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Commission



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References in the text

References to other parts of the same issue of the Bulletin are given in parentheses in text, thus (→ point 2.1.53).

Standardized abbreviations for the designation of certain monetary units in the different languages of the Community:

ÉCU	= European currency unit
BFR	= Belgische frank / Franc belge
DKR	= Dansk krone
DM	= Deutsche Mark
DR	= Greek drachma
ESC	= Escudo
FF	= Franc français
HFL	= Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)
IRL	= Irish pound / punt
LFR	= Franc luxembourgeois
LIT	= Lira italiana
PTA	= Peseta
UKL	= Pound sterling
USD	= United States dollar

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PART ONE

ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER 1992

News in brief

European Union

The referendum is conducted in France (→ points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3) and the Council adopts a declaration on the result (→ point 1.6.2).

The single market and the Community economic and social area

Economic and monetary policy

The Council adopts conclusions on the European Monetary System and the currency readjustments (→ point 1.2.3).

Statistical area

The Commission adopts a proposal for a Decision on the framework programme for priority actions in the field of statistical information 1993-97 (→ point 1.2.4).

Internal market

The Commission adopts its seventh report on implementation of the White Paper (→ point 1.2.10).

The Commission adopts a proposal for a Directive on the VAT arrangements applicable to passenger transport (→ point 1.2.11).

Research and technology

The Commission adopts a proposal for a Decision concerning the fourth framework programme in the field of research and technological development 1994-98 (→ point 1.2.56).

The Commission adopts a communication on the European Community and space (→ point 1.2.57).

Transport

The Commission adopts an amended proposal for a Directive on the charging of infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles (→ point 1.2.62).

The Commission adopts a proposal for a Regulation on a code of conduct for computerized reservation systems for air tickets (→ point 1.2.63).

Energy

The Council adopts a Directive on the indication of energy consumption by household appliances (→ point 1.2.72).

Social dimension

- The Commission adopts a working document on employment and the labour market in the 1990s (→ point 1.2.75).

Education, vocational training and youth

- The Council adopts a Decision on the adoption of an action plan for the exchange of national officials engaged in the implementation of Community legislation required to achieve the internal market (→ point 1.2.82).
- The Commission adopts a communication concerning a priority action plan to improve information for young people (→ point 1.2.83).

Fisheries

- The Commission adopts a proposal for a Regulation establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy (→ point 1.2.135).

Role of the Community in the world*Central and Eastern Europe and the independent States of the former Soviet Union*

- A ministerial meeting of national coordinators for the Tacis Community programme of technical assistance for the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia is held (→ point 1.3.3).

Mediterranean and Middle East

- The Council and the Commission adopt measures on the supply of food aid for the victims of the conflict in what was formerly Yugoslavia (→ point 1.3.19), the tightening of the embargo on Serbia and Montenegro (→ points 1.3.20 to 1.3.22) and the development of relations with Slovenia (→ point 1.3.23).

Asia and Latin America

- The Commission adopts a recommendation for a Decision on the negotiation of a cooperation agreement with India (→ point 1.3.33).

ACP countries and OCTs

- Humanitarian aid for Somalia (→ points 1.3.40 to 1.3.45).

International organizations and conferences

- The 47th session of the UN General Assembly opens in New York (→ point 1.3.66).

1. European Union

Procedures for the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty

France

1.1.1. Result of the referendum.

The result of the referendum conducted in France on 20 September was a 51.05% vote in favour of ratification of the Treaty on European Union.

1.1.2. Statement by Mr Delors on the result of the French referendum.

On 20 September, following the announcement of the referendum result, Mr Delors made the following statement on behalf of the Commission.

'The French people have voted. They have said "yes" to a decisive step forward by the European Community. I believe they should be thanked for France, for Europe, for democracy and for history. And as I do just that, my thoughts go out to all those — well-known, less well-known and unknown alike — who felt intuitively that the sole means of survival in the world of today and the world of tomorrow is a Union of the countries of Europe.

Thanks for France, where in the course of a memorable and well-run campaign it became clear to each and every citizen that their country was the focus of attention world-wide on account of the key role it has played in this collective venture from the outset, to endow it with vision — a vision of the future.

Thanks for Europe, which with its wealth and diversity of traditions and cultures still has a role to play in this rapidly changing world, a world of risk and chance, a world in search of common rules enabling all its peoples to live together in peace.

I trust that the other members of the Community which have still to ratify the new Treaty on European Union will do so in the clear and considered hope of close cooperation designed to achieve the objectives democratically spelled out in common.

By voting "no", many French citizens have expressed anxiety. It is our duty to respond both at national and at European level by consolidating the democratic process and to that end adapting the institutions through which the aspirations of our citizens can be expressed and translated into policy and action.

In this universe in constant motion we cannot stand still: we must either advance or retreat. Let us find the inspiration and the strength to measure up to one of the greatest challenges we have yet had to face.'

1.1.3. Council declaration on the result of the French referendum.

Adopted at an extraordinary meeting in New York on 21 September.

'The Council warmly welcomed the positive result of the French referendum on the Treaty on European Union signed in Maastricht on 7 February.

The Council noted with satisfaction that certain Member States have already ratified the draft Treaty and that ratification procedures were well advanced in most other Member States. They attached high priority to the speedy and successful conclusion of the process, without reopening the present text, on the timing foreseen in Article R of the Treaty.

The Council also welcomed the statement issued on 20 September by Economic and Finance Ministers meeting in Washington, in which they expressed the view that the French referendum result will ease tension in the foreign exchange markets and reiterated their commitment to the European Monetary System as a key factor for economic stability and prosperity in Europe.

The Council welcomed at the same time the wide debate which has taken place in all the Member States over recent months with regard to the future development of the European construction. They pledged their determination to ensure that the pre-occupations which had been brought to the forefront in the public discussion will find specific responses in the future development of Europe internally and externally.

The Council welcomed the Presidency's decision to convene an early, special European Council to consider these issues.

The Council also welcomed the determination of the Presidency to press ahead quickly with urgent business, including the completion of the single market by the end of 1992 and the negotiations on the Community's finances, in accordance with

the time-tables and priorities set by the European Council in Lisbon.'

1.1.4. Council conclusions on the European Monetary System (→ point 1.2.3).

2. The single market and the Community economic and social area

Economic and monetary policy

European Monetary System

Currency readjustments

1.2.1. Communiqué from the Monetary Committee following the devaluation of the Italian lira.

The following communiqué was issued on 13 September:

'On the joint request of the German and Italian authorities, the ministers and central bank governors of the Member States of the European Community have by mutual agreement following a common procedure involving the Commission and after consultation of the Monetary Committee decided to fix new central rates in the EMS.

The new bilateral central rates result from the following changes: Italian lira: -3.5%; the other 10 currencies: +3.5%.

The new ecu central rates are the following (in units of national currencies per ecu):

BFR	42.0639	HFL	2.29789
DKR	7.77921	IRL	0.761276
DM	2.03942	LFR	42.0639
DR	251.202	LIT	1 636.61
ESC	177.305	PTA	132.562
FF	6.83992	UKL	0.691328

This decision will contribute substantially to the proper functioning of the EMS.

The Italian Government, recognizing that the fundamental condition for stable exchange rates, low interest rates and stable prices is sound public finance, is aware of the importance of a full and quick implementation of the convergence programme. The Italian Government, with the 1993 budget, and with

other structural measures, especially in the areas of pensions, public health, and public sector wages, will substantially curb the public deficit and reduce inflation.

The Central Bank Council of the Bundesbank will meet on Monday 14 September at 9.00 a.m. and intends to accompany this realignment with a reduction of its official rates. (On the morning of 14 September the Bundesbank announced its decision: the discount rate was cut from 8.75% to 8.25% and the Lombard rate from 9.75% to 9.5%, while the rate on the Bundesbank's securities repurchase tender was set at 9.2%.)

The agrimonetary consequences of the present realignment will be examined by the competent bodies.

The new bilateral central rates and the compulsory intervention points in the exchange-rate mechanism will be communicated by the central banks in time for the opening of foreign exchange markets on 14 September 1992.'

1.2.2. Communiqué from the Monetary Committee following sterling's withdrawal from the exchange-rate mechanism.

The following communiqué was issued on 17 September:

'The ministers and central bank governors of the Member States of the European Community, after consultation with the Monetary Committee of the European Community, have taken note of:

the decision of the United Kingdom authorities to suspend in present circumstances the participation of their currency in the exchange-rate mechanism,

the subsequent decision of the Italian authorities to abstain temporarily from intervention in the foreign exchange markets.

They all stress their unanimous commitment to the European Monetary System as a key factor of economic stability and prosperity in Europe.

The authorities of those countries which observe the intervention obligations of the exchange-rate

mechanism urge the resumption of the full participation of the pound sterling and of the lira as soon as possible.

At the request of the Spanish authorities, the ministers and central bank governors have further, by mutual agreement following a common procedure involving the Commission, and after consultation with the Monetary Committee, decided on a realignment within the exchange-rate mechanism of the EMS.

The bilateral central rates of the Spanish peseta have been reduced by 5%. The new ecu central rates are the following (in units of national currency per ecu):

BFR	41.9547	HFL	2.29193
DKR	7.75901	IRL	0.759300
DM	2.03412	LFR	41.9547
DR	250.550	LIT	1 632.36
ESC	176.844	PTA	139.176
FF	6.82216	UKL	0.689533

The agrimonetary consequences will be examined by the competent bodies.

The new bilateral central rates and the compulsory intervention points in the exchange-rate mechanism will be communicated by the central banks in time for the opening of foreign exchange markets on 17 September 1992.'

1.2.3. Council conclusions.

Adopted on 28 September.

'1. Ministers welcomed the return of calm to the financial markets within the European Monetary System following the joint action of France and Germany.

2. A useful discussion took place which enabled the Presidency to take soundings in preparation for the Special European Council to be held in Birmingham on 16 October. In that context, ministers noted the Presidency's intention that the European Council should discuss the Maastricht ratification process and they recalled the declaration of the General Affairs Council in New York on 21 September which attached high priority to a speedy and successful conclusion of the process, without reopening the present text, on the date laid down in Article R of the Treaty. Everyone present emphasized their opposition to the concept of a two-speed Europe and reiterated that the object of the Community was to proceed together, in accordance with the fulfilment of the convergence criteria as formulated in the Maastricht Treaty.

3. There was agreement that recent financial turbulence calls for reflection and analysis in the light of developments in capital markets and in the European and World Monetary Systems. The Birmingham Council provides an occasion for indicating how this work might be carried forward.

4. There was general agreement too that the key to economic and financial stability in the Member States is to reinforce the convergence process among the European economies through strict adherence to convergence programmes, on which good progress is already being made. They reiterated their commitment to the European Monetary System as a key factor of economic stability and prosperity in Europe.'

Statistical area

I

Framework programme 1993-97

1.2.4. Proposal for a Council Decision on the framework programme for priority actions in the field of statistical information 1993-97.

Previous programme: Council resolution on the implementation of a plan of priority actions in the field of statistical information (Statistical programme 1989-92): OJ L 181, 28.8.1989; Bull. EC 6-1989, point 2.6.1

Reference: Commission communication on the evolution of the European Statistical System: OJ C 47, 21.2.1992; COM(92) 20; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.4

Adopted by the Commission on 18 September. In this proposal for a framework programme 1993-97, the follow-up to its communication on the evolution of the European Statistical System, the Commission sets out the aims of the system as follows:

to implement a system of standards, methods and organizational structures capable of producing comparable, reliable and relevant statistics throughout the Community;

□ to provide the European institutions and the Member States with the information they need to implement, monitor and evaluate Community policies;

□ to disseminate statistical information to Europe in general and to all concerned with economic and social matters;

□ to seek to improve the statistical systems in the Member States and to support the development of statistics in developing countries and in those changing over to market economies.

To achieve these aims, the Commission intends to take priority action under sectoral programmes in each of the main areas of Community policy (the single market, social policy, cohesion, economic and monetary union, external relations and the development of statistical technologies and human resources). The Commission estimates the cost of implementing this programme at approximately ECU 181 million.

OJ C 277, 26.10.1992; COM(92) 395

II

General

1.2.5. Proposal for a Council Regulation on Community coordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes.

Adopted by the Commission on 3 September. Purpose: to set up business registers in the Member States, harmonized at Community level in order to ensure that the information collected is compatible and so enabling consistent Community statistics to be compiled.

COM(92) 352

1.2.6. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the European Community.

□ **Basic Regulation:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 on the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE): OJ L 293, 24.10.1990; Bull. EC 10-1990, point 1.7.1

Adopted by the Commission on 14 September. Purpose: to supplement Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 by defining the statistical units of the production system.

OJ C 267, 16.10.1992; COM(92) 353

Results

The industrial production situation in the Community

1.2.7. The July 1992 figures on industrial production dashed hopes of a recovery. Instead, the reverse occurred: all branches of industry showed a decline in production. The July index of industrial production for the European Community, adjusted for the number of working days, was 108.5 (1985 = 100), signifying a drop of 0.7% from the July 1991 production value. After seasonal adjustment, the July index was 114.0. Seasonally-adjusted Community production in the last three months for which figures are available (May, June and July) was 1.0% below the cumulative figure for February, March and April. Although figures on new orders in the Community, indicative of future production trends, were 2% higher in April/May than in the same period in 1991, they fell by 1% in June/July.

The following seasonally-adjusted industrial production figures (rate of decline over the last three months compared with the previous three) were recorded for the Member States: Italy -0.3%, United Kingdom -0.6%, Denmark -0.9% (June), Ireland -1%, France -1.3% (June), Netherlands -1.3%, Germany (West) -1.6%, Greece -2.5% (June), Spain -3.5% (June). Production is thus on the decline in all Member States.

In the United States of America, industrial production rose by 1.1% (rate of increase for the last three months compared with the previous three), while in Japan the downturn in industrial production continued at a rate of -2% (estimate).

The USA is thus showing a slight recovery, while production of all categories of goods in

Europe is stagnating and recession continues in Japan.

The breakdown by major groups of goods in EUR 12 is as follows:

intermediate goods: -1.5%

capital goods: -0.7%

consumer goods: 0.4%.

Unemployment in the Community

1.2.8. Eurostat estimates the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in the Community in August 1992 as 9.5%, representing no change compared with the previous months but an increase of 0.5% over August 1991.

The ILO puts the number out of work in August 1992 at 14 million (13.1 million in August 1991), an increase which is not evenly spread across the Community. The United Kingdom alone accounts for 51% of the newly unemployed, while Spain and Germany ('old' *Länder*) are in joint second position at 12% each.

Unemployment rates also differ from one Member State to another. The rate in the United Kingdom — the highest since June 1987 — is 11%. In Spain, based on the results of recent surveys which have only just become available, the rate is slightly above 17% for the first time since February 1989. Other countries, such as Denmark and Belgium, continue to show slight but persistent rises. Ireland shows the biggest increase over last year's figures (18.1% compared with 16.6%).

The Netherlands remain the only Member State with less unemployment this year than in 1991.

Information

Publications

1.2.9. New Eurostat publications available from sales offices:

Europe in Figures, 3rd edn, presenting a panorama of the European Community in figures and commentary;

Basic statistics of the Community: essential statistics in a pocket-sized format;

Family budgets;

Labour force survey Community content: 1992;

Environment statistics;

Sigma: two-monthly bulletin of European statistics;

Eurostat catalogue;

Human resources in Europe at the dawn of the 21st century.

Internal market

I

Implementation of the White Paper

1.2.10. Seventh report concerning the implementation of the White Paper on the completion of the internal market.

Reference: White Paper on completing the internal market: COM(85) 310; Bull. EC 6-1985, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.9

Previous report: COM(91) 237; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.8

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. This seventh and final annual report describes the progress made towards completing the internal market with just 120 days left before the 1 January 1993 deadline. It states that almost 90% of the measures provided for in the White Paper programme have been adopted. The situation is particularly encouraging in such fields as the opening-up of public procurement, European standardization, the opening-up of the market in financial services,

free movement of capital and the right of residence for Community citizens. The changes set in train in respect of technical standardization, freedom to provide services and the opening-up of public procurement have fundamentally modernized the environment for businesses, thereby boosting their competitiveness on external markets. Furthermore, substantial progress has been made in most of the fields in which difficulties had been identified in previous reports; this is particularly the case with indirect taxation and transport.

As a result of the Commission's withdrawal of certain proposals that are no longer necessary (→ points 1.2.15, 1.2.26, 1.2.29, 1.2.30, 1.2.36 and 1.2.76), the principal issues on which the Council has yet to take a decision (the Commission having for its part made all the proposals promised in the White Paper) concern the introduction of a Community trade mark, the creation of the Statute for a European Company, the abolition of double taxation, and certain frontier checks in the veterinary and plant health fields.

The Commission also reports an acceleration in the rate of incorporation of directives into national legislation in the Member States. A rate of 75% was achieved in August despite the increase in the number of directives to be transposed, and this demonstrates the political determination of the Member States to meet the 1 January 1993 deadline. It draws the Member States' attention, however, to the need to give priority to the entry into force of the intergovernmental agreements on which the abolition of checks on individuals is to be based.

The Commission identifies the following priorities for the next few months:

attainment of the objective of removing controls at frontiers by means of infrastructure adjustments and the adoption by Member States of the administrative measures needed to relocate the current controls;

finalization of the legislative work in progress to back up the removal of physical frontier checks; this applies in particular to shipments of waste, controls on exports of goods of cultural value and of strategic products, the free movement of certain agricultural products (bananas) and the free movement of pets;

the follow-up to the work of the Sutherland Group, which is to report to the Commission on the priorities for management of the single market after 1992.

COM(92) 383

VAT on passenger transport

1.2.11. Proposal for a Council Directive amending the sixth Directive (77/388/EEC) on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes as regards the value-added tax arrangements applicable to passenger transport.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 77/388/EEC: OJ L 145, 13.6.1977, as last amended by Council Directive 91/680/EEC: OJ L 376, 31.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.44

Adopted by the Commission on 30 September. The aim of this proposal is to abolish the border controls associated with the payment of VAT on passenger transport services. This is the last legislative proposal needed for the abolition of tax frontiers in connection with completion of the internal market.

The Commission's proposal provides for the abolition of the legal basis for such controls by laying down the principle of taxation of passenger transport in the country of departure and specifying that this principle is to apply as from 1 January 1993. In the case of journeys crossing a succession of Member States, a distinction will be made between the case of transit (where the entire journey is taxed in the country of departure) and the case of an extended stay in a country (where that country is then deemed to constitute a new place of departure and so taxes the remainder of the journey).

With regard to the rates applicable, the Commission is proposing that all the existing arrangements be maintained for a transitional period, and in particular the option open to Member States to maintain zero-rating for intra-Community passenger transport. The proposal also provides for a general VAT exemption for all modes of passenger transport to third countries so as not to cause any deflec-

tions of trade at the expense of Community transport operators.

COM(92) 416

II

Removal of physical frontiers

Checks on goods

General legislation

1.2.12. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing the Community customs code.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 128, 23.5.1990; COM(90) 71; Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.1.5
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 60, 8.3.1991; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.14
- Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 72, 18.3.1991; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.15
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 97, 13.4.1991; COM(91) 98; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.2.13
- Council common position:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.10

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 16 September, subject to a number of technical amendments.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.13. Parliament resolution on the internal market and the situation in the private customs sector.

- Reference:** Proposal for a Council Regulation on measures to adapt the profession of customs agent to the internal market: OJ C 220, 27.8.1992; COM(92) 328; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.14

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament welcomes the plan drawn up to help customs agents. It calls on Member States to implement this plan as quickly as possible.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Origin of goods

1.2.14. Council Regulations (EEC) Nos 2760/92 and 2761/92 extending the validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 4279/88 and 4281/88 concerning the safeguard measure laid down in Article 2 of Decision No 5/88 of the EEC-Iceland and EEC-Sweden Joint Committees amending Protocol 3.

- Commission proposals:** COM(92) 250; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.16

Adopted by the Council on 21 September.

OJ L 280, 24.9.1992

Free movement of persons

1.2.15. Proposal for a Council Directive on the easing of controls and formalities applicable to nationals of the Member States when crossing intra-Community borders.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 47, 19.2.1985; COM(84) 749; Bull. EC 12-1984, point 2.1.9
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 122, 20.5.1985; Bull. EC 4-1985, point 2.1.5
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 169, 8.7.1985; Bull. EC 4-1985, point 2.4.32
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 131, 30.5.1985; COM(85) 224; Bull. EC 5-1985, point 2.1.9

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

Removal of technical frontiers

Free movement of goods

Motor vehicles

1.2.16. Proposals for Council Directives on the masses and dimensions, the identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators, the audible warning devices, the stands, the protective devices intended to prevent unauthorized use, the mounting of the rear registration plate, the statutory markings, and the passenger hand-holds of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles.

Basic Directive: Council Directive 92/61/EEC relating to the type-approval of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles: OJ L 225, 10.8.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.20

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. These eight proposals are being put forward in the context of the implementation of the framework Directive on the type-approval of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles, which calls for the complete harmonization of the characteristics of such vehicles in view of their safety and environmental implications.

COM(92) 330 to 337

1.2.17. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the braking of two- and three-wheeled motor vehicles; proposal for a Council Regulation on the maximum design speed, maximum torque and maximum net engine power of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles; proposal for a Council Regulation on the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles.

Commission proposal: OJ C 93, 13.4.1992; COM(91) 496 to 498; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, points 1.3.29 to 1.3.31

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September, subject to comments of a technical nature or concerning the committee procedure.

1.2.18. Proposal for a Council Directive relating to the mechanical coupling devices of motor vehicles and their trailers and their attachment to these vehicles.

Commission proposal: OJ C 134, 25.5.1992; COM(92) 108; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.18

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September, subject to comments aimed at ensuring that stricter requirements than those of the ISO standards and of Regulation No 55 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe are not imposed on manufacturers and do not lead to an increase in vehicle selling prices.

Industrial products

1.2.19. Proposal for a Council Directive on the supervision and placing on the market of

explosives for civil uses and the mutual recognition of authorizations and approvals relating to such explosives.

Commission proposal: OJ C 121, 13.5.1992; COM(92) 123; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.13

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September, subject to comments of a technical nature.

1.2.20. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to recreational craft.

Commission proposal: OJ C 123, 15.5.1992; COM(92) 141; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.15

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September, subject to comments of a technical nature.

Pharmaceutical products

1.2.21. Council Directive 92/73/EEC widening the scope of Directives 65/65/EEC and 75/319/EEC on the approximation of provisions laid down by law, Regulation or administrative action relating to proprietary medicinal products and establishing complementary provisions for homeopathic medicines.

Directives amended:
Council Directive 65/65/EEC: OJ L 22, 9.2.1965

Council Directive 75/319/EEC: OJ L 147, 9.6.1975

Commission proposal: OJ C 108, 1.5.1990; COM(90) 72; Bull. EC 3-1990, point 1.1.16

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 332, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.23

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 183, 15.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.24

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 244, 19.9.1991; COM(91) 313

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.27

Council common position: Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.37

Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.24

Re-examined Commission proposal: COM(92) 372; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.24

Adopted by the Council on 22 September. The Directive extends Community legislation on medicinal products for human use to homeopathic medicinal products.

OJ L 297, 13.10.1992

1.2.22. Council Directive 92/74/EEC widening the scope of Directive 81/851/EEC on the approximation of the laws, Regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to veterinary medicinal products and establishing complementary provisions for homeopathic veterinary medicines.

- Directive amended:** Council Directive 81/851/EEC; OJ L 317, 6.11.1981
- Commission proposal:** OJ C 108, 1.5.1990; COM(90) 72; Bull. EC 3-1990, point 1.1.16
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 332, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.24
- Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 183, 15.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.29
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 244, 19.9.1991; COM(91) 313
- Council agreement on a common position:** Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.38
- Council common position:** Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.23
- Parliament opinion (second reading):** OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.25
- Re-examined Commission proposal:** COM(92) 372; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.25

Adopted by the Council on 22 September. The Directive extends Community legislation on veterinary medicines to homeopathic medicinal products.

OJ L 297, 13.10.1992

Foodstuffs

1.2.23. Proposal for a Council Directive on assistance to the Commission and cooperation by the Member States in the scientific examination of questions relating to food.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 108, 23.4.1991; COM(91) 16; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.2.8
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 14, 20.1.1992; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.10
- Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.25

- Amended Commission proposal:** COM(92) 128; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.25

Common position adopted by the Council on 22 September. The proposal aims to provide the Commission and the Scientific Committee for Food with the necessary resources for carrying out the various scientific and pre-legislative tasks relating to foodstuffs and to lay down detailed arrangements for cooperation between the Member States, the Commission and the Scientific Committee for Food in this field.

1.2.24. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 57, 4.3.1992; COM(91) 523; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.43
- Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 125, 18.5.1992; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.21
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 223, 31.8.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.22

Common position adopted by the Council on 22 September. The proposal is designed to harmonize the procedures for determining the toxicity of contaminants in food and to prohibit the marketing of food containing excessive quantities of contaminants.

1.2.25. Proposal for a Council Directive on colours for use in foodstuffs.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 12, 18.1.1992; COM(91) 444; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.29

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September, subject to various comments concerning the updating of the lists of authorized colours, information for consumers and the arrangements for products specific to certain Member States. The Committee also proposes numerous technical amendments.

1.2.26. Proposal for a Council Directive relating to the introduction of compulsory nutrition labelling of foodstuffs intended for sale to the final consumer.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 282, 5.11.1988; COM(88) 489; Bull. EC 9-1988, point 2.1.9
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 159, 26.6.1989; Bull. EC 4-1989, point 2.1.28

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 158, 25.6.1989; Bull. EC 5-1989, point 2.1.27

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

1.2.27. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning fruit juices and certain similar products.

Directive to be consolidated: Council Directive 75/726/EEC: OJ L 311, 1.12.1975, as last amended by Directive 89/394/EEC: OJ L 186, 30.6.1989

Commission proposal: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.24

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee takes the view, however, that some of the legislation to be consolidated should be revised.

Public procurement

1.2.28. Proposal for a Council Directive coordinating procedures for the award of public supply contracts.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 77/62/EEC coordinating procedures for the award of public supply contracts: OJ L 13, 15.1.1977, as last amended by Directive 92/50/EEC: OJ L 209, 24.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.7

Adopted by the Commission on 7 September. The proposal provides for legislative consolidation of Directive 77/62/EEC.

