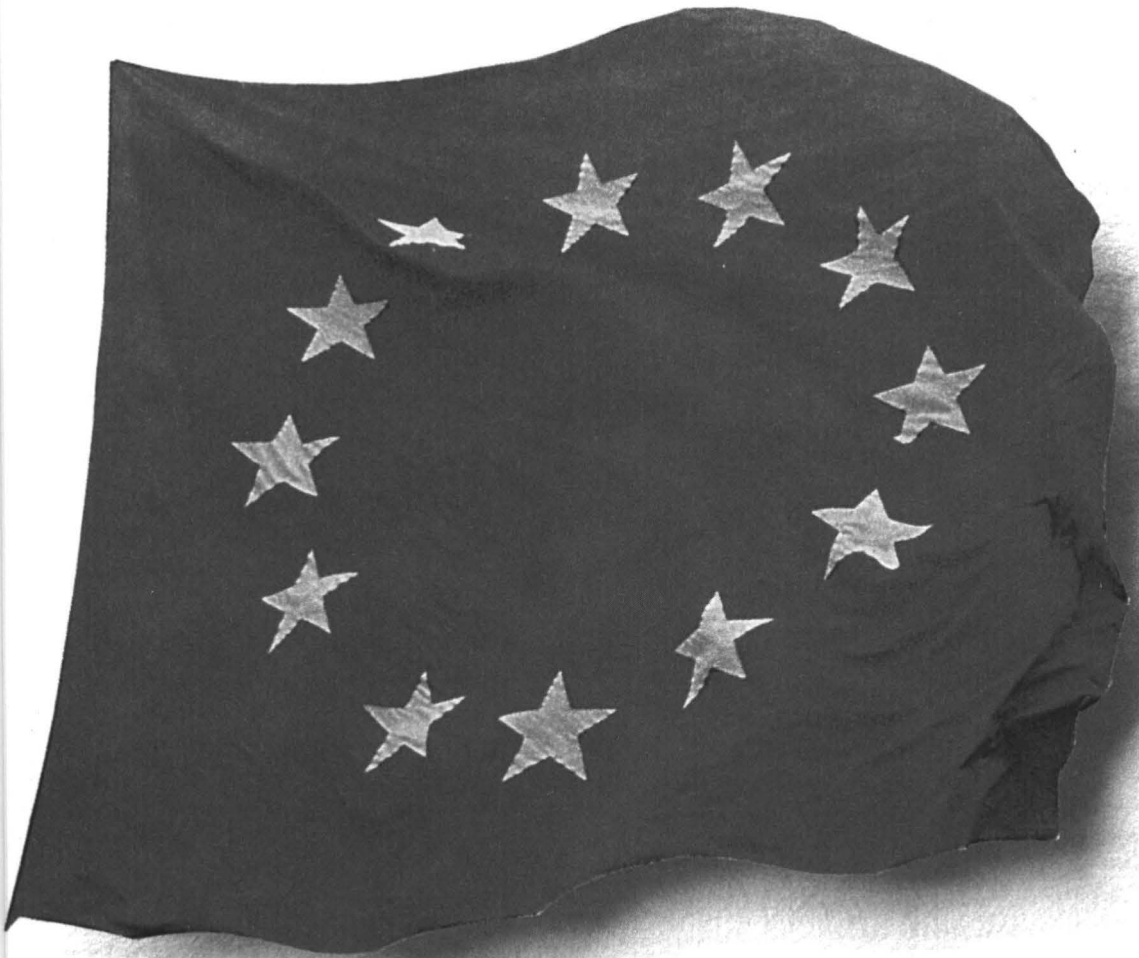


European Commission

Bulletin of the **European Union**



3 • 1995

The *Bulletin of the European Union* reports on the activities of the Commission and the other Community institutions. It is produced by the Secretariat-General of the European Commission and published 10 times a year in the official European languages.

The following reference system is used: the first digit indicates the part number, the second digit the chapter number and the subsequent digit or digits the point number. Citations should therefore read as follows: Bull 1/2-1994, point 1.1.1 or 2.2.3.

Supplements to the Bulletin are published in a separate series at irregular intervals. They contain official Commission material (e.g. communications to the Council, programmes, reports and proposals).

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Editorial team: rue de la Loi 200 — B-1049 Brussels — Tel. 295 79 30

Sent to press in June 1995

© ECSC-EC-EAEC, Brussels • Luxembourg, 1995
Reproduction is authorized provided the source is acknowledged.

Printed in France

European Commission

Bulletin of the European Union

3 • 1995

Bulletin information service

Readers can obtain information on developments since this issue went to press (date of adoption of instruments by the Council, of opinions given by Parliament or the Economic and Social Committee, of publication in the Official Journal, etc.) by telephoning the documentation service of the Commission Offices on the following numbers:

London	(171) 222 8122
Belfast	240 708
Cardiff	371 631
Edinburgh	225 2058
Dublin	671 2244

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.

BFR	= Belgische frank / Franc belge
DKR	= Dansk krone
DM	= Deutsche Mark
DR	= Greek drachma
ESC	= Escudo
FF	= Franc français
FMK	= Suomen markka
HFL	= Nederlandse gulden (Hollandse florijn)
IRL	= Irish pound / punt
LFR	= Franc luxembourgeois
LIT	= Lira italiana
OS	= Österreichische Schilling
PTA	= Peseta
SKR	= Svensk Krona
UKL	= Pound sterling
USD	= United States dollar

Contents

Part One | ACTIVITIES IN MARCH 1995

	News in brief	6
1	Union citizenship	9
2	Human rights	10
3	The Community economic and social area	12
	Implementation of the White Paper on growth, competitiveness and employment	12
	Economic and monetary policy	12
	Internal market	13
	Competition	17
	Industrial policy	26
	Enterprise policy	28
	Research and technology	28
	Education, vocational training and youth	28
	Economic and social cohesion	32
	Trans-European networks	36
	Energy	36
	Transport	37
	Information society, telecommunications	40
	Environment	40
	Agriculture	44
	Fisheries	47
	Employment and social policy	50
	Equal opportunities	51
	Solidarity	52
	Public health	53
	Consumers	54
	Culture	54
	Information, communication and audiovisual media	55
4	Role of the Union in the world	57
	Common foreign and security policy	57
	International organizations and conferences	60
	Common commercial policy	62
	Development policy	65
	Humanitarian aid	67
	European Economic Area (EEA), European Free Trade Association (EFTA)	68
	Central and Eastern Europe, Baltic States	68
	Mediterranean and Middle East	70
	Independent States of the former Soviet Union; Mongolia	75
	United States, Japan and other industrialized countries	78

	Asia	78
	Latin America	79
	ACP countries, South Africa and OCTs	81
	Diplomatic relations	84
5	Justice and home affairs cooperation	85
6	Financing Community activities	88
	Budgets	88
	Financial operations	89
	Measures to combat fraud	89
7	Statistical system	91
8	Community law	93
	Monitoring the application of Community law	93
	Decisions by the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance	94
9	Institutional affairs	97
10	Community institutions	98
	Parliament	98
	Council	100
	Commission	104
	European Investment Bank	105
	Economic and Social Committee	106
	ECSC Consultative Committee	107

Part Two DOCUMENTATION 109

1	The ecu	110
2	Political declaration adopted at the conclusion of the final Conference on the Pact on Stability in Europe and list of good-neighbourliness and cooperation agreements and arrangements	112
3	Additional references in the Official Journal	117
4	Corrigenda	119
4	Index	120

PART ONE

ACTIVITIES IN MARCH 1995

News in brief

The Community economic and social area

Internal market

- The Council agrees a proposal for a Directive introducing new simplification measures with regard to value-added tax (→ point 1.3.15).

Industrial policy

- The Commission adopts a programme for the implementation of Community action to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry (→ point 1.3.59).

Education, vocational training and youth

- The Council and Parliament sign the Socrates and Youth for Europe III programmes (→ points 1.3.69 and 1.3.71).

Economic and social cohesion

- The Commission approves single programming documents for Germany under Objective 5(a) (→ point 1.3.80) and for the United Kingdom under Objective 5(b) (→ point 1.3.83).

Trans-European networks

- The Council agrees a common position on the proposal for a Regulation laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks (→ point 1.3.89).

Transport

- The Council agrees a proposal for a Directive on the transport of dangerous goods (→ point 1.3.93).

Employment and social policy

- The Commission adopts a communication on the follow-up to the Essen European Council on employment (→ point 1.3.144).

Culture

- The Commission adopts a proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision establishing a Community action programme in the field of cultural heritage (the Raphaël programme) (→ point 1.3.156).

Information, communication and audiovisual media

- The Commission adopts a proposal to amend the 'Television without frontiers' Directive (→ point 1.3.158).

Role of the Union in the world*Common foreign and security policy*

- The Stability Pact is signed at the final Conference in Paris (→ point 1.4.4).

International organizations and conferences

- The Commission adopts a communication on a level playing-field for direct investment worldwide (→ point 1.4.13).

Common commercial policy

- The Commission adopts a communication appraising free trade areas (→ point 1.4.37).

Mediterranean and Middle East

- The Commission adopts a communication on implementing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership (→ point 1.4.57).
- Cooperation with Lebanon is resumed at the EC-Lebanon Cooperation Council (→ point 1.4.68).
- The EC-Turkey Association Council reaches agreement on finalizing the customs union between the European Community and Turkey (→ point 1.4.65).
- The Council adopts negotiating directives for a Europe Agreement with Slovenia (→ point 1.4.64).

United States, Japan and other industrialized countries

- The Commission adopts a communication entitled *Europe and Japan: the next steps* (→ point 1.4.80).

Asia

- The Council adopts negotiating directives for a framework trade and cooperation Agreement with Korea (→ point 1.4.81) and Mr Kim Young Sam, President of Korea, visits the Commission (→ point 1.4.82).

ACP countries, South Africa and OCTs

- The Commission adopts recommendations for decisions on the negotiation of an agreement on trade and cooperation with South Africa and a protocol to the Lomé Convention covering the terms and conditions of South Africa's accession (→ point 1.4.97).

Justice and home affairs cooperation

- A Convention is signed on simplified extradition procedure between the Member States of the European Union (→ point 1.5.3).
- The Council adopts a Joint Action concerning the Europol Drugs Unit on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union (→ point 1.5.4).

Institutional affairs

- A code of conduct is adopted governing relations between Parliament and the Commission (→ point 1.9.1).

1. Union citizenship

Freedom of movement and right of residence

Non-Community nationals

1.1.1. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down a uniform format for visas.

Commission proposal: OJ C 238, 26.8.1994; COM(94) 287; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.1.1

Parliament opinion: OJ C 43, 20.2.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.1.1

Agreed by the Council (justice and home affairs) on 9 March. Under Article 100c(3) of the EC Treaty, the Council endorsed the proposal for a Regulation laying down a uniform format for

visas designed to facilitate the free movement of persons within the European Union. Defined as 'any authorization granted by a Member State to enter its territory ... valid for a stay of no more than three months, or a number of stays not exceeding a total of three months in any six-month period', a single clearly identifiable visa will be issued by the Member States in the form of a uniform sticker meeting very high technical standards, notably as regards safeguards against counterfeiting and falsification, and guaranteeing protection of the information involved. The visa is to be introduced six months after the additional technical specifications have been adopted by the Commission.

2. Human rights

European Union countries

1.2.1. Council report on the campaign against racism and xenophobia (→ point 1.5.9).

1.2.2. Parliament resolution on acts of racist violence in France and Italy.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Horrified by the attacks on two gypsy children in Pisa and on Mrs Yussef Hohalin Nurta, a young seven-months pregnant Somali woman in Ostia, and shocked by the death of Ibrahim Ali, a French schoolboy of Comorian origin, in Marseilles, Parliament strongly condemned these acts of racist violence and racist utterances and propaganda which may lead to crime, and called for those responsible to be punished. Parliament also called on the governments of the Member States and the authorities of the European Union to protect communities of foreign origin and to crack down on racism and xenophobia by tightening up the relevant legislation.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Human rights outside the European Union

Algeria

1.2.3. Parliament resolution on the dangerous situation in Algeria.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament condemned all those responsible for murder, often accompanied by atrocious torture and mutilation, and deplored the use of religion as a pretext to commit terrible crime. The resolution urged the Algerian government to establish independent inquiries into the prison mutinies and their repression, stressing the dangers confronting Europe from terrorism inspired by religious fanaticism. This threat made cooperation between EU police forces all the more important and urgent.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

United States

1.2.4. Parliament resolution on the reintroduction of the death penalty in the State of New York.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament condemned the restoration of the death penalty in the State of New York and called for any death sentences passed there to be commuted automatically to terms of imprisonment. Parliament called on American politicians to work towards the definitive abolition of the death penalty and to conduct a large-scale public awareness campaign on the fact that the death penalty is both ineffective and immoral.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Russian Federation

1.2.5. Parliament resolution on human rights in Chechnya.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the humanitarian situation in Chechnya and the neighbouring Republics of Ingushetia, Dagestan and North Ossetia: OJ C 56, 6.3.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.2.10

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament reiterated its strong condemnation of the serious violations of human rights committed by parts of the Russian army in Chechnya and called on the Russian authorities to take action against those responsible. The resolution demanded that permanent observer missions from the OSCE and the international delegations, including that from the European Parliament, be allowed access to the conflict zone forthwith to assess the situation facing people on the ground and determine the measures that should most urgently be taken for their relief. Parliament expressed the hope that the Duma would reconsider its decision to dismiss the human rights commissioner, Mr Kovalev, from his duties.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Equatorial Guinea

1.2.6. Parliament resolution on the situation in Equatorial Guinea.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the situation in Equatorial Guinea: OJ C 323, 21.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.3.109

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament condemned the suspension of the civil rights of Mr Moto and Mr Elo Aka and their disqualification from holding public office. It called on the authorities in Equatorial Guinea to respect human rights rigorously, speed up the creation of democratic institutions and cease all repression against party leaders and activists of the democratic opposition.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Iraq

1.2.7. Parliament resolution on the worsening situation in Iraq.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Deploring the fighting between supporters of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) and those of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) which has been going on since December 1994, and the grave violations of human rights committed by both those parties and also by the Islamic movement in Iraqi Kurdistan, Parliament called on the parties concerned to stop fighting and abandon the use of terror tactics, assassinations, torture and detention without trial and warned them that the continuation of such practices was bound to make public opinion in the EU and other democracies less sympathetic to the cause of the Iraqi Kurds.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Rwanda

1.2.8. Parliament resolution on the rape of women in Rwanda.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament strongly condemned the sexual violence perpetrated against thousands of Rwandan women and girls during the genocide and called on the NGOs and humanitarian associations operating

in the area to take whatever measures were necessary to assist women subjected to such violence. Parliament further insisted that the international community provide sufficient human and material resources for the UN Security Council *ad hoc* tribunal for Rwanda, and that it cooperate fully with that body.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Financing

1.2.9. Financing for projects to promote democracy and human rights (see Table 1).

Table 1 — *Projects to promote democracy and human rights*

(ECU)	
Activity	Amount
Ten projects supporting democratization and human rights in developing countries	3 031 461
Sixteen projects supporting organizations promoting human rights	2 535 700
Thirteen projects supporting rehabilitation centres for torture victims and organizations offering practical help to victims of human rights violations	1 477 000
Five projects to promote democracy and support the peace process in the former Yugoslav Republics (support for inter-community dialogue, the media and high-risk groups)	815 000

3. The Community economic and social area

Implementation of the White Paper on growth, competitiveness and employment

Competitiveness

1.3.1. Commission communication to the Council, Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on an action programme and timetable for implementation of the action announced in the communication on an industrial competitiveness policy for the European Union; proposal for a Council Decision on implementation of a Community action programme to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry (→ point 1.3.59).

1.3.2. Commission report on the implementation of the Council's resolutions and conclusions on industrial policy (→ point 1.3.60).

1.3.3. First meeting of the Competitiveness Advisory Group (→ point 1.3.61).

Trans-European networks

1.3.4. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks (→ point 1.3.89).

Employment

1.3.5. Communication from the Commission to the Council on the follow-up to the Essen European Council on employment (→ point 1.3.144).

Economic and monetary policy

Economic and monetary union

Coordination of economic policies

1.3.6. Parliament resolution on information and consultation of the European Parliament in relation to Articles 103, 103a, 104, 104a, 104b and 104c EC.

Adopted on 16 March. Parliament calls on the Commission and the Council to involve it more closely in the procedures for adopting broad economic policy guidelines, recommendations on excessive deficits, annual economic reports and reports on the results of multilateral surveillance; it emphasizes that the convergence of the economies of the Member States must be based on quantitative and real criteria relating to the upward harmonization of the living standards and purchasing power of citizens of the Union, the elimination of poverty, of unemployment and of regional and structural disparities, and economic cohesion; and it stresses the need for an interinstitutional agreement involving it in the procedures for coordinating the economic policies of the Community and the Member States.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

European Monetary System (EMS)

1.3.7. Commission statement of 6 March on the realignment of the EMS.

Reference: Council conclusions on the revised Spanish convergence programme 1995-97: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.4

"The decision to realign the peseta and escudo proves that the exchange mechanism is operating smoothly. The two currencies remain within the system. The decision was not prompted by any crisis situation.

The Commission welcomes the Spanish Government's undertaking to do everything within its powers to adhere to its convergence programme and, in particular, to reduce public deficits.

Progress towards achievement of the single currency is not affected by this decision and all the technical preparations must be completed by the end of 1996.'

Economic situation

1.3.8. Economic and Social Committee opinion on the 1995 Annual Economic Report.

Reference: 1995 Annual Economic Report: COM(94) 615; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.6

Adopted on 30 March. The Committee welcomes the fact that the Commission has requested its opinion on the report although such consultation is not mandatory under the Treaty.

It agrees with the broad thrust of the Commission's analysis but has doubts about the strength of the economic recovery, which is partly based on temporary factors and partly due to a catching-up process. In the Committee's view, two facts cannot but dampen the Commission's optimism: the situation on the labour-market remains unchanged, and there is no clear picture as regards the trend in interest rates, particularly long-term interest rates. It also expresses concern about the foreseeable effects on the European economies of an excessive depreciation of the dollar and stresses in this context the need for better economic coordination at international level. Although it accepts that the monetary policy pursued by the Member States is geared, above all, to holding down inflation, the Committee is concerned about the economic and social implications of maintaining high interest rates in the long term. It therefore urges that the fruits of economic growth be shared out in such a way as to strengthen internal demand and improve the situation on the labour-market, without creating inflationary pressures, and that advantage be taken of the upturn to introduce structural reforms that boost competitiveness and increase the number of jobs created by economic growth.

Internal market

Free movement of goods

Technical aspects

Industrial products

1.3.9. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to lifts.

Commission proposal: OJ C 62, 11.3.1992; COM(92) 35; Bull. 1/2-1992, point 1.3.19

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 287, 4.11.1992; Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.3.22

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. 10-1992, point 1.3.29

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 180, 2.7.1993; COM(93) 240; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.2.9

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Council common position: OJ C 232, 20.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.18

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 305, 31.10.1994; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.16

Commission opinion incorporating an amended proposal: COM(94) 540; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.14

Meeting of the Conciliation Committee held on 21 March. The Conciliation Committee did not reach agreement on a joint text.

Foodstuffs

1.3.10. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 79/112/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs.

Commission proposal: OJ C 122, 14.5.1992; COM(91) 536; Bull. 4-1992, point 1.3.8

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 332, 16.12.1992; Bull. 10-1992, point 1.3.34

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 315, 22.11.1993; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.2.14

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 118, 29.4.1994; COM(94) 24; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.24

Common position agreed by the Council on 30 March. The objective is to amend the existing Directive with regard to the language to be used on labelling, sales names, the quantitative indication of ingredients and the provisions concerning products consisting of a single ingredient. No amendment is proposed for the rules on small packages, and the Council will have to take a decision in the future on the labelling of alcoholic beverages.

Animal health

1.3.11. Parliament resolution on combating the 'hormone mafia'.

References:

Parliament resolution on the Commission communication on control of residues in meat: hormones, beta-agonists and other substances: OJ C 176, 28.6.1993; Bull. 5-1993, point 1.2.9

Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the prohibition on the use in stock-farming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and of beta-agonists; proposal for a Council Regulation on measures to monitor certain substances and residues thereof in live animals and animal products: OJ C 222, 10.8.1994; COM (94) 293 and 294; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.8

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament calls on the Council to adopt, as a matter of urgency, the proposal for a regulation concerning the prohibition on the use in stock-farming of certain substances having a hormonal or thyrostatic action and of beta-agonists and to retain the rules prohibiting the use of such substances set out in the Commission proposal. It invites the Commission and the Council to introduce stringent penalties for the misuse of medicinal products in stock-farming. The Commission is also called on to propose a legal basis for strict import controls on veterinary medicinal products and compulsory registration of these products, promoting overall monitoring of the volume of production and of marketing channels. Parliament advocates the setting-up of an international unit with responsibility for coordinating information available on the existing international networks and collating it in a European database which can be consulted by national detection services, and calls specifically for the duties of Europol to include the fight against trafficking in anabolic substances.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Free movement of persons

1.3.12. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 93/16/EEC which facilitates the free movement of doctors and provides for the mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications, and conferring implementing powers on the Commission for the updating of certain articles thereof.

Commission proposal: OJ C 389, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.30

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March.

The Committee welcomes the proposal but stresses that the Commission's powers to amend certain articles in the Directive seem to go beyond the objective of improving the updating procedure and to be contrary to Community law; it also stresses that the Advisory Committee on Medical Training should be involved in the work of the Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health.

Free movement of services

Financial services

1.3.13. First Commission report to Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Directive (91/308/EEC) concerning the fight against money laundering.

Reference: Council Directive 91/308/EEC on prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering: OJ L 166, 28.6.1991; Bull. 6-1991, point 1.2.6

Adopted by the Commission on 3 March. Using a horizontal approach, the report describes how the essential provisions of the Directive on money laundering have been implemented in the 12 countries that were Member States of the Community when the Directive came into force on 1 January 1993 and highlights the impact of the Directive on the setting-up by the Member States of systems for countering money laundering.

At the end of the report, the Commission proposes action that is to be taken at both national

and European level in the interests of more coordinated application of certain aspects of the Directive and stresses the need to increase cooperation between Member States in the administrative, police and judicial fields in order to strengthen European machinery against money laundering.

COM(95) 54

Conclusions adopted by the Council on 20 March. The Council agreed with the report's main conclusions, and in particular the need to achieve greater coordination in applying the Directive, especially with regard to the scope of the activities and the professions and types of enterprise covered by the Directive, taking into account the special status of the legal professions.

1.3.14. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Directives 77/780/EEC and 89/646/EEC in the field of credit institutions, Directives 73/239/EEC and 92/49/EEC in the field of non-life insurance, Directives 79/267/EEC and 92/96/EEC in the field of life assurance, Directive 93/22/EEC in the field of investment firms, and Directive 85/611/EEC in the field of undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS), with a view to reinforcing prudential supervision.

Commission proposal: OJ C 229, 25.8.1993; COM(93) 363; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.2.19

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 52, 19.2.1994; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.36

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 91, 28.3.1994; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.29

Amended Commission proposal: COM(94) 170; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.18

Council common position: OJ C 213, 3.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.36

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 323, 21.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.12

Commission opinion incorporating an amended proposal: COM(94) 549; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.22

Joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee on 30 March. The text incorporates the amendment proposed by Parliament whereby, under the conditions laid down by the proposal for a Directive, the notification in good faith of certain information to the supervisory authorities concerning the position of a bank by the external auditors does not constitute a violation of pro-

fessional secrecy imposed by contract or by legislation, and involves no liability for the auditors.

Taxation

Indirect taxation

1.3.15. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/388/EEC and introducing new simplification measures with regard to value-added tax — scope of certain exemptions and practical arrangements for implementing them.

Commission proposal: OJ C 107, 15.4.1994; COM(94) 58; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.30

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 195, 18.7.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.41

Parliament opinion: OJ C 205, 25.7.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.19

Agreed by the Council on 20 March. The purpose is to introduce, for the benefit of traders and authorities in the Member States, measures to simplify the tax treatment of a number of transactions and thus improve the functioning of the internal market.

The simplifications concern:

- the option of applying VAT-suspension arrangements to chain transactions involving commodities (goods generally traded on commodity markets or futures markets) stored in a VAT warehouse in order to ensure equal treatment for Community goods and goods from third countries;
- treatment of feeder services as being equivalent to intra-Community transport services in order to facilitate the activities and efficiency of carriers;
- tax treatment of work on movable tangible property (contract work, improvements, repairs, etc.).

The Directive also deals with supplies of goods to be carried outside the Community in the personal luggage of travellers, and supplies of goods and services to bodies to which international conventions or treaties apply.

In addition, with regard to immovable property acquired as capital goods, Member States may

extend the period used as the basis for calculating adjustments to 20 years.

Member States will have to apply the Directive from 1 January 1996. However, in the case of the provisions on tax warehouses, Germany and Luxembourg are authorized to defer the date of application until 1 January 1997 at the latest.

1.3.16. Proposal for a Council Directive on taxes other than turnover taxes which affect the consumption of manufactured tobacco (consolidated text).

Commission proposal: COM(94) 355; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.16

Parliament opinion: OJ C 56, 6.3.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.17

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March.

Intellectual property

1.3.17. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions.

Commission proposal: OJ C 10, 13.1.1989; COM(88) 496; Bull. 10-1988, point 2.1.17

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 159, 26.6.1989; Bull. 4-1989, point 2.1.44

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. 10-1992, point 1.3.44

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 44, 16.2.1993; COM(92) 589; Bull. 12-1992, point 1.3.50

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.40

Council common position: OJ C 101, 9.4.1994; Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.2.36

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 205, 25.7.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.20

Commission opinion incorporating an amended proposal: COM(94) 245; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.38

Conciliation Committee meeting: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.26

Joint text: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.18

Joint text rejected by Parliament on 1 March.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

1.3.18. Trademark Law Treaty

Reference: negotiating directives: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.33

Adoption by the Commission on 27 March of a recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the signing, on behalf of the European Community, of the Trademark Law Treaty adopted in Geneva on 27 October 1994 under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Public procurement

1.3.19. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Directives 92/50/EEC, 93/36/EEC and 93/37/EEC relating to the coordination of procedures for the award of public service contracts, public supply contracts and public works contracts respectively; proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 93/38/EEC coordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors.

Reference: Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations (1986-94): Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.98

Directives to be amended:

Council Directive 92/50/EEC relating to the coordination of procedures for the award of public service contracts: OJ L 209, 24.7.1992; Bull. 6-1992, point 1.3.7

Council Directive 93/36/EEC coordinating procedures for the award of public supply contracts: OJ L 199, 9.8.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.2.36

Council Directive 93/37/EEC concerning the coordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts: OJ L 199, 9.8.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.2.37

Council Directive 93/38/EEC coordinating the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors: OJ L 199, 9.8.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.2.38

Adopted by the Commission on 29 March. These proposals introduce a limited number of technical amendments to the Community rules on public procurement applicable solely to Community firms in order to take account of the new rules governing the opening-up of public procurement such as those resulting from the Government Procurement Agreement signed in Marrakesh in April 1994.

The main changes are:

- a new article ensures, generally speaking, that the opportunities for access to public contracts within the Community for firms, products and services from the Member States are at least as favourable as those provided for by the Agreement for firms, products and services from third countries which are signatories to the Agreement;
- the thresholds applicable are amended in order to align them with those in the Agreement. In particular, the threshold applicable to service contracts awarded by the State falls from ECU 200 000 to some ECU 130 000 so as to guarantee that calls for tender published in accordance with the Agreement for firms in third countries are open to Community firms too. However, the current thresholds will continue to apply to the telecommunications sector since it is not covered by the Agreement;
- the same rules apply to all the contracts covered by the Community rules, such as the requirement for awarding authorities to notify rejected firms, on request, of the advantages of the accepted bid.

The proposed amendments do not affect the individual provisions of Directive 93/38/EEC concerning bids in which the proportion of products from the European Union is less than 50%; the Commission will present proposed changes to the scope of these provisions at a later date.

COM(95) 107

Competition

General

1.3.20. Parliament resolution on the Twenty-third Competition Report from the Commission.

References:

Twenty-third Competition Report (1993): COM(94) 161; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.21

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. 12-1989, point 2.1.78; Supplement 2/90 — Bull.

Adopted on 16 March. After stressing the importance of the interplay between competition policy and industrial policy, Parliament welcomes the results achieved in the competition field in 1993 while recognizing that the Commission's workload is growing. Among the new demands on competition policy, it stresses both the need to revise the Merger Control Regulation and the role to be played by the World Trade Organization in liberalizing international trade. It notes that the scope of competition policy is widening to include, for example, environmental protection. Parliament stresses that the Commission should continue to be the only body authorized to take decisions on State aid in the European Union and highlights the need for the new guidelines on State aid to air transport to be applied strictly. It also welcomes the measures taken by the Commission to simplify and speed up certain procedures.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Rules applying to businesses

General rules

1.3.21. Draft Commission Regulation on the application of Article 85(3) of the EC Treaty to certain categories of motor vehicle distribution and servicing agreements.

Commission draft: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.20

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March.

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. 12-1989, point 2.1.78; Supplement 2/90 — Bull.

Glaxo plc/Wellcome plc

1.3.22. *Adopted on 28 February.* The decision clears Glaxo's takeover bid for Wellcome.

The activities of these two major pharmaceutical groups are basically complementary and their

merger does not result in a dominant position on the national markets affected. However, Glaxo has a strong position in the treatment of migraine with its product 'Imigrain', and both groups currently have products in an advanced stage of development in this therapeutic area. In order to avoid any possible negative effects of the merger, Glaxo has undertaken to grant a licence to a third party for one of these products.

Union Carbide/Enichem

1.3.23. Adopted on 13 March. The decision authorizes the establishment of a joint venture between Union Carbide Corporation and Enichem SpA in respect of polyethylene.

The two chemical groups Enichem (Italy) and Union Carbide Corporation (United States of America) have decided to set up a joint venture, called Polimeri Europa, for the manufacture and sale of polyethylene, a thermoplastic used in a wide variety of end-products.

Enichem will transfer to the joint venture, which constitutes a merger, its entire Western European polyethylene manufacturing facilities and sales network, including its ethylene cracker at Brindisi in Italy and its production technologies. Union Carbide will transfer the licence to use the Unipol technology that it has developed for the production of polyethylene.

The Commission examined the effects of the proposed transaction on three separate markets: the market for the production and sale of polyethylene in Western Europe, the market for the production and sale of ethylene in Italy, and the worldwide market for polyethylene production technology.

The joint venture's share of the polyethylene market will not exceed 25%. Several European producers, such as Borealis, BP, Dow, DSM and Exxon (some of which have their own production technology), are capable of competing effectively with Polimeri Europa.

With regard to the market for the production of ethylene, the main raw material for polyethylene, Enichem is the main producer in Italy. The Commission made sure that the joint venture would not result in Enichem's position on this market being strengthened.

The Commission concluded that the creation of Polimeri Europa will not significantly improve

Union Carbide's position in polyethylene production technology, since Enichem's technological experience is not comparable with that of its partner.

Lastly, the Commission examined the ethylene supply agreement concluded between Enichem and Polimeri Europa, to see if there were any ancillary restrictions. In doing so, it took into account the need for third parties to have access to sufficient quantities of ethylene in the region.

The Commission decided to authorize the establishment of the joint venture, since it will result neither in the creation, nor in the strengthening, of a dominant position on any of the relevant markets.

Dalgety/The Quaker Oats Company

1.3.24. Adopted on 13 March. The decision approves Dalgety's acquisition of Quaker EPF.

The Commission has approved the United Kingdom firm Dalgety's acquisition of the United States firm Quaker Oats's European business. Both firms produce wet and dry food for dogs and cats.

The Commission considered that the relevant geographic market comprised the European Economic Area, and examined the transaction's impact on four product areas: wet cat food, wet dog food, dry cat food and dry dog food.

Following the merger, the new company will have the second largest market share in three out of the four product areas and the third largest in the fourth, with none of those shares exceeding 21%. Consequently, the Commission concluded that the transaction would not result in the creation of a dominant position, and decided to approve it.

Winterthur/Schweizer Rück

1.3.25. Adopted on 14 March. The decision approves Winterthur's acquisition of complete control over four Schweizer Rück subsidiaries in Italy and Spain.

Winterthur Schweizerische Versicherungsgesellschaft, a worldwide insurance company active in all sectors of private insurance, has a turnover of around ECU 10 000 million.

It has now acquired Schweiz Vita SpA and Schweiz Assicurazioni SpA (based in Italy and engaged, respectively, in life and non-life business there), together with Schweiz Seguros and La Equitativa SA (based in Spain and providing general insurance in both Spain and Portugal).

The parties' combined share of the Portuguese and Italian markets for the various products concerned is less than 5%, while the figure for three of the relevant markets in Spain is between 10 and 15%. The effect on the worldwide reinsurance market is negligible, and many national and international competitors have a similar share of the national product markets in question.

Since there is strong competition and the parties have only a small market share, the Commission has approved the transaction.

Nokia/SP Tyres

1.3.26. Adopted on 14 March. The decision establishes that the proposed change to the shareholding structure of the company owned jointly by Nokia Corporation and SP Tyres UK Ltd falls outside the scope of the Merger Regulation.

Nokia Corporation (Nokia) and SP Tyres UK Ltd are currently the only shareholders in Nokia Tyres Ltd, with Nokia having an 80% controlling interest. Nokia proposes to reduce its holding to 40%, with 20% of the shares being held by SP Tyres and 40% by other investors.

Between them, Nokia and SP Tyres will be in a position to exercise a controlling influence over the board of the jointly-owned company. But although they have undertaken to seek agreement on all strategic questions, neither party will actually be able to veto the board's decisions. Consequently, there is not deemed to be joint control within the meaning of the Merger Regulation.

That being the case, the Commission has decided that the transaction falls outside the scope of the Regulation.

La Rinascente/Cedis Migliarini

1.3.27. Adopted on 15 March. The decision authorizes La Rinascente SpA to acquire a 70% stake in Cedis Migliarini SpA.

Rinascente is owned by the IFI group and is involved in the large-scale retail distribution of foodstuffs and other products, while Cedis heads a group of companies whose main activity is the coordination of foodstuffs distribution in the Marche region.

The Commission did not consider that the transaction, which concerns the large-scale distribution markets in those Italian provinces with Cedis outlets, affected the conditions of competition on those markets as regards the distribution of foodstuffs. Nor did it regard the transaction as resulting in a dominant position with regard to the distribution of non-food products.

Accordingly, it has decided that there are no grounds for doubting the transaction's compatibility with the common market.

British Steel/UES

1.3.28. Adopted on 17 March. The decision approves British Steel plc's acquisition of UES Ltd.

The Commission has given the go-ahead for British Steel to purchase the remaining 36% of UES shares that it did not already own.

UES produces and distributes engineering steels, forgings, cylinders and bright bars. Around 60% of its output comprises ECSC products not covered by the Merger Regulation. Although British Steel is likewise both a manufacturer and distributor, the only overlap between the two companies' activities is in the distribution of bright bars. The combined market share resulting from the transaction is less than 15% and will not lead to the establishment of a dominant position. Accordingly, the Commission has decided to declare the transaction compatible with the common market and with the Agreement on the European Economic Area.

Securicor Datatrak

1.3.29. Adopted on 20 March. The decision authorizes a concentration with regard to vehicle tracking services in the Netherlands.

The United Kingdom group Securicor has set up a joint venture with two Dutch financial firms (subsidiaries, respectively, of AVCB and ING) to introduce a new telecommunications service

in the Netherlands that will provide fleet operators with real-time information on the position and status of all vehicles under their control. Since this is a new type of service, there is no addition of market share and no risk of competition being excluded from the components market as a result of the parent companies pooling their resources. Accordingly, the Commission has decided not to oppose the transaction.

Nordic Satellite Distribution

1.3.30. Adopted on 24 March. The decision institutes proceedings under Article 6(1)(c) of the Merger Regulation. Pursuant to Article 6(1)(c), the Commission has decided to investigate the establishment of the joint venture Nordic Satellite Distribution AS (NSD) by Norsk Telecom AS (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Norwegian telecommunications operator Telenor AS), the Danish telecommunications operator TeleDanmark AS and the Swedish group Kinnevik. The purpose of the project is for NSD to lease capacity on satellites covering the Nordic region and distribute television channels to cable systems, multiple-user antennae and private dish aerials.

The question is whether NSD could permanently establish a dominant position in several sectors on the Nordic market. The vertical integration between satellite operators and television programme distributors, combined with the parent companies' strong position in the various related segments of the market, would be likely to give NSD a competitive advantage in all of those segments.

CGI/Dassault

1.3.31. Adopted on 24 March. The decision authorizes Dassault Électronique to take a stake in CR2A-DI, a subsidiary of Compagnie générale d'informatique (IBM France).

The Commission has decided not to oppose the transaction, whereby Dassault Électronique will acquire a minority holding in CR2A-DI.

Dassault Électronique is part of the French group Dassault Industries (Dassault), which is involved in the aircraft, aerospace, electronics, simulations and computing sectors and specializes in military equipment.

CGI is controlled by IBM France, part of the United States group IBM, which is involved in information technology, computer software and related activities. The CGI subsidiary CR2A-DI is mainly involved in defence information technology, and particularly real-time systems.

