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JOINT PRESS RELEASE FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION

Joint declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on various measures to improve the budgetary procedure.

At a ceremony held in Brussels on 30 June 1982 the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission signed a joint declaration on various measures to improve the budgetary procedure.

The text of the declaration is attached.

JOINT DECLARATION BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION ON VARIOUS MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE BUDGETARY PROCEDURE

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION,

Whereas harmonious cooperation between the institutions is essential to the smooth operation of the Communities;

Whereas various measures to improve the operation of the budgetary procedure under Article 78 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, Article 203 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and Article 177 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community should be taken by agreement between the institutions of the Communities, due regard being had to their respective powers under the Treaties,

AGREE AS FOLLOWS :

I. CLASSIFICATION OF EXPENDITURE

1. Criteria

In the light of this agreement and of the classification of expenditure

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IV. OTHER MATTERS

- Parliament's margin for manoeuvre which is to be at least half the maximum rate - shall apply as from the draft budget, including any letters of amendment, as adopted by the Council at first reading.
- 2. The maximum rate is to be observed in respect of the annual budget, including amending and/or supplementary budgets, if any. Without prejudice to the determination of a new rate, any portion of the maximum rate which has not been utilized shall remain available for use and may be used when draft amending and/or supplementary budgets are to be considered.
- 3. (a) Ceilings fixed in existing regulations will be respected.
 - (b) In order that the full importance of the budget procedure may be preserved, the fixing of maximum amounts by regulation must be avoided, as must the entry in the budget of amounts in , excess of what can actually be expended.
 - (c) The implementation of appropriations entered for significant new Community action shall require a basic regulation. If such appropriations are entered the Commission is invited, where no draft regulation exist, to present one by the end of January at the latest.

The Council and the Parliament undertake to use their best endeavours to adopt the regulation by the end of May at the latest.

If by this time the regulation has not been adopted, the Commission shall present alternative proposals (transfers) for the use during the financial year of the appropriations in question.

4. The institutions note that the procedure for revision of the Financial Regulation is in progress and that some problems should be resolved in that context. They undertake to do all in their power to bring that procedure to a swift conclusion.

Done at Brussels, 30 June 1982

For Parliament

For the Council

For the Commission

(P. DANKERT)

(L. TINDEMANS)

(G. THORN)