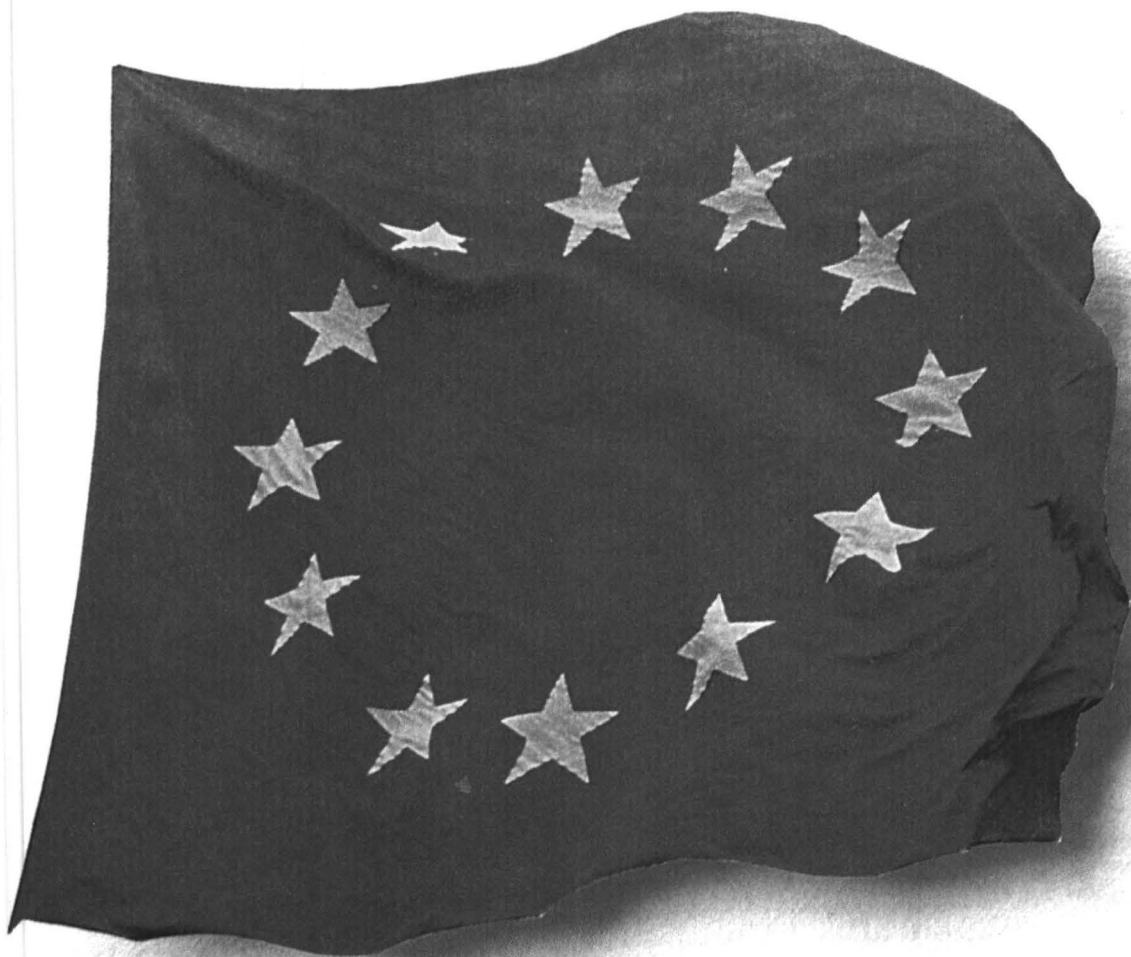


Bulletin of the European Communities

Commission



No 4 1993

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

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

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 - Joint declaration on the 1993 legislative programme
- *2/93 The challenge of enlargement — Commission opinion on Norway's application for accession
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* In preparation.

PART ONE

ACTIVITIES IN APRIL 1993

News in brief

European union

The Commission adopts a draft opinion on the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties (→ point 1.1.1) and guidelines on the procedures for exercising Parliament's right of inquiry (→ point 1.1.2).

The single market and the Community economic and social area

Internal market

The Commission adopts a communication on control of residues in meat (→ point 1.2.11).

The Council agrees a common position on a proposal for a Directive on the coordination of certain rules concerning copyright and neighbouring rights applicable to satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission (→ point 1.2.24).

The Council agrees common positions on a proposal for a Directive and a proposal for a Decision on the CE conformity mark (→ point 1.2.1).

Economic and monetary policy

The Commission adopts a working paper (→ point 1.2.27) and the Council adopts conclusions (→ point 1.2.28) on promoting economic recovery in Europe.

The Council adopts conclusions on economic relations between the Commission and the United States and global growth (→ point 1.2.29).

Industrial policy

The Commission adopts a recommendation for a Decision and an information note concerning implementation of the external measures and the social measures for the restructuring of the steel industry (1993-95) (→ points 1.2.59 and 1.2.58).

Research and technology

The Commission adopts a working paper (→ point 1.2.65) and the Council adopts conclusions (→ point 1.2.66) on the fourth framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1994-98).

The Council adopts conclusions on the European Community and space (→ point 1.2.64).

Telecommunications, information services and industry

- The Commission adopts a communication and a proposal for a resolution on the situation in the telecommunications services sector (→ point 1.2.81).

Economic and social cohesion: structural measures

- The Commission adopts a communication setting guidelines for the Konver programme for 1993 (→ point 1.2.100).

The role of the Community in the world*Enlargement*

- Negotiations on the accession of Norway to the European Communities are opened formally at a ministerial meeting (→ point 1.3.1).

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

- The Commission approves a communication on Community support for continued reform and development in Central and Eastern Europe (→ point 1.3.5).
- A special meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers and Finance Ministers is held on aid for Russia (→ point 1.3.17).
- The Council amends the negotiating directives for the partnership and cooperation Agreement with Russia (→ point 1.3.18).
- The Commission adopts a financing decision for 52 projects to promote democracy in Central and Eastern Europe (→ point 1.3.4).

Mediterranean and Middle East

- The Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States adopt a Regulation and a Decision aimed at strengthening the embargo against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (→ point 1.3.27).
- An agreement is signed on trade and economic cooperation with Slovenia (→ point 1.3.22).

Asia and Latin America

- A ministerial meeting is held between the European Community and the Rio Group of Latin American countries (→ point 1.3.38).

Community institutions*Interinstitutional relations*

- Parliament and the Commission adopt a joint declaration on the 1993 legislative programme (→ point 1.6.1).

1. European union

Institutional questions

1.1.1. Draft Commission opinion on the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties.

Reference: Parliament resolution and draft decision on the European Ombudsman: OJ C 21, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.1.4

Adopted on 28 April. On the basis of Articles 138e of the EEC Treaty, 20d of the ECSC Treaty and 107d of the Euratom Treaty as amended by the Treaty on European Union the Commission has adopted a draft opinion on the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties. The opinion, which will not be made final until the Treaty on European Union enters into force, is very much along the same lines as the principles adopted by Parliament. The Commission does, however, propose certain changes designed to safeguard the Ombudsman's independence and to ensure that the Ombudsman's right of access to documents kept by the Community's institutions

and other bodies is compatible with the principle of protection of confidential information and documents.

1.1.2. Commission guidelines on the procedures for exercising Parliament's right of inquiry.

Reference: Parliament resolution and draft Act by common accord on parliamentary committees of inquiry: OJ C 21, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.1.5

Approved on 28 April. Following Parliament's adoption of a draft 'Act of Parliament, the Council and the Commission establishing by common accord the procedures for exercising the right of inquiry', the Commission approved the guidelines for drawing up the Act provided for by Article 138c of the Treaty on European Union. The guidelines deal with a number of problems in the following areas: the nature of temporary committees of inquiry, the content of the Decision establishing the procedures for exercising Parliament's right of inquiry and the scope, powers and results of temporary committees of inquiry.

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

Internal market

Free movement of goods

Technical aspects

Standardization and technical rules

1.2.1. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 87/404/EEC, 88/378/EEC, 89/106/EEC, 89/336/EEC, 89/392/EEC, 89/686/EEC, 90/384/EEC, 90/385/EEC, 90/396/EEC, 91/263/EEC, 92/42/EEC and 73/23/EEC; proposal for a Council Decision amending Council Decision 90/683/EEC concerning the modules for the various phases of the conformity assessment procedures, supplementing it with provisions relating to the arrangements for affixing and using the CE conformity mark.

References:

Council resolution on a new approach to technical harmonization and standards: OJ C 136, 4.6.1985; Bull. EC 5-1985, point 1.3.1

Council resolution on a global approach to conformity assessment: OJ C 10, 16.1.1990; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.33

Commission proposals: OJ C 160, 20.6.1991; COM(91) 145; Bull. EC 5-1991, point 1.2.7

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 14, 20.1.1992; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.9

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 125, 18.5.1992; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.11

Amended Commission proposals: COM(92) 293; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.20

New amended Commission proposals: OJ C 28, 2.2.1993; COM(92) 499; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.31

Second Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.1

Second Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 129, 10.5.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.1

New amended Commission proposals: OJ C 113, 23.4.1993; COM(93) 114; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.1

Common positions agreed by the Council on 5 April. These two proposals harmonize the rules on CE conformity marking for industrial products covered by the 'new approach' directives. The rules adopted implement the principles contained in the two Council resolutions of 7 May 1985 and 21 December 1989. Under these rules, CE marking on an industrial product will attest to that product's compliance with all the specifications contained in the relevant directive.

Motor vehicles

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

1.2.2. Proposals for Council Directives on the protective devices intended to prevent unauthorized use and the statutory markings of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles.

Commission proposals: OJ C 293, 9.11.1992; COM(92) 330, 334, 335 and 336; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.16

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 337, 21.12.1992; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.29

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 73, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.3

Two common positions adopted by the Council on 5 April. These proposals, which were put forward in the context of the implementation of the framework Directive on the type-approval of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles, are designed to harmonize the legislation in force in Member States and to improve road safety.

1.2.3. Council Directive 93/14/EEC on the braking of two- and three-wheeled motor vehicles.

Commission proposal: OJ C 93, 13.4.1992; COM(91) 496; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.29
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 313, 30.11.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.17
Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.28
Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.32
Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.1

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The Directive has been adopted in the context of the implementation of the framework Directive on the type-approval of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles.

OJ L 121, 15.5.1993

1.2.4. Proposals for Council Directives on the identification of controls, telltales and indicators, the audible warning devices, the stands, and the passenger hand-holds of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles.

Commission proposals: OJ C 293, 9.11.1992; COM(92) 331, 332, 333 and 337; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.16
Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 337, 21.12.1992; OJ C 21, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.29; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.33
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 73, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.4
Council common positions: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.4

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Industrial products

1.2.5. Council Directive 93/15/EEC on the harmonization of the provisions relating to the placing on the market and the supervision of explosives for civil uses.

Commission proposal: OJ C 121, 13.5.1992; COM(92) 123; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.13
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 313, 30.11.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.19

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.30
Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 44, 16.2.1993; COM(92) 524; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.36
Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.36
Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.3

Re-examined proposal adopted by the Commission on 5 April.

COM(93) 133

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The Directive is designed, firstly, to harmonize the conditions governing the marketing of explosives by laying down the requirements with which such products must comply and the procedures for verifying conformity with those requirements and, secondly, to set up a system for supervising transfers of explosives within the Community as a replacement for that based on physical frontier controls. The Directive does not apply to explosives for military or police uses or to pyrotechnical articles. Special arrangements are laid down for munitions.

OJ L 121, 15.5.1993

Dangerous substances

1.2.6. Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the 14th time Directive 76/769/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 76/769/EEC; OJ L 262, 27.9.1976, last amended by Directive 91/339/EEC; OJ L 186, 12.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.21

Adopted by the Commission on 2 April. The aim of the proposal is to establish common rules governing the use of nickel in jewellery and other personal items coming into direct and prolonged contact with the skin in order to provide better protection for consumers from the possible sensitizing effects of that metal.