On completion of the transaction, CR2A-DI will be jointly controlled by CGI and Dassault. The new company and Dassault, via its subsidiaries Dassault Électronique and Dassault Aviation, will become the main supplier on the French market — which, on account of its specific characteristics, must still be regarded as a national market. Dassault and CR2A-DI will, however, face strong competition from other major suppliers such as Cap Sesa (a joint venture between Matra and Cap Gemini Sogeti), Thomson, Sema (Paribas) and Alcatel.

Accordingly, the Commission has decided not to oppose Dassault Électronique's acquisition of a stake in CR2A-DI and has declared the transaction to be compatible with the common market and with the Agreement on the European Economic Area.

Omnitel

1.3.32. Adopted on 27 March. The decision establishes that the creation of Omnitel-Pronto Italia does not fall under the Merger Regulation.

Omnitel-Pronto Italia is a joint venture set up by several industrial and financial firms, including Olivetti, Mannesmann, Air Touch, Telia and Banca di Roma, with a view to bidding for Italy's second GSM cellular telephone licence. After examining the proposed transaction, the Commission has concluded that it concerns a rapidly-developing services market characterized by an increasingly pronounced trend towards integration within the European Union. Given that several of the firms involved in the joint venture are already GSM operators in other Member States, they may adopt a strategy based on coordinated competition. Consequently, the Commission has concluded that the joint venture is of a cooperative nature.

Torrington/NSK

1.3.33. Adopted on 28 March. The decision authorizes the establishment of a joint venture

on steering columns between Torrington UK Limited and NSK Bearings Europe Limited.

Torrington (a subsidiary of the Ingersoll Rand group) and NSK Europe (a subsidiary of the Japanese company NSK) have decided to combine their European operations for the production and sale of motor-vehicle steering columns and steering-column components.

The Commission concluded that steering-column products constitute a market, without resolving the question of whether the components market is separate. It regarded the geographic market as comprising Western Europe, particularly given the high cost of transport and the low level of imports.

On completion of the transaction, neither party's market share will exceed 25%. Since there are several competitors of a similar size, and because the purchasers (motor manufacturers) are powerful and the new joint venture will have only a modest share of the market, the Commission has decided that the transaction will not result in the creation of a dominant position and that it should, therefore, be authorized.

State aid

General rules

1.3.34. Commission decisions and other measures in respect of State aid in agriculture are dealt with under the relevant subject headings (→ points 1.3.126 to 1.3.129).

1.3.35. Draft Commission decision amending Article 3 of the Steel Aid Code.

Decision to be amended: Commission Decision No 3855/91/ECSC establishing Community rules for aid to the steel industry: OJ L 362, 31.12.1991; Bull. 11-1991, point 1.2.26

Approved on 14 March. The proposed amendments relate to aid for environmental protection.

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Decisions to raise no objection

Shipbuilding

Reference: Seventh Council Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding (OJ L 380, 31.12.1990; Bull. 12-1990, point 1.3.64), as last

amended by Council Directive 93/115/EC: OJ L 326, 28.12.1993; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.71

Germany

1.3.36. Commission decision on tax aid for shipbuilding.

Adopted on 1 March. Under the scheme, which applies to investment in new ships, shipowners may be able to deduct losses incurred from their taxable income, and shipping companies may be eligible for accelerated depreciation. In accordance with the seventh Directive, although the aid is granted to shipowners it must be regarded as operating aid for shipbuilding. Since the grant equivalents are below the production aid ceiling laid down by the Directive, the Commission has approved the application of the tax measures to shipyards in western Germany in respect of contracts signed in 1995.

1.3.37. Commission decision on aid for the Elbwerft Boizenburg (EWB) shipyard in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.

Reference: Directive 92/68/EEC amending Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding: OJ L 219, 4.8.1992; Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.3.56
Previous decision: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.78

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has approved the release of a second tranche of aid — comprising DM 10 million investment aid and DM 4 million closure aid — to the Elbwerft Boizenburg shipyard, located in the former German Democratic Republic. The decision to grant approval follows checks on the expenditure actually incurred by the yard and on its compliance with the 22 000 cgt capacity limit set as part of the overall capacity reduction to be achieved by yards in the new *Länder*.

Italy

1.3.38. Commission decision on an aid scheme for shipbuilding.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has approved the extension, until the end of 1995, of a scheme that has been in operation since 1991. The available forms of support comprise grants of 9% for building new ships and 4.5% for converting existing vessels or building new ones costing less than ECU 10 million, and also aid equivalent to the credit facilities granted in ac-

cordance with OECD conditions. Support for research and development may also be granted in accordance with the guidelines laid down for each type of aid. All the measures comply with the terms of the seventh Directive.

Netherlands

1.3.39. Commission decision on aid to Damen Shipyards in Gonnchem.

Adopted on 14 March. The decision is based on Article 4(7) of the seventh Directive, which relates specifically to development aid. Support is to be granted so that the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (based in the Ghanaian port of Tema) can purchase, from the Dutch firm Damen Shipyards, three tugs to replace obsolete vessels due to be withdrawn from service. The three new tugs will be registered in Ghana and will operate only in the Ghanaian ports of Tema and Takoradi.

The Commission has decided to approve the aid, since all the relevant conditions — particularly with regard to the recipient country, the OECD subsidy level (40%) and the country of registration — have been met.

Other sectors

Germany

Reference: Commission notice on Community guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty: OJ C 368, 23.12.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.42

1.3.40. Commission decision on aid to rolling-stock manufacturer Kaelble-Gmeinder GmbH, based in Backnang/Mosbach (Baden-Württemberg).

Adopted on 1 March. Rolling-stock manufacturer Kaelble-Gmeinder has been authorized to receive a State guarantee covering 70% of a DM 10 million loan to be granted to it at market rates by private banks. The loan will enable the firm to meet its cash needs for six months, during which time it will draw up a restructuring plan. The guarantee is being provided under the Baden-Württemberg economic development programme approved by the Commission in 1984. Since the aid is in accordance with the

guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty, and since the company's market share is relatively small, the Commission has decided to raise no objection to the provision of the guarantee.

1.3.41. Commission decision on aid to non-ferrous metal products manufacturer Aluhett Aluminiumwerk GmbH, of Hettstedt in Saxony-Anhalt.

Adopted on 14 March. Aluhett Aluminiumwerk GmbH, which manufactures non-ferrous metal products, will receive a State guarantee covering 100% of a DM 35 million loan to be granted to it at market rates. The loan will enable the firm to meet its cash needs for six months, during which time it will draw up a restructuring plan. Since the aid is in accordance with the guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty, the Commission has decided to raise no objection to the provision of the guarantee.

Italy

1.3.42. Commission decision on aid to the State holding company IRI SpA.

Previous decision: Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.2.74

Adopted on 14 March. IRI SpA, whose share capital is held entirely by the government, is the holding company for one of the top three industrial conglomerates in Europe. IRI is among the companies whose debt reduction is being monitored until the end of 1996 under the agreement concluded between the Commission and the Italian Government in July 1993. However, the agreement stipulates that, in accordance with State-aid rules laid down in the EC Treaty, the Commission must continue to examine on an individual basis transactions which may involve State aid.

The Commission has approved a government loan of LIT 10 billion (ECU 4.7 million) designed to enable IRI to pay off its existing debts, rationalize its indebtedness and improve its position by taking advantage of the fall in interest rates. The Commission took into account the Italian authorities' assurance that the government will remain IRI's principal creditor only in the short term, since IRI will be able to pay back the loan once a restructuring plan has been drawn up for the group and once the pro-

ceeds are available from the privatization of a number of subsidiaries. The Commission has concluded that the loan does not constitute aid in addition to that approved under the July 1993 agreement, but will help achieve the objective of that aid: reduction of IRI's indebtedness.

Regional aid

Reference: Commission communication on the principles of coordination of regional aid schemes: OJ C 31, 31.12.1979

Germany

1.3.43. Commission decision on aid for firms in difficulty in Saxony.

Adopted on 1 March. The Commission has approved a reduced-interest loan scheme of up to DM 5 million in Saxony for firms in difficulty which have a viable restructuring plan. The scheme, which is to run for five years, has DM 240 million (ECU 131 million) to lend per year and is aimed above all at SMEs in the areas of the *Land* worst affected by unemployment. Aid for large firms must be notified on an individual basis. Grants to large firms operating on markets with excess capacity or to SMEs in a position to influence the market are contingent on closure or reduction of production capacity.

Italy

1.3.44. Commission decision on a regional aid scheme.

Adopted on 1 March. In six regions of the Mezzogiorno (Campania, Basilicata, Apulia, Calabria, Sicily and Sardinia), investment aid of between 40 and 50% net grant equivalent (NGE) may be granted, depending on the area, with a supplement for SMEs. In the same regions, as well as in Molise and, until the end of 1996, in Abruzzi, a new guarantee fund for SMEs will make it possible to consolidate the debts of viable SMEs at 30 September 1994 or grant equity loans. The fund will also encourage banks and institutional investors to take minority shareholdings in the SMEs concerned. In the eight regions in question, reductions in social security costs may be granted degressively.

The Commission has also authorized a number of temporary and limited measures for Abruzzi

and Molise, which no longer qualify for aid under Article 92(3)(a) of the EC Treaty (but still do so under Article 92(3)(c)).

In the Centre-North regions that qualify for aid under Article 92(3)(c), the permitted level of investment aid is 20% NGE for small enterprises, 15% for medium-sized enterprises and 10% for large firms.

Under the framework for aid for research and development, the Commission has also authorized aid for research in the different regions, varying between 25 and 65% depending on the area and type of research.

Young people's enterprises which are governed by Law No 44 of 28 February 1986 may obtain investment aid at rates which vary depending on the area, as well as contributions to start-up costs, training, advice and technical assistance.

Netherlands

1.3.45. Commission decision on the map of development areas in the Netherlands.

Adopted on 1 March. Following the expiry on 31 December 1994 of the old map, the Commission has decided to approve the new map of development areas proposed by the Dutch Government for a period of five years or two years, depending on the area. The aid intensities authorized are 25% gross in Flevoland, 20% gross for the other areas notified for five years, and 15% for those notified for two years.

Aid for employment and training

Germany

1.3.46. Commission decision on aid for training in Saxony.

Adopted on 1 March. The Commission has authorized aid for the creation of additional vocational training places in small firms (no more than 50 employees) by paying premiums of up to DM 4 000 per training place created (DM 6 000 for places for young women).

Finland

1.3.47. Commission decision on aid for job-creation schemes.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has authorized aid for job-creation schemes under which firms that create extra jobs and employ, under contracts of indefinite duration, young job-seekers (under 25), the long-term unemployed or persons with particular difficulties in being placed on the labour-market may qualify for a monthly grant of FIM 2 500 to 4 500 (ECU 410-730) per additional post for a maximum of 10 to 12 months (apprenticeship contracts, maximum three years). The same grant may be paid to unemployed people setting up their own business. The scheme has an estimated annual budget of FMK 320 million (ECU 52 million) in 1995 and 1996 and is expected to create approximately 9 000 jobs.

Sweden

1.3.48. Commission decision on aid for job-creation schemes.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has authorized partial or total relief from certain taxes for firms with fewer than 500 employees which create new jobs and take on unemployed people on contracts of indefinite duration. The maximum amount of aid per new employee is SKR 72 000 (ECU 7 740). The scheme, which will apply only in 1995, is expected to create some 110 000 jobs at a total budgeted cost of SKR 7 billion (ECU 753 million).

Aid for research and development

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

Germany

1.3.49. Commission decision on an aid scheme concerning research into new materials.

Adopted on 1 March. Non-refundable grants will be given for research and development into new materials in the fields of information technology, traffic technology, energy technology, production technology and medical technology. The purpose of the aid is to encourage firms to undertake research beyond their normal range of activities. The key results must be published. This new scheme, very similar to that approved by the Commission in 1992, is consistent with

the framework for aid for research and development.

Decision to propose appropriate measures under Article 93(1) of the EC Treaty

Germany

1.3.50. Commission decision on guarantee schemes in Baden-Württemberg and Hamburg.

Reference: Community guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty: OJ C 368, 23.12.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.42

Adopted on 1 and 14 March. The Commission has decided to propose to the German authorities a number of appropriate measures with regard to the guarantee schemes in Baden-Württemberg and Hamburg — previously authorized by the Commission — to make them compatible with the guidelines on rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty.

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

Germany

Reference: Community guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty: OJ C 368, 23.12.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.42

1.3.51. Commission decision on guarantee schemes in various *Länder*.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has noted that the guarantee schemes in Saxony-Anhalt, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Bavaria, Bremen, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Schleswig-Holstein and Saxony, which it had authorized in the past, need to be amended to make them consistent with the new guidelines on aid for firms in difficulty. Since the German authorities have not accepted the measures proposed by the Commission under Article 93(1) of the EC Treaty, it has decided to open proceedings.

1.3.52. Commission decision on aid in connection with the privatization of SKET Schwer-

maschinenbau Magdeburg GmbH, located in Saxony-Anhalt (former GDR).

Adopted on 14 March. SKET, the leading manufacturer of machinery and equipment in the new *Länder*, produces mainly heavy machinery (rolling mills) and plant for the steel industry, mechanical engineering and environmental technologies. As part of the privatization of the firm, in which a majority shareholding of 51% was bought by the group Oestman & Borchert Industriebeteiligung, the Treuhandanstalt granted aid totalling at least DM 957.1 million (ECU 512.5 million), intended in particular to cover SKET's losses from 1994 to 1996. Before privatization, SKET had already received aid of DM 488.4 million (ECU 261.5 million), part of which is included in the new aid.

Referring to its decisions on the activities of the Treuhand and to the guidelines on State aid for rescuing firms in difficulty, the Commission decided to open proceedings since the information available to it does not demonstrate that the aid was limited to the absolute minimum necessary for rescuing and restructuring the firm. This was confirmed by the fact that SKET was not sold to the highest bidder. Furthermore, the privatization contract does not contain any guarantee against SKET selling its products at artificially low prices in 1994-96 to the detriment of its competitors in the European Union and the European Economic Area.

Decision to terminate proceedings under Article 6(4) of the Steel Aid Code

Reference: Commission Decision 3855/91/ECSC of 27 November 1991 establishing Community rules for aid to the steel industry: OJ L 362, 31.12.1991; Bull. 11-1991, point 1.2.26

1.3.53. Commission decision on aid for the steel firm EKO Stahl GmbH, Eisenhüttenstadt (Brandenburg).

Initiation of proceedings: OJ C 274, 1.10.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.70

Previous decisions: Bull. 12-1994, points 1.2.76 and 1.2.81

Adopted on 1 March. The Commission has decided to terminate the proceedings instituted on 6 July 1994 in respect of the measures on which it had not yet taken a position. It has noted that the loans to EKO Stahl continue as

part of a new loan agreement involving private banks and concluded on market terms. The guarantee by the Bundesanstalt für vereinigungsbedingte Sonderaufgaben (successor to the Treuhand) of part of this loan was also approved by the Commission under Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty.

Decisions to terminate proceedings under Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty

Germany

1.3.54. Commission decision on aid to Aluminium Giesserei Villingen GmbH in Baden-Württemberg.

Initiation of proceedings: Bull. 9-1993, point 1.2.47

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission has decided to terminate the proceedings opened in respect of proposed restructuring aid to Aluminium Giesserei Villingen since the company was declared bankrupt in 1994 and the Federal Government has informed the Commission that the proposed aid will no longer be granted.

Positive final decisions

Italy

1.3.55. Commission decision on aid granted to CMF SUD SpA and CMF SpA in the metal construction sector.

Adopted on 14 March. CMF SUD SpA and CMF SpA, owned by the public holding company IRI, operate in the civil engineering sector (construction of bridges, industrial projects, buildings and power transmission lines). The purpose of the aid was to offset CMF SUD's heavy losses and provide start-up capital to CMF to prepare for its takeover of the main activities of CMF SUD. Under the restructuring programme proposed by the Italian Government, CMF and CMF SUD will concentrate their activities on the construction of metal structures for industrial use and abandon or sell all activities in the electricity transmission and residential construction sectors. These measures will be accompanied by a substantial reduction in the workforce and rationalization of plant locations

and organizational structures in order to ensure that CMF returns to lasting viability. The overall effect will be to reduce the two firms' production capacity by 50%. In addition, the Italian authorities have undertaken to privatize CMF.

The Commission has decided to close proceedings and authorize the aid after concluding that the proposed restructuring programme complies with the guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty and appears capable of returning CMF to profit; privatization of the firm will enable the Commission to ensure that the takeover of CMF SUD is undertaken on market terms.

Negative final decisions

Spain

1.3.56. Commission decision on aid to the Piezas y Rodajes SA (PYRSA) steel foundry in Teruel (Aragon).

Initiation of proceedings: Bull.7/8-1993, point 1.2.71

Adopted by the Commission on 14 March. The investment aid granted by the Spanish authorities and in respect of which the procedure was opened comprised a non-refundable grant of PTA 182 million, donation of land worth PTA 2.3 million and a reduced-interest loan (seven percentage points for five years) of PTA 490 million, which was guaranteed by the State. On the basis of the information provided during the procedure, the Commission concluded that there had been overcapacity in the relevant sector (steel casting) since 1990, i.e. before the aid was granted, and that the aid was incompatible with the Treaty since it increased capacity in that sector. The aid is also unlawful since it was granted in breach of Article 93(3) of the EC Treaty. The Commission has therefore decided that the aid should be recovered with interest.

Greece

1.3.57. Commission decision on aid to firms manufacturing pharmaceuticals and related products.

Adopted on 1 March. The Commission has taken a final negative decision on aid granted to the

National Pharmaceuticals Board (EOF) and, via the Board, to the Institute of Pharmaceutical Research and Technology (IFET). The aid was financed by parafiscal charges on all pharmaceuticals and cosmetics sold in Greece, including products imported from other Member States. The Commission concluded that the aid was incompatible with the common market and had to be discontinued because it was financed partly by taxes on intra-Community imports.

International cooperation

United States

1.3.58. Agreement between the European Communities and the Government of the United States of America regarding the application of their competition laws.

Commission proposal for a Council Decision concluding the Agreement: COM(94) 430; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.47

Parliament opinion: OJ C 43, 20.2.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.58

New opinion delivered by Parliament on 17 March. Parliament was consulted again following a change to the legal basis.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Industrial policy

Competitiveness

1.3.59. Commission communication to the Council, Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on an action programme and timetable for implementation of the action announced in the communication on an industrial competitiveness policy for the European Union; proposal for a Council Decision on implementation of a Community action programme to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry.

References:

Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on industrial policy in an open and competitive environment: COM(90)556; Bull. 11-1990, point 1.3.109

Commission communication to the Council, Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on an industrial competitiveness policy for the European Union: COM(94) 319; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.67; Supplement 3/94 — Bull.

Council resolution on the strengthening of the competitiveness of Community industry: OJ C 343, 6.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.58

Adopted on 22 March. The action programme is the Commission's follow-up to its communication on an industrial competitiveness policy for the European Union and reflects the approach it set out in its communication on industrial policy in an open and competitive environment; it is also a response to the Council's request that the Commission present a timetable for finalizing specific proposals on competitiveness.

The programme covers the four priorities which the Commission identified in its September 1994 communication as vital to competitiveness, namely developing the single market, taking greater account of the needs of industry in research policy, creating an information society and promoting industrial cooperation.

It contains measures of various types: action already under way which could make an immediate contribution to the industrial competitiveness of the Union (e.g. organization of round tables, establishment of pilot programmes on industrial cooperation, setting-up of a competitiveness advisory group); action requiring more detailed political guidelines so that a start can be made in due course (e.g. White Papers and Green Papers on the legal instruments for industrial cooperation, on energy policy and on the promotion of innovation); and action requiring the adoption of legislative proposals. In accordance with the subsidiarity principle, a further distinction should be drawn between the action to be taken directly by the Commission, the measures requiring close coordination and collaboration with the national authorities, and the steps to be taken in close cooperation with industry.

COM(95) 87

1.3.60. Commission report on the implementation of the Council's resolutions and conclusions on industrial policy.

Reference: Council resolution on the strengthening of the competitiveness of Community industry: OJ C 343, 6.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.58

Adopted on 22 March. This report, which follows on from the Council resolution on the strengthening of the competitiveness of Community industry and covers the period 1990-94, shows how the measures taken have established a sound framework for facilitating stronger growth (completion of the single market, conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations), for framing a policy to prepare for the new era of industrial development promised by the information society, and for launching a new policy to strengthen industrial competitiveness and face up to the globalization of markets (strengthening the links between R&D and industrial competitiveness, developing industrial cooperation).

1.3.61. Competitiveness Advisory Group.

Reference: Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.8

First meeting held in Brussels on 14 March. The Group was set up following a request by the Essen European Council and is composed of 13 high-level experts on European competitiveness. Its role is to make an independent report on the Union's competitiveness every six months, ahead of each meeting of the European Council, to the President of the Commission and the Heads of State or Government and to advise on political priorities and policy changes to enhance European competitiveness.

Individual industries

1.3.62. Forward programme for steel for the first half of 1995 and for the year as a whole.

Commission draft: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.84
Consultation of the ECSC Consultative Committee: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.84

Formally adopted by the Commission on 22 March.

OJ C 73, 25.3.1995

International aspects

1.3.63. Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on industrial cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (→ point 1.4.51).

Enterprise policy

Cooperative, mutual and non-profit sector

1.3.64. *Proposal for a Council Decision relating to a multiannual programme (1994-96) of work for cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations in the Community.*

Commission proposal: OJ C 87, 24.3.1994; COM(93) 650; Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.2.76

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 388, 31.12.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.76

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March, subject to amendments, particularly with regard to the definition of an enterprise in the form of an association and the procedures for implementing the programme.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Research and technology

Accompanying, promotion and support activities and other activities

Technical steel research

1.3.65. Draft Commission Decision on the granting of financial aid for technical steel research projects and pilot/demonstration projects.

Reference: Medium-term guidelines for the ECSC programmes of technical steel research and pilot/demonstration projects (1991-95): OJ C 252, 6.10.1990; Bull. 9-1990, point 1.2.78

Adopted (first reading) on 20 March. Purpose: to grant ECU 32.5 million to 36 research projects and nine pilot/demonstration projects.

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

International cooperation

1.3.66. Draft international cooperation Agreement in the field of intelligent manufacturing systems (IMS) with the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia, Norway and Switzerland.

References:

Council Decision 94/802/EC adopting a specific programme for research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of information technologies (1994-98): OJ L 334, 22.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.66

Council Decision 94/571/EC adopting a specific programme for research and technological development, including demonstration, in the field of industrial and materials technologies (1994-98): OJ L 222, 26.8.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.80

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on 10 March. The aim of the draft Agreement is to establish a framework and a mechanism for planning and executing joint projects and accompanying measures in the field of intelligent manufacturing systems. The Community's contribution will be financed by the specific programmes on information technologies and industrial and materials technologies under the fourth R & TD framework programme and will be limited to ECU 55 million for the duration of the framework programme.

1.3.67. Commission communication to the Council and the European Parliament on the Community's 1995 financial contribution to the International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from the new independent States of the former Soviet Union (INTAS).

Adopted on 1 March. Purpose: to grant Community funding totalling ECU 8 million for 1995 provided that the percentage of signed contracts for projects selected in the calls for proposals amounts to a minimum of 50% for the 1993 call and 25% for the 1994 call.

COM(95) 52

Education, vocational training and youth

General

1.3.68. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision establishing 1996 as the European Year of Lifelong Learning.

Commission proposal: OJ C 287, 15.10.1994; COM(94) 264; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.186

Committee of the Regions opinion: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.202

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.202

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 16 March, subject to amendments aimed at creating a European education and training area and strengthening the kind of education and training opportunities prevailing at the various stages of life. Parliament expressed the desire that financial resources from other Community programmes and initiatives in the field might contribute to the objectives of the European Year, calling for more effort on the information front, genuine equality of access to education and training, the promotion of language skills, better non-school training, and support for parents and teachers in the fulfilment of their responsibility in terms of lifelong learning.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 31 March. The Commission incorporated a number of Parliament's amendments, more particularly those detailing the European Year's objectives and themes and defining what resources should be available to implement them.

COM(95) 124

Common position agreed by the Council on 31 March. Purpose: to promote the personal development and sense of initiative of individuals, their integration into working life and society, their participation in the democratic decision-making process and their ability to adjust to economic, technological and social change; to highlight the need for lifelong learning for everyone. During the European Year, information, awareness-raising and promotional activities will be undertaken concerning opportunities for lifelong education and vocational training. The Council set the programme funding at ECU 8 million.

Cooperation in the field of education

1.3.69. Parliament and Council Decision 95/819/EC establishing the Community action programme 'Socrates'.

References:

Council Decision 89/489/EEC establishing an action programme to promote foreign language

competence in the European Community (Lingua): OJ L 239, 16.8.1989; Bull. 7/8-1989, point 2.1.113

Council Decision 89/663/EEC amending Decision 87/327/EEC adopting the European Community action scheme for the mobility of university students (Erasmus): OJ L 395, 30.12.1989; Bull. 12-1989, point 2.1.123

Commission proposal: OJ C 66, 3.3.1994; COM (93) 708; Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.2.184

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 128, 9.5.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.165

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 195, 18.7.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.165

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 164, 16.6.1994; COM(94) 180; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.137

Committee of the Regions opinion: OJ C 217, 6.8.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.137

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.197

Council common position: OJ C 244, 31.8.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.167

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 323, 21.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.113

Commission opinion amending proposal: COM(94) 502; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.204

First Conciliation Committee meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.226

Joint text: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.67

Council approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.67

Joint text approved by Parliament on 1 March.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Signed by Parliament and the Council on 14 March. This new five-year (1995-99) education programme is intended to contribute to the development of quality education and training and the creation of an open European area for cooperation by way of measures at all levels of teaching. More specifically, the aim is to strengthen, simplify and rationalize Community action in the field of education and to develop new activities. With ECU 850 million funding, the Socrates programme will comprise measures and projects designed to promote transnational cooperation in three areas of action.

As regards higher education, the Socrates programme seeks to promote student and teacher mobility, inter-university cooperation, the creation of university centres and the introduction of the European dimension at all levels of study, as a follow-up to the Erasmus and Lingua programmes. Socrates is also designed to foster projects enabling universities to cooperate on matters of common interest. As regards school

education, the programme essentially seeks to encourage the mobility of teachers and the creation of partnership arrangements between schools in different Member States for the joint pursuit of educational projects, with special reference to languages, the new information technologies, cultural heritage and environmental protection.

Community-level action is also envisaged at all levels of teaching with a view to promoting language skills in the European Community, open and distance learning and exchanges of information and experience. The programme will be open to the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and to Malta and Cyprus.

OJ L 87, 20.4.1995

Foreign language teaching

1.3.70. Council resolution on improving and diversifying language learning and teaching within the education systems of the European Union.

Agreed by the Council on 31 March. Bearing in mind the new powers given to the Community in the field of youth affairs under the Treaty on European Union, the Council wishes to consider how the educational systems can continue the construction of a Europe without internal frontiers and strengthen understanding between the peoples of the Union. Having reaffirmed the principle of linguistic diversity, the Council pinpoints the following objectives and measures:

- improve the quality of language learning and teaching;
- language learning in the European Union could be improved by methods which develop comprehension and written expression, and by encouraging contacts with native speakers of the language being studied, more particularly through the opportunities for virtual mobility offered by the new technologies, through physical mobility (e.g. language visits and exchanges), promoting innovative methods in schools and universities (periods of intensive teaching and learning; teaching-staff mobility schemes), language teaching for young children, and the promotion of foreign language learning in technical and vocational education and in adult education;

— language teaching could be improved by organizing training periods and visits for language teachers;

□ diversify the learning and teaching of the languages taught in the Member States.

This diversification, which aims to give pupils and students the opportunity of becoming skilled in several European Union languages, could be strengthened by enabling them to learn two languages of the Union other than their mother tongue(s) for a minimum of two consecutive years; by stepping up teaching for languages which are less widely used; by using all the opportunities offered by open and distance learning and the new technologies; by encouraging exchanges of experience and good practice between the Member States regarding the design of educational and teaching aids for the study of languages; by making pupils, students and teachers more aware of the advantages of acquiring a range of language skills; by multilateral partnerships between schools or higher education establishments.

The Council invites the Commission to support Member States' action in these fields, bearing in mind the achievements of earlier programmes as well as the specific objectives of the Socrates programme, and to submit a report every three years on the progress of the various schemes.

Youth

1.3.71. Parliament and Council Decision 95/818/EC adopting the third phase of the 'Youth for Europe' programme designed to promote the development of exchanges among young people and of youth activities in the Community.

References:

Council Decision 87/569/EEC concerning an action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life (PETRA): OJ L 346, 10.12.1987; Bull. 12-1987, point 2.1.143

Council Decision 88/348/EEC adopting an action programme for the promotion of youth exchanges in the Community 'Youth for Europe' programme: OJ L 158, 25.6.1988; Bull. 6-1988, point 2.1.142

Commission proposal: OJ C 160, 11.6.1994; COM(93) 523; Bull. 11-1993, point 1.2.81

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 148, 30.5.1994; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.170

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 128, 9.5.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.167

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 170, 23.6.1994; COM(94) 186; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.141

Committee of the Regions opinion: OJ C 217, 6.8.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.141

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.199

Council common position: OJ C 232, 20.8.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.171

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 323, 21.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.116

Commission opinion amending proposal: COM(94) 490; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.208

First Conciliation Committee meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.230

Joint text: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.69

Council approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.69

Joint text approved by Parliament on 1 March.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Signed by Parliament and the Council on 14 March. This third phase of the 'Youth for Europe' programme is designed to operate outside the context of education and vocational training structures, providing continuity for the various Community initiatives for young people, more particularly the action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life (PETRA) and the 'Youth for Europe' action programme.

Based on a spirit of creativity, initiative and direct involvement, the programme extends the scope of earlier measures. In addition to exchange schemes for young people and the training of youth leaders, the programme seeks to diversify activities for young people, to provide positive action for disadvantaged young people and to support exchange schemes with young people from third countries, more particularly the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, along with Cyprus and Malta. The programme also makes provision for complementarity with other schemes run by international organizations and promotes exchanges of information and know-how on youth-related matters between the Member States.

OJ L 87, 20.4.1995

1.3.72. Council resolution on cooperation in the field of youth information and studies concerning youth.

Agreed by the Council on 31 March. The Council agreed to step up cooperation at European

level in three areas which, it feels, constitute priorities in terms of implementing a cooperation policy in the field of information for young people, namely:

□ the training of information workers, socioeducational youth workers and educators working in the youth information sector so as to familiarize them with the Member States and their practices and enable them to acquire a knowledge of Community programmes;

□ stepping up the networking of youth information structures in the Member States, development of easier access for young people to the network and to targeted information accessible in the languages of the Member States, and the promotion of cooperation in the collection of data on mobility and exchanges;

□ concentration of studies, surveys and statistics to obtain a better understanding of young people's expectations and needs in targeted areas.

1.3.73. Commission report on priority actions in the youth field (1993).

Reference: Council resolution on priority actions in the youth field: Bull. 6-1991, point 1.2.104

Adopted by the Commission on 27 March. The Commission's report sets out the most significant results of the second year of operation of the resolution on priority actions in the youth field. The Commission's view is that the increased dissemination of information about such actions and the steady growth in interest were reflected in the number of applications received. Activities supported by the Commission aim to intensify cooperation between Member States in the field of youth and to generate a European dimension in youth work outside the formal education and training framework, taking into account the respective structures in the youth sector in the Member States. In 1993, the Commission received some 915 applications and accorded financial support to 419 activities, involving some 12 500 young people, youth workers and trainers. Measures receiving support were essentially concerned with cooperation between structures responsible for youth work in the Member States, information for young people, measures to stimulate the initiative and creativity of young people, the European dimension of training and cultural exchanges in the European Union and with third countries.

COM(95) 90

Economic and social cohesion

Structural action, regional policies

Planning and orientation

General

1.3.74. Fifth annual report on the implementation of the reform of the Structural Funds — 1993.

Basic Regulation: Council Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 on the tasks of the Structural Funds and their effectiveness and on coordination of their activities between themselves and with the operations of the European Investment Bank and other existing financial instruments: OJ L 185, 15.7.1988; Bull. 6-1988, point 2.1. 159

Previous report: COM(93) 530; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.2.99

Adopted by the Commission on 20 March. In this report, the Commission takes stock of the implementation of the reform of the Structural Funds, by country, by Objective and by Fund, during the first programming period (1989-93). Paying special attention to the implementation of the principles of operation of the Funds, the Commission describes budget execution and the contribution made by the other financial instruments, to the operations of the Structural Funds. It considers the evaluation of the major productive investment projects implemented in the period 1989-93, and the compatibility of Structural Fund assistance with the other Community policies.

COM(95) 30

1.3.75. Commission communication to Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the new regional programmes under Objectives 1 and 2 of Community structural policies.

Adopted on 29 March. The communication summarizes and assesses the assistance programmed in favour of the Objective 1 and 2 regions, resulting from negotiations in partnership with the Member States and regions concerned. It summarizes the expected impact on the economic development of the recipient regions, the

contribution of the operations selected to strengthening Community policies, and the progress made in ensuring efficient use of Community financing. Decisions applicable in Objective 1 regions mobilize ECU 94 billion, for the period 1994-99 and those applicable in Objective 2 regions mobilize ECU 7 billion for the period 1994-96.

COM(95) 111

1.3.76. Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee on spatial planning and interregional cooperation in the Mediterranean area.

Adopted on 30 March. This opinion, prepared by the Economic and Social Committee on its own initiative, stresses that the Mediterranean area faces serious spatial imbalances linked to the European economic development model. It identifies four intervention areas that bring a need for revision of Community policies: the problems of arid agriculture and of regions with water shortages; environmental decay; tourism; and training. The remedy suggested by the Economic and Social Committee is to draft a Community reference framework covering the development of strategic axes, defining trans-European network projects intended to improve spatial balance in the European Union, and fostering interregional cooperation.

1.3.77. Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee on the Commission communication entitled 'Europe 2000+: cooperation for European territorial development'.

Reference: Commission communication: COM (94) 354; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.102

Adopted on 29 March. After a preliminary consideration of the communication, the Committee feels that there is an urgent need to draft a regional planning policy at the level of the European Union, within the framework of the different arrangements for sharing out powers and responsibilities in the Member States. The Committee also suggests providing a suitable financial instrument for implementing transnational cooperation in regional planning.

Structural action under various objectives

1.3.78. Commission communication on areas eligible under Objectives 2 and 5b and the allocation of financing under Objectives 2 to 5b in Sweden.

Approved on 22 March. Lists areas concerned by Objectives 2 and 5b and provides for the allocation of financing between Objectives 2 to 5b in Sweden, for the period 1995-99.

Structural action under Objective 5a (adjustment of agricultural structures)

Legislative aspects

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

References:

Council Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas: OJ L 128, 19.5.1975

Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden: OJ C 241, 29.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.15

Adopted by the Commission on 6 March. Identifies Austria's mountain and hill-farming areas, less-favoured areas and areas affected by specific handicaps as defined in Directive 75/268/EEC.

Single programming documents

1.3.80. Draft Commission Decisions approving single programming documents for Community structural funding to improve processing and marketing conditions in Germany (Bavaria and Hesse), under Objective 5a, during the period from 1994 to 1999.

Approved on 29 March. The single programming documents select the following sectors for a joint measure under Objective 5a:

- Bavaria: meat, milk and milk products, cereals, wines and spirits, fruit and vegetables, flowers and plants, seeds, potatoes, multipurpose products of organic farming and new products for non-food use;
- Hesse: meat, fruit and vegetables, potatoes, products for non-food use and products of organic farming.

Community aid is to amount to ECU 85.54 million for Bavaria and ECU 20.98 million for Hesse.

1.3.81. Commission Decisions approving single programming documents for Community

structural funding to improve processing and marketing conditions for agricultural and forestry products in Belgium (Flanders, Brussels-Capital, Wallonia), Germany (Lower Saxony), and France, during the period from 1994 to 1999.

Commission approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.72

Formally adopted on 29 March.

OJ L 77, 6.4.1995

Structural action under Objective 5a (adjustment of fisheries structures)

Legislative aspects

1.3.82. Commission communication on socio-economic measures to accompany restructuring measures in the fisheries sector along with a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 3699/93 laying down the criteria and arrangements regarding Community structural assistance in the fisheries and aquaculture sector and the processing and marketing of its products.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EC) No 3699/93: OJ L 346, 31.12.1993; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.149

Adopted on 20 March. Recognizing that the fisheries sector is currently undergoing major changes against the background of a serious crisis, the Commission stresses the need to extend present socioeconomic provisions by means of optional measures applicable exclusively in the context of arrangements for the permanent cessation of activity of fishing vessels. Within this framework, the proposed Regulation provides for new measures that enable the Community to part-finance early retirement schemes for older fishermen, assist the establishment of mechanisms for the financial compensation of fishermen when the market value of products landed fluctuates sharply, and grant individual compensatory payments to fishermen employed on a vessel that has been laid up.

OJ C 85, 7.4.1995 and COM(95) 55

Structural action under Objective 5b (development and structural adjustment of rural areas)

Single programming documents

1.3.83. Draft Commission Decisions approving single programming documents for Commu-

nity structural funding in the United Kingdom (north and west Grampian, rural Stirling and upland Tayside) under Objective 5b.

Approved on 14 March. The single programming documents, prepared in partnership with the national and regional authorities, are intended to address the following priorities:

- economic adjustment and diversification;
- the development of tourism;
- enhancing human resources;
- preserving natural resources and the environment.

