

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(79) 47 final

Brussels, 12 February 1979

COMMISSION REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE LOCATION OF COMMUNITY DEPARTMENTS

Situation at the end of the third quarter of 1978

COM(79) 47 final

Article 10 of the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on the Provisional Location of Certain Institutions and Departments of the Communities (Merger Treaty) states that "the Governments of the Member States are willing to locate in Luxembourg, or to transfer thereto, other Community bodies and departments, particularly those concerned with finance, provided that their proper functioning can be ensured. To this end, they request the Commission to present to them annually a report on the current situation concerning the location of Community bodies and departments and on the possibility of taking new steps to give effect to this provision, account being taken of the need to ensure the proper functioning of the Communities".

Each year since 1968 the Commission has presented a report to the Council¹ in compliance with these provisions.

This report, the eleventh, describes the situation at the end of September 1978.

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I. STAFF EMPLOYED IN BRUSSELS

At the end of September 1978 a total of 7 002 officials and local staff (administrative appropriations) were permanently assigned to the various Commission departments in Brussels. This total was made up as follows:

Category A	1 830
Language Service	929
Category B	1 308
Category C	2 333
Category D	325
Local staff	277
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	7 002

¹Ref.: SEC(68)3350 final, 25 October 1968;
SEC(69)4897 final, 17 December 1969;
SEC(70)3681 final, 27 October 1970;
SEC(71)4684 final, 20 December 1971;
SEC(72)4493 final, 4 January 1973;
SEC(73)4390 final, 3 December 1973;
SEC(74)4771 final, 9 December 1974;
SEC(75)4070 final, 3 December 1975;
COM(76)710 final, 6 January 1977;
COM(77)714 final, 3 January 1978.

2. These figures include a limited number of officials from departments located in Luxembourg who have been assigned to Brussels for the purpose of liaising with departments there.

The officials involved number 58, from the following departments:

SOEC	27
Computer Operations Division	10
Management and Financial Data-Processing Applications Department	8
Analysis and Programming Department	3
Directorate-General for Scientific and Technical Information and Information Management	10
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	58

II. STAFF EMPLOYED IN LUXEMBOURG

1. As in Brussels, there was a slight increase in the number of staff employed by the Commission in Luxembourg.

At the end of September 1978 a total of 1 817 officials and local staff (administrative appropriations) were permanently assigned to the various Commission departments in Luxembourg. This total was made up as follows:

Category A	302
Language Service	257
Category B	468
Category C	586
Category D	75
Local staff	129

1 817

2. The staff of the Directorates-General and other departments of the Commission located in Luxembourg was broken down as follows:

- (i) The Statistical Office: 269 officials (99 A, 93 B, and 77C); (1977: 260 officials) (Note: a further 27 officials - 14 A, 7 B and 6 C - are assigned to the Brussels branch office);
- (ii) The Health and Safety Directorate (V-F) of the Directorate-General for employment and Social Affairs: 64 officials (28 A, 17 B and 19 C) (1977: 62 officials);
- (iii) The Directorate-General for Scientific and Technical Information and Information Management: 132 officials and local staff (47 A, 27 B, 51 C, 5 D and 2 local staff); (1977: 127);
- (iv) The Directorate-General for Credit and Investments: 75 officials and local staff (29 A, 26 B, 19 C and 1 member of local staff (1977: 74));

- (v) The Euratom Safeguards Directorate (XVII-E) of the Directorate-General for Energy: 152 officials (36 A, 78 B and 38 C) (1977: 112 officials);
- (vi) The Commission/European Investment Bank Liaison Office, attached to the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs: 2 officials (1 A, 1 C) (1977: 3 officials);
- (vii) The Luxembourg Information Office (Directorate-General for Information): 3 officials (1 A, 1 B and 1 C) (1977: 3 officials);
- (viii) Administrative departments belonging to the Directorate-General for Personnel and Administration: 828 officials and local staff (40 A, 257 LA, 116 B, 273 C, 58 D and 84 local staff - apart from the staff paid out of the social service appropriations) (1977: 831).

3. A number of departments located in Brussels have assigned staff to Luxembourg to improve contacts with the departments located there or to take up duties with bodies based there. A total of 25 officials are posted on this basis:

Secretariat-General	7
Legal Service	2
Security Office	4
Directorate-General for Budgets	3
Directorate-General for Financial Control	7
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	23

These figures are included in the table at II.1.

