

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(78) 163 final

Brussels, 12 May 1978

## RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

authorizing the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion  
of agreements extending the period of application of the Interim  
Agreements between the European Economic Community, the Maghreb  
and the Mashreq countries.

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The Interim Agreements concluded with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon pending the entry into force of the Cooperation Agreements expire on 30 June this year. As of today, it is not certain that the ratification of these agreements will be completed in the Member States before 8 May, the latest date which would allow them to enter into force on 1 July 1978. In these circumstances, the necessary steps will have to be taken to prolong the Interim Agreements until 31 December 1978.

Accordingly, the Commission is submitting herewith a recommendation for a Council decision which would authorize it to open negotiations with the countries concerned in order to conclude agreements prolonging the Interim Agreements until 31 December 1978.



- (i) The Interim Agreements with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria will be extended until 31 December 1978 ;
- (ii) Article 11(1) of the Interim Agreements with Algeria and Tunisia, Article 12(1) of the Interim Agreement with Morocco and Annex C of the said Agreements will be adapted to take account of the further period covered by the agreements by virtue of such extension.
- (iii) Article 13(2)(b) and (3) of the Interim Agreement with Algeria will be adapted in order to take account of the application of the periods and timetables fixed in Article 20(2)(b), (3) and (4) of the Cooperation Agreement.