OJ C 116, 27.4.1993; COM(93) 134

Pharmaceutical products

1.2.7. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 65/65/EEC, 75/318/EEC

and 75/319/EEC on the approximation of the provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to medicinal products; proposal for a Council Directive amending Directives 81/851/EEC and 81/852/EEC on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States in respect of veterinary medicinal products; proposal for a Council Directive repealing Directive 87/22/EEC on the approximation of national measures relating to the placing on the market of high-technology medicinal products, particularly those derived from biotechnology.

Commission proposals: OJ C 330, 31.12.1990; COM(90) 283; Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.3.1

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 183, 15.7.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.23

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 269, 14.10.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.23

Amended Commission proposals: OJ C 310, 30.11.1991; COM(91) 382; Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.16

Council common positions: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.17

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April, subject to certain amendments regarding, in particular, the role of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products, coordinated action by the Member States in assessing applications for marketing authorization and the deadlines for examining such applications.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.8. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning medical devices.

Commission proposal: OJ C 237, 12.9.1991; COM(91) 287; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.7

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 79, 30.3.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.39

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 150, 15.6.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.17

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 251, 28.9.1992; COM(92) 356; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.26

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.38

Council common position: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.8

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April, subject to a drafting amendment.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Foodstuffs

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

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

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 313, 30.11.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.25

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.5

Amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 19 April. This amendment is designed in particular to extend the list of foodstuffs in which the use of colours is prohibited or restricted.

OJ C 134, 13.5.1993; COM(93) 153

1.2.10. Proposal for a Council Directive on the hygiene of foodstuffs.

Commission proposal: OJ C 24, 31.1.1992; COM(91) 525; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.41

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 223, 31.8.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.21

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.33

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 347, 31.12.1992; COM(92) 547; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.41

Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.41

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April, subject to various amendments designed in particular to reinforce the measures relating to the inspection of food premises and to the training of those handling foodstuffs. Parliament also calls for packaging materials to be included in the list of products that have to be kept in appropriate conditions in order to prevent any contamination of foodstuffs.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Animal and plant health

Animal health

1.2.11. Commission communication to the Council and to Parliament on control of residues in meat: hormones, beta-agonists and other substances.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the use of hormones and illegal growth-promoting substances in beef production: OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.18

Adopted by the Commission on 21 April. The communication, which follows the inquiry launched by the Commission at Parliament's request, sets out the present situation in the Member States regarding the illegal use of growth promoters in animal production. The inquiry revealed serious deficiencies in the transposition of Directives, in the detection of fraud, in the equipment of laboratories and in controls on raw chemical substances, and also the absence of effective dissuasive measures. The Commission points out that the Community is faced with the continual development of more and more sophisticated illegal products and increasingly well-developed distribution networks which are jeopardizing public health. It therefore suggests ways of ensuring that legislation is complied with more closely and emphasizes the need for the parties concerned — particularly the producers but also the owners and managers of abattoirs — to assume their responsibilities. The suggested measures include:

- a written statement to be provided by the producer on submission of his annual aid application guaranteeing non-use of anabolic substances and observance of the withdrawal period in the case of authorized veterinary medical products;
- prominent publicity where individuals are convicted of offences;
- Community sanctions (withdrawal of entitlement to aid) to be added to national judicial penalties;
- a written guarantee accompanying animals delivered for slaughter; the destruction of animals treated with illegal substances and systematic checking of other supplies from those making false declarations at their expense;
- withdrawal of operating licences and entitlement to aid from abattoirs failing to cooperate with inspectors;
- encouragement for the setting-up of auto-control systems in abattoirs;
- encouragement for the establishment of producer groups operating autocontrol systems;

- reinforcement of checks at farm level;
- a total ban on beta-agonists (except for the therapeutic treatment of horses and domestic pets).

COM(93) 167

1.2.12. Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 88/408/EEC on the levels of the fees to be charged for health inspections and controls of fresh meat pursuant to Directive 85/73/EEC.

Basic Directive: Council Directive 85/73/EEC on the financing of health inspections and controls of fresh meat and poultrymeat: OJ L 32, 5.2.1985; Bull. EC 1-1985, point 2.1.45, last amended by Directive 88/409/EEC: OJ L 194, 22.7.1988; Bull. EC 6-1988, point 2.1.223

Decision to be amended: Decision 88/408/EEC: OJ L 194, 22.7.1988; Bull. EC 6-1988, point 2.1.223

Adopted by the Commission on 7 April. The purpose of the proposal is to extend, subject to certain amendments, the application of Decision 88/408/EEC until 31 December 1993.

COM(93) 149

1.2.13. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 89/556/EEC on animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in and importation from third countries of embryos of domestic animals of the bovine species.

Commission proposal: OJ C 63, 5.3.1993; COM(93) 55; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.20

Endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.14. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 91/67/EEC concerning the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products.

Commission proposal: OJ C 324, 10.12.1992; COM(92) 458; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.173
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 129, 10.5.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.8

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.15. Proposal for a Council Directive introducing Community measures for the control of certain fish diseases.

Commission proposal: OJ C 172, 8.7.1992; COM(92) 204; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.159

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 19, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.174

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April, subject to certain amendments designed to limit the financial impact on fish farms of the measures for removing infected fish by providing in particular for the establishment of a guarantee fund and for Member States to compensate fish farms affected by extended measures preventing exploitation of resources.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Plant health

1.2.16. Council Directive 93/19/EEC amending Directive 77/93/EEC on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community, and Directive 91/683/EEC.

Directive amended: Council Directive 77/93/EEC: OJ L 26, 31.1.1977, amended by Council Directive 91/683/EEC: OJ L 376, 31.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.219, and last amended by Commission Directive 92/103/EEC: OJ L 363, 11.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.222

Commission proposal: OJ C 15, 21.1.1993; COM(92) 559; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.221

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 108, 19.4.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.23

Parliament opinion: OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.10

Adopted by the Council on 19 April. The Directive sets 1 June 1993 as the deadline for the implementation by Member States of the plant health arrangements introduced by Directive 91/683/EEC.

OJ L 96, 22.4.1993

1.2.17. Visit to the Commission by Mr F. Oberle, the Canadian Minister responsible for forestry, on 23 April.

Mr Frank Oberle was received by Mr René Steichen, a Member of the Commission. Their discussions covered the problems connected with the importation into the Community of conifer wood from Canada that may be contaminated with the pine nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*).

1.2.18. Proposal for a Council Directive establishing Annex VI of Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market.

Directive to be supplemented: Council Directive 91/414/EEC: OJ L 230, 19.8.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.203

Adopted by the Commission on 20 April. The aim of the proposal is to define the uniform principles on the basis of which Member States are to authorize the marketing of plant protection products.

COM(93) 117

1.2.19. Proposal for a Council Directive on the control of potato ring rot.

Directive to be repealed: Council Directive 80/665/EEC on the control of potato ring rot: OJ L 180, 14.7.1980

Commission proposal: OJ C 93, 2.4.1993; COM(93) 58; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.24

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April, subject to various comments relating in particular to the measures applicable to farms with infected fields.

Free movement of persons

Right of establishment

1.2.20. Council Directive 93/16/EEC facilitating the free movement of doctors and the mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications.

Directives consolidated:

Council Directive 75/362/EEC concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications in medicine, including measures to facilitate the

effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services: OJ L 167, 30.6.1975, amended by Directive 81/1057/EEC: OJ L 385, 31.12.1981, and last amended by Directive 90/658/EEC: OJ L 353, 17.12.1990

Directive 75/363/EEC concerning the coordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of activities of doctors: OJ L 167, 30.6.1975, last amended by Directive 90/658/EEC: OJ L 353, 17.12.1990

Council Directive 86/457/EEC on specific training in general medical practice: OJ L 267, 19.9.1986; Bull. EC 7/8-1986, point 2.1.8

Commission proposal: Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.42

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 98, 21.4.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.49

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 125, 18.5.1992; Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.24

Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.47

Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.28

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The purpose of the Directive is to achieve legislative consolidation of the Directives on freedom of movement for doctors and mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualification.

Free movement of services

Financial services

1.2.21. Proposal for a Council Directive setting up a Securities Committee.

References:

Council Directive 91/675/EEC setting up an Insurance Committee: OJ L 374, 31.12.1991; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.35

Council Directive 93/6/EEC on capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.14

Council common position on the proposal for a Council Directive on investment services in the securities field: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.45

Commission proposals: OJ C 152, 21.6.1990; OJ C 43, 22.2.1989; COM(90) 141; COM(88) 778; Bull. EC 4-1990, point 1.1.3; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.147

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 69, 18.3.1991; OJ C 298, 27.11.1989; Bull. EC 1/2-1991, point 1.2.31; Bull. EC 9-1989, point 2.1.12

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 326, 16.12.1991; OJ C 304, 4.12.1989; Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.2.19; Bull. EC 10-1989, point 2.1.16

Amended Commission proposals: OJ C 50, 25.2.1992; OJ C 42, 22.2.1990; COM(92) 13; COM(89) 629; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.47; Bull. EC 1/2-1990, point 1.1.29

Common position adopted by the Council on 5 April. The proposal combines two articles: one from the amended proposal for a Directive on capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions and the other from the amended proposal for a Directive on investment services in the securities field. The committee it is designed to set up will have the task, like the Insurance Committee, of assisting the Commission in exercising its executive powers, particularly in making technical amendments to Directive 93/6/EEC and to the future investment services Directive.

1.2.22. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 80/390/EEC with a view to extending the scope of the partial or complete exemption from the obligation to publish listing particulars.

Commission proposal: OJ C 23, 27.1.1993; COM(92) 566; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.46

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April, subject to a number of comments on the wording of the proposal.

Tax aspects

1.2.23. Proposal for a Council Directive supplementing the common system of value-added tax and amending Directive 77/388/EEC — special scheme for gold.

Commission proposal: OJ C 302, 19.11.1992; COM(92) 441; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.47

Economic and Social Committee opinion delivered on 28 April. The Committee endorsed the aims of the proposal. It suggested broadening the definition of investment gold and extending zero-rate taxation to transactions involving

non-processed gold. It drew attention to the risks of relocation and tax fraud that stem from the complexity of the system of taxing transactions relating to gold other than investment gold at the standard VAT rate.

Intellectual property

1.2.24. Proposal for a Council Directive on the coordination of certain rules concerning copyright and neighbouring rights applicable to satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission.

Reference: Council Directive 89/552/EEC concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities: OJ L 298, 17.10.1989; Bull. EC 10-1989, point 2.1.18

Commission proposal: OJ C 255, 1.10.1991; COM(91) 276; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.76

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 98, 21.4.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.52

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 305, 23.11.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.43

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 25, 28.1.1993; COM(92) 526; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.48

Common position agreed by the Council on 5 April. The proposal, which is designed to supplement Directive 89/552/EEC on 'television without frontiers', provides for Community rules to be established on copyright and related rights in the fields of satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission.

In the case of satellite broadcasting, the proposal aims to limit existing legal uncertainty. Firstly, it provides for an act of broadcasting to be subject to a single body of copyright legislation, that of the country of origin. Secondly, in order to prevent 'copyright havens', the proposal provides for a common level of protection for authors, artists, performers, producers of phonograms and broadcasting organizations.

With regard to simultaneous, unaltered and unabridged cable retransmission, the proposal provides for the collective and compulsory administration of cable retransmission rights. Additional measures are proposed to encourage contractual agreements between cable

operators, copyright owners and broadcasting organizations and to prevent abuse. The proposal also provides for transitional arrangements. It sets a transitional period of five years from the date of transposition of the Directive into national law to enable the parties to renegotiate the current agreements on satellite broadcasting. Specific rules are also proposed for international coproduction agreements. As to cable retransmission rights, Member States would be able to maintain until 1 January 2003 the national bodies responsible as at 1 January 1995 for settling disputes between cable operators and broadcasting organizations.