Community aid is to amount to ECU 39.54 million for north and west Grampian and to ECU 25.35 million for rural Stirling and upland Tayside.

1.3.84. Commission Decisions approving single programming documents for Community structural funding in Germany (Baden-Württemberg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Saxony), Belgium (Meetjesland, Westhoek, Wallonia), France (Massif central and Pyrénées) and the United Kingdom (Marches, Lincolnshire and Midlands uplands) under Objective 5b.

Commission approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.74

Formally adopted on 22, 23, 24, 29 and 31 March.

Specific programme for the modernization of the Portuguese textile and clothing industry

1.3.85. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the grant of financial assistance to Portugal for a specific programme for the modernization of the Portuguese textile and clothing industry.

Commission proposal: OJ C 373, 29.12.1994; COM(94) 562; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.130

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.77

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March. Parliament approved the proposal with a number of amendments, intended among other things to refer explicitly to the measures suitable for Community financing. Parliament also suggested that an annex should be added, listing eligible measures, conditions for granting Community assistance and arrangements for implementation of Community support.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Financing

Community initiatives

1.3.86. Commission Decisions. Purpose: See Table 2.

Table 2 — *Financing Community initiatives*

<i>(million ECU)</i>			
Initiative	Country/region or purpose	Fund	Total assistance
Interreg	<i>Spain, Portugal</i> • Natural gas	ERDF	220
	<i>Greece</i> • Transport of energy resources	ERDF	180

(million ECU)

Initiative	Country/region or purpose	Fund	Total assistance
Leader II	<i>Germany</i>		
	• Berlin	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	0.24
	• Bavaria	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	43.05
	• Brandenburg	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	19.83
	• Hesse	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	6.20
	• Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	15.56
	• Saxony-Anhalt	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	15.56
	• Saxony	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	18.01
	• Thuringia	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	13.92
	<i>Ireland</i>	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	67.92
	<i>Netherlands</i>		
	• Drenthe	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	1.05
	• Flevoland	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	2.10
	<i>Portugal</i>	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	117.59
<i>United Kingdom</i>			
• Northern Ireland	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	11.35	
• Wales	EAGGF-ERDF-ESF	8.61	
SMEs	<i>United Kingdom</i>		
• Northern Ireland	ERDF	6.2	
Rechar II	<i>Portugal</i>	ERDF	0.86
REGIS II	<i>Portugal</i>	EAGGF-ERDF	124
Resider II	<i>Netherlands</i>		
• IJmond	ERDF-ESF	18.1	
URBAN	<i>Greece</i>	ERDF-ESF	45.2

Financing under Objective 3

1.3.87. Commission Decisions on aid from the European Social Fund to finance innovative measures.

Adopted on 31 March. Awards assistance amounting to ECU 19 million towards 32 projects to develop and test new measures relating

to the content, methodology and organization of vocational training, and the promotion of employment.

Other financing

1.3.88. Commission Decisions. Purpose: see Table 3.

Table 3 — Other financing

<i>(million ECU)</i>			
Type	Purpose	Fund	Total assistance
Pilot projects	<i>Promotion of the information society</i>		
	• Central Macedonia (Greece)	ERDF	0.253
	• North-West (United Kingdom)	ERDF	0.250
	• Nord-Pas-de-Calais (France)	ERDF	0.248
	• Saxony (Germany)	ERDF	0.259
	• Piedmont (Italy)	ERDF	0.248
	• Valencia (Spain)	ERDF	0.250
	<i>Regional technology plan</i>		
	• Central Macedonia (Greece)	ERDF	0.200
Seminar	'Directoria '95'	ERDF	0.234

Trans-European networks

General

1.3.89. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks.

Commission proposal: OJ C 89, 26.3.1994; COM(94) 62; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.79

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 195, 18.7.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.73

Committee of the Regions opinion: OJ C 217, 6.8.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.69

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 363, 19.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.82

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 16 March. The Commission took over most of the European Parliament's amendments, in particular those concerning an increase in private-sector participation in network funding and the eligibility of projects funded by regional and local authorities and by certain public bodies.

OJ C 115, 9.5.1995; COM(95) 32

Council agreement on a common position adopted on 20 March.

Common position formally adopted by the Council on 31 March. The purpose of the draft Regulation is to provide a legal basis for the granting of the funds earmarked for the period 1995-99, i.e. ECU 2 345 million for projects of common interest in the field of trans-European transport, energy and telecommunications infrastructure networks. It defines the various conditions for granting Community aid to those pro-

jects, in particular concerning the various forms of intervention, the selection criteria and the procedures for examining, assessing and monitoring funding applications. It also contains a transitional clause which expires at the end of 1995 and provides for the possibility of Community funding if at the time of the entry into force of the Regulation the guidelines provided for in Article 129c of the EC Treaty concerning the procedures for implementing trans-European networks have not yet been adopted.

Energy

Internal energy market

Natural gas and electricity

1.3.90. Commission working paper on the organization of the internal electricity market.

References:

Amended proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity: OJ L 123, 4.5.1994; COM(93) 643; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.121

Council conclusions on the internal market in electricity: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.91

Adopted on 22 March. The purpose of this working paper, which was sent to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee at the request of the Council, is to restart the discussions on the amended Commission proposal concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity, but without replacing it. The Commission analyses the compatibility between third party access (TPA) systems whereby producers can supply electricity to consumers directly through negotiated access and the single-buyer system based on the existence of a single entity responsible for buying and selling electricity. It concludes that, subject to a number of adjustments aimed at increasing transparency and enlarging the possibility of access to the market and of exchanges, the single buyer system can be regarded as being compatible with the TPA system and the EC Treaty.

International cooperation

Cooperation Agreement between Euratom and the United States

1.3.91. Parliament resolution between Euratom and the United States.

Reference: Council negotiating directives concerning the conclusion of a cooperation Agreement between the European Atomic Energy Community and the United States: Bull. 12-1991, point 1.2.126

Adopted on 16 March. Parliament urged that the new cooperation Agreement to be concluded should contain rigorous and effective control mechanisms restricting the production, stockpiling, trade and trafficking of plutonium and weapons-grade uranium. It also recommended that the Agreement should take into account consequences in the spheres of economic viability and employment, environment and health, as well as foreign and security policy.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Euro-Mediterranean cooperation

1.3.92. Conference on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on energy.

Reference: Essen European Council conclusions: Bull. 12-1994, point I.14

Meeting held in Tunis on 27 and 28 March. This conference, organized jointly by the Commission and the Tunisian Agency for Energy Management, brought together representatives of the European Union and Mediterranean third countries in the presence of Commissioner Papoutsis and the Tunisian Industry Minister Mr Bougerra. In the context of the guidelines laid down at the Essen European Council and in the run-up to the Barcelona Ministerial Conference, the purpose of the conference was to help promote Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on energy. The various topics addressed during the proceedings resulted in the adoption of a declaration affirming the desire of the European Union and the Mediterranean countries to develop closer energy links as an essential aspect of the common area of prosperity envisaged.

Transport

Transport and environment

1.3.93. Proposal for a Council Directive on the appointment and vocational qualification of a safety adviser for the transport of dangerous goods.

Commission proposal: OJ C 185, 17.7.1991; COM(91) 4; Bull. 6-1991, point 1.2.86

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 40, 17.2.1992; Bull. 11-1991, point 1.2.68

Parliament opinion: OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. 5-1992, point 1.1.172

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 233, 11.9.1992; COM(92) 327; Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.3.94

Council agreement on a common position adopted on 14 March. Purpose: to provide that the Member States take the necessary measures to ensure that by 1 January 2000 at the latest, undertakings carrying out the transport and related loading and/or unloading of dangerous goods appoint one or more advisers responsible for helping to safeguard against risks to public safety, property and the environment. The adviser's main task would be to seek to facilitate the carrying-out of the undertaking's activities

in the safest possible way by all appropriate means. The adviser would have to hold a Community-type vocational training certificate issued by the authority or body designated for that purpose by each Member State.

Inland transport

Rail transport and combined transport

1.3.94. Council resolution on the development of rail transport and combined transport.

Reference: Council Directive 91/440/EEC on the development of the Community railways: OJ L 237, 24.8.1991; Bull. 7/8-1991, point 1.2.108

Adopted on 14 March. The Council considered it necessary to make progress with common railway policy laid down in Directive 91/440/EEC, in particular with regard to access to infrastructure within, from and to the various parts of the Community, taking into account the geographical positions of the Member States. It affirmed its desire, while respecting the principle of freedom of choice for users, to make rail transport and combined transport efficient and competitive with other modes of transport and to establish suitable conditions to ensure their development. The Council called upon the Commission to examine the application of common principles of charging for the use of railway infrastructure, the development of prior agreements with operators aimed at facilitating the financing of key links in the trans-European network, and the establishment of international groupings to promote the integration of the European rail network.

1.3.95. Proposal for a Council Directive on the licensing of railway undertakings.

Commission proposal: OJ C 24, 28.1.1994; COM(93) 678; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.130

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 205, 25.7.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.81

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 225, 13.8.1994; COM(94) 316; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.88

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.110

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.110

Council common position: OJ C 354, 13.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.97

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 14 March subject to drafting amendments.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.3.96. Proposal for a Council Directive on the allocation of railway infrastructure capacity and the charging of infrastructure fees.

Commission proposal: OJ C 24, 28.1.1994; COM(93) 678; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.130

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 205, 25.7.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.81

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 225, 13.8.1994; COM(94) 316; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.88

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.110

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.110

Council common position: OJ C 354, 13.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.98

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 14 March. However, Parliament did propose amendments aimed at clarifying the scope of the proposal and the procedures for submitting and examining applications for infrastructure capacity.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Road transport

1.3.97. Proposal for a Council Directive on uniform procedures for checks on the transport of dangerous goods by road.

Commission proposal: OJ C 26, 29.1.1994; COM(93) 665; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.131

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 195, 18.7.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.2.89

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 205, 25.7.1994; Bull. 5-1994, point 1.2.82

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 238, 26.8.1994; COM(94) 340; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.90

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.113

Council common position: OJ C 354, 13.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.100

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 14 March subject to a drafting amendment.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.3.98. Council resolution on social harmonization in road freight transport.

Reference: Council resolution on road freight transport in the single European market: OJ C 309, 5.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.64

Adopted on 14 March. The Council called upon the Commission to continue its cooperation with the Joint Committee on Road Transport on matters relating to working time and vocational training in the road transport sector. It also pointed out that in its resolution of 24 October 1994 it asked the Commission to produce a report on regulations in force in the Member States concerning the training of road vehicle drivers.

Inland waterway transport

1.3.99. Proposal for a Council Directive on the harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by inland waterway in the Community.

Commission proposal: OJ C 280, 6.10.1994; COM(94) 359; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.117

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.91

Endorsed by Parliament on 2 March subject to amendments aimed at ensuring that the Member States adopt equivalent procedures for examining knowledge and skills.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Common position agreed by the Council on 14 March. The proposal provides for the issue on the basis of harmonized conditions of a single national boatmaster's certificate which could be mutually recognized by the Member States and the model for which would be determined at Community level.

Sea transport

1.3.100. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning the enforcement, in respect of shipping using Community ports and sailing in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Member States, of international standards for ship safety, pollution prevention and shipboard living and working conditions.

Commission proposal: OJ C 107, 15.4.1994; COM(94) 73; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.91

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.118

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 323, 21.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.66

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 347, 8.12.1994; COM(94) 501; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.106

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.106

Common position (EC) No 2/95 formally adopted by the Council on 14 March.

OJ C 93, 13.4.1995

Air transport

1.3.101. Council resolution on relocation in air transport.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 2407/92 on licensing of air carriers: OJ L 240, 24.8.1992; Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.3.98

Adopted on 14 March. The Council called upon the Commission to submit to it the outcome of a study of the social impact of recent developments in the air transport markets, the extent of the relocation phenomenon and the question of the use of non-Community resources. It also called upon the Commission to examine the application of the provisions of Regulation No 2407/92 relating to the leasing of non-Community resources and to clarify the concept of temporary needs, exceptional circumstances and equivalent safety standards, as well as the conditions under which a Community carrier may use aircraft for which, although they are registered in the Community, liability in respect of monitoring technical operation has been delegated to a third State.

International cooperation

Switzerland

1.3.102. Draft Agreements between the Community and Switzerland on inland transport and air transport.

Reference: Commission communication on the implementation of the Alpine initiative by Switzerland and its consequences for the transport sector: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.110

Commission recommendation: Bull. 9-1993, point 1.2.80

Amended Commission recommendation: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.2.97

New amended recommendation adopted by the Commission on 6 March. The purpose of this new recommendation is to take account of the analysis set out in the communication on the implementation of the Alpine initiative by Switzerland and its consequences for the transport sector.

Negotiating directives agreed by the Council on 14 March. The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate agreements between the European Community and Switzerland on road transport, rail transport, combined transport, and air transport. The aim of the negotiating directives is to conclude an agreement based on compliance with the principles of non-discrimination, reciprocity and free choice of operator.

Central and Eastern Europe

1.3.103. Draft agreements on air transport between the European Community and Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Slovak Republic (→ *point 1.4.52*).

Information society, telecommunications

Telecommunications

Legislative aspects

1.3.104. *Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive on the mutual recognition of licences and other national authorizations for telecommunications services.*

Commission proposal: OJ C 248, 25.9.1992; COM(92) 254; Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.3.87

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 42, 15.2.1993; Bull. 1/2-1993, point 1.2.114

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 108, 16.4.1994; COM(94) 41; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.101

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 16 March. Parliament introduced certain amend-

ments with the aim, in particular, of including voice telephony and telex services in the scope of the proposal and of providing for the creation of a European Telecommunications Authority with responsibility for enforcing Community regulations in this field in order to ensure the rapid emergence of efficient information structures.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Standardization

1.3.105. *Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on standardization in the field of information technology and telecommunications (1992-93).*

Reference: Council Decision 87/95/EEC on standardization in the field of information technologies: OJ L 36, 7.2.1987

Previous report: Bull. 9-1992, point 1.2.61

Adopted by the Commission on 23 March. This report, presented pursuant to Council Decision 87/95/EC, describes progress in standardization in the field of information technology and telecommunications in the period 1992-93. It discusses in particular the extension of information technology and telecommunications to new technical sectors, the introduction of tools and procedures aimed at faster standardization, the launching of projects for effective application of the standards in the Member States and in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the pursuit of information activities aimed at improving public awareness of standardization.

COM(95) 39

Environment

Environmental quality and natural resources

Protection of nature, flora and fauna and coastal zones

1.3.106. Council conclusions on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on the environment.

References:

Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention): OJ L 240, 19.9.1977

Essen European Council conclusions: Bull. 12-1994, point I.14

Adopted on 9 March. In the run-up to the Ninth Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, to be held in June 1995, and the Euro-Mediterranean Conference announced by the Essen European Council, to be held in November 1995, the Council adopted the following conclusions:

'The objective of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership on the environment should be to establish the conditions for sustainable development.

The environmental interdependence between the two coasts of the Mediterranean, which is a common heritage, calls for a strengthening of Euro-Mediterranean solidarity and the environment is, *par excellence*, an area where Euro-Mediterranean cooperation exists and can develop. In this context, the Community should encourage regional cooperation and dialogue both with its Mediterranean partners and among them.

Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in this area should seek to:

- protect the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal regions;
- conserve natural resources, in particular the habitats of species of flora and fauna and biodiversity;
- combat pollution, erosion, desertification and drought;
- promote the integration of the environment into other policies, particularly in the agriculture, fisheries, energy, industry, land and urban planning, transport and tourism sectors, in order to promote the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region.

Its priority objectives are:

- integrated management of water resources, maximizing them by thrifty use of the resource, purification and reuse of sewage;
- combating erosion and soil degradation and forest fires;
- combating pollution, especially marine pollution;
- reducing waste production and managing waste in an ecologically rational way;
- protection and sustainable management of the coastline;
- conservation of the natural heritage, of landscapes and beauty spots.

The adoption of preventive measures should be promoted, in particular by using instruments such as environmental impact assessment to promote environmentally-friendly infrastructures.

In the context of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, financial cooperation should seek, within the framework of the instruments employed for the purpose, to achieve sustainable development; environmental protection should be among its priorities. It should support efforts to strengthen and coordinate the environmental policies of the Mediterranean countries by means of improved institutional and legal structures and of suitable economic actions. It should back the development of technological training and cooperation and the financing of environmental infrastructures which are in keeping with the objectives agreed by the partner countries. It should ensure that the various financial contributions made in this connection are mutually consistent. It should pay particular attention to regional cooperation and encourage the involvement of key players in the field of the environment and decentralized cooperation.

The Mediterranean action plan (MAP) and the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea and the Protocols thereto are major instruments for multilateral regional Mediterranean cooperation in the environmental sphere.

The European Community will increase its support of MAP activities with a view to giving fresh impetus to the plan and to its restructuring, topics that will be discussed at the Barcelona Conference in June 1995.

It will support the setting-up of mechanisms for constantly monitoring and following up the situation and for taking action to improve protection of the sustainable environment and development in the region.'

1.3.107. Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic.

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

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

Decision concerning signature: Bull. 9-1992, point 1.2.102

Signature of the Convention: Bull. 9-1992, point 1.2.102

Commission proposal concerning conclusion: COM(94) 660; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.110

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.3.108. Parliament resolution on minimum standards for the keeping of animals in zoos.

Reference: proposal for a Council Directive laying down minimum standards for the keeping of animals in zoos: OJ C 249, 24.9.1991; COM(91) 177; Bull. 7/8-1991, point 1.2.271; Parliament opinion: OJ C 194, 19.7.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.2.169

Adopted on 17 March. Parliament called upon the Commission to maintain the proposal for a

Directive laying down minimum standards for the keeping of animals in zoos, and called upon the Council to adopt a common position on the proposal forthwith.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Urban environment, air quality, transport and energy, noise

1.3.109. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Directive amending Council Directive 86/662/EEC on the limitation of noise emitted by earth-moving machinery.

Reference: *modus vivendi* between Parliament, the Council and the Commission concerning measures implementing acts adopted under Article 189b of the EC Treaty: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.1; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.8.4

Commission proposal: OJ C 157, 9.6.1993; COM(93) 154; Bull. 5-1993, point 1.2.104

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 255, 20.9.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.2.145

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 304, 10.11.1993; Bull. 9-1993, point 1.2.108

Proposal subject to the co-decision procedure since 1 November 1993

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.155

Council common position: OJ C 213, 3.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.186

Parliament amendments (second reading): OJ C 341, 5.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.192

Commission opinion: COM(94) 655; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.115

Joint text adopted by the Conciliation Committee on 30 March. The joint text corresponds to the common position adopted by the Council, with a reference as far as the implementing measures are concerned to the *modus vivendi* reached on this subject between Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

Global environment, climate change, geosphere and biosphere

Reference: Council conclusions on the preparation of the First Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (Berlin, March to April 1995): Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.214

1.3.110. Commission working paper on EU climate change strategy: a set of options

Adopted on 1 March. This working paper, which was requested by the Council, is part of the

preparation for the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. In it the Commission presents a preliminary analysis of the policy options for reducing emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases in the time frame 2005 to 2010. The Commission stresses the importance of incorporating the CO₂ emission-limitation target into other policies, and in particular, that while there is a significant technical potential to reduce CO₂ emissions by up to 10% compared with 1990 levels, this potential can only be exploited if benefit can be derived from synergy between climate change policy and other policies. The Commission lists in particular the following priority action areas:

- improving energy efficiency and promoting the penetration of renewable energy sources;
- completing the internal energy market;
- changes in the use of modes of transport;
- upward review of energy taxes;
- a better focus of research and development policies;
- intensified cooperation with third countries.

Noting that the fundamental objective of stabilizing CO₂ emissions at their 1990 levels by the year 2000 has not yet been achieved, the Commission stresses the importance of more vigorous implementation of the existing national and Community programmes. For the time frame 2005 to 2010, it stresses the need for further measures to integrate the objective more effectively into other policies, stressing the major benefits and political challenge involved.

1.3.111. Parliament resolution on a strategy for climatic protection in the EU.

Adopted on 2 March. Parliament reiterated that, although determined action needs to be taken not only at Community level but also worldwide in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the European Union has an obligation to set an example. Noting, in this connection, that the Union is not on course to achieve its objective of stabilizing CO₂ emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000, it called upon the Commission to bring forward proposals concerning the application by the Member States of fiscal instruments to control and limit energy use and CO₂ emissions, and called upon the Council to commit itself, prior to the Berlin Conference, to the early adoption of such proposals. It also advocated the adoption

at the Conference of a binding declaration of the Contracting Parties committing themselves to stabilizing CO₂ emissions at their 1990 levels by the year 2000. It also called upon the Commission and the Council to accept, on behalf of the European Union, the Protocol of the members of the Association of Small Island States whereby the developed countries would commit themselves to reducing their current levels of CO₂ emissions by 20% by the year 2005.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

1.3.112. Council conclusions on the preparation of the First Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Adopted on 9 March. The Council confirmed its December 1994 conclusions and stressed in particular the European Union's determination not only to meet its existing commitments (stabilization of CO₂ emissions at their 1990 levels by the year 2000) but also to get the Parties to the Convention to commit themselves to reducing greenhouse gas emissions after the year 2000. It reaffirmed that the Berlin Conference should accordingly at least map out the mandate for negotiations on a Protocol to the Convention and set a time limit for its conclusion. It recommended that the Protocol should be comprehensive (covering all greenhouse gases and all relevant sectors), should be based on a combined approach including both coordinated measures and policies as well as specific targets and timetables, and should define clearly the responsibilities of the parties.

Nuclear safety

Radiation protection

1.3.113. Council Regulation (EC) No 686/95 extending Regulation (EEC) No 737/90 on the conditions governing imports of agricultural products originating in third countries following the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station.

Regulation extended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 737/90: OJ L 82, 29.3.1990; Bull. 3-1990, point 1.1.90

Commission proposal: COM(94) 597; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.215

Adopted on 28 March. Purpose: to extend until 31 March 2000 the arrangements for checking

compliance with the maximum tolerances for radioactivity in agricultural products imported into the Community established by Regulation (EEC) No 737/90 following the Chernobyl accident.

OJ L 71, 31.3.1995

Plant safety

1.3.114. Parliament resolution on the Mochovce nuclear power plant.

Adopted on 16 March. Parliament considered that financial aid from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Union should be granted for the construction of the Mochovce power plant (Slovakia) only under the following conditions: verification by Euratom that EU safety standards are applied; establishment of a binding timetable ensuring the closure of blocks 1 and 2 of the Bohunice nuclear power plant; holding of a public hearing in Austria; and clarification of the long-term arrangements for the disposal of nuclear waste. It considered that there were still serious doubts about the safety and cost-effectiveness of the power plant. It called for the decision on the granting of aid to be deferred pending the results of an examination of the economic viability of a gas power plant compared with a nuclear power plant, and urged that no funding should be granted as long as doubt remained about safety. It also called upon the Commission to call a regional conference on the subject of energy development and environmental protection in Central Europe.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

International cooperation

1.3.115. Visit to the Commission by Mr Simon Upton, New Zealand Minister for the Environment, on 30 March.

Mr Upton saw Commissioner Bjerregaard. Their talks concerned in particular the strategies of the European Union and New Zealand for combating CO₂ emissions in the light of the preparation of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. In particular, both sides agreed on the need for a further reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

after the year 2000. Mr Upton stressed that, as a result of an appropriate forest management policy, New Zealand had succeeded in controlling the impact of its CO₂ emissions but was confronted with a serious problem with methane emissions, particularly as a result of the large number of sheep raised there.

Agriculture

Market organization

Cereals

1.3.116. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organization of the market in cereals and Regulation (EC) No 1868/94 establishing a quota system in relation to the production of potato starch.

Regulations to be amended:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 (OJ L 181, 1.7.1992; Bull. 6-1992, point 1.3.141), as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden (OJ C 241, 29.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.15) and by Regulation (EC) No 3290/94 (OJ L 349, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.99)

Council Regulation (EC) No 1868/94: OJ L 197, 30.7.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.134

Adopted by the Commission on 7 March. Would extend the system of quotas for potato starch production to the new Member States.

COM(95) 24

Oils and fats

1.3.117. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1332/92 introducing specific measures for table olives.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1332/92 (OJ L 145, 27.5.1995; Bull. 5-1992, point 1.1.159), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 587/93: OJ L 61, 13.3.1993

Adopted by the Commission on 8 March. Would extend the three-year time limit established by

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1332/92 by a further year to enable cooperatives and associations thereof in the Member States to complete their transformation into table olive producer groups and associations thereof meeting the conditions laid down in the Regulation.

OJ C 82, 4.4.1995 and COM(95) 66

Dried fodder

References:

Council Regulation (EC) No 603/95 on the common organization of the market in dried fodder: OJ L 63, 21.3.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.125

Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden: OJ C 241, 29.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.15

1.3.118. Council Regulation (EC) No 684/95 amending Regulation (EC) No 603/95 on the common organization of the market in dried fodder.

Commission proposal: OJ C 365, 21.12.1994; COM(94) 508; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.141

Parliament opinion: OJ C 56, 6.3.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.125

Adopted on 27 March. Enables dried fodder processing undertakings requesting aid to receive an advance of 60% of the amount of the aid if they do not provide a security and 80% of the amount if they do.

OJ L 71, 31.3.1995

1.3.119. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 603/95 on the common organization of the market in dried fodder.

Adopted by the Commission on 27 March. Would determine the national guaranteed quantities for dried fodder for the three new Member States and adjust the maximum guaranteed quantities for the Community accordingly.

OJ C 79, 31.3.1995; COM(95) 96

Fresh fruit and vegetables

1.3.120. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 1035/72, 2240/88 and 1121/89 as regards the intervention threshold mechanism in the fresh fruit and vegetables sector.

Reference: Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden: OJ C 241, 29.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.15

Regulations to be amended:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables (OJ L 118, 20.5.1972), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 3290/94: OJ L 349, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.99

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2240/88 fixing, for peaches, lemons and oranges, the rules for applying Article 16b of Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 (OJ L 198, 26.7.1988; Bull. 7/8-1988, point 2.1.146), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1411/92: OJ L 146, 28.5.1992

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1121/89 on the introduction of an intervention threshold for apples and cauliflowers (OJ L 118, 29.4.1989; Bull. 4-1989, point 2.1.124), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1754/92: OJ L 180, 1.7.1992

Adopted by the Commission on 16 March. Would adjust the intervention threshold mechanism for tomatoes, apples, cauliflowers and peaches to take account of the production of the three new Member States.

COM(95) 83

1.3.121. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the improvement of the Community production of peaches and nectarines.

Adopted by the Commission on 20 March. In response to a request by the Council, would introduce a grubbing premium for peach and nectarine trees for the 1995 marketing year so as to bring Community production potential more into line with current and foreseeable outlets.

OJ C 85, 7.4.1995 and COM(95) 10

Cotton

1.3.122. Commission report on the operation of the system of aid for cotton, accompanied by a proposal for a Council Regulation adjusting, for the fifth time, the system of aid for cotton introduced by Protocol 4 annexed to the Act of Accession of Greece and a proposal for a Council Regulation laying down the general rules for the system of aid for cotton and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2169/81.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1964/87 adjusting the system of aid for cotton introduced by Protocol 4 annexed to the Act of Accession of Greece (OJ L 184, 3.7.1987), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2760/94: OJ L 294, 15.11.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.146

Regulation to be repealed: Council Regulation (EEC) No 2169/81 laying down the general rules for the system of aid for cotton (OJ L 211, 31.7.1981), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1554/93: OJ L 154, 25.6.1993

Adopted by the Commission on 1 March. The Commission based its proposals on the conclusions reached in its report on the operation of the system of aid for cotton in Greece and Spain — the only two Member States producing cotton — taking the view that the present maximum guaranteed quantity (MGQ) system had not achieved its objective of regulating production, largely because the penalty applicable was subject to a limit, whatever the extent of the overrun of the MGQ. It felt that the present arrangements had also proved unfair as the expansion of production in one producer Member State had led to aid reductions for producers in both Member States.

The Commission's proposals, without altering the basic structure of the present mechanism, provide for substantial changes to the existing arrangements and would also recast them in a new Regulation, Regulation (EEC) No 2169/81 having already been amended on numerous occasions.

The proposed changes are as follows:

- to restrict global support to the volume of aid provided in 1992;
- to abolish the aid for small producers and integrate its cost into the total value of support for the sector;
- to split the MGQ between the two Member States on the basis of their average production in the marketing years 1990/91, 1991/92 and 1992/93;
- to set the guide price for unginned cotton at ECU 110.73/100 kg;
- to establish a new method of calculating the world price for unginned cotton;
- to apply penalties fairly: the first 10% of any excess would be applied equally to producers in both Member States and beyond that any penalty would be shared in proportion to their respective overrun;
- to abolish the ceiling on penalties and also the possibility of carrying them forward to the following marketing year;
- to tighten up checks on the volume of ginned cotton to prevent the risk of fraud;

□ to delay the start of the marketing year from 1 September to 1 October and provide for the possibility of an advance for ginnerers of 40% of the guide price.

OJ C 94, 14.4.1995; COM(95) 35

Tobacco

1.3.123. Council Regulation (EC) No 711/95 amending Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92 on the common organization of the market in raw tobacco.

Regulation amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92 (OJ L 215, 30.7.1992; Bull. 6-1992, point 1.3.142), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2427/93: OJ L 223, 2.9.1993

Commission proposal: COM(94) 555; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.131

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March subject to certain amendments concerning in particular the possibility of carrying forward surplus production to the following year as from the 1994 harvest.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Adopted on 27 March. The amended Regulation aims, in the light of experience gained during the first two years of application of the new arrangements, to gear production better to demand and enable the Member States to pay premiums direct to producers.

OJ L 73, 1.4.1995

Sheepmeat and goatmeat

1.3.124. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3013/89 on the common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat.

Commission proposal: OJ C 382, 31.12.1994; COM(94) 643; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.163

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March subject to a number of observations concerning in particular the need to ensure that additional rights are awarded to producers only if proper proof of eligibility is furnished.

EAGGF Guarantee Section

1.3.125. Proposals for Council Regulations amending, respectively, Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 on the financing of the common agri-

cultural policy and the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.

Commission proposals: OJ C 284, 12.10.1994; COM(94) 240; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.138

Opinion of the Court of Auditors: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.26

Opinion of the Committee of the Regions: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.138

First proposal endorsed by Parliament on 17 March subject to some technical amendments.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Second proposal endorsed by Parliament on 17 March subject to some amendments: Parliament wished the Commission to inform it rapidly of clearance of accounts decisions so that it could take account of them for the purposes of the discharge procedure. To that end, it wished to reach an agreement with the Commission on what information was to be communicated.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

State aid

Decision to raise no objection

United Kingdom

1.3.126. Commission decision on aids for farming and crofting businesses in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission took account of the fact that it had already decided in July 1994 to part-finance the aid programme presented for this region under Objective 1 of the Structural Funds and also of the assurances given by the United Kingdom authorities that the aids were conditional on the maintenance of existing production levels.

Decision to initiate proceedings

Germany

1.3.127. Commission decision on aid for the rationalization of vineyards in Rhineland-Palatinate (amendments to an existing aid programme).

Adopted on 14 January. The Commission noted that the scheme of aid for investment in the rationalization of vineyards, to which it had given its consent in 1987, was no longer in accordance with its current policy and that consequently any amendment which did not alter the nature of the existing arrangements was inadmissible. It therefore decided to initiate the procedure against the amendments and to propose appropriate measures with regard to the aid scheme, which contained some provisions which were contrary to Community wine legislation.

Decision partly to raise no objection and partly to initiate procedure

France

1.3.128. Commission decision on aid for the sheepmeat industry.

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission decided to raise no objection to technical support or investment aid for the French sheep industry.

On the other hand, it decided to initiate proceedings against aids for advertising/promotion campaigns for the same industry. The Commission took the view, on the basis of the information available to it, that these measures could not qualify as an exception under Article 92 of the EC Treaty and must therefore be regarded as incompatible with the common market, all the more so as the advertising campaigns in question, encouraging consumers to buy French products for the sole reason of their national origin, appeared to be contrary to Article 30 of the Treaty.

Final negative decision

Italy

1.3.129. Commission decision on aid for agricultural cooperatives in difficulties in Sardinia.

Reference: Commission decision initiating the procedure: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.145

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission noted that the Italian Government's comments following the initiation of the procedure had not led it to change its position on certain aids granted by the region of Sardinia to farmers experiencing difficulties.

It therefore took the view that these aids were incompatible with the common market and called for them to be recovered from beneficiaries.

Fisheries

Orientation of common fisheries policy

1.3.130. Council Regulation (EC) No 685/95 on the management of the fishing effort relating to certain Community fishing areas and resources.

Commission proposal: OJ C 247, 3.9.1994; COM(94) 308; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.152

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.163

Parliament opinion: OJ C 18, 23.1.1995; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.170

Council agreement: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.170

Formally adopted on 27 March.

OJ L 71, 31.3.1995

Conservation and management of resources

Internal aspects

1.3.131. Council Regulation (EC) No 746/95 amending Regulation (EC) No 3362/94 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches for 1995 and certain conditions under which they may be fished.

Regulation amended: Council Regulation (EC) No 3362/94; OJ L 363, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.175

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 22 March.

COM(95) 84

Adopted by the Council on 31 March. The main purpose of this Regulation is to take account of

the outcome of the consultations held with Norway on mutual fishing rights.

OJ L 74, 1.4.1995

External aspects

Cape Verde

1.3.132. Draft Protocol establishing the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Community and Cape Verde on fishing off Cape Verde for the period from 6 September 1994 to 5 September 1997.

Commission proposal on conclusion of the Protocol: COM(94) 388; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.155

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March subject to amendments concerning notification of Parliament of implementation of the Protocol.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Comoros

1.3.133. Draft Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Agreement between the European Community and the Comoros on fishing off the Comoros for the period from 20 July 1994 to 19 July 1997.

Commission proposal on conclusion of the Protocol: COM(94) 390; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.156

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March subject to amendments concerning notification of Parliament of implementation of the Protocol.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Greenland

1.3.134. Council Regulation (EC) No 749/95 amending Regulation (EC) No 3363/94 allocating, for 1995, Community catch quotas in Greenland waters.

Regulation amended: Council Regulation (EC) No 3363/94; OJ C 363, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.180

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 29 March.

COM(95) 104

Adopted by the Council on 31 March. Fixes definitively the catch quotas allocated to Norway in Greenland waters for 1995. These quotas, which were obtained by the Community under the Agreement with Greenland, are being passed on to Norway in exchange for Community fishing possibilities in Norwegian waters. The quotas allocated to Norway in Regulation (EC) No 3363/94 were provisional quotas established pending the conclusion of the bilateral consultations between the Community and Norway, which were concluded early this year.

OJ L 74, 1.4.1995

Faroe Islands

1.3.135. Council Regulations (EC) Nos 750/95 and 751/95 amending, respectively, Regulation (EC) No 3364/94 laying down, for 1995, certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of the Faroe Islands and Regulation (EC) No 3365/94 allocating, for 1995, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in Faroese waters.

Regulations amended: Council Regulations (EC) Nos 3364/94 and 3365/94; OJ L 363, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.183

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 29 March.

COM(95) 105 and 102

Adopted by the Council on 31 March. Reduces the catch quotas for mackerel for Community vessels in Faroese waters and for Faroese vessels in Community waters, on biological grounds and in the light of the consultations on the subject with the Faroe Islands.

OJ L 74, 1.4.1995

Norway

1.3.136. Council Regulation (EC) No 747/95 laying down, for 1995, certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway; Council Regulation (EC) No 748/95 allocating, for 1995, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone and the fishing zone around Jan Mayen.

Regulations repealed:

Council Regulation (EC) No 3376/94 laying down for the period until 31 March 1995 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway: OJ L 363, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.188

Council Regulation (EC) No 3377/94 allocating, for the period until 31 March 1995, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing the Norwegian exclusive economic zone and the fishing zone around Jan Mayen: OJ L 363, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.188

Proposals adopted by the Commission on 29 March.

COM(95) 101 and 103

Adopted by the Council on 31 March. The first Regulation lays down the terms on which Norwegian vessels are authorized to fish in Community waters in 1995 and the second divides between the Member States the quotas available in 1995 for Community vessels fishing in Norwegian waters. These Regulations take account of the consultations held with Norway at the beginning of the year and repeal the Regulations adopted at the end of 1994 pending the conclusion of the consultations concerning the first quarter of 1995.

OJ L 74, 1.4.1995

International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission

1.3.137. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending for the fifth time Regulation (EEC) No 1866/86 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources in the waters of the Baltic Sea, the Belts and the Sound.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1866/86 (OJ L 162, 18.6.1986), as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2156/91: OJ L 201, 24.7.1991; Bull. 7/8-1991, point 1.2.248

Adopted by the Commission on 17 March. Would transpose into Community legislation the recommendations made at the 20th session of the International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission which mainly concern the mesh sizes authorized for cod fishing and the percentage of by-catches of cod.