OJ C 277, 26.10.1992; COM(92) 346

Creation of a financial area

1.2.29. Proposal for a Council Regulation on securities given by credit institutions or insurance undertakings.

Commission proposal: OJ C 51, 28.1.1989; COM(88) 805; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.141

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 159, 26.6.1989; Bull. EC 4-1989, point 2.1.12

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 68, 19.3.1990; Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.1.26

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 53, 28.2.1991; COM(90) 567; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.30

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

Removal of tax frontiers

Turnover taxes (VAT)

1.2.30. Proposal for a Council Directive instituting a process of convergence of rates of value-added tax and excise duties.

Commission proposal: OJ C 250, 18.9.1987; COM(87) 324; Bull. EC 7/8-1987, point 1.2.4

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 237, 12.9.1988; Bull. EC 7/8-1988, point 2.4.58

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

Excise duties and other indirect taxes

1.2.31. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 72/464/EEC and 79/32/EEC on taxes other than turnover taxes which are levied on the consumption of manufactured tobacco (harmonization of structures).

Commission proposal: OJ C 322, 21.12.1990; COM(90) 433; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.4

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 69, 18.3.1991; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.40

Parliament opinion: OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.34

Council agreement: Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.34

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 24 September.

COM(92) 368

1.2.32. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of taxes on cigarettes.

Commission proposal: OJ C 251, 19.9.1987; COM(87) 325; Bull. EC 7/8-1987, points 1.2.1 and 1.2.3

- Initial Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 237, 12.9.1988; Bull. EC 7/8-1988, point 2.4.59
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 12, 18.1.1990; COM(89) 525; Bull. EC 10-1989, point 2.1.38
- Second Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 225, 10.9.1990; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.43
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.35

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 24 September.

COM(92) 370

1.2.33. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of taxes on manufactured tobacco other than cigarettes.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 251, 19.9.1987; COM(87) 326; Bull. EC 7/8-1987, points 1.2.1 and 1.2.3
- Initial Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 237, 12.9.1988; Bull. EC 7/8-1988, point 2.4.59
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 12, 18.1.1990; COM(89) 525; Bull. EC 10-1989, point 2.1.38
- Second Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 225, 10.9.1990; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.43
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.36

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 24 September.

COM(92) 370

1.2.34. Proposal for a Council Directive on the harmonization of the structures of excise duties on alcoholic beverages and on the alcohol contained in other products.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 322, 21.12.1990; COM(90) 432; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.3.
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 69, 18.3.1991; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.39
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 67, 16.3.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.57

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 24 September.

COM(92) 369

1.2.35. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the rates of excise duty

on alcoholic beverages and on the alcohol contained in other products.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 250, 18.9.1987; COM(87) 328; Bull. EC 7/8-1987, points 1.2.1 and 1.2.3
- Initial Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 237, 12.9.1988; Bull. EC 7/8-1988, point 2.4.61
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 12, 18.1.1990; COM(89) 527; Bull. EC 10-1989, point 2.1.38
- Second Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 225, 10.9.1990; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.41
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.37

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 24 September.

COM(92) 369

1.2.36. Proposal for a Council Directive laying down rules on indirect taxes on the consumption of alcoholic drinks.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 114, 8.5.1985; COM(85) 50; Bull. EC 4-1985, point 2.1.47
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 330, 20.12.1985; Bull. EC 10-1985, point 2.5.58
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 36, 17.2.1986; Bull. EC 1-1986, point 2.1.60

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

Competition

Application of the competition rules to businesses: specific cases

Mergers

Commission decisions under the Merger Control Regulation

- Reference:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 on the control of concentrations

between undertakings: OJ L 395, 30.12.1989 (corrected version: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990); Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.78; Supplement 2/90 — Bull. EC

Volvo/Lex

1.2.37. *Adopted on 3 September.* The decision authorizes the planned acquisition by Volvo Car Corporation of Lex, its Irish distributor, which has hitherto been independent. Involving only small market shares, this transaction presents no risk as regards its impact on the markets concerned (cars and spare parts). There is, however, a procedural interest inasmuch as the transaction follows a previous acquisition by Volvo of its UK distributor. This fact has led the Commission to apply for the first time Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89, which lays down that, in such cases, the two transactions must be treated as one and the same concentration arising on the date of the last transaction.

OJ C 239, 18.9.1992

Elf Aquitaine/Thyssen/Minol AG

1.2.38. *Adopted on 4 September.* The decision authorizes the repurchase from the Treuhandanstalt by a consortium led by the company Elf of German petroleum assets made up essentially of the Minol distribution network and two oil refineries situated in the former GDR. It has been possible to adopt this decision within the one-month time-limit owing to the undertakings given by Elf and the Treuhand that they would establish a competitive situation. The Commission had considered that Elf could obtain a significant competitive advantage *vis-à-vis* its competitors through its management of the existing refineries pending the construction of the new refinery and through its access to storage facilities. It also considered that the acquisition of Minol's service station network would not give Elf a dominant position because the market in the new *Länder* was evolving very quickly.

Avesta/British Steel/NCC

1.2.39. *Adopted on 4 September.* The decision authorizes the creation of a joint venture in the

stainless steel sector between British Steel and the three main shareholders of the Swedish company Avesta AB (NCC, AGA and Axel Johnson). The shareholders' agreement provides for joint control of the joint venture, which will produce and distribute stainless-steel products. The Commission has concluded that the merger does not raise any serious doubts concerning its compatibility with the common market as far as the stainless-steel products covered by the EEC Treaty are concerned. It is continuing its investigations with regard to products covered by the ECSC Treaty, both authorizations being necessary if the operation is to be allowed to take place.

Allianz/DKV

1.2.40. *Adopted on 10 September.* The decision allows Allianz to take control of DKV. The Commission has given the go-ahead to a proposed merger by which Allianz AG Holding will take control of Deutsche Krankenversicherung AG through an exchange of shares with Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG. This transaction will neither create nor strengthen a dominant position on the common market.

CCIE/GTE

1.2.41. *Adopted on 25 September.* The decision approves the purchase by Citicorp of GTE's international activities in the lighting sector. This transaction is linked to the purchase by Siemens/Osram of GTE's US activities in the same sector. Since Citicorp is a financial investor, competition problems may arise only as a result of the agreements between Citicorp and Siemens/Osram concerning the supply of parts, finance and technological back-up by Siemens/Osram to GTE's international division. Since these agreements do not have any appreciable effects on competition on the lighting market, they may be considered accessory to the merger.

Linde AG/Fiat OM Carrelli Elevatori

1.2.42. *Adopted on 28 September.* The Commission has decided not to oppose the acqui-

sition by the German company Linde of 51% of the capital of Fiat OM Carrelli. Both companies manufacture lift trucks and warehouse equipment. The operation will enable Linde to consolidate its position on the handling equipment market in general and on the market in lift trucks in particular, on which it will strengthen its leading position. However, the increase in market shares is modest. Moreover, international competition is keen, especially from companies with a global dimension. No dominant position will therefore be created.

Ahold/Jeronimo Martins

1.2.43. Adopted on 29 September. The decision authorizes the creation of a joint venture between Koninklijke Ahold N.V., the Dutch food distribution giant, and the Portuguese enterprise Estabelecimentos Jeronimo Martins e Filhos. The activities of the joint venture will relate to the retail distribution of food products in Portugal, a market on which Ahold has not hitherto been active.

Du Pont/ICI

□ **Reference:** Procedures for an in-depth investigation initiated: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.31

1.2.44. Adopted on 30 September. The decision authorizes Du Pont's acquisition of ICI's nylon business, subject to a series of undertakings. In view of the risk of a dominant position being established on the market for nylon fibres used in the manufacture of carpets, Du Pont has given undertakings which will enable a competitor to acquire a major share of ICI's production capacity for the fibres in question, together with related R&D facilities.

Given these undertakings from Du Pont and the existence of some competitive pressure from polypropylene, the Commission has taken the view that the acquisition would not create a dominant position on the common market.

The Advisory Committee on Concentrations unanimously supported this proposal.

Application of the competition rules to government intervention

State aid

Decisions to raise no objection

Germany

1.2.45. Commission decision on aid to Hoechst Guben GmbH.

Adopted on 16 September. The aid will take the form of grants totalling DM 38.496 million under three schemes already approved and of special depreciation arrangements (also approved). The programme will lead to a 30% reduction in capacity and a reduction in the workforce. Since the investments are to take place in the *Land* of Brandenburg (former GDR), the Commission considers that the programme will be effective in helping to resolve social and regional problems by speeding up and facilitating the restructuring process.

1.2.46. Commission decision on research projects entrusted by businesses in the new Länder to research institutes or other businesses.

□ **Reference:** Community framework for State aid for research and development: OJ C 83, 11.4.1986; Bull. EC 3-1986, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

Adopted on 16 September. The scheme in question had been introduced by the authorities of the former GDR. It is compatible with the abovementioned framework since, among other things, the maximum aid intensity is 25%.

1.2.47. Commission decision on aid to Maerische Faser AG.

Adopted on 30 September. This aid will take the form of a DM 39.2 million grant and a DM 41 million guarantee under two schemes already approved. The programme will lead to reductions in capacity of 41.1% for acrylic fibres and 13.70% for polyester fibres and to a reduction in the workforce. Since the investments are to take place in the *Land* of Brandenburg (former GDR), the Commission considers that the programme will be effective in

helping to resolve social and regional problems by speeding up and facilitating the restructuring process.

Spain

1.2.48. Commission decision on aid to Grupo de Empresas Alvarez S.A.

Adopted on 16 September. The Commission has taken the view that, of the financial assistance granted by INI when the group in question was being restructured and privatized, PTA 3 126 million (ECU 24 million) was aid which had not been notified in advance as required by Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty. However, it has decided that this aid was compatible with the common market since it reduced the group's production capacity, thereby making it possible to restore its viability, in a region (Galicia) where living standards are particularly low and where there is serious underemployment.

1.2.49. Commission decision on aid to non-energy-related mining activities.

Adopted on 30 September. This aid is being granted for geological and mining prospecting, R&D in mines, mining safety, environmental protection in relation to mining, and mining investments. The aid for R&D and environmental protection is compatible with the corresponding frameworks, and the investment aid is compatible with the framework for regional aid.

Italy

1.2.50. Commission decision on aid to Iveco SpA for the 'Elena' project.

□ **References:**

Community framework for State aid for research and development: OJ C 83, 11.4.1986; Bull. EC 3-1986, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6.

Framework for State aid to the motor vehicle industry: OJ C 123, 18.5.1989; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.137.

Adopted on 16 September. This project relates principally to research into truck engine and transmission systems. The aid will take the

form of a low-interest loan with an overall intensity of 17.4% gge.

Decisions to initiate proceedings under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty

Italy

1.2.51. Commission decision on further capital injections into Costruzioni metalliche Finsider Sud SpA (CMF Sud).

□ **References:**

Commission decision on aid to Costruzioni metalliche Finsider Sud SpA (CMF Sud): OJ C 122, 14.5.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.51

Judgment by the Court of Justice of 14 February 1990 in Case C-301/87 *Boussac*: Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.6.28

Adopted on 16 September. Injections have either already been made (LIT 48 886 million) or are planned (LIT 14 800 million). They are being provided by CMF Sud's sole shareholder, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale (IRI), and come on top of those which were the subject of proceedings initiated on 11 March 1992. In view of the company's situation, these injections rank as aid. Proceedings must therefore be initiated in order to assess whether or not they are compatible with the common market. The Italian authorities have been reminded of the case-law resulting from the judgment of the Court of Justice in the *Boussac* case.

1.2.52. Commission decision on measures aimed at reconstructing La Valtellina.

□ **Reference:** Judgment by the Court of Justice of 14 February 1990 in Case C-301/87 *Boussac*: Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.6.28

Adopted on 30 September. The Commission considers that the grants, interest-rate subsidies and low-interest loans, the support for productive activity defined in Article 5(1)(c) of Italian Law No 102/91, the contributions to guarantee funds, the tax reductions and exemptions and the reduction in energy prices constitute aid which goes beyond the mere restoration of businesses destroyed or damaged by

natural disasters and do not therefore qualify for the derogation laid down in Article 92(2)(b) of the Treaty. Nor do they seem eligible for any other derogation in the Treaty. It is therefore necessary to initiate proceedings, and the Italian authorities have been reminded in that connection of the case-law resulting from the judgment of the Court of Justice in the *Boussac* case. On the other hand, business reconstruction measures and compensation for damage have already been considered compatible with Article 92(2)(b) of the EEC Treaty.

Decision to terminate proceedings under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty

Luxembourg

1.2.53. Commission decision on aid to Technofibres SA.

Adopted on 30 September. With proceedings now completed, the Commission considers that the proposed aid amounting to LFR 13.3 million (ECU 370 000) may be authorized since it does not lead to any increase in the firm's capacity in the synthetic fibres sector.

Enterprise policy, industrial policy and services

Industrial policy

Industrial strategies

1.2.54. Parliament resolution on the Community's role in the supervision of arms exports and the armaments industry.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament calls for matters pertaining to armaments production and the arms trade to be brought within the Community ambit and for Article 223 of the EEC Treaty to be deleted so that Member States can no longer oppose the formulation of

a common policy by invoking national security interests. It urges Member States to pursue a policy of disarmament and to cut off arms exports to countries whose military capability is sufficient for their own defence. It considers that conversion of the arms industry should be one of the Community's priority concerns.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.55. Parliament resolution on the European leather and tanning industry.

Adopted on 18 September. Parliament considers that the Community should support the leather and tanning industry's efforts to adapt and specialize. It calls on the Commission to ensure that the industry is involved in programmes for the development of clean, advanced technologies and in vocational training programmes and that it has access to instruments designed to assist small and medium-sized firms. With regard to the industry's involvement in international trade, Parliament expresses concern about the drastic restrictions on the export of raw hides introduced by some developing countries, the barriers protecting certain markets (particularly the Japanese market) and the increase in counterfeiting or imitation. It calls on the Commission to take account of these difficulties in the Uruguay Round negotiations and to work towards the general observance of minimum working conditions and environmental standards.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Research and technology

I

Fourth framework programme (1994-98)

1.2.56. Commission working document concerning the fourth framework programme of

Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1994-98).

□ **References:**

Council Decision 90/221/EEC, Euratom concerning the framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1990-94): OJ L 117, 8.5.1990; Bull. EC 4-1990, point 1.1.54

Commission communication to the Council 'From the Single Act to Maastricht and beyond: the means to match our ambitions': COM(92) 2000; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.2.1; Supplement 1/92 — Bull EC

Commission communication to the Council on the Community's finances between now and 1997: COM(92) 2001; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.1.2

Commission communication to the Council: SEC(92) 682; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.60; Supplement 2/92 — Bull. EC

Approved by the Commission on 30 September. This working document follows on from the guidelines set out in the communication 'Research after Maastricht'. It covers all the Community research and technological development (R&TD) and demonstration activities covered by the Treaty, i.e. not only precompetitive research but also activities relating to the implementation of the common policies (CAP, fisheries, energy, transport, environment, etc.).

Bringing all research activities under the framework programme is intended to ensure that research policy and the major common policies are more integrated and reinforce each other, and to make for greater transparency in R&TD policy. The content of the framework programme has been determined on the basis of two major objectives: (i) to improve the competitiveness of European industry, and (ii) to enhance the quality of life for individuals and society at large. The Commission therefore proposes that Community research should not only be placed at the service of industry but should also focus on a range of problems centred on Europe and society, in particular health, the struggle against social exclusion, climatic change and nuclear safety.

The document also gives explicit consideration to the principle of subsidiarity, which will be a fundamental criterion for the selection of

research projects. The Commission has identified five typical cases where the objectives of the proposed action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can therefore, by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action, be better achieved by the Community:

□ 'big science' activities necessitating a pooling of resources at Community level, e.g. controlled thermonuclear fusion;

□ technological priority activities entailing massive investment and benefiting a large number of industrial sectors;

□ common policies helping to establish the single market;

□ prenormative research;

□ research aimed at developing an integrated system of networks and stimulating measures for the European scientific community.

The structure of the framework programme proposed by the Commission reflects the four priority activities described in the Treaty:

□ implementation of research, technological development and demonstration programmes, by promoting cooperation with and between undertakings, research centres and universities, with the emphasis on the strategic role of generic technologies;

□ promotion of cooperation with third countries and international organizations;

□ dissemination and optimization of the results of R&TD activities, particularly for SMEs;

□ stimulation of the training and mobility of researchers in the Community.

These activities will be implemented by means of specific programmes.

The working document takes into account the financial perspective set out by the Commission in its communication on the Community's finances between now and 1997. The amount of resources deemed necessary to implement the framework programme is ECU 14.7 billion for the period 1994-98, with ECU 11.6 billion for the first activity, ECU

1.4 billion for the second, ECU 0.7 billion for the third and ECU 1 billion for the last.

As the legal basis for Community R&TD activities will change on ratification by the Member States of the Treaty on European Union, this working document sets out the recitals and articles of a possible future proposal for a Decision in two alternative versions: one in accordance with the Single Act, the other based on the Treaty on European Union.

COM(92) 406

The Community and space

1.2.57. Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on the European Community and space: challenges, opportunities and new actions.

- Reference:** Commission communication to the Council on a programme of strategic measures in aeronautical research and technology for Europe: COM(88) 294; Bull. EC 6-1988, point 2.1.61

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. In this communication, which updates and expands on the 1988 communication on aeronautical research for Europe, the Commission explains what is at stake and sets out guidelines for increased support for the Community for the European space effort. The Commission points out that, almost exclusively thanks to the efforts of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the national agencies, Europe has developed a reputable technological and industrial capability in space. It should now make a determined effort to stimulate demand in order to develop the application of space-related activities in Europe's socioeconomic fabric. The Commission has identified a series of challenges facing Europe:

- development of space applications, in particular earth observation and satellite communications;
- increased international competition in the markets for launch services, ground equipment and satellites. In the last two areas, the competitiveness of the European space industry remains inadequate, in particular as a result of

the fragmentation and relatively small size of the European market;

- the budgetary restrictions on the publicly financed space programmes.

The Commission considers that the Community should lend greater support to the European space effort, in particular in the definition and implementation of a European space policy. It sets out five priority objectives:

- encouraging and supporting the development and exploitation of earth observation applications, in particular by contributing to the establishment of a European system for the study and monitoring of the environment;
- guaranteeing appropriate regulatory conditions allowing the development of new markets for satellite telecommunication services;
- improving synergy between Community R&TD programmes and the programmes of the ESA and the Member States;
- promoting the competitiveness of the space industry within the framework of the Community's industrial and commercial policies;
- encouraging the development of balanced international cooperation, in particular with the independent States of the former Soviet Union and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

COM(92) 360

II

Research

1.2.58. Parliament resolution on Europe's response to the challenge of modern technology.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament noted that the provisions of the Treaty on European Union relating to research and development policy no longer restrict it to promoting the Community's competitiveness at international level. It considered that research should in particular respond to major chal-

lenges such as feeding the world's population, preserving the climate and the environment, energy production and supply, the economic and technological development of Central and Eastern Europe and the stability of the countries of the Mediterranean basin.

Parliament recommended increasing Community and national funding for research and development in order to reduce the gap between the Community and the United States and Japan, and changing the administration of the research and development programmes to make them more effective and more transparent.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.59. Parliament resolution on improving its sources of scientific and technological information.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Taking into account its shared legislative role with regard to research and development, as provided for in the Treaty on European Union, Parliament considered that its sources of scientific and technological information should be improved both internally by increasing its human and financial resources and at interinstitutional level by redefining its relations with the Community scientific committees.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Telecommunications, information services and industry

Information technology

1.2.60. Proposal for a Council recommendation on common information-technology security evaluation criteria (→ point 1.2.150).

ITT standardization

1.2.61. Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on standardization in the field of information technology and telecommunications.

- **Reference:** Council Decision 87/95/EEC on standardization in the field of information technology and telecommunications: OJ L 36, 7.2.1987; Bull. EC 12-1986, point 2.1.76

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. This report, presented in compliance with Council Decision 87/95, describes progress on standardization in the field of information technology and telecommunications during 1990 and 1991: the extension of the technical fields covered by standardization, the development of standardization tools and procedures, the launch of projects for applying the standards in the Member States (e.g. user guides) and promotion and information schemes aimed at the general public.

SEC(92) 1598

Transport

I

Infrastructure costs

1.2.62. Proposal for a Council Directive on the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles.

- **Reference:** Judgment of the Court of Justice of 19 May 1992, Case C-195/90, Commission v. Germany: charge for the use of roads by heavy goods vehicles: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.7.29
- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 79, 26.3.1988; COM(87) 716; Bull. EC 12-1987, point 2.1.275
- **Initial Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 208, 8.8.1988; Bull. EC 6-1988, point 2.4.52

Initial Parliament opinion: OJ C 158, 26.6.1989; Bull. EC 5-1989, point 2.1.214

First amended Commission proposal: OJ C 75, 20.3.1991; COM(90) 540; Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.3.182

Second Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 159, 17.6.1991; Bull. EC 4-1991, point 1.2.52

Second Parliament opinion: OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.76

Second amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 30 September. The aim of this amended proposal, which is part of the groundwork for the completion of the internal market, is to establish a transitional framework prior to the adoption of a definitive Community system for the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles. The definitive arrangements will be based on the principle of territoriality, whereby charges will be levied where the infrastructure is used.

The system has a twofold objective: charging road infrastructure costs to users while at the same time strengthening the principle of equal treatment for all Community carriers.

The transitional system involves the setting of minimum rates of tax for commercial vehicles of more than 12 tonnes and the possibility for the Member States to introduce motorway user charges (tax stickers, tolls, etc.).

The introduction of motorway user charges has been made subject to a number of conditions:

charges should be levied without discrimination based on a user's nationality or place of establishment;

their level should be linked to the infrastructure costs;

there should be no controls at internal frontiers;

they should correspond to the use made of infrastructure in the Member State concerned; they must therefore be proportional to the period in which infrastructure is used (e.g. a year, a month, a week or a day);

means of payment should be available in the other Member States;

the application, compliance with and enforcement of the system should not lead to an excessive amount of red tape.

COM(92) 405

Computerized reservation systems for air tickets

1.2.63. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89 on a code of conduct for computerized reservation systems for air tickets (CRSs).

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 2299/89 on a code of conduct for computerized reservation systems: OJ L 220, 29.7.1989; Bull. EC 7/8-1989, point 2.1.204

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. The aim of the proposal is to promote competition between air carriers and provide users with better information by adapting the code of conduct for CRSs. These systems, which provide all the necessary flight information and through which reservations can be made, currently account for 80% of all tickets sold in the Community. They are owned by major airlines, but other airlines may subscribe to them for a fee.

The modification is essentially aimed at ensuring that:

information provided by an airline to its own computerized reservation system is made available to all other systems upon request;

the airlines which own the systems do not make use of their position to discriminate against the subscribing airlines.

Furthermore, it is proposed to abolish the distinction between charter and scheduled flights, and to allow travel agents to acquire software other than that provided by the computerized reservation systems.

COM(92) 404

II

General policy

Transport and environment

1.2.64. Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment: a Community strategy for sustainable mobility.

□ **Green Paper:** COM(92) 46; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.111

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 24 September. The Committee made specific suggestions for attaining the goal of sustainable mobility to enable transport to continue playing its essential economic and social role with minimum harm to the environment.

Resolution adopted by Parliament on 18 September. Parliament welcomed the contents of the document and expressed the hope that it would be used as a basis for a White Paper outlining practical measures. It called on the Commission and the Council to encourage the implementation of taxation measures aimed at promoting the use of environmentally friendly means of transport, with the revenue being used to finance a fund to encourage environmentally friendly transport. It also called on the Commission to further the development of such modes of transport in general, with particular reference to the network of high-speed rail links.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Taxation

1.2.65. Proposal for a Council Directive amending the Sixth Directive 77/388/EEC on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes — common system of value-added tax applicable to passenger transport (→ point 1.2.11).

Infrastructure

Transport networks

1.2.66. Parliament resolution on transport and regional development.

□ **Reference:** Council conclusions on high-speed trains: Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.272

Adopted by Parliament on 18 September. Parliament noted that the transport infrastructure networks in the central regions of the Community and those in the peripheral regions are at different levels of development and that this difference hinders the latter's economic progress. It welcomed the Community's initiative intended to narrow the gap, in particular by means of the Community support frameworks. It also welcomed the Council's conclusions on high-speed railways and called on the Commission to put forward proposals for upgrading regional rail networks, integrating them into the overall Community rail network and linking them with the other modes of transport. It also called on the Commission to take on board the particular needs of the peripheral regions when proposing measures to liberalize the transport industry.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Inland transport

Rail transport

1.2.67. Parliament resolution on proposals to abolish the Interrail scheme.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament called on the railway companies and authorities of the Member States to preserve the Interrail scheme, under which a card can be purchased to provide free movement on the European railway network. In Parliament's view the system had encouraged use of railways and helped promote the ideal of European integration.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Air transport

1.2.68. Parliament resolution on saturation of airspace and air traffic control.

Adopted by Parliament on 18 September. Noting the lack of coordination and integration of

European airspace, Parliament considered that the development of a Community policy for civil aviation and the establishment of an internal market in that sector called for a common policy on infrastructure, safety, the environment and the harmonization of social aspects and technical standards.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

International cooperation

1.2.69. Agreements on the transit of goods between the Community and Austria and between the Community and Switzerland.

- Commission recommendation on the negotiations:** Bull. EC 9-1988, point 2.1.135
- Negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.341
- Council agreement:** Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.53
- Agreements initialled:** Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.113
- Commission proposal on the conclusion of the Agreements:** COM(92) 107; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.82
- Council decision on the signature of the Agreements:** Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.76
- Signature of the Agreements:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.1
- Amended Commission proposal concerning the conclusion of the Agreements:** COM(92) 350; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.99

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September.

1.2.70. Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters amending the exchanges of letters between the European Economic Community and Hungary concerning transit and land transport infrastructure and Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters amending the exchanges of letters between the European Economic Community and Czechoslovakia concerning transit and land transport infrastructure.

- Association Agreements with Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia:** Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee deliv-

ered a favourable opinion on these Agreements signed on 16 December 1991 in the framework of the Association Agreements.

Russia

1.2.71. The Transport Minister, Mr Efimov, visited the Commission on 29 September.

Mr Efimov saw Mr Van Miert, with whom he discussed in particular the need to pursue the Community programmes providing technical assistance for Russia's transport projects.

Energy

I

Household appliances

1.2.72. Council Directive 92/75/EEC on the indication by labelling and standard product information of the consumption of energy and other resources by household appliances.

- Reference:** Council Decision concerning the promotion of energy efficiency in the Community (SAVE programme): OJ L 307, 8.11.1991; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.62
- Commission proposal:** OJ C 235, 10.9.1991; COM(91) 285; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.121
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 49, 24.2.1992; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.121
- Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 125, 18.5.1992; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.81
- Council common position:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.81
- Parliament opinion (second reading):** OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.104

Adopted by the Council on 22 September. This Directive is a measure under the SAVE programme and represents an important aspect of the Community's strategy to improve energy

efficiency, particularly in the light of the completion of the internal market.