Public procurement

1.2.25. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 90/531/EEC on the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 90/531/EEC: OJ L 297, 29.10.1990; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.6

Commission proposal: OJ C 337, 31.12.1991; COM(91) 347; Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.2.2

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 106, 27.4.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.28

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 176, 13.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.8

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.8

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 188, 25.7.1992; COM(92) 292; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.29

Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.44

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April, subject to two drafting amendments.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

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

References:

Council Directive 71/305/EEC concerning the coordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts: OJ L 185, 16.8.1971, last amended by Directive 93/4/EEC: OJ L 38, 16.2.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.36

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

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

Commission proposal: OJ C 277, 26.10.1992; COM(92) 346; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.28

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 332, 16.12.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.39

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.37

Common position adopted by the Council on 5 April. The purpose of the proposal is to undertake legislative consolidation of Directive 77/62/EEC and at the same time to recast it to bring it into line with the Directives on public works and service contracts, particularly as regards procedural rules and provisions on technical specifications.

The measures identified by the Commission include the allocation of priority, as regards public expenditure, to investments in infrastructure and capital goods and to other growth-enhancing spending (e.g. research and development), measures to encourage private investment, support for small and medium-sized enterprises, additional vocational training, encouragement of wage restraint, and structural reforms to improve the operation of markets and the conditions of competition.

The Commission also stresses the need to make progress on other key economic policy issues: ratification of the Treaty on European Union, further reductions in interest rates, a return to steadier conditions within the European Monetary System and the conclusion of the GATT negotiations. It draws attention to the importance of coordinating Member States' policies for stability, growth and employment, and of cooperation with the other industrialized countries.

The Commission estimates that the impact of the growth initiative in 1994 will be equivalent to 0.6% of Community GDP.

COM(93) 164

1.2.28. Council conclusions on the Edinburgh declaration on promoting economic recovery in Europe.

Adopted on 19 April.

'The Council has today endorsed a new thrust of economic policies designed simultaneously to aim at higher, non-inflationary growth and rising employment and to realize the convergence criteria. These policies constitute a first step in the implementation of the Edinburgh declaration. The Council is determined to provide an improved foundation for confidence and growth.

During the last two years economic growth has slowed — globally as well as in the Community — and unemployment has increased to very high levels. Without new policy measures, the Community will be faced with a continuously high level of unemployment during the coming years.

The Council's conclusions confirm its determination to strengthen cooperation and coordination of economic policy.

Economic and monetary policy

Growth initiative

References:

Conclusions of the Presidency, Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, points I.8 and I.30

Commission communication on the implementation of the Community measures of the growth initiative: OJ C 60, 3.3.1993; COM(93) 54; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.41

1.2.27. Commission working paper on promoting economic recovery in Europe.

Adopted on 14 April. The working paper is designed to enable the Council to take stock of the measures announced or already undertaken, at both Community and national level, under the growth initiative decided by the European Council in Edinburgh.

The nature and scope of the measures taken to enhance growth and employment differ according to the economic situation and, in particular, the budgetary position of each Member State. It is, however, crucial to ensure that these measures are concerted in both substance and timing. The Commission considers that the benefit for each Member State regarding growth and employment in this case will be significantly increased. Such concertation should be put into effect to the extent possible for the policies already decided for 1993 and should be consistently applied in relation to 1994. Public expenditure should be reorientated by giving higher priority to those investments in infrastructure and environment which are of particular importance for economic growth. In parallel, higher private investment will be encouraged both through national policies and through actions at Community level. A more detailed list of such actions is given in the Commission's report: "Promoting economic recovery in Europe".

The indicative estimates by the Commission of the direct effects from these initiatives point to an increase in total GNP in Member States' of the order of 0.6% and an employment creation of 450 000 jobs over two years. Perhaps even more important than the direct effects from these initiatives on growth and employment will be the resulting revival in business and consumer confidence which will be the basis for sustained growth also in the years following 1993-94. The design of the growth initiative is in accordance with the economic policies as set out in the Maastricht Treaty as higher growth will contribute to fulfilling the convergence criteria, in particular regarding the budget deficits. The initiative comes on top of the establishment of the single market.

The Council has noted with satisfaction the reduced level of interest rates during the last few months. A balanced economic policy will improve the conditions for further reductions.

The Council has also noted with satisfaction that many Member States have accomplished moderate wage settlements, in the private and the public sectors, which gives reason for optimism regarding future price developments. Positive prospects for low inflation in most Member States constitute the foundation for increasing growth and employment and lower interest rates.

In order to increase efficiency and support non-inflationary growth, structural reforms will be implemented. The Council has noted with interest the opinion of the Economic Policy Committee (in the report: "Improving the functioning of the labour market") and has decided to have an in-depth discussion at its next meeting.

The Council agrees to continue action to pursue the objective of promoting economic recovery in Europe. The Council will make a report to the European Council next June on the implementation of the Edinburgh declaration, based on the package of measures presented today and including subsequent decisions and developments in addition to the initiatives taken at Community level. A further review of the conjunctural situation, of the effectiveness of the measures already taken and of the possible need for further measures to be included in national budgets for 1994 will be conducted by the Council in the autumn.

It is also of vital importance that the Uruguay Round negotiations are rapidly and successfully concluded, and the Community will actively work towards such an outcome.

The growth initiative includes a wide range of actions and measures which have been announced and decided in the last few months at national and Community levels for implementation during 1993; in some cases, Member States are already taking advantage of the new or enlarged Community facilities agreed in Edinburgh.

The main areas where national and Community action is being taken are:

- greater priority in public expenditure on infrastructure and other capital investment and on other growth-enhancing spending;
- new facilities and incentives to encourage private investment;
- structural reforms to make markets work better, increase competition and reduce subsidies and other distortions;
- improved support for small and medium-sized enterprises, which hold considerable potential for employment creation;
- additional training and other schemes to prepare the unemployed for work and to improve the quality and skills of the labour force;
- wage restraint, economy-wide wage moderation to improve competitiveness and help reduce unemployment.

Besides the specific measures they are taking, some Member States are also giving support to activity by not attempting to offset the effects of the economic slowdown on their budget deficits.'

1.2.29. Council conclusions on economic relations between the Commission and the United States and global growth.

Adopted on 19 April.

'The Community has decided to change and renew the design of economic policies. The aim is to promote economic growth and employment in a balanced and sustainable way. The Community is committed to improving economic convergence with low inflation and sound public finances.

The Council recalls that the economic relationship between the Community and the United States is of major importance for worldwide economic development.

The Community, the United States and Japan have a common responsibility and the economic strength to stimulate world trade so as to revitalize global non-inflationary growth, including employment. The Community welcomes the common will to embark on a coordinated growth initiative. The Community wants to encourage that process, where growth, price stability and employment are at the top of the agenda.

Accordingly, there is a need for an appropriate dialogue to strengthen economic cooperation. To that end, proper preparation of the Tokyo Summit is essential. In this respect, it is encouraging to observe a degree of economic policy convergence on both sides of the Atlantic: stimulating growth without hampering in any respect the necessary medium-term strong improvement in public finance.

The Council stresses that the Community and the United States are each other's largest single trading partner and have a common interest in expanding trade. It is thus of vital importance that the Uruguay Round negotiations are rapidly and successfully completed, and bilateral disputes rapidly resolved by negotiations and without escalation.'

Statistical area

General

Statistical classification

1.2.30. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the statistical classification of products by

activity in the European Economic Community.

Commission proposal: OJ C 12, 18.1.1993; COM(92) 325; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.4

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 19, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.6

Endorsed by Parliament (first reading) on 21 April, subject to various amendments concerning the timetable for implementing the Regulation and a number of technical aspects.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Statistics on goods and services

1.2.31. Council Regulation (EEC) No 854/93 on transit statistics and storage statistics relating to the trading of goods between Member States.

Commission proposal: OJ C 107, 28.4.1992; COM(92) 97; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.2

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 223, 31.8.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.4

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 337, 21.12.1992; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.7

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 22, 26.1.1993; COM(92) 595; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.6

Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.6

Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.46

Re-examined Commission proposal: COM(93) 114; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.23

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The Regulation lays down the framework within which the Member States are authorized to organize their statistical surveys of transit and storage movements, to ensure that the burden on those responsible for providing information does not vary excessively from one Member State to another.

OJ L 90, 14.4.1993

Agricultural statistics

1.2.32. Council Regulation (EEC) No 959/93 concerning statistical information to be supplied by Member States on crop products other than cereals.

Commission proposal: COM(92) 430; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.11

Parliament opinion: OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.48

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The purpose of this Regulation is to harmonize and improve the data provided by Member States on crop products other than cereals. It defines the data to be supplied, sets deadlines for transmission and establishes the degree of precision required to guarantee the objectivity and representativeness of the data.

OJ L 98, 24.4.1993

Fisheries statistics

1.2.33. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1382/91 on the submission of data on the landings of fishery products in Member States.

Commission proposal: OJ C 84, 25.3.1993; COM(93) 75; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.27

Endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.34. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the submission of catch and effort statistics by Member States fishing in the North-West Atlantic.

Commission proposal: OJ C 118, 28.4.1993; COM(93) 76; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.28

Endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Results

Europe is getting older: 100 million people over 60 by 2020

Reference: Launch of the European Year of Older People and Solidarity between Generations: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.209

1.2.35. In connection with the European Year of Older People and Solidarity between

Generations, Eurostat has published a report (Eurostat, rapid reports, *Population and social conditions*, No 1993/1: *Older people in the European Community*) on the age structure of the Community population. This report, the first of a series to be published by Eurostat on older people, looks at the ageing of the population (Table 1), its life expectancy (Table 2), the employment of persons aged 60 and over, causes of death and regional trends.

Over the past 30 years, the number of older people (60 years of age and over) has risen by almost 50%, from 46.5 to 68.6 million. The signs are that this trend will continue, and that by 2020 there will be between 89 and 100 million older people living on the present territory of the Community, 17 to 22 million of them aged 80 or over, compared with 11.9 million, or 3.5% of the population of the European Community, today. Germany and France have the highest proportion (3.8%) aged 80 or over, closely followed by the United Kingdom and Denmark (3.7%).

A 60-year-old man in the European Community can expect to live to be 78 and a woman to be 82. French women have the highest life expectancy at 84.2 years (4.7 years more than in 1960). Irish men have the shortest, with 76.6 years. There are twice as many women as men in the 80-84 age group and three times as many in the 90-94 age group. Over half of all women aged 75-79 and three-quarters of those aged 80 or over are widows. Over half of the over-80s (total men and women) are widowed. After the age of 60, at least twice as many women as men live alone.

In the European Community, 4.3 million men and 2 million women aged 60 or over, or 10% of the total in this age group, are economically active. Almost a quarter of the older people who are still working do so in the agricultural sector, compared with only 5-6% of the active under-60s. Almost 84% of working men aged 60 or over work full-time.

Half of all Community citizens aged 55 or over die of circulatory diseases and a quarter die of cancer-related illness. Lung cancer is responsible for 13% of male deaths in the 55-64 age group, compared with only 5% of female

deaths. Breast cancer causes 14% of the deaths of women in the same age group.

There are sometimes major differences in the regional distribution of older people within Member States. In Spain, for example, the proportion of older people ranges from 13% in the Canaries to 23% in Aragón and Castilla-León; in France from 15% in Ile de France to 27% in Limousin, and in Italy from 15% in Campania to 28% in Liguria.