OJ C 91, 12.4.1995 and COM(95) 70

North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

Reference: Council Decision objecting to the allocation of the 1995 TAC for Greenland halibut established by the NAFO Fisheries Commission

for its Regulatory Area: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.151

1.3.138. Council statement on fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

Adopted by the Council (general affairs) on 6 March. The Council drew attention to the procedure initiated by the Community objecting to the allocation of the TAC for Greenland halibut in the NAFO area and reaffirmed that, in accordance with the Law of the Sea and the NAFO Convention there was no reason to accept a moratorium on fishing for Greenland halibut in the area in question. It confirmed its commitment to rational and responsible use of fishery resources by complying with the overall catch limits set. It denounced the unilateral action taken by the Canadian authorities with regard to controlling the fishing activities of non-Canadian vessels beyond the 200-mile limit, in violation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

1.3.139. Parliament resolution on the illegal arrest of the Spanish vessel 'Estai'.

Adopted on 16 March. Parliament condemned the illegal arrest by the Canadian authorities in NAFO international waters of a Spanish vessel which was fishing legally for Greenland halibut. It called on the Council and Commission to continue to defend firmly the principles of the Law of the Sea and the rights of the Community fishing fleet operating in the NAFO area; supported the Commission's proposal to ask for an extraordinary meeting of the NAFO Fishing Committee and urged the Community bodies and the Member States to support with great firmness all legal actions *vis à vis* Canada.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.3.140. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3928/92 establishing a NAFO pilot observer scheme applicable to Community vessels operating in the Regulatory Area of the North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organization.

Commission proposal: COM(94) 630; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.191

Economic and Social Committee opinion delivered on 29 March. Although endorsing the extension of the NAFO observer scheme, the Committee stressed the need to step up inspection of vessels from non-contracting countries or

flying a flag of convenience and called for effective protection of the European Union's historic fishing rights in international waters.

Market organization

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92, on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products (OJ L 388, 31.12.1992; Bull. 12-1992, point 1.3.284), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 3318/94: OJ L 350, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.194

1.3.141. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 3136/94 fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I(A), (D) and (E) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1995 fishing year.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EC) No 3136/94: OJ L 332, 22.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.193

Adopted by the Commission on 15 March. Would fix the guide price for deep-water prawns (*Pandalus borealis*), a species newly introduced into the common organization of the market in fishery products and replace the two-tier guide price for herring by a single price.

COM(95) 81

1.3.142. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 104/76 laying down common marketing standards for shrimps (*Crangon crangon*), edible crabs (*Cancer pagurus*) and Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*).

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 104/76: (OJ L 20, 28.1.1976), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3162/91: OJ L 300, 31.10.1991; Bull. 10-1991, point 1.2.169

Adopted by the Commission on 15 March. Would lay down common marketing standards for deep-water shrimps (*Pandalus borealis*).

COM(95) 82

Employment and social policy

Implementation of the White Paper on European social policy

1.3.143. Council resolution on the transposition and application of Community social legislation.

Reference: Commission White Paper on European social policy: a way forward for the Union: COM(94) 333; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.163

Adopted by the Council on 27 March. The Council said that it was essential, in accordance with the objectives of the White Paper on European social policy, that Community social legislation become a tangible reality for citizens and that this aim could not be achieved unless the provisions of that legislation were applied equally effectively in all Member States and, in the case of directives, were faithfully transposed.

To this end, the Council called upon the Commission and the Member States to improve information on the implementation of existing directives, particularly on health and safety at work, to improve cooperation and to encourage management and labour to play a full and active part in the formulation and implementation of Community social legislation.

Employment

1.3.144. Commission communication to the Council on the follow-up to the Essen European Council on employment.

References:

Commission White Paper on growth, competitiveness and employment: COM(93) 700; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.44; Supplement 6/93 — Bull. Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3

Adopted by the Commission on 8 March. In its communication, the Commission describes how the objectives and principles agreed by the Essen European Council on employment could be put into practice, more particularly:

- develop a coherent approach on employment in the context of the procedures for multilateral surveillance of economic policies provided for in Article 103 of the EC Treaty;
- identify the key characteristics of employment performance on the part of the Member States and of the Community, with particular reference to the five action points of the Essen conclusions (promoting investment in vocational training, increasing the employment intensity of growth, reducing indirect labour costs, making

labour market policies more effective, concentrating on groups particularly affected by unemployment);

- identify the essential elements and factors for the adaptation of education and training systems;
- include in the Member States' medium-term programmes and/or convergence programmes sections dealing with employment trends and policies;
- reinforce the cooperative machinery with the appropriate departments of the Member States so as to improve the exchange of information on employment and to produce more frequent and more up-to-date statistical data on employment;
- ensure coherence between the Structural Funds and the individual Member States' multi-annual programmes for employment.

COM(95) 74

1.3.145. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, businesses or parts of businesses.

Commission proposal: OJ C 274, 1.10.1994; COM(94) 300; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.182

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March, subject to remarks designed to strengthen employees' rights, with special reference to information and consultation.

Social exclusion

1.3.146. Final Commission report on the implementation of the Community programme concerning the economic and social integration of the economically and socially less privileged groups in society 'Poverty 3' (1989-94).

References:

Council Decision 89/457/EEC establishing a medium-term Community action programme concerning the economic and social integration of the economically and socially less privileged groups in society ('Poverty 3'): OJ L 224, 2.8.1989; Bull. 7/8-1989, point 2.1.104

Interim report on implementation of the programme: COM(93) 435; Bull. 9-1993, point 1.2.99

Adopted by the Commission on 27 March. The Commission's report describes the background,

implementation and impact of the 1989-94 Community programme to combat poverty. The point is made that the programme was geared to a multidimensional approach to social exclusion and was based both on the principle of partnership with private and public-sector institutions and on the participation of the less privileged groups concerned. A total of 41 pilot projects were run, covering initiatives concerned with local development, job creation, education, training, health promotion, housing access and self-help, with ongoing transnational exchanges of information between the projects. The Commission's view is that the programme, which set out essentially to foster innovation and stimulate anti-exclusion policies at all levels, very largely achieved its objectives.

COM(95) 94

Equal opportunities

1.3.147. Parliament resolution on equal treatment and equal opportunities for men and women.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament encouraged the Commission to pursue actively its efforts to promote equal opportunities for men and women, in particular by implementing measures to ensure compliance with the principle in all European Union policies. It called for the Commission's fourth action programme to give prominence to policies and measures specifically for women in the fields of employment, decision-making and training, and to receive adequate funding. It further called on the Council and the Commission to make progress with legislation on atypical work, equal treatment for men and women in statutory and supplementary social security schemes, reversal of the burden of proof and parental leave. Parliament took the view that the sharing of pension rights should be covered by a directive. Regretting the fact that women were still under-represented in decision-making bodies, in the public service, in European, national, regional and local political bodies and in economic, social and cultural activities, Parliament called on the European institutions and the Member States, in their capacity as employers, to set target figures for

the recruitment of women to positions of responsibility.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.3.148. Council resolution on balanced participation by men and women in decision-making.

Reference: Council resolution on the third medium-term Community action programme on equal opportunities for women and men: OJ C 142, 31.5.1991; Bull. 5-1991, point 1.2.76

Adopted by the Council on 27 March. The Council affirmed that the objective of balanced participation of men and women in decision-making and the sharing of responsibilities between men and women constitutes an important condition for equality between men and women and that it is necessary to make every effort to bring about the changes in structures and attitudes which are essential for genuine equality of access to decision-making posts for men and women in the political, economic, social and cultural fields.

The Council therefore invited the Member States to promote the balanced participation of men and women in decision-making as a priority objective in the context of their respective practices regarding equal opportunities, stressing the need for an integrated global strategy in this regard by: regularly compiling and publishing figures on the participation of women in decision-making posts; developing incentives and support measures for non-governmental organizations and groups actively committed in the field; devising, launching and promoting information and awareness campaigns; supporting innovative initiatives.

The Council called on the institutions and bodies of the European Communities to implement measures, in their capacity as employers, to promote the balanced recruitment of men and women, to enable balanced participation in decision-making duties to be achieved. It further called on the Commission to step up its information and awareness effort and its efforts to promote research, to introduce pilot schemes and to draw up a draft recommendation to be submitted to the Council aimed at promoting the balanced participation of men and women in decision-making.

Solidarity

Measures to help older people

1.3.149. Proposal for a Council Decision on Community support for actions in favour of older people.

References:

European Year of Older People and Solidarity between Generations: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.2.262

Commission White Paper on European social policy: a way forward for the Union: COM(94) 333; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.163

Commission report on the demographic situation of the European Union in 1994: COM(94) 595; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.219

Adopted by the Commission on 1 March. Concerned at the figures provided in the report on the demographic situation in the Union and determined to build on the achievements of the European Year of Older People and Solidarity between Generations and to fulfil the undertaking given in its White Paper on European social policy, the Commission is proposing Community support for a range of actions for older people by helping the Member States to meet some of the challenges generated by the ageing of Europe's population in a draft decision fully in line with the principle of subsidiarity. The scheme, which is designed to promote the transfer of innovation and knowledge throughout the Union and to encourage cross-frontier operations and partnerships, will focus on providing support for projects to assist the ageing workforce, developing the role and potential of the active retired, providing care for dependent older people, strengthening solidarity between the generations and helping to integrate older people in danger of isolation.

OJ C 115, 9.5.1995; COM(95) 53

Measures to help disaster victims

1.3.150. Commission decision to extend its aid package for flood victims in the European Union to Ireland.

Reference: Commission decision to grant emergency aid to flood victims in the European Union: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.3.162

Adopted on 14 March. The Commission decided to extend its ECU 1.5 million aid package granted in February for Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to victims of the flooding in Ireland.

1.3.151. Parliament resolution on the drought in southern Europe.

Adopted on 16 March. Concerned at the serious cyclical drought from which Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain have now been suffering for several years, Parliament would like the institutions to take action to remedy the near-disaster affecting agriculture, stockfarming and the processing industry in the countries concerned, notably by treating the drought as a specific phenomenon likely to have serious effects on the development of certain regions in the Union. It would also like the Commission and the Member States concerned to draw up a joint plan to promote the rational exploitation of water resources and the modernization of irrigation systems and to provide the necessary funding.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Public health

General

1.3.152. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision adopting a programme of Community action on health promotion, information, education and training within the framework for action in the field of public health.

Commission proposal: OJ C 252, 9.9.1994; COM(94) 202; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.201

Committee of the Regions opinion: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.212

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 15 March, subject to a number of amendments designed primarily to promote consistency and complementarity with other Community activities, particularly in the field of education, training and safety at home and at the workplace, as well as cooperation with non-member countries

and with international and non-governmental organizations.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Cancer

1.3.153. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision adopting an action plan 1995-99 to combat cancer within the framework for action in the field of public health.

Commission proposal: OJ C 139, 21.5.1994; COM(94) 83; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.2.171

Economic and Social Committee opinion: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.189

Committee of the Regions opinion: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.2.189

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 1 March, subject to a number of amendments designed to strengthen the provisions relating to prevention, research and epidemiology. Parliament would particularly like efforts to be stepped up in these fields and improvements to be made to early detection and systematic screening methods and to the quality of treatment, notably by means of more rigorous checks on radiotherapy installations and the training of healthcare personnel. It would also like greater efforts to be made to combat smoking by means of anti-smoking campaigns in the European institutions and a pilot scheme to obtain commitments from leading Europeans not to smoke in public.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

AIDS

1.3.154. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision adopting a programme of Community action on the prevention of AIDS and certain other communicable diseases within the framework for action in the field of public health.

Commission approval: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.2.117

Commission adoption: OJ C 333, 29.11.1994; COM(94) 413; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.2.213

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 30 March. The Committee expressed particular support for the distinction between action on AIDS and action in connection with other

infectious diseases and recommended that efforts be focused on the communicable diseases most closely associated with AIDS and the tightening-up of checks on blood and blood products. It underlined the importance of information campaigns on the use of condoms and vaccinations and pressed for the production of an information booklet in all languages on the measures covered by the programme. It also emphasized the limited scale of the resources available and warned against attempting to fund too many projects.

Consumers

Protection of consumers' economic and legal interests

1.3.155. Proposal for a Council Directive on the protection of consumers in respect of contracts negotiated at a distance (distance selling).

Commission proposal: OJ C 156, 23.6.1992; COM(92) 11; Bull. 4-1992, point 1.3.179

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 19, 25.1.1993; Bull. 11-1992, point 1.3.234

Parliament opinion: OJ C 176, 28.6.1993; Bull. 5-1993, point 1.2.81

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 308, 15.11.1993; COM(93) 396; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.2.94

Common position agreed by the Council on 30 March. The proposed Directive seeks to approximate the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning distance contracts between consumers and suppliers.

The scope of the Directive, with which the Member States will have to comply within three years of its entry into force, covers distance contracts for goods and services. The standard distance-selling contract concerns goods ordered through the post from a catalogue. However, the proposed text also covers new forms of distance selling, e.g. telephone, minitel and television sales. It also covers all new forms of distance services, such as databases and various forms of information.

Certain services have, however, been excluded from the Directive's scope, e.g. financial services and immovable property (except for rental). Certain selling techniques have also been excluded from the scope, e.g. auctions, automatic vending machines and automated commercial premises.

The Directive's provisions spell out the information that must be supplied to the consumer before a distance contract is concluded, with the most important items of information to be sent to the consumer in writing in time to enable the contract to be properly performed.

For any distance-selling contract covered by the Directive, the consumer will have at least seven days in which he can withdraw from it without penalty and without giving any reason. The supplier must then refund as soon as possible any advances paid by the consumer. Unless the parties agree otherwise, the supplier must execute the order within a maximum of 30 days from the day following that on which the consumer submitted his order.

In addition to possible means of legal or administrative redress, the future Directive makes provision for the cancellation and return of payments where fraudulent use has been made of the consumer's payment card, for prohibiting the supply of unsolicited goods or services, and for introducing restrictions on the use of certain means of distance communication.

Culture

Raphaël programme

1.3.156. Proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision establishing a Community action programme in the field of cultural heritage (the Raphaël programme).

References:

Commission communication to Parliament and the Council on European Community action in support of culture, accompanied by two proposals for Parliament and Council Decisions: one establishing a programme to support artistic and cultural activities with a European dimension (Kaleidoscope 2000) and the other establishing a

support programme in the field of books and reading (Ariane): COM(94) 356; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.2.178

Council conclusions on cultural heritage: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.2.210

Adopted by the Commission on 29 March. The Raphaël programme, which has been drawn up at the request of the Council, will complement the cultural activities currently being pursued by the Union under the Kaleidoscope 2000 and Ariane programmes. Designed primarily to encourage and support action by the Member States to promote cultural heritage and the knowledge and dissemination of European culture, the new programme will cover five main areas of activity: the development and promotion of cultural heritage; networks and partnerships; access to heritage; innovation, further training and professional mobility; and cooperation with non-member countries and international organizations.

With a budget of ECU 67 million over five years the programme will, it is hoped, provide support for 300 innovative projects. Priorities will include cooperation with professionals working in the heritage sector and with the competent regional, national and European authorities to improve public access to cultural heritage (multimedia projects will be given preferential treatment) and cooperation with non-member countries and international organizations, particularly the Council of Europe, without, however, jeopardizing the identity or autonomy of the individual institution or organization.

Community action will be based on a global approach as well as on subsidiarity and complementarity with action by the Member States. The projects, which will act as catalyst and stimulant, must have a European dimension and offer genuine added value in relation to measures taken at national, regional or local level.

COM(95) 110

Information, communication and audiovisual media

Information and communication

1.3.157. Central and Eastern Eurobarometer No 5.

Reference: Central and Eastern Eurobarometer No 4: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.2.201

Findings published by the Commission on 7 March. This fifth opinion poll was conducted in 18 Central and East European countries in November 1994. Despite a rise in GDP in much of Central and Eastern Europe in 1994, 51% of interviewees said their household's financial situation had deteriorated. However, the perception of deterioration is more marked in the countries of the former Soviet Union, which continue to show a shrinking GDP. Here too, support for the free market continues to fall, unlike in Central and Eastern Europe, where two in every three interviewees were in favour.

There has been a marked improvement in the image of the European Union in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, up by 12 points since the previous survey. As for the inhabitants of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, they generally believe that they and the European Union derive equal benefit from mutual relations, while the inhabitants of the countries of the former Soviet Union feel these relations operate to the advantage of the European Union.

(Available from the European Commission, Directorate-General for Information, Communication, Culture and Audiovisual Media, 200 rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels.)

Audiovisual policy

Television without frontiers

1.3.158. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 89/552/EEC on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 89/552/EEC: OJ L 298, 17.10.1989; Bull. 10-1989, point 2.1.18

Adopted by the Commission on 22 March. The proposal entails the adaptation of the 'Television without frontiers' Directive adopted in 1989 to take account of technological and market changes, solve certain difficulties in its application and respond to the new challenges of the information society. The aim is to establish a more clearly defined and more effective legal

frame work which will provide greater certainty as to the law and encourage the development of television broadcasting in the European audiovisual area. The objectives are as follows:

- Removal of ambiguities in the text, which have given rise to varying interpretations, led to legal uncertainty for broadcasters and acted as an obstacle to the free movement of television services. The rules on applicable law will be clarified: a broadcasting company will be subject to the law of the Member State in which it is established. And the words 'wherever practicable' have been deleted in the new proposal. The 1989 broadcasting requirements will be maintained for the general channels, with the majority of broadcasting time being reserved for European productions. But it has not always been possible to attain this in the case of channels specializing in films, documentaries, fiction or animated cartoons so they will be given the option of investing 25% of their programming budget in European production instead. In all cases, new stations will have a period of three years in which to attain the required levels.
- Support for the European programme industry to enable it to become competitive on the European and world market and in the multi-service environment. A 10-year period will be allowed

for achieving this aim, following which the proposed measures will cease to apply.

- Adaptation of some of the provisions to current commercial or technological developments in the audiovisual sector, affording it new prospects of profitability. Tele-shopping will be liberalized on two fronts: firstly, no time restrictions will be set for channels devoted exclusively to this activity; and secondly, the duration of tele-shopping inserts in other services may be raised from one to three hours a day. There is also provision for more flexible rules on advertising slots and sponsorship.
- Better enforcement of the Directive to improve legal protection for television services and the public, particularly minors. Parties who consider they have suffered an injury as a result of these rules being violated will be able to take action before the competent national court in the Member State in which the broadcaster is established.

The scope of the Directive is left unchanged and it will not cover new 'point-to-point' services, such as video-on-demand, which will be examined in a Commission Green Paper at a later date.

COM(95) 86

4. Role of the Union in the world

Common foreign and security policy

Common foreign policy

1.4.1. Common Position 95/91/CFSP defined by the Council on the basis of Article J.2 of the Treaty on European Union, with regard to Burundi (→ point 1.4.94).

Common security policy

Dual-use goods

1.4.2. Proposal for a Council Decision modifying Council Decision 94/942/CFSP on the joint action adopted by the Council on the basis of Article J.3 on the Treaty on European Union concerning the control of exports of dual-use goods.

Decision to be amended: Council Decision 94/942/CFSP on the joint action adopted by the Council on the basis of Article J.3 of the Treaty on European Union concerning the control of exports of dual-use goods: OJ L 367, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.2

Adopted by the Commission on 13 March. The purpose of the Decision is to postpone from 1 March until 1 July the entry into force of Decision 94/942/CFSP, for reasons of legal certainty (as Official Journal L 367 containing the Decision was not available on 1 March).

COM(95) 79

1.4.3. Proposal for a Council Regulation modifying Regulation (EC) No 3381/94 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports of dual-use goods (→ point 1.4.23).

Stability Pact

1.4.4. Final Conference.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on eco-

nomic aid to certain countries in Central and Eastern Europe (PHARE programme) (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. 12-1989, point 2.2.25), as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1764/93: OJ L 162, 3.7.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.3.13

Council Decision 93/728/CFSP concerning the joint action adopted by the Council on the inaugural conference on the stability pact: OJ L 339, 31.12.1993; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.4.9

Inaugural conference on the stability pact: Bull. 5-1994, point 1.3.2

Council Decision 94/367/CFSP on the continuation of the joint action adopted by the Council on the basis of Article J.3 of the Treaty on European Union on the inaugural conference on the Stability Pact: OJ L 165, 1.7.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.4

Conference held in Paris on 20 and 21 March. The Conference was chaired by Mr Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, in his capacity as President of the Council, and was attended by representatives of all the member countries of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Mr Van den Broek, representing the Commission, noted that the Stability Pact had fulfilled its function of providing an incentive for the establishment of good-neighbourly and cooperative relations, and welcomed the success of the Pact and the joint efforts made by the European Union and its partners in Central and Eastern Europe to strengthen stability, security and democracy.

At the conclusion of the Conference the participants signed the Stability Pact, consisting of a declaration and around one hundred bilateral agreements (→ point 2.2.1), including an agreement between Hungary and Slovakia on the Hungarian minority living in Slovakia, which was signed in Paris on 19 March. A list of back-up measures, supported by the European Union and to be financed through the PHARE programme, was attached to the Pact. The measures comprise programmes under way at a total cost of ECU 200 million, and also projects identified by the regional round tables which were set up at the inaugural conference in May 1994, the projected cost of which was ECU 60 million.

Adoption of the Stability Pact and its transmission to the OSCE, which will be responsible for monitoring implementation of the Pact and the related agreements, represented a conclusive outcome to the joint action adopted in December 1993.

Presidency statements on behalf of the European Union

Burma (Myanmar)

1.4.5. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union concerning the situation in Myanmar was published in Brussels and Paris on 13 March:

'The European Union has followed with the greatest disquiet the development of the situation in recent weeks on the border between Burma and Thailand. Following the military operations conducted against the Karen, the European Union made a representation to the Director-General for Political Affairs of the Burmese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rangoon on 15 February 1995.

In doing so, the European Union voiced serious concern at the consequences of this offensive and at the flood of refugees to Thailand provoked by the military action.

The European Union wishes to express its grave anxiety at the continuation of military operations against the last pockets of resistance of the KNU on the Burmese-Thai border, in total opposition to the policy of national reconciliation preached by the Burmese Government. It wishes to reiterate in this connection its hope that a peaceful solution will be found quickly for the problem of the ethnic minorities.

The European Union would also reiterate its concern at the extension to 11 July 1995 of the period of detention of Mrs Aung San Suu Kyi.

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia associate themselves with this declaration.'

Burundi

1.4.6. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union concerning the Union's objectives and priorities regarding Burundi was published in Brussels and Paris on 19 March:

References:

Presidency press statement: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.3.7

Common Position 95/91/CFSP defined by the Council on the basis of Article J.2 of the Treaty on European Union, with regard to Burundi: point 1.4.94 of this Bulletin

'The European Union's objectives and priorities regarding Burundi are to consolidate the process of national reconciliation and a return to normal democratic life, in particular by restoring the rule of law, and to promote the economic and social recovery of the country.

Following the appointment, by the President of the Republic of Burundi, of Mr Nduwayo as Prime Minister and the forming of a new Government, the European Union wishes them both every success in their task.

The European Union is however still concerned at the way the political situation is developing and the worsening of security conditions in Burundi. That concern prompted it to send a mission to Bujumbura on 10 and 11 February 1995.

The European Union is determined to give strong backing to the 'Government Convention' concluded on 10 September 1994 with provisions forming the institutional framework for necessary national reconciliation, and would urge all political parties, military forces and sectors of civilian society to respect and implement it in a spirit of dialogue, moderation and compromise.

The European Union supports the action being taken in Burundi by the international community, and in particular by the United Nations Organization and the Organization of African Unity, and is resolved to step up the efforts which it is already making to help strengthen stability in Burundi.

The European Union is therefore prepared to:

- assist the Burundi Government in organizing a 'national debate' of the kind provided for by the 'Government Convention' with the participation of all sectors of the Burundi nation in order to consolidate national reconciliation and reconstruct democracy,
- help strengthen the action already being taken by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, *inter alia* by support for the sending of experts as provided for in the 1995/90 resolution adopted on 8 March 1995 by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights,
- contribute to restoring the rule of law and strengthening the Burundi legal system, *inter alia* by giving help with the training of magistrates,
- in view of the role which could be played by an International Commission of Enquiry into the attempted coup in 1993 and the massacres which followed, the European Union hopes that the United

Nations will be able to adopt a position quickly on the request submitted to it by the Burundi authorities,

□ it also pays tribute to the action taken by the OAU, which it hopes will be extended further and is prepared to support.

The European Union is convinced that the economic and social recovery of Burundi will facilitate a return to stability and its consolidation for the future, and it would like a round table of donors to be organized swiftly with the participation of international institutions and all countries which are friends of Burundi.

The European Union is also prepared to help implement and follow up the action plan adopted by the regional conference on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lake region held in Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995.

By way of support for the Burundi nation in its search for peaceful and democratic solutions, the European Union would encourage all partners to take any measures they deem necessary against extremist elements in Burundi in order to prevent them travelling abroad and receiving assistance.

The European Union is aware of the close links which exist between the various humanitarian and political problems facing the region and the considerable danger of destabilization which persists, calls for the organization of the conference on peace, security and stability desired by the United Nations Security Council and reiterates its strongest support for all forces in Burundi which are working towards peace, dialogue and national reconciliation.'

North Korea

1.4.7. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union was published in Brussels and Paris on 3 March:

'The European Union deeply deplores the expulsion by the North Korean authorities on 28 February of the Polish officers belonging to the Neutral Nations Commission.

On Tuesday 21 February, the Presidency officially requested the DPRK to postpone the ultimatum.

The unilateral action by the DPRK violates the terms of the armistice agreement.

For several years, the DPRK has been trying to undermine the arrangements put in place by the armistice agreement which brought the Korean war to an end.

The European Union points out that the armistice agreement cannot be modified by one party alone.

It emphasizes that no peace treaty to replace the armistice agreement can be negotiated without the involvement of the Government of the Republic of Korea.'

Gambia

1.4.8. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union was published in Brussels and Paris on 21 March:

Reference: Presidency press statement: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.8

'The European Union has noted the report by the National Consultative Committee and the statement made on 3 February by the Chairman of the Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council.

Whilst noting with satisfaction that the period for transition towards a civil government has been reduced, the European Union remains concerned that a military government will remain in place until July 1996. It greatly regrets that the opportunity has not been availed of to hand over to an interim civilian government and that effective control of the government consequently remains in the hands of the military.

The European Union would ask the AFPRC to take practical steps without delay to restore constitutional government, thereby enabling the Union to resume its cooperation with the Gambia gradually and in the light of developments.

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia associate themselves with this declaration.'

Kazakhstan

1.4.9. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union concerning the constitutional situation in Kazakhstan was published in Brussels and Paris on 20 March:

'The European Union is anxious to state its concern at the crisis which is undermining the democratic institutions of Kazakhstan, a member country of the OSCE. It is following developments in the situation with close attention.

The European Union wishes to see a return to normal political life and the rule of democracy.

The European Union therefore calls for free, multi-party elections to be held soon under the surveillance of international observers, in particular the European Union.

The European Union hopes that the relevant international organizations will also be involved in the preparation and monitoring of the elections.

The Central and East European countries associated with the Union align themselves with this statement.'

China Sea

1.4.10. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union concerning the situation in the South China Sea was published in Brussels and Paris on 2 March:

Reference: European Union-ASEAN ministerial meeting: Bull. 9-1994, points 1.3.18 and 2.2.1

'The European Union has noted with concern the latest developments in the South China Sea, a maritime area of great importance to international traffic.

The Union welcomed the adoption in Manila in July 1992 of a declaration, endorsed by China, which committed the ASEAN countries to resolving their disputes in the South China Sea by peaceful means, encouraged the countries concerned to show restraint and invited them to adhere to the principles in the declaration. The Union reiterated its support for this declaration in September 1994 in the framework of the 11th EU-ASEAN ministerial meeting in Karlsruhe.

The Union reaffirms once again its support for the principles embodied in the Manila declaration. It calls upon all parties concerned to show restraint and to abstain from any measure which may make its implementation more difficult. It welcomes the announcement that consultations between the authorities of the Philippines and China will take place in Beijing from 13 to 15 March.

The Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia associate themselves with this declaration.'

Nigeria

1.4.11. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union was published in Brussels and Paris on 22 March:

Reference: Presidency press statement: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.16

'The fresh arrests carried out by the Nigerian authorities in recent days, in particular those of General Olu-segun Obasanjo, the former Head of State, and General Yar Adua, the former Vice-President of the Federation, cause the European Union serious concern.

These arrests of prominent figures demonstrate the impasse into which the military authorities in Nigeria have got themselves. They confirm the European Union's belief that the re-establishment of a constitutional regime and public liberties is essential for civil peace in Nigeria. The European Union in particular calls upon the Nigerian authorities to release the political prisoners, to restore freedom of expression and the independence of the judiciary and to guarantee the safety of all persons who remain imprisoned. The imprisonment for nine months now of Mr Abiola prompts continuing disquiet.

The European Union is convinced that the stability and prosperity of a major country like Nigeria cannot come about through increased repression, nor the prolongation of military rule. It calls on the Nigerian au-

thorities to establish a democratic constitutional regime as soon as possible.

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia associate themselves with this declaration.'

Sri Lanka

1.4.12. The following presidency statement on behalf of the European Union was published in Brussels and Paris on 20 March:

Reference: Presidency statement: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.19

'The European Union sincerely hopes that direct talks can be started as soon as possible to seek a political solution to the present conflict.

The European Union wishes a political settlement to be found as early as possible. On these conditions, it states its readiness to cooperate with all the partners to rebuild the areas affected by the conflict.'

International organizations and conferences

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

1.4.13. Commission communication on a level playing-field for direct investment worldwide.

Adopted on 1 March. In this communication, transmitted to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee, the Commission stresses the need for a coordinated worldwide effort to open up the market for direct investment. It proposes a strategy based on the following principles:

- free access to foreign markets for investors and investments by guaranteeing the right to invest and operate, most-favoured-nation treatment and a commitment not to introduce new restrictions;
- national treatment for established investments;
- the honouring of commitments to foreign investors by means of accompanying measures,

including a mechanism for settling disputes between the source and host countries.

To that end, the Commission proposed that negotiations be opened with the OECD members at the forthcoming ministerial meeting with a view to elaborating international rules on foreign direct investment, the results of which could be incorporated into the WTO system so that the rules would apply to as many countries as possible.

COM(95) 42

World Trade Organization

1.4.14. Draft agreements between the Community and the WTO members on services.

Reference: Council Decision 94/800/EC concerning the conclusion on behalf of the European Community, as regards matters within its competence, of the agreements reached in Uruguay Round multilateral negotiations (1986-94): OJ L 336, 23.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.98

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on the recommendation of the Commission on 6 March. The aim was to negotiate with the WTO's members specific commitments on services in the fields of maritime transport, basic telecommunications, financial services and the movement of natural persons.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Financing

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Telecommunications project

1.4.15. The Bank granted Traffic Makedonija, a State enterprise in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a loan equivalent to ECU 32.301 million. The loan, which is guaranteed by the government, will enable the borrower to develop the country's international, long-distance and local telephone network.

Netherlands

MBA project

1.4.16. The Bank approved a guarantee for the sum of ECU 8.8 million for the Dutch company

ABN AMRO Bank NV. The guarantee will enable up to 100 students a year from the countries in which the Bank operates to pay their MBA tuition costs at business schools outside those countries.

Poland

BTUIR Heros

1.4.17. The Bank took a stake equivalent to ECU 1.411 million in BTUIR Heros AS, a non-life insurance company incorporated in Poland. This stake will enable the company to continue developing its insurance activities in Poland.

Slovak Republic

Slovenska Pol'Nohospodarska Banka AS

1.4.18. The Bank granted Slovenska Pol'Nohospodarska Banka, a limited company established in the Slovak Republic, a cofinancing facility equivalent to ECU 15 million. This facility will provide medium to long-term financing for Slovak SMEs in the agribusiness sector. The Bank has identified numerous needs for financing in this sector which are not being met by national financial institutions and are too small for the Bank to handle directly. This facility will seek to address these needs and achieve savings in the processing of such loans.

Tatra Banka

1.4.19. The Bank loaned the equivalent of ECU 16.491 million to Tatra Banka AS, a company incorporated in Slovakia. The loan will provide Tatra Banka with the long-term resources needed to finance medium and long-term trade projects, so supporting growth and strengthening the competitive position of a private-sector financial institution in Slovakia.

Czech Republic

Investicni a Postovni Banka AS

1.4.20. The Bank loaned the equivalent of ECU 37.956 million to Investicni a Postovni Banka AS (IPB), incorporated in the Czech Re-

public. The loan will provide IPB with the long-term resources needed to finance the export of Czech goods and services, so contributing to the development of the country's industrial sector.

Skoda Kovarny s.r.o.

1.4.21. The Bank loaned the equivalent of ECU 18.030 million to Skoda Kovarny s.r.o., a limited company incorporated in the Czech Republic. The loan will finance the purchase of the machinery needed to produce finished forged products, mainly for export, but also for domestic consumption.

Technolen WF AS

1.4.22. The Bank loaned the equivalent of ECU 9.268 millions to Technolen WF AS, a joint stock company incorporated in the Czech Republic. The loan will enable the borrower to upgrade and substantially modernize its production facilities, allowing it to build on its strong position in the domestic Czech markets and compete more effectively on Western Europe's markets for technical textiles.

Common commercial policy

General matters

Operation of the customs union

1.4.23. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 3381/94 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports of dual-use goods.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EC) No 3381/94: OJ L 367, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.128

Adopted by the Commission on 13 March. For legal reasons (the Official Journal, OJ L 367 in which the Regulation is published was not available on 1 March), it is proposed to postpone from 1 March to 1 July the entry into force of Regulation (EC) No 3381/94.

COM(95) 79

1.4.24. Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 94/942/CFSP on the joint action adopted by the Council on the basis of Article J.3 of the Treaty on European Union concerning the control of exports of dual-use goods (→ point 1.4.2).

Commercial policy instruments

General

1.4.25. Proposals for Council Regulations amending, respectively, Regulation (EC) No 3283/94 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community and Regulation (EC) No 3284/94 on protection against subsidized imports from countries not members of the European Community.

Regulations to be amended: Council Regulations (EC) No 3283/94 and No 3284/94: OJ L 349, 31.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.99

Adopted by the Commission on 21 March. The proposals provide for the procedural time-limits laid down in Regulations (EC) No 3283/94 and No 3284/94 to apply to proceedings initiated pursuant to complaints lodged on or after 1 September 1995.

COM(95) 63 and 61

Council anti-dumping measures

1.4.26. Proposal for a Council Regulation extending the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of ferro-silico-manganese originating in Russia, Ukraine, Brazil and South Africa.

Reference: Provisional duty: OJ L 330, 21.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.136

Adopted by the Commission on 16 March.

COM(95) 95

1.4.27. Council Regulation (EC) No 710/95 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of colour television receivers originating in Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed.

References:

Provisional duty: OJ L 255, 1.10.1994; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.3.51

Extension of provisional duty: OJ L 21, 28.1.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.47

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 2 March.

COM(95) 69

Adopted by the Council on 27 March.

OJ L 73, 1.4.1995

1.4.28. Council Regulation (EC) No 610/95 amending Regulations (EEC) No 2735/90, (EEC) No 2736/90 and (EEC) No 2737/90 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of tungsten ores and concentrates, tungstic oxide, tungstic acid, tungsten carbide and fused tungsten carbide originating in the People's Republic of China, and definitively collecting the amounts secured by way of the provisional anti-dumping duty imposed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2286/94.

References:

Definitive duty: OJ L 264, 27.9.1990; Bull. 9-1990, points 1.3.48 to 1.3.50

Undertakings: OJ L 264, 27.9.1990; Bull. 9-1990, points 1.3.58 to 1.3.60

Provisional duty: OJ L 248, 23.9.1994; Bull. 9-1994, point 1.3.50

Extension of provisional duty: OJ L 14, 20.1.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.46

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 3 March.

COM(95) 62

Adopted by the Council on 20 March. The Regulation is in response to the withdrawal by two Chinese exporters of the undertakings on the basis of which in 1990 they had been exempted from anti-dumping duty.

OJ L 64, 22.3.1995

1.4.29. Council Regulation (EC) No 709/95 amending Regulation (EEC) No 2552/93 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of artificial corundum originating in the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, with the exception of those products sold for export to the Community by companies whose undertakings have been accepted.

Commission proposal: COM(95) 50; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.49

Adopted by the Council on 27 March.

OJ L 73, 1.4.1995

Commission anti-dumping measures

1.4.30. Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of gas-fuelled, non-refillable pocket flint lighters originating in the Philippines and Mexico.

Published on 18 March.

OJ C 67, 18.3.1995

1.4.31. Notice of initiation of a review of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3433/91 in respect of imports of gas-fuelled, non-refillable pocket flint lighters originating in Thailand.

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 326, 28.11.1991; Bull. 11-1991, point 1.3.81

Published on 18 March.

OJ C 67, 18.3.1995

1.4.32. Notice of initiation of an interim review of the anti-dumping measures concerning imports of ball bearings with a greatest external diameter exceeding 30 mm originating in Japan.

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 286, 1.10.1992; Bull. 9-1992, point 1.3.53

Published on 23 March.

OJ C 71, 23.3.1995

1.4.33. Notice of initiation of an interim review of the anti-dumping measures concerning imports of ball bearings with a greatest external diameter not exceeding 30 mm originating in Japan.

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 256, 20.9.1990; Bull. 9-1990, point 1.3.51

Published on 23 March.

OJ C 71, 23.3.1995

1.4.34. Notice of the impending expiry of anti-dumping measures concerning certain welded tubes of iron or non-alloy steel originating in the former Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 91, 6.4.1990; Bull. 4-1990, point 1.2.52

Published on 29 March.

OJ C 77, 29.3.1995

1.4.35. Commission Decision 95/92/EC terminating the anti-dumping proceeding in respect of imports of colour television receivers originating in Turkey.