It aims to enable consumers to choose more energy-efficient household appliances.

OJ L 297, 13.10.1992

II

Individual sectors

Solid fuels

1.2.73. Commission report on the market for solid fuels in the Community in 1991 and the outlook for 1992 (revised version).

- Previous version:** Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.88

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. This is an updated version based on information provided by the Member States in June 1992.

Relations with third countries which produce or import energy

Nuclear fusion

1.2.74. Proposal for a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to conclude with the Russian Federation the Cooperation Agreements based on Article 101(2) of the Euratom Treaty envisaged in the Decision of 17 June 1991.

- Proposal for a Decision:** Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.102
- Negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.99

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. The three Cooperation Agreements covered by the proposal concern:

- controlled nuclear fusion;
- nuclear safety;

- transfers of nuclear materials between the parties.

Social dimension

I

Employment in the 1990s

1.2.75. Commission working document on employment and the labour market in the 1990s.

Adopted by the Commission on 30 September. In this document, the Commission presents a detailed examination of the functioning of the labour market in Europe, focusing on the prospects for creating employment against a background of low economic growth, with the aim of launching a wide-ranging debate amongst the various authorities and individuals concerned.

This process of dialogue should make it possible to identify the key objectives and priority actions in the field of employment, so that the problems, in particular unemployment, can be tackled effectively, while at the same time reinforcing the respective roles of the Member States, the Community and the social partners, and intensifying cooperation and partnership.

II

Employment

Free movement of workers

1.2.76. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning the harmonization of income taxation provisions with respect to freedom of movement for workers within the Community.

- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 21, 26.1.1980; COM(79) 737; Bull. EC 12-1979, point 2.1.58
- **Parliament opinion:** OJ C 149, 14.6.1982; Bull. EC 5-1982, point 2.4.15

Proposal withdrawn by the Commission on 2 September.

European Social Fund and other structural measures

1.2.77. Structural measures are now dealt with under the heading 'Economic and social cohesion'.

Health and safety at work

1.2.78. Parliament resolution on the protection of pregnant women at work.

□ References:

Proposal for a Council Directive concerning measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of pregnant workers, women workers who have recently given birth and those who are breastfeeding: COM(92) 259; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.106

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 19, 28.1.1991; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.99

Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.96

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament believed that it was of crucial importance to reach agreement on the proposal for a Directive relating to pregnant women and, pointing out that it had put forward amendments under the cooperation procedure, reiterated its view that pregnancy should not be equated with sickness. It believed that its proposal for a guaranteed income could be achieved within three years from the date on which the Directive enters into force. Parliament also called for the Directive to lay down a specific obligation for the Member States to maintain established national rights in this area.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.79. Proposal for a Council Directive on the protection of young people at work.

- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 84, 4.4.1992; COM(91) 543; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.121

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 24 September. The Committee nevertheless felt that there was too much scope for derogation.

Solidarity

Social integration of disabled people

1.2.80. Parliament resolution on the TIDE programme.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament, mindful of the fact that the use of new technologies can greatly enhance the lives of disabled people, called on the Community to launch a substantive programme of research for 1993-94 in order to preserve the continuity of the TIDE programme (Technology for the socioeconomic integration of disabled and elderly people).

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

International cooperation

Japan

1.2.81. Visit by Ms V. Papandreou, Member of the Commission, from 21 to 23 September.

Ms V. Papandreou, accompanied by a delegation of representatives of the social partners, met the Minister of Labour, Mr Kondo, and the Minister of Health, Mr Yamashita.

Talks focused on the organization of work and the continuing training of employees.

Education, vocational training and youth

Exchange of national officials

1.2.82. Council Decision 92/481/EEC on the adoption of an action plan for the exchange

between Member State administrations of national officials who are engaged in the implementation of Community legislation required to achieve the internal market.

- **Reference:** Council Decision 91/341/EEC on the adoption of a programme of Community action on the subject of the vocational training of customs officials (the Mattheus programme): OJ L 187, 13.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.14
- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 299, 20.11.1991; COM(91) 408; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.6
- **Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 98, 21.4.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.136
- **Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 94, 13.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.100
- **Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 92, 11.4.1992; COM(92) 113; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.100
- **Council common position:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.99
- **Parliament opinion (second reading):** OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.127
- **Re-examined Commission proposal:** COM(92) 379; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.127

Adopted by the Council on 22 September. The action plan uses as a model the 'Mattheus' programme, extending it to the internal market field as a whole.

The objective is to allow a more homogeneous approach to the implementation of Community legislation by making national officials aware of the European dimension of their work and by building mutual confidence between Member State administrations.

The financial resources considered necessary for implementing this five-year action plan amount to ECU 17.3 million. An overall figure of 1 900 participants is anticipated.

OJ L 286, 1.10.1992

Information for young people

1.2.83. Communication from the Commission to the Council and Parliament concerning a priority action plan to improve information for young people in the Community.

□ **References:**

Council resolution on priority actions in the youth field: OJ C 208, 9.8.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.104

Conclusions of the Council and of the Ministers meeting within the Council on an information action programme for young Europeans: Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.133

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. This priority action plan, which is a response to a request from the Council, provides for four categories of activities to be carried out in 1993:

- technical support for pilot youth information projects;
- a feasibility study for the creation of a decentralized European database;
- contacts and exchanges between workers in the youth information sector;
- measures directly informing young people about the construction of Europe.

As regards information content, the emphasis will be placed initially on Community information likely to be of equal interest to young people and to Member States.

COM(92) 297

Economic and social cohesion: structural measures

Development, coordination and implementation of policies and measures

1.2.84. Parliament resolution on a Community policy for regional planning: Europe 2000.

- **Reference:** Commission report 'Europe 2000 — outlook for the development of the Community's territory': COM(91) 452; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.92

Adopted by Parliament on 16 September. Parliament believed that the Community should assume joint responsibility for regional plan-

ning in the 12 Member States, with due regard to the principle of subsidiarity.

It recommended that the Commission take the necessary steps for the establishment of a European monitoring and information centre for regional planning linked to the European Environment Agency, the remit of which would be to evaluate planning policy and to advise the competent authorities.

Parliament stressed the important role that could be played by small and medium-sized towns in a balanced regional planning policy avoiding excessive concentrations of population in large cities. It stressed that a Community regional planning policy must be backed up by sufficient funding and consequently welcomed the creation of the Cohesion Fund.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.85. Parliament resolution on the management of the budget of the structural Funds within the framework of the reform: assessment and outlook.

- **Reference:** Commission report 'Europe 2000 — outlook for the development of the Community's territory': COM(91) 452; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.92

Adopted by Parliament on 16 September. Parliament asked the Commission to clarify the concept of additionality according to which Community aid should supplement rather than replace national aid. It also wanted Community measures to stimulate private investments with the aim of bringing about lasting structural changes. It asked for a redefinition of the structure and content of the regional development plans and Community support frameworks. Finally, Parliament called for better coordination with the European Investment Bank and a closer partnership with the regions.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.86. Parliament resolution on the Commission's annual report on the implementation of the reform of the structural Funds in 1990.

- **References:**
Commission report: COM(91) 400; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.128
Commission communication on Community structural policies — assessment and outlook: COM(92) 84; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.1.5

Adopted by Parliament on 16 September. Parliament expressed satisfaction with the overall implementation of the reform in 1990 but was concerned at the underutilization of the funds for Objective 1 regions in 1990. It called on the Commission, with a view to the introduction of Europe of the Regions, to strengthen its direct financial and other links with the regions. Parliament appreciated the work of the monitoring committees, which have ensured a genuine three-way partnership (Commission, national governments and regions), but called for the social partners and non-governmental organizations to be involved in the management of structural Fund measures. It reiterated the need to achieve a doubling of structural Fund resources in the 1993 budget.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.87. Visit to Denmark, Norway and Sweden by Mr B. Millan from 3 to 8 September.

In Denmark, Mr Millan visited the site of three projects part-financed by the structural Funds. In Norway, he met Mr B. T. Godal, Minister of Trade, and various experts in local regional policy. He then travelled to Sweden where he met Mr B. Hörnlund, Minister of Labour, who has responsibility for regional policy. He also visited regional development projects in the sub-Arctic area. Discussions in Stockholm enabled him to assess the regional aid policy that might have to be implemented if Sweden were to join the Community.

Financial assistance

Less-developed regions

1.2.88. Commission decisions: see Table 1.

Table 1 — *Financing under Objective 1*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Fund	Total assistance
<i>Greece</i>	ESF	5.47
<i>Ireland</i>	ERDF/ESF	10

Declining industrial areas

1.2.89. Commission decisions: see Table 2.

Table 2 — *Financing under Objective 2*

(million ECU)		
Country/region	Fund	Total assistance
<i>Belgium</i>		
Liège	ESF	1.89
Aubange	ESF	0.24
Charleroi	ESF	1.89
<i>Germany</i>		
Emden/Lower-Saxony	ERDF	1.27
Peine-Salzgitter/Lower-Saxony	ERDF	3.46
Lower-Saxony	ESF	2.04
<i>Spain</i>		
Aragon	ERDF	39.32
<i>Luxembourg</i>		
Esch-sur-Alzette/Capellen	ERDF/ESF	10.81
<i>United Kingdom</i>		
Eastern Scotland	ESF	12.3
Eastern England	ESF	22

Adjustment of agricultural structures

1.2.90. Commission Decision 92/476/EEC on the establishment of an addendum to the Community support framework for Community structural assistance in the five new *Länder* and East Berlin in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Adopted by the Commission on 15 September. The Decision provides for an additional ECU 180 million for the Community support frame-

work in view of the inclusion of the new *Länder*.

OJ L 281, 25.9.1992

1.2.91. Commission decisions: see Table 3.

Table 3 — *Financing under Objective 5a*

(million ECU)		
Country	Fund	Total assistance
<i>Italy</i>		
Agricultural products and sectoral plans	EAGGF	30

Development of rural areas

1.2.92. Commission decisions: see Table 4.

Table 4 — *Financing under Objective 5b*

(million ECU)		
Country/region	Fund	Total assistance
<i>France</i>		
Poitou-Charentes-Marais	ESF	2.8

Fisheries structures

1.2.93. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2794/92 amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86 on Community measures to improve and adapt structures in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

- **Regulation amended:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86 (OJ L 376, 31.12.1986; Bull. EC 12-1986, point 2.1.285), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3944/90: OJ L 380, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.249
- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 127, 19.5.1992; COM(92) 155; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.105
- **Economic and Social Committee opinion:** Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.138
- **Parliament opinion:** OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.138

Adopted by the Council on 21 September. This Regulation provides, in particular, for an increase in Community aid for aquaculture in the five new German *Länder* and in Ceuta-Melilla (Spain).

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

1.2.94. Commission Decision amending Decisions 91/198/EEC to 91/212/EEC on the establishment of the Community support frameworks and addenda to the Community support frameworks on the improvement of the conditions under which fishery and aquaculture products are processed and marketed.

Decisions amended: Decisions 91/198/EEC to 91/212/EEC: OJ L 99, 19.4.1991; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.2.147

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. The amendment was required to take account of additional amounts of approximately ECU 6.4 million and 6.9 million granted for the 1991 and 1992 financial years respectively for Objective 5a measures.

1.2.95. Commission decision: see Table 5.

Table 5 — Financing of fisheries structures
(million ECU)

Country	Amount
<i>Portugal</i>	16.5

Community initiatives

1.2.96. Commission decisions: see Table 6.

Table 6 — Financing of Community initiatives

(million ECU)			
Community initiative	Country	Fund	Total assistance
Prisma	France (Guiana)	ERDF	0.24
Leader	Italy (Objective 1)	EAGGF/ERDF/ESF	10.15

Other financial assistance

1.2.97. Commission decisions: see Table 7.

Table 7 — Other financial assistance

(million ECU)			
Type	Country/purpose	Fund	Total assistance
Seminars	— The challenge of the single market	ERDF	0.01
	— Local organizations	ERDF	0.01
	— The consequences of European unification	ERDF	0.01
Studies	— European funding	ERDF	0.01
	— Euro info centre	ERDF	0.1

Table 7 (continued)

<i>(million ECU)</i>			
Type	Country/purpose	Fund	Total assistance
	— Drafting of a development plan for Sagunto (Spain)	ERDF	0.1
IMPs	<i>France</i>		
	— Languedoc-Roussillon (woodlands)	EAGGF	1.2
	— Aveyron (drinking water)	EAGGF	0.5
	— Alpes-de-Haute-Provence (electrification)	EAGGF	0.1
	— Hautes-Alpes (drinking water)	EAGGF	0.06
	— (roads)	EAGGF	0.17
	— Pyrénées-Orientales (roads)		0.08
	— Hautes-Pyrénées (roads)	EAGGF	0.16
	— Tarn-et-Garonne (roads)	EAGGF	0.12
	— Pyrénées-Atlantiques (drinking water)	EAGGF	0.22
— Gers (drinking water)	EAGGF	0.35	
— Vaucluse (drinking water)	EAGGF	0.46	

Environment

General

Taking the environment into account in other policies

1.2.98. Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment: a Community strategy for sustainable mobility (→ point 1.2.64).

International cooperation

1.2.99. Commission communication to the Council on the initial follow-up by the European Economic Community to the undertakings given at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 2-14 June 1992).

□ References:

Fifth European Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development: COM(92) 23; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.115

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Unccd): Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.127

Conclusions of the Lisbon European Council: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.14

Convention on Global Climate Change: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.128

Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.129

Adopted by the Commission on 10 September. The purpose of the communication is to put forward an initial Community reaction to the conclusions of Unccd.

The Community, which attended the Conference as a full member, will have to honour, within the limits of its spheres of competence, the undertakings given *vis-à-vis* the other participants and in particular the eight-point plan adopted at the June 1992 Lisbon European Council.

In particular, the Commission invites the Council:

- to ensure the immediate adoption of the conclusions formulated with regard to the proposal for a fifth action programme on the environment;
- to endeavour to ensure the rapid implementation of the Conventions on Climate Change and Biodiversity;
- to decide that the Community will participate fully in the new high-level Sustainable Development Commission;
- to ensure that the offer of ECU 3 billion made at the Rio Conference is honoured.

1.2.100. Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context prepared under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

- Recommendation for a Council Decision on signature:** Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.238
- Council Decision on signature, and signature:** Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.238
- Commission proposal:** OJ C 104, 24.4.1992; COM(92) 93; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.122

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee invited all the Member States and the Commission to ratify the Convention.

Financial instruments

LIFE

- Reference:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 1973/92 establishing a financial instrument for the environment: OJ L 206, 22.7.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.123

1.2.101. Commission Decision granting financial support for demonstration and technical assistance projects.

Adopted by the Commission on 9 September. Purpose: granting of financial support totalling ECU 27.5 million to 42 demonstration and

technical assistance projects in the following fields:

- promotion of sustainable development and the quality of the environment,
- protection of habitats and of nature,
- education, training and information.

Two of the projects concern areas outside the Community, namely in Russia and Estonia.

Quality of the environment and natural resources

Protection of water, coastal zones, environment and tourism

1.2.102. *Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic.*

References:

Paris Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources: OJ L 194, 25.5.1975

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context prepared under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe: OJ C 104, 24.4.1992; COM(92) 93; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.122

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Unced): Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.127

Negotiating directives: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.153

Proposal for a Decision on signature: COM(92) 322; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.153

Decision on signature adopted by the Council on 21 September. This Convention, the purpose of which is to adapt the Paris and Oslo Conventions in the light of developments in marine protection, contains annexes relating to the prevention of pollution from land-based sources, pollution by dumping or incineration, pollution from offshore sources and the assessment of the quality of the marine environment.

The dumping of radioactive waste at sea is to be prohibited for a period of 15 years, i.e. until

2008. Dumping at sea may then be authorized provided that countries which wish to make use of this possibility can prove that the waste in question does not constitute an environmental hazard.

Joint Declaration by the Environment Ministers of the riparian countries of the European part of the Atlantic and by the Commission of the European Communities, signed in Paris on 22 September. At the Ministerial Conference for the adoption of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic, the Environment Ministers of Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Finland, France, Ireland, Iceland, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Sweden, and the Commission of the European Communities signed a Final Declaration in which they recognized that the Convention was one of the principal means for implementing the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development with regard to protection of the marine environment.

They reiterated the undertakings given in the context of the Convention opened for signature, and proposed new measures to be taken in particular under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

1.2.103. Parliament resolution on the environmental damage caused by oil spills from ships.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 September. Parliament considered that it was necessary to take a series of measures to protect the marine environment against oil spills.

For example, it considered that rapid progress should be made with the introduction of safety systems for shipping, that the passage of oil tankers through sensitive and dangerous areas should be prohibited, and that Community standards should be drafted for the construction of ships carrying oil and other dangerous substances.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Protection of nature, environment and agriculture

1.2.104. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Annex II to Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds.

- Commission proposal:** OJ L 115, 8.5.1991; COM(91) 42; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.2.168
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 191, 22.7.1991; Bull. EC 5-1991, point 1.2.154
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.133

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 14 September.

OJ C 260, 9.10.1992; COM(92) 398

Urban environment, air quality, transport and noise

1.2.105. Council Directive 92/72/EEC on air pollution by ozone.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 192, 23.7.1991; COM(91) 220; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.207
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 49, 24.2.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.301
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.135
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 158, 25.6.1992; COM(92) 236; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.135
- Council agreement:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.135

Formally adopted by the Council on 21 September. The purpose of this Directive is to establish a harmonized procedure for monitoring, for exchanging information, and for informing and warning the population with regard to air pollution by ozone, and to enable the competent authorities of the Member States and the Commission to obtain wider knowledge of this form of air pollution.

OJ L 297, 13.10.1992

1.2.106. Proposal for a Council Decision on accession by the European Economic Community to the Protocol to the Geneva Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes.

- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 230, 4.9.1991; COM(91) 268; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.262
- **Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 40, 17.2.1992; Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.2.180
- **Parliament opinion:** OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.136

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 3 September.

OJ C 248, 25.9.1992; COM(92) 382

1.2.107. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 70/220/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by emissions from motor vehicles.

- **Commission proposal:** OJ C 100, 22.4.1992; COM(92) 64; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.137

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September.

Nuclear safety

Plant safety

1.2.108. Parliament resolution on the safety of nuclear installations in the Member States of the European Community.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament called upon the Commission to play a leading role in harmonizing nuclear safety requirements by encouraging cooperation between the Member States.

It called upon the Commission to propose the preparation of mandatory nuclear safety standards applying to reactor design, construction and operation, and decommissioning and waste management, taking into account the cross-border nature of the risks associated with nuclear installations.

It urged the Commission to step up its initiatives to improve the safety of reactors and nuclear installations in Central and East European countries, in particular by making use of exchanges of experts and technology.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Agriculture

Agricultural structure and rural development

1.2.109. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands).

- **Basic Directive:** Council Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas (OJ L 128, 19.5.1975), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91: OJ L 218, 6.8.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.165
- **Directive to be amended:** Council Directive 75/275/EEC (OJ L 128, 19.5.1975), as last amended by Directive 88/403/EEC: OJ L 195, 23.7.1988

Adopted by the Commission on 11 September. Provides for extension of the list of less-favoured areas in the Netherlands, raising the total area covered from 1.4% to 3.3% of national utilizable agricultural area.

OJ C 260, 9.10.1992; COM(92) 384

1.2.110. Economic and Social Committee own-initiative opinion on a common system of agricultural insurance.

- **Reference:** Economic and Social Committee information report on agricultural insurance: Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.175

Adopted by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee, following up its January 1992 information report, proposes the establishment of a common system for covering natural disasters affecting the agricultural sector, the encouragement of farmers to take out insurance, the setting-up of a Community agricultural insurance scheme and financing by the Community of action to protect holdings against adverse climatic conditions.

Legislation

Veterinary and zootechnical legislation

Freedom of movement

1.2.111. The Commission adopted:

- Decision 92/460/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 261, 7.9.1992 — bovinos and pigs (Switzerland),
- Decision 92/461/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 261, 7.9.1992 — bovinos and pigs (Sweden),
- Decision 92/462/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 261, 7.9.1992 — bovinos and pigs (Finland),
- Decision 92/463/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 261, 7.9.1992 — bovinos and pigs (Iceland),
- Decision 92/471/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 270, 15.9.1992 — bovine embryos,
- Decision 92/480/EEC, 21.9.1992: OJ L 284, 29.9.1992 — poultry and eggs (Italy),
- Decision 92/485/EEC, 25.9.1992: OJ L 290, 6.10.1992 — meat products (Brazil),
- Decision 92/486/EEC, 25.9.1992: OJ L 291, 7.10.1992 — Animo host centre.

Disease control

1.2.112. The Commission adopted:

- Decision 92/472/EEC, 14.9.1992: OJ L 276, 19.9.1992 — cholera (Peru),
- Decision 92/478/EEC, 24.9.1992: OJ L 282, 26.9.1992 — swine vesicular disease (Netherlands).

Animal feed

1.2.113. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 74/63/EEC concerning undesirable substances and products in feedingstuffs.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 288, 6.11.1991; COM(91) 369; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.126
- Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 79, 30.3.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.185
- Parliament opinion:** OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.180

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 15 September.

OJ C 260, 9.10.1992; COM(92) 397

Plant health legislation

1.2.114. The Commission adopted:

- Directive 92/71/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 275, 18.9.1992 — inspection and checks,
- Decision 92/467/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 264, 10.9.1992 — potatoes (Poland),
- Decision 92/468/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 264, 10.9.1992 — potatoes (Canada).

Market organization

Cereals

1.2.115. The Commission adopted:

- Regulation (EEC) No 2646/92, 11.9.1992: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992 — imports of breadmaking quality common wheat (Spain),
- Regulation (EEC) No 2781/92, 24.9.1992: OJ L 281, 25.9.1992 — maximum moisture content,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2801/92, 25.9.1992: OJ L 282, 26.9.1992 — intervention centres,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2804/92, 25.9.1992: OJ L 282, 26.9.1992 — import and export licences,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2833/92, 29.9.1992: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — supplies to the Canary Islands (cereals),
- Regulation (EEC) No 2834/92, 29.9.1992: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — supplies to the Azores and Madeira (cereals),
- Regulation (EEC) No 2835/92, 29.9.1992: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — supplies to the Azores and Madeira (rice),
- Regulation (EEC) No 2836/92, 29.9.1992: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — supplies to the Canary Islands (rice).

Sugar

1.2.116. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 on the common organization of the markets in the sugar sector.

- Regulation to be amended:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 (OJ L 177, 1.7.1981), as last amended by Commission Regulation (EEC) No 61/92: OJ L 6, 11.1.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.191

Adopted by the Commission on 28 September.
Proposes for the period 1 January to 30 June

1993 incorporation of the provisions of Article 303 of the Act of Accession into Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 in order to prevent the interruption of supply to Portuguese refineries.

OJ C 265, 14.10.1992; COM(92) 403

1.2.117. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2593/92, 4.9.1992: OJ L 259, 5.9.1992 — B production levy.

Oils and fats

1.2.118. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2732/92, 21.9.1992: OJ L 277, 22.9.1992 — improvement of olive oil quality.

Dried fodder

1.2.119. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2752/92, 22.9.1992: OJ L 279, 23.9.1992 — peas, field beans and sweet lupins: estimated production 1992/93 and actual production 1991/92.

Fresh fruit and vegetables

1.2.120. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2647/92: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992 — apple and pear withdrawals,
 Regulation (EEC) No 2648/92: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992 — apple and pear withdrawals,
 Regulation (EEC) No 2769/92: OJ L 280, 24.9.1992 — quality standards,
 Regulation (EEC) No 2847/92: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — financial compensation following monetary realignment (oranges and mandarins).

Wine

1.2.121. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending for the first time Regulation (EEC) No 1601/91 laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of aromatized wines, aromatized wine-based drinks and aromatized wine-product cocktails.

Commission proposal: OJ C 69, 18.3.1992; COM(92) 55; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.207

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 169, 6.7.1992; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.150

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.195

Council common position: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.195

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 11 September.

COM(92) 391

1.2.122. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2795/92 amending Regulation (EEC) No 3677/89 in regard to the total alcoholic strength by volume of certain quality wines imported from Hungary.

Regulation amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3677/89 (OJ L 360, 9.12.1989), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2201/91: OJ L 203, 26.7.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.222

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 11 September.

COM(92) 390

Adopted by the Council on 21 September. Provides for extension until 31 August 1993 of the waiver granted to Hungary to export to the Community wine with an alcoholic strength in excess of the 15% normally allowed under Community rules.

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

1.2.123. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2561/92, 2.9.1992: OJ L 257, 3.9.1992 — payment on account of the cost of disposal,

Regulation (EEC) No 2645/92, 11.9.1992: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992 — wine analysis methods,

Regulation (EEC) No 2864/92, 30.9.1992: OJ L 286, 1.10.1992 — disposal of alcohol from compulsory distillation.

Cotton

1.2.124. The Commission adopted:

Regulation (EEC) No 2691/92, 16.9.1992: OJ L 272, 17.9.1992 — aid rate.

Hops

1.2.125. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2997/87 laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1986 harvest and providing for special measures for certain regions of production.

- Commission proposal:** COM(92) 310; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.203

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 25 September. Specifies the legal basis of the proposal and provides for consultation of Parliament.

OJ C 265, 14.10.1992; COM(92) 399

Beef and veal

1.2.126. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal.

- Regulation to be amended:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 (OJ L 148, 28.6.1968), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2066/92: OJ L 215, 30.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.144

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. Proposes an increase from 60 to 120 tonnes in the volume of milk production per holding debarring from eligibility for the suckler cow premium, restriction of the deseasonalization premium to steers, i.e. bulls will be excluded, and a temporary relaxation in the definition of 'suckler cow' for the new German *Länder*.

OJ C 264, 13.10.1992; COM(92) 408

1.2.127. The Commission adopted:

- Regulation (EEC) No 2556/92, 1.9.1992: OJ L 256, 2.9.1992 — supplies to the Canary Islands,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2660/92, 14.9.1992: OJ L 270, 15.9.1992 — supplies to the Canary Islands, the Azores and Madeira,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2675/92, 15.9.1992: OJ L 271, 16.9.1992 — intervention sale,
- Regulation (EEC) No 2753/92, 22.9.1992: OJ L 279; 23.9.1992 — importation of young male bovines.

Sheepmeat and goatmeat

1.2.128. The Commission adopted:

- Regulation (EEC) No 2564/92, 2.8.1992: OJ L 257, 3.9.1992 — definition of producers and producer groups (Spain),
- Regulation (EEC) No 2708/92, 17.9.1992: OJ L 275, 18.9.1992 — supplies to the Canary Islands.