Table 1 — *Number of older people in the Member States in 1991*

Member State	1 000	%
60 years and over		
Belgium	2 062	20.7
Denmark	1 046	20.3
Germany	16 264	20.4
Greece	2 049	20.2
Spain	7 362	18.9
France	10 953	19.3
Ireland	538	15.3
Italy	11 888	20.6
Luxembourg	73	19.1
Netherlands	2 611	17.4
Portugal	1 798	18.2
United Kingdom	11 931	20.7
EUR 12	68 576	19.9
80 years and over		
Belgium	353	3.5
Denmark	192	3.7
Germany	3 011	3.8
Greece	323	3.2
Spain	1 125	2.9
France	2 151	3.8
Ireland	79	2.2
Italy	1 878	3.3
Luxembourg	12	3.1
Netherlands	437	2.9
Portugal	247	2.5
United Kingdom	2 128	3.7
EUR 12	11 936	3.5

Table 2 — *Entire lifespan expected at the age of 60, by sex*

Member State	Males	Females
1990¹		
Belgium	77.8	82.7
Denmark	77.4	81.6
Germany	77.8	82.2
Greece	79.2	82.3
Spain	79.0	83.2
France	79.0	84.2
Ireland	76.6	80.6
Italy	78.2	82.7
Luxembourg	77.8	82.4
Netherlands	78.1	83.1
Portugal	77.2	81.2
United Kingdom	77.6	81.7
EUR 12	78.0	82.5
1960²		
Belgium	75.5	78.7
Denmark	77.1	79.3
Germany	75.5	78.5
Greece	76.9	78.6
Spain	76.5	79.2
France	75.6	79.5
Ireland	75.8	78.1
Italy	76.7	79.3
Luxembourg	75.5	78.3
Netherlands	77.7	79.7
Portugal	76.2	79.1
United Kingdom	75.0	78.9
EUR 12	—	—

¹ Germany, Greece: 1989; EUR 12, Spain, Italy: 1988.

² Germany, Ireland: 1960-62; Denmark: 1961-62; Luxembourg: 1961-63.

Agricultural income in the European Community: down 3.5% in 1992

1.2.36. Agricultural income (measured by net value-added at factor cost per annual work unit) fell in real terms by 3.5% in the European Community in 1992, following a rise of 2.3% in 1991. The figures (Eurostat: *Report on agri-*

cultural income 1992 (Theme 5, Series D), and rapid reports, *Agriculture, forestry and fisheries*, No 1993-3) show that:

- Ireland, Luxembourg, Germany and the United Kingdom are the only Member States in which there was no drop in income;
- Greece, Denmark and the Netherlands registered a drop of over 10%.

The main cause of this fall-off in agricultural income is the drop in producer prices for crop products: an average of -15.2% in real terms for the Community, representing a sharp deterioration compared with the trend observed since the early 1980s (-3.2% per year). The price of potatoes, for example, fell by 34.4% and prices of fresh fruit by 27.6%. The upshot was a drop in the value of farm production despite excellent harvests: the volume of crop production actually rose by 5.2% — one of the biggest increases since 1980 — with fresh fruit up by 30.4% and wine by 22.8%. Despite stable animal production, higher subsidies and lower taxes there was thus a fall in agricultural income. The agricultural labour force declined by 3.7%, exactly as in 1991. Agricultural income was nevertheless 7.7% higher in 1992 than in 1984-86. These trends are illustrated in Table 3.

Table 3 — *Agricultural income — Net value-added at factor cost in real terms per annual work unit (self-employed and employees)*

Member State	(% change)		
	1990	1991	1992
Belgium	-9.2	-1.2	-5.3
Denmark	-6.0	-8.4	-10.6
Germany	-11.0	-6.3	2.5
Greece	-16.0	25.8	-10.1
Spain	4.9	1.9	-9.6
France	4.4	-3.8	-0.9
Ireland	2.1	-7.4	16.5
Italy	-8.2	12.1	-4.1
Luxembourg	-6.0	-14.8	6.9
Netherlands	-4.2	-0.2	-12.1
Portugal	6.7	-8.6	-8.7
United Kingdom	1.0	-3.1	2.2
EUR 12	-2.9	2.3	-3.5

Information

Publications

1.2.37. New publications available from sales offices:

- International trade in services, EUR 12: 1979-89*;
- Agricultural prices: price indices and absolute prices*;
- Transport: statistics 1970-90*;
- Sigma*, bulletin of European statistics. This month's issue deals with the 1993-97 statistical programme.

Competition

Application of the competition rules to businesses: specific cases

Mergers

Commission decisions under the Merger Control Regulation

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 on the control of concentrations between undertakings: OJ L 395, 30.12.1989 (corrected version: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990); Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.1.78; Supplement 2/90 — Bull. EC

Zurich/MMI

1.2.38. *Adopted on 2 April.* The decision allows Zurich Insurance Company to acquire those assets of Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) which involve the writing of non-life insurance in the United Kingdom (motor, property, general liability, pecuniary loss and accident insurance). The acquisition does not substantially alter Zurich's position on the various insurance markets in the United Kingdom, where its activities have hitherto

been relatively minor, as compared with its many competitors.

Degussa/Ciba-Geigy

1.2.39. *Adopted on 5 April.* The decision approves the setting-up of a joint venture by Degussa and Ciba-Geigy to take over their activities in the manufacture of colours for glass and ceramics, coatings for ceramics, and conductive silver pastes. The joint venture will become a major player on the market for glass colours used in the decoration of glass, porcelain and ceramics and for conductive silver pastes used for heated windscreens and radio aerials incorporated in windscreens. These are speciality products with a relatively narrow market in terms of both quantity and value. The joint venture's position on that market will be based mainly on the strong market share previously held by Degussa. Ciba-Geigy has been active mainly outside the Community through its North American division Drakenfeld and has been only a small player on the Community market. The setting-up of the joint venture will not therefore significantly alter the structure of competition.

Gehe AG/OCP SA

1.2.40. *Adopted on 5 April.* The decision authorizes the takeover bid by which Gehe AG proposes to acquire the majority of the capital of OCP SA. Since the markets for the large-scale distribution of pharmaceutical products are still national, the merger between the German distributor Gehe and the leading French pharmaceutical wholesaler OCP will not result in any addition of market shares within the same geographic reference market. The Commission also examined the conglomerate implications of the takeover, particularly in view of Gehe's activities in the production of generics in Germany. It considered that the distribution of such products in France by OCP and the parallel increase in intra-Community imports would promote competition on the markets concerned.

Thomson/Short

1.2.41. *Adopted on 14 April.* The decision authorizes the setting-up of a joint venture by

the French company Thomson CSF (a subsidiary of Thomson SA) and the British company Short Brothers plc (a subsidiary of the Canadian group Bombardier Inc.). The joint venture will take over the two companies' activities in the manufacture and marketing of CADS missiles (Close Air Defence Systems), Short's main contribution being their missile production facilities and that of Thomson being missile guidance technology.

Alcan/Inespal/Palco

1.2.42. *Adopted on 14 April.* The decision authorizes an acquisition of joint control on the Spanish market for aluminium products. The Spanish aluminium producer Inespal has sold 50% of its interest in Palco, a manufacturer of aluminium foil containers used in the food industry, to Alcan, Canada. Alcan and Inespal are both active in the production of primary aluminium and of aluminium products. Through its subsidiaries, Alcan is also involved on the Community market. As a result of the transaction, Palco will have a significant share of the Spanish market for aluminium containers. There are, however, major competitors on the markets, and there is a large degree of potential competition. To some extent, Palco will also face competition from manufacturers of containers made from materials other than aluminium. The Commission therefore approved the transaction.

Ahold/Jerónimo Martins/Inovação

Reference: Ahold/Jerónimo Martins decision of 29.9.1992: OJ C 261, 10.10.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.43

1.2.43. *Adopted on 19 April.* The decision authorizes the acquisition of Inovação (Portugal) by Jerónimo Martins (Portugal) and Ahold (Netherlands). Following the setting-up of a joint venture, Jerónimo Martins Retail (JMR), by Ahold (a Dutch food retailer) and Jerónimo Martins (a Portuguese food retailer and wholesaler), which was cleared by the Commission in October 1992, the acquisition will allow the two groups to expand on the Portuguese market through the joint venture.

By acquiring Inovação, the joint venture will reinforce its position in the hypermarket and supermarket segments. However, the acquisition will not create or strengthen a dominant position. Similarly, as regards relations with suppliers, it will not concentrate sufficient demand in the hands of the joint venture to pose a threat to competition.

Schweizerische Kreditanstalt/Schweizerische Volksbank

1.2.44. Adopted on 29 April. The decision authorizes the acquisition of Schweizerische Volksbank by Schweizerische Kreditanstalt. The proposed merger will result in a major restructuring of the Swiss banking market, but will have only a limited impact on markets within the Community. One of Schweizerische Kreditanstalt's main activities is international investment banking, while Schweizerische Volksbank focuses more on domestic business with small and medium-sized corporate customers and individual customers. There is, therefore, only a small overlap in the essential activities of both banks within the Community.

Procordia/Erbamont

1.2.45. Adopted on 29 April. The decision authorizes the proposed acquisition by Procordia/Kabi Pharmacia of, initially, 51% and, in three years' time, 100% of Farmitalia/Erbamont, Montedison's pharmaceutical divisions. The acquisition will not substantially alter Procordia's relative position as compared with its competitors on the relevant markets since the activities of the two businesses are mainly complementary. Even though the transaction is likely to give the new unit greater overall capacity on the European and world markets for pharmaceutical products, notably as regards research and development, it will not lead to the creation of a dominant position.

OJ C 128, 8.5.1993

Harrisons & Crosfield/AKZO

1.2.46. Adopted on 29 April. The decision authorizes a proposed joint venture under

which Harcross Chemicals (UK) Ltd, controlled by Harrisons and Crosfield plc, and AKZO Chemicals International BV, controlled by AKZO NV, will acquire joint control of Akros Chemicals through the pooling of jointly administered assets. Akros Chemicals manufactures and distributes PVC processing additives, radiation cure products, paint driers and other speciality chemical products. The transaction will increase the degree of concentration in certain sectors. However, given the number of alternative suppliers, the trend towards rising imports and the increase in environmental constraints, the structure of supply will not be affected to such an extent that effective competition will be significantly impeded in the common market.

OJ C 128, 8.5.1993

Application of the competition rules to government intervention

Shipbuilding aid

1.2.47. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding.

Directive to be amended: Seventh Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding: OJ L 380, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.64, as last amended by Council Directive 92/68/EEC: OJ L 219, 4.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.56

Adopted on 20 April. The proposal extends the validity of the seventh Directive on aid to shipbuilding until 31 December 1994.

OJ C 126, 7.5.1993; COM(93) 160

Aid for air transport

1.2.48. Parliament resolution on the Commission's report to the Council and Parliament on the valuation of the aid schemes established in favour of Community air carriers (→ point 1.2.78).

State aid

Decisions to raise no objection

Germany

Steel

1.2.49. Commission decisions on regional investment aid for two iron and steel scrap recycling firms in the former German Democratic Republic.

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

Adopted on 6 and 21 April. The regional investment aid for TRR Thyssen Rohstoff-Recycling GmbH and Metall und Rohstoff Eberswalde were deemed to be in line with Article 5 of the code on aid to the steel industry, in view of the overall reduction in capacity for hot-rolled products in the former German Democratic Republic. The investment will also increase the supply of scrap, which is currently insufficient.

Shipbuilding

1.2.50. Commission decision on a development aid credit linked to the purchase of a ship built by Husumer Schiffswerft.

Reference: Seventh Council Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding: OJ L 380, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.64, as last amended by Directive 92/68/EEC: OJ L 219, 4.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.56

Adopted on 6 April. Husumer Schiffswerft is building a tug for the Port-Louis port authority, Mauritius, which will receive an aid credit for this purpose. The aid fulfils the conditions laid down in Article 4(7) of the seventh Directive, which covers development aid linked to the purchase of ships.

Belgium

1.2.51. Commission decision on a scheme of aid for French-language publishing.

Adopted on 6 April. Under the scheme, which has a budget of ECU 250 000 a year, the executive of the French Community grants interest-free loans for the publishing of high-quality books in French. The Commission took the view that the scheme, which serves an important cultural purpose, whose effect on competition is limited and which can also be used to assist publishers from other Member States, is compatible with the common market.

Denmark

Shipbuilding

1.2.52. Commission decision on a new loan guarantee scheme and on an amendment to the terms of an indexed loan scheme.

Reference: Seventh Council Directive 90/684/EEC on aid to shipbuilding: OJ L 380, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.64, as last amended by Directive 92/68/EEC: OJ L 219, 4.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.56

Adopted on 28 April. A new public guarantee fund has been set up to offset the difficulties of obtaining guarantees on the private market. Even though the premium rates are calculated on a commercial basis (on average 2% a year), the Commission considers that the scheme contains an aid element which is, however, within the limits acceptable under the seventh Directive. The amendment to the indexed loan scheme involves merely an extension of the delivery period for vessels until the end of 1996, the period authorized by Article 4(3) of the Directive.