4. Last June the Commission partly reorganized the Statistical Office. In particular, the Office for Liaison and Collaboration with Commission Departments in Brussels was set up in place of the Brussels branch office.

Approval has been given to the principle of moving all Brussels-based production units located in Brussels and their staff back to Luxembourg within two years.

5. An "Official Publications Office of the European Communities" was established pursuant to Article 8 of the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States. Under a Decision taken by the Community institutions (including the ESC) on 16 January 1969, the Publications Office is directed by a Managing Board consisting of representatives of the five institutions.

The Office was given seven additional posts for 1978.

This means that its staff is now as follows:

Category A	13
Category B	103
Category C	96
Category D	12
Local Staff	42
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	266

These figures are also included in the table at II.1.

III. COMMISSION PREMISES IN BRUSSELS

In the context of the short and medium-term programme presented to the Council in April 1975, under which the Commission planned to regroup its departments in three centres around the Rond-Point Schuman, three major events stand out in 1978:

- the beginning of construction work on the remaining part of the JE/C/L triangle, which on completion (scheduled for 1981) will be able to house all the Commission's financial and administrative departments;
- the conclusion of an agreement for the construction of a conference centre near the Place Jourdan, scheduled for completion by the end of 1981;
- the opening of negotiations with the Belgian authorities for the construction of two buildings: the first, to be called "Etterbeek", will be an extension of 120 Loi, while the second, "Ilot 4", will be bordered by the Boulevard Charlemagne, Rue Stévin, Rue Joseph II and Rue St Quentin, incidentally also sheltering the Berlaymont boiler room.

The fact remains, however, that at the beginning of 1978 there was a serious shortage of offices. With a greater number of staff and others (experts, probationers, national officials on secondment, etc.) to be accommodated and the growing use of advanced technological equipment requiring more floor-space, buildings have long been overcrowded.

In order to meet its most immediate needs, though by no means all its needs, pending occupation of the new buildings, the Commission had to rent two additional buildings this year.

IV. COMMUNITY PREMISES IN LUXEMBOURG

The extension of the present Jean Monnet building by a third section, designed to house, among others, the new Computer Centre, was dealt with in detail in last year's report.

It was originally expected that the administrative wing of this third section would be available towards the end of 1978, while the new Computer Centre was to be ready by the summer of 1979.

At the time of writing it appears that there will be some delay. Meanwhile the Commission has been obliged to rent five floors of a new building situated near the central station (admittedly on favourable terms) in order to accommodate the large number of computer staff and Euratom safeguards inspectors who have been recruited in the past few months. This has brought the number of buildings occupied by Commission departments to five. However, there is every indication that it will be possible to bring all the Commission departments together in the Jean Monnet building by the end of 1979.

The introduction of the European Monetary System will involve some major changes in the responsibilities and functioning of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund, which is based in Luxembourg. As the system gets under way new administrative and accommodation requirements will have to be met.

The increase in the number of European MPs after the direct elections also means that additional space will be required. The Luxembourg authorities have given the go-ahead for the first phase of construction on a new building to provide it.

As regards the Court of Justice, changes to the work schedule for the new third section will probably allow the old Computer Centre to be duly vacated in time for certain departments which no longer fit in the present Court building to move in.

The Commission has proposed to the Council that an Administrative Tribunal of the European Communities should be set up and, since it would be a judicial body, Luxembourg was suggested as the location. The Council is favourably disposed.

The fabric of the administrative building of the European Investment Bank will probably be completed in April 1979. The building is due to be fitted out by about a year later, and the Bank should be able to occupy it in 1980.

The expansion in Community borrowing and lending policies, in which the European Investment Bank plays a vital part, will also make it necessary to strengthen the role of the Commission/European Investment Bank Liaison Office in Luxembourg. The Commission will see that the Office has the requisite resources.

All that needs to be said about the Official Publications Office is that the building it has occupied in the rue du Commerce near the main post office since 1973 fully meets its needs.

The Court of Auditors moved into a newly renovated building in the town centre on the corner of rue Aldringen and rue Notre-Dame at the end of 1977. It is already finding it impossible to accommodate all the staff assigned to it under the 1978 Budget, and will shortly be renting additional offices in a new building on the Bd Prince Henri, near its main building.