Pigmeat

1.2.129. The Commission adopted:

- Decision 92/469/EEC, 2.9.1992: OJ L 265, 11.9.1992 — pig carcase grading (Denmark).

Poultrymeat and eggs

1.2.130. The Commission adopted:

- Regulation (EEC) No 2826/92, 29.9.1992: OJ L 285, 30.9.1992 — supplies to the French overseas departments.

EAGGF Guarantee Section

- Basic Regulation:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 1883/78 laying down the general rules for the financing of interventions by the EAGGF Guarantee Section (OJ L 216, 5.8.1978), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 787/89: OJ L 85, 30.3.1989; Bull. EC 3-1989, point 2.1.146

1.2.131. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2562/92 fixing depreciation percentages to be applied when agricultural products are bought in, for the 1993 financial year.

Adopted on 2 September. Sets 1993 depreciation percentages for downgrading the value of products, immediately on purchase, by the difference between purchase price and estimated selling price.

OJ L 257, 3.9.1992

State aid

Decisions to raise no objection

Germany

1.2.132. Commission decision on aid for protection of the environment, the countryside and certain threatened livestock breeds.

□ **Reference:** Commission decision of 25 March on the same programme: Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.187

Adopted on 30 September: The decision extends until the end of the 1992/93 crop year the programme of aid for protection of the rural environment operated by the Baden-Württemberg region. The Commission did not raise any objections when the programme was launched in March.

France

1.2.133. Commission decision on cereal sector aid measures.

Adopted on 16 September. The aid is financed by parafiscal charges, notably the FASC tax, which is compatible with Community law.

Decision to initiate proceedings

Spain

1.2.134. Commission decision on aid to the Merco agri-food group.

Adopted on 30 September. The information available indicates this to be operational aid incompatible with the common market.

□ **Reference:** Commission report on monitoring the implementation of the common fisheries policy: Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.197

Adopted by the Commission on 30 September. The purpose of the proposal, which follows up the Commission report on monitoring the implementation of the common fisheries policy, is to establish an effective system for the control of all aspects of the common fisheries policy.

The present level of overfishing has made such a system essential.

In accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, the proposal leaves the operational tasks of monitoring to the national authorities, the Commission's task being to supervise and ensure the fairness and effectiveness of the steps taken by the Member States, in particular through strengthening the system of Community inspections and dropping the obligation to give advance warning of inspection visits.

The proposal also provides for the establishment of the 'single net rule' which would mean that only one type of net could be used on each fishing trip in order to put an end to the abuse of derogations relating to mesh sizes.

The Commission further proposes that new technology be used, notably by the establishment of a coordinated satellite network for checking the position, speed and course of all fishing vessels measuring more than 10 m in length together with the creation of databases by the Member States. The proposal also provides for the incorporation in national law of a harmonized system of deterrent penalties which can even include the closure of fisheries.

OJ C 280, 29.10.1992; COM(92) 392

Fisheries

I

A control system for the common fisheries policy

1.2.135. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy.

Bull. EC 9-1992

II

Review and future development of the common fisheries policy

1.2.136. Commission communication on a quality policy for fishery products.

References:

Commission communication on the quality of, and the protection of geographical indications for, agricultural products: Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.166

Commission report on the common fisheries policy: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.255

Commission communication: Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.237

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee, however, requested that the information given to consumers concerning the quality of fishery products be improved.

Resources

Internal aspects

1.2.137. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending for the third time Regulation (EEC) No 3882/91 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches for 1992 and certain conditions under which they may be fished.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3882/91: OJ L 367, 31.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.257

Adopted by the Commission on 18 September. In view of the decision of the Joint Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission to increase their TAC for Arctic cod as a result of the increase in the stock of this species in the Spitsbergen area, the Commission is proposing a proportional increase in the Community TACs.

COM(92) 396

External aspects

Comoros

1.2.138. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2885/92 relating to the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Islamic Federal Republic of

the Comoros on fishing off the Comoros for the period 20 July 1991 to 19 July 1994.

Reference: EEC-Comoros Agreement: OJ L 137, 2.6.1988; Bull. EC 7/8-1988, point 2.1.207

Commission proposal: OJ C 278, 25.10.1991; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.165

Parliament opinion: OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.183

Adopted on 28 September. The Protocol provides in particular for the granting of licences authorizing simultaneous fishing in Comorian waters to 42 Community freezer tuna vessels. The Community financial contribution for the duration of the Protocol is set at ECU 900 000 covering an annual catch of 6 000 tonnes of tuna.

OJ L 288, 3.10.1992

Madagascar

1.2.139. Council Decision 92/477/EEC on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters concerning the provisional application of the Protocol defining, for the period 21 May 1992 to 20 May 1995, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on fishing off Madagascar.

Reference: Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on fishing off Madagascar: OJ L 73, 18.3.1986; Bull. EC 2-1986, point 2.1.139

Commission proposal: OJ C 201, 8.8.1992; COM(92) 308; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.234

Adopted on 21 September.

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

Norway

1.2.140. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3884/91 allocating, for 1992, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone and the fishing zone around Jan Mayen.

□ **Regulation to be amended:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 3884/91; OJ L 367, 31.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.273

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. Assigns to the Member States the additional quotas (2 000 tonnes) allocated to the Community by Norway for 1992.

COM(92) 378

Norway and the Faroes

1.2.141. Proposal for a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to terminate by mutual consent the fisheries agreements of the former German Democratic Republic with the Faroes and Norway.

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. The Commission proposes negotiations to terminate the agreements providing for an exchange of quotas between the former German Democratic Republic and the Faroes and Norway respectively. Unilateral termination is not possible on account of their expiry date (1996 for Norway and 1997 for the Faroes).

OJ C 252, 29.9.1992; COM(92) 376

Sweden

1.2.142. Proposal for a Council Decision terminating the fisheries agreement between the former German Democratic Republic and Sweden.

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. The Commission proposes the termination of the agreement providing for a quota exchange between the former German Democratic Republic and Sweden.

OJ C 252, 29.9.1992; COM(92) 377

NAFO

1.2.143. Annual meeting.

□ **Previous meeting:** Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.2.113

Fourteenth meeting, held in Dartmouth from 14 to 18 September. The principal problem tackled was the decline in fish stocks in the NAFO area, and in particular cod stocks in

divisions 2J3KL. It was decided that directed fishing would not be authorized in zone 3L in 1993. It was regretted that while NAFO member countries have agreed to reduce their fishing capacity, non-member countries have increased their catches in recent years.

1.2.144. Proposal for a Council Regulation setting up licensing arrangements for fishing within the regulatory area defined by the NAFO Convention by vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered at a Community port.

Adopted by the Commission on 14 September. Provides for the restriction of fishing by Community vessels in the NAFO area through the introduction of a system of licences issued by the Commission acting on behalf of the Community based on lists of vessels drawn up by the Member States. Provides also that fishing for species subject to TACs and quotas is conditional on the holding of a special licence. Aims thus to assist the protection and reconstitution of fish stocks in the NAFO area.

OJ C 259, 8.10.1992; COM(92) 394

International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission

1.2.145. Annual meeting.

Eighteenth meeting held in Warsaw from 7 to 12 September. It was decided at this meeting to reduce the TAC for cod in 1993 to 40 000 tonnes. The Community proposal for a more severe reduction was not accepted.

Market organization

1.2.146. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the common organization of the market in fishery products.

□ **Commission proposal:** OJ C 134, 25.5.1992; COM(92) 79; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.198

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. The Committee, however, regretted the absence of specific measures for improving product quality.

State aid

Decision to raise no objection

Italy

1.2.147. Commission decision concerning aid for a farming cooperative.

Adopted on 30 September. The Commission raises no objection to the granting of aid amounting to ECU 0.2 million by the regional government of Emilia-Romagna. The beneficiary cooperative manages an aquaculture unit for which a restructuring plan was recently drawn up.

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 159, 17.6.1991; Bull. EC 4-1991, point 1.2.139

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 326, 16.12.1991; Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.2.194

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 73, 24.3.1992; COM(92) 66; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.212

Council agreement: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.195

Common position formally adopted by the Council (internal market) on 22 September.

Consumers

Health, physical safety and quality

1.2.148. Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the sixth time Directive 76/768/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products.

Commission proposal: OJ C 52, 28.2.1991; COM(90) 488; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.239

Parliament opinion: OJ C 176, 13.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.197

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 2 September.

OJ C 249, 26.9.1992; COM(92) 364

Protection of consumers' economic and legal interests

1.2.149. Proposal for a Council Directive on unfair terms in consumer contracts.

Commission proposal: OJ C 243, 28.9.1990; COM(90) 322; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.150

A people's Europe

Citizens' rights

1.2.150. Proposal for a recommendation on common information technology security evaluation criteria.

Reference: Commission communication concerning the protection of individuals in relation to the processing of personal data and information security: OJ C 277, 5.11.1990; COM(90) 314; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.3.309

Adopted by the Commission on 10 September. As information systems security requires a coordinated approach on the part of the Member States, the proposal provides for the adoption of common evaluation criteria for an initial period of two years.

COM(92) 298

Public health

Cancer

1.2.151. Proposal for a Directive on the approximation of Member States' laws, regulations and administrative provisions on advertising for tobacco products.

Commission proposal: OJ C 124, 19.5.1989; COM(89) 163; Bull. EC 3-1989, point 2.1.85

□ **First Economic and Social Committee opinion:** OJ C 62, 12.3.1990; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.116

□ **First Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 96, 17.4.1990; Bull. EC 3-1990, point 1.1.193

□ **First amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 116, 11.5.1990; COM(90) 147; Bull. EC 4-1990, point 1.1.162

□ **Second amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 167, 27.6.1991; COM(91) 111; Bull. EC 5-1991, point 1.2.165

□ **Second Parliament opinion (first reading):** OJ C 67, 16.3.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.257

□ **Third amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 129, 21.5.1992; COM(92) 196; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.181

Second Economic and Social Committee opinion delivered on 23 September. The Committee feels that the tobacco industry should be given the opportunity to draw up self-regulatory measures on advertising by 1 January 1994; this would be done in liaison with the advertising industry's regulatory and control bodies.

Drugs

1.2.152. European Committee to Combat Drugs (ECCD).

□ **Reference:** Decision by the Strasbourg European Council to establish the ECCD; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 1.1.9

□ **Previous meeting:** Bull. EC 5-1991, point 1.2.169

Meeting held in Brussels on 15 September. Discussion centred on the role of the Committee following ratification of the Treaty on European Union and on the new institutional framework for dealing with drug-related issues.

Measures to help disaster victims

France

1.2.153. Commission Decision to grant emergency aid to families affected by the severe weather in South-East France.

Adopted on 23 September. The Commission decided to grant immediate emergency aid totalling ECU 500 000 as a practical gesture of solidarity and support for the victims and their families.

1.2.154. Commission Decision to grant further emergency aid to families affected by the severe weather in South-East France.

Adopted on 29 September. The Commission decided to double the amount granted in emergency aid to ECU 1 million as it emerged that the loss of life and damage caused by the storms were worse than originally estimated.

Italy

1.2.155. Commission Decision to grant emergency aid to families affected by the severe weather in Liguria (provinces of Genoa and Savona).

Adopted on 29 September. The Commission decided to grant ECU 150 000 in emergency aid as a symbolic gesture designed to show the human face of a Europe close to its citizens.

Spain

1.2.156. Commission Decision to grant emergency aid to victims of the fires in Spain.

Adopted on 23 September. The Commission decided to grant ECU 50 000 in emergency aid to go direct to the families of the volunteers who lost their lives in attempting to put out the fires in the regions of Madrid, Guadalajara and Cádiz.

Forest fires

1.2.157. Parliament resolution on forest fires in the regions of Valencia and Cádiz (Spain), Athens (Greece) and Liguria (Italy).

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament called on the Spanish, Greek and Italian authorities to draw up comprehensive forestry protection programmes.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.158. Parliament resolution on the destruction of Greek forests by fire.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament called on the Community to use every possible means to reafforest the land and compensate the victims. It also called on the Commission to examine the possibility of setting up a 'rapid intervention force' to assist in fighting large-scale fires in the various regions of the Community and to propose the setting-up of a special Community fund for the protection and development of forestry.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.159. Parliament resolution on forest fires in Corsica.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament called on the Community to provide emergency financial aid to Corsica following the serious forest fires which had ravaged the island.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.160. Parliament resolution on summer forest fires and urgent measures to be taken under existing provisions for combating them.

Adopted on 17 September. In an attempt to prevent future forest fires placing at risk the programmes carried out under the Community support frameworks or the common agricultural policy, Parliament asked the Commission to report on the situation following the fires in the summer and on the progress made by Member States in presenting their forestry protection programmes.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Human rights

1.2.161. Parliament resolution on the rights of the mentally handicapped.

Adopted on 16 September. Stressing the need for all members of society to show solidarity with the mentally handicapped, Parliament called in particular for their legal status to be harmonized throughout the Community.

On the problem of sterilization it called for strict safeguards to be implemented in order to protect the interests of the mentally handi-

capped. It also called for improved integration on the educational and work fronts and asked the Commission to provide additional financial support for its commendable existing programmes.

Finally, it advocated the provision of financial aid for the mentally handicapped in non-member countries under the Lomé Convention or under similar agreements particularly with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.2.162. Parliament resolution on the riots in Rostock-Lichtenhagen and other cities of the new *Länder*.

Adopted on 17 September. Condemning the violence against asylum-seekers, foreigners and the police force in Rostock-Lichtenhagen, Parliament repeated its demand for a common policy on asylum, immigration and refugees, stressing that Germany was bearing by far the heaviest burden in this respect.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

European citizenship

1.2.163. Economic and Social Committee own-initiative opinion on 'The Citizens' Europe'.

□ **Reference:** Commission communication on its action programme for the implementation of the Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights for Workers: COM(89) 568; Bull. EC 11-1989, point 2.1.80

Adopted on 23 September. Defining the 'Citizens' Europe' as '[an area] in which individual citizens may move to, reside in and work or become established in any Member State, on the basis of equal opportunities, mutual recognition of qualifications and diplomas and equal treatment as regards social protection, welfare and education', the Committee regretted the delay in the implementation of the Social Charter and presented 12 recommendations designed to keep citizens more fully informed and involved in the building of the European Union.

Audiovisual media, information, communication and culture

Information and public awareness

Concentration and pluralism in the media

1.2.164. Parliament resolution on media concentration and diversity of opinions.

□ **References:**

Parliament resolution of 15 February 1990 on media takeovers and mergers: OJ C 68, 19.3.1990; Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.1.272

Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 on the control of concentrations between undertakings (the merger control Regulation): OJ L 395, 30.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.78

Adopted on 16 September. Pointing out that the Member States and the Community have a duty to ensure that the necessary conditions are created for exercising the right to information and freedom of expression, Parliament called on the Commission to submit to it the results of its investigations into the application of Community law on concentration in the media; it urged the Member States and the Commission to safeguard media diversity and to ensure that an equal level of protection is afforded throughout the Community. In particular, it called on those Member States which

had not yet done so to adopt legislation on concentration in the press and broadcasting industries and on all Member States to promote the observance of professional ethics. Parliament also requested that the economic basis of the press be safeguarded to ensure the preservation of a large number of independent titles and that small businesses continue to benefit from sufficient advertising revenue and efficient and cost-effective marketing structures. On the broadcasting front Parliament called on the Commission to take positive action to assist small businesses and non-commercial firms, to present a proposal for a directive to safeguard the diversity of programmes offered by broadcasters, and to support the European news channel project *Euronews*. It also called on the Commission to draw up a proposal for a directive guaranteeing all journalists access to information from Community and national authorities and entitling them to maintain professional secrecy and to protect the identity of confidential sources.

It further urged the Commission to propose measures safeguarding journalistic and editorial independence in all the media, regulating the right of reply, harmonizing national provisions on the concentration of media ownership, guaranteeing diversity of opinion, and encouraging vocational training and freedom of movement for journalists, notably by means of a European press card. Finally, Parliament called on the Commission to set up a European Media Council, and a research programme for communications and media sciences.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

3. The role of the Community in the world

Enlargement

1.3.1. Own-initiative opinion of the Economic and Social Committee on the future enlargement of the Community.

□ **References:**

Conclusions of the Lisbon European Council: Bull. EC 6-1992, point I.4

Commission report on 'Europe and the challenge of enlargement': Supplement 3/92; Bull. EC

Adopted by the Economic and Social Committee on 23 September. Noting that enlargement should not be achieved at the expense of consolidating the Community, the Committee stated that no negotiations should start with the applicant countries before ratification of the Treaty on European Union and that these countries should accept the *acquis communautaire* as a precondition. It also considered that the integration of the Community, its progressive enlargement and the cohesion of the European Union, as shaped by the Maastricht Treaty, were vital to the continent's future stability.

With reference to the various applications for membership, the Committee considered that those of the EFTA countries should not pose any major difficulties, as these countries seemed capable of accepting the *acquis communautaire*. With regard to Turkey, the Committee recommended a stepping-up of dialogue with the aim of ensuring that human rights were recognized irrevocably in this country, that a constitutional and democratic State was set up once and for all and that economic development was speeded up. In the case of Cyprus, the problem posed by the partition of its territory should first be resolved, whereas Malta's membership did not pose any serious problems, provided that institutional changes were brought about so as to take into account

the need to balance the representation of Member States.

Stressing that the future of Central and Eastern Europe contained a weighty challenge for the European continent, the Committee considered that new Europe agreements should be negotiated with Romania, Bulgaria, the Baltic States, the former Yugoslav States, Albania, Russia and a number of other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Lastly, it urged that the institutional balance between Member States should be combined with effective operation of the institutions.

European Free Trade Association

Bilateral relations

Austria

1.3.2. Mr T. Klestil, President of Austria, visited the Commission on 29 September.

□ **References:**

Commission opinion on Austria's application for accession: Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.2

Agreement establishing the European Economic Area: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.1

Mr Klestil met Mr Delors for talks on Austria's application for accession to the Community and on the future of European integration.

Both sides welcomed the Austrian parliament's ratification of the agreement on the European Economic Area.

Central and Eastern Europe and the independent States of the former Soviet Union

I

Technical assistance for the former Soviet Union

1.3.3. Ministerial meeting of the national Tacis programme coordinators.

□ **References:**

Conclusions of the Rome II European Council: Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.30

Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 2157/91 concerning the provision of technical assistance for economic reform and recovery in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: OJ L 201, 24.7.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.5

Meeting held in Brussels from 14 to 18 September. The group of national coordinators for Tacis (the Community programme of technical assistance for the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia), established in the wake of the Rome II European Council to provide technical assistance to help the former Soviet Union make the transition to a pluralist and democratic society and a market economy, held its first meeting at ministerial level. The meeting was attended by Mr Andriessen and by representatives of the 11 recipient CIS States and Georgia.

The Tacis programme, which was allocated a Community contribution of ECU 400 million for 1991 and ECU 450 million for 1992, is the world's largest programme of technical assistance for the former Soviet Union. Community assistance, which takes the form of grants which are administered in a decentralized manner, has now entered the implementation phase, with approximately 260 technical projects and schemes under way. These are concentrated on energy, transport, public and private sector management training, food distri-

bution, financial services, telecommunications and nuclear safety.

This first meeting at ministerial level offered an opportunity for exchanges of views and experiences between the coordinators responsible for the implementation of technical assistance schemes in each of the 12 recipient countries, and provided a basis of information and reference to help improve the effectiveness of the schemes.

II

Central and Eastern Europe

Assistance to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe

1.3.4. Commission communication to the Council and Parliament in the form of a report on the implementation of medium-term financial assistance for the balance of payments of Central and East European countries.

□ **References:**

Paris Summit: Bull. EC 7/8-1989, points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5

Council Decision 91/106/EEC providing medium-term financial assistance for the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: OJ C 56, 2.3.1991; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.3.21

Council Decision 91/310/EEC providing medium-term financial assistance for Hungary: OJ L 174, 3.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.3.16

Council Decision 91/311/EEC providing medium-term financial assistance for Bulgaria: OJ L 174, 3.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.3.15

Council Decision 91/384/EEC providing medium-term financial assistance for Romania: OJ L 208, 30.7.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.18

Adopted by the Commission on 16 September. In this report, the Commission reviewed the implementation of the balance of payments assistance provided for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Paris summit of the seven leading industrialized nations (July 1989) provided the initial impetus, and the Commission, as the institution responsible for coordinating balance of payments assistance for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe from the Community and the Group of 24, put to the Council a series of Community initiatives aimed at providing support for the process of economic reform in the recipient countries. The scheme initially targeted Poland and Hungary, but was later extended to Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania.

In the report, the Commission evaluated the trend of each country's economic situation in 1991, the progress of economic reform (devoting particular attention to compliance with the conditions attached to the loans), and the outlook for 1992.

The medium-term financial assistance provided in 1991 as balance of payments support by the Community and the Group of 24 had in all likelihood been a key element in preserving the momentum of economic reform and stabilizing democratic forces in Central and Eastern Europe.

The progress of the balance of payments in Hungary and Czechoslovakia meant that neither country would need extra financing from the Community and Group of 24 in 1992. The Community and Group of 24 would, however, have to respond to requests from Bulgaria, Romania and perhaps other countries of Central and Eastern Europe in order to help them continue their efforts to achieve stability and reform.

COM(92) 400

Bilateral relations

Albania

1.3.5. Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of an agreement on trade and commercial and economic cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Albania.

- Recommendation for a Decision:** Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.11

- Negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.3.19
- Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement:** COM(92) 178; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.11
- Council Decision on the signature of the Agreement, subject to conclusion:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.11
- Signature of the Agreement:** Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.11

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament was consulted by the Council in accordance with Article 228 of the EEC Treaty, and gave its approval for the conclusion and entry into force of the Agreement.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.3.6. Proposal for a Council Regulation on urgent action for the supply of agricultural products to the people of Albania.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 222, 29.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.7

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament gave its approval for ECU 40 million of emergency aid for the provision of agricultural products for Albania in order to improve the food supply.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.3.7. Council Decision 92/482/EEC providing long-term financial assistance for Albania.

- Proposal for a Decision:** OJ C 188, 25.7.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.4
- Council conclusions:** Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.4
- Amended Commission proposal:** OJ C 225, 1.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.4

Endorsed by Parliament on 18 September, subject to a small number of technical alterations.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Adopted by the Council on 28 September. In line with its earlier decision, the Council approved the grant of ECU 70 million to help Albania's balance of payments.

OJ L 287, 2.10.1992

Bulgaria

1.3.8. Proposal for a Council Decision providing further medium-term financial assistance for Bulgaria.

- Commission proposal:** OJ C 164, 1.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.7

Endorsed by Parliament on 18 September. Parliament approved the Commission proposal, subject to a small number of technical alterations.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Agreed by the Council on 28 September.

Baltic States

1.3.9. Proposal for a Council Decision providing medium-term financial assistance for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Adopted by the Commission on 23 September. The Commission proposed medium-term loans (seven years) of ECU 40 million for Estonia, ECU 80 million for Latvia and ECU 100 million for Lithuania, in order to help improve their balance of payments and boost their reserves. Each loan will be paid in two instalments, with the first being released once a stand-by arrangement is set up with the IMF.

Agreed by the Council on 28 September.

Lithuania

1.3.10. Mr Vytautas Landsbergis, President of Lithuania, visited the Commission on 23 September.

- Reference:** Agreements on commercial and economic cooperation with the Baltic States: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.11

Mr Landsbergis's talks with Mr Delors covered Lithuania's political and economic situation, the approaching general election and relations between Lithuania and Russia.

Mr Landsbergis called once again for Community assistance for agriculture, and expressed the hope that the European Parliament would soon approve the cooperation Agreements with the Baltic States to enable them to enter into force without delay.

Hungary and Poland

1.3.11. Europe Agreements establishing an association between the Community and Poland and between the Community and Hungary.

- Commission recommendation for negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.4.1
- Negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.4.6
- Council conclusions on the Community position in the negotiations:** Bull. EC 4-1991, point 1.3.4
- Commission communication on the resumption of negotiations:** Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.3.16
- Council agreement regarding amendments to the negotiating directives:** Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.3.16
- Initialling of Agreements:** Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.3.9
- Commission proposals for Decisions concerning conclusion of the Agreements:** Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2
- Council agreement:** Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2
- Signature of the Agreements:** Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2

Assent given by Parliament on 16 September. In accordance with Article 238 of the EEC Treaty, Parliament's assent was requested and received for the association Agreements signed in 1991 between the Community and Hungary and Poland. The Agreements provide for cooperation in trade and economic and cultural matters and for political dialogue.

The Agreements provide moreover for the eventual establishment of a free trade area, and include the possibility of the countries in question joining the Community.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Hungary

1.3.12. Parliament resolution on helping Hungary to deal with its debt.

- References:**
 - Association Agreement between the Community and Hungary: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2
 - Parliament's assent for the association Agreement between the Community and Hun-

gary: OJ C 284, 2.11.1992; point 1.3.11 of this Bulletin

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Among the suggestions made by Parliament was that use be made of 'debt-environment swaps', allowing resources freed to be used for priority environmental protection schemes. Parliament also emphasized the substantial importance of free external trade and the opening of the Community and other markets to sales of Hungarian goods.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Poland

1.3.13. Parliament resolution on economic and trade relations between the Community and Poland.

□ **References:**

Association Agreement between the Community and Poland: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2

Parliament's assent for the association Agreement between the Community and Poland: OJ C 284, 2.11.1992; point 1.3.11 of this Bulletin

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Welcoming Poland's substantial progress towards macroeconomic stability (though this progress was offset by greater unemployment and a sharp drop in the population's buying power), Parliament emphasized the strategic importance of the process of economic reform and the essential role played by international aid, particularly the Phare programme, in Poland's transition to a market economy.

It expressed regret that foreign investment had been low, and called for Polish exports to be stepped up so that the restructuring of the country's economy could continue.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Czechoslovakia

1.3.14. Mr Moravcik, Foreign Minister of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, visited the Commission on 8 September.

□ **References:**

Association Agreement with Czechoslovakia: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.2

Council Decision on the conclusion by the European Economic Community of an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Economic Community and European Coal and Steel Community and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic: OJ L 115, 30.4.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.9

Mr Moravcik saw Mr Delors and Mr Andriessen for talks which centred on specific aspects of the Europe Agreement (association agreement) between the Community and Czechoslovakia and the possible ramifications of the division of the republic into two independent parts.

For the present, the trade provisions of the Europe Agreement, which were provisionally implemented by the Interim Agreement, remain in force. The two separate States might establish a customs union and monetary union. The Europe Agreement could apply to these with the appropriate changes.