Reference: Initiation of proceeding: OJ C 307, 25.11.1992; Bull. 11-1992, point 1.4.70

Adopted by the Commission on 20 March.

OJ L 73, 1.4.1995

Import arrangements

1.4.36. Council Regulation (EC) No 538/95 amending Regulation (EC) No 519/94 on common rules for imports from certain third countries.

Commission proposal: COM(94) 646; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.143

Adopted by the Council on 6 March. The aim of the proposal is to increase the quantitative quotas applicable to imports of certain products from the People's Republic of China to take account of the enlargement of the Community.

OJ L 55, 11.3.1995

Treaties and trade agreements

1.4.37. Communication from the Commission concerning an appraisal of free trade areas.

Adopted by the Commission on 8 March. In this paper the Commission explores the conditions in which the European Union may conclude free trade agreements with its trade partners, in the light of its international obligations, in particular in the framework of the WTO, and the economic and political repercussions of such agreements.

More specifically, the paper examines:

- the implications of the establishment of the WTO for free trade agreements, in particular the obligation not to exclude from such agreements a major component of bilateral trade;
- the economic advantages (larger market, greater investment potential, improved competitiveness) as well as the political gains (message to a trade partner regarding its importance for the Union) of free trade agreements.

The Commission points to the need for any decision to negotiate a free trade agreement to be made on the basis of a cost/benefit analysis, taking into account its indirect impact on the Union's relations with other partners, and for negotiations to be entered into only where the conclusion of an agreement covering the full

range of obstacles to trade and meeting the Union's international obligations in full is a realistic objective.

The Commission draws attention to other possible forms of bilateral economic rapprochement without tariff elimination (cooperation programmes) and hence not breaching the WTO's non-discrimination rules. In addition, it affirms its intention of pursuing sustained multilateral liberalization, while recognizing the immediate gains that bilateral agreements may secure for exporters in the meantime.

Individual sectors

Textiles

Trade agreements

1.4.38. Draft Agreement between the Community and the People's Republic of China on trade in textile products.

Reference: Agreement between the EEC and China on trade in textiles (OJ L 380, 31.12.1988; Bull. 12-1988, point 2.2.9), as last amended by an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters: OJ L 410, 31.12.1992

Initialled: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.60

On 29 March the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement. The aim of the Agreement is to modify the existing Agreement.

COM(95) 109

Safeguard measures

Basic Regulation: Council Regulation (EC) No 3030/93, on common rules for imports of certain textile products from third countries (OJ L 275, 8.11.1993; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.3.82), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 195/94: OJ L 29, 2.2.1994

1.4.39. Commission Regulation (EC) No 507/95 imposing definitive quantitative limits on imports into the Community of certain textile products (categories 23 and 24) originating in the Republic of India and certain textile products (category 23) originating in the Republic of Indonesia.

Reference: Provisional limits: OJ L 297, 18.11.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.96

Adopted by the Commission on 7 March.

OJ L 51, 8.3.1995

1.4.40. Commission Regulation (EC) No 560/95 deducting from the quantitative limits on imports of textile products of categories 4 and 5 originating in the People's Republic of China amounts corresponding to those imported into the Community in circumvention of the Agreement between the European Community and the People's Republic of China on trade in textile products.

Adopted by the Commission on 14 March. Since the Commission found that certain textile products had been imported accompanied by false declarations of origin and had therefore not been charged against the quantitative limits applicable to imports of products originating in the People's Republic of China, where they actually originated, the Regulation deducts the quantities in question from the said limits.

OJ L 57, 15.3.1995

Development policy

General

References:

International Conference on Population and Development: Bull. 9-1994, point 1.3.56

Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on the European Union's priorities for the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995): COM(94) 669; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.148

Economic and Social Committee own-initiative opinion on the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6 to 12 March 1995: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.64

1.4.41. Parliament resolution on the European Union's priorities for the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995).

Adopted on 2 March. In its resolution on the summit, Parliament proposed both national mea-

asures and measures to strengthen international solidarity. National measures approved by Parliament included the declarations which UN member States proposed to make to create an economic, political and legal environment favourable to social development, to combat poverty and all forms of social exclusion, to increase the number of productive jobs, to promote social integration, to implement full equality between men and women, to ensure that structural adjustment programmes included social development objectives and to increase the resources allocated for such development. Parliament also recognized that debt was a huge obstacle to development.

Parliament considered that the European Union, whose economy depended to a great extent on trade with the rest of the world, had special responsibility at international level and that social development should come from the expansion of free and fair trade. In this context it insisted on the need to enforce International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, notably those concerning child labour, forced labour, workers' freedom of association, elimination of discrimination and minimum social standards. It called for discussion on the enforcement of fundamental social rights within the World Trade Organization. It further stressed the importance of political stability and observance of human rights in the development process.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

1.4.42. World Summit for Social Development.

Meeting held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March. Three main issues were dealt with at this summit, poverty, employment and social integration. In his speech, Mr Santer emphasized the importance that the Union attached to the social aspects of development and the global nature of these issues in an ever more interdependent world. This was the first speech made by a Commission President to Heads of State or Government at a United Nations conference. Mr Flynn was present at the ministerial meeting where he spoke on various aspects of social policy in the Community.

Positive points emerging from the summit included:

□ the emergence of a common overall approach to development that overcomes the North-South

divide and is based on the idea that domestic development policies and access to world markets are more effective than external official aid;

- the need to put in place corrective policies to bring about a more equitable division of productive resources and the fruits of growth, and a more prudent management of natural resources;
- the complementarity of national and international policies as a result of economic, financial and ecological interdependence.

Participants at the summit agreed to strengthen the international framework for social development by: making observance of human rights part of the development process; gradually extending the ILO conventions on the fundamental social rights of workers; adding a social dimension to the adjustment programmes of the IMF and the World Bank; making more effective use of development aid and refocusing it on the social sector; establishing a dialogue between the various international bodies working in the development field.

However, the summit did highlight, as did the Cairo Conference on Population and Development, significant cultural and religious differences, especially on the subject of women's rights and democracy and education and health policies. The flagging enthusiasm of aid donors for development was once again evident.

Commodities and world agreements

Cocoa

1.4.43. International Cocoa Conference.

References:

Council Directive 73/241/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cocoa and chocolate products intended for human consumption: (OJ L 228, 16.8.1973), as last amended by Directive 89/344/EEC: OJ L 142, 25.5.1989; Bull. 5-1989, point 2.1.22

International Cocoa Agreement (1993): OJ L 52, 23.2.1994; Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.143

Meeting of the International Cocoa Council (ICCO): Bull. 9-1994, point 1.3.60

Meeting held in Abidjan from 28 to 30 March.

The main subject under discussion was the use of vegetable oils and fats other than cocoa butter in the manufacture of chocolate, in particular their impact on chocolate quality, the market outlook and world consumption. The Commission and most of the Member States sent observers. Participating were representatives of cocoa-producing countries and their organizations, business interests and pressure groups. A final report was adopted recommending that every effort be made to push for the adoption of a new Directive banning the use of vegetable oils and fats other than cocoa butter in the manufacture of chocolate in accordance with the international standards of the *Codex Alimentarius*.

Cooperation via non-governmental organizations

1.4.44. Projects in developing countries.

Commission cofinancing: commitment of ECU 4 560 213 for 12 operations.

1.4.45. Campaigns to raise public awareness.

Commission contribution: ECU 679 906 for seven operations.

Food aid

1.4.46. Commission decisions to grant food aid to the value of ECU 36.01 million (see Table 4).

Table 4 — *Food aid allocations*

Country	Cereals (tonnes)	Milk powder (tonnes)	Vegetable oil (tonnes)	Beans (tonnes)	Sugar (tonnes)	Cost to budget (million ECU)
Ethiopia	75 000					17.77
Mozambique	1 810	674	149		177	1.73
Rwanda/Burundi	20 000		1 000	9 000		16.51
Total	96 810	674	1 149	9 000	177	36.01

Humanitarian aid

1.4.47. Visit by Ms Emma Bonino to Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire from 9 to 14 March.

In Burundi, Ms Bonino had a meeting with the Prime Minister, Mr Antoine Nduwayo, with whom she discussed humanitarian issues and the Burundian Government's political plans. In Rwanda she had talks with the Prime Minister, Mr Faustin Twarigamungu, on the problem of Rwandan refugees in neighbouring countries and the setting-up of a legal system in the country with a view to ensuring fair trials for the 30 000 people presently held in detention under accusations of having taken part in the massacres of April 1994. In Zaire, she visited the Goma camps, which shelter 720 000 refugees, and met representatives of the UNHCR and of NGOs that are implementing ECHO-financed projects. In all these meetings, Ms Bonino underlined the scale of EU financing to aid the refugees and said that the Union was ready to play a part in rehabilitation efforts but that those concerned in the region had to shoulder their responsibilities and try to bring about reconciliation and regional stability. Preventive diplomacy would be important in future, she emphasized.

1.4.48. Commission decisions: see Table 5.

Table 5 — *Humanitarian aid*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Purpose	Amount
<i>Financing: EDF (ACP countries)</i>		
Côte d'Ivoire	Aid for local population and Liberian refugees	0.4
Niger	Meningitis epidemic	0.215
<i>Financing: 1995 ECHO budget</i>		
Armenia	Aid for the local population	6.415
Armenia and Azerbaijan	Food aid	7.65
Azerbaijan	Aid for the local population	6.545
Bolivia	Flooding and drought	1.15
Burundi, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zaire	Refugees and displaced people	12

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Purpose	Amount
Cambodia	Food aid	2.34
Colombia	Health assistance	0.4
Iraq	Eradication of the Sunna cereals pest	0.519
Kyrgyzstan and Tadjikistan	Food aid	8
Nicaragua	Internal difficulties	0.14
Peru	Cholera epidemic	0.2
Tadjikistan	Reintegration of the population	0.43
All countries	Campaigns to inform the public and raise ECHO's profile	1.5

European Economic Area (EEA), European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

European Economic Area (EEA)

1.4.49. Decision No 1/95 of the EEA Council on the entry into force of the Agreement on the EEA for Liechtenstein.

References:

Agreement establishing the European Economic Area: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.27

Commission communication to the Council on the entry into force of the EEA Agreement for Liechtenstein: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.13

EEA Council: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.14

Adopted by the Council of the European Union on 6 March. Adopted by the EEA Council on 10 March. In response to the Commission communication and the EEA Council's agreement on the amendments required to enable Liechtenstein to participate in the Agreement, the draft decision on its entry into force, scheduled for 1 May 1995, was approved subject to the outcome of the referendum in Liechtenstein.

OJ L 86, 20.4.1995

1.4.50. Draft protocols with Iceland, Norway and Switzerland amending the trade agreements concluded by those countries with the European Community to allow for the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union.

Negotiating directives recommended by the Commission adopted by the Council on 6 March.

Central and Eastern Europe, Baltic States

Pre-accession strategy

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on economic aid for certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe (PHARE programme) (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. 12-1989, point 2.2.25), as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1764/93: OJ L 162, 3.7.1993; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.3.13

Europe (Association) Agreements between the European Communities and their Member States and Hungary and Poland: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.3.20

Europe Agreements establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States and Bulgaria, Hungary, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic: Bull. 1/2-1995, points 1.4.73 to 1.4.77

Draft Europe (Association) Agreements between the European Communities and their Member States and Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.25

Commission communications on a strategy to prepare the countries of Central and Eastern Europe for accession: COM(94) 320; COM(94) 361; Bull. 7/8-1994, points 1.3.26 and 1.3.27

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.13 and 1.39

1.4.51. Communication from the Commission to the Council and Parliament on industrial cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Adopted by the Commission on 14 March. The Commission outlined the industrial implications of integrating the associated Central and East

European countries into the European economy and in particular the contribution that industrial cooperation could make to this process.

Having pointed out that the degree of development varied widely from one country to another and that these countries' industry still had considerable needs, the Commission advocated promoting sustainable industrial development in the Central and East European countries with which it has, or intends to conclude, Europe Agreements. The European Union had already made an important contribution to the transition process through the Europe Agreements, the Essen European Council conclusions and technical and financial assistance. The Commission was now proposing guidelines which, while drawing on existing instruments, put forward changes and additional measures designed to improve the framework conditions for industrial development, step up industrial restructuring and modernization and promote investment. It proposed three types of instrument to attain these objectives:

□ the Europe Agreements, which provided the basic approach for the Union's assistance policy, within which technical and financial assistance under PHARE would be a major tool for cooperation and paving the way for integration. The main areas of action would involve: use of the institutional innovations of the Agreements such as Joint Committees, the White Paper on preparation of the associated countries for integration into the internal market, quality management (standards and certification), the legal and administrative framework for investment, support for the privatization and modernization of industry, promotion of business cooperation and cross-border investment, training for executives and civil servants, aspects of industrial development (competition, trade, environment and energy);

□ scientific and technological cooperation must be fostered in order to maintain the Central and East European countries' research and development potential, facilitate the flow of technology and know-how and include these countries in the European Union's move towards a global information society;

□ the mobilization of European industry must be encouraged, in tandem with assistance programmes, in order to involve the private sector more closely in the modernization of Central and East Europe's industry.

COM(95) 71

1.4.52. Draft agreements on air transport between the European Community and Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Slovak Republic.

Recommendation for a Decision adopted by the Commission on 1 March. In accordance with the provisions of the Europe Agreements concluded with Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, the Commission recommended that the Council open negotiations on air transport agreements with these countries and, when the necessary conditions are fulfilled, with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The main aim of these agreements is to build up a statutory framework enabling air carriers to operate as freely as possible in the countries in question on the basis of the principles of the *acquis communautaire*.

1.4.53. Draft agreements on adjusting the Europe Agreements and the Interim Agreements between the European Communities and the associated countries as a result of enlargement and the conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Recommendation for a Decision: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.21

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on 6 March. In response to the request made at the Essen European Council, the Council authorized the Commission to negotiate adjustments to the Europe and Interim Agreements concluded with the six Central and East European associated countries. These alterations are necessary as a result of the conclusion of the Uruguay Round and enlargement of the European Union, and are intended to rebalance the agricultural component of the Agreements and further develop trade between the two sides.

Bilateral relations

Czech Republic

1.4.54. Visit by Mr de Silguy on 20 and 21 March.

Mr de Silguy had talks with Mr Vaclav Klaus, Prime Minister, Mr Vladimir Dlouhy, Trade and Industry Minister, and Mr Ivan Kocarnik, Finance Minister, on the challenges facing the Czech Republic, particularly with regard to the

pre-accession strategy. They also discussed the country's economic situation, namely the drive for growth, the drop in inflation, the balance of payments and the convertibility of the currency. Other points raised included public intervention, price deregulation and the completion of privatization.

Romania

1.4.55. Mr Ion Iliescu, President of Romania, visited the Commission on 10 March.

References:

Commission communications on preparing the countries of Central and Eastern Europe for accession: COM(94) 320; COM(94) 361; Bull. 7/8-1994, points 1.3.26 and 1.3.27

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, points I.13. and I. 39

Mr Iliescu, accompanied by Mr Teodor Melescanu, Foreign Minister, met Mr Santer and Mr Van den Broek for a general overview of their relations and in particular the economic situation in Romania and preparations for integration within the pre-accession strategy decided by the Essen European Council. They also discussed their respective policies on visas and Romanian legislation on foreign investment.

Assistance for Central and Eastern Europe and the Baltic States

Albania

1.4.56. Commission report on the democratization process, human rights and the situation of minorities in Albania.

Reference: Council Decision 94/773/EC providing further macro-financial assistance for Albania: OJ L 308, 2.12.1994; Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.24

Adopted by the Commission on 31 March. This report was drawn up in response to the Council's request to release the second instalment of macro-financial assistance approved in November 1994. The Commission noted that the democratization process in Albania and the level of respect for human rights had significantly improved in the last few years and that while the Albanian authorities still had to implement legal

and policy reforms in these areas, the situation was progressing satisfactorily.

Mediterranean and Middle East

General

1.4.57. Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on strengthening the Mediterranean policy of the European Union: proposals for implementing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

References:

Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on strengthening the Mediterranean policy of the European Union: establishing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership: COM(94) 427; Bull. 10-1994, 1.3.34

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.14

Adopted by the Commission on 8 March. In this communication the Commission set out the broad lines of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and proposed priorities for financial and technical cooperation for the period 1995-99. The main objective, in accordance with the conclusions of the Essen European Council, is to ensure peace, stability and prosperity in the Mediterranean. To this end the Commission proposed three areas of priority intervention: assistance with economic transition, assistance with achieving a better socioeconomic balance and backing for regional integration.

The four pillars of assistance with economic transition are: the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area; promotion of the private sector in the countries of the Mediterranean region including modernizing/restructuring industry and establishing a suitable regulatory system; the promotion of private investment and the updating of economic and social infrastructure.

Assistance with achieving a better socioeconomic balance will be based on action as fol-

lows: improving social services, particularly in towns; promoting harmonious and integrated rural development; greater cooperation in fisheries; protection of the environment; the contribution of civil society to development; the integrated development of human resources (particularly education and vocational training); consolidation of democracy and respect for human rights (an essential component of the Community's relations with the countries in question); support for cultural exchanges and cooperation and technical assistance in order to reduce illegal immigration, drug trafficking, terrorism and international crime.

Support for regional integration will be based on a major integration drive among the Mediterranean countries themselves and the improvement of communication and cooperation links between border regions on each side of the Mediterranean. Thus, the association agreements concluded with the Community should be followed by similar agreements on free trade and cooperation among the countries concerned. The Community will support this process by providing assistance and encouragement as appropriate for the creation of regional cooperation structures and by providing financial assistance, in addition to EIB loans, to finance the economic infrastructure that is essential if regional trade is to be stepped up, especially in the field of transport, communications and energy.

In order to achieve its objectives, the Commission has drawn up operational guidelines and recommendations. These include allocation of the sum of ECU 5.16 billion as an indicative amount for the period 1995-99, a list of sectoral priorities and, possibly, a grant from the European Investment Bank own resources to the Mediterranean non-member countries of an amount similar to that proposed by the Commission and subject to the appropriate guarantees.

COM(95) 72

1.4.58. Council conclusions on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on the environment (→ point 1.3.106).

1.4.59. Conference on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on energy (→ point 1.3.92).

1.4.60. Draft protocols with Andorra, Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, San Marino, Slovenia, Syria, Tunisia

and Turkey with a view to modifying the agreements which those countries have concluded with the European Community and the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) to take account of the accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union.

Reference: Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden: OJ C 241, 29.8.1994; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.15

Commission recommendation: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.38

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on 6 March.

Northern Mediterranean

Cyprus

1.4.60a Preparations for the EC-Turkey Association Council

References:

Application for accession from the Republic of Cyprus: Bull. 7/8-1990, point 1.4.24

Commission opinion on Cyprus's application for accession: COM(93) 313; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.3.6; Supplement 4/93 — Bull.

Council conclusions on the Commission opinion on Cyprus's application for accession: Bull. 10-1993, point 1.3.7

Conclusions of the Corfu European Council: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.11

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, points I.14 and I.55

The General Affairs Council agreed on the general policy framework for the development of relations with Cyprus on 6 March. In the context of preparations for the EC-Turkey Association Council (→ point 1.4.65), the Council of the European Union agreed on the general policy framework for the development of relations with Cyprus including, in particular, the implementation of a structured dialogue between Cyprus and the European Union with a view to opening membership negotiations on the basis of a Commission proposal six months after the conclusion of the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference. The Council also invited the Commission to submit proposals for a pre-accession strategy to be adopted at the EC-Cyprus Association Council in June 1996.

Croatia

1.4.61. Draft economic and trade cooperation Agreement including provisions on ECSC products with the Republic of Croatia.

Commission recommendation: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.85

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council (general affairs) on 6 March. The Council adopted these negotiating directives without, however, authorizing the Commission to enter into negotiations or hold exploratory talks at this stage, preferring to wait until Croatia expressed agreement to the maintenance of a United Nations force on its territory.

1.4.62. Parliament resolution on Croatia.

Adopted on 16 March. Parliament welcomed the decision by the Croatian President to permit the continued presence of UN forces on the territory of Croatia in so far as they helped reduce tension in the region, but insisted that efforts be continued to find a peaceful overall solution to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. To this end it felt that the United Nations should continue to carry out its duties in the area in order to achieve the aims defined by the UN Security Council and gave its full support to all efforts to find a peaceful solution in the former Yugoslavia based on respect for human and minority rights and equal treatment for members of all ethnic and religious communities. Parliament called on the Council to seek recognition by Serbia of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina within their international borders. It also supported the Council's decision to give the Commission a negotiating brief for an economic and trade cooperation agreement with Croatia while UN troops remained present on Croatian territory.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Malta

1.4.63. Report from the Commission to the Council on the implementation of economic reforms in Malta with a view to reviewing Malta's application for accession to the European Union.

References:

Application for accession from the Republic of Malta: Bull. 7/8-1990, point 1.4.25

Commission opinion on Malta's application for accession: COM(93) 312; Bull. 6-1993, point 1.3.7; Supplement 4/93 — Bull.

Council conclusions on the Commission's opinion on Malta's application for accession: Bull. 10-1993, point 1.3.8

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, points I.14 and I.55

Adopted by the Commission on 1 March. In this report, drafted in response to a request made at the Essen European Council, the Commission took stock of the Maltese Government's implementation of the economic reform programme agreed with the Commission in March 1994.

The Commission noted that the programme had largely been accomplished within the agreed time-limit. It viewed this as an important step towards bringing economic structures in Malta more into line with those of the Community and said that it would continue to monitor implementation of the reforms, keeping the Council informed of their impact on the Maltese economy. It felt that, in these circumstances, membership negotiations could begin on the basis of Commission proposals six months after the conclusion of the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference, taking account of the outcome of that conference.

Slovenia

1.4.64. Draft Europe Agreement with Slovenia

References:

Economic and trade cooperation Agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Slovenia: OJ L 189, 29.7.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.3.25

Protocol on financial cooperation between the EEC and the Republic of Slovenia: OJ L 189, 29.7.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.3.26

Agreement between the Member States of the ECSC and the ECSC, of the one part, and the Republic of Slovenia of the other part: OJ C 210, 4.8.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.3.24

Agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Slovenia in the field of transport: OJ L 189, 29.7.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.2.108

Commission recommendation: Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.33

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council (general affairs) on 6 March. This Agreement is intended to govern all economic and trade relations with Slovenia and will replace the 1993 cooperation Agreement. It will take the same form as the existing Europe Agreements while taking into account the particular characteristics of Slovenia. The two parties will gradually put

in place a free trade area; the Community has already largely achieved trade liberalization for industrial products.

Turkey

1.4.65. EC-Turkey Association Council

References:

EEC-Turkey Association Agreement: OJ L 217, 29.12.1964

Additional protocol: OJ L 293, 29.12.1972

Previous meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.62

Meeting held in Brussels on 6 March. This meeting was chaired by Mr Alain Juppé, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic and President of the Council. The Commission was represented by Mr Van den Broek, Turkey by Mr Murat Karayalçın, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and the European Investment Bank by Mrs Ariane Obolenski.

The participants reached agreement on finalizing the customs union between the European Community and Turkey. The two parties adopted the procedures for implementing the union, in particular in the following areas: free movement of goods and commercial policy (adoption by Turkey of the common external tariff and the Union's commercial policy), international standards and legislation, processed agricultural products, customs provisions, the approximation of legislation (particularly in the areas of competition rules and the protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property) and institutional provisions. They agreed that the decision on the customs union would enter into force on 31 December 1995, with the possibility of postponement until 1 July 1996 if Turkey did not fulfil the necessary conditions by the end of the year.

The Association Council also adopted a resolution on the development of cooperation in other areas including industrial cooperation, trans-European networks, cooperation on energy, transport, telecommunications, agriculture, environment, science, statistics, matters relating to justice and home affairs, consumer protection, cultural cooperation, information and communications. The participants also planned to hold a regular dialogue on the situation of Turkish workers in the European Union to promote their

integration into the Union. They also underlined the need to strengthen the institutional framework of the Association.

Furthermore, the Commission adopted a declaration stating its willingness to resume financial cooperation with Turkey and undertook to examine the consequences of the customs union for the Greek textile industry.

1.4.66. Visit to Turkey by the troika on 23 March and by Mr Van den Broek on 24 March.

The troika, composed of Mr Alain Juppé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the Council, the German Foreign Minister, Mr Klaus Kinkel, the Spanish Foreign Minister, Mr Javier Solana and Mr Van den Broek representing the Commission met Mrs Tansu Çiller, Prime Minister, Mr Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic, Mr Murat Karayalçın, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mr Hüsamettin Çindoruk, Speaker of the National Assembly. Discussions focused on bilateral relations between the European Union and Turkey, completion of the customs union, respect for human rights and democracy in Turkey, the Kurdish issue and the Turkish incursion into northern Iraq. Mr Van den Broek continued these discussions with Mrs Çiller, Mr Hikmet Çetin, Deputy Prime Minister and Mr Çindoruk. He stressed the need for Turkey to respect the commitments it had undertaken at the Association Council on 6 March, particularly as regards the approximation of legislation and its assurances regarding respect for democratic principles, in particular the amendment of the constitution and anti-terrorism legislation. Turkey was reminded of its obligation to take immediate steps to meet these conditions. The Cyprus question was also discussed as was Turkish intervention in northern Iraq, and Mr Van den Broek reiterated the importance attached by the European Union to Iraq's territorial integrity.

Maghreb

Morocco

1.4.67. Parliament resolution on Western Sahara.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament

called on the Moroccan authorities to comply with their undertakings regarding Western Sahara so that the peace plan could be implemented. In this context it called on the Union's authorities and the Member States' governments to do everything in their power in the context of their political, economic and trade relations with Morocco to ensure that the Moroccan Government implemented the United Nations peace plan in its entirety. Warning that failure to resolve the conflict could jeopardize the security of the entire region, it asked the UN Secretary-General to step up his efforts to ensure that the United Nations mission for the referendum in Western Sahara (UNMIRWS) could carry out its mission, and called on the Polisario Front to enter into direct negotiations with a view to the proper implementation of the peace plan until a fair and free referendum could be held. It also called on the Moroccan Government to drop its ban on access to Western Sahara for foreign observers.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Mashreq

1.4.68. EC-Lebanon Cooperation Council

References:

EEC-Lebanon Cooperation Agreement: OJ L 267, 27.9.1978, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3071/90

Draft Association Agreement with Israel: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.3.31

New draft Agreement with Morocco: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.3.33

New draft Agreement with Tunisia: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.3.38

Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on strengthening the Mediterranean policy of the European Union: establishing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership: COM(94) 427; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.3.34

Visit by the troika to Israel, the Palestinian Territories, Syria and Lebanon: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.92

Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on strengthening the Mediterranean policy of the European Union: proposals for implementing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership: COM(95) 72; point 1.4.57 of this Bulletin

Meeting held in Brussels on 6 March. This second meeting, 15 years on from the first

Cooperation Council session in 1980, was chaired by Mr Alain Juppé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs and President of the Council. The Lebanese delegation was headed by Mr Farès Bouez, Lebanese Foreign Minister, with Mr Marín representing the Commission and Mr Joachim Müller-Borle representing the European Investment Bank.

Discussions focused on Euro-Lebanese relations and prospects for the negotiation of a new agreement, the development of the Lebanese economy, Lebanon and the Middle East peace process and preparations for the Euro-Mediterranean Conference in Barcelona. The Lebanese authorities expressed their desire for the swift negotiation of a new agreement with the European Community similar to those which the Union is currently negotiating with several of its Mediterranean partners in the context of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

The Community reiterated its recognition of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

Middle-East

Yemen

1.4.69. Agreement amending the Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Yemen Arab Republic.

Agreement amended: Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Yemen Arab Republic: OJ L 26, 31.1.1985

Commission recommendation: Bull. 5-1992, point 1.2.26

Negotiating directives: Bull. 6-1992, point 1.4.21

Proposal for a Regulation on the conclusion: OJ C 310, 16.11.1993; COM(93) 504; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.3.31

Parliament opinion: OJ C 128, 9.5.1994; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.35

Decision 95/67/EC on the conclusion of the Agreement adopted by the Council on 6 March. It extends the application of the Agreement to the whole of the Republic of Yemen following the unification of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

OJ L 57, 15.3.1995

Independent States of the former Soviet Union; Mongolia

Bilateral relations

Belarus

1.4.70. Draft partnership and cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Belarus, of the other part.

Reference: Agreement on trade and commercial and economic cooperation between the EEC and the USSR: OJ L 68, 15.3.1990; Bull. 1/2-1990, points 1.2.23 and 1.2.24

Recommendation for a decision: Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Negotiating directives: Bull. 10-1992, point 1.4.19

Amended Commission recommendation: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.3.31

Amended negotiating directives: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.3.33

Initialling: Bull.12-1994, point 1.3.48

Proposal for a decision regarding conclusion: COM(95) 44; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.96

Council Decision regarding the signing of the Agreement adopted on 6 March.

Agreement signed in Brussels on 6 March. The partnership and cooperation Agreement (which combines areas for which the Community has competence and areas for which the Member States have competence) was signed by Mr Aleksandr Lukashenko, President of Belarus, Mr Alain Juppé, French Foreign Minister and President of the Council, and Mr Van den Broek. It is founded on adherence to democratic principles, human rights and the market economy, and is intended to replace the 1990 Agreement. It is non-preferential in nature and will regulate political, economic and trade relations between the European Union and Belarus. It contains a future developments clause which will make it possible to adjust the relevant titles of the Agreement, once Belarus has made more headway with its economic reforms, to produce a free trade Agreement.

The Agreement contains institutional provisions and establishes political dialogue at all levels in

the interests of strengthening Belarus's links with the European Union, bringing greater convergence of positions on international issues, increasing security and stability in Europe and promoting respect for democratic principles and human rights, particularly minority rights. It also includes provisions on trade in goods, on the conditions governing employment, establishment and the operation of companies, on cross-border trade in services, on payments and capital, on competition and on the protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property, and provides for wide-ranging economic, financial and cultural cooperation aimed at contributing to economic reform, restructuring and sustainable development in Belarus.

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Kazakhstan

1.4.71. Draft interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Communities and Kazakhstan.

Recommendation for a decision: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.41

Negotiating directives: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.41

Initialling: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.50

Proposal for a Council Decision (EC) regarding conclusion: COM(95) 29; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.98

Draft Commission Decision (Euratom, ECSC) regarding conclusion: COM(95) 29; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.98

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Kyrgyzstan

1.4.72. Draft interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Communities and Kyrgyzstan.

Reference: Draft partnership and cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and Kyrgyzstan: Bull. 5-1994, point 1.3.36

Commission recommendation: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.42

Negotiating directives: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.42

Proposal for a Council Decision (EC) and draft Commission Decision (Euratom, ECSC) regard-

ing conclusion of the Agreement adopted on 1 March. The Commission proposed that an interim Agreement be concluded to allow the partnership and cooperation Agreement's provisions on trade and trade-related matters to apply provisionally, up to the entry into force of the partnership and cooperation Agreement itself.

COM(95) 49

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Russia

1.4.73. Troika visit to Moscow on 9 March.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the human rights situation in Chechnya: point 1.2.5 of this Bulletin

The troika was led by Mr Alain Juppé, French Foreign Minister and President of the Council; he was accompanied by Mr Klaus Kinkel, German Foreign Minister and Mr Javier Solana, Spanish Foreign Minister. The Commission was represented by Mr Van den Broek. Discussions took place with Mr Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, Mr Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister, and others.

During the discussions, the troika expressed the Community's concern at the violence used by the Russian army in Chechnya and explained that the signing of the interim Agreement between the European Union and Russia would depend on progress in four areas: the establishment of a permanent OSCE presence in Chechnya, the provision of access for humanitarian assistance, implementation of a ceasefire, and efforts to find a political solution. Also discussed were Europe's security architecture, developments in the situations in Bosnia and the Middle East and the issue of nuclear non-proliferation.

1.4.74. Draft partnership and cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Russia, of the other part.

Recommendation for a Decision: Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Negotiating directives: Bull. 10-1992, point 1.4.19

Council Decisions amending negotiating directives: Bull. 4-1993, point 1.3.18; Bull. 11-1993, point 1.3.16

Council conclusions: Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.27

Proposal for a Council Decision regarding conclusion of the Agreement: COM(94) 257; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.30

Council Decision on the signing of the Agreement: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.30

Signing of the Agreement: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.30

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Ukraine

1.4.75. Draft partnership and cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part.

Commission recommendation: Bull. 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Negotiating directives: Bull. 10-1992, point 1.4.19

Proposal for a Council Decision amending negotiating directives: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.52

Council Decision amending negotiating directives: Bull. 3-1994, point 1.3.51

Initialling of the Agreement: Bull. 3-1994, point 1.3.51

Proposal for a Council Decision regarding conclusion of the Agreement: COM(94) 226; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.34

Decision regarding initialling of the Agreement: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.34

Signing of the Agreement: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.3.34

ECSC Consultative Committee consulted on 31 March.

Assistance for the independent States of the former Soviet Union and for Mongolia

Financial assistance

Belarus

1.4.76. Proposal for a Council Decision providing macro-financial assistance for Belarus.

Reference: Council Regulation (EC) No 2728/94 establishing a Guarantee Fund for external actions: OJ L 293, 12.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.5.8

Commission proposal: OJ C 82, 4.4.1995; COM (95) 36; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.101

Parliament opinion delivered on 17 March. Parliament gave its approval to the proposal subject to the condition that the Commission ensure that resources were supplied for the Guarantee Fund.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Council agreement given on 20 March. The Council agreed to the Commission's proposal to grant Belarus a balance-of-payments loan of up to ECU 75 million for up to 10 years.

Technical assistance

1.4.77. Second report on the implementation of the programme of technical assistance for the independent States of the former Soviet Union and for Mongolia (TACIS) (1993).

Basic Regulation: Council Regulation (Euratom, EEC) No 2053/93 on the provision of technical assistance to economic reform and recovery in the independent States of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia (TACIS programme); OJ L 187, 29.7.1993; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.3.15

Previous report: COM(93) 362; Bull. 7/8-1993, point 1.3.16

Adopted by the Commission on 23 March. The TACIS programme is a Community initiative aimed at encouraging, backing and facilitating progress towards democracy and the market economy in the independent States of the former Soviet Union and in Mongolia, chiefly by promoting the mobilization of practical and technical know-how through partnerships, relations and networks at all levels of society. In the report, the Commission explains the framework of the programme and takes stock of its implementation in 1993. Two major changes made at the beginning of 1993 to improve the quality and management of the programme had begun to produce results: firstly, a concerted effort was made to deal with projects which had fallen behind during the first 18 months of the programme; secondly, multiannual programming was introduced to speed up the launching and implementation of projects, and systematic monitoring and evaluation methods were introduced in the new independent States.

In accordance with the new Regulation adopted by the Council in July 1993, and in consultation with the authorities of the new independent

States, the Commission prepared indicative programmes for technical cooperation for the period 1993 to 1995. These were used as the basis of yearly action plans for Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The total absorbed by the TACIS programme in 1993 (including humanitarian aid) was ECU 510 million. During the year, 700 new contracts worth a total of ECU 345 million were awarded (compared with 385 contracts worth ECU 202 million in 1992). The Commission also decided to give preference to projects to help with enterprises, agriculture, the development of human resources, reform of the civil service and the strengthening of democratic structures, welfare, training, the development of networks for energy infrastructure, telecommunications and transport and nuclear safety, plus more general issues such as the environment, equal opportunities, information, regional programmes and humanitarian aid.

COM(95) 57

1.4.78. Financing for TACIS projects.

Commission financing decisions were adopted for the following projects (see Table 6).

Table 6 — *Contributions to the following projects*

Description	<i>(million ECU)</i>	
	Amount	
Multidisciplinary technical assistance programme	5	
Backing for TACIS coordination units	8	
Cooperation with the EBRD	20	

1.4.79. Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on the Community's financial contribution for 1995 to the International Association for the Promotion of Cooperation with Scientists from the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (INTAS) (→ point 1.3.67).

United States, Japan and other industrialized countries

Japan

1.4.80. Commission communication to the Council entitled 'Europe and Japan: the next steps'.

References:

Joint EEC-Japan declaration: Bull. 7/8-1991, point 1.3.33

Commission communication entitled 'Towards a new Asia strategy': COM(94) 314; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.55

Adopted by the Commission on 8 March. The Commission believes that a combination of domestic and international changes is giving the EU a chance to develop further what have hitherto been mainly economic relations with Japan.

It proposes maintaining the general thrust of economic relations, using all contacts with Japan to secure greater market access and the removal of trade barriers. It believes that the Japanese trade surplus should be tackled by increasing trade once market access barriers have been lifted, something that is already starting to happen following pressure by the EU, the US and other countries, and from within Japan itself. The Commission suggests boosting the spread and level of trade with Japan by: developing the trade assessment mechanism (TAM); stepping up dialogue on deregulation and competition; promoting industrial cooperation and service exports; exploring ways of improving the climate for European investment in Japan and relations between Japanese and European industry, and developing cooperation on the environment, research and development, trade in the Asia-Pacific region, the information society, education and culture.

Recognizing that Japan wishes to take on international political responsibilities that match its economic power, the Commission proposes that the EU should encourage it to build up its role in international affairs and develop a stronger political relationship with it. The 1991 declaration, which laid down the principle of integrated dialogue with Japan, established a structure which should be exploited fully by holding regular spe-

cial exchanges of information, identifying practical areas for political cooperation and developing joint efforts on specific projects in areas such as disarmament and non-proliferation, the prevention and settlement of conflict and the development of humanitarian aid. The Commission suggests that in the context of an agreement on the future restructuring of the UN the EU should support Japan's bid for a permanent seat on the Security Council.