United Kingdom

1.2.53. Commission decision on investment aid for Bonar Textiles Ltd.

Reference: Code on aid to the synthetic fibres industry: OJ C 346, 30.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, points 1.3.73 and 1.3.74

Adopted on 21 April. The investment, to be carried out by a firm located in the Dundee travel-to-work area in Scotland, relates solely to the production of polypropylene tape used in the manufacture of carpets and artificial

grass and, as such, is not covered by the code on aid to the synthetic fibres industry.

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

Germany

1.2.54. Commission decision on proposed investment aid for SST-Garngesellschaft, a synthetic fibres manufacturer in Thuringia.

Reference: Code on aid to the synthetic fibres industry: OJ C 346, 30.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, points 1.3.73 and 1.3.74

Adopted on 6 April. The Commission doubts whether the aid, which is intended to create new polyester fibre production capacity, is compatible with the new aid code, which makes aid conditional upon a significant reduction in the assisted firm's production capacity.

Negative final decision under Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty

Germany

1.2.55. Commission decision on aid granted by the *Land* of Bremen for the purchase of Krupp Atlas Electronic by Bremer Vulkan.

Reference: Initiation of proceedings: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.51

Adopted on 6 April. The inquiries undertaken during the proceedings confirmed that the guarantee granted by the *Land* of Bremen, covering the DM 126 million difference between the value of the Bremer Vulkan shares sold to Hibeg and the amount in cash paid to Krupp for the sale of its Krupp Atlas Electronic division to Bremer Vulkan, constitutes aid to Bremer Vulkan and that the aid is not in the Community's interest. Consequently, the Commission requested that the guarantee be withdrawn and the aid of DM 126 million to Bremer Vulkan recovered.

Decisions on requests for derogations from the Community policy on aid to the steel industry (Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty)

Germany

1.2.56. Commission decisions on aid for EKO-Stahl and Sächsische Edelstahlwerke (Freital).

Adopted on 28 April. The German authorities asked the Commission to grant them a derogation for aid for two East German steel undertakings, EKO-Stahl, Eisenhüttenstadt (Brandenburg), and Sächsische Edelstahlwerke, Freital (Saxony). The Commission decided to reject the request in the case of EKO-Stahl since it took the view that the granting of ECU 997 million in aid for the restructuring plan, which would lead to an increase in production capacity for hot-rolled products, would run counter to the Community's policy in this sector, in which there is already considerable overcapacity. However, it informed the German Government that it was prepared to give sympathetic consideration to any amendment to the plan. In the case of Sächsische Edelstahlwerke, it took the view that the aid of ECU 177 million, intended for modernizing plant and equipment and covering its debts, was justified by the considerable reduction in capacity that would be achieved. It therefore asked the Council to give its assent to a proposal for a favourable decision in this case.

Industrial policy

Sectoral strategies

Steel

Reference: Council conclusions on restructuring of the steel industry in the Community: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.82

1.2.57. ECSC Consultative Committee resolution concerning external measures — steel imports from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Adopted on 2 April. The Committee describes the situation which led the Council to give directions for the immediate implementation of measures which concern both the stabilization of the Community market and imports from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the republics of the CIS (external measures). It considers that the measures are a first step in the right direction and urges the Commission to implement them as a matter of urgency by organizing surveillance of imports, publishing import reference prices and negotiating tariff quotas with the third countries concerned without further delay.

OJ C 121, 1.5.1993

1.2.58. Commission information note concerning the implementation of the social measures for the restructuring of the steel industry (1993-95) (→ point 1.2.104).

1.2.59. Recommendation for a Decision on the negotiation of an agreement between the Community, on the one hand, and the Czech Republic and Slovakia, on the other, concerning steel imports from those countries (external measures, steel restructuring programme) (→ point 1.3.72).

1.2.60. Commission communication concerning guidelines relating to production and deliveries in the Community of steel products for the second quarter of 1993.

Reference: Commission communication concerning guidelines relating to production and deliveries of steel products: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.53

Adopted on 2 April. The guidelines laid down by the Commission in cooperation with the steel-industry associations are part of the system of quarterly guidelines for stabilizing the market. The Commission observes that the decline in demand for flat products reflects the difficulties facing the automobile industry, tube construction and shipyards. As regards long products, the prospects for exports to third countries (in particular China) partially

offset the negative production trend. As for deliveries, there was a significant decline compared with the second-quarter results.

Maritime industries

1.2.61. Parliament resolution on the European maritime industries.

Reference: Commission communication on new challenges for maritime industries: COM(91) 335; Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.2.31

Adopted on 21 April. After emphasizing the economic importance of maritime industries and the disquieting nature of their present situation, Parliament insists on the need for an integrated, long-term Community strategy covering the European maritime industries in all their aspects (taxation, transport, environment and safety, natural resources, industrial relations policy, competition, research and development, and international policy).

It calls for an increase in preventive care of the environment under the maritime industrial policy; this can be achieved by quality control based on ecological criteria during the industrial manufacturing process; industry must be prepared to accept its environmental responsibilities. Parliament considers that efforts must be made to improve safety provisions by the introduction of penalties and the application of rules on liability. As regards fisheries, it calls for stricter monitoring of fishing methods and better supervision of fishing grounds.

Parliament warmly welcomes the establishment of a Maritime Forum for the industries and services concerned that will examine the overall situation in the maritime sector and put forward recommendations for future action.

Lastly, it recommends a series of measures to be pursued or implemented so as to bring back vessels onto Member States' registers, improve the qualifications of ships' crews, protect the maritime environment and prevent disasters, promote short-sea shipping, draw up an integrated research and development strategy, and take account of the maritime situation of the EEA countries and of the countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Enterprise policy

Policy to assist SMEs

1.2.62. Parliament resolution on the Commission communications to the Council entitled 'Towards a European market in subcontracting' and 'SME participation in public procurement in the Community'.

References:

Commission communication to the Council entitled 'Towards a European market in subcontracting': Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.95

Commission communication on SME participation in public procurement in the Community: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.59

Adopted on 21 April. Reaffirming that SMEs are an inseparable part of the economic and social fabric, Parliament requests that all Community measures, including those relating to subcontracting and public procurement, should be aimed at helping SMEs adjust to the requirements of the single market. It recognizes the need for greater transparency of the subcontracting market from the economic, social, legal and technical viewpoints. In particular, it calls on the Commission not to neglect the social dimension of the subcontracting sector, which often involves working extra hours, working on public holidays and recruiting temporary staff, all of which may lead to exploitation of workers.

It also highlights the problem of late payments, which is common both to subcontracting and public procurement, and calls on the Commission to submit specific proposals.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.63. Proposals for Council Decisions on a multiannual programme (1993-96) of Community measures to intensify the priority areas of policy for enterprise, in particular SMEs, in the Community and on a multiannual programme (1994-97) of Community measures to ensure the continuity of policy for enterprise, in particular SMEs, in the Community.

References:

Economic and Social Committee own-initiative opinion on SMEs and craft industries:

Bull. EC 4-1993

OJ C 332, 16.12.1992; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.63

Proposal for a Council Decision on Community membership of the European Investment Fund: OJ C 37, 11.2.1993; COM(93) 3; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.40

Commission approval: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.108

Commission proposals: OJ C 30, 3.2.1993; COM(92) 470; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.88

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April. However, the Committee hopes that a better balance will be achieved between the proposed budget for 'micro-measures' and that for 'macro-measures' designed to benefit SMEs as a whole or important sectors. It draws attention to its recommendations concerning measures to assist craft industry and training for heads of firms.

It also urges that the new European Investment Fund should make a genuine contribution to financing necessary investments in SMEs throughout the Community, and not simply in SMEs in less-developed areas.

Endorsed by Parliament on 20 April, subject to a number of amendments clarifying the objectives to be achieved and the procedures to be introduced to ensure consultation and the distribution of information.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Amended proposals adopted by the Commission on 23 April.

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Research and technology

Framework programme 1990-94

Industrial and materials technologies

1.2.64. Council conclusions on the European Community and space.

Reference: Commission communication to the Council and Parliament on the European Community and space: challenges, opportunities and new actions: COM(92) 360; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.57

Adopted on 29 April. The Council considered that the Commission communication gave an accurate overview of the situation regarding space activities in Europe and that its broad objectives constituted a useful basis for the possible definition of future Community activities in this field. It agreed that the question of Community support for space-related research and technological development (R&TD) activities should be considered, and invited the Commission to continue its efforts, within its sphere of competence and in the appropriate forums, to establish favourable conditions for the development of space application markets and for competitive European space industries, while developing synergy and complementarity between the Community R&TD programmes and the activities of the European Space Agency (ESA).

Framework programme 1994-98

1.2.65. Second Commission working document concerning research and technological development policy in the Community and the fourth framework programme (1994-98) of Community activities in the field of research and technological development.

References:

Commission working document concerning the fourth framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1994-98): COM(92) 406; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.66

Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.56

Approved on 21 April.

Adopted on 22 April. The Commission's guidelines for the fourth R&TD framework programme take account of the conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council which finalized the financial perspective for 1993-99, laid down the general framework for Community funding for research, and called upon the Commission

to adjust its research activities by making them more selective and by improving the dissemination of research results and their utilization by companies. The guidelines supplement and adapt accordingly the first guidelines adopted by the Commission in October 1992, taking into account also the results of the wide-ranging debate sparked off by them, and developments in the world context.

The objective of the fourth framework programme is to establish a genuine Community R&TD policy based on better coordination between activities carried out in the various forums for European scientific cooperation and the national R&TD activities.

In order to increase the impact of the programmes, the Commission proposes to focus attention on a number of sectors and generic technologies with a multisectoral impact. Alongside industrial technologies and information technologies, life sciences and technologies and transport research should also receive more money. The fourth framework programme will also cover activities in the field of targeted socio-economic research: research into education and training needs and methodologies, and research into social problems such as social exclusion and life in cities. Another proposal will be that the various activities being carried out in Europe concerning technology watch, forecasting, and assessment of R&TD programmes and policies should be brought together in networks.

In order to help companies to translate scientific breakthroughs into economic and commercial successes, it will be necessary to step up the activities relating to the dissemination and utilization of results.

Greater synergy between R&TD policy and the structural policies, in particular by developing the scientific and technological potential of the less-favoured regions by establishing networks with the more advanced regions, should facilitate the harmonious development of scientific and technological resources in Europe.

Lastly, synergy between research and training should be encouraged, in particular by promoting the mobility of research workers and

developing human resources to react to the emergence of new research areas.

The proposed budget for the fourth R&TD framework programme is ECU 13.1 billion, broken down into four areas of activity as indicated in Table 4.

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Table 4 — *Fourth framework programme (1994-98)*

Activities	Million ECU (Current prices)
First activity (research, technological development and demonstration programmes)	10 925
Second activity (cooperation with third countries and international organizations)	786
Third activity (dissemination and application of results)	603
Fourth activity (stimulation of the training and mobility of researchers)	786
Maximum overall amount	13 100

1.2.66. Council conclusions on the fourth framework programme of Community R&TD activities.

Adopted on 29 April. The Council considered that, in order to create a prosperous Community based on industrial competitiveness, quality of life and sustainable development, Community activities under the fourth framework programme must have as their objective to strengthen the scientific and technological basis of Community industry and its international competitiveness while promoting all research activities deemed necessary for the implementation of Community policies.

To this end, these activities must be of high scientific and technological quality and comply with the subsidiarity principle; the content of the fourth framework programme should ensure the necessary continuity of Community R&TD and its further development by focusing on generic, precompetitive research and promoting the development of standards

across the Community. It is also necessary to improve coordination between national programmes and the dissemination of results to companies, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, and to promote social and economic cohesion.

