European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-538/81/ANNEX

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-438/81) for a Decision on Community aid granted by way of exception for the reconstruction of the regions affected by the Greek earthquakes in February and March 1981

Letter from the acting chairman to Mr MOREAU, chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Strasbourg, 13 October 1981

<u>Subject</u>: Proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Decision on Community aid granted by way of exception for the reconstruction of the regions affected by the Greek earthquakes in February and March 1981 (Doc. 1-438/81)

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 12 October 1981 the Committee on Budgets considered the above proposal from the Commission.

This proposal is based on the Council decision of 30 January 1981 fixing the aid to be granted to regions of Italy affected by the earthquake there.

The proposal envisages loans equivalent to 80m ECU for the areas of Greece devastated in February and March 1981, with an interest-rate subsidy of 3% per annum for a maximum period of twelve years. The Commission estimates the total costs for the term of the loans at 22m ECU.

In the case of the proposal for Italy, the European Parliament called . for an interest-rate subsidy of 5% per annum. The Council rejected this proposal.

The Committee on Budgets still feels that the interest-rate subsidy should be 5% per annum, but that, if this is not possible, it is essential for these devastated regions to be treated in the same way as the areas affected by the Italian earthquake.

The committee also agreed with the Commission that these subsidies represent non-compulsory expenditure and therefore approved the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Harry A.C.M. Notenboom

Present:

Mr Notenboom, acting chairman
Mr Spinelli, vicetchairman
Mr Balfe, Mr Brok, (deputizing for Mr. K. Schön), Mr Cluskey, Mr Georgiadis,
Mr Hopper (deputizing for Mr Howell), Mr Jackson, Mr Kellett-Bowman,
Mr Langes, Mr Nielsen (deputizing for Mr Nord), Mrs Pruvot (deputizing
for Mrs Scrivener), Mr Saby, Mr Simonnet, Mrs Vayssade