Independent States of the former Soviet Union

General

1.3.15. Parliament resolution on relations with the independent States of the former Soviet Union.

□ **References:**

Lisbon Conference on the coordination of assistance to the new independent States of the former Soviet Union: Bull. EC 5-1992, points 1.2.8 and 2.3.1

Parliament resolution on economic cooperation between the European Community and the Commonwealth of Independent States: OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.12

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Concerned at the risk of growing inflation in the former Soviet Union, the heavy burden of inherited foreign debt, the worrying state of the environment and public health, the need

to ensure nuclear power plant safety and the dismantling of nuclear and conventional weapons, Parliament called on the Community Member States, acting in the political Cooperation framework and with any outside assistance required, to establish a suitable financial mechanism to prevent galloping inflation in the former Soviet Union and to reach a rapid agreement on debt rescheduling. Parliament also suggested that the Community encourage the independent States of the former Soviet Union to set up a payments clearing system, perhaps linked to a free trade area, to stimulate trade between them. Parliament also wanted Community assistance to focus on inward investment, the distribution of farm products and the conversion of the armaments industry.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Bilateral relations

Russia

1.3.16. Commission communication to the Council concerning finalization of ECU 200 million food aid programme for Russia.

□ **References:**

Conclusions of the Maastricht European Council: Bull. EC 12-1991, point I.11

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3767/91 on urgent action for the supply of foodstuffs to the populations in particular of the cities of Moscow and St Petersburg: OJ L 356, 29.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.3.8

Council Regulation (EEC) No 330/92 on urgent action for the supply of agricultural products in particular to the people of Moscow and St Petersburg: OJ L 36, 13.2.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.16

Approved by the Commission on 9 September. The Commission reviewed the ECU 200 million food aid operation for Moscow and St Petersburg (later extended to Chelyabinsk, Saratov and Nizhniy Novgorod) which had been approved at the Maastricht European Council in December 1991. The aid, which was sold rather than being distributed free, was provided in tandem with assistance for economic reform, and yielded very positive results. Losses were estimated to be less than 0.5% of the total amount.

The towns and cities in question received and distributed over 150 000 tonnes of goods. These were sold mainly through retail outlets or in public sales and made it possible to further the privatization of distribution networks. The goods were sold at prices which would not disrupt the market, and the counterpart funds generated went towards meeting the needs of the most disadvantaged.

Since the efficiency of the system had been universally recognized, it was decided to retain an operational core to enable it to be brought back into operation if the need arose.

SEC(92) 1613

1.3.17. Mr Shokhin, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation with responsibility for foreign economic relations, visited the Commission on 9 and 10 September.

□ **References:**

Council conclusions on the utilization of the loan of ECU 1 250 million to the CIS States: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.14

Recommendation for a Decision by the Council authorizing the Commission to negotiate partnership and cooperation agreements with the independent States of the former Soviet Union: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Mr Shokhin met Mr Delors, Mr Andriessen and Mr Christophersen for talks which covered the development of cooperation between the Community and Russia and the various steps taken by the Commission to encourage reform and stabilization of the economic situation. Mr Shokhin laid particular emphasis on the breadth of opportunity which would be opened up by the partnership and cooperation agreement to be concluded between the Community and Russia. After the talks, Mr Andriessen signed with Mr Shokhin and Russia's Bank for Foreign Economic Relations a Memorandum of Understanding and a loan agreement for ECU 150 million for the purchase of medicines and health supplies.

Ukraine

1.3.18. Leonid Kravchuk, President of Ukraine, visited the Commission on 14 September.

□ **References:**

Council Decision 90/116/EEC on the conclusion by the EEC of the Agreement between the EEC and EAEC and the USSR on trade and commercial and economic cooperation: OJ L 68, 15.3.1990; Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.2.23

Commission communications on Community relations with the independent States of the former Soviet Union: Bull. EC 1/2-1992, points 1.4.2 and 1.4.3

Recommendation for a Decision by the Council authorizing the Commission to negotiate partnership and cooperation agreements with the independent States of the former Soviet Union: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Mr Kravchuk and Mr Delors held talks which centred on the current situation and the outlook for relations between the Community and Ukraine. Both sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding confirming the need to formalize with an exchange of letters the continuation of the mutual obligations imposed by the 1989 trade and cooperation Agreement between the Community and former Soviet Union. The two sides also expressed their intention to begin a new phase in their relations by starting negotiations for the speedy conclusion of a new agreement for partnership, cooperation and political dialogue as soon as the Commission received authorization to do so from the Council. Mr Kravchuk reiterated Ukraine's commitment to continuing the policy of economic reform, and called for greater foreign aid to assist that process.

Mediterranean and Middle East

I

Continuation of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia

Provision of food aid

1.3.19. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2793/92 on urgent action for the supply of foodstuffs

for the victims of the conflict in what was formerly Yugoslavia.

□ **Reference:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 2139/92 on urgent action for the supply of agricultural products to the victims of the conflict in what was formerly Yugoslavia: OJ L 214, 30.7.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.19

□ **Commission proposal:** COM(92) 357; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.21

Endorsed by Parliament on 16 September.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Adopted by the Council on 21 September. The emergency measure will provide agricultural products free of charge to the victims of the fighting in the former Yugoslavia, with the possibility of purchasing produce on the market. The action will cost ECU 37.5 million and will be in addition to the ECU 35 million provided for by Regulation (EEC) No 2139/92 and the ECU 47.5 million mobilized from emergency funds and the programme.

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

Tightening of the embargo on Serbia and Montenegro.

□ **References:**

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1432/92 (OJ L 151, 3.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.12), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2015/92: OJ L 207, 22.7.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.22

Decision 92/285/ECSC of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council (OJ L 151, 3.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.12), as amended by Decision 92/388/ECSC: OJ L 207, 22.7.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.22

1.3.20. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2655/92 restricting use of the procedure for the international transport of goods under cover of TIR carnets (TIR Convention) in the case of consignments travelling between two points situated in the European Economic Community via the territories of the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

□ **Commission proposal:** COM(92) 380; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.24

Adopted by the Council on 8 September. In order to prevent goods being diverted to Serbia and Montenegro, use of the TIR carnet will be confined to consignments sent via these territories either under the Community transit procedure for intra-Community trade or the common transit procedure for trade between the Community and EFTA. Community or common transit procedures are more sophisticated and watertight than TIR procedures so that the simultaneous use of transit and TIR carnet procedures will ensure that the current embargo is more effective.

OJ L 266, 12.9.1992

1.3.21. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2656/92 concerning certain technical modalities in connection with the application of Regulation (EEC) No 1432/92 prohibiting trade between the European Economic Community and the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro — Decision 92/470/ECSC of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council concerning certain technical modalities in connection with the application of Decision 92/285/ECSC prohibiting trade between the ECSC and the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

□ **Commission proposal:** COM(92) 424; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.23

Adopted by the Council and the representatives of the Member States meeting within the Council on 8 September. The measures are designed to strengthen and provide closer checks on the application of the trade embargo on Serbia and Montenegro by prohibiting exports to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and the territory of the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia unless import licences have first been issued by their customs authorities.

OJ L 266, 12.9.1992

1.3.22. Commission Regulation (EEC, ECSC) No 2725/92 concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2656/92 and Decision 92/470/ECSC concerning certain technical modalities in connection with the application of respectively Regulation (EEC) No 1432/92 and Decision 92/285/ECSC prohibiting trade between the European Economic Community and the European Coal

and Steel Community on the one hand, and the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro on the other hand.

Adopted by the Commission on 18 September. The measure concerns the technical arrangements for applying the dual control system instituted by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2656/92 (→ point 1.3.21) and Decision 92/470/ECSC (→ point 1.3.21) in order to strengthen the embargo against Serbia and Montenegro.

OJ L 276, 19.9.1992

Development of relations with Slovenia

1.3.23. Council Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations on a financial protocol with the Republic of Slovenia.

□ **Reference:** Council Decision on negotiating directives for a cooperation agreement with the Republic of Slovenia: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.26

Recommendation for a Decision adopted by the Commission on 11 September.

Adopted by the Council on 28 September. The financial protocol to the future cooperation agreement, currently being negotiated, would amount to ECU 170 million to finance transport infrastructure projects, comprising ECU 150 million in the form of loans from European Investment Bank's own resources and ECU 20 million from the budget. It would cover the period from 1 January 1993 to 31 December 1997.

Positive measures in respect of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia.

1.3.24. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 545/92 concerning the arrangements applicable to imports into the Community of products originating in the Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia (1992).

□ **Regulation to be amended:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 545/92 (OJ L 63, 7.3.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.18), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1433/92: OJ L 151, 3.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.13

Adopted by the Commission on 14 September. The Commission proposes adding to Council Regulation (EEC) No 545/92 an Article 10a on the procedure for establishing rules of origin.

COM(92) 393

II

Mediterranean countries

Economic cooperation with the Maghreb

1.3.25. Economic and Social Committee own-initiative opinion on economic cooperation with the Maghreb.

□ **References:**

Commission recommendation for the conclusion of the Protocols with Morocco and Tunisia: OJ C 135, 25.5.1991; Bull. EC 5-1991, point 1.3.28 and 1.3.31

Visit by Mr Matutes to Morocco: Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.3.22

Decision 92/206/EEC on the conclusion of the fourth financial Protocol with Algeria: OJ L 94, 8.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.3.20

Commission communication to the Council 'From the Single Act to Maastricht and beyond: the means to match our ambitions': COM(92) 2000; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.2.1; Supplement 1/92; Bull. EC

Commission communication to the Council 'The future of relations between the Community and the Maghreb': Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.4.6

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1763/92 concerning financial cooperation in respect of all Mediterranean non-member countries: OJ L 181, 1.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.17

Conclusions of the Lisbon European Council: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.31

Adopted by the Economic and Social Committee on 24 September. The Economic and Social Committee outlined the underlying principles of the Mediterranean policy, namely the establishment of a strategic Euro-Mediterranean area, the introduction of a co-development policy, the need for an overall Mediterranean approach and regional cooperation. It was also broadly in favour of the guidelines set out in the Commission communication on 'The future of relations between the Community and the Maghreb', guidelines which were endorsed by the Lisbon European Council.

Regional integration must become the priority objective of EC-Maghreb cooperation. Cooperation schemes must have a synergic effect and encourage the process of economic and market integration and legislative and administrative harmonization. This would be achieved by supporting the establishment of a customs union, providing technical assistance for the economic integration process, financing projects of regional interest and establishing a dialogue between the two areas at all levels and in every sphere.

The second aim was 'to anchor the Maghreb to the Community', as enshrined in the concept of co-development or partnership. This integration with the European economy would mean developing and exploiting potential Euro-Maghreb complementary areas of activity, for example within different industrial networks. The Committee stressed two aspects, namely that the co-development policy must comply with the first objective and that it must fit in with the broader framework of the overall Mediterranean approach, of which it constitutes one facet.

The third objective was integrated development at all levels, based on the greatest possible use of local resources. To this end the Committee made various proposals with regard to development cooperation, particularly on debt, structural adjustment and investment.

The Committee called on the Community to focus on the social dimension of its Mediterranean co-development policy.

It also highlighted the need to adopt an appropriate policy with regard to migration from the

Maghreb to the Community and in particular to conclude an agreement between the Community and all the Maghreb countries establishing joint commitments to reduce migratory pressure, regulate and monitor migration and to ensure social security for migrant workers.

Bilateral relations

Cyprus

1.3.26. Visit to the Commission by Mr G. Vassiliou, President of the Republic of Cyprus, on 30 September.

- Reference:** Application for accession by the Republic of Cyprus: Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.4.24

Mr Vassiliou saw Mr Delors, Mr Matutes and other members of the Commission, with whom he discussed Cyprus's application for accession to the Community. Mr Vassiliou highlighted the favourable economic climate in his country and the link established between the Cypriot currency and the ecu since 19 June.

Malta

1.3.27. Visit to the Commission by Mr F. Adami, Prime Minister, on 24 September.

- Reference:** Malta's application for accession to the Community: Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.4.25

Mr Adami saw Mr Schmidhuber and Mr Milan, with whom he discussed his country's application for accession to the Community.

United States of America, Japan and other industrialized countries

Group of Seven

1.3.28. Meeting of G7 finance ministers

- References:**
Munich Western Economic Summit: Bull. 7/8-1992, points 1.4.35 and 2.2.2

Outcome of the French referendum on the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty: point 1.1.1 of this Bulletin

Meeting held in Washington on 19 September. The finance ministers and central bank governors of the seven leading industrialized nations met to exchange views on the international monetary crisis. At the end of the meeting they issued the following statement:

'The Ministers and Governors reaffirm the commitment made by their Heads of State and Government at the Munich Summit to strengthen world growth without rekindling inflation. Since then, measures to reinforce economic recovery have been taken, including interest rate reductions in a number of countries, as well as the recent announcement of the Japanese stimulus package. These measures will strengthen the global economic recovery and foster greater stability of exchange markets.

The Ministers and Governors expressed concern about the recent volatility in world financial markets. They agreed on the importance of restoring stable and long-lasting exchange-rate relationships. The Ministers and Governors will continue to cooperate and to monitor closely economic and financial conditions in their countries and will take appropriate additional actions as needed to achieve sustained growth and greater currency stability.

The Ministers and Governors also met with representatives of the Russian Federation and discussed Russia's reform programme. They urged Russia to intensify its efforts to implement comprehensive economic reform. They also urged the World Bank to form a technical assistance support group for Russia to discuss bilateral and multilateral technical assistance.'

United States of America

1.3.29. Parliament resolution on EC-US economic and trade relations.

- Reference:** Transatlantic Declaration on EC-US relations: Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.5.3

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Parliament considered that economic relations between the EC and the USA were of vital importance to both parties and that they were, taken overall, developing favourably. However, Parliament was also deeply concerned about the trend in the USA towards the

inclusion of unilateral elements in trade law provisions and the growing protectionist tendency in US tax legislation. It believed that a successful outcome of the GATT Uruguay Round talks would eliminate the source of most friction between the EC and the USA and would help enhance the overall credibility of the GATT system. Parliament stressed that, in the context of the Uruguay Round, the US waiver — derogations from GATT agreements which allow the USA to limit imports of certain agricultural products — could not be maintained.

Parliament criticized the US decision to expand substantially the export subsidies programme for US wheat products.

In the field of monetary policy, Parliament expressed the hope that the sharp decline in the value of the US dollar over the past few months would trigger concerted action with the European Community to establish greater stability in the international monetary framework.

To conclude, Parliament welcomed the strengthening of EC-US bilateral dialogue following the Transatlantic Declaration, and called on the Commission to assess the possibility of concluding a non-preferential trade and economic cooperation agreement to complement the existing agreements between the EC and the USA.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Other industrialized countries

South Africa

1.3.30. The troika visited Pretoria and Johannesburg on 2 and 3 September.

□ **Reference:** Parliament resolution on South Africa: OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.111

The troika, made up of Mr Hurd, United Kingdom Foreign Secretary and President of the Council, Mr Barroso, Deputy to the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Ellermann-Jensen, Danish Minister of Foreign

Affairs, accompanied by Mr Andriessen, met Mr De Klerk, President of South Africa, and Mr Mandela, President of the ANC. The members of the troika and Mr Andriessen reiterated the Community's calls for an end to the violence and the resumption of the talks on the future of South Africa. Mr Hurd announced that, in collaboration with the UN and other international bodies, the Community would send 15 observers to strengthen the structures set up under the National Peace Accord, together with five experts to assist the commission of enquiry set up to report on the acts of violence committed in the country. Mr Hurd also offered Community support for police training, if requested by all parties.

1.3.31. Parliament resolution on the renewed upsurge of violence in South Africa.

□ **References:**

Joint statement on violence in South Africa: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.5.8

Parliament resolution on South Africa: OJ C 241, 21.9.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.111

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Shocked by the renewed upsurge of violence in South Africa, and in particular by the events that took place on 7 September in Bisho, Parliament condemned those responsible for this massacre and expressed its belief that the continuation of the homeland system constituted a major obstacle to the process of dismantling apartheid. Parliament called on President De Klerk to take the necessary steps to assert his control over the police and security forces and the various paramilitary organizations.

The resolution concluded by calling for the prompt establishment of an interim government, the resumption of Codesa negotiations, the release of all political prisoners and the repeal of the repressive laws still in force.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Canada

1.3.32. Annual ministerial meeting between the EEC and Canada.

□ **References:**

Framework Agreement for commercial and economic cooperation between the European Communities and Canada: OJ L 260, 24.9.1976

Joint declaration on relations between the European Community and Canada: Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.5.4

Previous ministerial meeting and ninth meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee: Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.36

Annual meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO): point 1.2.143 of this Bulletin

Meeting held in Ottawa on 20 September. The delegations were headed by Mrs McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr Wilson, Minister of International Trade, for the Canadian side, and by Mr Andriessen for the Community. The parties stressed the intensification of bilateral relations between the European Community and Canada in the wake of the adoption of the Transatlantic Declaration of November 1990, particularly in the fields of trade, investment, competition and science and technology. The parties signed the 1992 report of the Joint Cooperation Committee, which underlined the close links established in a number of areas between Canada and the Community since the signing of the Framework Agreement in 1976.

Both sides welcomed the results of the most recent NAFO annual meeting, at which a ban on northern cod fishing outside the Canadian 200-mile limit was approved. Mr Andriessen emphasized the Community's interest in pursuing discussions on access for EC vessels to Canadian ports and to Canadian fishery surpluses.

Both sides stressed the priority they attached to a substantial and balanced outcome of the Uruguay Round talks. They also discussed the situation in the former Yugoslavia and Somalia.

Asia and Latin America

I

Strengthening relations with India

1.3.33. Recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to open

negotiations on a cooperation agreement between the European Economic Community and India.

□ **Reference:** Agreement for commercial and economic cooperation between the European Economic Community and India: OJ L 328, 16.11.1981

Adopted by the Commission on 14 September. The new agreement is intended to replace the commercial and economic cooperation Agreement concluded between the Community and India in 1981, adjusting relations between the two in line with changes since then both in the Community and in India, brought about mainly by the Community's drive towards a single market and India's evolution towards an open market economy.

The new agreement will be an advanced framework cooperation agreement emphasizing economic cooperation and private sector investment, intellectual property rights and development in the widest sense.

It will contain a clause on the aims of cooperation between the Community and India, notably strengthening and diversifying economic and trade relations, cooperation on development issues (targeted to help the most disadvantaged groups) and the promotion of environmental protection.

Economic and commercial cooperation will be geared mainly to encouraging Community Member States to provide the direct investment and technology transfer which India needs to increase its competitiveness on the world market.

The agreement will also stress the importance attached to protecting human rights and the general democratic principles on which Community cooperation with non-Community countries is based.

It will also cover other areas such as drug abuse control and regional cooperation.

II

Latin America

Bilateral relations

El Salvador

1.3.34. Visit by Mr Matutes on 17 September.

□ **References:**

Ministerial conference on political dialogue and economic cooperation between the European Community, its Member States, the countries of Central America, and Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela (San José VIII): Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.42

Statement by the Community and its Member States on the border dispute between Honduras and El Salvador: point 1.4.4 of this Bulletin

Mr Matutes saw Mr Alfredo Cristiani, the President of El Salvador, Mr Manuel Pacas Castro, Foreign Minister, and other members of the government. During the visit, as agreed at the San José VIII ministerial conference, Mr Matutes and Mr Pacas Castro signed a memorandum of understanding on an ECU 50 million package of European Community support for the process of national reconciliation and rebuilding begun after the signing of the peace accords on 16 January 1992. The Community measures are aimed primarily at helping former combatants to return to civilian life and aiding refugees and displaced persons.

The visit also provided an opportunity to discuss human rights, democracy, education, trade promotion and the two sides' commitment to working towards a stable and lasting peace throughout Central America.

Nicaragua

□ **Reference:** Commission decision on emergency aid for Nicaragua: point 1.3.50 of this Bulletin

1.3.35. Visit by Mr Matutes on 16 and 17 September.

Mr Matutes saw Mrs Violetta Chamorro, the President of Nicaragua, and various members of the government. Their talks covered various aspects of cooperation between the Community and Nicaragua, in particular financial and technical cooperation, new Community initiatives on democracy and human rights, the reintegration of refugees, displaced persons and former combatants, and support for agricultural development. Mr Matutes also announced that a large-scale programme of agricultural development and agrarian reform would soon be launched in the Rio Blanco area, with the Community contributing ECU 13.5 million.

He also reaffirmed the Community's support for the victims of the earthquake and tidal wave which struck Nicaragua in September.

1.3.36. Parliament resolution on emergency aid to Nicaragua.

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Following the earthquake and tidal wave which struck Nicaragua on 1 September, Parliament expressed its solidarity with the people of Nicaragua and called on the Commission, the Council and the international community to take all measures necessary to curb the risk of epidemics and to provide support for the thousands affected by the disaster.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Cooperation with Asia and Latin America

1.3.37. Fourteenth annual report to the Council and Parliament on the implementation of financial and technical assistance to Asian and Latin American developing countries.

□ **References:**

Council Decision of 19 December 1988 establishing the general guidelines for 1989 for financial and technical assistance to Asian and Latin American developing countries: Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.2.63

Council Regulation (EEC) No 442/81 of 17 February 1981 (OJ L 48, 21.2.1981), replaced by Regulation (EEC) No 443/92 on financial and technical assistance to and economic coop-

eration with the developing countries in Asia and Latin America: OJ L 52, 27.2.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.40

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. The report covers the implementation of financial and technical assistance to Asian and Latin American developing countries in 1990, and also gives an overview of cooperation in the period 1976-90.

The key characteristic of the 1990 programme is that the ECU 280 million of commitments for the year absorbed almost all of the 1990 budgetary allocation. The breakdown of commitments corresponds to the broad categories set out in the guidelines laid down by the Council Decision of 19 December 1988. In 1990, 24 projects and 9 follow-up projects were approved; 62% of the projects related to Asia and 38% to Latin America.

The Community's commitments led to an additional ECU 192 million from local sources and ECU 60 million from the Member States being granted in cofinancing. This does not include disaster relief or the continuation of previous projects.

The breakdown by sector of the projects and programmes financed by the Community over the years shows a growing Community trend towards supporting the development of institutions, credit for agro-industrial activities and fisheries, economic restructuring and micro-projects in rural areas, all of which reflect priorities in developing economies.

SEC(92) 1590

1.3.38. Project financing.

- Basic Regulation:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 443/92 on financial and technical assistance to and economic cooperation with the developing countries in Asia and Latin America: OJ L 52, 27.2.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.40

Commission decisions adopted on 30 September to provide assistance to the following projects:

- Pakistan: ECU 5.4 million for the Institute for Educational Development;
- Bhutan: ECU 3.5 million for the cultivation of medicinal plants for traditional medicine;

- Asean: ECU 6.5 million for a joint EC-Asean programme to protect patents and registered trade marks;

- Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua): creation of a trust fund to promote Central American exports, with the balance from the project to set up a Central American Payments System to be reallocated to the fund.

Stabex

1.3.39. Report to the Council and Parliament on the administration during 1991 of the system of compensation for loss of export earnings for least-developed countries not signatory of the third ACP-EEC Convention.

- Basic Regulations:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 428/87 and Council Regulation (EEC) No 429/87: OJ L 43, 13.2.1987; Bull. EC 2-1987, point 2.2.32

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. The report covers operations under the system during 1991. It covers the setting-up of the system, the results for the 1990 application year, budgetary aspects and the use of new and previous transfers.

Of the seven countries currently eligible under the system (Haiti having been taken off the list after it signed the fourth Lomé Convention), only two, Bangladesh and Nepal, entered applications for 1990 transfers in time, and only Nepal's request was admissible. The amount that Nepal could claim was ECU 64 213.

ACP countries and OCTs

I

Humanitarian aid for Somalia

1.3.40. Visit by the Community foreign ministers' troika and Mr Andriessen on 4 September.

Mr Hurd, the United Kingdom minister, Mr Deus Pinheiro, the Portuguese minister, and Mr Ellemann-Jensen, the Danish minister, and Mr Andriessen visited Mogadishu to take stock of the situation on the spot. The delegation visited the Digfer hospital and had meetings with the coordinator of the UN agencies concerned, Mr Sahnoun, and representatives of many of the non-governmental organizations working in Somalia.

1.3.41. Visit by the Community development ministers' troika and Mr Marín on 14 and 15 September.

Baroness Chalker, the United Kingdom Development Minister, visited Somalia and northern Kenya accompanied by Ms E. M. Løj, Danish Ambassador and Deputy State Secretary, Mr P. Barbuso, Portugal's Ambassador to Kenya, and Mr Marín.

The main purpose of this trip was to identify the difficulties confronting the agencies and organizations distributing emergency aid in Somalia and northern Kenya, and find ways of easing the distribution of aid sent by the Community and blocked in the port of Mogadishu on account of the presence of armed factions that prevented the aid leaving the port or hijacked it.

1.3.42. Parliament resolution on the situation in Somalia.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 September. Believing that the situation in Somalia called for creative use of the resources available in view of the serious security and logistic problems besetting the distribution of food aid, Parliament approved the Council's decision to authorize military protection for humanitarian aid. Noting that funds were still available for Somalia under the Lomé II and Lomé III Conventions, it asked the Council to release them to finance fresh emergency aid.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.3.43. Council conclusions on food aid to Somalia.

Adopted by the Council on 10 September.

'In view of the exceptional circumstance reigning in Somalia, and having consulted its ACP partners,

the Council hereby approves the Commission's proposal concerning the part-financing of operations of Belgian soldiers sent at the United Nations' request to protect aid convoys from arrival to final destination pursuant to Resolution 775 of the UN Security Council.

The cost of this aid, which shall be limited to USD 27 million, is to be financed from the unexpended balances of Somalia's Lomé II and Lomé III indicative programmes. It should not be used for the purchase of military equipment and shall be disbursed in accordance with the usual EDF procedures.' (Only the French text is authentic.)

1.3.44. Commission communication to the Council on the prospects for humanitarian aid to Somalia.

Adopted by the Commission on 30 September. The communication sets out the Commission's suggestions for future policy and prepares the ground for the UN donors' conference scheduled for October, at which a programme for '100 days of action' will be presented. The communication is the upshot of two visits to Somalia and Kenya by the Community troika, which concluded that the Community's traditional emergency aid and food aid instruments were not adequate to deal with the special circumstances reigning in Somalia.

1.3.45. Commission decision on further emergency aid for Somalia (→ point 1.3.50).

II

Financial and technical cooperation

1.3.46. Financing of projects.

Commission decisions allocating a total of ECU 167 220 000 from the sixth and seventh EDFs (see Table 8).

