

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(83) 20 final

Brussels, 26 January 1983

DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION

on the conclusion of the Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Sweden on a European research and development programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(83) 20 final

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

Subject : Cooperation agreement on a European research and development programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material to be concluded between the EEC and Sweden.

By its decision 82/402/EEC of 17 May 1982, the Council adopted a research and development programme (1982 to 1985) in the raw material sector, including a sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material.

Article 7 of this decision provides for a conclusion of cooperation agreements between the Community and Third States, in particular, those taking part in European Cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research (COST), with a view to associating them wholly or partly with this programme. The Commission has been, pursuant to this provision, authorized to negotiate effect.

As Sweden has expressed its desire to participate in the sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material, the Commission entered into negotiations with this Third State. The negotiations are now completed and have culminated in the draft agreement annexed to the attached draft Council decision. This agreement lays down that:

- the financial contribution of Sweden to this programme will be 497,000 ECU for a period extending until 31 December 1985;
- the Advisory Committee on Programme Management for the sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material referred to in Article 3 of the abovementioned decision will be enlarged to include Swedish representatives;
- as far as the shared cost research contracts are concerned, Community and Swedish persons or undertakings will be put on the same footing.

The Commission requests the Council to adopt the draft decision attached hereto.

DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION

on the conclusion of the Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Sweden on a European research and development programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 82/402/EEC of 17 May 1982 adopting a research and development programme (1982 to 1985) for the European Economic Community in the raw material sector including a sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material, and in particular Article 7 (1) thereof,

Having regard to the draft Decision submitted by the Commission,

Whereas, pursuant to Article 7 (2) of Decision 82/402/EEC, the Commission has negotiated an Agreement with the Kingdom of Sweden in order to associate that country with the sub-programme on wood as a renewable raw material;

Whereas this Agreement should be approved,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Sweden on a European research and development programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material is hereby approved on behalf of the Community.

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the persons empowered to sign the Agreement in order to bind the Community.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

**DRAFT CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
AND THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN ON A
EUROPEAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
IN THE FIELD OF WOOD AS
A RENEWABLE RAW MATERIAL**

THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, hereinafter referred to as
"the Community"

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN, hereinafter referred to as
"Sweden",

WHEREAS a European research programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material is likely to contribute to a more economic use of natural resources;

WHEREAS by its Decision of 17 May 1982, the Council of the European Communities, hereinafter referred to as "the Council", adopted a research and development programme (1982 to 1985) in the raw material sector including a sub-programme on wood as a renewable material, hereinafter referred to as "the Community programme";

WHEREAS comprehensive forest and wood research programmes, taking into account biological, technological and economic factors, are carried out in Sweden, financed by i.a. the Swedish Board for Technical Development, the Swedish Council for Forestry and Agricultural Research and the Swedish forest industry;

WHEREAS the Community and Sweden expect to derive mutual benefit from a co-ordination of the research and development work which they carry out in the field of wood as a renewable raw material;

WHEREAS on 18 July 1978 the Council agreed on certain details of co-operation within the framework of European co-operation in the field of scientific and technical research (COST),

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

ARTICLE 1

The Community and Sweden, hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties", shall co-operate for a period extending until 31 December 1985, in a European research and development programme in the field of wood as a renewable raw material (indirect actions and co-ordinated activities), hereinafter referred to as the "European programme", as described in Annex A.

Article 2

The financial contribution by the Contracting Parties to the implementation of the European programme shall be 12.497.000 ECU to be divided as follows :

- 12 million ECU
from the Community for a four-year period beginning on 1 January 1982
- 497.000 ECU
from Sweden for the period referred to in Article 1.

The ECU is that defined in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities and in the financial provisions adopted pursuant to that Regulation.

The rules governing the financing of this Agreement are set out in Annex B.

Article 3

For Swedish persons and undertakings, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of proposals, as well as for the granting and conclusion of shared-cost contracts, shall be the same as those applied for Community persons and undertakings.

Article 4

The Commission of the European Communities, hereinafter referred to as 'the Commission', shall ensure the implementation of the indirect actions and be responsible for the coordination of the coordinated actions of the European programme.

The Advisory Committee of the Community Programme, hereinafter referred to as 'the Committee', shall be enlarged to include representatives appointed by Sweden not exceeding three in number.

The terms of reference and the composition of the Committee are defined in accordance with the Council resolution of 18 July 1977 on advisory committees on research programme management,

Article 5

The European programme shall be reviewed at the end of 1984, this review may result in a revision of the programme or in a new programme in accordance with the appropriate procedures after the Committee has been consulted.

Article 6

Information resulting from the execution of the indirect actions listed in Annex A shall be disseminated in accordance with the Council Regulation of 17 September 1974 adopting provisions for the dissemination of information relating to research programmes for the European Economic Community. The rights and obligations of Sweden and Swedish persons and undertakings shall be the same as those laid down by the above Regulation for Member States and persons and undertakings which pursue a research or production activity on the territory of a Member State.

