arrêtées sans aucune réserve.

Elles sont disponibles sur RAPID et vous seront envoyées également envoyées par courrier.

Amitiés,
B. Dethomas.



COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of a wide-ranging communication by the Commission, the Council had a thorough discussion on relations between the Community and Japan, in which it shared the Commission's analysis. It adopted the following conclusions.

1. The Council welcomed the political and economic dialogue established by the EC/Japan Joint Declaration as the basic framework for the future development of EC/Japan relations. The Council emphasized the need to explore fully the Declaration in order that both parties should give substance to the goals it sets. The EC/Japan relationship should be marked by a long-term political commitment to a joint partnership.
2. The Council confirms the need for a balanced approach in relations with Japan based, on the one hand, on policies to improve access to Japanese markets by Community firms and, on the other, on the strengthening of dialogue and the development of cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

POLITICAL DIALOGUE

3. The Community and Japan are facing largely the same challenges in today's economically and politically interdependent world. An important current example of this is the challenge presented by the CIS. The Council welcomes the fact that political dialogue between the Community and its Member States and Japan, established as from 1983 onwards, has made a qualitative leap in July 1991 through the adoption of a Joint Declaration. In this framework, which has allowed for the establishment of a comprehensive political dialogue between the Community and Japan, based on the Joint Declaration of July 1991 and on a regular political assessment, the Council should make a continuous effort to strengthen relations between the Community and Japan in all fields and to define possible common actions, taking full advantage of the common interests which link the Community and Japan in many areas. At the same time, the Community and its member States should make every effort to coordinate their positions and to improve cooperation in order to develop a common stance. The Council will reflect on procedural ways of strengthening the dialogue with Japan, taking into account the Joint Declaration of 18 July 1991.

ECONOMIC POLICY

4. The Council welcomes the steps that the Japanese government has taken in recent years to improve access to certain sectoral markets. It is concerned, however, by the recent deterioration in the Community's trade position with Japan, by the return to growth led by export rather than domestic demand, by the lack of progress in opening specific sectoral markets, by the slow pace of structural reform, and by the growing tendency of the United States and Japan to seek solutions to bilateral trade problems through arrangements that

appear discriminatory. It believes that the Member States and the Community together must follow a consistent and global approach towards economic and commercial issues, attaching particular importance to the removal of structural obstacles.

5. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities to resolve the above issues, and in particular :

Macro-economic questions

- to follow policies that allow a return to growth led by domestic demand, and furthered by structural reform, and a reduction in external imbalances; the Community and the Member States should pursue this approach also in the relevant international fora;
- to follow policies which in the long run will permit the yen to appreciate relative to the European currencies.

Sectoral issues

- to remove barriers to trade in sectoral markets important to the Community, especially in foodstuffs and services, accepting the resumption of direct negotiations if the results of the Uruguay round prove inadequate or a conclusion is unreasonably delayed.

Structural obstacles

- further to strengthen competition policy and, in particular, to enforce competition law so that it has sufficient deterrent effect, to eliminate the exemption of certain sectors from the anti-monopoly act and to study competition issues of concern to the Community;
- to remove specific obstacles to the free distribution of Community goods and services.

Industrial cooperation

6. The Council underlines the importance of industrial cooperation in the EC-Japan relationship. The Community should :
- cooperate with the Japanese government in seeking ways of facilitating industry's participation in mutually beneficial cooperation;
 - further examine possibilities of facilitating the adaptation by European parts suppliers to the requirements both of the Japanese market and of Japanese companies in Europe;
 - maintain and extend its Executive Training Programme (ETP) in order to broaden and deepen industry's understanding of Japanese and of Japan's industrial economy and paying attention to the special needs of small and medium sized enterprises;
 - together with the Japanese government, strengthen the EC-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation;

- advocate the establishment by the Japanese government of new, coordinated business facilities for Community industrial newcomers to the Japanese market, especially small and medium sized enterprises.

Investment

7. The Council welcomes Japanese direct investment in the Community, especially when it is integrated into the Community's economic fabric so as to make a full contribution to industrial development and renewal throughout the Community. In this respect, the Community and the Member States should follow a common line towards the issue.
8. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities to improve the climate for foreign investment in Japan, particularly by facilitating mergers and acquisitions; by clarifying and advising on tax liabilities and other regulatory requirements; by encouraging interest in careers in foreign companies among Japanese managers and students; and by liberalising the market for support services, such as financial and legal services.

Export promotion

9. The Council supports the Commission's intention to build synergies between the Community's Export Promotion Programme and those of the Member States and to develop complementarity between Community export promotion programmes and Japanese import promotion schemes.
10. Increased Japanese tourism to the Member States of the Community would make an important contribution to the economic and cultural relationship and should therefore be encouraged.

Public procurement and bilateral arrangements

11. The Council calls on the Japanese authorities :
 - to open public procurement further and to avoid discrimination in the awarding of contracts, with greater transparency in tendering and in the criteria for selection;
 - to ensure that, in the context of bilateral arrangements and otherwise, contracts are awarded for purely commercial reasons and there is full transparency on the working of these arrangements;
 - in information technology and telecommunications, to strengthen cooperation in strategic sectors and to ensure that Japan strictly applies international standards and that Japanese standards are transparent, a condition for making markets more accessible to Community suppliers of equipment and services.

COOPERATION

12. The Council fully supports the intention of the Commission to develop cooperation in the following fields and with the following aims in view :

- In science and technology, to strengthen cooperation in strategic sectors, to define areas where collaboration is in the Community's interest, to ensure that benefits flow in both directions to an adequate extent and to explore a Japanese proposal for a forum in which to consider further cooperation in this field;
- as regards the environment, further to coordinate positions on global issues and to participate jointly in specific programmes and in projects on the ground;
- In development assistance, to better share the financial burden, to strengthen coordination so as to make effective the policy reforms adopted by many developing countries, and to develop further collaboration leading rapidly to more operational cooperation, possibly including co-financing;
- In social affairs, to facilitate exchanges of information and the development of a broad dialogue;
- In energy, to discuss cooperation, particularly in areas such as clean technology which have potential industrial benefit for the Community;
- to discuss ways of promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding.

METHODS

13. To ensure that the Community's policy towards Japan gives concrete results, the Council approves the methods proposed by the Commission, namely :
 - as regards the cooperative dialogue, to use the occasions foreseen in the EC-Japan Joint Declaration to review progress and identify new fields, in close cooperation between the Commission and the Member States;
 - as far as the economic relationship is concerned, the Commission, will regularly carry out a statistical analysis of developments in the trade of goods and services, in comparison with Community's performance on the markets of its other comparable trading partners, and the performance of Japan's partners on the Japanese market. After the results of this analysis have been submitted to Member States for their comments, the Commission will proceed regularly to a systematic evaluation with the Japanese authorities, using the Community's performance with other advanced trading partners as a reference. Resulting recommendations will be presented to the Annual High Level Consultations. A general review will be undertaken by the Annual Ministerial Meetings. The Member States will be associated with this process through appropriate procedures. The purpose of the process will not be to set quantified objectives for trade, but to identify problems, to establish their causes, and to propose action for their timely resolution.

A CONSISTENT AND GLOBAL APPROACH

14. The Council recognises that the success of these policies will depend on the adoption of a consistent and global approach. It calls on the Member states and the Commission to achieve this together, on the basis of what precedes.