

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1981
SECTION III - COMMISSION

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Brussels, 30th September 1981

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS No 25/81
(compulsory expenditure)

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ECU

<u>FROM CHAPTER 100</u>	-	PROVISIONAL APPROPRIATIONS	
<u>TO CHAPTER 89</u>	-	COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CERTAIN FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS ARISING FROM AGREEMENTS ON FISHING RIGHTS IN NON- COMMUNITY WATERS	
Article 890	-	<u>Reimbursements due under Agreements on fishing in the Adriatic</u>	800 000

The Financial Controller approved this proposal on 10 September in accordance with Article 21(4) of the Financial Regulation and certified that the appropriations are available.

GROUNDS

On 15 June 1973 Italy and Yugoslavia concluded a bilateral agreement giving the Italian fishing fleet the right to operate in Yugoslav waters in the Adriatic in exchange for payment. In its resolution of 3 November 1976 the Council recognized that appropriate Community agreements should be reached to preserve, inter alia, the rights of fishermen to operate in the waters of non-member states. At the same time the Council decided to authorize the extension of the bilateral agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia until it was replaced by an agreement with the Community, or until 31 December 1977, whichever should be earlier.

During 1977 the Commission therefore asked for a fisheries agreement between the Community and Yugoslavia. It appeared however that Yugoslavia wished the negotiations to be wider in scope and was unwilling to conclude a fisheries agreement with the Community as such.

Since a break in relations between Italy and Yugoslavia in this area would have caused serious difficulties to the fishermen concerned, the Council authorized Italy to extend its bilateral agreement on a number of occasions most recently on 20 December 1979, when Italy was authorized to extend the agreement until 31 December 1980.

It is not expected that the agreement will be further extended.

Following a ministerial decision of 9 March 1981, Italy paid LIT 570 million under the agreement in force for 1978. This sum is the same as that paid for 1976 and 1977 and permitted Italy to send 100 boats into Yugoslav waters at an average cost of about LIT 71 250 per tonne.

The shipowners pay about 20% of this sum so the amount to be refunded by the Community is LIT 436 million or about 400 000 ECU.

In a memorandum dated 29 May 1981 the Office of the Italian Permanent Representative informed the Commission that on 15 April the Italian Parliament had given final approval to the law extending the fishing agreement until 31 December 1979.

Italy will pay the same amount for 1979 as for the previous three years.

Since the appropriations for Community contribution originally entered in the 1978 and 1979 budgets have lapsed, the 800 000 ECU entered in Chapter 100 of the 1981 budget for expenditure in respect of a 1981 agreement with

Yugoslavia must be used. It is not expected that there will be any expenditure for 1981 because the bilateral agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia will not be extended beyond 31 December 1980 and it is highly unlikely that negotiations between the Community and Yugoslavia will be concluded before 31 December 1981.

The amount entered in Chapter 100 (Provisional Appropriations) in respect of Article 890 (Reimbursements due under Agreements on fishing in the Adriatic) is therefore available to provide the refunds needed for 1978 and 1979 and the budgetary authority is asked to authorize the transfer of 800 000 ECU from Chapter 100 to Article 890.

It should be emphasized that, in order to reduce the number of transfers which are burdensome for all the Community institutions, this request covers both 1978 and 1979. The Commission will not, of course, use the appropriations for 1979 until Italy has made the payment provided for in the agreement extended until 31 December 1979.

APPROPRIATIONS IN CHAPTER 100

AT 9 SEPTEMBER 1981

	ECU	
	Total appropriations for commitment	Total appropriations for payment
1. Total appropriations	407 079 000	369 019 000
2. Appropriations transferred	30 066 000	25 206 000
3. Appropriations being transferred	5 300 000	3 600 000
4. Appropriations remaining in Chapter 100	371 713 000	340 213 000