Apart from the need to consolidate the themes covered by the four types of activities provided for in Article 130g of the EEC Treaty, the Council considered that there are a number of priority areas, in particular information and communications technologies, industrial and materials technologies, environment and climate, life sciences and technologies, agriculture, non-nuclear energy and thermonuclear fusion, transport systems, social and economic sciences, international cooperation, dissemination and optimization of results and the training and mobility of research workers.

On the financial side, the Council agreed that the total amount for the fourth framework programme should at least enable the overall Community R&TD effort to be maintained at its present level, but that the breakdown of resources should be adjusted in favour of the environment, life sciences and technologies and non-nuclear energy.

The Council agreed that cooperation in scientific and technological research between the European Community and third countries should be undertaken on the basis of mutual advantage, in particular cooperation with the EFTA countries, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the new independent States of the former Soviet Union. Complementarity between Community R&TD programmes and Eureka should be improved, and European scientific and technical cooperation (COST) should continue to play an important role.

The Council agreed that the fourth framework programme should run for five years, and that detailed criteria and mechanisms should be established for its implementation and management, with the main means of implementation remaining shared-cost activities. Steps should be taken to encourage the participation of small and medium-sized businesses from all regions of the Community and to facilitate their access to results.

Promotion, accompanying and support measures and other activities

Technical steel research

1.2.67. Draft Commission Decision on the granting of financial aid to steel research projects and steel pilot/demonstration projects.

Commission draft: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.56

Endorsed by the ECSC Consultative Committee on 2 April.

Technical coal research

1.2.68. Draft Commission Decision on the granting of financial aid to 127 technical coal research projects.

Endorsed by the ECSC Consultative Committee on 2 April.

International cooperation

Canada

1.2.69. Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community and Canada.

Commission recommendation: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.115

Negotiating directives adopted by the Council on 19 April.

Education, vocational training and youth

Cooperation in the field of education

1.2.70. Parliament resolution on the eradication of illiteracy in the Member States of the European Community.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 4255/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the European Social Fund: OJ L 374, 31.12.1988; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.200

Adopted by Parliament on 21 April. In view of the fact that illiteracy persists in the Member States of the Community, Parliament called on the Commission, the Council and the Member States to carry out a study of the extent of this phenomenon, and to develop and implement literacy programmes.

It called on the Commission to propose to the Council a programme of measures to encourage literacy teaching experiments, whilst ensuring that such experiments are eligible for funding under Objectives 3 (combating long-term unemployment) and 4 (facilitating the occupational integration of young people) of the European Social Fund, and to launch a campaign to raise public awareness of the problem of illiteracy.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Vocational training

1.2.71. Proposal for a Council recommendation on access to continuing vocational training.

Commission proposal: OJ C 23, 27.1.1993; COM(92) 486; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.139
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 219, 10.5.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.59

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April, subject to amendments concerning the need to ensure that workers are informed about the opportunities available for undergoing training, and the development of a transnational dimension in continuing training policy.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.72. Parliament resolution on vocational training in the European Community in the 1990s.

Adopted by Parliament on 21 April. Parliament reaffirmed that it must be a Community aim to guarantee all young people the opportunity to receive training, and stressed the importance

of establishing close links between education, vocational training and the labour market.

It emphasized the need to make the workforce more capable of adapting to industrial change and, to that end, to facilitate access to general adult education.

Parliament welcomed the Commission's efforts to rationalize and coordinate Community training programmes, and hoped that SMEs would be more closely involved in this type of initiative. It called for adequate funding to be made available for vocational training initiatives aimed specifically at women.

Finally, Parliament considered that the Community should promote exchanges of information on vocational training between Member States.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Cooperation with non-member countries on education, training and youth

1.2.73. Council Decision 93/246/EEC adopting the second phase of the trans-European cooperation scheme for higher education (Tempus II) (1994-98).

References:

Council Decision 90/233/EEC establishing a trans-European mobility scheme for university studies (Tempus): OJ L 131, 23.5.1990; Bull. EC 5-1990, point 1.3.2

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on economic aid to the Republic of Hungary and the Polish People's Republic: OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.2.25, as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92 in order to extend economic aid to include Slovenia: OJ L 227, 11.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.27

Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 2157/91 concerning the provision of technical assistance to economic reform and recovery in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: OJ L 201, 24.7.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.5
Commission proposal: OJ C 311, 27.11.1992; COM(92) 407; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.88
Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 73, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.97

Parliament opinion: OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.60

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 113, 23.4.1993; COM(93) 132; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.60

Adopted by the Council on 29 April. The purpose of the Council Decision is to adopt the second phase of the Tempus programme for a period of four years (1994-98). Tempus II concerns the countries of Central and Eastern Europe designated as eligible for economic aid under the PHARE programme and the independent States of the former Soviet Union covered by the TACIS programme. Its objectives are to promote, as part of the overall aims and guidelines of the PHARE and TACIS programmes, the development of higher education systems in the eligible countries through balanced cooperation with partners from all the Member States of the Community, with the emphasis on:

- issues of curriculum development and overhaul;
- reform of higher education structures and institutions and their management;
- improved and extended links with industry so as to raise the standard of training.

The programme also aims to promote the mobility of teachers, administrative staff and students.

OJ L 112, 6.5.1993

Trans-European networks

General

1.2.74. Proposals for Council Regulations introducing declarations of European interest to facilitate the establishment of trans-European transport, electricity and natural gas transmission, and telecommunications networks.

Commission proposals: OJ C 71, 20.3.1992; COM(92) 15; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.3.15

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 287, 4.11.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.34

Parliament opinion: OJ C 337, 21.12.1992; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.45

Amended proposals adopted by the Commission on 16 April.

OJ C 124, 6.5.1993; COM(93) 115

Energy

Individual sectors

Solid fuels

1.2.75. Commission report on the market for solid fuels in the Community in 1992 and the outlook for 1993.

Commission first reading: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.63

Endorsed by the ECSC Consultative Committee on 2 April. The Committee noted that the general trends forecast had been confirmed, and repeated its call for a Community coal policy.

State aid

Coal industry

1.2.76. Draft Commission Decision establishing Community rules for State aid to the coal industry.

Commission approval: Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.106

Draft Decision: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.101

Endorsed by the ECSC Consultative Committee on 2 April. The Committee expressed reservations, particularly in view of the application criteria which it regarded as being excessively inflexible.

Transport

International cooperation

Slovenia

1.2.77. Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Slovenia in the field of transport.

Commission recommendation and negotiating directives: Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.72

Initialling of the Agreement: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.110

Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement: OJ C 93, 2.4.1993; COM(93) 57; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.110

Council decision on signing: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.71

Signed in Brussels on 5 April.

State aid

Evaluation of aid schemes

1.2.78. Parliament resolution on the report by the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the evaluation of aid schemes established in favour of Community air carriers.

References:

Commission communication to the Council on competition in air transport: COM(86) 328; Bull. EC 7/8-1986, point 2.1.211

Commission report to the Council and the European Parliament on the evaluation of aid schemes established in favour of Community air carriers: SEC(92) 431

Adopted by Parliament on 20 April. Since completion of the internal market in air transport calls for a precise definition of competition policy objectives in the light of the economic characteristics of the sector, Parliament points out the need for a Community competition policy covering State aid as well as all modes of transport. It stresses in particular that competition rules in the civil aviation sector must

be aligned and coordinated with the objectives for safety, industrial development and the strengthening of economic and social cohesion and that this should be done through a single policy covering air transport and relations with third countries. Parliament considers that, although compensation for public service obligations must be taken into account when evaluating State aid to airlines, such compensation must nevertheless comply with the transparency criteria and it therefore calls on the Commission to define the concept of public service. Parliament also calls for the adoption of fiscal and social measures to compensate for the effects of liberalizing air transport. The Commission is requested to present studies on the economic and social effects of the liberalization process, the economic situation of air carriers and the various forms of aid received by third-country airlines and to put forward proposals for a review of the basic criteria for evaluating the aid arrangements set up in 1984. Parliament hopes that the Council will adopt appropriate regulations before 31 December on State aid and that international agreements will be concluded on competition policy in air transport.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Decisions to raise no objections

Spain

1.2.79. Commission decision on a programme of measures to improve the Spanish road haulage sector.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70 on the granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway: OJ L 130, 15.6.1970

Adopted by the Commission on 6 April. The Commission approved the Spanish Government's plan, based on Regulation (EEC) No 1170/70, to restructure the road haulage sector by improving the competitiveness of the sector and reducing overcapacity.

OJ C 128, 8.5.1993

Netherlands

1.2.80. Commission decision on a programme for the stimulation of environmentally

friendly transport techniques in the public bus transport sector.

Adopted by the Commission on 6 April. The Commission decided not to raise any objections to a Dutch programme to purchase diesel-engined buses since the emission standards for the buses are stricter than those in the Community Directives.

Telecommunications, information services and industry

Telecommunications

Legislation

Services sector

References:

Commission report to the Council and Parliament on the situation in the telecommunications sector: SEC(92) 1048; Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.67

Council resolution on the assessment of the situation in the Community telecommunications sector: OJ C 2, 6.1.1993; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.117

1.2.81. Communication by the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the consultation on the review of the situation in the telecommunications services sector, accompanied by a proposal for a Council resolution on the report on the situation in the telecommunications services sector.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the Commission's communication of 21 October 1992 incorporating its 1992 review of the situation in the telecommunications services sector: OJ C 150, 31.5.1993; point 1.2.82 of this Bulletin

Adopted by the Commission on 28 April. The Commission analyses the results of the consultation process it initiated by presenting its

report on the situation in the telecommunications services sector to economic operators, various interest groups and the main players in the telecommunications field. The conclusions it draws from this analysis and the proposed timetable of measures provide a framework for the future development of this major sector of the economy.

The Commission recognizes that the liberalization of telecommunications services is both inevitable and necessary for meeting technological and market demands and puts forward a series of appropriate measures.

The Commission proposes to consolidate the existing regulatory environment while laying down a clear and common definition of universal service principles, which means providing all users with a defined minimum service of specified quality at an affordable price. It further proposes to develop a framework for interconnection agreements, to be based on the principles of non-discriminatory access and harmonized technical standards, to define principles for access charges and to guarantee the independence of telecommunications organizations, enabling them to respond to the dynamics of the marketplace while avoiding adverse effects on vulnerable groups of consumers.

The measures proposed should create new employment opportunities and further the integration of peripheral regions, thus fostering social and regional cohesion and preparing a favourable environment for trans-European networks. The Commission proposes a Green Paper on public infrastructures by 1995.

Applying the subsidiarity principle, the Commission spells out how a balance is to be established between national and Community regulations, with the role of the Community restricted to laying down general principles, helping establish a consistent approach and, where necessary, acting as conciliator.

The Commission sets a precise and detailed timetable for action, with the liberalization of all telecommunications services to be completed by 1998 at the latest; the next five years are to be regarded as a period of adaptation, with the possibility of additional transition per-

iods, where justified, for peripheral or less-developed networks.

COM(93) 159

1.2.82. Parliament resolution on the Commission communication of 21 October 1992 incorporating its 1992 review of the situation in the telecommunications services sector.

Adopted by Parliament on 20 April. Parliament notes that, despite the substantial progress made towards the establishment of a Community market in telecommunications services, certain obstacles are still preventing the establishment of a genuine frontier-free area in the telecommunications field. It considers that further Community measures must be adopted to overcome such obstacles and allow consumers the full benefit of the current rapid technical progress.

In this context Parliament welcomes the Commission report and lists the main arguments for subsequent liberalization of the market; these include technological progress, the wide discrepancies between intra-Community and national tariffs, the demand from users and the advent of competition.

Parliament further considers that liberalization of the services sector raises issues in connection with the implementation of the universal telecommunications service, and calls upon the Council and the Commission to define precisely and clearly the principles of such a service: universality, freedom of access, equality of treatment and adaptability.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Tariffs

1.2.83. Parliament resolution on the Commission communication 'Towards cost orientation and the adjustment of pricing structures — Telecommunications tariffs in the Community'.