Table 8 — *Financing of operations under the sixth and seventh EDFs*

Country	Purpose	Amount	
		Grant	Special loan
	<i>Economic infrastructure</i>		
Central African Republic	Aid for national public works laboratory	1.200	—
Tanzania/Kenya	Road	48.000	—
Grenada	Repair of rural road network	1.580	—
	<i>Rural production</i>		
Nigeria	Development of the arid area of Katsina	25.000	—
Ecowas ¹ members	Better use of fishery products	8.000	—
Kenya	Forest conservation	4.400	—
Antigua/Barbados	Livestock production	0.130	—
	<i>Social development</i>		
Guinea-Bissau	Vocational training	1.450	—
Nigeria	University libraries	11.500	—
Burundi	Health	18.000	—
Belize	New hospital	4.200	—
14 west African States	Education infrastructure	2.800	—
	<i>Industrialization</i>		
Senegal	Aid for the phosphates industry	—	10.500
Mauritania	Prospecting for gold	2.500	—
Djibouti	Promotion of craft industries	1.960	—
	<i>Other</i>		
Guinea	General import programme	14.000	—
Lesotho	Structural adjustment support programme	8.500	—
Rwanda	Institutional aid	3.500	—
	Total	156.720	10.500

¹ Economic Community of west African States.

General development cooperation

Humanitarian aid

Food aid

1.3.47. Emergency food aid.

Commission decision: grant of emergency aid in the form of seeds equivalent to 15 000 tonnes of cereals with an estimated total value of ECU 2.25 million to Mozambique.

Cooperation via non-governmental organizations

1.3.48. Projects in developing countries.

Commission cofinancing: commitment of ECU 9 469 628 for 41 operations presented by 33 NGOs.

1.3.49. Campaigns to raise public awareness of development issues.

Commission contribution: ECU 2 503 086 towards 30 operations.

Emergency aid

1.3.50. *Commission decisions:* see Table 9.

Table 9 — *Emergency aid*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Purpose	Amount
Afghanistan	Victims of fighting	0.5
Angola	Returnees	2.0
Eritrea	Drought	0.75
Nicaragua	Earthquake	0.25
Pakistan	Flooding	0.25
Philippines	Flooding	0.5
Somalia	Victims of fighting	6.0
Somalia	Victims of fighting	20.0

Commercial policy

General matters

Commercial policy instruments

Trade protection

Council anti-dumping measures

1.3.51. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2778/92 extending the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of ferro-silicon originating in Poland and Egypt.

Commission proposal: COM(92) 373; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.66

Adopted by the Council on 21 September.

OJ L 281, 25.9.1992

1.3.52. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2848/92 extending the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports into the Community of certain large electrolytic aluminium capacitors originating in Japan.

Reference: Provisional duty: OJ L 152, 4.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.56

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 2 September.

COM(92) 385

Adopted by the Council on 28 September.

OJ L 286, 1.10.1992

1.3.53. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2849/92 modifying the definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of ball bearings with a greatest external diameter exceeding 30 mm originating in Japan imposed by Regulation (EEC) No 1739/85.

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 167, 27.6.1985; Bull. EC 6-1985, point 2.3.2

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 2 September.

COM(92) 375

Adopted by the Council on 28 September.

OJ L 286, 1.10.1992

1.3.54. Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No 2112/90 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain types of electronic microcircuits known as DRAMs (dynamic random access memories) originating in Japan and collecting definitively the provisional duty.

□ **Reference:** Definitive duty: OJ L 193, 25.7.1990; Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.4.75

Adopted by the Commission on 16 September.

COM(92) 388

1.3.55. Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No 1798/90 in respect of the definitive anti-dumping duty on certain imports of monosodium glutamate originating, *inter alia*, in Indonesia and the Republic of Korea.

□ **Reference:** Definitive duty: OJ L 167, 30.6.1990; Bull. EC 6-1990, point 1.4.53

Adopted by the Commission on 15 September.

COM(92) 402

Commission anti-dumping measures

1.3.56. Anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of isobutanol originating in the Russian Federation.

Notice of initiation published on 11 September.

OJ C 239, 18.9.1992

1.3.57. Anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain kinds of magnetic disks (3.5" microdisks) originating in Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea.

Notice of initiation published on 15 September.

OJ C 239, 18.9.1992

1.3.58. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2686/92 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports into the Community of certain types of electronic microcircuits known as DRAMs (dynamic random access memories), originating in the Republic of Korea.

□ **Reference:** Notice of initiation: OJ C 57, 6.3.1991; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.3.59

Adopted by the Commission on 16 September.

OJ L 272, 17.9.1992

1.3.59. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2799/92 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of deadburned (sintered) magnesia originating in the People's Republic of China.

□ **Reference:** notice of initiation: OJ C 276, 23.10.1991; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.3.60

Adopted by the Commission on 25 September.

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

1.3.60. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2800/92 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of magnesium oxide originating in the People's Republic of China.

□ **Reference:** Notice of initiation: OJ C 279, 23.10.1991; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.3.61

Adopted by the Commission on 25 September.

OJ L 282, 26.9.1992

1.3.61. Review of anti-dumping measures concerning imports of cotton yarn originating in Brazil and Turkey.

□ **Reference:** Definitive duty: OJ L 82, 27.3.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.3.56

Notice of initiation published on 15 September.

OJ C 244, 23.9.1992

Treaties and trade agreements

1.3.62. Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate agreements between the Community and certain third countries on mutual recognition in the field of conformity assessment.

□ **Commission recommendation:** Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.10

Adopted by the Council on 21 September.

1.3.63. Proposal for a Council Decision authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

□ **Reference:** Council Decision 69/494/EEC on the progressive standardization of agreements concerning commercial relations between Member States and third countries and on the negotiation of Community agreements: OJ L 326, 29.12.1969

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September. This proposal concerns the agreements which expire or are due to be terminated between 1 August 1992 and 31 January 1993.

COM(92) 367

Common rules for imports

□ **Basic Regulation:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 288/82 on common rules for imports: OJ L 35, 9.2.1982; Bull. EC 2-1982, point 2.2.5

1.3.64. Council Regulation (EEC) No 2875/92 abolishing certain quantitative restrictions and amending Annex I to Regulation (EEC) No 288/82.

□ **Commission proposal:** COM(92) 287; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.93

Adopted by the Council on 21 September.

OJ L 287, 2.10.1992

1.3.65. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 288/82 on common rules for imports.

Adopted by the Commission on 18 September. This proposal adapts the rules for imports into the Community to take account of the completion of the single market. It provides for standardization and simplification of procedures and formalities, and the removal of the disparities resulting from the remaining national restrictions.

COM(92) 374

International organizations and conferences

United Nations

1.3.66. General Assembly.

□ **Previous session:** Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.3.69

The 47th session opened in New York on 21 September. At the opening of this session, the United Nations welcomed 13 new members: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Slovenia, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and the Republic of San Marino.

The Community was represented by Mr Hurd, President of the Council, and Mr Andriessen and Mr Matutes of the Commission. In his address, Mr Hurd underlined the close cooperation between the Community and the United Nations, particularly in the context of the conference for peace in Yugoslavia, and the role of preventive diplomacy, which called for the strengthening of international institutions such as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Mr Hurd also recalled that the Member States of the Community had provided 40% of total contributions to new UN operations and those decided at the previous Assembly.

In the forefront of the many issues addressed by the various speakers were the problems in Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Somalia, Cambodia, South Africa, the Middle East, Iraq and Cyprus, along with more general questions relating to North-South cooperation. Many speakers also raised human rights issues, in the light of the world conference scheduled for June 1993 in Vienna, and the agenda for peace proposed by the Secretary-General.

Mr Andriessen and Mr Matutes took advantage of the occasion to take part in meetings between the Community and Israel, China, the United States of America, Japan, the Russian Federation, the non-aligned countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Rio Group and the Central American countries.

Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

1.3.67. Parliament resolution on the statement of the Helsinki II Summit.

□ **Reference:** Third summit of Heads of State or Government and Foreign Ministers of the CSCE: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.100

Adopted by Parliament on 17 September. Considering that the maintenance of peace, stability and security and the prevention and solution of regional conflicts in Europe required the strengthening of universal bodies and that the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe therefore had a fundamental role to play, Parliament welcomed the statement adopted at the third summit as a further step towards reinforcing the CSCE's structures and institutions. It also welcomed the Community's proposals on crisis prevention and dispute settlement. Parliament called for the creation of a conciliation and settlements court and the adoption of a code of conduct governing security relations between member countries. It concluded by calling on the Commission to ensure full respect for the rights of Parliament in the CSCE Assembly.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Council of Europe

1.3.68. Committee of Ministers.

A special session took place in Istanbul on 10 and 11 September. Mr Matutes represented the Commission at this meeting, which had been called to examine the Council of Europe's role in a changing Europe and was attended by representatives not only of the 27 member countries but also of the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, together with the Central Asian republics Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Expressing their desire to promote contacts and cooperation between the Council of Europe, the CIS and Georgia, the member countries reaffirmed the need for a flexible and differentiated approach to the CIS republics and Georgia.

Mr Matutes took stock of cooperation between the Community and the CIS countries and Georgia in the light of the Washington and Lisbon conferences and the forthcoming meetings to coordinate assistance to these countries.

The Committee of Ministers adopted a statement on the conflict in the former Yugoslavia:

apart from the reiteration of the usual points concerning the inviolability of frontiers, respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rights of national minorities, it listed the courses of action open to the United Nations and those in charge of the international conference for peace in the former Yugoslavia.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Activities in September

1.3.69. The Bank's Board of Directors proposed for the governors' approval Slovenia's application to become a shareholder in the institution. The Bank also decided to open an office in Riga to cover the Baltic States.

It also announced the following operations:

Bulgaria

1.3.70. The Bank granted a loan of ECU 37 million to the Bulgarian telecommunications authority, under a cofinancing arrangement with the EIB (ECU 70 million) and the World Bank (ECU 15 million), as part of a joint programme which had already received technical assistance under Phare.

It was to be used to fund a programme to modernize the national telecommunications system and provide new facilities for long-distance calls.

Estonia

1.3.71. The Bank took a ECU 1.5 million holding in the Estonia Investment Bank, a new financial institution set up with technical assistance from the Nordic Investment Bank and an own resources grant of ECU 2.5 million from the Phare programme. This bank, controlled initially by one major shareholder, the Estonian Central Bank, was founded specially to provide hard currency loans to Estonian SMEs.

Poland

1.3.72. The EBRD granted a loan of ECU 30 million to an Italian-Polish joint venture, *Huta Warszawa Lucchini*, one of Poland's leading steel producers. The loan was intended to help finance the modernization of the steel-works with financial and technological back-up from the Italian steel company Lucchini, the major shareholder in the joint venture.

1.3.73. A loan of ECU 10.8 million was granted to an Italian-Polish joint venture, *Legler Polonia*, to finance the equipment and start-up of a factory manufacturing denim cloth and denim clothing for sale on the national and European markets.

1.3.74. The Bank granted a loan of ECU 11.6 million to *Konspol-Bis*, a Polish distributor of foodstuffs, to finance the construction and equipment of a plant for raising battery hens.

Russia

1.3.75. The Bank invested ECU 2.2 million in a new Russian bank, the Bank for Financing Projects in Russia. The majority of the new bank's shares would be held by Russians (49% by commercial banks and a further 16% by its managers and staff) with a strong overseas minority. Its activities would initially be restricted to financial advice, but it would subsequently become a major institution with a capital of USD 100 million. The Commission was providing considerable support for the bank's establishment under its Tacis programme, allocating a technical assistance budget of ECU 7 million to pay for missions by overseas experts and training programmes in addition to the project's management.

1.3.76. A mixed financial package, comprising a loan of ECU 1.8 million and an equity investment of ECU 6.4 million (40% of the capital), was granted to an American-Italian-Russian joint venture between the civic authorities in St Petersburg and Golub Macaferi Russia, a consortium formed by the Chicago-based property firm Golub and Macaferi, one of Italy's leading construction firms. The funds

were to be used for the rehabilitation of office buildings in the centre of St Petersburg.

Human rights in the world

Afghanistan

1.3.77. Parliament resolution on the ex-Soviet soldiers detained in Afghanistan.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament invited the Afghan government and the commanders of the mujahidin groups to arrange for the immediate release of all ex-Soviet soldiers and to allow them to leave the country.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Bangladesh

1.3.78. Parliament resolution on human rights in Bangladesh.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament condemned the massacre on 10 April of hundreds of unarmed Jumma civilians in Logang. It called on the government to respect human rights in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) and to end its policy of forcibly relocating indigenous people. It called on the UN Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur to monitor the situation in the CHT.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992.

Iraq

1.3.79. Parliament resolution on the situation in Iraq.

Adopted on 17 September. Condemning the excessively harsh sentences of ten and seven years' imprisonment passed on Mr Wainwright and Mr Ride for illegally entering Iraq, Parliament urged President Saddam Hussein not to use these Community citizens as pawns in an international dispute and to release them immediately. It called on the Council to hold an urgent meeting with the

Iraqi ambassador to bring Parliament's views to his notice.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Iran

1.3.80. Parliament resolution on human rights in Iran.

Adopted on 17 September. Concerned at the new wave of official oppression of women, including arbitrary arrest, flogging and public assault, Parliament called on the Member States to present to the UN General Assembly a proposal for a substantive resolution condemning human rights violations in general and the oppression of Iranian women in particular.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Malawi

1.3.81. Parliament resolution on continued human rights abuses in Malawi.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament called on the Community's foreign ministers meeting in European political cooperation to condemn the systematic violation of human rights in Malawi and to continue to intercede with a view to ensuring the safety of clerics opposing the government.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Turkey

1.3.82. Parliament resolution on the human rights situation in Turkey.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament condemned attacks by the Turkish armed forces on Kurdish civilians and acts of terrorism by the PKK. It called for a CSCE conference on the Kurdish problem and called on the Community and the Member States to support such an initiative.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

1.3.83. Parliament resolution on the deaths of journalists in Turkey.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament urged the government to open an investigation into the causes of the deaths in suspicious circumstances of several Turkish journalists in the south-east of the country and, where necessary, to bring those responsible to justice.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Viet Nam

1.3.84. Parliament resolution on the human rights situation in Viet Nam.

Adopted on 17 September. Parliament called on the Council and the Commission to exert pressure on the Vietnamese authorities to compel them to respect fully the right to freedom of worship and called on the authorities to release five Buddhist leaders reported to be under house arrest or in re-education camps.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

4. Intergovernmental cooperation

European political cooperation

1.4.1. The joint statements adopted and published in September are reproduced below in chronological order.

South Africa

1.4.2. The following joint statement was published in London and Brussels on 8 September:

'The Community and its Member States strongly condemn the killing and wounding of numerous ANC supports in Ciskei on 7 September and other recent violent incidents, including the deaths of 10 people in Natal on 4 September. Violence and intolerance have again claimed innocent lives; democratic change has again been threatened. They understand that Judge Goldstone's Commission is investigating the events in Natal. They call on all parties to agree to the extension of the National Peace Accord to cover the so-called "independent" homelands, and the South African Government to exercise firm control over the security forces throughout South Africa.

During last week's visit to South Africa by the EC ministerial troika, the Community and its Member States were invited by all parties to send observers to reinforce the National Peace Accord, as envisaged by UN Security Council Resolution 772. They are responding urgently to this invitation, and stand ready to respond to any further request for help from all parties.

But the future ultimately lies in the hands of South Africans themselves: the peaceful transition to a non-racial democracy needs their wholehearted support. Time is short. The Community and its Member States call on all parties to show restraint, to tackle the violence which threatens their common future through the National Peace Accord, and to build a democratic South Africa through an early and determined return to constitutional negotiations and the establishment of an interim government.'

Zaire

1.4.3. The following joint statement was published in London and Brussels on 10 September:

'The Community and its Member States note with satisfaction the election of Prime Minister Tshisekedi by the National Conference and the acceptance of his government by both the Conference and the President. This represents a further step towards democracy in Zaire. The Community and its Member States wish the government success in working towards creating a climate which will allow peaceful progress towards free and fair elections and social and economic recovery.'

Honduras/El Salvador

1.4.4. The following joint statement on the International Court of Justice ruling on the Honduras/El Salvador border dispute was published in London and Brussels on 11 September:

'The Community and its Member States welcome the commitment of the Governments of Honduras and El Salvador to accept and implement the ruling of the International Court of Justice, handed down on 11 September 1992, on the land, island, and maritime border dispute between them. This ruling provides an opportunity for lasting peace between the two States, bringing to an end a dispute more than 100 years old. This will, at the same time, contribute to the transformation of Central America into a zone of peace, freedom, democracy and development.'

Lebanon

1.4.5. The following joint statement on the elections in Lebanon was published in London and Brussels on 11 September:

□ **Reference:** Joint statement of 18 August: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.5.11

'In their statement of 18 August the Community and its Member States welcomed the prospect of a

renewal of the democratic process in Lebanon and called for the elections to be conducted according to democratic principles and in the spirit of national reconciliation which characterized the Taif Accord.

They regret that the low turn-out, alleged irregularities and interference and denial of access to voting booths in the south has impeded the democratic process and produced a parliament which does not fully reflect the political will of the Lebanese people. They reaffirm their support for the Taif Accord as the best basis for achieving Lebanese independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, free of all foreign troops.'

Somalia

1.4.6. The following joint statement was issued at the informal meeting of Foreign Ministers at Brocket Hall, Hertfordshire, on 12 and 13 September and was published in London and Brussels on 13 September:

'Following the visits to Mogadishu of the troika Foreign Ministers on 4 September, and of other EC Ministers, Ministers reviewed the situation in Somalia. The collapse of government in Somalia and the resulting tragedy for its people require the most committed response on the part of the international community.

Ministers paid tribute to the courageous humanitarian work being carried out in Somalia by a number of non-governmental agencies in collaboration with devoted local personnel.

A first requirement now is that the level of outside aid to Somalia be commensurate with the gravity of the situation. In addition to the efforts made by individual Member States, the Community has collectively made available 185 000 tonnes of food and ECU 15 million of non-food humanitarian assistance this year. The Community has recently committed additional funds to the protection of humanitarian convoys, under UN auspices.

The Community and its Member States appeal to other members of the international community to join with them in increasing the volume of international aid to Somalia.

Priority also attaches to the protection of humanitarian convoys and the distribution of food and medicines in conditions of civil order.

The Community and its Member States call on all political groupings in Somalia to contribute to this end, in accordance with the resolutions of the UN Security Council. They are convinced that a ceasefire in all areas and the deployment of UN armed guards in adequate numbers will facilitate emergency relief work. The Community and its Member States confirmed their full support for the United Nations role in Somalia, and in particular the admirable work of the Secretary-General's representative Ambassador Sahnoun. It is through Ambassador Sahnoun's consultations that legitimate government can be re-established in Somalia.

In the view of the Community and its Member States, none of the Somali factions can lay claim to speak as the legitimate authority in Somalia. They call on the factions to restore legitimate authority through a process of national reconciliation.

Ministers invited the Commission to restore a permanent EC presence in Somalia as a focal point for the Community's humanitarian efforts and the efforts to support long-term development in the area. A troika of Development Ministers is visiting Kenya and Somalia to assess further how the Community can contribute to the provision and distribution of humanitarian aid within Somalia.'

Equatorial Guinea

1.4.7. The following joint statement was published in London and Brussels on 22 September:

□ **Reference:** Council resolution of 28 November 1991, on human rights, democracy and development: Bull. EC 11-1991, points 1.3.67 and 2.3.1

'On behalf of the Community and its Member States, Heads of Mission in Malabo delivered a *démarche* to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Equatorial Guinea on 16 September. The *démarche* expressed concern about violence used by police when detaining opposition politicians on 1 September. The Community urged the authorities to release those detained. The *démarche* recalled Article 5 of the Fourth Lomé Convention (which enjoins recipients of EC aid to respect human rights) and the Resolution on Human Rights, Democracy and Development passed by the Development Council on 28 November 1991.'

5. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Financial perspective

1.5.1. Revision No 4/92 of the financial perspective annexed to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 29 June 1988.

References:

Interinstitutional Agreement of 29 June 1988 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure: OJ L 185, 15.7.1988; Bull. EC 6-1988, point 2.3.8

Commission decision on the commitment of ECU 120 million in humanitarian aid for refugees and displaced persons in what was formerly Yugoslavia: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.18

Council Decision on financial assistance to Albania: point 1.3.7 of this Bulletin

Draft supplementary and amending budget No 3/92: point 1.5.2 of this Bulletin

Commission proposal adopted on 2 September. The proposal covers humanitarian assistance for refugees and displaced persons in what was formerly Yugoslavia and the restoration of the Phare appropriations used for advance financing of assistance to Albania. It provides for an increase of ECU 135 million in the overall ceiling for commitment appropriations, with an increase of ECU 145 million for non-compulsory expenditure and a reduction of ECU 10 million for compulsory expenditure.

The Commission also proposes that the ceiling for payment appropriations be raised by ECU 110 million, with an increase of ECU 120 million for non-compulsory expenditure and a reduction of ECU 10 million for compulsory expenditure.

SEC(92) 1612

Resolution adopted by Parliament on 16 September on revision No 4/92 of the financial perspective and draft supplementary and amending budget No 3/92. Following the tri-logue meeting of 15 September, Parliament approved the revision of the financial perspective for humanitarian assistance for refugees and displaced persons in what was formerly Yugoslavia. Contrary to the Commission proposal, the overall ceiling for commitment appropriations was raised by ECU 100 million, with an increase of ECU 120 million for non-compulsory expenditure offset by a reduction of ECU 20 million for compulsory expenditure.

As regards the restoration of the Phare appropriations used for advance financing of assistance to Albania, the Commission, the Council and Parliament agreed that a further revision of the financial perspective would only be undertaken if necessary.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Budgetary procedure

1992 financial year

1.5.2. Draft supplementary and amending budget No 3/92.

Reference: Revision No 3/92 of the financial perspective annexed to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 29 June 1988: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.6.1

Preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget No 3/92; first reading by the Council: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.6.2

Resolution adopted by Parliament on revision No 4/92 of the financial perspective and draft supplementary and amending budget No 3/92. Parliament adopted supplementary and amending budget 3/92, which includes expenditure authorized under revisions No 3/92 and No 4/92 of the financial perspective.

The amendments to the 1992 budget affect both revenue and expenditure. On the expenditure side, they include a reduction of ECU 2 754 million — spread over various headings — in appropriations entered in the EAGGF Guarantee Section, an increase of ECU 120 million in appropriations in Title B7-5 for the granting of aid to the States of former Yugoslavia, the elimination of ECU 10 million in commitment appropriations from the negative reserve for research, an increase in payment appropriations for the structural Funds (ECU 560 million for Community support frameworks in the *Länder* of the former GDR) and research (ECU 140 million divided among four programmes under the third framework programme) and an increase in appropriations for repayments to Spain and Portugal (ECU 1.3 million).

On the revenue side, supplementary and amending budget No 3 reduces the estimated surplus from the previous financial year by ECU 1 388 million, creates new budget headings for contributions by the EFTA countries to the Erasmus programme and for the loan guarantees granted to Bulgaria, Romania and Albania, and brings the GNP-based contribution to own resources down from ECU 11 274 million to ECU 9 323 million.

Parliament also pointed out that the increasing frequency of supplementary and amending budgets is not consistent with Article 15 of the Financial Regulation, which limits their use to 'unavoidable, exceptional or unforeseen circumstances'.

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Financial rules

1.5.3. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.

References:

Commission communication to the Council *From the Single Act to Maastricht and beyond: The means to match our ambitions*: COM(92) 2000; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.2.1; Supplement 1/92 — Bull. EC

Agreement establishing the European Economic Area: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.1

Regulation to be amended: Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 356, 31.12.1977), last amended by Regulation (Euratom, ECSC, EEC) No 610/90: OJ L 70, 16.3.1990; Bull. EC 3-1990, point 1.4.6

Adopted by the Commission on 2 September.

The proposal includes a series of amendments to the provisions applicable to the general budget and a new budgetary presentation for borrowing and lending operations.

The amendments concerning the general budget are required to take into account the Treaty on European Union, the Agreement on the European Economic Area and the need to adjust certain rules governing contributions from non-member countries and the award of contracts.

The Commission has identified six changes which have to be made to the Financial Regulation to adapt it to the revision of the Treaties:

additional information to be included in the financial statement in connection with the principle of subsidiarity; the specific aim of this amendment is to justify Community financing and its relation to national expenditure;

the principle of the use of the ecu in the execution of the budget; this proposal is being relaunched in view of the political prospects of monetary union and the need to improve consistency between the establishment and execution of the budget;

the new status of the Court of Auditors and the extension of its powers;

the new status of the Economic and Social Committee and the creation of a Committee of the Regions;

the amendment of provisions on the discharge procedure to tighten political control by Parliament and the Council over budget execution;

the harmonization of texts.

A series of provisions have also been added to cover the implementation of the EEA Agreement, which provides for financial contri-

butions from the EFTA countries to various Community activities. These amendments are designed to ensure proper budgetary presentation, make provision for the entry of appropriations and guarantee the necessary flexibility in the execution of the budget.

Further provisions were needed to cover financial contributions from non-member countries, while the rules governing the award of contracts had to be clarified in the interests of the administrative departments of the Community institutions.

The Commission will propose further adjustments to the Financial Regulation to take into account the decisions adopted on completion of the negotiations on the 'own resources' section of the second package of structural and financial measures.

The presentation of borrowing and lending operations has been changed to take into account their growing importance and the increasing risks they entail for the budget. The Commission is proposing a series of measures to improve the treatment of these operations, aimed mainly at ensuring transparency and guaranteeing supervision by the two arms of the budgetary authority (→ point 1.5.5).

OJ C 254, 1.10.1992; COM(92) 358

ECSC operating budget

1.5.4. Draft ECSC operating budget for 1993.

Adopted by the Commission on 30 September. With a reduction in the levy rate from 0.27% to 0.25%, the draft ECSC operating budget for 1993 totals ECU 475 million, as against ECU 536 million in 1992.

The draft budget provides for expenditure of ECU 235 million on social aid (including ECU 185 million for redeployment aid and ECU 50 million for the restructuring of the coal industry), ECU 110 million on research aid and ECU 125 million on interest subsidies.

Total expenditure on projects with a specific impact on the environment is estimated at

ECU 46 million. A total of ECU 100 million is earmarked for the Rechar programme.

To cover this expenditure, a total of ECU 146 million will be raised from the levy, adding to the surplus of ECU 269 million from last year. Cancelled commitments and unused resources bring the total to ECU 475 million.

