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## PRESS RELEASE

## E.E.C. moves to harmonize postal charges.

Under the chairmanship of M. VerLoren van Themaat, Director-General for Competition, the Working Party on postal services and telecommunications held its first meeting in Brussels last week. The heads of the relevant government departments in the Member States were present.

The new group held a preliminary discussion on its programme and methods of work, notably with respect to rates and charges.

The Working Party examined a draft directive relating to the <u>alignment of postal rates</u> for letters not exceeding 20 grammes and postcards. It also discussed the preparation of a second directive to harmonize scales of <u>letter rates</u> by weight. This is the first essential step towards the alignment of postal charges.

Two sub-groups have been set up, one on postal problems and the other on matters connected with telecommunications, to assist the Commission's staff in this field.