Reference: Commission communication: SEC(92) 1050; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.88

Adopted by Parliament on 20 April. Parliament notes with satisfaction the downward trend in tariffs and in connection and subscriber charges but regrets that tariffs for calls within

the Community continue to be very heavily penalized by surcharges not warranted by objective costs, and calls on the Commission to take a forceful approach to securing a Community tariff agreement on substantially reducing or doing away with cross-border surcharges.

Parliament further takes the view that any reform of the current structures of the telecommunications sector in the Community presupposes a definition of a universal telecommunications service.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Equipment

1.2.84. Economic and Social Committee opinion on the Commission communication on the European telecommunications equipment industry: the state of play, issues at stake and proposals for action.

References:

Economic and Social Committee opinion on the Commission communication on industrial policy in an open and competitive environment: OJ C 40, 17.2.1992; Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.2.37

Commission communication: SEC(92) 1049; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.89

Adopted by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April. The Committee's favourable opinion supplements the opinion given on the Commission communication on industrial policy in an open and competitive environment. The Committee considers that the action proposed by the Commission constitutes an excellent basis for the future growth of this key sector of the economy and stresses the need to put into effect a Community strategy actively involving non-member countries in Eastern Europe and the former USSR, with the following aims:

- to maximize harmonization between telecommunication-service providers;
- to harness R&TD resources to assist European companies;
- to provide a stronger supporting base for SMEs;

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- to promote the training and retraining of a skilled workforce.

Satellite communications

1.2.85. Commission communication to the Council accompanied by a draft Council resolution on satellite personal communication services.

Reference: Council resolution on the development of the common market for satellite telecommunications services and equipment: OJ C 8, 14.1.1992; Bull. EC 12-1991, point 1.2.88

Adopted by the Commission on 27 April. The Commission communication follows on from the Council resolution of December 1991, which provides for the progressive introduction of a competitive Community market for satellite communications, above all in order to foster competition with non-member countries. It takes account of expected technological progress with regard to the introduction of satellite personal communications, particularly non-geostationary satellite systems such as low earth-orbiting systems.

The draft Council resolution establishes the framework for coordinating the action taken at national and Community level.

COM(93) 171

1.2.86. Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning satellite earth-station equipment, extending the scope of Council Directive 91/263/EEC.

Commission proposal: OJ C 4, 8.1.1993; COM(92) 451; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.116

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April. The Committee points out the need for cooperation with European standardization bodies and stresses the importance of simplifying the formalities for obtaining certificates of conformity or gaining access to the market in telecommunications terminal equipment.

Consumers

Protection of consumers' health and safety

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

Reference: Communication from the Commission to the Council and Parliament on the establishment of a European Alternative Test Method Evaluation Centre: Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.2.187

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

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 269, 14.10.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.2.284

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

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 249, 26.9.1992; COM(92) 364; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.148

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.231

Council common position: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.290

Endorsed by Parliament (second reading) on 21 April, subject to two amendments: firstly, Parliament is to be involved in any decision to postpone the cut-off date for animal testing, and the European Test Method Centre must be consulted; secondly, it is expressly prohibited to carry out tests on animals, for reasons other than compliance with the Directive, in order to assess the safety or efficacy of ingredients used in the manufacture of cosmetic products.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.88. Council resolution on action on the labelling of products in the interest of the consumer.

Council agreement: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.77

Formally adopted by the Council on 5 April.

Protection of consumers' economic and legal interests

1.2.89. Council Directive 93/13/EEC on unfair terms in consumer contracts.

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

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

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

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

Council agreement on a common position: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.3.195

Council common position: Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.2.149

Parliament opinion (second reading): OJ C 21, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.291

Re-examined Commission proposal: COM(93) 11; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.118

Council agreement: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.79

Formally adopted by the Council on 5 April.

OJ L 95, 21.4.1993

Economic and social cohesion: structural measures

Development, coordination and implementation of policies and measures

New review of Structural Funds

1.2.90. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4254/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the European Regional Development Fund; proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4255/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88

as regards the European Social Fund; proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4256/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the EAGGF Guidance Section; proposal for a Council Regulation laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the financial instrument for fisheries guidance.

Commission approval: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.81

Formally adopted by the Commission on 7 April.
OJ C 121, 1.5.1993; OJ C 131, 11.5.1993;
COM(93) 124

Reports on Structural Fund operations in 1991

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 4253/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88: OJ L 374, 31.12.1988; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.200

1.2.91. Annual report on implementation of Structural Fund reform: 1991.

Adoption by the Commission: Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.89

Opinion of Economic and Social Committee on 29 April. Favourable but the Committee called for more openness in regard to decisions allocating appropriations under Community initiatives.

1.2.92. Conclusions of annual report on ESF for 1991.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 4255/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the European Social Fund: OJ L 374, 31.12.1988; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.200

Commission notice on guidelines for Member States' proposals for operational programmes/global grants under Community initiatives to boost human resource utilization (Euroform, NOW, Horizon): OJ C 327, 29.12.1990; Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.3.97

Previous report: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.99

Adopted by the Commission on 2 April. The Community support framework for the five

new German *Länder* and East Berlin was adopted and the applications for assistance processed, and new Community support frameworks drawn up for 1992 and 1993 for regions affected by industrial decline. The three Community human resource initiatives, NOW, Horizon and Euroform, came into operation. Appropriations committed in 1991 were ECU 4 516 million and the amount paid out ECU 4 030 million. Evaluation, verification and monitoring of ESF assistance was extended.

COM(93) 138

1.2.93. Conclusions of annual report on ERDF for 1991.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 4254/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the European Regional Development Fund: OJ L 374, 31.12.1988; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.200

Previous report: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.100

Adopted by the Commission on 2 April. The year 1991 saw implementation of the operational programmes and projects linked to the Community support frameworks, a trend towards diversification with many decisions linked to Community initiatives, some use of global grants and affirmation of the Community's solidarity with the new German *Länder* and East Berlin.

For regions where development is lagging behind (Objective 1) 15 operational programmes and three global grants were approved. ECU 4 873 million was committed, 28% of this for new action.

For areas in industrial decline (Objective 2) ECU 1 243 million of appropriations was committed. The CSFs adopted in 1989 and 1990 expired on 31 December 1991 and new ones for the period 1991-93 were approved by the Commission with a new allocation of appropriations: ECU 3 296 million, i.e. ECU 2 520 million from the ERDF and ECU 775 million from the ESF. For areas eligible under Objective 5b the ERDF's 1991 commitment was ECU 360 million.

In complement to action covered by the CSFs ECU 685 million was committed under Community initiatives.

COM(93) 140

1.2.94. Conclusions of annual report on EAGGF Guidance Section for 1991.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 4256/88 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 as regards the EAGGF Guidance Section: OJ L 374, 31.12.1988; Bull. EC 12-1988, point 2.1.200

Commission notice setting guidelines for Member States' proposals for integrated global grants under the Leader Community rural development initiative (links between actions for development of the rural economy): OJ C 73, 19.3.1991; Bull. EC 3-1991, point 1.2.88

Previous report: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.3.101

Adopted by the Commission on 2 April. Under Objective 1 (regions where development is lagging behind) new operational programmes were approved for Spain, Italy and Portugal and Community support frameworks for the new German *Länder* and East Berlin. For operational programmes adopted in 1990 priority was given to monitoring.

For Objective 5b (promoting the development of rural areas) 1991 was marked by examination of recently submitted operational programmes. Priorities for action were five in number: diversification of the primary sector, development of the non-agricultural sector, tourism, human resources and environmental conservation and development. All monitoring committees were set up, with each CSF and its operational programmes made the responsibility of one committee.

For Objective 5a (adapting production, processing and marketing structures in agriculture and forestry), the main focuses of action remained compensatory allowances for farming in mountain, hill and less-favoured areas, investment aid and installation aid for young farmers. The new aid scheme for processing and marketing of agricultural products became fully operational.

Appropriations were committed under Community initiatives, notably Leader for the promotion of joint rural development initiatives at local community level.

Appropriations committed totalled ECU 2 408 million.

COM(93) 139

Committee of the Regions

1.2.95. Parliament resolution on the Committee of the Regions.

Adopted on 23 April. Parliament, noting the establishment of the Committee of the Regions by Article 198a of the Treaty on European Union, considered that it must be conceived as an authoritative contributor to the process of constituting the European Union, reiterated its determination to establish direct standing contacts with the Committee and called for the Committee's opinions to be forwarded to it in the same way as to the Council and the Commission.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Financial assistance

Less-developed regions

1.2.96. Commission decisions: see Table 5.

Table 5 — *Financing under Objective 1*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country/region	Fund	Total assistance
<i>Spain</i>		
Galicia	ERDF	3.9

Combating the long-term unemployment and occupational integration of young people

1.2.97. Commission decisions: see Table 6.

Table 6 — *Financing under Objectives 3 and 4*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
Country	Fund	Total assistance
<i>Belgium</i>	ESF	43.65

Fisheries structures

1.2.98. Commission decision granting Community assistance for development of loan guarantee funds in France and Italy.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86 on Community measures to improve and adapt structures in the fisheries and aquaculture sector: OJ L 376, 31.12.1986; Bull. EC 12-1986, point 2.1.285

Adopted on 7 April. Grants Community assistance of ECU 500 000 for an Italian project and ECU 1.6 million for a French project to establish a guarantee fund.

1.2.99. Commission decisions: see Table 7.

Table 7 — *Financing of fisheries structures*

<i>(million ECU)</i>		
	Fund	Total assistance
Exploratory fishing	EAGGF	1.5
Port facilities	EAGGF	8.8
Specific measures	EAGGF	5.9
Vessel modernization, aquaculture projects, artificial reefs	EAGGF	23.2

Community initiatives

1.2.100. Commission notice setting guidelines for the Konver programme for 1993.

Approved on 6 April. Konver is intended to help areas affected by the rundown of production for military purposes and of military installations. On Parliament's initiative the 1993 budget contains an appropriation for this purpose of ECU 130 million split between the ERDF and the ESF.

The Commission decided to launch the programme on an *ad hoc* basis at the moment in order to tackle the worsening position of areas dependent on the defence industry and military bases.

Action that can be co-financed includes basic and advanced training, diversification of regional economic structure, in particular by aiding small and medium-sized firms, restoration of military sites and new activities on them, and environmental improvement. Major infrastructure works and land purchase are in general excluded.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Other financial assistance

1.2.101. Commission decisions: see Table 8.

Table 8 — *Other financial assistance*

<i>(million ECU)</i>			
Type	Country/purpose	Fund	Total assistance
Studies	<i>Greece</i>		
	Textile symposium	ERDF	0.075
	<i>France</i>		
	Europartenariat	ERDF	0.059
	Training/development/enterprises	ERDF	0.053
	Know-how transfer	ERDF	0.1

Other regional measures

1.2.102. Economic and Social Committee own initiative opinion on extra-urban and/or rural areas.

Reference: Green Paper on the urban environment: COM(90) 218; Bull. EC 6-1990, point 1.3.113

Adopted on 28 April. The Committee, aware of the trend to even greater concentration of the Community's population in major urban centres, already criticized in the Green Paper on the urban environment, calls for a precise definition of what constitutes a rural area and a determined rural development policy embracing transport networks, production and promotion of quality goods, tourism and settlement of young people.

Social dimension

Employment

1.2.103. Own-initiative Economic and Social Committee opinion on employment in Europe.

References:

Economic and Social Committee opinion on the Annual Economic Report for 1993: OJ C 108, 19.4.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.38

Commission communication on the implementation of the Community measures of the growth initiative: OJ C 60, 3.3.1993; COM(93) 54; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.41

Economic and Social Committee opinion delivered on 28 April. In view of the worsening unemployment situation, the Committee deemed it vital that steps be taken to turn this trend around. It stressed that the growth strategy must not be put at risk by unduly restrictive budgetary policies and called for an increase in the resources allocated to the growth initiative. It emphasized that economic policy could be effective only if it was socially

acceptable, and stressed the importance of the social dialogue at all levels.

Working conditions

Measures for ECSC industry workers

1.2.104. Commission information note concerning the implementation of social measures for the restructuring of the steel industry (1993-95).