COM(95) 73

Asia

Bilateral relations

Korea

1.4.81. Draft framework trade and cooperation Agreement with Korea.

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on 6 May on a recommendation from the Commission. The five-year, non-preferential Agreement, which is tacitly renewable, will establish a framework for the development of economic relations between the EC and Korea and will boost exchanges of information and investment to the benefit of both. Based on respect for human rights and democratic principles, it includes a number of areas of joint interest such as trade development and cooperation in the industrial, scientific, technical, cultural and environmental fields.

1.4.82. Visit to the Commission by Mr Kim Young Sam, President of Korea, on 14 March.

Reference: Council Decision 94/800/EC concerning the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations (1986-94): OJ L 336, 23.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.98

On his first visit to the Commission since 1986, Mr Kim Young Sam met the President, Jacques Santer and Sir Leon Brittan. They discussed their respective economic policies and the prospects for bilateral cooperation, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the multilateral trade system. Both sides welcomed the Council's adoption of negotiating directives for a framework Agreement on trade and cooperation and said they were committed to closer political, economic, technological and cultural relations.

Mr Kim Young Sam also met the Council Presidency on 2 March. After talks, a joint communiqué was adopted in which both sides expressed their commitment to closer relations and the importance they attached to democracy and respect for human rights, and reiterated their intention to put into practice commitments made within the World Trade Organization. They also said they wished to develop better mutual comprehension and to work towards agreement on international issues such as disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking, money laundering and other matters affecting peace and international stability.

India

1.4.83. Visit by Mr Marín on 27 March.

Reference: Cooperation Agreement on partnership and development between the EC and India: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.56

As part of his trip Mr Marín met Mr Shankar Dayal Sharma, the Indian President, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Foreign Minister, Mr Manmohah Singh, Finance Minister and Mr Chidambaram, Trade Minister. They discussed India's economic reforms and said that the EU and India shared the same democratic and human rights values. Also under discussion were economic and trade cooperation and the possibility of closer political dialogue.

Sri Lanka

1.4.84. Cooperation Agreement on partnership and development between the European Community and Sri Lanka.

Negotiating directives: Bull. 1/2-1993, point 1.3.37

Initialling of the Agreement: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.3.53

Proposal for a Council Decision on conclusion of the Agreement: OJ C 86, 23.3.1994; COM (94) 15; Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.74

Council Decision on the signature of the Agreement: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.57

Agreement signed: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.57

Parliament opinion: OJ C 18, 23.1.1995; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.74

Decision 95/129/EC on conclusion of the Agreement adopted by the Council on 27 March. The Agreement sets out to boost cooperation between the Community and Sri Lanka and is based on respect for democratic principles and human rights. The emphasis is on the development of all forms of economic cooperation, the diversification of trade and investment, encouragement for better mutual comprehension and closer technical, economic and cultural links. The Agreement also sets out to help speed up and sustain Sri Lanka's economic development through technical and financial assistance to improve the lot of the poorest in society, the development of existing and new forms of economic cooperation to encourage and facilitate trade and investment, environmental protection and the management of natural resources, and cooperation on the prevention of drug abuse.

OJ L 85, 19.4.1995

Aid for refugees and displaced persons

1.4.85. Commission decisions: see Table 7.

Table 7 — *Aid schemes for refugees and displaced persons*

<i>(ECU)</i>		
Country	Number of programmes	Total amount
Bangladesh	1	478 000
Sri Lanka	1	150 000

Latin America

Relations with regional bodies

Relations with the Rio Group

1.4.86. European Union and Rio Group Ministerial Conference.

References:

EEC-Rio Group Ministerial Conference: Bull. 12-1990, point 1.4.39

World Summit for Social Development: point 1.4.42 of this Bulletin

Previous meeting: Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.53

Fifth meeting held in Paris on 17 March. This Conference, part of the dialogue, institutionalized by the Rome Declaration of December 1990, was attended by the Foreign Ministers of the 12 permanent members of the Rio Group (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela), observers appointed to represent the regions of Central America and the Caribbean (Nicaragua and Trinidad and Tobago), Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Union and Mr Marín.

The ministers reaffirmed the importance they attach to full respect for universal human rights and fundamental freedoms and agreed to continue their joint efforts in this sphere, particularly measures to combat racism, xenophobia, terrorism and the drug problem. They reviewed the major topics of common concern and, following the discussions, a final declaration was adopted, concerning principally the following:

□ Social development: the ministers agreed that sustainable development policy had to be accompanied by social measures and respect for natural resources and the environment; they accordingly undertook to implement the declaration and action programme adopted at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen and agreed to examine together the definition of a joint interregional cooperation strategy to promote balanced and sustainable development;

□ Regional integration: the ministers welcomed the movement towards regional and subregional integration in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe and reaffirmed their conviction that regional integration was a preferred route for securing political understanding, social and economic development, enhanced competitiveness and integration into the world economy. In this context, they expressed their determination to intensify dialogue and cooperation between the European Union, the Rio Group, Central America, Mercosur and the Andean Pact;

□ Future relations between the European Union and the Rio Group: expressing satisfaction at the high level of cooperation between the two regions, the ministers confirmed that trade development and investment would continue to be the keystone of their relations and stressed their mutual attachment to a strengthening of the political dialogue and to efforts to draw the two regions closer together. To ensure more effec-

tive cooperation and implement a new and extended partnership, they expressed their interest in seeing future measures integrated into a medium and long-term strategy to be adopted jointly. The ministers also decided to intensify cooperation in the following areas: social reform, consolidation of civil society, support for the private sector, and culture, education, science and technology.

Bilateral relations

Chile

1.4.87. Visit to the Commission by Mr Eduardo Frei, President of Chile, on 8 March.

Reference: Framework cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Chile: Bull. 3-1991, point 1.3.31

Mr Frei and Mr José-Miguel Insulza, Minister for Foreign Affairs, met Mr Santer and Mr Marín. The two sides discussed political and economic relations between the European Union and Chile and the prospects for negotiating a new cooperation Agreement, as proposed by Mr Frei.

Colombia

1.4.88. Visit to the Commission by Mr Ernesto Samper, President of Colombia, on 13 March

Mr Samper, accompanied by Mr Rodrigo Pardo, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr Daniel Mazuera, Minister for Trade, met Mr Santer, Mr Marín, Sir Leon Brittan and Mr Van den Broek. The discussions centred on the progress of their bilateral relations, the situation of the Andean Pact of which Colombia currently occupies the Presidency, and anti-drug measures by the Colombian Government. In this connection, the Commission announced its intention of studying ways of setting up a multilateral regional cooperation framework to combat drugs.

Guatemala

1.4.89. Visit to the Commission by Mr Ramiro de León Carpio, President of Guatemala, on 1 March.

Mr de León Carpio, accompanied by Mrs Marithza Ruiz de Vielman, Minister for Foreign Affairs, met Mr Santer and Mr Marín. The discussions focused on relations between the European Union and Guatemala, the situation of the peace process in Guatemala, measures to alleviate poverty and EU support for the reconciliation process and economic progress in the country.

Mexico

1.4.90. Visit to the Commission by Mr José Angel Gurría, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on 13 March.

Reference: Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.19

Mr Gurría met Mr Santer, Mr Marín, Sir Leon Brittan, Mr Van den Broek and Mr de Silguy. Discussions centred on the Mexican Government's economic crisis programme, the law on dialogue and reconciliation in the State of Chiapas and the consolidation of relations between the European Union and Mexico, along the lines urged by the Essen European Council.

Cooperation with Latin America

1.4.91. 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. 1/2-1992, point 1.4.40

Commission financing decision to grant aid for the following projects (see Table 8).

Table 8 — *Cooperation with Latin America*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Purpose	Amount (grant)
Bolivia	Institutional support for the Ministry of Sustainable Development and the Environment	0.95
	Peasant self-reliance development programme	0.975
	Support for fisheries and aquaculture	0.932

Aid to refugees and displaced persons

1.4.92. Commission financing decisions to provide assistance for the following projects (see Table 9).

Table 9 — *Aid for refugees and displaced persons*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Number of programmes	Total
Mexican State of Chiapas	2	0.98
Peru	1	2.2

ACP countries, South Africa and OCTs

Relations with ACP countries

Mid-term review of the Lomé Convention

1.4.93. Parliament resolution on the renewal of the EDF.

References:

Draft negotiating directives for the partial mid-term review of the fourth Lomé Convention: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.80

Final Act of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations: COM(94) 143; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.61; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.98

Twenty-first meeting of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.4.111

Adopted by Parliament on 2 March. Parliament asked for account to be taken of the following in setting the level of the eighth European Development Fund (EDF): enlargement of the European Union, population increase in the ACP countries, rate of inflation, inclusion of new elements proposed by the ACP countries and the European Union under the mid-term review of

the fourth Lomé Convention, the ACP countries' economic difficulties following the implementation of the structural adjustment policies and the agreement reached at the Uruguay Round negotiations, and the debt burden. It also stressed the risk of development aid being renationalized, stated that it would take any measures within its power to ensure that the European Union's commitment to the ACP countries was upheld and noted that it would make its assent to the eighth EDF subject to the fixing of funding at levels which met the above criteria. It therefore requested the Member States which had announced their intention to reduce their financial contribution to the economic development policy to reconsider their position and took the view that the amount proposed by the Council Presidency should be regarded as the strict minimum for financing the eighth EDF. It asked the Presidency to ensure that an acceptable offer was made to the ACP countries in sufficient time for the negotiations to be concluded by 6 May. It also called for the EDF to be made an integral part of the European Union's budget.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Bilateral relations

Burundi

1.4.94. Council Decision 95/91/CFSP on the common position on Burundi drawn up by the Council on the basis of Article J.2 of the Treaty on European Union.

Reference: Presidency statement on behalf of the European Union concerning the Union's objectives and priorities regarding Burundi: point 1.4.6 of this Bulletin

Adopted by the Council on 24 March. The European Union stated that it was prepared to assist the Burundi Government in its efforts to secure national reconciliation and consolidate democracy, and to provide aid for restoring the rule of law and strengthening Burundi's judicial system and supporting the sending of human rights experts within the framework put in place by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The European Union also supported the rapid convening of a round table of donors.

OJ L 72, 1.4.1995

1.4.95. Visit to Burundi by the troika on 24 March. The European Union troika led by

Mr Bernard Debré, French Minister of Cooperation, held talks with Mr Antoine Nduwayo, Prime Minister, the President of the National Assembly, the army and police chiefs of staff, representatives of the government and opposition parties, the former President of Burundi, Mr Pierre Buyoya, and the personal representatives of the UN Secretary-General and the Secretary-General of the OAU. The troika urged moderation and conveyed the European Union's determination to strive for reconciliation and a return to democracy. It clearly put to all sides their responsibilities to the Burundi people and the international community for maintaining peace and security in the country.

1.4.96. Parliament resolution on the situation in Burundi.

Adopted by Parliament on 16 March. Parliament requested the Council to pursue its efforts more actively in order to encourage support for the democratic institutions of Burundi and national reconciliation and asked it to launch an action plan to isolate the extremists on both sides, whose behaviour it condemned, consolidate democratic institutions and enable the machinery of justice to function. It called on the Commission to accelerate the disbursement of funds for the programmes which provide for the repatriation and rehabilitation of displaced persons, it being understood that the political conditions for their repatriation must be met and their security guaranteed. Parliament reiterated its call for the Union's Member States represented in the United Nations Security Council to press for an international embargo on exports of arms and munitions to Burundi and Rwanda.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Relations with South Africa

1.4.97. Draft Agreement on trade and cooperation with the Republic of South Africa; draft protocol to the Lomé Convention covering the terms and conditions of South Africa's accession to this Convention.

References:

Fourth Lomé Convention: OJ L 229, 17.8.1991; Bull. 9-1991, point 1.3.38

Draft negotiating directives for the partial mid-term review of the fourth Lomé Convention: Bull. 1/2-1994, point 1.3.80

Commission communication and Council conclusions on proposals for measures to be presented to the new South African Government: COM(94) 123; Bull. 4-1994, point 1.3.38

Council Regulation (EC) No 2129/94 applying to South Africa certain benefits granted by the Community to developing countries under the scheme of generalized tariff preferences: OJ L 225, 31.8.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.112

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the implementation of the 'EC-international investment partners' (ECIP) financial instrument for Latin America, Asia, the Mediterranean region and South Africa: Bull. 10-1994, point 1.3.98

Decision No 94/822/EC concerning the conclusion of a cooperation Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of South Africa: OJ L 341, 30.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.3.69

The Commission adopted recommendations for decisions on 29 March. In view of the relative size of South Africa's economy and the need to avoid the negative effects for the ACP countries of South Africa's full accession to the Lomé Convention while creating the conditions for lasting socioeconomic development in South Africa, the Commission is adopting a two-track approach in its proposals on relations between the European Union and South Africa:

□ an additional protocol to the Lomé Convention concerning the conditions for the accession of South Africa to the Convention. It would be added, when necessary, to the revised version of the fourth Lomé Convention, on the basis of a decision of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers and would provide in particular for suspending South Africa's eligibility for certain articles of the Convention, in order to take into account certain sectors of South Africa's economy. A special article on South Africa's accession to the Convention referring to the future protocol should be inserted in the text of the revised version of Lomé IV resulting from the mid-term review;

□ a trade and cooperation Agreement between the European Community and South Africa, which could lead to a free trade area. This Agreement would govern all economic and trade relations between the Community and South Africa (where not addressed by the protocol on accession to the Lomé Convention). It would also cover financial and technical cooperation, economic cooperation and cooperation in a wide range of areas of mutual interest. It would contain a clause on respect for human rights and

democratic principles, which would be one of its essential features.

Financial and technical cooperation

1.4.98. Project financing.

Commission Decisions allocating a total of ECU 79 981 000 from the sixth and seventh EDFs for projects and programmes which it is running (see Table 10).

Table 10 — *Financing operations under the sixth and seventh EDFs*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country/region	Project	Amount (grant)
<i>Economic infrastructure</i>		
Caribbean	Airport	2
Malawi/ Mozambique	Roads and bridges	36.26
<i>Social development and culture</i>		
West Africa ¹	Education infrastructure	1.8
Djibouti	Water engineering	0.115
Burundi	Health	5.5
Gabon	Village water engineering	8.6
<i>Exceptional aid</i>		
Sierra Leone	Rehabilitation	1.233
Tanzania	AIDS	4
<i>Miscellaneous</i>		
Guinea-Bissau	General technical cooperation	0.473
Total		79.981

¹ Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon.

Diplomatic relations

1.4.99. The following ambassadors, whose appointments took effect on 6 March, presented their letters of credence to the President of the Council and the President of the Commission:

□ HE Mr Armen Sarkissian, Head of Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the European Communities;

□ HE Mr Jean Omer Beriziky, Representative of the Republic of Madagascar to the European Community and Head of Mission to the ECSC and Euratom;

□ HE Mr Christopher Daneshan Casie Chetty, Head of Mission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the European Communities.

5. Justice and home affairs cooperation

Asylum, external borders and immigration

1.5.1. Council resolution on minimum guarantees for asylum procedures.

Reference: Six-monthly meeting of ministers responsible for immigration: Bull. 12-1992, point 1.5.12

Agreed on 9 March. In its resolution the Council lays down principles for fair and effective asylum procedures in accordance with the 1951 Geneva Convention and the 1967 New York Protocol relating to the status of refugees. Within this framework, in order to ensure compliance with the principle of non-return ('non-refoulement'), expulsion measures may not be carried out until such time as a decision has been taken on the request for asylum. The resolution also contains provisions on the rights of asylum-seekers during examination, appeal and review procedures. In the case of manifestly unfounded requests for asylum, reference is made to the resolution adopted in December 1992 by the ministers responsible for immigration. On the issue of border asylum requests, the resolution provides for Member States to adopt administrative measures ensuring that any asylum-seeker arriving at their borders is afforded an opportunity to lodge an asylum request. Additional safeguards are laid down for unaccompanied minors and women. Member States are to strive to bring their national legislation into line with these principles by 1 January 1996.

1.5.2. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down a uniform format for visas (→ point 1.1.1).

Judicial, customs and police cooperation

1.5.3. Convention drawn up on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union on the simplified extradition procedure between the Member States of the European Union.

Reference: Council statement on extradition: Bull. 11-1993, point 1.5.9

Act drawing up the Convention adopted by the Council on 10 March.

OJ C 78, 30.3.1995

Convention signed on 10 March. This Convention, which is the first to be adopted under Title VI of the Union Treaty (Article K.3(2)(c)), follows up the statement on extradition adopted by the Council in November 1993 and reflects the concern of the Member States to improve judicial cooperation in the fight against crime, with regard both to proceedings and to the execution of sentences. The aim is to facilitate the application, between the Member States, of the European Convention on Extradition adopted by the Council of Europe in 1957.

This new Convention, which applies solely to cases in which persons whose extradition is requested consent and the requested State agrees, reduces the extradition procedure to a few weeks, or even a few days. The consent of the arrested person is given before the competent judicial authority of the requested State in accordance with its national law. The purpose of the procedure is to give the arrested or wanted person, who is informed of the request relating to him, sufficient legal guarantees. His consent must be given voluntarily and in full awareness of the consequences and, to that end, he has the right to legal counsel. The deadline for surrender is 20 days from the date on which the extradition decision was notified, following which, if the person is being held, he must be released on the territory of the requested State.

The Convention will enter into force 90 days after it has been ratified by all the Member States. However, it may be applied in advance between Member States which make a statement to that effect when depositing the instrument of ratification.

Discussions on other extradition procedures are continuing with a view to drawing up a separate convention.

OJ C 78, 30.3.1995

Europol

1.5.4. Council Joint Action 95/73/JHA concerning the Europol Drugs Unit adopted on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union.

References:

Ministerial Agreement establishing the Europol Drugs Unit (EDU): Bull. 6-1993, point 1.4.19

Recommendation concerning the establishment of the Europol Drugs Unit: Bull. 12-1993, point 1.5.5

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.26

Adopted on 10 March. This joint action replaces the ministerial Agreement establishing the Europol Drugs Unit adopted in Copenhagen on 2 June 1993; this provisional cooperation facility has been operating in The Hague since January 1994 pending the setting-up of Europol as provided for by the Treaty on European Union. As well as incorporating the three new Member States, which become full members of the unit, the joint action widens the unit's remit, adding three new areas to the original illicit drug-trafficking: illicit trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances; crimes involving clandestine immigration networks; and illicit vehicle trafficking; together with the criminal organizations involved and associated money-laundering activities.

OJ L 62, 20.3.1995

Protection of the Communities' financial interests

References:

Parliament resolution on combating international fraud: OJ C 20, 24.1.1994; Bull. 12-1993, point 1.5.4

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.29

Council resolution on the legal protection of the financial interests of the Communities: OJ C 355, 14.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.4.3

Parliament resolution on the proposal for a Regulation on the protection of the Communities' financial interests and the proposal for a Council of the European Union Act establishing the Convention for the protection of the Communities' financial interests: OJ C 18, 23.1.1995; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.5.16

1.5.5. Proposal for a Council Act establishing a Convention for the protection of the Communities' financial interests.

Commission proposal: OJ C 216, 6.8.1994; COM(94) 214; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.4.8

Opinion delivered by Parliament on 15 March. Consulted pursuant to Article K.6 of the Treaty on European Union, Parliament rejected the proposal for a Council Act and called on the Commission to draft a proposal for a Directive on the protection of the Communities' financial interests on the basis of Articles 100a and 209a of the EC Treaty.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.5.6. Proposal for a Council Decision on joint action regarding the protection of the financial interests of the European Communities, on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union (United Kingdom initiative).

Opinion delivered by Parliament on 15 March. Consulted pursuant to Article K.6 of the Treaty on European Union, Parliament rejected the proposal for a Council Decision and called on the Commission to draft a proposal for a Directive on the protection of the Communities' financial interests on the basis of Articles 100a and 209a of the EC Treaty.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.5.7. Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) on protection of the Communities' financial interests (→ point 1.6.10).

Prevention of drug abuse

1.5.8. Council opinion on the Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on a European Union action plan to combat drugs (1995-99) and strategy to combat drug trafficking.

References:

Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on a European Union action plan to combat drugs (1995-99): COM(94) 234; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.4.6

Council Regulation (EEC) No 302/93 on the establishment of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (OJ L 36, 12.2.1993; Bull. 1/2-1993, point 1.2.207), as last amended by Regulation No 3294/94: OJ L 341, 30.12.1994; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.2.235

Adopted on 9 March. Welcoming the Commission's efforts on this front and, in particular, its

desire to develop a global, coordinated anti-drugs strategy at Union level, the Council advocated a comprehensive European anti-drugs plan combining the Union's strategic thinking on all the anti-drugs issues and incorporating the Commission communication on a European Union action plan to combat drugs, the Community's various individual plans on the health policy aspects of anti-drugs measures and the strategy documents produced under Titles V and VI of the Union Treaty. The plan would cover prevention, treatment, law enforcement and the international aspects of anti-drugs cooperation and would be adopted by the European Council after the relevant Council bodies and national drugs coordinators had been consulted. The Council endorsed the Commission's approach and stressed the need for an efficient coordination and consultation mechanism involving the Commission, the Council, the Member States and possibly other bodies as well. It also supported the Commission's call for greater complementarity and coordination of action by police and customs services within the Union. Finally, it stressed once again the significance of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, which it sees as becoming *the* European Union forum for compilation, coordination and cooperation in the area of information on the world drug phenomenon.

On the drug-trafficking front the Council formulated a number of proposals for incorporation in the European action plan alongside the Commission's proposals in the interests of increased intergovernmental cooperation: developing operational police and customs cooperation; intensifying other forms of cooperation; evaluating existing measures before studying new proposals; defining compatible foundations for train-

ing; and improving follow-up and cooperation at international level.

Racism and xenophobia

1.5.9. Council report on the fight against racism and xenophobia.

References:

Conclusions of the Corfu European Council: Bull. 6-1994, points I.23 and I.29

Council interim report to the Essen European Council on progress made in the fight against racism and xenophobia: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.4.2

Conclusions of the Essen European Council: Bull. 12-1994, point I.33

Approved on 10 March. This report follows on from the interim report presented to the Essen European Council in December 1994. Following further discussions by the Council, this time by the foreign ministers, along with the final report of the Consultative Commission set up by the Corfu European Council in June 1994 and with the views expressed by the more specialized Council forums (notably the ministers responsible for education and youth), it will be incorporated into the global strategy to be defined at the European Council in Cannes in June.

The report surveys situations which could generate racism and xenophobia, such as lack of control of migratory flows, and analyses the potential contribution of police and customs cooperation towards combating them. It also contains a comparative study of Member States legislation, which reveals both discrepancies and lacunae. Finally, it puts forward proposals to improve international cooperation and develop national legislation, areas which were both highlighted by ministers in the course of their discussions.

6. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

General matters

1.6.1. Interinstitutional declaration by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the incorporation of financial provisions into legislative acts.

References:

Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 (OJ L 356, 31.12.1977), as last amended by Regulation (ECSC, EC, Euratom) No 2730/94: OJ L 293, 12.11.1994; Bull. 10-1994, point 1.5.10

Joint declaration by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the budgetary procedure: OJ C 194, 28.7.1982; Bull. 6-1982, point 2.3.1

Interinstitutional Agreement on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure: OJ C 231, 7.12.1993; Bull. 10-1993, point 1.5.1

Commission communication to the budgetary authority concerning legal bases and maximum amounts: Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.4.1

Council approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.5.3

Approved by Parliament on 1 March.

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Signed by the three institutions on 6 March.

‘The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission

Having regard to the joint declaration of 30 June 1982, which states: “in order that the full importance of the budgetary procedure may be preserved, the fixing of maximum amounts by regulation must be avoided, as must the entry in the budget of amounts in excess of what can actually be expended”,

Whereas, according to a statement annexed to the Interinstitutional Agreement of 29 October 1993, the budgetary procedure provisions should be reviewed “at the Intergovernmental Conference scheduled for 1996 in order to achieve interinstitutional cooperation on a partnership basis”,

hereby declare as follows:

1. Legislative acts concerning multiannual programmes adopted under the codecision procedure

These acts shall contain a provision in which the legislator shall establish the financial framework for the programme for its entire duration.

This amount shall constitute the principal point of reference for the budgetary authority during the annual budget procedure.

The budgetary authority, and the Commission when drawing up its preliminary draft budget, undertake not to depart from this amount unless new, objective, long-term circumstances arise for which an explicit and precise explanation is given.

2. Legislative acts concerning multiannual programmes not subject to the codecision procedure

These acts shall not contain an “amount deemed necessary”.

Should the Council wish to include a financial reference, this shall be taken as illustrative of the will of the legislative authority and shall not affect the powers of the budgetary authority as defined by the Treaty. This provision shall be mentioned in every act which includes such a financial reference.

If the amount concerned has been the subject of an agreement under the conciliation procedure provided for in the joint declaration of 4 March 1975, it shall be considered a reference amount within the meaning of paragraph 1 of this declaration.

3. The financial statement provided for in Article 3 of the Financial Regulation shall reflect in financial terms the objectives of the proposed programme and include a schedule covering the whole period of the programme. It shall be revised, where necessary, when the preliminary draft budget is drawn up, taking account of the extent of implementation of the programme. The revised statement shall be forwarded to the budgetary authority together with the preliminary draft budget.’

Discharge procedure

1993 financial year

1.6.2. Council recommendation concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities for 1993.

Adopted on 20 March.

1.6.3. Council recommendations concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (fifth, sixth and seventh EDF) for the financial year 1993.

Adopted on 20 March.

OJ L 80, 8.4.1995

Budgetary procedures

1994 financial year

1.6.4. Parliament resolution on the closure of its accounts for the 1994 financial year (administrative expenditure).

Adopted on 17 March.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1995 financial year

1.6.5. Draft supplementary and amending budget No 1 for the 1995 financial year.

Reference: Budget 1995: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.5.3

Commission preliminary draft: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.5.4

Given first reading by the Council on 14 March. The Council essentially followed the Commission's proposals but made a number of cuts in administrative expenditure and redeployed some of the amounts for research and other internal policies. It also restored the non-differentiated classification of appropriations in some EAGGF Guarantee headings which Parliament had classified as differentiated when it adopted the budget in December 1994.

Financial Regulation

1.6.6. Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC, ECSC, Euratom) amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.

Commission proposal: OJ C 237, 25.8.1994; COM(94) 338; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.4.6

Court of Auditors opinion: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.25

Endorsed by Parliament on 17 March, subject to a number of technical amendments and changes in wording.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Financial operations

ECSC

1.6.7. In March the Commission did not grant any loans under Articles 54, 56 or 95 ECSC or contract any placings on behalf of the ECSC.

Measures to combat fraud

1.6.8. The Commission's sixth annual report on protecting the Community's financial interests and on the fight against fraud (1994).

Reference: Commission communication on the anti-fraud strategy and the work programme for 1994: COM(94) 92; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.5.22

Previous report: COM(94) 94; Bull. 3-1994, point 1.5.23

Adopted on 29 March. In this report the Commission reviews the measures taken to combat fraud in 1994, draws attention to how Community action has been stepped up and emphasizes the substantial progress achieved in the detection of fraud. At the same time it points out that fraud detection has no dissuasive effect unless it is followed by effective penalties and advocates the introduction of legislation to promote sound financial management, including a range of penalties severe enough to act as deterrents. It also stresses that Member States must take the same measures to combat fraud detrimental to the Community's financial interests as they would to combat fraud affecting their own interests.

The Commission has kept to the main lines of the strategy formulated in March 1994: reinforcing the presence on the ground; concentrat-

ing on high-risk sectors; strengthening its partnership with the Member States; improving the legislative framework; and securing greater compatibility between national legislation. The report highlights the main developments in 1994: the introduction of new sources of information ('freephone'); recording Commission-initiated investigations in a specific database ('Pre-IRENE') and increasing the number of such investigations; placing a greater onus on the Member States to notify irregularities; and strengthening the partnership with the Member States by establishing a coordination structure. The Commission notes that the number of irregularities detected, whether by the Member States or by the Commission itself, and the amounts involved have increased considerably, both in the field of own resources (by extrapolation from the figures for the first six months: 2 545 cases involving some ECU 508 million in 1994; 1 254 cases involving ECU 181 million in 1993) and in the field of EAGGF Guarantee expenditure (1 623 cases involving ECU 484 million in 1994; 1 284 cases involving ECU 302 million in 1993). The main cases involving own resources relate to fraudulent imports under the transit arrangements (→ point 1.6.9), while those in the agricultural sector involve export refunds on cereals and beef, the storage of cereals and aid for the consumption of olive oil. The total amount involved in the cases detected (including budgetary expenditure other than EAGGF Guarantee, such as the Structural Funds) is ECU 1 032.7 million, or approximately 1.2% of the Community budget.

COM(95) 98

1.6.9. Commission communication on fraud in the transit procedure, solutions foreseen and perspectives for the future.

Adopted on 29 March. This communication provides Parliament and the Council with information on fraud in the transit procedure and the measures taken or planned to combat it.

The Community transit procedure enables goods imported from or exported to non-member countries to move within the Community, subject to customs supervision and the lodging of a security, and suspends the customs duties, other charges and non-fiscal measures which would otherwise apply.

The Commission notes that the system is now being fraudulently manipulated by criminal net-

works, thereby causing a considerable loss of revenue both to the Member States and to the Community. In 1994 various measures were taken to counteract these criminal activities:

- revising the methods for checking sensitive products;
- raising the level of the security required;
- increasing the actions coordinated by the Commission to deal with fraud cases;
- introducing an early warning system for the exchange of information between the office of departure and the office of destination.

The Commission stresses the need, in the short term, to make further improvements to the rules in force, particularly in the case of products which present a high risk of fraud, and to step up administrative and operational cooperation between the Member States, the Commission and neighbouring countries on the prevention and detection of fraud, but takes the view that, in the long term, computerization of the transit system is the only lasting solution to the problem of fraud in this area, given the number of transit declarations (18 million per year). Computerization began in late 1994, following a feasibility study, and should be completed by 1998.

COM(95) 108

1.6.10. Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) on protection of the Communities' financial interests.

Commission proposal: OJ C 216, 6.8.1994; COM(94) 214; Bull. 6-1994, point 1.5.11

Endorsed by Parliament on 15 March, subject to amendments specifying the nature of the inspections and tightening the rules on the powers of agents and experts duly authorized by the Commission to carry out on-the-spot inspections.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.6.11. Proposal for a Council Act establishing a Convention for the protection of the Communities' financial interests (→ point 1.5.5).

1.6.12. Proposal for a Council Decision on joint action regarding the protection of the financial interests of the European Communities (→ point 1.5.6).

7. Statistical system

Policy aspects

1.7.1. Draft Council Regulation (EURATOM, EC) concerning structural business statistics.

Adopted by the Commission on 31 March. The Regulation aims to provide a common framework for the collection, transmission and development of statistics on business structures, and in particular requires the Member States to provide Eurostat with comparable statistics on the structure, activities, competitiveness and performances of their businesses.

COM(95) 99

1.7.2. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Community.

Commission proposal: COM(94) 593; Bull. 12-1994, point 1.6.1

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 29 March.

Results

European Union trade in tourism from 1983 to 1992

General trend

1.7.3. The European Union leads the world as a tourist destination. According to World Tourism Organization estimates, in 1992 France, Italy and Spain alone attracted one in every four tourists, with almost 26% of the world market. The European Union also accounted for two out of every three tourist arrivals in Europe, giving it a 66% market share in Europe.

According to a study carried out by the European Parliament, tourism is the largest economic sector in the European Union, accounting for 5.5% of GNP, 8% of household expenditure, 4.5% of all foreign exchange receipts, 4% of all

outgoing foreign-exchange payments, and 6% of employment (7.5 million persons in employment).

Tourism thus plays an important role in the European Union's international trade. The structural surpluses achieved throughout the period under consideration make a positive contribution to the balance of payments or current account. These surpluses have, however, declined considerably in recent years and intra-EU tourism has increased more rapidly than trade with non-member countries.

Intra-EU trade in tourism

1.7.4. Income from intra-EU tourism rose steadily throughout the period. It more than doubled between 1983 and 1992, rising from ECU 23 billion to ECU 51 billion. The most marked rise was in 1990 (+15%). Intra-EU tourism has, however, kept a relatively stable share of total current intra-EU trade in services (30% in 1983, 34% in 1988 and 32% in 1993). Approximately one third of intra-EU trade in services is in tourism (see Table 11).

Tourist trade with non-EU countries

1.7.5. The European Union has a structural surplus in its tourist trade with non-member countries, but it is shrinking. Income from non-EU countries rose from ECU 23 billion to ECU 41 billion between 1983 and 1992, while expenditure by European Union tourists in non-member countries during the same period rose from ECU 16 billion to ECU 40 billion. The year-on-year trend is shown in Table 12. The following features stand out:

- a fall in income in 1986, due to the fall in value of the dollar against the ecu between 1985 and 1986;
- a marked increase in income in 1989, largely due to good figures for France, probably linked to the bicentenary of the French Revolution;
- a fall in income in 1991, linked to the Gulf War;

□ a healthy increase in income (+ 16%) and an even greater rise in tourist expenditure (+ 25%) for the European Union in 1992.

Main partners

1.7.6. On average, the European Union receives more than 80% of its tourist income from the industrialized countries, particularly the United States and the EFTA countries. The latter increased their share during the period under consideration, and tourist income from these countries outstripped those from the United States from 1987 on. Tourist expenditure by the European Union in non-member countries was also largely concentrated in the industrialized countries, the EFTA countries being the main beneficiaries for the whole of the period, followed by the United States.

The European Union had a surplus with the United States from 1983 to 1991 but recorded a deficit in 1992. Expenditure by European tourists in the United States rose every year from 1983 to 1992, while expenditure by American

tourists in Europe appears to be very susceptible to trends in the exchange rate between the ecu and the dollar, other than in 1991 and 1992, when developments were influenced by the Gulf crisis. From 1985 to 1993, the cover ratios for income over expenditure *vis-à-vis* the United States fell from 276% to 93%. Trade with Japan is at a relatively low level by comparison with that with the United States or the EFTA countries, but the trend is much more dynamic. Both income and expenditure more than quadrupled between 1983 and 1992, while the cover rates for income over expenditure remained over 300%. Japanese tourism is thus making an ever-greater contribution to the European Union's tourism surplus.

Expenditure by European Union tourists in developing countries rose considerably, almost tripling between 1983 and 1992, while income from tourism from these countries was virtually stagnant during the same period. The European Union balance moved into the red in 1987, and the deficit has been steadily increasing ever since, particularly with the ACP countries.

Table 11 — *Intra-Community trade*

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
All services (million ECU)	77022	85937	93595	95957	101683	105352	121383	138387	148567	159210
Of which tourism (million ECU)	23398	26410	28200	30050	33490	36240	38897	44668	48005	50891
% of all services	30	30	30	31	33	34	32	32	32	32

Table 12 — *Trade with non-member countries*

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
<i>(million ECU)</i>										
All services:										
Credit	97012	109440	120318	108590	108845	118491	135721	146496	149402	157705
Debit	80851	90769	96476	89511	94310	104420	121854	135622	139961	151935
Of which tourism:										
Income	22576	26613	30571	28063	28374	30077	34177	36516	35239	40919
Expenditure	16334	17804	19315	20862	23252	25902	28653	32707	32168	40182
Balance	6242	8809	11256	7201	5122	4175	5524	3809	3071	737

8. Community law

Monitoring the application of Community law

Infringement proceedings

Reasoned opinions

Failure to notify measures incorporating directives into national law

1.8.1. In March, the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 91/156/EEC (OJ L 78, 26.3.1991)
Waste
United Kingdom

Directive 92/37/EEC (OJ L 154, 5.6.1992)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances
United Kingdom

Directive 90/641/EEC (OJ L 349, 13.12.1990)
Protection of workers exposed to the risk of ionizing radiation
Spain

Directive 91/326/EEC (OJ L 180, 8.7.1991)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances
Italy

Non-conformity of measures incorporating directives into national law

1.8.2. In March, the Commission delivered a reasoned opinion in the following case:

Competition

Directive 90/388/EEC (OJ L 192, 24.7.1990)
Competition in the markets for telecommunications services
Germany

Infringements of Treaties or regulations; incorrect application of directives

1.8.3. In March, the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directives 75/439/EEC (OJ L 194, 25.7.1975) and 87/101/EEC (OJ L 42, 12.2.1987)
Waste oils — regeneration
Germany

Internal market and financial services

Directive 89/665/EEC (OJ L 395, 30.12.1989)
Public works contracts — national review procedures
Greece

Cases referred to the Court of Justice

Failure to notify measures incorporating directives into national law

1.8.4. In March, the Commission referred the following cases to the Court of Justice:

Employment, industrial relations and social affairs

Directive 89/391/EEC (OJ L 183, 29.6.1989)
Improvements in the safety and health of workers at work
Spain

Directive 89/654/EEC (OJ L 393, 30.12.1989)
Minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace
Spain

Directive 89/655/EEC (OJ L 393, 30.12.1989)
Use of work equipment by workers at work
Spain

Directive 89/656/EEC (OJ L 393, 30.12.1989)
Use by workers of personal protection equipment
Spain

Directive 90/269/EEC (OJ L 156, 21.6.1990)
Minimum safety and health requirements for the
manual handling of loads
Spain

Directive 90/270/EEC (OJ L 156, 21.6.1990)
Minimum safety and health requirements for work
with display screen equipment
Spain

Directive 90/394/EEC (OJ L 196, 26.7.1990)
Protection of workers from the risks related to expo-
sure to carcinogens at work
Spain

Agriculture

Directive 91/67/EEC (OJ L 46, 19.2.1991)
Animal health conditions governing the placing on the
market of aquaculture animals and products
Germany

Directive 91/495/EEC (OJ L 268, 24.9.1991)
Public health and animal health problems affecting the
production and placing on the market of rabbit meat
and farmed game meat
Germany

Directive 91/497/EEC (OJ L 268, 24.9.1991)
Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in
fresh meat
Germany

Directive 92/5/EEC (OJ L 57, 2.3.1992)
Health problems affecting intra-Community trade in
meat products
Germany

Directive 92/40/EEC (OJ L 167, 22.6.1992)
Community measures for the control of avian influ-
enza
Germany

Internal market and financial services

Directive 91/308/EEC (OJ L 166, 28.6.1991)
Prevention of the use of the financial system for the
purpose of money laundering
Greece

Directive 92/30/EEC (OJ L 110, 28.4.1992)
Use of credit institutions on a consolidated basis
Greece

Directive 90/232/EEC (OJ L 129, 19.5.1990)
Insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of
motor vehicles
Spain

Cases closed

Infringements of Treaties or regulations; incorrect application of directives

I.8.5. In March, the Commission decided not
to pursue infringement proceedings in the fol-
lowing case:

Internal market and financial services

Directive 93/37/EEC (OJ L 199, 9.8.1993)
Public works contracts — Athens Airport
Greece

Decisions by the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance

I.8.6. Decisions given by the Community law-
courts are covered in the Bulletin for the month
in which they are reported in the Official Jour-
nal. The operative part of the main decisions is
reproduced; other decisions are simply listed by
field and legal basis. Decisions in disputes be-
tween the Community and its staff are not
reported.