SEC(92) 1670

Financial operations

Financial regulations

1.5.5. Commission report on the treatment of borrowing and lending operations in the Community's finances.

□ **Reference:** Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 356, 31.12.1977), last amended by Regulation (Euratom, ECSC, EEC) No 610/90: OJ L 79, 16.2.1990; Bull. EC 3-1990, point 1.4.6

Adopted on 2 September. The report sets out the historical development and present situation of borrowing and lending operations. It describes the new factors affecting the overall picture and the problems associated with the operations so that various proposals to improve their presentation in the budget can be considered.

The aim of the Commission is greater transparency for borrowing and lending operations. The report identifies three levels where treatment could be improved:

□ *improved and more explicit risk assessment by the budgetary authority* for borrowing and lending operations; the actual presentation of budget information in respect of these operations would be improved by dividing the budget into two volumes, the second being devoted exclusively to borrowing/lending operations;

closer monitoring of risks: the Commission will be presenting a report twice a year assessing the situation as regards operations guaranteed by the budget, thus supplementing the information available to the budgetary authority in the budget documents;

more effective procedures for entering in the budget amounts connected with any activation of the guarantee: the establishment of a reserve — to be inserted in the financial perspective for 1993-97 — would make for more transparency as regards risks, eliminate delays arising from any need to revise the financial perspective and reduce the risk of disrupting budgetary execution.

SEC(92) 712

Borrowing and lending operations

1.5.6. In September, no loans were granted under Article 54 or Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty.

Measures to combat fraud

1.5.7. Council conclusions on the fight against fraud.

Adopted on 28 September.

‘The Council reaffirms the importance of the fight against irregularity and fraud against the Community budget and recalls the requirement for Member States to take the same measures to counter fraud affecting the financial interests of the Community as they take to counter fraud affecting their own financial interests. The Council considers that effective action against irregularity and fraud requires:

cooperation among Member States and between Member States and the Commission;

effective coordination by the Commission in the light of its responsibilities for implementing the budget and ensuring that Community legislation is properly applied;

and adequate provisions in Community and, where appropriate, national measures, to safeguard Community expenditures and revenue.

The Council considered the progress which has been made in the fight against fraud, as described in the Commission’s third annual report. The Council’s conclusions are set out in [point 1.5.8].

The Council considers it essential that provisions should be in place for all Community activities with budgetary implications to ensure effective control against irregularity, including fraud, and asks the Commission to take this into account when bringing forward proposals for new legislation. It notes the progress which has been made in this respect in the agricultural sector, including the Commission’s proposals for an integrated administration and control system, and would like to see comparable progress in other sectors.

The Council considers that the Court of Auditors interim report on export refunds raises important issues and notes that the Court will be producing further relevant reports. The Council notes that there will be further detailed consideration of the main issues, especially those of a more general nature raised in this report. It considers that such an examination should include whether a new unit should be set up, as proposed by the Court, or whether the problems identified in auditing multinational companies should be addressed by improved mutual assistance and cooperation between Member States and the Commission, or by some other means.

The Council notes that there is also a series of actions which are being undertaken, including within the framework of established intergovernmental cooperation, which will contribute to the protection of the Community budget. The Council welcomes the progress which is being made, including in setting up a new customs information system which will play an important part in the fight against fraud against the Community budget.

The Council considers that the fight against irregularity and fraud is of central importance in ensuring the sound financial management of the Community budget. It agrees that an *ad hoc* high-level working party should be established and, in order to inform discussion of fraud and financial management at the Council’s November session, should report back on the following issues:

the steps needed in order to comply with the requirements on anti-fraud action embodied in the new Treaty;

the scope for improving levels of identification, reporting and recovery by Member States including the question of motivation;

- further consideration of the Court of Auditors interim report on export refunds, including examination of the Court's recommendation for a new unit and of possible alternatives to such a unit;
- appropriate arrangements for contacts between Council, Commission and European Parliament to establish the Community's priorities for the annual work programme on fraud;
- action needed on other priorities identified in the Council's conclusions on the Commission's annual report, including effective ways of ensuring equivalent level of control throughout the Community.

The Council also asks the Commission to bring forward, within the same time-table, an assessment of organization of its anti-fraud activities.'

1.5.8. Council conclusions on the annual report on fraud.

- Reference:** Third Commission report on the work done in the fight against fraud in 1991: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.4.9

Adopted on 28 September.

'The Council takes note of the Commission's report on the fight against fraud in 1991 and welcomes the evidence it provides of continuing efforts with regard to investigations and financial audits carried out and progress achieved in the work programme.

It has also noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in investigations and financial audits and the results thereof. It offers every support for the continuation of the Commission's efforts in this area, particularly in cooperation with the Member States.

In the light of the 1991 objectives set out in the Council statement of 8 July 1991, the Council notes with satisfaction the progress achieved towards the simplification of agricultural legislation, the continuance of cooperation efforts with the Member States and with third countries, and the first steps with regard to the inclusion in the statements attached to legislative proposals of information on the prevention of fraud. The Council also welcomes the establishment of a common position on the customs code, dated 14 May 1992, and anticipates its rapid adoption.

As priorities for future action, it believes that:

- renewed efforts are necessary in order to simplify the nomenclature with regard to export refunds;
- discussion on simplification of agricultural legislation — up to now conducted by the Lachaux

Group — should be pursued on the basis of a global action programme to study the key CAP arrangements;

- the *ex ante* examination of the anti-fraud aspects of legislative proposals should be improved. It welcomes the Commission's intention of circulating internal directives on the drawing-up of financial statements on the prevention of fraud so as to improve their quality and standardize them, establishing internal procedures for such *ex ante* examination, and ensuring that these directives are properly implemented;

- the principle of targeting on the basis of risk should be extended. Before the end of 1993, the Commission should take appropriate steps for the introduction of the principle of targeting on the basis of risk in all control sectors taking account of the costs, and should study together with the Member States the best means of implementing this principle;

- the possibility should be considered of holding seminars on fraud, relating in particular to the possibilities opened up by new technologies, and organizing exchanges for national intervention agents and persons responsible for the internal administration of the CAP, on the model of the programmes in other sectors;

- the Commission, in cooperation with the Member States, should study the question of incentives in the context of the fight against fraud;

- a Regulation providing for notification of cases of fraud in the area of the structural Funds should replace the code of conduct. It notes with satisfaction the Commission's intention to submit a proposal along these lines as soon as possible.

Noting the direct link between the procedure of clearing of accounts and the fight against irregularities and fraud, the Council welcomes the initiatives taken by the Commission with a view to improving this procedure and anticipates a rapid information on the results of this initiative. The Council considers that this should be examined as quickly as possible, with a view to rationalizing the procedure and in particular reducing the examination period for national accounts.

The Council also welcomes the fact that the Commission is intending to revise the present structure of the report to make it easier to identify progress achieved in the priority sectors during the previous year, while laying emphasis on the Commission's objectives, priorities and strategy, providing up-to-date information on progress achieved, the powers and responsibilities of UCLAF and the work pro-

gramme, and endeavouring to draw lessons from past experience for future action.

The 45-point work programme is the basic document available to the Community for assessing progress made against fraud. The Council welcomes the Commission's commitment to giving high priority to developing the programme, which will include the setting of precise goals and target dates, and will become a rolling action programme.

The programme will be revised and updated annually and published together with the annual report at the latest on 31 March of each year with a view to its being examined by the Council by the end of June. The report will also be sent to the Court of Auditors for any comments it may have.

The Council joins in the conclusion reached by the Commission that much remains to be done to further improve the effectiveness of the fight against fraud; it exhorts the Commission to pursue its task with diligence and in close cooperation with the Member States. It will carefully examine the work accomplished in this area and will weigh progress achieved against the goals set.'

European Investment Bank

Financing

1.5.9. In September the European Investment Bank, the European Community's financial institution, granted loans totalling ECU 545.2 million, of which 93.3 million went outside the Community.

Community

Links with Community policies

1.5.10. Loans were made for the following measures:

ECU 150.1 million for the economic development of disadvantaged regions;

ECU 159.3 million for the protection of the environment and the improvement of the quality of life;

ECU 28.6 million for the pursuit of Community objectives in the field of energy.

The Bank also continued its operations to support small and medium-sized businesses (since the beginning of the year, around ECU 1.5 billion has been granted from current global loans).

Individual loans often come under several Community policies; some are therefore counted more than once in the above amounts.

Geographical breakdown

Belgium

1.5.11. ECU 16.7 million was granted for a gas terminal in Zeebrugge and a gas pipeline from Zeebrugge to the French border.

Denmark

1.5.12. ECU 16.1 million was granted in the form of a global loan to finance small and medium-scale projects.

Germany

1.5.13. ECU 93 million was granted in the form of global loans to finance small and medium-sized projects, and ECU 14.6 million for the extension and modernization of a sewage treatment plant in Cologne.

Greece

1.5.14. ECU 24 million went towards the construction of a hydroelectric power station in Epirus and the installation of electrostatic filters in thermal power stations in western Macedonia.

Spain

1.5.15. ECU 45.6 million was provided for motorway improvements around Barcelona.

France

1.5.16. ECU 87.1 million was granted for the motorway ring round Lyon.

Italy

1.5.17. ECU 74.4 million was provided in the form of global loans to finance small and medium-sized projects and ECU 9.7 million for the modernization of a factory making glass objects.

United Kingdom

1.5.18. ECU 70.7 million was provided for road building in Wales.

Community development cooperation policy

ACP countries

Zimbabwe

1.5.19. ECU 15 million was provided for the extension of a sanitation system in Harare and

ECU 8 million in the form of global loans to finance small and medium-scale projects.

Tanzania

1.5.20. ECU 250 000 was granted from risk capital to acquire an equity share in the capital of Tanzania Development Finance Company Ltd, which provides long-term financing for small and medium-sized businesses.

Cooperation with Central and East European countries

Bulgaria

1.5.21. ECU 70 million was provided for the modernization and extension of the national telecommunications network.

6. Community institutions

Parliament

Strasbourg, 14-18 September

1.6.1. There were relatively few items on the agenda of this part-session, which was very largely dominated by the crisis within the European Monetary System and the French referendum on ratification of the Treaty on European Union. The referendum came up in most of the debates, notably those organized around the 40th anniversary of the first session of the Common Assembly of the ECSC, now the European Parliament.

During this commemorative sitting, which was attended by the Presidents of the Community institutions, a number of former Presidents of the European Parliament, and the Presidents of the parliaments of the Member States, the different speakers highlighted several major themes, including the results of 40 years of European construction, the prospects opened up by the Treaty on European Union, and the European Parliament's role in eliminating the democratic deficit. Mr Klepsch, President of Parliament, praised the progress achieved in the European venture, pointing to the current interest in Community membership and the increasing role of the European Parliament. He also emphasized the need for a change in political balance based on a new security structure in Europe. Mr Garel-Jones, President of the Council, called for a strengthening of cooperation between the European Parliament and the national parliaments. Mr Delors, President of the Commission, paid tribute to Parliament, whose ideas and impetus had greatly contributed to the debates on political union, economic and monetary union, and subsidiarity. He also called for greater democratic accountability within the Community institutions, made possible by the Maastricht Treaty, particularly through the co-decision

procedure, the extension of the assent procedure, and Parliament's involvement in the nomination and appointment of the Commission. However, he made it clear that such a move should be made in close collaboration with the national parliaments, which also represent the sovereign power of the people at European level.

The turmoil in the financial markets and the European Monetary System during the week of the part-session was also the subject of in-depth discussion. Mr Garel-Jones read out a statement from Chancellor Lamont announcing the withdrawal of the pound sterling from the European Monetary System. Mr Van Miert, Member of the Commission, made a statement on both the devaluation of the Italian lira and the withdrawal of the pound sterling from the EMS. He pointed out that, although the EMS functioned correctly under normal circumstances, in a climate of political and economic uncertainty and in the face of growing global economic interdependency it was imperative to strengthen economic and monetary cooperation with a view to achieving economic and monetary union. Mr Van Miert added that the monetary situation would only get back to normal once political stability had been restored by ratification of the Maastricht Treaty.

Although the budget was not to be debated at length until the October part-session, Parliament held a first debate on the Council's draft general budget for 1993, which it considered unacceptable on the grounds that as early as the adoption phase it was already clear that there would need to be supplementary and amending budgets, particularly for the new Cohesion Fund. The House did, however, adopt supplementary and amending Budget No 3/92 (→ point 1.5.2) and revision No 4/92 of the financial perspective (→ point 1.5.1).

In the discussions on external relations, the problem of Yugoslavia was once again on the

agenda, with a statement being made within the framework of European political cooperation and another by the Commission.

Mr Garel-Jones recalled the three main objectives of the International Conference on the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia held in London on 25 and 26 August: to provide adequate humanitarian aid and secure the protection of aid convoys, essentially by establishing an air exclusion zone; to restore respect for human rights by such means as unimpeded and constant access to detention camps; and finally to set in hand a process leading to a just and lasting peace, guaranteeing basic rights for minorities, and renouncing the use of force to alter borders. He also called for a tightening of the sanctions already in place. Mr Marín, Member of the Commission, affirmed his unequivocal support for both statements, stressed the extensiveness of the aid already granted, and declared that the European Community aid effort would henceforth give priority to housing.

During the debates that followed, members reaffirmed their support for Community action in the region and emphasized the urgent need for new measures to stop the conflict spreading to Vojvodina, Kosovo and Sanjak, particularly by sending out observers to these areas. A large majority of MEPs called for increased military intervention by extending the mandate of the United Nations Protection Force and creating an air exclusion zone in Bosnia-Herzegovina. However, the respective responsibilities of the aggressors and recognition of the former Republic of Macedonia were the subject of heated debate. Although no own-initiative resolution was adopted at the end of the debate, the House came out in favour of the Commission proposal to provide emergency aid to victims of the conflict (→ point 1.3.19).

Mr Garel-Jones and Mr Marín, who had returned from a Community troika mission in Somalia, brought up the subject of the tragic situation there (→ point 1.3.40) due primarily to attacks inside Somalia on convoys of food and medicine preventing them from reaching their destination, with disastrous results. Mr Marín reminded the House that the funds allocated to Somalia under the Lomé Conven-

tion were more than sufficient but that there was a need to ensure the safe distribution of supplies. Hence the Commission proposal, which was given the support of the House, to commit funds for the protection of aid relief by European troops (→ point 1.3.42).

With regard to relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the House gave its assent to the conclusion of the association agreements with Hungary and Poland (→ point 1.3.11), but discussions on the association agreement with the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic were held over for a future part-session because of the uncertainties arising from partition.

The House approved the decision of the Group of 24 to grant balance-of-payments support to Albania, in addition to the aid granted by the International Monetary Fund (→ point 1.3.7), and approved the conclusion of the agreement on trade and commercial and economic cooperation with Albania (→ point 1.3.5). It discussed the possibility of providing Hungary with assistance to deal with its debt (→ point 1.3.12) and the prospects for the development of economic and commercial relations with Poland (→ point 1.3.13), and approved the granting of further financial assistance for Bulgaria (→ point 1.3.7).

A resolution was adopted on relations between the European Community and the Commonwealth of Independent States, in which Parliament pressed for Community aid to stabilize the rouble (→ point 1.3.15). Mr Andriessen, Vice-President of the Commission, pointed out that for the moment priority was being given to technical assistance and triangular cooperation.

Economic and commercial relations between the Community and the United States were also discussed, and the House criticized the latter's growing protectionist and unilateralist tendencies (→ point 1.3.29). Mr Andriessen indicated that in spite of this relations with the United States were still good. He also brought up the free-trade agreement signed between the United States and Canada, the subsidies on American cereal exports, and the latest developments in the Uruguay Round.

Finally, the House approved the outcome of the latest CSCE Summit and called for further strengthening of the CSCE institutions (→ point 1.3.67).

The only legislative proposal on which an opinion was adopted at second reading under the cooperation procedure was on the Community customs code (→ point 1.2.12). But an in-depth debate took place on the Council common position regarding the health and safety of pregnant women at work, amended by Parliament in May. In an own-initiative resolution Parliament requested the Council not to equate pregnancy with sickness for the purpose of calculating benefit and to require the Member States to maintain established national rights in this field (→ point 1.2.78).

With relatively little legislation on the agenda, Parliament was able to adopt several own-initiative resolutions on a wide variety of topics: in the sphere of the environment it defined a Community strategy on the development of environment-friendly transport (→ point 1.2.64) and proposed solutions to the problems of pollution caused by oil spills from ships (→ point 1.2.103) and the safety of nuclear installations (→ point 1.2.108).

On the transport policy front Parliament devoted particular attention to the link between transport and regional development (→ point 1.2.66). It also expressed the opinion that the development of a Community civil aviation policy should encompass air traffic control.

The House also discussed a number of topics relating to scientific and technological research, including Europe's response to the challenge of modern technology (→ point 1.2.58) and improving Parliament's sources of scientific and technological information (→ point 1.2.59). It also adopted a resolution on the TIDE programme (→ point 1.2.80).

After discussing the Commission report on the implementation of the reform of the structural Funds in 1990 and regional planning policy (→ point 1.2.84), the House debated a number of specific issues such as arms exports and the armaments industry (→ point 1.2.54), the leather and tanning industry (→ point 1.2.55),

and the situation in the private customs sector (→ point 1.2.13).

Resolutions were also adopted on media concentration (→ point 1.2.164), the rights of the mentally handicapped (→ point 1.2.161) and the abolition of the young persons' Interrail scheme (→ point 1.2.67).

The riots in Rostock (→ point 1.2.162) and the renewed upsurge of violence in South Africa (→ point 1.3.31) were debated; and a large number of resolutions were adopted on human rights issues, notably the deaths of journalists in Turkey (→ point 1.3.83) and the situation in Iraq (→ point 1.3.79) and Malawi (→ point 1.3.81).

The many recent natural disasters in Europe (especially forest fires) (→ points 1.2.157 to 1.2.160) and in other parts of the world (notably Nicaragua) (→ point 1.3.36) were also discussed.

Report of proceedings:

OJ Annex 3-421

Full text of opinions and resolutions:

OJ C 284, 2.11.1992

Council

Extraordinary meeting

1.6.2. General affairs (New York, 21 September).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.7.4

President: Mr Hurd, UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Commission: Mr Delors, Mr Andriessen and Mr Matutes.

Sole item

French referendum, European Monetary System and special European Council meeting in Birmingham: declaration adopted (→ point 1.2.3).

1602nd meeting

1.6.3. Agriculture (Brussels, 21 and 22 September).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.7.3

President: Mr Gummer, UK Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Commission: Mr Mac Sharry.

Main items

Identification and registration of animals: initial examination.

Integrated administration and control system for certain Community aid schemes: further examination.

Adjustment of the agrimonetary system: initial exchange of views.

Application of the milk quota system in Italy: progressing of discussions so far.

Uruguay Round — agricultural aspects and soya panel: Commission reports.

Implementation of the reform of the common agricultural policy: exchange of views.

1603rd meeting

1.6.4. Internal market (Brussels, 22 September).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.7.11

President: Mr Needham, UK Minister for Trade and Industry.

Commission: Mr Bangemann and Mr Dondelinger.

Main items

Unfair terms in consumer contracts: common position adopted (→ point 1.2.149).

Indication of energy consumption by household appliances: Directive adopted (→ point 1.2.72).

Other business

Future system for the free movement of medicinal products: policy discussion.

Regulation on the Community trade mark: policy discussion.

Post-1992: general discussion.

Abolition of border controls on goods, capital and services: Commission statement.

Cultural goods: discussion.

1604th meeting

1.6.5. Economic and financial affairs (Brussels, 28 September).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.7.6

President: Mr Lamont, UK Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Commission: Mr Delors, Mr Christophersen and Mr Schmidhuber.

Main items

European Monetary System: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.3).

Fraud against the Community budget: two sets of conclusions adopted (→ points 1.5.7 and 1.5.8).

Financial assistance for Bulgaria: broad agreement reached (→ point 1.3.8).

Other business

Delors II package: detailed exchange of views.

- Tax on CO₂ emissions and energy: progress report.

Commission

Proposals adopted

1.6.6. The Commission adopted a proposal for a Decision on the framework programme for priority actions in the field of statistical information 1993-97 (→ point 1.2.4). It also adopted proposals for a Directive on the VAT arrangements applicable to passenger transport (→ point 1.2.11) and for a Decision on the fourth framework programme in the field of research and technological development (1994-98) (→ point 1.2.56).

On the transport front the Commission adopted an amended proposal for a Directive on the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles (→ point 1.2.62) and a proposal for a Regulation on a code of conduct for computerized reservation systems for air tickets (→ point 1.2.63).

It also adopted a proposal for a Regulation establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy (→ point 1.2.135).

In connection with the conflict in the former Yugoslavia the Commission adopted a Regulation concerning the technical arrangements for tightening the embargo on Serbia and Montenegro (→ point 1.3.22) and a proposal for a Regulation to change the arrangements applicable to imports into the Community of products originating in the republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia (→ point 1.3.24).

Communications, green papers and reports

1.6.7. The Commission adopted its seventh and last report on implementation of the White

Paper on completing the internal market (→ point 1.2.10).

It also adopted a communication on the European Community and space (→ point 1.2.57), a working document on employment and the labour market in the 1990s (→ point 1.2.75) and a communication concerning a priority action plan to improve information for young people (→ point 1.2.83).

A communication was also adopted on the prospects for humanitarian aid to Somalia (→ point 1.3.44).

Other decisions

1.6.8. Two recommendations for Decisions were adopted enabling the opening of negotiations on a financial protocol with Slovenia (→ point 1.3.23) and a cooperation agreement with India (→ point 1.3.33).

Community lawcourts

Court of Justice

1.6.9. Decisions given by the Courts are covered in the Bulletin for the month in which they are reported in the Official Journal. The operative part of the main decisions is reproduced; other decisions are simply listed by field and legal basis. Decisions in disputes between the Community and its staff are not reported.

Agriculture

Article 173 of the EEC Treaty

- 25.6.1992: Case C-1/92 *Netherlands v Commission*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

□ 10.7.1992: Case C-255/91 *Conserviera Sud v Commission*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

□ 20.7.1992: Case C-43/92 *Netherlands v Commission*

OJ C 234, 12.9.1992

Competition

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

□ 9.7.1992: Case C-22/92 *Electricité de France v Coramine*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

State aid

Article 173 of the EEC Treaty

□ 9.6.1992: Case C-100/91 *Italgrani v Commission*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

Personnel

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

□ 6.7.1992: Case C-214/91 *Bunz v Bundesanstalt für Arbeit*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

Infringements

Article 169 of the EEC Treaty

□ 19.6.1992: Case C-296/91 *Commission v Belgium*

OJ C 230, 8.9.1992

Court of First Instance

Competition

Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty

□ 16.7.1992: Case T-29/92R *Vereniging van Samenwerkende Prijsregelende Organisaties in de Bouwnijverheid and Others v Commission*

OJ C 246, 24.9.1992

Analysis of judgments delivered between 1 July and 30 September 1992

Free movement of goods and customs union

1.6.10. Judgment of 16 July, Case C-163/90 *Administration des douanes v Legros*.

In the French overseas departments there is an official levy — the *octroi de mer* (dock due) — that is raised on virtually all products shipped into them, regardless of their origin. Asked for a preliminary ruling the Court of Justice declared the levy to be equivalent to a customs duty and as such contrary to Community law. The levy is raised whenever goods are brought into the department and constitutes a barrier to the free movement of goods. The departure from the principle that the Community constitutes a single customs territory is not mitigated by the fact that the levy is applicable to goods from other parts of the same Member State.

However, the Court confined the effects of its ruling *rationae temporis* by empowering individuals to claim reimbursement of levies already paid before the date of the ruling only if they had commenced actions or filed complaints before then.

1.6.11. Judgment of 9 July, Case C-2/90 *Commission v Belgium*.

□ References:

Council Directive 75/442/EEC on waste: OJ L 194, 25.7.1975

Council Directive 84/631/EEC on the supervision and control within the European Community of the transfrontier shipment of hazardous waste: OJ L 326, 13.12.1984; Bull. EC 12-1984, point 2.1.118

The ban imposed by Belgium on imports of waste into Wallonia (unless authorized by local authorities) was considered by the Commission to be in breach of the Community Directives on waste and Article 30 of the EEC Treaty.

The Court held that the ban did not contravene Directive 75/442/EEC, which contains only general provisions on waste, but that it did contravene Directive 84/631/EEC on hazardous waste since that Directive establishes full

supervision and control arrangements applying to cross-border movements as well as others.

The interesting points in this judgment lie in those paragraphs that relate to the application of Articles 30 and 36 of the Treaty. The Court held that waste constitutes 'goods', even if it is non-recyclable and wholly devoid of commercial value, and is accordingly subject to the two Articles. It added that it is for each regional or local authority to take the measures needed for disposal of its own waste, preferably at the nearest possible place to the place where it is generated so as to confine transport operations to whatever is strictly necessary. Given the specific nature of waste, the fact that it varies from place to place and the link with the place of generation, the Court held that the general import ban imposed was not a form of discrimination against waste generated in other Member States and in favour of Walloon waste. It could accordingly be justified on compelling environmental grounds.

Free movement of persons

1.6.12. Judgment of 7 July, Case C-295/90 *Parliament v Council*.

□ **Reference:** Council Directive 90/366/EEC on the right of residence for students: OJ L 180, 13.7.1990; Bull. EC 6-1990, point 1.3.262

The Commission had proposed a Directive on the right of residence for students with, as its sole legal basis, the second paragraph of Article 7 of the EEC Treaty, which empowers the Council to adopt rules to prohibit discrimination based on nationality.

On 28 June 1990 the Council responded by adopting Directive 90/366/EEC, in which the legal basis was replaced by Article 235 of the Treaty. Parliament, supported by the Commission, brought an action for annulment on that ground, which the Court upheld. Its reasoning was that instruments enacted under the second paragraph of Article 7 need not be confined simply to outlawing discrimination but may also govern points that are found to be necessary to secure the effective exercise of the resultant rights.

The Court accordingly annulled Directive 90/366/EEC for want of a proper legal basis but preserved its effects pending adoption of a new Directive by the Council; students' rights are thus not curtailed by the legal argument.

Institutional matters

1.6.13. Judgment of 16 July, Case C-65/90, *Parliament v Council*.

□ **Reference:** Council Regulation (EEC) No 4059/89 laying down the conditions under which non-resident carriers may operate national road haulage services within a Member State: OJ L 390, 30.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.243

Council Regulation (EEC) No 4059/89 of 21 December 1989 introduced a Community cabotage quota for road transport, valid until 31 December 1992. The Commission had originally proposed a scheme of free cabotage, and Parliament had given an opinion endorsing that proposal. When it realized that it would not be able to secure agreement on full freedom, the Commission proceeded to amend its proposal so that it could be adopted by qualified majority.

