

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 325 final

Brussels, 18th June 1982

PREPARATION FOR THE "RESEARCH" COUNCIL OF 30 JUNE
1982 : COST OF COMMISSION STAFF ASSIGNED TO THE
ASSOCIATED LABORATORIES OF THE FUSION PROGRAMME

(Communication of the Commission to the Council)

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Communication of the Commission to the Council

Subject: Preparation for the "Research" Council of 30 June 1982: cost of Commission Staff assigned to the Associated Laboratories of the Fusion Programme.

1. Under Point 10 of the Council Minutes dealing with the adoption of the 1982-1986 Fusion Programme, the following statement appears:

"The Council has decided that 5 MECU will be set aside to raise the rate of Community financial participation in expenditure relating to Commission staff assigned to associated laboratories. This implies an increase in the rate from 25% to approximately 42%.

However, the application of this measure is suspended until the next Council (Research) meeting scheduled for June 1982 at which the Commission will make proposals for the utilization of these funds. The application of the aforementioned measure will be back-dated to 1 January 1982."

2. The Commission proposes to use the 5 MioECU in the frame of its policy towards the encouragement of research staff mobility in the Community. The high cost of a Euratom research worker compared with that of an equivalent nationally employed scientist turns out to be a major obstacle to the mobility of Euratom Staff between the Associated Laboratories. It is therefore appropriate to reduce the difference between the costs of the Commission Staff charged to the Associations' budgets and those of the national Staff working within the research groups. To this end, the Commission proposes to use the 5 MioECU available in the following manner:

- the cost of Commission Staff charged to budgets of the Fusion Associations will be reduced. The calculation for this reduction is shown under point 3 of this note.
- the rate of participation of the Commission towards the reduced staff cost will remain at 25%, which is the level of support undertaken by the Commission against the running costs of the Associations.

This method of implementation consisting of retaining the money 'at source', will have the advantage of reducing the budget of the Associations and avoid the introduction of a new rate of financial participation of the Community in addition to those already applied, that is 25% and 45%.

3. During the period 1982-86, the total cost of the Commission staff working in the Associations is estimated at 30 MioECU. It is proposed to charge only 23.3 MioECU of this (78% of the total) to the General budgets of the Associations (supported at 25% by the Commission), the remaining 6.7 MioECU would be paid directly by the Commission:

This is in perfect conformity with the Council decision. In fact, the contribution of the Commission will be:

25% of 23.3 MioECU	=	5.85 MioECU
100% of 6.7 MioECU	=	<u>6.7 MioECU</u>
Total		12.5 MioECU

This corresponds to $\frac{12.5}{30} \simeq 42\%$ of the total cost of the staff and to an additional expenditure of 5 MioECU. In fact, the overall contribution of the Commission (12.5 MioECU) is 5 MioECU larger than it would have been (7.5 MioECU = 30 x 25%) if the previous method had been used.

4. Consequently, the Commission will propose to the associated institutions to introduce, in the Association contracts to be concluded for the 1982-86 period, a clause stating that the current expenses of the Associations will include only 78% of the cost of the Commission Staff.
5. The Commission asks the Council to take note of this proposal and to lift the Suspension mentioned under point 10 of the Council Minutes of 3 March 1982. The Commission furthermore undertakes to make before the end of this year a communication to the Council covering the more general problem of encouraging mobility among the research staff in the Community.