Court of Justice

Main decisions

Free movement of persons, companies and services

Article 177 of the EC Treaty

I.8.7. 9.2.1995: Case C-412/93 *Edouard
Leclerc-Siplec v TFI Publicité and M6 Publi-
cité.*

On a proper construction Articles 30, 85, 86, 5 and 3(f) of the EC Treaty and Council Directive 89/552/EEC of 3 October 1989 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities do not preclude Member States from prohibiting, by statute or by regulation, the broadcasting of advertisements for the distribution sector by television broadcasters established on their territory.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Taxation

Article 177 of the EC Treaty

1.8.8. 14.2.1995: Case C-279/93 *Finanzamt Köln-Altstadt v Schumacker*.

(1) Article 48 of the EEC Treaty must be interpreted as being capable of limiting the right of a Member State to lay down conditions concerning the liability to taxation of a national of another Member State and the manner in which tax is to be levied on the income received by him within its territory since that article does not allow a Member State, as regards the collection of direct taxes, to treat a national of another Member State employed in the territory of the first State in the exercise of his right of freedom of movement less favourably than one of its own nationals in the same situation.

(2) Article 48 of the Treaty must be interpreted as precluding the application of rules of a Member State under which a worker who is a national of, and resides in, another Member State and is employed in the first State is taxed more heavily than a worker who resides in the first State and performs the same task there when, as in the main action, the national of the second State obtains his income entirely or almost exclusively from the work performed in the first State and does not receive in the second State sufficient income to be subject to taxation there in a manner enabling his personal and family circumstances to be taken into account.

(3) Article 48 of the Treaty must be interpreted as precluding a provision in the legislation of a Member State on direct taxation under which the benefit of procedures such as annual adjustment of deductions at source in respect of wages tax and the assessment by the administration of the tax payable on remuneration from employment is available only to residents, thereby excluding natural persons who have no permanent residence or usual abode on its territory but receive income there from employment.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Other decisions

Free movement of goods

Article 177 of the EC Treaty

1.8.9. 24.11.1994: Case C-483/93 *Openbaar Ministerie v Lowette*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

Agriculture

Article 177 of the EC Treaty

1.8.10. 19.1.1995: Joined Cases C-351/93, C-352/93 and C-353/93 *Fitmay Limited, Van der Linde v Minister van Landbouw, Natuurbeheer en Visserij and Tracotex Holland v Minister van Landbouw, Natuurbeheer en Visserij*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

Social policy and free movement of workers

Article 177 of the EC Treaty

1.8.11. 16.2.1995: Case C-425/93 *Calle Grenzshop Andresen v Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse für den Kreis Schleswig-Flensburg*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Competition

Article 49 of the Statute of the Court of Justice of the European Communities

1.8.12. 17.1.1995: Case C-360/92P *Publishers Association v Commission*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

Administration

Article 1 of the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities

1.8.13. 10.1.1995: Case C-1/94 S-A *Dupret v Commission*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

Infringements

Article 169 of the EC Treaty

1.8.14. 16.12.1994: Case C-184/94 *Commission v Portugal*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

1.8.15. 16.12.1994: Case C-186/94 *Commission v Portugal*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

1.8.16. 19.12.1994: Case C-185/94 *Commission v Portugal*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

1.8.17. 19.12.1994: Case C-187/94 *Commission v Portugal*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

1.8.18. 12.1.1995: Case C-148/94 *Commission v Ireland*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.19. 17.1.1995: Case C-93/94 *Commission v Netherlands*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

1.8.20. 19.1.1995: Case C-66/94 *Commission v Belgium*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

1.8.21. 24.1.1995: Case C-359/93 *Commission v Netherlands*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

Court of First Instance

Other decisions

Agriculture

Articles 173 and 178/215 of the EC Treaty

1.8.22. 14.2.1995: Case T-520/93 *Pacific Fruit Company Italy v Council*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Articles 178 and 215 of the EC Treaty

1.8.23. 20.1.1995: Case T-124/93 *Werner v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Free movement of persons, companies and services

Article 173 of the EC Treaty

1.8.24. 11.1.1995: Case T-116/94 *Cassa nazionale di previdenza ed assistenza a favore degli avvocati e procuratori v Council*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

Articles 173, 175 and 178/215 of the EC Treaty

1.8.25. 29.11.1994: Joined Cases T-479/93 and T-559/93 *Bernardi v Commission*.

OJ C 395, 31.12.1994

Competition

Article 173 of the EC Treaty

1.8.26. 12.1.1995: Case T-102/92 *Viho Europe v Commission*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

1.8.27. 23.1.1995: Case T-84/94 *Bundesverband der Bilanzbuchhalter v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.28. 24.1.1995: Case T-74/92 *Ladbroke Racing (Deutschland) v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.29. 24.1.1995: Case T-114/92 *BEMIM v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.30. 24.1.1995: Case T-5/93 *Tremblay, Lucazeau and Kestenberg v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

European Social Fund

Article 173 of the EC Treaty

1.8.31. 12.1.1995: Case T-85/94 *Eugénio Branco v Commission*.

OJ C 54, 4.3.1995

External relations

Article 173 of the EC Treaty

1.8.32. 6.2.1995: Case T-249/94 *Hema v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.33. 6.2.1995: Case T-251/94 *M & S Mode Nederland v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

Articles 178 and 215 of the EC Treaty

1.8.34. 6.2.1995: Case T-248/94 *Hema v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

1.8.35. 6.2.1995 — Case T-250/94 — *M & S Mode Nederland v Commission*.

OJ C 74, 25.3.1995

9. Institutional affairs

Interinstitutional relations

1.9.1. Code of conduct governing relations between Parliament and the Commission.

Reference: 1990 code of conduct governing relations between Parliament and the Commission: Bull. 4-1990, point 1.6.1

Parliament resolution approving the code of conduct agreed by the Commission and Parliament at the Conference of Presidents on 13 and 14 March with a view to intensifying interinstitutional cooperation on the basis of mutual trust and adapting the 1990 code of conduct to the new institutional context adopted on 14 March. The objectives of the new code of conduct are to strengthen the democratic legitimacy of the Union's decision-making process and to improve the exercise of powers by Parliament and the Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, notably those relating to the interinstitutional balance and the independence of the Commission.

The areas covered by the undertakings given by the two institutions include the supply of information to Parliament by the Commission, the choice of legal basis for proposals, the legislative process (including due consideration of the amendments adopted by Parliament at second reading under the cooperation and codecision

procedures and rejection by Parliament of Commission legislative proposals), monitoring of the implementation of Community law, the Commission's implementing powers, legislative programming and interinstitutional coordination. The code of conduct will be reviewed regularly when the annual legislative programme is drawn up.

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

1.9.2. Parliament, Council and Commission Decision on the detailed provisions governing the exercise of Parliament's right of inquiry.

Reference: Interinstitutional conference: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.1

Parliament approval: OJ C 43, 20.2.1995; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.8.3

Council approval: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.8.3

Adopted on 6 March.

OJ L 78, 6.4.1995

1.9.3. Interinstitutional declaration by Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the incorporation of financial provisions into legislative acts (→ point 1.6.1).

1.9.4. Parliament resolution on the Commission's work programme and legislative programme for 1995 (→ point 1.10.15).

10. Community institutions

Parliament

Parliament's right of inquiry

1.10.1. Parliament, Council and Commission Decision on the detailed provisions governing the exercise of Parliament's right of inquiry (→ point 1.9.2).

Brussels, 28 February to 2 March

1.10.2. The highlights of this part-session were the address to the House by Mr Santer, President of the Commission, on relations with Central and Eastern Europe, and the rejection of the joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee for a Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions.

In speaking of the Union's relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Mr Santer first stressed the vital importance of handing on to these countries the legacy of integration and solidarity that has come down to us because of the vision of the founding fathers of the Community. The basic decision had been taken to extend the Union to the six countries with which 'Europe agreements' had been concluded, the Baltic countries and eventually Slovenia. However, before there was any further enlargement there would have to be a number of constitutional and institutional changes: the former to improve the distribution of tasks between the Union, the Member States and the regions and to ensure that citizens become more closely involved in Union activities, the latter to adjust the composition and operation of the organs of the enlarged Union so as to make it more effective and more democratic. There were difficulties to be overcome if enlargement was to benefit the present Union as much as the incoming countries, especially as regards the internal market, political stability and security. Mr Santer as-

sured members that the Union would not neglect its relations with the countries of the Mediterranean, Asia, Latin America and the former Soviet Union and that the transatlantic dialogue would be pursued.

Parliament approved an interinstitutional declaration on the incorporation of financial provisions into legislative acts (→ point 1.6.1).

Under the cooperation procedure, Parliament gave its opinion at first reading on a proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmasters' certificates (→ point 1.3.99).

Under the co-decision procedure, Parliament gave its opinion at first reading on a proposal for a Decision adopting an action plan 1995-99 to combat cancer (→ point 1.3.153). At third reading, Parliament approved joint texts from the Conciliation Committee for Decisions relating to the third phase of the Youth for Europe programme and the Socrates programme (→ points 1.3.69 and 1.3.71). It rejected the joint text from the Conciliation Committee for a Directive on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions (→ point 1.3.17).

Resolutions were adopted on the renewal of the EDF (→ point 1.4.93), a strategy for climatic protection in the European Union (→ point 1.3.111) and the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen (→ point 1.4.41).

Report of proceedings:

OJ Annex 4-454

Full text of opinions and resolutions:

OJ C 68, 20.3.1995

Strasbourg, 13 to 17 March

1.10.3. The main items on the agenda of this part-session were the vote on the Commission's annual work programme, and the adoption of the new code of conduct governing relations between Parliament and the Commission.

Continuing its examination of the work programme begun in February, Parliament for the most part welcomed the Commission proposals for 1995, though some members regretted that more attention had not been given to priority areas such as social policy and protection of the environment. Mr Santer, President of the Commission, said that the reduction of unemployment was the first and the ultimate objective and all other Community policies should be directed towards achieving this end. He welcomed the agreement on the code of conduct. At the close of the debate Parliament adopted resolutions on the Commission's work programme (→ point 1.10.15) and the code of conduct (→ point 1.9.1).

In the matter of external relations, Mrs Bonino, Member of the Commission, made a statement on the dispute between Canada and the European Union following the illegal arrest of a Spanish fishing vessel. A debate then followed, after which Parliament passed a resolution (→ point 1.3.139). Resolutions were also adopted on the situation in Burundi (→ point 1.4.96), Western Sahara (→ point 1.4.67), Croatia (→ point 1.4.62) and the Mochovce nuclear power plant (→ point 1.3.114). An opinion was delivered on the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (→ point 1.3.107).

On the human rights front, Parliament adopted seven resolutions on the situation in Chechnya, Iraq, Equatorial Guinea and Algeria, the reintroduction of the death penalty in the state of New York and the rape of women in Rwanda (→ points 1.2.3 to 1.2.8) and acts of racist violence in France and Italy (→ point 1.2.2).

Under the consultation procedure, Parliament gave its opinion on three proposals regarding the protection of the financial interests of the Communities (→ points 1.5.5, 1.5.6 and 1.6.10), proposals on the Financial Regulation (→ points 1.3.125 and 1.6.6), proposals for Regulations on the financing of the common agricultural policy (→ point 1.3.125), a proposal for a Regulation on the common organization of the market in raw tobacco (→ point 1.3.123), proposals for Regulations on fishing off the Comoros (→ point 1.3.133) and Cape Verde (→ point 1.3.132), a proposal for a Decision providing macrofinancial assistance to Belarus (→ point 1.4.76), a proposal for a Regulation on the com-

mon organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (→ point 1.3.124), a proposal for a Decision concluding an agreement with the United States regarding the application of competition laws (→ point 1.3.58), a proposal for a Decision on a multiannual programme of work for cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations in the Community (→ point 1.3.64) and a proposal for a Regulation on the grant of financial assistance to Portugal for the textile and clothing industry (→ point 1.3.85).

Under the cooperation procedure, Parliament adopted decisions at second reading on the common positions of the Council on proposals for Directives relating to procedures for checks on the transport of dangerous goods by road (→ point 1.3.97), licensing of railway undertakings (→ point 1.3.95) and the allocation of railway infrastructure capacity (→ point 1.3.96).

Parliament also delivered opinions at first reading under the codecision procedure on two proposals for Decisions, one adopting an action programme in the field of public health (→ point 1.3.152) and the other establishing 1996 as the European Year of Lifelong Learning (→ point 1.3.68), and on the amended proposal for a Directive on the mutual recognition of licences for telecommunications services (→ point 1.3.104).

Resolutions were adopted on the nuclear cooperation agreement between Euratom and the United States (→ point 1.3.91), equal treatment and equal opportunities for men and women (→ point 1.3.147), the Twenty-third Competition Report from the Commission (→ point 1.3.20), combating the 'hormone mafia' (→ point 1.3.11), the drought in southern Europe (→ point 1.3.151), the keeping of animals in zoos (→ point 1.3.108) and the closure of Parliament's accounts for 1994 (→ point 1.6.4). A decision was taken on the composition of Parliament's delegation to the EEA Joint Parliamentary Committee, and a resolution was passed calling for Parliament to be informed and consulted on the economic policy provisions of the EC Treaty (→ point 1.3.6).

Record of proceedings:

OJ Annex 4-455

Full text of opinions and resolutions:

OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Council

1830th meeting

1.10.4. General affairs (Brussels, 6 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.9.10

President: Mr Juppé, French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Commission: Mr Santer, Sir Leon Brittan, Mr Marín, Mrs Bonino, Mr Pinheiro and Mr Van den Broek.

Main items

- Arrangements applicable to imports from certain third countries: Regulation adopted (→ point 1.4.36).
- Agreement with Belarus: Decision to sign adopted (→ point 1.4.70).
- Relations with Croatia: negotiating directives adopted (→ point 1.4.61).
- Relations with Slovenia: negotiating directives adopted (→ point 1.4.64).
- Fishing in the NAFO area: statement adopted (→ point 1.3.138).

Other business

- Fight against racism and xenophobia: progress report.
- Transparency and openness: Danish note presented.
- Negotiations with Israel, Morocco and Tunisia: progress report.
- Preparations for the Euro-Mediterranean Conference: progress report.
- Middle East peace process: examined.
- Relations with Turkey: position for the meeting of the Association Council prepared.
- Relations with Malta: examined.
- Relations with Lebanon: position for the meeting of the Association Council prepared.
- Mid-term review of the fourth Lomé Convention and the eighth EDF: examined.
- Community rum and rum from the ACP States and the OCTs: Commission proposals agreed.

- Direct investment flows: Commission communication presented.
- Stability pact: exchange of views.
- Preparations for the Conference on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: exchange of views.
- Relations with Russia: exchange of views.
- Situation in the former Yugoslavia: exchange of views.
- Relations with Ukraine: examined.
- Situation in Burundi: examined.
- National minorities and cultural aspects: statement presented.
- Selection of a new Director-General to succeed Mr Sutherland at the World Trade Organization: statement adopted.

1831st meeting

1.10.5. Justice and home affairs (Brussels, 9 and 10 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.7.14

President: Mr Pasqua, French Minister for the Interior, and Mr Mehaignerie, French Keeper of the Seals and Minister for Justice.

Commission: Mrs Gradin.

Main items

- Minimum guarantees for asylum procedures: resolution agreed (→ point 1.5.1).
- Convention on simplified extradition procedure between the Member States of the European Union: Act drawing up the Convention adopted (→ point 1.5.3).
- Racism and xenophobia: report adopted (→ point 1.5.9).
- Uniform format for visas: Regulation agreed (→ point 1.1.1).

Other business

- Combating terrorism: exchange of views.
- Europol Convention: proceedings continued.
- Burden-sharing with regard to displaced persons: exchange of views.
- Relations with non-member countries: discussed.

- Extension of the Brussels Convention to family law: general discussion.
- Judicial protection of the Communities' financial interests: discussed.
- Draft Convention on the customs information system (CIS): discussed.
- Transmission of legal acts: discussed.
- Disqualification from driving: progress report.

1832nd meeting

1.10.6. Environment (Brussels, 9 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.10

President: Mr Barnier, French Minister for the Environment.

Commission: Mrs Bjerregaard.

Main items

- Climate change: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.3.112).
- Euro-Mediterranean cooperation on the environment: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.3.106).

Other business

- Integrated pollution prevention and control: examined.
- Ambient air quality: general discussion.
- Fight against acidification: examined.
- Conservation of wild birds: progress report.
- Ecological quality of water: general discussion.
- 'Seveso II' Directive: general discussion.
- Commission for Sustainable Development: Community position for meeting prepared.
- Submission of a Community proposal for the amendment of the Basle Convention: agreed.

1833rd meeting

1.10.7. Research (Brussels, 10 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.3

President: Mr Fillon, French Minister for Higher Education and Research.

Commission: Mrs Cresson.

Main item

- International agreement in the field of intelligent manufacturing systems (IMS): negotiating directives adopted (→ point 1.3.66).

Other business

- Commission communication entitled *Research and technological development — achieving coordination through cooperation*: general discussion.
- Role of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST): exchange of views.
- International association for the promotion of cooperation with scientists from the new independent States of the former Soviet Union (INTAS) — Community financial contribution for 1995: examined.
- ITER: discussed.
- Scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Switzerland: progress report.
- Arrangements applicable to grant-holders: progress report.
- Setting-up of research and industry task forces within the Commission: initiative presented.
- International agronomic research: examined.

1834th meeting

1.10.8. Transport (Brussels, 13 and 14 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.7.9

President: Mr Bosson, French Minister for Transport.

Commission: Mr Kinnock.

Main items

- Relocation in air transport: resolution adopted (→ point 1.3.101).
- Agreement with Switzerland: negotiating directives adopted (→ point 1.3.102).
- Safety adviser for the transport of dangerous goods: common position on the proposal for a Directive agreed by qualified majority; United Kingdom and Swedish delegations voted against

and Luxembourg delegation abstained (→ point 1.3.93).

- Development of rail transport and combined transport: resolution adopted (→ point 1.3.94).
- Social harmonization in road freight transport: resolution adopted (→ point 1.3.98).
- Inland waterway transport: common position on the proposal for a Directive agreed (→ point 1.3.99).

Other business

- Safety of roll-on roll-off passenger vessels: general discussion.
- Statistical returns concerning carriage by sea: progress report.
- Community shipping policy: exchange of views.
- Relations with the United States in the field of air transport: discussed.
- Transport agreement with Switzerland: discussed.
- Trans-European transport network: general discussion.
- Research in the field of transport: Commission statement.
- Interoperability of the European high-speed rail network: progress report.

1835th meeting

1.10.9. Economic and financial affairs (Brussels, 20 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.9.11

President: Mr Alphantéry, French Minister for Economic Affairs.

Commission: Mr Santer, Mr de Silguy, Mr Liikanen, Mrs Gradin, Mr Monti and Mr Kinnock.

Main items

- Court of Auditors report for 1993 and discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the 1993 budget: recommendation adopted (→ point 1.6.2).
- Combating money-laundering: Commission report examined and conclusions adopted (→ point 1.3.13).

□ VAT — second simplification Directive: proposal agreed (→ point 1.3.15).

- Trans-European networks: common position on the proposal for a Regulation agreed (→ point 1.3.89).
- Macro-financial assistance to Belarus: proposal for a Decision agreed (→ point 1.4.76).

Other business

- Protection of the Communities' financial interests: conclusions adopted.
- Community guarantee for EIB loans for projects in South Africa: proposal for a Decision agreed.
- Preparations for the meeting with the Ministers for Economic and Financial Affairs of the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe: conclusions adopted.
- Follow-up to the Essen European Council on employment: Commission communication presented.
- Agri-monetary compensation: discussed.

1836th meeting

1.10.10. Labour and social affairs (Brussels, 27 March).

Previous meeting:

President: Mr Giraud, French Minister for Labour, Employment and Vocational Training.

Commission: Mr Flynn.

Main items

- Balanced participation by men and women in decision-making: resolution adopted (→ point 1.3.148).
- Transposition and application of Community social legislation: resolution adopted (→ point 1.3.143).

Other business

- Posting of workers: discussed.
- Programme to combat exclusion: progress report.
- Follow-up to the Essen European Council — procedure: exchange of views.

- Social dimension of international trade: discussed.
- Initiatives for reconciling family and working life, including parental leave: discussed.

1837th meeting

1.10.11. Agriculture (Brussels, 27 and 28 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.9.12

President: Mr Puech, French Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries.

Commission: Mr Fischler.

Main items

- Aid for dried fodder: Regulation adopted (→ point 1.3.118).
- Imports of agricultural products following Chernobyl: Regulation adopted by qualified majority; Austrian delegation voted against (→ point 1.3.113).

Other business

- Adjusting the common organization of the markets in sugar: discussed.
- Agricultural prices and related measures for 1995/96: general discussion.
- Cotton sector: exchange of views.
- Protection of animals during transport: examined.
- Extraordinary set-aside: examined.
- Agri-monetary aspects: exchange of views.
- Penalty mechanism — oilseeds: discussed.

1838th meeting

1.10.12. Consumers (Brussels, 30 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.7

President: Mr Alphandéry, French Minister for Economic Affairs.

Commission: Mrs Bonino and Mr Monti.

Main items

- Distance contracts: common position on the proposal for a Directive agreed (→ point 1.3.155).

- Labelling and presentation of foodstuffs: common position on the proposal for a Directive agreed by qualified majority; German delegation voted against (→ point 1.3.10).

Other business

- Future developments in consumer policy: examined.
- Indication of prices: progress report.
- Cross-border transfers: progress report.
- Articles of precious metal: general discussion.

1839th meeting

1.10.13. Education (Brussels, 31 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 12-1994, point 1.7.4

President: Mr Bayrou, French Minister for Education.

Commission: Mrs Cresson.

Main items

- Improving and diversifying language learning and teaching: resolution agreed (→ point 1.3.70).
- European Year of Education and Training: common position on the proposal for a Decision agreed (→ point 1.3.68).

Other business

- Implementation of the Socrates programme: Commission statement.
- Draft cooperation agreements with non-member countries: progress report.
- European cooperation with regard to post-graduate studies: discussed.
- Health education: progress report.
- Education software: Commission statement.

1840th meeting

1.10.14. Youth (Brussels, 31 March).

Previous meeting: Bull. 11-1994, point 1.7.15

President: Ms Alliot-Marie, French Minister for Youth and Sport.

Commission: Mrs Cresson.

Main item

□ Cooperation in the field of youth information and studies concerning youth: resolution agreed (→ point 1.3.72).

Other business

□ Implementation of the third stage of the Youth for Europe programme, including opening it up to the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe: Commission report.

□ Voluntary service for young people: Commission statement.

Commission

Work programme and legislative programme for 1995

1.10.15. Parliament resolution on the Commission's work programme and legislative programme for 1995.

Reference: Work programme for 1995: COM(95) 26; Bull. 1/2-1995, point 1.9.14

Adopted on 15 March. Parliament welcomed the form and structure of the programme, in particular the inclusion of White and Green Papers, and the announcement that the legislative programme will be assessed each autumn.

However, it noted a number of shortcomings and called on the Commission to take more in the way of specific action, notably in the following areas: combating unemployment, citizens' rights, social policy, consumer protection, environmental protection, equal opportunities and the fight against fraud.

Supplement 1/95 — Bull.; OJ C 89, 10.4.1995

Rules of Procedure

1.10.16. Revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

References:

Rules of Procedure of 17 February 1993: OJ L 230, 11.9.1993

Court of Justice judgment of 15 June 1994 in Case C-137/92P *Commission v BASF and Others*: Bull. 6-1994, point 1.7.36

Decision amending the Rules adopted by the Commission on 8 March. Following the Court of Justice judgment of 15 June 1994 in Case C-137/92P [1994] ECR I-2555 (PVC), a number of provisions relating to the delegation of powers and to the procedures for the authentication of instruments adopted either by the Commission itself or by its Members under the delegation procedure have been reviewed.

OJ L 97, 29.4.1995

Proposals adopted

1.10.17. On the cultural front the Commission adopted a proposal for a Parliament and Council Decision establishing a Community action programme in the field of cultural heritage (the Raphaël programme) (→ point 1.3.156). On the audiovisual front it adopted a proposal to amend the 'Television without frontiers' Directive (→ point 1.3.158). And on the industrial policy front it adopted a proposal for a Council Decision on implementation of a Community action programme to strengthen the competitiveness of European industry, together with a communication on an action programme and timetable (→ point 1.3.59).

Communications, Green Papers and reports

1.10.18. The Commission adopted a communication on the follow-up to the Essen European Council on employment (→ point 1.3.144). In the field of external relations it adopted communications on implementing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership (→ point 1.4.57) and on future relations between Europe and Japan (→ point 1.4.80). And in relation to the common commercial policy it adopted a communication appraising free trade areas (→ point 1.4.37). Finally, it adopted a communication on a level playing-field for direct investment worldwide (→ point 1.4.13).

Other decisions

1.10.19. The Commission approved single programming documents for Germany under Objective 5a (→ point 1.3.80) and for the United

Kingdom under Objective 5b (→ point 1.3.83). It also adopted recommendations for the negotiation of an agreement on trade and cooperation with South Africa and a protocol to the Lomé Convention covering the terms and conditions of South Africa's accession (→ point 1.4.97).

European Investment Bank

Financing

1.10.20. In March, the European Investment Bank granted loans totalling ECU 1 008 million, of which ECU 43 million went outside the European Union.

European Union

Links with Union policies

1.10.21. Loans were made for the following measures:

- ECU 661 million for the economic development of disadvantaged regions;
- ECU 716 million for the improvement of transport and telecommunications infrastructures of benefit to the Community;
- ECU 51 million for the pursuit of Community objectives in the field of energy;
- ECU 5 million for the enhancement of the international competitiveness of industry and its integration within the Union.

The Bank also continued its operations to support small businesses: a total of ECU 278 million has been granted in global loans since the beginning of the year (the amount for France is not included in this total owing to alterations being made to the management programme). In many cases individual loans come under several Union policies; some are therefore counted more than once in the above amounts.

Geographical breakdown

Belgium

- ECU 25.5 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects in industry and the service sector.

Germany

- ECU 31.5 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects by small businesses, energy and environmental protection projects and projects relating to Community and regional infrastructure (mainly in the new *Länder*);
- ECU 26.2 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects by small businesses and environmental protection projects (in the new *Länder*);
- ECU 48.8 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects in regional infrastructure and environment and energy projects (in the new *Länder*).

Spain

- ECU 6.2 million (under the Edinburgh financial mechanism) to link the electricity grids of Spain and Portugal (Mesón-Portuguese frontier and Cartelle-Trives (Galicia));
- ECU 294 million for the modernization and extension of the telecommunications network.

France

- ECU 42 million (under the Edinburgh financial mechanism) for work on the Lons-le-Saunier-Bourg-en-Bresse section of the A39 motorway, and ECU 42 million for the construction of the Dôle-Lons-le-Saunier section of the A39 motorway;
- ECU 4.6 million for doubling the Chamoise tunnel and for the Nantua and Neyrolles viaducts on the A40 motorway.

Ireland

- ECU 44 million for the modernization of railway rolling-stock and signalling improvements, mainly on the Dublin-Belfast line.

Italy

- ECU 5 million for the modernization of ceramic tile plants in the Bologna and Modena area (Emilia-Romagna);
- ECU 20 million for the enlargement of the motorway between Milan and Gallarate (Lombardy) to improve motorway access to Malpensa international airport;

□ ECU 15 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects and energy-saving projects.

Portugal

□ ECU 270.4 million (including ECU 51.1 million under the Edinburgh financial mechanism) for the construction of a second road bridge over the Tagus estuary near Lisbon.

United Kingdom

□ ECU 31.8 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects by small businesses, projects in the energy and environment sectors, and regional and Community infrastructure projects;

□ a further ECU 31.8 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects in these sectors, with the possibility of interest subsidies for small businesses which create jobs.

Sweden

□ ECU 40.7 million for the construction of a hydro-electric plant and the modernization of five others in the north of the country.

Outside the European Union

Cooperation and development policy

ACP countries

Tanzania

□ ECU 10 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects.

Dominican Republic

ECU 8 million in the form of global loans for the financing of small and medium-scale projects.

Cooperation with the countries of Asia and Latin America

Philippines

ECU 25 million for the modernization and extension of Davao airport on Mindanao island.

Economic and Social Committee

324th plenary session

1.10.22. The Economic and Social Committee held its 324th plenary session on 29 and 30 March, chaired in turn by Mr Ferrer, Mr Nielsen and Mr Laur and attended by Mr de Silguy for the Commission.

Mr de Silguy presented the Annual Economic Report for 1995, highlighting the following points:

□ the encouraging economic trends — the report confirms last year's cautious optimism and predicts growth of 3% this year and 3.2% in 1996;

□ the worrying employment situation — fulfilment of the convergence criteria for economic and monetary union must go hand-in-hand with progress in reducing unemployment;

□ further reductions in public deficits — a stable monetary policy must be maintained, efforts to tackle budgetary imbalances must be continued and nominal wage increases should take into account the need for stability;

□ preparation of the Green Paper on the transition to the third stage of economic and monetary union.

1.10.23. The Economic and Social Committee debated and adopted opinions on the following:

□ the Annual Economic Report for 1995 (→ point 1.3.8);

□ the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of businesses (→ point 1.3.145);

□ the free movement of doctors and the mutual recognition of their qualifications (→ point 1.3.12);

□ the prevention of AIDS (→ point 1.3.154);

□ the distribution of motor vehicles (→ point 1.3.21);

□ spatial planning in the Mediterranean area (→ point 1.3.76).

1.10.24. The Economic and Social Committee adopted opinions on the following, without debate:

- the Commission communication entitled *Europe 2000+: cooperation for European territorial development* (→ point 1.3.77);
- taxes on the consumption of manufactured tobacco (→ point 1.3.16);
- the NAFO pilot observation scheme (→ point 1.3.140);
- the common organization of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (→ point 1.3.124);
- the European system of national and regional accounts (→ point 1.7.2).

ECSC Consultative Committee

319th meeting (ordinary)

1.10.25. Vienna, 31 March.

Chairman: Mr Detaille.

Main items

- Proposals for Council and Commission Decisions on the conclusion of partnership and cooperation Agreements between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, Russia and Belarus, of the other part: consultation (→ points 1.4.70, 1.4.74 and 1.4.75).
- Draft Commission Decisions regarding the conclusion, on behalf of the ECSC, of interim Agreements on trade and trade-related matters between the EC, the ECSC and the EAEC, of the one part, and Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, of the other part: consultation (→ points 1.4.71 and 1.4.72).
- Draft Commission Decision on the administration of certain restrictions applicable to the import of certain steel products from Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan: conditional consultation.
- Draft Commission Decisions on the introduction of a system of double licences for the import of certain ECSC products from Bulgaria and Romania into the Community: consultation.
- Draft Commission Decision on the granting of financial aid for technical steel research projects and pilot and demonstration projects: consultation (→ point 1.3.65).
- Draft Commission Decision on the granting of financial aid for technical coal research projects: conditional consultation.
- Historical review of technical coal research: exchange of views.
- Historical review of technical steel research: exchange of views.
- Commission report on the solid fuel market in the Community in 1994 and outlook for 1995: conditional consultation.
- Present situation and future prospects regarding cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States on the restructuring of the steel industry: exchange of views.
- Draft Commission Decision adapting Article 3 of Commission Decision 3855/91/ECSC (code on aid to the steel industry): consultation (→ point 1.3.35).
- Monitoring of State aid under Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty: exchange of views.
- Draft Commission Decision amending Decision 1970/93/ECSC opening and providing for the administration of tariff quotas in respect of certain ECSC steel products originating in the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic: report on the written consultation.
- Rules of procedure of the ECSC Consultative Committee: adoption.

PART TWO

DOCUMENTATION

1. The ecu

Values in national currencies of ECU 1

March 1995¹

BFR/ LFR	Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	38.2423
DKR	Danish krone	7.41983
DM	German mark	1.85278
DR	Greek drachma	301.423
ESC	Portuguese escudo	194.969
FF	French franc	6.56230
FMK	Finnish markka	5.77063
HFL	Dutch guilder	2.07746
IRL	Irish pound	0.823971
LIT	Italian lira	2226.35
OS	Austrian schilling	13.0411
PTA	Spanish peseta	169.269
SKR	Swedish krona	9.58022
UKL	Pound sterling	0.823015
AUD	Australian dollar	1.79263
CAD	Canadian dollar	1.85332
ISK	Icelandic króna	84.5575
NKR	Norwegian krone	8.26319
NZD	New Zealand dollar	2.03560
SFR	Swiss franc	1.54349
USD	United States dollar	1.31706
YEN	Japanese yen	119.299
ZAR	South African rand	4.74098

¹ Average for the month: OJ C 80, 1.4.1995.

NB: Explanatory notes on the ecu and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3, and Bull. 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

March 1995

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	40.8337	LIT	Italian lira All products	2 054.24 2 122.72 on 6.3.1995
DKR	Danish krone All products	7.74166			2 202.72 on 16.3.1995
DM	German mark All products	1.94962			2 269.92 on 26.3.1995
DR	Greek drachma All products	296.492 298.323 on 6.3.1995 300.872 on 16.3.1995 302.187 on 26.3.1995	OS	Austrian schilling All products	13.7190
			PTA	Spanish peseta All products	164.452 164.774 on 6.3.1995 169.712 on 16.3.1995 170.165 on 26.3.1995
ESC	Portuguese escudo All products	198.202			
FF	French franc All products	6.61023	SKR	Swedish krona All products	9.32044 9.40716 on 6.3.1995 9.52763 on 16.3.1995 9.58593 on 26.3.1995
FMK	Finnish markka All products	5.88000			
HFL	Dutch guilder All products	2.19672			
IRL	Irish pound All products	0.809785 0.824325 on 6.3.1995 0.829498 on 26.3.1995	UKL	Pound sterling All products	0.805837 0.807419 on 6.3.1995 0.821220 on 16.3.1995 0.829882 on 26.3.1995

2. Political declaration adopted at the conclusion of the final Conference on the Pact on Stability in Europe and list of good-neighbourliness and cooperation agreements and arrangements.

2.2.1. The following political declaration was adopted at the final conference on the Pact on Stability in Europe held in Paris on 20 and 21 March:

'1. We, ministers for foreign affairs and representatives of States and international organizations participating in the Paris Conference on Stability in Europe, met in Paris on 20 and 21 March 1995, in response to the European Union's call, to adopt the Pact on Stability in Europe.

2. Half a century after the end of the Second World War, a few years after the historic changes which now make it possible to overcome the divisions of Europe, the Stability Pact expresses our common, continuing effort to prevent and put an end to threats of tensions and crises and to create an area of lasting good-neighbourliness and cooperation in Europe, in order to promote and render irreversible the achievements of democracy, respect for human rights, the rule of law, economic progress, social justice and peace.

3. The Stability Pact consists of the following declaration, together with a list of good-neighbourliness and cooperation agreements and arrangements. It is supplemented by a list of measures taken or planned by the European Union in support of initiatives by the interested States and in consultation with them, to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Pact.

I. Declaration

4. Europe is undergoing a period of change and organization. Our aim is to direct this evolution towards building a more united Europe based on greater solidarity, open to dialogue and cooperation, favouring, for this purpose, exchanges of all kinds, respectful of national identities and of the shared values of freedom and democracy. To achieve that aim, we shall continue to combat all manifestations of intolerance, and especially of aggressive nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia and anti-semitism, as well as discrimination between persons and persecution on religious or ideological grounds. We undertake to combine our efforts to ensure stability in Europe.

