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## EC-US TO EXCHANGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL DATA

WASHINGTON, DC, July 1 -- The Commission of the European Communities and the Department of State of the United States of America today made public an exchange of letters establishing methods for cooperation in the field of environmental protection between the US Government and the EC Commission. The text notes areas of common interest in which the two parties may cooperate through the exchange of information. These areas include, inter alia, measurement of pollutants and their harmful effects, effects of energy production on the environment, possible trade problems resulting from environmental measures, toxic wastes, and programs for public awareness and education. The two sides agree that they may also organize joint conferences and symposia.

This exchange of letters is the result of contacts between EC Commission and US officials concerned with the environment over the past two years. The final text of the letters was negotiated by Carlo Scarascia-Mugnozza, Vice President of the Commission of the European Communities, and Christian A. Herter, Jr., Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Environmental Affairs, during Scarascia's visit to Washington June 1-5.

Both the Commission of the European Communities and the US Government are convinced that programs of technical cooperation such as this one on environment are an important means of reinforcing the close political ties between the European Community and the United States.