

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM (76) 391 final.

Brussels, 23 July 1976

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

Request for Assent in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 54 of the Treaty of Paris, to the granting of loans to persons other than the undertakings themselves, for the financing of dwellings for the personnel of iron and steel firms in the region of Friulia.

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NOTE TO THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Request for Assent in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 54 of the Treaty of Paris, to the granting of loans to persons other than the undertakings themselves, for the financing of dwellings for the personnel of iron and steel firms in the region of Friulia.

1. In addition to the normal multi-annual programmes in the field of ECSC low-cost housing, the recent disaster in the Friulia region has led the Commission to decide upon the carrying out of an exceptional emergency programme for the benefit of the personnel of a number of iron and steel enterprises which have been destroyed in this region.
2. In fact, about 950 dwellings occupied by steel workers have been destroyed or seriously damaged by the earthquake; it is for this reason that the Commission has decided to make available a special loan of 6,000,000 u.a. for a reconstruction scheme, this loan to be subject to the conditions generally applied to ECSC loans for low-cost housing.
3. In so far as it is necessary, the ECSC's own funds can be supplemented by other resources obtained from the capital market. The use by the ECSC of funds supplied from the capital market, which are combined with resources from the "special reserve" appearing in the ECSC balance-sheet, requires -- in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 54 of the Treaty of Paris -- the assent of the Council, because the loans are generally made to borrowers other than "undertakings" within the meaning of Article 30 of the Treaty. In practice, ECSC generally makes its funds available to financial institutions specialising in long-term lending for the financing of housing schemes, which are normally carried out by building societies.
4. The Commission therefore requests the assent of the Council under the second paragraph of Article 54 of the Treaty of Paris, to authorize the granting of loans, if necessary, to borrowers other than undertakings as defined in the Treaty of Paris, in the context of an exceptional emergency programme and for the housing of workers in iron and steel enterprises, established in the Friulia region and affected by the earthquake of May 1976.