5. A stable Europe is one in which peoples democratically express their will, in which human rights, including those of persons belonging to national minorities, are respected, in which equal and sovereign States cooperate across frontiers and develop among themselves good-neighbourly relations. A stable Europe is necessary for peace and international security.

6. The interested States and the neighbouring countries which they have invited to the regional round-tables have succeeded within a few years in giving life to democracy and the rule of law and in working towards economic and social progress. In this context, we welcome the efforts of the countries to which the European Council has offered the prospect of accession. In order to support better their progress towards accession and to guarantee better the strengthening of peace, stability, democracy, cooperation and prosperity in Europe, we have deemed it essential to overcome the problems inherited from the past. In this spirit, work has focused on the intensification by participating States of good-neighbourly relations in all their aspects, including those related to the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

7. This intensification requires sustained efforts. It must be based on effective implementation of the existing principles and commitments established within the framework of the UN, the OSCE and the Council of Europe, notably all of the principles contained in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the 1990 Copenhagen Document, the 1992 Helsinki Document, the 1994 Budapest Documents, as well as the Vienna Declaration of the Council of Europe Summit of 1993 and, for the States that are party to them, the relevant treaties and conventions of the Council of Europe, including the 1994 Framework Convention for the protection of national minorities. These principles refer to sovereign equality, respect of the rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat of the use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States and respect for internationally recognized frontiers, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, and fun-

damental freedoms, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, cooperation among States and fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law.

8. Good-neighbourly relations must promote regional economic development in order to reduce the economic and social inequalities which create tensions, as well as transborder cooperation which should enable, in the economic, cultural, administrative and human spheres, the development of free movement of persons, ideas, goods and services.

9. As we had agreed at the inaugural Conference held in Paris on 26 and 27 May 1994, intensive consultations were organized and have been continuing steadily in recent months. In particular, two regional round tables have been set up, chaired by the European Union, one bringing together four States of the Baltic region — Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland — and those invited by them, the other bringing together six other States of Central and Eastern Europe — Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Czech Republic — and those invited by them, including Slovenia. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and the Council of the Baltic Sea States have also participated in the regional round tables. At the same time, the Presidency of the European Union visited several capitals to promote the objectives of the Pact. Lastly, all the States which participated in the inaugural Conference have been associated with the work in progress.

10. The States participating in the regional round tables undertook, in accordance with the concluding document of the inaugural Paris Conference of May 1994, to list the agreements and arrangements devoted to links of friendship and cooperation between them. The Member States of the European Union, in order to underline their interest for the region, have included in the list agreements and arrangements signed with the nine countries which have the prospect of joining the Union. Also, these countries and those invited by them have included in the list agreements and arrangements concluded between them, some prior to the inaugural Conference in May 1994, but also others concluded since that date. We particularly welcome the considerable progress towards stability made in this way by several countries. We express the hope that this list will be supplemented at a later date by other agreements and arrangements, concluded or to be concluded by the States participating in the regional round tables.

11. The States participating in the regional round tables have also devoted great attention to the areas for cooperation identified at the inaugural Conference: in response to the European Union's appeal, a systematic search for projects which could strengthen good-neighbourly relations was conducted in the interested countries, which made it possible not only to list some

existing projects as meeting the Pact's objectives, but also to identify new orientations.

12. The Pact thus established becomes for us all an essential political reference for developing relations between the nations of all of Europe. We undertake to give it, individually and collectively, our political support.

13. Referring to the concluding document of the inaugural Conference in Paris (Article 5.2), which was welcomed by the Budapest Summit Declaration (Article 16), and to the Budapest Summit Decision on strengthening the OSCE (Article 27), according to which 'as a comprehensive framework for security, the OSCE will be ready to act as the repository for freely negotiated bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements and to follow their application if requested by the parties', we transmit the Pact on Stability to the OSCE and entrust it with following its implementation.

14. We emphasise that this transmission establishes the political will of the participating States to take all necessary steps to make a continuing effort to improve understanding, mutual trust and friendly relations between them.

15. We rely on the OSCE to work, in accordance with its procedures, for compliance by the participating States with the principles it has established. We therefore express our intention, in cases that could require OSCE involvement with regard to the observance of OSCE principles and commitments in the implementation of the agreements and arrangements included in the Pact, to resort to the instruments and procedures of the OSCE, including those concerning conflict prevention, peaceful settlement of disputes and the human dimension.

16. We acknowledge that the States party to the Convention establishing the International Conciliation and Arbitration Court may refer to the Court possible disputes concerning the interpretation or implementation of their good-neighbourliness agreements, according to the procedures described in the said Convention.

17. We welcome the support given by the European Union to the good-neighbourliness projects, a list of which is annexed to the Pact, as well as the contribution provided by the other participants. The projects in the annex have been devised in collaboration with the European Union, notably within the framework of the dialogue which has been developed at the two regional round tables. The projects concern regional transborder cooperation, questions relating to minorities, cultural cooperation, including language training, regional economic cooperation, legal cooperation and administrative training, as well as environmental problems. These projects are aimed at facilitating freedom of circulation and communication between European States, as well as of information and ideas, in the perspective of the enlargement of the European Union.

18. We are aware that the consolidation of stability throughout Europe will require additional efforts, but we consider that the process which we launched in Paris by convening this Conference, and the regional approach we have followed, have proved their usefulness. We therefore hope that they may continue to strengthen stability in Europe and that they may serve as a model for other joint initiatives of preventive diplomacy, notably within the framework of the OSCE.'

II. List of agreements, arrangements and political declarations

A. Agreements and arrangements concluded between the interested countries and the Member States of the European Union

- Bulgaria
 - Belgium: Common Political Declaration (4.4.1994);
 - Germany: Treaty concerning Friendly Relations and Partnership in Europe (9.10.1991);
 - Greece: Treaty on Friendship, Good-Neighbourliness, Cooperation and Security (7.10.1991);
 - Spain: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (23.5.1993);
 - France: Treaty on Cooperation (18.2.1992);
 - Italy: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (9.1.1992);
 - Netherlands: Joint Political Declaration (20.4.1994);
 - United Kingdom: Joint Declaration (3.6.1993).
- Estonia
 - Denmark: Joint Protocol on Cooperation (11.3.1991);
 - Germany: Joint Declaration (29.4.1993);
 - France: Treaty on Mutual Understanding, Friendship and Cooperation (26.1.1993).
- Hungary
 - Belgium: Common Political Declaration (7.9.1992);
 - Germany: Treaty on Friendly Cooperation and Partnership in Europe (6.2.1992);
 - Greece: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (3.4.1992);
 - Spain: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (6.2.1992);
 - France: Treaty on Mutual Understanding and Friendship (11.9.1991);
 - Italy: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (6.7.1991);
 - Netherlands: Joint Declaration (11.11.1992);
- United Kingdom: Joint Declaration (28.5.1992).
- Latvia
 - Denmark: Joint Protocol on Cooperation (18.3.1991);
 - Germany: Joint Declaration (20.4.1993);
 - France: Treaty on Mutual Understanding, Friendship and Cooperation (2.3.1993);
 - Netherlands: Joint Statement (15.4.1993).
- Lithuania
 - Denmark: Joint Protocol on Cooperation (28.2.1991);
 - Germany: Joint Declaration (21.7.1993);
 - France: Treaty on Mutual Understanding, Friendship and Cooperation (14.5.1992).
- Poland
 - Belgium: Common Political Declaration (2.7.1991);
 - Germany: Treaty on Good-Neighbourly Relations and Friendly Cooperation (17.6.1991), and Treaty on the Confirmation of the Polish-German border (14.11.1990);
 - Spain: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (26.10.1992);
 - France: Treaty on Friendship and Solidarity (9.4.1991);
 - Italy: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (11.10.1991);
 - Netherlands: Joint Declaration (29.9.1992);
 - United Kingdom: Joint Declaration (24.4.1991).
- Romania
 - Belgium: Common Political Declaration (7.4.1994);
 - Germany: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Partnership in Europe (21.4.1992);
 - Greece: Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Good-Neighbourliness (28.11.1991);
 - Spain: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (4.2.1992);
 - France: Treaty on Friendly Understanding and Cooperation (20.11.1991);
 - Italy: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (23.7.1991);
 - Netherlands: Joint Statement (7.6.1993);
 - United Kingdom: Joint Declaration (3.6.1993);
- Slovakia
 - Germany: Treaty on Good-Neighbourly Relations and Friendly Cooperation (14.9.1992);
 - Spain: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (11.11.1991);
 - France: Treaty on Mutual Understanding and Friendship (1.10.1991);

- Italy: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (7.6.1993);
- Netherlands: Joint Declaration (15.9.1993);
- United Kingdom: Joint Declaration (27.5.1992).

B. Agreements and arrangements concluded by the interested countries between them and with other countries invited to the regional round tables

□ Bulgaria

- Hungary: Common Declaration (18.4.1991);
- Poland: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (25.2.1993);
- Romania: Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Good-Neighbourliness (27.1.1992);
- Slovakia: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (6.4.1992);
- Belarus: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (19.10.1993);
- Moldova: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (7.9.1992);
- Turkey: Treaty on Friendship, Good-Neighbourliness, Cooperation and Security (6.5.1992);
- Ukraine: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (5.10.1992).

□ Estonia

- Hungary: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (8.8.1992);
- Latvia/Lithuania: Declaration on Unity and Cooperation (12.5.1990) and Trilateral Agreement on Baltic Parliamentary and Governmental Cooperation (13.6.1994);
- Poland: Treaty on Friendly Cooperation and Baltic Good-Neighbourliness (2.7.1992);
- Romania: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (11.7.1992);
- Turkey: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (7.12.1993);
- Ukraine: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (26.5.1992).

□ Hungary

- Bulgaria: Common Declaration (18.4.1991);
- Estonia: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (8.8.1992);
- Latvia: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (7.8.1992);
- Lithuania: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (8.8.1992);
- Poland: Treaty on Friendship and Good-Neighbourly Cooperation (6.10.1991);
- Slovakia: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation (19.3.1995);

- Russian Federation: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (6.12.1991) and Declaration on the Principles of Cooperation in the field of the Assurance of the Rights of National or Ethnic or Religious and Linguistic Minorities (11.11.1992);
- Slovenia: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (1.12.1992) and Agreement on the Ensurance of the Special Rights of the Slovenian Minority living in Hungary and the Hungarian Minority living in Slovenia (6.11.1992);
- Turkey: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (7.9.1994);
- Ukraine: Treaty on the Foundations of Good-Neighbourliness and Cooperation (6.12.1991) and Declaration on the Principles of Cooperation in the Guaranteeing of Rights for National Minorities (31.5.1991).

□ Latvia

- Estonia/Lithuania: Declaration on Unity and Cooperation (12.5.1990) and Trilateral Agreement on Baltic Parliamentary and Governmental Cooperation (13.6.1994);
- Hungary: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (7.8.1992);
- Lithuania: Treaty on the Restoration of the State Border (29.6.1993);
- Poland: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (1.7.1992);
- Belarus: Declaration on the Principles of Good-Neighbourliness Relations (16.12.1991) and Treaty on the Establishment of a State Frontier (21.2.1994);
- Russian Federation: Agreements of 30.4.1994 concerning the Skrunda Station, Withdrawal of the Armed Forces and the Social Security of Russian Military Pensioners (+ Protocol);
- Turkey: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (12.7.1994).

□ Lithuania

- Estonia/Latvia: Declaration on Unity and Cooperation (12.5.1990) and Trilateral Agreement on Baltic Parliamentary and Governmental Cooperation (13.6.1994);
- Hungary: Treaty on the Foundations of Friendly Relations and Cooperation (8.8.1992);
- Latvia: Treaty on the Restoration of the State Border (29.6.1993);
- Poland: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Good-Neighbourly Cooperation (26.4.1994);
- Romania: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (8.3.1994);
- Belarus: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (6.2.1995) and Treaty on the State Frontier (6.2.1995);
- Russian Federation: Treaty on the Foundations of Interstate Relations (29.7.1991) and Agreement

- regarding Economic and Social-Cultural Development of the Kaliningrad region of the RSFSR (29.7.1991);
- Turkey: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (11.7.1994);
 - Ukraine: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (8.2.1994).
- Poland
- Bulgaria: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (25.2.1993);
 - Estonia: Treaty on Friendly Cooperation and Baltic Good-Neighbourliness (2.7.1992);
 - Hungary: Treaty on Friendship and Good-Neighbourly Cooperation (6.10.1991);
 - Latvia: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (1.7.1992);
 - Lithuania: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Good-Neighbourly Cooperation (26.4.1994);
 - Romania: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (25.1.1993);
 - Slovakia: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness, Solidarity and Friendly Cooperation (6.10.1991);
 - Belarus: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation (23.6.1992);
 - Moldova: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (15.11.1994);
 - Russian Federation: Treaty on Friendly and Good-Neighbourly Cooperation (22.5.1992);
 - Turkey: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (3.11.1993);
 - Ukraine: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness, Friendly Relations and Cooperation (18.5.1992).
- Romania
- Bulgaria: Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Good-Neighbourliness (27.1.1992);
- Estonia: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (11.7.1992);
 - Lithuania: Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation (8.3.1994);
 - Poland: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (25.1.1993);
 - Slovakia: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (24.9.1993);
 - Belarus: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (7.5.1993);
 - Turkey: Treaty on Friendship, Good-Neighbourliness and Cooperation (19.9.1991).
- Slovakia
- Bulgaria: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (6.4.1992);
 - Hungary: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation (19.3.1995);
 - Poland: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness, Solidarity and Friendly Cooperation (6.10.1991);
 - Romania: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (24.9.1993);
 - Czech Republic: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation (23.11.1992);
 - Russian Federation: Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation (26.8.1993);
 - Ukraine: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness, Friendly Relations and Cooperation (29.6.1993).
- Czech Republic
- Slovakia: Treaty on Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation (23.11.1992).
- (Some of the Agreements mentioned in this list have not yet been ratified).'

3. Additional references in the Official Journal

2.3.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments, communications and notices that have appeared recently in the Official Journal but relate to items appearing in earlier issues of the Bulletin; the references were not available when those issues 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. 5-1994

Point 1.2.14

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) on fees payable to the European Medicines Evaluation Agency
OJ C 398, 31.12.1994

Bull. 9-1994

Point 1.2.64

Commission Decision 94/1036/EC of 27 September 1994 concerning the agreements between the Dutch State, Volvo Car Corporation and Mitsubishi Motors Corporation on the future ownership, plans and financial arrangements of Netherlands Car BV (ex Volvo Car BV)
OJ L 384, 31.12.1994

Bull. 10-1994

Point 1.7.45

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee at its inaugural session from 18 to 20 October
OJ C 397, 31.12.1994

Bull. 11-1994

Points 1.7.43 and 1.7.44

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee at its 320th plenary session on 23 and 24 November
OJ C 397, 31.12.1994

Bull. 12-1994

Point 1.2.10

Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive relating to the side-impact resistance of motor vehicles and amending Directive 70/156/EEC
OJ C 396, 31.12.1994

Point 1.2.11

Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive relating to the frontal impact resistance of motor vehicles and amending Directive 70/156/EEC
OJ C 396, 31.12.1994

Point 1.2.110

Council Decision 94/998/EC of 15 December 1994 on the provisional application of the Energy Charter Treaty by the European Community

Council Decision 94/1067/Euratom of 15 December 1994 approving the provisional application of the Energy Charter Treaty by Decision of the Commission on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community
OJ L 380, 31.12.1994

Point 1.2.114

Commission Decision 94/1042/ECSC of 13 December 1994 authorizing the grant by the United Kingdom of aid to the coal industry
OJ L 384, 31.12.1994

Point 1.2.131

Commission Decisions 94/1037/EC to 94/1041/EC and 94/1043/EC to 94/1066/EC of 30 December 1994 on the approval of single programming documents for Community structural assistance in the regions concerned by Objective 2 in France, Germany and Spain
OJ L 384, 31.12.1994

Point 1.3.43

Council Decision 94/978/EC of 19 December 1994 on the conclusion by the European Community of the

Agreement on free trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, the European Atomic Energy Community and the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Lithuania of the other
OJ L 375, 31.12.1994

Point 1.7.61

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee at its 321st plenary session on 21 December
OJ C 397, 31.12.1994

Bull. 1/2-1995

Point 1.3.7

Amended proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) on fees payable to the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
OJ C 84, 6.4.1995

Point 1.3.20

Common position (EC) No 1/95 on 20 February 1995 adopted by the Council, with a view to adopting a

Council and European Parliament Directive on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data
OJ C 93, 13.4.1995

Point 1.3.89

Proposal for a Council Directive on the use of vehicles hired without drivers for the carriage of goods by road
OJ C 80, 1.4.1995

Point 1.4.101

Proposal for a Council Decision providing macro-financial assistance to Belarus
OJ C 82, 4.4.1995

Point 1.6.1

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) concerning Harmonized Consumer Price Indices
OJ C 84, 6.4.1995

4. Corrigenda

2.4.1. This section lists the corrigenda to earlier issues of the Bulletin. The corrections are shown in bold.

Bull. 1/2-1995

Point 1.3.45

The heading to read: 'Commission Decision on aid to chemicals manufacturer Leuna-Werke GmbH, **Saxony-Anhalt**'.

Point 1.3.46

The second part of the first sentence to read: 'which consists of an investment grant of DM **1 391 500 ...**'.

Point 1.3.82

The regulation number in the heading to read: 'Regulation (EEC) No 3763/91'.

Point 1.3.90

The directive number in the heading to read: 'Directive **88/599/EEC**'.

Point 1.3.125

The second part of the first sentence of the second paragraph to read: 'flat-rate aid of ECU **68.83** per tonne will be granted for dehydrated fodder and of ECU **38.64** per tonne for sun-dried fodder'.

Point 1.4.91

The final reference to read: 'Council Regulation (EC) No 1734/94 on financial and technical cooperation with the Occupied Territories: OJ L 182, 16.7.1994; Bull. 7/8-1994, point 1.3.50'.

Point 1.4.115

The second part of the sentence to read: '... and sets the final payment to the Falkland Islands at ECU **1 200 000**'.

5. Index

A

Accession: 1.4.50 to 1.4.53; 1.4.60; 1.4.63
ACP Convention: 1.4.93
ACP States: 1.4.98; 1.10.21
Agricultural products: 1.3.113
Aid for refugees: 1.4.85; 1.4.92
Aids: 1.3.154
Air pollution: 1.3.109
Air transport: 1.3.101; 1.3.102
Albania: 1.4.56
Algeria: 1.2.3; 1.4.60
Andorra: 1.4.60
Annual Economic Report: 1.3.8
Anti-dumping: 1.4.26 to 1.4.35
Anti-fraud measures: 1.6.8 to 1.6.10
Argentina: 1.4.86
Armenia: 1.4.48; 1.4.77
ASEAN: 1.4.10
Asia: 1.4.81 to 1.4.85; 1.10.21
Association of the South-East Asian Nations: see ASEAN
Asylum and immigration: 1.5.1
Atlantic (North-East): 1.3.107
Audiovisual policy: 1.3.158
Australia: 1.3.66
Austria: 1.3.79; 1.4.50; 1.4.60
Azerbaijan: 1.4.48

B

Baltic Sea: 1.3.137
Bangladesh: 1.4.85
Belarus: 1.4.70; 1.4.76; 1.4.77
Belgium: 1.3.81; 1.3.84; 1.10.21
Biotechnology: 1.3.17
Bolivia: 1.4.48; 1.4.86; 1.4.91
Brazil: 1.4.26; 1.4.86
Broad guidelines of economic policies: 1.3.6
Bulgaria: 1.4.52
Burma: see Myanmar
Burundi: 1.4.6; 1.4.46 to 1.4.48; 1.4.94 to 1.4.96; 1.4.98

C

Cambodia: 1.4.48
Cameroon: 1.4.98
Canada: 1.3.66; 1.3.139
Cancer: 1.3.153

CAP (State aid): 1.3.126 to 1.3.129
CAP (structures): 1.3.79
Cape Verde: 1.3.132
Carriage of dangerous goods: 1.3.93; 1.3.97
Central African Republic: 1.4.98
Central and Eastern Europe: 1.3.105; 1.3.157; 1.4.51 to 1.4.53
Cereals: 1.3.116
CFSP: 1.4.2; 1.4.4
CFSP (statements): 1.4.5 to 1.4.12
Chad: 1.4.98
Chile: 1.4.86; 1.4.87
China: 1.4.10; 1.4.27 to 1.4.29; 1.4.36; 1.4.38; 1.4.40
China Sea: 1.4.10
Climate: 1.3.110 to 1.3.112
Cocoa: 1.4.43
Code of conduct (interinstitutional relations): 1.9.1
Colombia: 1.4.48; 1.4.86; 1.4.88
Commission legislative programme: 1.10.15
Commission work programme: 1.10.15
Common foreign and security policy: see CFSP
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS): 1.3.67; 1.4.77 to 1.4.79
Communicable diseases: 1.3.154
Community initiative concerning the adaptation of SMEs to the single market: 1.3.86
Community law (monitoring of application): 1.8.1 to 1.8.5
Community programme of technical assistance for the Commonwealth of Independent States: see TACIS
Community transit: 1.6.9
Comoros: 1.3.133
Competition rules: 1.3.58
Competitiveness: 1.3.95 to 1.3.61
Concentrations: 1.3.22 to 1.3.33
Congo: 1.4.98
Consumer protection: 1.3.155
Conversion of steel areas: see Resider programme
Cooperation agreements: 1.4.69; 1.4.70; 1.4.74; 1.4.75; 1.4.81; 1.4.84; 1.4.97
Cooperation Council: 1.4.68
Cooperation in the sphere of justice: 1.5.3
Cooperative, mutual and non-profit sector: 1.3.64
Coordination of policies: 1.3.6
Côte d'Ivoire: 1.4.48
Cotton: 1.3.122
Court of First Instance
— agriculture: 1.8.22; 1.8.23
— competition: 1.8.26 to 1.8.30
— European Social Fund: 1.8.31
— external relations: 1.8.32 to 1.8.35
— free movement: 1.8.24; 1.8.25

- Court of Justice
 — administration: 1.8.13
 — agriculture: 1.8.10
 — competition: 1.8.12
 — free movement: 1.8.7; 1.8.9
 — infringements: 1.8.14 to 1.8.21
 — social provisions: 1.8.11
 — taxation: 1.8.8
 Credit institutions: 1.3.14
 Croatia: 1.4.61; 1.4.62
 Cultural heritage: 1.3.156
 Customs union: 1.4.23
 Cyprus: 1.4.60
 Czech Republic: 1.4.20 to 1.4.22; 1.4.52; 1.4.54
- D**
- Declining industrial areas: 1.3.43 to 1.3.45; 1.3.78
 Developing countries: 1.2.9; 1.4.41 to 1.4.46
 Development of Community internal and external border areas: see Interreg programme
 Development of the most remote regions: see REGIS programme
 Disasters (Community aid): 1.3.150; 1.3.151
 Distance selling: 1.3.155
 Djibouti: 1.4.98
 Doctors: 1.3.12
 Dominican Republic: 1.10.21
- E**
- EAGGF
 — Guarantee Section: 1.3.125
 — Guidance Section: 1.3.86
 EBRD: 1.4.15 to 1.4.22; 1.4.78
 ECHO: 1.4.48
 Economic and monetary union: see EMU
 Economic conversion of coal-mining areas: see Rechar programme
 Economic situation: 1.3.8
 Ecuador: 1.4.86
 EDF: 1.4.48; 1.4.93; 1.4.98
 Education: 1.3.68; 1.3.69
 EEA: 1.4.49; 1.4.50
 Egypt: 1.4.60
 EIB: 1.10.20; 1.10.21
 Elderly people: 1.3.149
 Electricity: 1.3.90
 Employees' rights: 1.3.145; 1.4.41; 1.4.42
 Employment: 1.3.47; 1.3.48; 1.3.87; 1.3.144; 1.3.145
 EMS: 1.3.7
 EMU: 1.3.6; 1.3.7
 Energy: 1.3.92
 Environment: 1.3.106
 Environment (international cooperation): 1.3.115
 Equal opportunities: 1.3.147; 1.3.148
 Equatorial Guinea: 1.2.6; 1.4.98
 ERDF: 1.3.86; 1.3.88
 ESF: 1.3.86; 1.3.87
 Ethiopia: 1.4.46
 Eurobarometer: 1.3.157
 Europe Agreements: 1.4.64
 European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund: see EAGGF
 European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: see EBRD
 European Community Humanitarian Office: see ECHO
 European Development Fund: see EDF
 European Economic Area: see EEA
 European Investment Bank: see EIB
 European Monetary System: see EMS
 European police office: see Europol
 European Regional Development Fund: see ERDF
 European Social Fund: see ESF
 European Year: 1.3.68
 Europol: 1.5.4
- F**
- Faroe Islands: 1.3.135
 Fight against drugs: 1.5.8
 Financial and technical assistance: 1.4.76 to 1.4.79
 Financial and technical cooperation: 1.4.98
 Financial regulations: 1.6.6
 Financial services: 1.3.13; 1.3.14
 Finland: 1.4.50; 1.4.60; see also State aid
 Firms: 1.7.1
 Fisheries (external aspects): 1.3.132 to 1.3.140
 Fisheries (internal aspects): 1.3.131
 Fisheries (orientation): 1.3.130
 Fisheries (prices): 1.3.141
 Fisheries (products): 1.3.142
 Fisheries (structures): 1.3.82
 Fodder: 1.3.118; 1.3.119
 Food aid: 1.4.46
 Foodstuffs: 1.3.10
 Forward programme for steel: 1.3.62
 France: 1.2.2; 1.3.81; 1.3.84; 1.3.88; 1.10.21; see also State aid
 Free movement of goods: 1.3.9 to 1.3.11
 Free movement of persons: 1.1.1; 1.3.12
 Free movement of services: 1.3.13; 1.3.14
 Fruit and vegetables: 1.3.120; 1.3.121
 Fundamental social rights: 1.4.41; 1.4.42
- G**
- Gabon: 1.4.98
 Gambia: 1.4.8
 General budget: 1.6.1 to 1.6.5
 Germany: 1.3.15; 1.3.80; 1.3.81; 1.3.84; 1.3.86; 1.3.88; 1.10.21; see also State aid
 Greece: 1.3.86; 1.3.88; 1.3.151; see also State aid
 Greenland: 1.3.134
 Guatemala: 1.4.89
 Guinea-Bissau: 1.4.98

H

Human rights: 1.2.2 to 1.2.9; 1.4.41; 1.4.42; 1.4.56
 Humanitarian aid: 1.4.47; 1.4.48
 Hungary: 1.4.52

I

Iceland: 1.4.50
 ILO: 1.4.41; 1.4.42
 IMF: 1.4.42
 Import and export arrangements: 1.4.36
 India: 1.4.39; 1.4.83
 Indirect taxation: 1.3.15; 1.3.16
 Indonesia: 1.4.39
 Industrial areas in decline: 1.3.78
 Industrial cooperation: 1.4.51
 Industrial policy: 1.3.59 to 1.3.61
 Industrial products: 1.3.9
 Information for young people: 1.3.72
 Information policy: 1.3.157
 Information technology: 1.3.105
 Infringements
 — termination of proceedings: 1.8.5
 Initiative for urban areas: see URBAN
 Inland transport: 1.3.94 to 1.3.99; 1.3.102
 Inland waterway transport: 1.3.99
 Instruments of trade policy: 1.4.25 to 1.4.36
 Intellectual property: 1.3.17; 1.3.18
 Interinstitutional relations: 1.9.1; 1.9.2
 Internal energy market: 1.3.90
 International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission: 1.3.137
 International Labour Organization: see ILO
 International Monetary Fund: see IMF
 Interreg programme: 1.3.86
 Investment undertakings: 1.3.14
 Iraq: 1.2.7; 1.4.48
 Ireland: 1.3.86; 1.3.150; 1.10.21
 Israel: 1.4.60
 Italy: 1.2.2; 1.3.88; 1.3.151; 1.10.21; see also State aid

J

Japan: 1.3.66; 1.4.32; 1.4.33; 1.4.80
 Jordan: 1.4.60

K

Kazakhstan: 1.4.9; 1.4.71; 1.4.77
 Korea: 1.4.27; 1.4.81; 1.4.82
 Kurds: 1.2.7
 Kyrgyzstan: 1.4.48; 1.4.72; 1.4.77

L

Language teaching: 1.3.70
 Latin America: 1.4.86 to 1.4.92
 Leader programme: 1.3.86

Lebanon: 1.4.60; 1.4.68
 Less-favoured farming areas: 1.3.78; 1.3.79; 1.3.83;
 1.3.84
 Liechtenstein: 1.4.49
 Life insurance: 1.3.14
 Links between agencies for the development of the
 rural economy: see Leader programme
 Lomé Convention: 1.4.93; 1.4.97
 Luxembourg: 1.3.15

M

Maghreb: 1.4.67
 Malawi: 1.4.98
 Malaysia: 1.4.27
 Malta: 1.4.60; 1.4.63
 Marks: 1.3.18
 Mashreq: 1.4.68
 Mediterranean: 1.3.106
 Mediterranean countries: 1.3.92; 1.3.106; 1.4.57;
 1.4.60a to 1.4.66
 Mediterranean policy: 1.4.57
 Mexico: 1.4.30; 1.4.86; 1.4.90; 1.4.92
 Middle East: 1.4.69
 Money laundering: 1.3.13
 Mongolia: 1.4.77; 1.4.78
 Montenegro: 1.4.34
 Morocco: 1.4.60; 1.4.67
 Mozambique: 1.4.46; 1.4.98
 Multimodal transport: 1.3.94
 Myanmar: 1.4.5

N

NAFO: 1.3.138 to 1.3.140
 Netherlands: 1.3.86; 1.4.16; see State aid
 New Zealand: 1.3.115
 NGOs: 1.4.44; 1.4.45
 Nicaragua: 1.4.48; 1.4.86
 Niger: 1.4.48
 Nigeria: 1.4.11
 Non-governmental organizations: see NGOs
 Non-life insurance: 1.3.14
 North Korea: 1.4.7
 Northern Ireland: 1.3.86
 Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization: see NAFO
 Norway: 1.3.66; 1.3.134; 1.3.136; 1.4.50
 Nuclear energy: 1.3.91
 Nuclear safety: 1.3.113; 1.3.114

O

OECD: 1.3.38; 1.3.39; 1.4.13
 Oils and fats: 1.3.117
 Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development: see OECD

P

Pact on stability in Europe: 1.4.4
 Panama: 1.4.86
 Paraguay: 1.4.86

Peru: 1.4.48; 1.4.86; 1.4.92
 PETRA programme: 1.3.71
 PHARE: 1.4.51
 Pharmaceutical products: 1.3.57
 Philippines: 1.4.10; 1.4.30; 1.10.21
 Poland: 1.4.17; 1.4.52
 Police and customs cooperation: 1.5.3
 Portugal: 1.3.85; 1.3.86; 1.3.151; 1.10.21
 Poverty: 1.3.146
 Protection of animals: 1.3.108
 Protection of financial interests: 1.5.5; 1.5.6; 1.6.8; 1.6.10
 Public health: 1.3.152 to 1.3.154
 Public procurement: 1.3.19

R

Racism: 1.2.2; 1.5.9
 Radiocommunications: 1.3.158
 Rail transport: 1.3.94 to 1.3.96
 Raphaël programme: 1.3.156
 Rechar programme: 1.3.86
 Regional development programmes: 1.3.75 to 1.3.77
 Regis programme: 1.3.86
 Report on Competition Policy: 1.3.20
 Research (international cooperation): 1.3.66; 1.3.67
 Research and development: 1.3.49
 Resider programme: 1.3.86
 Right of inquiry: 1.9.2
 Right of residence: 1.1.1
 Rio Group: 1.4.86
 Road transport: 1.3.97; 1.3.98
 Romania: 1.4.52; 1.4.55
 Rules applying to businesses: 1.3.21 to 1.3.33
 Russian Federation: 1.2.5; 1.4.26; 1.4.29; 1.4.73; 1.4.74; 1.4.77
 Rwanda: 1.2.8; 1.4.46 to 1.4.48

S

Safeguard measures: 1.4.39; 1.4.40
 San Marino: 1.4.60
 Serbia: 1.4.34
 Sheepmeat and goatmeat: 1.3.124
 Shipbuilding: 1.3.36 to 1.3.39
 Shipping: 1.3.100
 Sierra Leone: 1.4.98
 Singapore: 1.4.27
 Single programming documents (SPD): 1.3.80; 1.3.81
 Slovak Republic: 1.4.18; 1.4.19; 1.4.52
 Slovenia: 1.4.60; 1.4.64
 Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs): 1.3.43; 1.3.44
 Social development: 1.4.41; 1.4.42
 Social exclusion: 1.3.146
 Social legislation: 1.3.143
 Social policy: 1.3.143
 Socrates: 1.3.69

Solidarity: 1.3.149 to 1.3.151
 South Africa: 1.4.26; 1.4.97
 Spain: 1.3.86; 1.3.88; 1.3.139; 1.3.151; 1.10.21; see also State aid
 Sri Lanka: 1.4.12; 1.4.84; 1.4.85
 Standardization: 1.3.105
 State aid: 1.3.35
 — Finland: 1.3.47
 — France: 1.3.128
 — Germany: 1.3.36; 1.3.37; 1.3.40; 1.3.41; 1.3.43; 1.3.46; 1.3.49 to 1.3.54; 1.3.127
 — Greece: 1.3.57
 — Italy: 1.3.38; 1.3.42; 1.3.44; 1.3.55; 1.3.129
 — Netherlands: 1.3.39; 1.3.45
 — Spain: 1.3.56
 — Sweden: 1.3.48
 — United Kingdom: 1.3.126
 Statistics (policy aspects): 1.7.1; 1.7.2
 Statistics (results): 1.7.3 to 1.7.6
 Steel industry: 1.3.35; 1.3.53
 Structural Funds: 1.3.74
 Supplementary and amending budget: 1.6.5
 Sustainable development: 1.3.106
 Sweden: 1.3.78; 1.4.50; 1.4.60; 1.10.21; see also State aid
 Switzerland: 1.3.66; 1.3.102; 1.4.50
 Syria: 1.4.60

T

TACIS: 1.4.77; 1.4.78
 Tadjikistan: 1.4.48
 Tanzania: 1.4.48; 1.4.98; 1.10.21
 Technical steel research: 1.3.65
 Telecommunications: 1.3.104; 1.3.105
 Television: 1.3.158
 Textile industry: 1.3.85
 Textile products: 1.4.38 to 1.4.40
 Thailand: 1.4.27; 1.4.31
 Tobacco: 1.3.123
 Tobacco products: 1.3.16
 Tourism: 1.7.3 to 1.7.6
 Trade agreements: 1.4.37; 1.4.38; 1.4.50; 1.4.71; 1.4.72; 1.4.81; 1.4.97
 Trans-European networks: 1.3.89
 Transport and environment: 1.3.93
 Transport infrastructure: 1.3.96
 Transport operator (occupation): 1.3.93; 1.3.98
 Trinidad and Tobago: 1.4.86
 Tunisia: 1.4.60
 Turkey: 1.4.35; 1.4.60; 1.4.60a; 1.4.65; 1.4.66
 Turnover taxes: 1.3.16

U

Ukraine: 1.4.26; 1.4.29; 1.4.75; 1.4.77
 United Kingdom: 1.3.83; 1.3.84; 1.3.86; 1.3.88; 1.10.21; see also State aid
 United Nations: 1.3.112; 1.4.42

United States: 1.2.4; 1.3.58; 1.3.66; 1.3.91
URBAN: 1.3.86
Uruguay: 1.4.86
Uruguay Round: 1.4.53
USSR (former): 1.3.66

V

Value-added tax (VAT): 1.3.15
Venezuela: 1.4.86
Veterinary legislation: 1.3.11
Visas: 1.1.1
Vocational training: 1.3.46; 1.3.68; 1.3.87
Vocational training and preparation for adult and working life: see PETRA programme

W

Water pollution: 1.3.107
West Africa: 1.4.98
Western Sahara: 1.4.67
White Paper (social policy): 1.3.143
WIPO: 1.3.18

World Bank: 1.4.42
World Intellectual Property Organization: see WIPO
World Trade Organization (WTO): 1.4.13; 1.4.14; 1.4.37; 1.4.41

X

Xenophobia: 1.5.9

Y

Yemen Arab Republic: 1.4.69
Young people: 1.3.71 to 1.3.73
Youth exchange scheme for Europe: 1.3.71
Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (former): 1.4.15
Yugoslavia (former): 1.2.9; 1.4.34

Z

Zaire: 1.4.47; 1.4.48
Zoos: 1.3.108



Supplements 1995

**1/95 Address by Jacques Santer,
President of the Commission,
to the European Parliament
on the occasion of the investiture
debate of the new Commission**

Commission's programme for 1995

**Presentation to the European Parliament
by Jacques Santer**

**Resolution of the European Parliament
on the programme for 1995**

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg	ECU
Annual subscription (complete subscription)	180
Bulletin of the European Union (10 issues + Index + 1st Supplement)	144
Price per single copy	17
Supplements to the Bulletin (per single copy)	7

Subscriptions are annual and run from 1 January to 31 December. Payment to be made only to the agents in the countries listed on the inside back cover.

These are surface mail rates; for air subscription rates, please apply to the agents.

A 50% reduction is obtainable for subscriptions by students. Applications should be made to the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, L-2985 Luxembourg.



OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

