

9167/89 (Presse 180)

1354th meeting of the Council

- RESEARCH -

Luxembourg, 17 October 1989

President: Mr Hubert CURIEN

Minister for Research and Technology
of the French Republic

Presse 180 - G

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

Belgium:

Mr H. SCHILTZ Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Science Policy

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER Minister for Education and Research

Germany:

Mr Gebhard ZILLER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Research
and Technology

Greece:

Mr KATSAROS Executive Secretary
Ministry of Research

Spain:

Mr Juan Manuel ROJO ALAMINOS State Secretary for the Universities and
Research

France:

Mr Hubert CURIEN Minister for Research and Technology

Ireland:

Mr Michael SMITH Minister for Science and Technology

Italy:

Mr Antonia RUBERTI Minister for the Universities, Scientific
Research and Technology

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN

Minister responsible for Scientific Research

Netherlands:

Mr R.W. de KORTE

Minister for Economic Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Luis VALENTE DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and Territorial
Administration

Mr José SUCENA PAIVA

State Secretary for Science and Technology

United Kingdom:

Mr Douglas HOGG

Minister for Industry and Enterprise

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Commission:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI

Vice-President

R&D FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME 1990-1994

The Council continued its examination of the framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development for the period 1990 to 1994; at the end of the discussion, the President drew the following conclusions concerning the approach of the programme and the associated financial means; these conclusions will serve as a basis for discussion by the Permanent Representatives Committee, which has been instructed to prepare for the discussions at the next Council meeting on 15 December:

"The Council

- confirms its agreement in principle to a third Framework Programme of five years' duration;
- agrees that this programme will be subject to a mid-term revision in 1992;
- will decide at its next session, in the light of the proposed programme and the breakdown for the period 1990-1992, the financial means in relation to the whole of the five year period.

The financial means will be broken down as follows:

- = one part representing the amount estimated necessary for the 1990-1992 period. This part can already be evaluated at ECU [2 700 million] ⁽¹⁾;
- = one part representing the financial envelope necessary for ensuring during the period 1993-1994 the continuity of actions undertaken during the course of the preceding period. After evaluation, this amount will be released unanimously by the Council after the conclusion of a new interinstitutional agreement and at the latest before the end of 1992;

(1) Figure still to be confirmed.

= one part, which cannot exceed [...], ⁽¹⁾ to reinforce existing actions or to reorientate them and to meet new needs. The definitive amount will be decided unanimously by the Council in 1992 after an evaluation of the second Framework Programme and of the execution of the third Framework Programme and will respect any future interinstitutional agreement."

In the light of the work carried out by CREST, and of a note from the Netherlands delegation, the Council also examined questions arising with regard to the scientific and technical content of the Framework Programme, in particular the list of research activities to be adopted. The Council instructed CREST, and thereafter the Permanent Representatives Committee, to continue discussions on this subject in the light of the day's discussion and information which the Presidency intended to submit in contact with the Commission.

The Council also examined a number of horizontal questions, viz. participation by third countries, in particular EFTA, in Community research activities, the role of the committees in the implementation of the specific programme, participation by SMUs and economic and social cohesion. The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed also to continue its discussions on these subjects, on some of which the Commission would submit additional documents.

Discussions on all outstanding problems, responsibility for which had thus been given to the Permanent Representatives Committee, ought to place the Council in a position to take a decision on this important subject at its meeting on 15 December.

(1) Figure to be determined.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The Council adopted a common position on a specific research programme concerning competitiveness of agriculture and management of agricultural resources (1989-1993).

The programme, with funds of ECU 55 million estimated as necessary for its execution, including expenditure on a staff of sixteen, will be directed towards the following objectives:

- (1) helping farmers to adapt to the new situation created by over-production and a restrictive policy on prices and markets;
- (2) maintaining incomes from holdings and encouraging structural reform whilst controlling output and reducing production costs;
- (3) caring for and improving the agriculture situation, in line with the market situation, in all regions which have been slow to develop and where agricultural structures are inadequate, thereby contributing towards greater economic and social cohesion in the Community;
- (4) conserving natural resources and preserving the countryside by ensuring that the application of the technologies to be developed and of changes in production systems will improve the environment;
- (5) developing agricultural information services and infrastructures to improve the dissemination of research results within and between Member States.

