

## european PRESS RELEASE

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2100 M Street Northwest, Suite 707, Washington D.C. 20037 • Telephone: (202) 296-5131

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMON MARKET PRESIDENT SEES NEW ROLE FOR ENLARGED COMMUNITY

IN MEDITERRANEAN, EAST EUROPE

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 9 -- Common Market President Franco Maria Malfatti yesterday called for Europe to shed its role as spectator and become an actor on the world scene. He said an enlarged European Community would have a political as well as an economic role and it would have to assume responsibilities not only on the European Continent but also in the Mediterranean and towards Eastern Europe.

Speaking before a joint session of the European Parliament and the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, the President of the European Communities Commission said that an enlarged Community (assuming the entry of Britain, Ireland, Norway, and Denmark in January 1973) could not help but assume more influence on the international scene. To meet this new challenge, President Malfatti outlined the areas for which the Community of Ten would have a natural responsibility -- areas, he said, that were primarily political.

First, he said, the European Community was not a Europe of discrimination and of Cold War -- it has a role to play in advancing the world toward a detente, preventing the formation of a power vacuum, and thus furthering world peace.

The Community also has a major responsibility for establishing entirely new relations with the countries of the European Free Trade Area that have not asked to join the Common Market.

An enlarged Community will have an even more important role in the Mediterranean and will be able to help diminish the tensions in that part of the world so important to Europe's interests. A new chapter is opening in relations between Europe and the Mediterranean countries, he said.

Not least, the enlarged Community will be defining new relations with Eastern Europe. The Community has a duty to convince these countries of the enormous advantages a Community of Ten will have for them. A new climate and new forms of cooperation will have to be developed in the Community's relations with Eastern Europe. This will be particularly true when the European Community's common commercial policy becomes fully operational on January 1, 1973.

In conclusion, President Malfatti said, an enlarged Community can at last give Europe a role corresponding to its aspirations and tailored to its needs: all that is necessary is the will and subsequent action to meet these new opportunities.