Article 7

1. In accordance with a procedure laid down by the Commission after having consulted the Committee, Sweden and the Member States of the Community taking part in coordinated activities listed in Annex A (hereinafter referred to as "the participating States") and the Community shall regularly exchange all useful information resulting from the execution of the research covered by such activities. The participating States shall provide the Commission with all information relevant for co-ordination purposes. They shall also endeavour to provide the Commission with information on similar research planned or carried

out by other bodies. Any information shall be treated as confidential if so requested by the participating State which provides it.

2. The Commission shall prepare annual progress reports on the basis of the information supplied and forward them to the participating States.

3. At the end of the coordination period the Commission, after having consulted the Committee, shall forward to the participating States a comprehensive report on the execution and results of the coordinated activities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall consult with each other, if one of them so requests, on any problem arising out of the application of this Agreement.

Article 9

This Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community is applied, under the conditions laid down in that Treaty, and, on the other hand, to the territory of the Kingdom of Sweden.

Article 10

1. As soon as possible after signing this Agreement, each of the Contracting Parties shall notify the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities of the completion of the procedures necessary under its internal provisions for the implementation of this Agreement.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which the second of the Contracting Parties forwards the notification referred to in paragraph 1.

Prior to the entry into force of this Agreement, Sweden may take part in the work of the Committee.

3. Other European States which took part in the Ministerial Conference held in Brussels on 22 and 23 November 1982 may be associated under fair and equitable conditions with the European Programme by separate Agreements with the Community.

The Community shall keep Sweden informed of such further Agreements.

4. The Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities shall notify each of the Contracting Parties of the lodging of the notifications

referred to in paragraph 1 and of the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

Article 11

This Agreement, drawn up in a single original in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek and Italian languages, each text being equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Communities, which shall transmit a certified copy to each of the Contracting Parties.

ANNEX A
Research and Development Programme

Research Topics	<i>Indirect action</i>	<i>Coordinated action</i>
1. Wood production		
1.1. Selection and improvement of forest reproductive material	x	x
1.2. Improvement of growth (silviculture)		
1.2.1. Treatment of site and stands	x	x
1.2.2. Establishment and management of fibre plantation	x	x
1.2.3. Cultivation and management of trees outside the forest	x	x
1.3. Prevention of losses		
1.3.1. Protection against damage from biotic agents	x	x
1.3.2. Prevention of forest fires	x	x
1.3.3. Protection against damage from other abiotic causes	x	x
1.4. Forest inventory	—	x
2. Wood harvesting, storage and transport		
2.1. Harvesting of biomass	x	x
2.2. Processing and storage of chips for industrial use	x	x
2.3. Harvesting systems for on-ground extraction	—	x
2.4. Harvesting systems for off-ground extraction	—	x
2.5. Safety and health aspects	—	x
3. Wood as material		
3.1. Study of wood properties	x	x
3.2. Improvement of performance and protection against deterioration	x	x
3.3. Development of objective testing methodology	x	x
4. Wood processing without modification of its basic structure		
4.1. Development of manufacturing processes and products	x	x
4.2. Adhesives and joints	x	x
4.3. Constructional use of wood		
4.3.1. More efficient use and re-use of wood in temporary works	x	x
4.3.2. Greater economy in use through improved design	x	x
4.3.3. Load duration effects	x	x
5. Processing of wood and related organic materials into fibre products		
5.1. Process and product development in the pulp industry	x	x
5.2. Better use of recycled waste paper, cereal straw and other fibres	x	x
5.3. Improvement of paper and board manufacturing processes	x	x
6. Wood as a source of chemicals		
6.1. Development of processes to separate chemically the main components of materials containing ligno-cellulose substances	x	x
6.2. Utilization of lignin, hemicelluloses and cellulose	x	x
6.3. Recovery of by-products from chemical fibre processing	x	x

ANNEX B
FINANCING RULES

Article 1

These provisions lay down the financial rules referred to in Article 2 of the Agreement.

Article 2

At the beginning of each financial year, the Commission shall send to Sweden a call for funds corresponding to its share of the annual costs under the Agreement, calculated in proportion to the maximum amounts laid down in Article 2 of the Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed both in ECU and in the currency of Sweden the value of the ECU being that defined in the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities and determined on the date of the call for funds.

The total contributions shall cover the travel and subsistence costs of the delegates to the Committee, in addition to the implementation costs proper.

Sweden shall pay its annual contribution to the costs under the Agreement at the beginning of each year, and by 31 March at the latest. Any delay in payment shall give rise to the payment of interest by Sweden — at a rate equal to the highest discount rate obtaining in the participating States on the due date. The rate shall be increased by 0.25 of a percentage point for each month of delay. The increased rate shall be applied to the entire period of delay. However, such interest shall be chargeable only if payment is made more than three months after the issue of a call for funds by the Commission.

Article 3

The funds paid by Sweden shall be credited to the relevant programme as budget receipts allocated to a heading in the statement of revenue of the budget of the Commission.

Article 4

The provisional timetable for the implementation costs referred to in Article 2 of the Agreement is appended hereto.

Article 5

The Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply to the management of the appropriations.

Article 6

At the end of each financial year, a statement of appropriations for the European programme shall be prepared and transmitted to Sweden for information.