The research activities are divided into four sectors (see I. below). In the case of contract activities, participants may be public or private bodies such as research institutions and universities, industrial and agricultural enterprises, natural persons, etc. The Community's financial contribution will normally be 50% of the cost. Alternatively, in respect of research institutions or universities carrying out projects, the Community may bear 100% of the marginal costs.

The programme also comprises co-ordinated activities, training and mobility grants and publicity in order to promote participation by those interested.

The research activities and the indicative allocation of funds will be as follows:

	%
<u>I. Contract activities</u>	
1. Conversion, diversification, including extensification of production, cost reduction and protection of the rural environment	34,0
2. Product quality, plant and animal health aspects and new uses for traditional products	20,9
3. Socio-economic aspects and specific activities for regions lagging behind in development	18,3
4. Improvement in the dissemination and application of results, particularly those gleaned from this agricultural research programme	5,3

II. Co-ordinated activities

Operating costs for meetings, seminars, publications,
dissemination of results, the permanent inventory of
agricultural research and programme assessment

16,2

III. Training and mobility grants

5,3

100,0 (+)

During the third year of the programme, the Commission will review it and will then, if appropriate, make proposals to amend or extend the programme.

(+) Including approximately 9% for staff costs, to be allocated on a proportional basis between the various scientific activities envisaged.

Luxembourg, 17 octobre 1989

Note BIO (89) 298 aux bureaux nationaux
cc. aux membres du Service du Porte-Parole

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Conseil recherche - Les Douze et la strategie de R+D pour les
annees 1990-94 (W. Helin)

La Commission europeenne et la presidence francaise ont mis les
bouchees doubles pour faire approuver avant la fin de l'annee 1989
un nouveau programme strategique de R+D pour les annees 1990/94.
En substance, il s'agit de concentrer les efforts sur trois grandes
lignes d'actions en tenant compte de nouveaux besoins identifies
(par ex. l'effort accru de R+D pour lutter contre la pollution).
La Commission europeenne a prevu pour ces trois grandes lignes
d'actions strategiques une enveloppe totale de 7,7 mrd d'Ecus.

1. Les technologies dites "diffusantes", a savoir les
technologies de l'information et de communications, des
technologies qui sont non seulement essentielles pour
l'informatique et les telecommunications mais qui sont de plus en
plus introduites dans les secteurs industriels traditionnels.
Pour soutenir cette action, la Commission propose une enveloppe de
4,2 mrd d'Ecus dont 3 mrd pour soutenir la R+D dont depend la
competitivite des entreprises europeennes du secteur telematique.
Le Vice-President Pandolfi a souligne devant les Douze, mardi a
Luxembourg, que ce dernier chiffre ne devait pas surprendre :
citant des estimations recentes faites au Japon, il a note que vers
la fin du siecle quelque 21% du PIB seront influences par ces
technologies, contre 9% aujourd'hui.

2. La gestion des ressources naturelles : il s'agit de la R+D
dans le secteur de l'environnement (une enveloppe de 700 mio ECU),
des technologies du vivant (biotechnologie, recherche agricole,
agro-alimentaire, sante, etc. pour laquelle la Commission propose 1
mrd ECU) et de l'energie (1,1 mrd ECU).

3. La gestion des ressources intellectuelles : pour cette
action qui servira essentiellement a assurer une plus grande
mobilitte des jeunes chercheurs a travers l'Europe, une enveloppe de
700 mio ECU est prevue.

Un assez large consensus s'est degage mardi a Luxembourg a l'issue
d'un debat essentiellement consacre aux aspects budgetaires du
programme R+D 1990/94. La grande majorite des Douze partage le
souhait de la Commission europeenne de decider en decembre 1989 un
montant global de depenses "estimees necessaires". Seul le Royaume-
Uni estime a ce stade de la discussion que l'on ne peut pas
identifier un montant au-dela de l'annee 1992. Londres juge en
effet qu'il faudra attendre pour le financement du programme R+D
des annees '93 et '94 un nouvel accord entre les institutions
europeennes sur le financement futur de la Communaute, l'accord
actuellement en vigueur expirant a la fin de 1992.

Amities
W. HELIN