Parliament was not reconferred on the amended proposal and accordingly applied to the Court of Justice to have the Regulation set aside. The Court upheld the application. It observed that the amendments made to the proposal (replacement of free cabotage by the principle of temporary admission to a Community quota scheme) went to the very roots of the system to be set up and therefore had to be regarded as substantial. The Council should consequently have consulted Parliament a second time.

The Court annulled the Regulation but preserved its effects pending adoption of a new Regulation.

1.6.14. Judgment of 7 July, Case C-369/90 *Micheletti*.

In its judgment given on 7 July the Court ruled that a person having the nationality both of a Member State and of a non-member country must be treated as a Community national for

the purposes of Community law. It also reaffirmed that rules governing the acquisition and loss of nationality are within the sole power of the Member States.

1.6.15. Judgment of 7 July, Case C-370/90 Singh.

In another judgment given on 7 July the Court made it clear that the rule whereby nationals of a Member State moving to another Member State in order to work there may be accompanied by members of their family, even if they are nationals of a non-member country, is also valid when they return to their Member State of origin: the members of their family have the right to enter and reside in that country even if these rights are conferred by Community rather than by national law.

Court of Auditors

1.6.16. Annual report on the 1991 JET financial statements.

Adopted by the Court of Auditors on 10 September.

1.6.17. Special report No 4/92 on expenditure relating to the European Year of Tourism.

Adopted by the Court of Auditors on 24 September. This report will not be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* but is available in all the official Community languages. Requests should be made in writing to the secretariat of the Court of Auditors, 12 rue Alcide De Gasperi, L-1615 Luxembourg.

Economic and Social Committee

299th plenary session

1.6.18. The Economic and Social Committee held its 299th plenary session on 23 and 24

September, chaired by Mr Geuenich, Mr Kazazis and Mrs Tiemann and attended by Mr Douglas Hogg, UK Minister of State at the Foreign Office and President of the Council.

Mr Hogg gave a run-down of the four key items on the British Presidency's agenda, namely:

- the Maastricht Treaty;
- the subsidiarity principle;
- completion of the single market (adoption of the 10% of measures still outstanding);
- foreign policy priorities, including enlargement, possibilities for partnership with the CIS, completion of the Uruguay Round and assistance for Yugoslavia.

Several speakers in the general discussion which followed stressed the need for rapid ratification of the Treaty on European Union; some called on the British Government to adopt the Social Charter. The democratic deficit, reflected in the results of the Danish and French referendums, was deplored. The issue of enlargement was also extensively discussed, with the Committee in favour of enlargement of the Community but only provided it is not achieved at the expense of consolidation.

1.6.19. The Committee debated and adopted opinions on the following:

- approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to recreational craft (→ point 1.2.20);
- the Commission Green Paper on the impact of transport on the environment: A Community strategy for 'sustainable mobility' (→ point 1.2.64);
- the protection of young people at work (→ point 1.2.79);
- a Community financial contribution towards expenditure incurred by Member States to ensure compliance with the Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources;
- tobacco advertising (→ point 1.2.151).

1.6.20. The Committee adopted four own-initiative opinions on the following:

- agricultural insurance (adopted without debate) (→ point 1.2.110);
- a 'Citizen's Europe' (→ point 1.2.163);
- future enlargement of the Community (→ point 1.3.1);
- relations with the Maghreb countries (→ point 1.3.25).

1.6.21. The Committee adopted opinions on the following without debate:

- harmonization of the rules on braking, maximum speed and lighting and light-signaling devices for two- or three-wheel motor vehicles (→ point 1.2.17);
- mechanical coupling devices of motor vehicles and their trailers (→ point 1.2.18);
- the supervision, marketing and mutual recognition of authorizations for explosives for civil uses (→ point 1.2.19);

colours for use in foodstuffs (→ point 1.2.25);

fruit juices and similar products (→ point 1.2.27);

the conclusion of agreements on road and rail transit between the Community and Switzerland, and the Community and Austria (→ point 1.2.69);

the Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (→ point 1.2.100);

measures to combat air pollution from motor vehicle emissions (→ point 1.2.107);

a quality policy for fishery products (→ point 1.2.136);

the common organization of the market in fishery products (→ point 1.2.141);

Czechoslovakia/Hungary agreements (transit and infrastructure) (→ point 1.2.70).

PART TWO

DOCUMENTATION

1. The ecu

Values in national currencies of ECU 1

September 1992 ¹		
BFR/ LFR	Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	41.3312
DKR	Danish krone	7.76371
DM	German mark	2.00473
DR	Greek drachma	252.136
ESC	Portuguese escudo	176.549
FF	French franc	6.82154
HFL	Dutch guilder	2.25816
IRL	Irish pound	0.759758
LIT	Italian lira	1 616.75
PTA	Spanish peseta	134.908
UKL	Pound sterling	0.748345
AUD	Australian dollar	1.91967
CAD	Canadian dollar	1.69253
FMK	Finnish markka	6.12983
ISK	Icelandic króna	75.2558
NKR	Norwegian krone	8.02049
NZD	New Zealand dollar	2.56356
OS	Austrian schilling	14.1067
SFR	Swiss franc	1.76709
SKR	Swedish krona	7.41403
USD	United States dollar	1.38675
YEN	Japanese yen	170.119

¹ Average for the month; OJ C 254, 1.10.1992.

NB: Explanatory notes on the ecu and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3, and Bull. EC 9-1989, point 2.1.3.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ecu used in connection with the common agricultural policy

September 1992

National currency/sector		Value in national currency of ECU 1	National currency/Sector		Value in national currency of ECU 1
BFR/ LFR	Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc All products	48.5563	FF	French franc All products	7.89563
DKR	Danish krone All products	8.97989	HFL	Dutch guilder All products	2.65256
DM	German mark All products	2.35418	IRL	Irish pound All products	0.878776
DR	Greek drachma Olive oil, sheepmeat and goatmeat	252.121 on 1.9.1992 266.426 on 17.9.1992 266.487 on 22.9.1992	LIT	Italian lira Pigmeat	1 761.45 on 1.9.1992 1 889.20 on 17.9.1992 1 931.48 on 22.9.1992
	Pigmeat	288.289 on 1.9.1992 290.577 on 17.9.1992 290.644 on 22.9.1992		Other products	1 761.45 on 1.9.1992 1 793.53 on 17.9.1992 1 805.45 on 22.9.1992
	Other products	274.609 on 1.9.1992 290.577 on 17.9.1992 290.644 on 22.9.1992	PTA	Spanish peseta Cereals, sugar	151.756 on 1.9.1992 154.482 on 22.9.1992
				Pigmeat	149.311 on 1.9.1992 150.903 on 14.9.1992 151.475 on 17.9.1992 161.389 on 22.9.1992 161.910 on 28.9.1992
ESC	Portuguese escudo Sheepmeat and goatmeat, olive oil Pigmeat	208.676 203.418 on 1.9.1992 204.558 on 17.9.1992 204.027 on 22.9.1992 199.404 on 28.9.1992		Olive oil, wine	149.813 on 1.9.1992 150.558 on 17.9.1992 153.263 on 22.9.1992
	Other products	206.307			

September 1992

National currency/sector		Value in national currency of ECU 1	National currency/sector		Value in national currency of ECU 1
Sheepmeat and goatmeat		150.828	UKL	Other products	150.853
		on 1.9.1992			on 1.9.1992
		151.475			on 17.9.1992
Beef, milk and milk products		154.196	UKL	Pound sterling	154.196
		on 17.9.1992			on 22.9.1992
		152.069			Pigmeat
	on 1.9.1992	on 1.9.1992			
	154.801	on 17.9.1992			
Other crop products		on 22.9.1992	UKL	Other products	0.873803
		150.441			on 22.9.1992
		on 1.9.1992			0.874575
	151.475	UKL	Other products	on 28.9.1992	
	on 17.9.1992			0.795423	
	154.196			on 1.9.1992	
	on 22.9.1992		0.808227		
			on 17.9.1992		
			0.818896		
			on 22.9.1992		

2. The Community at the United Nations

2.2.1. Statement by Mr Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom and President of the Council of the European Communities, to the United Nations General Assembly on 22 September.

Mr President,

It is a privilege for me to speak this morning on behalf of the European Community and its 12 Member States. It is a pleasure to do so under your guidance, Mr President, the guidance of a fellow Foreign Minister from Europe whose country has made such progress in recent years and who has steered his country's foreign policy along the path of substantial development.

It is also a pleasure to speak in the presence of the Secretary-General. Without congratulating you at this stage, Mr Secretary-General, I hope that you will accept as an appropriate compliment the content of my remarks and the support I bring you in the context of your practical policies.

As my colleagues from other regions of the world have noticed, Member States of the European Community have recently seen a lively discussion on how to achieve the ever closer union to which we are all committed. That discussion is not the subject of my speech today, because I want to talk about Europe and the wider world. In the light of the discussion among the 12 Member States, however, I want you to know that the European Community is determined to build up the place and the role of the Twelve in world affairs.

Two years ago, when I first came to speak at the General Assembly, the world was celebrating — the end of the Cold War, the beginnings of freedom. Everyone was optimistic. Everything had changed since I first attended a General Assembly at the height of the Cold War back in the 1950s.

At the end of 1992, we see things differently. The world after the Cold War is a better place, but it is also less stable. We have seen both a democratic spring and a demagogic spring, an outpouring of hope and an outpouring of hate. Problems are different but equally taxing.

International order is threatened in the short term by the unleashing of extreme nationalism and challenges to the rule of law. In the medium term, the

inescapable challenge is to reinforce the system of collective security based on the UN. Respect for good government and human rights must move to the centre of the stage. In the long term, we must face up to the threat to international peace and security posed by poverty and environmental degradation. The international community cannot afford to postpone action on the longer-term problems until the short-term ones are resolved. I should like to look at each of the challenges in turn.

Short-term challenges. The end of the cold war has been marked in some areas of the world by nationalism out of control. Nationalism is not a fault in itself but a natural instinct of man in society. We see its benign manifestations in the former Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, though even there there are problems. Yugoslavia is the worst example of the bitterness of nationalism producing intolerable results. Both Europe and the UN must work strenuously for peace, justice and the relief of suffering in these tortured lands.

Since last autumn the United Nations and the European Community have been working closely, the UN leading on peace-keeping, and the EC on peace-making, through Lord Carrington's Peace Conference. This cooperation helped stop the killing in the Serb Krajina in Croatia, where Unprofor and the EC Monitoring Mission have achieved a good deal.

As conflict escalated, particularly in Bosnia, the UN and the EC decided, with wide international support, to harness their efforts in even closer liaison through the process launched by the London Conference last month. The International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, now working in Geneva under co-chairmen Mr Vance and Lord Owen, is powered by the determination of the international community to bring an end to the violence in the former Yugoslavia.

The Conference has two principal objectives — humanitarian and political. To alleviate the suffering of the victims of the conflict, to bring that conflict permanently to an end by negotiating a political settlement. This is difficult work, requiring deep understanding of the problems, the complete respect and cooperation of the parties concerned and the unstinting support of, and if necessary pressure from, the international community.

We must continue to deal with problems left by the rolling-back of the cold war. In Cambodia, we must

not allow the peace process to drift. The Khmer Rouge have not joined phase II of cease-fire arrangements; they are delaying the implementation of the comprehensive political settlement. On the positive side, the military component of Untac is now fully deployed and the civilian component is beginning to take control of the key ministries. We must make every effort to hold to the time-table for elections next April.

Some States still show a willingness to challenge the rule of international law and resort to terrorism. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was the first test of the post-cold war era. The liberation of Kuwait was one of the UN's greatest successes. Unfortunately, Saddam Hussein continues to defy the UN; his government is failing to meet Iraq's obligations under Resolution 687 and continues to repress its own population particularly in northern and southern Iraq. Pressure must — and will — continue until he implements UN resolutions in full. The message is that all States must comply with SCRs. We still wait for Libya to implement SCR 731.

We need persistence and determination in meeting these short-term challenges. Although the agenda is changing, items like Yugoslavia are added, old items remain and must be dealt with. One long-running problem of particular concern to the European Community is Cyprus. This year the Secretary-General has made a purposeful effort, but there is a need for fresh impetus on the key issues of territory and displaced persons. Without a willingness to negotiate on all sides there will be no lasting settlement.

Looking further ahead. In the medium term we know that we must build a stronger system of collective security. Everybody is looking to the United Nations. But we risk loading the UN with too heavy a burden of, in effect, intervention and partial administration. 'Something must be done'. That is the impulse which we all feel as we read about or watch some new outbreak of man's inhumanity to man. We should realize where that impulse leads us. We should not wander down this new road without serious thought. It would involve a restructuring of armed forces so that they could take a full part in the growing number of peace-making and peace-keeping exercises of the UN. It would mean a massive increase in the funds which the UN and its humanitarian agencies would require from its member states in regular contributions and in aid, in times when many member states face severe budgetary problems. These are just two of the implications of the course on which the world is beginning to propel the UN because 'something must be done'.

The best way of preventing these demands getting out of hand is of course to prevent those conflicts

which give rise to the demands — in short, diplomacy. Diplomacy is unfashionable in the world of kneejerk reaction and the dogmatic soundbite on television. It lacks news value, lacks glamour, involves compromise, takes time, is easy to mock and is indispensable.

That is true of conflicts in the Middle East, which the parties involved have from time to time tried to resolve by force, but in vain. This is a critical moment in the Arab-Israel peace process. We in the Community know that all concerned must seize this opportunity; the tide must be caught. The negotiation of a final settlement based on SCRs 242 and 338 will no doubt take time and hard work. What is important in the immediate future is for all parties to work towards visible progress, step building on agreed step.

To give diplomacy a chance, the key international institutions need to be strong. One day, I hope, the CSCE will be effective in the prevention of conflict throughout Europe. With the adoption of the Helsinki document the CSCE has begun to give itself the tools to tackle problems by conciliation before they slide into violence and to manage crises once they develop. The document recognizes that the CSCE is a regional arrangement according to Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, providing an important link between European and global security.

The UN will be crucial, and reform will be crucial to the UN's performance. Early this year the Secretary-General made a determined start on administrative reform — a decisive step. This is being followed up both in the Secretariat and in the vast superstructure of intergovernmental bodies which have grown up over the past 40 years in the economic, social and related fields. We welcome the work of the General Assembly to rationalize its agenda. All this is welcome, all this must be pursued further.

A Security Council Summit met last January at the initiative of my Prime Minister to consider next steps. The communiqué asked the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the ways in which the UN could help tackle the new challenges on the international agenda. The European Community contributed to his study. On 17 June, Dr Boutros-Ghali published his ideas on preventive diplomacy, peace-keeping, peace-making and — as he called it — peace-building.

The EC believes that the Secretary-General's ideas are a very important collection of proposals. They try to address a need which is not some distance ahead, but which is with us here and now. The general debate should be a genuine debate on the ideas advanced in the report. All UN bodies but

notably the Security Council and the General Assembly, should follow up swiftly in the light of the debate.

Preventive diplomacy is quicker, more helpful to peoples about to be embroiled in conflict than the most successful peace-keeping or peace-making operation which follows the outbreak of violence. It is also less costly, in terms of lives and cash. The Secretary-General should be ready to make full use of his powers under Article 99 of the Charter to draw the attention of the Security Council to any matter which in his opinion may threaten international peace and security. Greater use is already being made of fact-finding missions; we would like to encourage this trend.

Preventive deployment of troops might take place to deter aggression or conflict between States, possibly involving deployment to only one side of an international border. There may be difficulties about timing the despatch of such a force in a given crisis but essentially this seems a sound idea to be drawn upon on a case-by-case basis.

I warmly welcome President Bush's bold initiatives to strengthen the peace-keeping work of the United Nations. They deserve, and will have, our support.

In the EC we want to follow up the idea of preventive deployment in the event of an internal crisis, where the government requests help, with humanitarian assistance or conciliation. No two cases would be the same. There would need to be careful discussions with governments and parties concerned before the international community could deploy monitors. Recognizing that, the European Community and its Member States have already decided in principle to send civilian monitoring missions to States which want them — where this would help to avert a crisis and possible bloodshed. In South Africa, with the agreement of all the parties, the UN, European Community and Commonwealth are all sending observers to reinforce the National Peace Accord.

To help prevent conflict we must prevent the proliferation of armaments, especially weapons of mass destruction. We therefore welcome agreement on a global Convention on Chemical Weapons as a step towards a safer and more secure world.

Peace-making is a painstaking business. Bringing pressure, even peaceful pressure on warring parties, involves sacrifice to innocent third parties. We are acutely aware of the economic difficulties often caused to third countries by the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII. Countries which need balance-of-payments help, countries which are also implementing prudent adjustment programmes, are

being badly affected. The international financial organizations are in a good position to assess and then take into account the effects of UN mandatory sanctions when they design support packages for these countries.

The Secretary-General's report contains a number of proposals for member states to earmark forces for enforcement action and for peace-keeping. All 12 Member States of the EC have responded to his questionnaire on forces which could be made available for peace-keeping. All members of the UN should keep this under regular review.

EC Member States make a substantial financial as well as military contribution to peace-keeping operations. The figures speak for themselves. Twelve Member States of the EC are supposed to contribute one third of the cost of peace-keeping operations financed through assessed contributions. At the end of August, they had in fact given 40.1% of total contributions actually collected so far for the various new operations launched or expanded since the end of the last General Assembly. Those EC Member States participating in the new operation in Bosnia will bear all their own costs. We are doing our bit, and look to others to do the same. The Secretary-General is quite right, the financial problems of the UN must not be allowed to fester. We support the proposed peace-keeping reserve fund, subject to negotiation on the detail. The General Assembly must follow this up.

The role of the United Nations does not stop once a conflict is over. The Secretary-General's Agenda for Peace rightly looks at how we might help in peace-building after a conflict. The UN has made a crucial contribution in El Salvador. The promotion of free elections and democratic institutions is a key part of such peace-building and a proper area of activity for the UN. So, at a practical level, is demining. It is a stern commentary on the state of the world that the removal of mines in the aftermath of conflict must be high on our agenda — for example in Cambodia, northern Somalia and Angola.

The European Community and its Member States welcome the emphasis the Secretary-General gives to human rights, democracy and development. During the cold war some of us in the Community tended to concentrate on human rights abuses in the Soviet bloc. Elsewhere we sometimes paid lip-service, when we should have been taking action. But all people want and deserve to enjoy full human rights. We want the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in June 1993 to take real steps to achieve this.

The Twelve warmly welcome the tide of political reform now flowing in Africa. We are helping to

promote good government and sound human rights and electoral practices. The Twelve contributed to discussion at the UN in a paper submitted to the Secretary-General. Europe, both at the national and the Community level, has already shown its wish to respond to requests for assistance in election monitoring — notably in Ethiopia, Congo and, later this year, in Kenya and Ghana — and also the inter-parliamentary union's work in Namibia.

Further ahead still. In the longer term collective security could be undermined by deeper economic and social forces — poverty, environmental degradation. Relief must be followed by recovery or else countries afflicted will be overwhelmed by despair.

We are already seeing that in Somalia. This appalling humanitarian tragedy is a warning of what might become widespread. Sadly, Somalia is just the most extreme form of a problem now afflicting large parts of sub-Saharan Africa.

At the beginning of the month, I led an EC troika visit to Mogadishu. We witnessed the disintegration of a society and of all legitimate authority. We witnessed the collapse of a State and all services connected with a State. Instead of order, teenage gangs roam the streets, offering protection at a price. Instead of a distribution system there is blackmail and looting. We saw for ourselves the vital importance of the new humanitarian relief arrangements being put in place by Mr Eliasson. The Somalis urgently need a reconstruction of civil authority. The Twelve fully support Ambassador Sahnoun's efforts. He is an outstanding international servant. Last month the Security Council voted to strengthen Unosom so that its security units will be better able to distribute aid. Among EC States, Belgium, with the support of all of us, plans a substantial contribution to that security.

Nor are all disasters man-made. The drought in the Horn and southern Africa will require a major international relief effort over the coming year.

For the first time, over the last couple of years, the environment has become a priority for all countries.

The road from Rio may be harder than the road to it. UnCED attracted the world's leaders, the world's media and the world's imagination. Sustainable development will stay at the top of the international agenda.

What we need now is effective follow-up, both here at the General Assembly and beyond. Immediately after his return from Rio Prime Minister Major proposed an eight-point plan picking up key elements agreed at Rio. This initiative was broadly endorsed at the Lisbon European Council and the Munich Economic Summit.

The Sustainable Development Commission, to be set up by this General Assembly, will have a crucial role in follow-up. The General Assembly must create an effective instrument to ensure that the impetus given by Rio is not lost.

Conclusion. For the medium and long term, we need to turn hope into reality. In the case of the short-term challenges, we must bring hope to a grim reality. The international community sees a need to get involved earlier as crises develop. We must make an effort to avert crises. If that fails, then we must prevent crises from escalating and spreading. In facing up to the mixed legacy of the cold war, the international community must be realistic. History cannot be denied or uprooted. The solving of problems which sometimes have their roots in centuries past is a slow, sometimes a very frustrating, business.

After the brief gleam of optimism in 1989 and 1990 when all seemed easy, we are now more realistic. Progress towards a more decent orderly world will never be effortless. Our best hope is to take two steps forward for each step back. Even that degree of progress will require the rapid strengthening of our institutions and in particular the family of institutions of the United Nations — not essentially by more conferences and speeches, but by the kind of practical effort which the United Nations mounts today in Somalia, Yugoslavia, Cambodia and countless other troubled places. In that effort the EC and its Member States will take a persistent, energetic and worthy part.

3. Infringement proceedings

Letters of formal notice

Failure to communicate any measures incorporating Directives into national law

2.3.1. In September the Commission sent a letter of formal notice in the following case:

Internal market and industrial affairs

Directive 89/552/EEC (OJ L 298, 17.10.1989)
Television without frontiers
Denmark

Reasoned opinions

Failure to communicate any measures incorporating Directives into national law

2.3.2. In September the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

Agriculture

Directive 89/556/EEC (OJ L 302, 19.10.1989)
Importation of embryos of domestic animals of the bovine species
Ireland

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 87/405/EEC (OJ L 220, 8.8.1987)
Permissible sound power level of tower cranes
Germany

Financial institutions and company law

Directive 89/299/EEC (OJ L 124, 5.5.1989)
Own funds of credit institutions
Spain

Directive 87/345/EEC (OJ L 185, 4.7.1987)
Listing particulars
Spain

Failure properly to incorporate Directives into national law

2.3.3. In September the Commission delivered a reasoned opinion in the following case:

Internal market and industrial affairs

Directive 75/363/EEC (OJ L 167, 30.6.1975)
Remuneration of doctors
Spain

Infringements of the Treaties or of Regulations; failure properly to apply Directives in practice

2.3.4. In September the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

Internal market and industrial affairs

Directive 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and Article 30 of the EEC Treaty
Measurement legislation and medical association rules on product quality
Germany

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Technical standards and regulations on motor cycles and bicycles
Portugal

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Technical standards and regulations on establishing the quality level of retro-reflective films
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Breathalyser equipment
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Use of cooking salt in fresh and dry pasta
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Gas cylinders containing gas for medical purposes
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Consumer information
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Production and marketing of iodized salt
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Protection of decorative and traditional ceramics and quality Italian ceramics
Italy

Directives 83/189/EEC (OJ L 109, 26.4.1983) and 88/182/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Abrasive grindstones
Italy

Directive 77/62/EEC (OJ L 13, 15.1.1977)
Public supply contracts: framework agreement for the purchase of pharmaceutical products
Greece

Directive 89/440/EEC (OJ L 210, 21.7.1989)
Public works contracts: extractive industries
Italy

Directive 78/686/EEC (OJ L 233, 24.8.1978) and Article 52 of the EEC Treaty
Refusal to grant the status of 'Kassenzahnarzt' to dentists from other Member States
Germany

Fisheries

Regulations (EEC) Nos 3977/87 (OJ L 375, 31.12.1987), 170/83 (OJ L 24, 27.1.1983) and 2241/87 (OJ L 207, 29.7.1987)
Failure to comply with fisheries monitoring and surveillance: overfishing in 1988
France

Cases referred to the Court of Justice

Failure to communicate any measures incorporating Directives into national law

2.3.5. In September the Commission referred the following cases to the Court of Justice:

Agriculture

Directive 87/481/EEC (OJ L 273, 26.9.1987)
Vegetable seed
Italy

Directive 89/14/EEC (OJ L 8, 11.1.1989)
Vegetable seed
Italy

Directive 89/100/EEC (OJ L 38, 10.2.1989)
Fodder plants
Italy

Directive 88/658/EEC (OJ L 382, 31.12.1988)
Meat products
Italy

Directive 89/227/EEC (OJ L 93, 6.4.1989)
Meat products
Italy

Infringements of the Treaties or of Regulations; failure properly to apply Directives in practice

2.3.6. In September the Commission referred the following case to the Court of Justice:

Internal market and industrial affairs

Articles 30 and 36 of the EEC Treaty
Double import controls on sterile medical accessories
Belgium

4. Additional references in the Official Journal

2.4.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments, communications and notices of Community institutions which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relate to items appearing in earlier issues; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers are followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 4-1992

Point 1.3.53

Commission Decision 92/465/EEC of 14 April 1992 concerning aid granted by the *Land* of Berlin to Daimler-Benz AG (C 3/91 ex NN 5/91).
OJ L 263, 9.9.1992

Bull. EC 5-1992

Points 1.5.18 and 1.5.19

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee at its 297th plenary session on 26 and 27 May 1992.
OJ C 223, 31.8.1992

Bull. EC 6-1992

Point 1.3.73

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3359/90 for an action programme in the field of transport infrastructure with a view

to the completion of an integrated transport market in 1992.

Proposal for a Council Decision on the creation of a trans-European road network.

Proposal for a Council Decision on the creation of a European inland waterway network.
OJ C 236, 15.9.1992

Point 1.3.149

Council Directive 92/60/EEC of 30 June 1992 amending Directive 90/425/EEC concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market.
OJ L 268, 14.9.1992

Point 1.3.153

Council Directive 92/45/EEC of 16 June 1992 on public health and animal health problems relating to the killing of wild game and the placing on the market of wild-game meat.
OJ L 268, 14.9.1992

Point 1.3.154

Council Directive 92/46/EEC of 16 June 1992 laying down the health rules for the production and placing on the market of raw milk, heat-treated milk and milk-based products.
OJ L 268, 14.9.1992

Point 1.3.155

Council Directive 92/47/EEC of 16 June 1992 on the conditions for granting temporary and limited derogations from specific Community health rules on the production and placing on the market of milk and milk-based products.
OJ L 268, 14.9.1992

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