

OPENING STATEMENT BY VICE-PRESIDENT TUGENDHAT TO THE BUDGET COUNCIL, IN BRUSSELS, ON THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 1984.

AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THIS BUDGET COUNCIL ON 18/19 JULY I DREW THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATIONS TO THE NEED FOR THE TIMELY ADOPTION BY THE BUDGET AUTHORITY OF A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1984 AND HENCE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT BY THE COUNCIL OF A DRAFT SUCH BUDGET ON THE BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSION ON 6 JULY. I EMPHASIZED THEN THAT THE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WHICH THE COMMISSION HAD REQUESTED WERE REQUIRED IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE COMMUNITY TO FULFILL THE OBLIGATIONS WHICH IT HAD ENTERED INTO IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING COMMUNITY POLICIES.

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I SHOULD LIKE TODAY TO REITERATE, IN A MORE FORMAL MANNER, ON THE COMMISSION'S BEHALF THE URGENT NEED FOR THE COUNCIL TO ACT. IF THE ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY PROVISIONS ARE NOT MADE IN TIME, WE SHALL NO LONGER BE ABLE, DURING THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, TO HONOUR IN FULL THE FINANCIAL DEMANDS WHICH WILL BE MADE UPON US AS A RESULT OF OBLIGATIONS PREVIOUSLY CONTRACTED, NOTABLY IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. THESE OBLIGATIONS ARE THE RESULT OF THE DECISIONS WHICH THE COUNCIL ITSELF HAS TAKEN AND OF THE COMMISSION'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. IN ORDER FOR THE BUDGET AUTHORITY TO ADOPT IN GOOD TIME THE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET NECESSARY TO ENABLE THESE OBLIGATIONS TO BE MET, THE COUNCIL ITSELF NEEDS TO ESTABLISH, AND TRANSMIT TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE DRAFT OF SUCH A BUDGET IMMEDIATELY.

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THE COMMISSION AT ITS MEETING YESTERDAY REVIEWED THE SITUATION CAUSED BY THE CONTINUED ABSENCE OF A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET. WE DECIDED TO RENEW IN THE MOST PRESSING TERMS OUR REQUEST TO THE COUNCIL TO TAKE THE NECESSARY DECISIONS SO AS TO ENABLE THE FULL DISCHARGE OF THE EXPENDITURE OBLIGATIONS WHICH THE COMMUNITY HAS LEGALLY CONTRACTED. OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION, AND OUR AWARENESS OF OUR OWN PARTICULAR INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IS SUCH THAT OUR REQUEST TO THE COUNCIL IS BEING MADE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INVITATION TO ACT ENVISAGED IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF ARTICLE 175 OF THE TREATY OF ROME. A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT-EN EXERCICE OF THE COMMISSION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL CONFIRMING THE COMMISSION'S INVITATION TO THE COUNCIL UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE 175 OF THE TREATY IS BEING SENT FORWARD TODAY.

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I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THIS COUNCIL MEETING WILL RESULT
IN THE TAKING BY THE COUNCIL OF DECISIONS CONCERNING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1984
WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE TO THIS
INVITATION.

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