

**EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY
INFORMATION SERVICE**

236 Southern Building, Washington 5, D.C.
Telephone NATIONAL 8-5070

COMMON MARKET • EURATOM • COAL & STEEL COMMUNITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EURATOM EXPERTS CONSIDER PUBLICIZING USES OF RADIOISOTOPES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 -- The consultative committee for EURISOTOP, the radioisotope information bureau established by the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), recently held its first meeting.

Assembling in Brussels, the committee, which is composed of representatives of radioisotope producers and users in the six member countries of the Community, made a preliminary examination of the EURISOTOP program.

The committee also approved the formation of working groups to establish research and development programs on the application of radioisotopes in industrial fields. The working groups, consisting of experts from the member countries of the Community, will keep EURISOTOP informed on the status of development work in their particular fields.

A major topic at the meeting was the problem of how to provide information to counteract ignorance on the subject of radioisotopes, not only among the general public but also among professional circles which could benefit from radioisotope use. To correct this situation, suggestions were offered for informational campaigns by means of traveling exhibitions, television programs and other media. These possibilities are to be studied by EURISOTOP.

The committee was also concerned about the lack of coordination in legislative and administrative regulations governing health and safety in different countries and the fact that such regulations generally do not cover radioisotopes. It was felt that these lacks might hamper the expansion of industrial and commercial activities on an international scale. Euratom, which has already tried to correct these discrepancies by establishing general basic standards, plans to study the possibilities of adapting the existing regulations as required.

Finally, the importance of collaboration with the responsible organizations in the field of radioisotope application in the six member countries was stressed.

#