

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1981

SECTION III - COMMISSION

COM(81) 199 final

Brussels, 14th April 1981

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS No 7/81
(non-compulsory expenditure)

COM(81) 199 final

B. Appropriations carried over from 1980

FROM CHAPTER 33 - EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND INVESTMENT

Article 334 - Indirect action - energy

Item 3340 - New sources of energy

Article 336 - Indirect and concerted action - quality of life

Item 3361 - Climatology

Item 3364 - Analysis of organic micropollutants in water

Item 3365 - Physico-chemical behaviour of atmospheric pollutants

Total B.

2. DESTINATION

TO CHAPTER 26 - EXPENDITURE ON STUDIES, SURVEYS AND CONSULTATIONS

Article 262 - Comprehensive Community studies and general surveys

Appropriations for commitment	Appropriations for payment
	<p>2 000 000</p> <p>615 000</p> <p>48 000</p> <p>33 000</p> <hr/> <p>2 696 000</p>
4 800 000	

The Financial Controller approved this proposal on 9.4.1981 in accordance with Article 21(4) of the Financial Regulation and certified that the appropriations are available.

GROUNDS

I. 1. On 31 October the Commission issued Decision 2794/80/ECSC introducing a scheme of production quotas to help deal with the manifest crisis in the Community steel industry.

To help with the implementation of this Decision the Commission decided to secure the services of up to 100 production engineers seconded from steel firms and about 45 experts from auditing firms.

Checks have been made at steel firms since the very beginning of November; nearly 300 firms representing more than 90% of Community output are involved. The details are described at II.

2. The total cost of the operation was estimated at 9 million ECU, of which 7 million would be borne by the 1981 budget. The accuracy of the estimate has been confirmed by actual costs in the first few months.

Expenditure on these checks, undertaken chiefly on the basis of Article 47 of the ECSC Treaty, is financed from Article 262 of the general budget (Community studies and surveys).

3. At the beginning of this year the Commission earmarked 1.2 million ECU from Article 262 for these checks. On 27 February it asked the budgetary authority to transfer 1 million ECU from Chapter 101 (Contingency reserve) to Article 262 and stated that it would be asking for a further transfer to cover the rest of the cost.

4. We still have 4.8 million ECU to finance. The Commission has made savings and compressed expenditure wherever possible, and it now believes that these 4.8 million ECU can be released from Chapter 33 (itemized below).

The funds can be obtained from research and indirect-action appropriations where delays in the implementation of programmes mean that there are quite substantial sums unspent:

Commitment appropriations

Item 3340	New sources of energy	662.000 ECU
Item 334	Fusion	2.815.000 ECU
Item 3361	Climatology	1.145.000 ECU
Item 3364	Analysis of micropollutants	125.000 ECU
Item 3365	Atmospheric pollutants	53.000 ECU
	Total	<u>4.800.000 ECU</u>

Payment appropriations

Item 3340	New sources of energy (allocation 21)	2 000 000 ECU
Item 3341	Fusion	381 000 ECU
Item 3344	Management and storage of radioactive waste	1 000 000 ECU
Item 3350	Secondary raw materials	125 000 ECU
Item 3361	Climatology (allocation 10)	515 000 ECU
	" (allocation 21)	615 000 ECU
Item 3364	Analysis of micropollutants (allocation 10)	54 000 ECU
	(allocation 21)	48 000 ECU
Item 3365	Atmospheric pollutants (allocation 10)	29 000 ECU
	(allocation 21)	33 000 ECU
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		4 800 000 ECU

II. Checks are made on all products subject to the quota scheme, and two complementary techniques are applied. First, all the relevant firms are required to make a daily return by telex of their output of steel products covered by Decision 2794/80/EGSC; the daily returns are followed by weekly and monthly telex returns giving total output for the relevant period, with corrections if necessary.

Then, these returns are checked on the spot by inspections which, in the large firms at least, are proceeding constantly; in practice actual output is compared with the figures given in the returns.

The checks are made by inspection teams consisting of engineers and accountants (see I, 1 above); their function is to monitor the production process at the firm itself and compare their own findings with the firm's return.

The checks cover:

- total output of crude steel (ordinary and special);
- output of rolled products of the categories specified in the Decision;
- deliveries of rolled products in those categories.

The figures obtained from the telex returns and from the inspectors' own checks are fed into the computer in Luxembourg, where a special programme has been designed to calculate the quotas and check that output at each firm is within the limits.

III. The Commission accordingly requests the budgetary authority to approve the transfer of 4.8 million ECU from Chapter 33 to Article 262 of the general budget for 1981.