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**PRESSE-MEDDELELSE
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**INFORMATION A LA PRESSE
INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA
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VISIT OF VICE-PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP TO NORWAY AND SWEDEN

Vice-President Wilhelm Haferkamp, responsible for external relations, is to visit Norway and Sweden at the invitation of the two Governments concerned.

Mr. Haferkamp will visit Oslo from 17 to 19 June 1979. In addition to being received by H.M. the King, he will have talks with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Knut Frydenlund, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Per Kleppe, the Minister of Petroleum and Energy, Mr. Bjartmar Gjerde and the Minister of Commerce and Shipping, Mr. Hallvard Bakke. He will also meet the Chairman of the Norwegian Trade Union Organisation (LO) and with the Norwegian Federation of Industry.

Mr. Haferkamp will visit Stockholm from 20 to 22 June. After being received by H.M. the King, he will have talks with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hans Blix, who is also responsible for international development cooperation and the Minister of Commerce, Mr. Hadar Cars. He will also meet the Chairman of the Swedish Trade Union Organisation (LO) and representatives of the Swedish Federation of Industries.

This visit underlines the importance which the Commission attaches to strengthening relations with Norway and Sweden, which are both major trading partners of the Community, as part of its general policy of closer cooperation with the EFTA countries. The conversations are expected to cover not only the operation of the free trade agreements but also the prospects for cooperation in other areas as well as broader issues of international economic relations.