

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 843 final

Brussels, 8 December 1982

## ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

revision of the current JRC programme for 1983 and the next  
programme for 1984-1987

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Subject : revision of the current JRC programme for 1983 and the next programme for 1984-1987.

1. To judge from the most recent developments in the situation, there is a consensus that the technical problems still to be solved for the Super-SARA programme are nothing exceptional for a project of this kind, that they do not affect the feasibility of the venture and that the Joint Research Centre now has the capacity to carry it through.
2. The Commission reaffirms the importance it attaches to the federative nature of the project and, with the support of the Council, will within the next three months be able to complete preparations for bringing together some twenty experts working on national nuclear programmes to participate directly in this Community venture as from 1983. The Steering Committee for the project, consisting of a small number of experts on the management of reactor safety projects to help the Ispra Establishment Director and the project leader, will be set up before the end of December, after consultation of the JRC Governing Board.
3. The Super-SARA project is complementary to other ongoing projects in the same field in and outside Europe, and this is an advantage that the Commission cannot afford to throw away. Consequently, it could not support continuation of the project at the cost of cutting it down to an extent that would jeopardise its specific nature and remove much of the reason for its existence.
4. The question of the funds needed and the draft conclusions now before the Council in Annex II to document ATO 90 must be reviewed against this background. That document points out in particular that :
  - a) the additional funds required in 1982 and 1983 can be found without any increase in the Commission's general budget;
  - b) the Commission hopes to reach an agreement with the Italian Government on the financing of the reserve for technical risks needed for any project of this kind;
  - c) the temporary increase of some 100 posts bringing the JRC staff complements to 2279 in 1983 and 2360 the year after will be rapidly eliminated by staff reduction measures to be decided in 1983.

On the specific point of the JRC's staff complement for the period 1984-87, the Commission is prepared to have written into the Council minutes a joint statement by the Council and the Commission to the effect that "if these staff reduction measures applicable to about one hundred JRC staff members are decided in 1983, the maximum staff complement authorised will peak at 2360 (+ 100) in 1984 and then return to the normal level of 2260 in 1985 and subsequent years".

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5. The JRC programme for 1984-87

The financial level of the JRC programme in which the Super-SARA project will be incorporated in 1984-87 is an important factor on which the Commission's position may be summarised as follows :

- a) The revision of the current programme for 1983 involves continuing the Super-SARA project with a view to a JRC programme for 1984-87 that will include that project.
- b) The average annual JRC expenditure for the period 1980-83 is 174 million ECU in 1983 monetary. This figure includes 3 million ECU resulting from the recent Council Decision on the structure of the remuneration of Community employees, 2 million ECU annual revenue from Italy and 1.5 million ECU from the Federal Republic of Germany.
- c) Over and above this current level, the JRC programme needs about an additional 12 million ECU a year, of which 5.5 million are independent of the Super-SARA project (see Annex).
- d) The annual average financial resources for the JRC programme including Super-SARA can be maintained at the current level of 174 million ECU in 1983 money value for the period 1984-87 on the understanding that activities carried out on behalf of other Commission departments (topic E in the current programme entitled "specific support for the Commission's activities") amounting to about 12 million ECU a year in 1983 money value are financed as from 1984 and for the duration of the new four-year programme by funds provided by the Commission departments for which these JRC services are provided, in accordance with the principle of budget transparency; these activities will appear as a token entry (p.m.) in the annual budget for the JRC.
- e) Within this budget, the JRC programme for 1984-87 will be drawn up in 1983 in the more general context of the framework programme and the Action Programmes.

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