

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1978  
SECTION III - COMMISSION

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TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS BETWEEN CHAPTERS

(Non-compulsory expenditure)

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GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1978

SECTION III - COMMISSION

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS BETWEEN CHAPTERS

(NON-COMPULSORY EXPENDITURE)

TRANSFER NO 19/78

From Chapter 101 - Contingency reserve	- 580 000 EUA
To Chapter 35 - Protection of Man and his environment	
Article 354 - Community environmental protection measures	
Item 3540 - Environmental studies	+ 580 000 EUA

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Pursuant to Article 21(4) of the Financial Regulation, the Financial Controller approved this proposal on 17 July thus attesting that the appropriations are available.

## JUSTIFICATION

### Transfer No 19/78

Following the Amoco Cadiz disaster, the European Council called upon the Community, at its meeting on 7 and 8 April in Copenhagen, to give priority to preventing and combating marine pollution caused by oil. In its final communiqué, the European Council asked "the Council, acting on proposals from the Commission, and the Member States forthwith to take appropriate measures within the Community".

At the end of April, the Commission forwarded to the Council a Communication on marine pollution arising from the carriage of oil; this contained in particular a draft Council resolution creating an action programme of the European Communities on the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea. This draft was accompanied by a financial record sheet relating to the cost of preparing the proposals made in the action programme; it calls for expenditure totalling 580 000 EUA to be committed in full by the end of this year. The corresponding resolution was adopted by the Council on 26 June (OJ No C 162 of 8 July 1978).

As a result of the changes made by the Council to the Commission's proposal this resolution will now only give rise to expenditure totalling 510 000 EUA, to be committed by the end of this year, to cover the costs of preparing the proposals contained in the action programme (see Annex I).

At its meeting on the environment on 30 May, the Council instructed the Commission<sup>1</sup> to take the necessary steps to initiate research work to improve scientific knowledge about the population trends of nine species of bird which might be affected by trade. The Commission puts the cost of this research work at 70 000 EUA.

In both these cases the Commission has been given additional tasks by the Council this year; consequently, no appropriations have been allocated to them in the 1978 Budget. Since both instances cover studies (see Annex I), the appropriate heading is Item 3540 (Environmental studies).

By 30 June, half the appropriations allotted to this Article had been committed; the entire remaining funds have already been earmarked for the Commission's 1978 programme of studies. It should also be noted that all the appropriations allocated to this heading have always been fully utilized in previous years. A sum of 580 000 EUA (510 000 + 70 000) will therefore have to be transferred to Item 3540 in order to finance these new studies. The Commission requests approval for the transfer of this sum from Chapter 101 (Contingency reserve) to Item 3540 (Environmental studies) of Chapter 35 (Protection of Man and his environment).

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<sup>1</sup> See Council document R/1406/78 (ENV 81) of 5 June 1978 (Progress report on the proposal for a Council Directive (AGRI 422) on bird conservation following the Council's meeting on 30 May).

ANNEX I

Expenditure to be committed in 1978 for the preparation of the proposals contained in the action programme of the European Communities on the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea set up by the Council Resolution of 26 June 1978.

Proposals to be put to the Council  
in respect of the following measures:

Expenditure arising from the  
preparation of these measures  
to be committed in 1978 (in EUA)

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(a)	Computer processing of existing data, or data still to be collected on methods of dealing with marine pollution by oil with a view to immediate use of these data in the event of accidental pollution	85 000
(b)	A study of the Member States' accessibility to relevant data on tankers liable to pollute the Community's waters or coast and on man-made structures under the Member States' jurisdiction	120 000
(c)	Assessment of whether the Community should adopt its own measures to enhance cooperation between, and the efficiency of, the emergency teams which have been or are to be set up by the Member States	90 000
(d)	Study of a possible Community contribution to the design and development of clean-up vessels to which may be fitted the equipment needed for the effective treatment of oil spills	100 000
(e)	Study of the amendments and improvements which may have to be made to the rules of law regarding insurance against the risks of pollution from oil spills	40 000
(f)	Report to the Council on the pollution of the Community's coast by oil and measures taken by the responsible authorities to combat it	75 000
	TOTAL	<u>510 000</u>

BREAKDOWN OF APPROPRIATIONS IN CHAPTER 101

AT 15 JULY

Amount entered in the Budget: 5 million EUA

Transfers approved by the Budgetary Authority		
Article or Item	No	Amount (in EUA)
260	4	120 000
2981	1	175 000
950	5	500 000
Total		795 000
Transfers pending before the Budgetary Authority		
2550	16	635 000
2722	12	600 000
3365	13	500 000
343	17	250 000
Total		1 985 000

Balance: 2 220 000 EUA