References:

Commission communication on greater competitiveness in the steel industry and the need for further restructuring: SEC(92) 2160; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.76

Council conclusions on the restructuring of the steel industry in the Community: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.82

Adopted by the Commission on 28 April. In its information note, the Commission describes the social measures to be implemented in conjunction with the restructuring of the Community steel industry. These measures entail the granting of ECSC readaptation aid, subject to progress made with the industry's capacity reduction programme, providing assistance for early retirement, redeployment and unemployed workers, in addition to the traditional forms of ECSC aid. The Commission estimates that this assistance could help at least 50 000 to 60 000 workers, and proposes to set average ceilings amounting to ECU 5 000 for early retirement, ECU 4 000 for redeployment and ECU 2 000 for unemployment. It thus plans to allocate to this programme an overall indicative appropriation of ECU 240 million covering the period 1993-95, with ECU 60 million earmarked for 1993, to be charged to the ECSC operating budget; additional amounts could be financed from the ESF, in accordance with the rules laid down.

OJ C 146, 26.5.1993; COM(93) 178

Health and safety at work

1.2.105. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 90/679/EEC on the protec-

tion of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work.

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 90/679/EEC: OJ L 374, 31.12.1990; Bull. EC 11-1990, point 1.3.50

Commission proposal: OJ C 217, 24.8.1992; COM(92) 261; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.124

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 19, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.130

Parliament opinion (first reading): OJ C 72, 15.3.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.143

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 82, 23.3.1993; COM(93) 86; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.92

Common position agreed by the Council on 6 April. The proposal aims to establish, pursuant to Directive 90/679/EEC, a first list of biological agents (bacteria and similar organisms, viruses, parasites and fungi) classified according to their level of risk of infection, together with a code of practice on vaccination of workers exposed to biological agents for which effective vaccines exist.

1.2.106. Proposal for a Council Directive concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for transport activities and workplaces on means of transport.

Commission proposal: OJ C 25, 28.1.1993; COM(92) 234; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.129

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April. The Committee nevertheless suggested that the Annexes be revised in terms of laying down specific standards for each mode of transport concerned.

Environment

General

Taking the environment into account in other policies

1.2.107. Parliament resolutions on the Commission's definition of Community environment policy.

References:

Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds: OJ L 103, 25.4.1979

Council Decision 82/72/EEC concerning the conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Berne Convention): OJ L 38, 10.2.1982

Council Decision 82/461/EEC concerning the conclusion of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention): OJ L 210, 19.7.1982

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

Council conclusions on climate protection policy: Bull. EC 10-1990, point 1.3.77

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora: OJ L 206, 22.7.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.132

Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Convention on Biological Diversity: COM(92) 509; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.194

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament adopted three resolutions in which it considered it essential to have a clear definition of Community environment policy. In particular, it believed that Directive 92/43/EEC on natural habitats and the Berne Convention on Wildlife Conservation form an integral part of Community environment policy for the purposes of Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 on the tasks of the Structural Funds. It also took the view that Community environment policy embraces the Bonn Convention, the fifth Community environment programme (entitled 'Towards sustainability'), the commitment to stabilize CO₂ emissions at 1990 levels by 2000, as provided for in the resolution of the Council and of the Member States on climate protection, the Biodiversity Convention, the Climate Change Convention, the Washington Convention, and the Directive on the conservation of wild birds.

Parliament also considered that Community environment policy must form an integral part of policies towards third countries, e.g. as

regards the export of waste, and the import of wood from tropical forests.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.108. Parliament resolution on the fifth environmental action programme.

Reference: Resolution of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States on the fifth Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.148

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament endorsed the broad lines of the fifth programme, and in particular the principle of including environmental protection in all Community policies. It urged the Commission to assess how other Community policies take Article 130r(2) into account by regularly publishing a White Paper concerning environmental measures and priorities together with the relevant timetables.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

European Environment Agency

1.2.109. Parliament resolution on the failure to decide a seat for the European Environment Agency.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1210/90 on the establishment of the European Environment Agency and the European environment information and observation network: OJ L 120, 11.5.1990; Bull. EC 5-1990, point 1.2.115

Parliament resolution on the Commission proposal concerning a fifth European Community programme of policy and action in relation to the environment and sustainable development: OJ C 337, 21.12.1992; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.151

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament considered that the establishment of the European Environment Agency is closely linked to successful progress in Community environment policies, and called upon the Council to decide on a seat for the Agency as soon as possible.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

International cooperation

1.2.110. Third Pan-European Conference of Environment Ministers.

Meeting held in Lucerne from 28 to 30 April. The Conference, at which the Commission was represented by Mr Paleokrassas, agreed on the strategy underlying the environmental action programme for Central and Eastern Europe which should serve as a guide for action by governments at regional and local level, by the Commission, and by international organizations, financial institutions and private investors. It is based on three main lines of action:

- taking environmental factors into account in economic restructuring measures;
- establishing institutional structures, in particular concerning education and training;
- programmes of immediate assistance in regions where there is a threat to human health or the natural environment.

To monitor the progress of work until the convening of the next conference in 1995 in Bulgaria, the participants agreed to set up, at the Commission's initiative, a project-preparation committee and a task force, co-chaired by the Commission and one of the Community Member States, to facilitate the implementation of the environmental action programme, and in particular its institutional aspects.

Nuclear safety

Radiation protection

1.2.111. Proposal for a Council Regulation on shipments of radioactive substances within the European Community.

Commission proposal: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.160

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 19, 25.1.1993; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.159

Amended Commission proposal: OJ C 347, 31.12.1992; COM(92) 520; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.199

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April subject to amendments specifying in particular that the future Regulation will not affect the obligations deriving from the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Plant safety

1.2.112. Parliament resolution on the accident at the Tomsk 7 nuclear plant.

COM(93) 88

Adopted on 22 April. Considering that radioactive substances leaked into the atmosphere as a result of the accident which took place in the reprocessing unit of the Tomsk 7 nuclear complex in the CIS, Parliament called upon the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to undertake the enquiries necessary to obtain a precise assessment of the extent of the accident and its foreseeable consequences. It also called upon the European Community and the IAEA to take urgent action with respect to certain countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union because of the major hazards for people in those countries arising from the use of nuclear energy.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Radioactive waste

1.2.113. Commission communication and third report on the present situation and prospects for radioactive waste management in the European Community.

Reference: Council resolution of 18 February 1980 on the Community action plan for 1980-92 in the field of radioactive waste: OJ C 51, 29.2.1980

Adopted on 1 April. In this report, which is based on the situation in 1990 and 1991 and has been compiled from information provided by the Member States, the Commission analyses the situation regarding radioactive waste management in the Community with a view to adopting appropriate solutions to the problems encountered, in accordance with the Community action plan for 1980-92.

In view of the results of this analysis, the Commission draws the attention of the Council to the need to develop and structure radioactive waste management for all waste, whatever the origin of its production, and to continue the selection and opening of disposal sites as well as technological development and optimization efforts. The Commission also suggests that

there should be more intensive public information and consultation.

International cooperation

1.2.114. Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate the Community contribution to the nuclear safety account of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Commission recommendation: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.107

Adopted on 27 April.

Agriculture

Development and future of the CAP

1.2.115. Council Decision on further temporary national compensation for farmers in Germany.

Commission proposal: COM(93) 94; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.110

Endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Adopted on 26 April. Extends for three years national aid to German farmers in compensation for income losses resulting from dismantling of monetary compensatory amounts.

Agricultural structures and rural development

1.2.116. Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 81/645/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Greece).

Basic Directive: Council Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas (OJ L 128, 19.5.1975), as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 797/85: OJ L 93, 30.3.1985; Bull. EC 3-1985, point 2.1.111

Directive to be amended: Council Directive 81/645/EEC (OJ L 238, 24.8.1981), as amended by Directive 85/148/EEC: OJ L 56, 25.2.1985

Adopted by the Commission on 21 April. Would extend by 178 000 hectares of utilized agricultural area the amount of land in Greece classified as less favoured for the purposes of Directive 75/268/EEC.

OJ C 136, 15.5.1993; COM(93) 157

Prices and related measures

1.2.117. Proposals for Council Regulations on agricultural prices and related measures (1993/94).

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1079/77 on a co-responsibility levy and on measures for expanding the markets in milk and milk products (OJ L 131, 26.5.1977), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1374/92: OJ L 147, 29.5.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.145

Council Regulations on application of the CAP: OJ L 180, 1.7.1992; OJ L 181, 1.7.1993; OJ L 215, 30.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, points 1.3.140 to 1.3.147

Commission proposals: OJ C 80, 20.3.1993; COM(93) 36; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.167

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 129, 10.5.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.116

Endorsed by Parliament on 22 April subject to various amendments regarding mainly products not covered by CAP reform. Parliament called for rapid reform in the fruit and vegetables, sugar and wine sectors, increases in the intervention price for olive oil, the guide price for adult bovine animals and producer aids for silkworms and dried fodder, and maintenance of the status quo for certain products (indica rice, cotton, pigmeat) for which the Commission proposed a lower price or production aid. Other amendments include widening the scope of aid for seeds.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Regulation (EEC) No 1029/93 repealing Regulation (EEC) No 1079/77 adopted by the Council on 27 April. Abolishes the co-responsibility levy in the milk sector with effect from 1 April 1993.

OJ L 108, 1.5.1993

Market organization

Sugar

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

Commission proposal: OJ C 30, 3.2.1993; COM(92) 573; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.226

Endorsed by Parliament on 22 April subject to amendments making provision for introduction of long-term arrangements and also of certain rules in regard to inulin syrup production.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April subject to comments. The Committee called for introduction of long-term arrangements and application to inulin syrup of the same rules as for sugar.

Dried fodder

1.2.119. Council Regulation (EEC) No 1015/93 fixing the guide price for dried fodder products for the period 1 to 31 May 1993.

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 27 April.

COM(93) 186

Adopted on 27 April. Prevents a legal vacuum pending setting of 1993/94 agricultural prices.

OJ L 105, 30.4.1993

Fresh fruit and vegetables

1.2.120. Council Regulation (EEC) No 1016/93 fixing the basic price and the buying-in price

for cauliflowers for the period 1 to 31 May 1993.

Proposal adopted by the Commission on 27 April.

COM(93) 187

Adopted on 27 April. Prevents a legal vacuum pending setting of 1993/94 agricultural prices.

OJ L 105, 30.4.1993

1.2.121. Proposal for a Council Regulation on the common organization of the market in potatoes.

Commission proposal: OJ C 333, 17.12.1992; COM(92) 185; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.162

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 108, 19.4.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.175

Endorsed by Parliament on 22 April subject to various amendments covering in particular introduction of common quality standards and market regulation procedures.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Hops

1.2.122. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1784/77 concerning the certification of hops.

Regulation to be amended: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1784/77 (OJ L 200, 8.8.1977), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1605/91: OJ L 149, 14.6.1991; Bull. EC 6-1991, point 1.2.172

Adopted by the Commission on 7 April. Would exclude isomerized products from the scope of the Regulation and extend to 31 December 1995 the transitional arrangements for farms in the former German Democratic Republic.

COM(93) 150

Milk and milk products

1.2.123. Commission reports to the Council on the situation on the market for milk and milk products and on the progress made by Greece, Spain and Italy in application of milk quotas, accompanied by:

□ an amended proposal for a Council Regulation establishing an additional levy in the milk and milk products sector;

□ a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2072/92 fixing the target price for milk and the intervention prices for butter, skimmed milk powder and Grana padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses for two annual periods from 1 July 1993 to 30 June 1995;

□ an amended proposal for a Council Regulation fixing the threshold prices for certain milk products for the 1993/94 milk year.

Commission reports and proposals: OJ C 112, 22.4.1993; COM(93) 109; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.121

Supplementary report and amended proposal adopted by the Commission on 21 April. Recent adoption by Greece and Italy of the measures needed for application of the milk quota scheme enabled the Commission to propose an increase in both countries' 1993/94 quota. An increase for Spain was proposed in the initial report.

COM(93) 169

All three proposals endorsed by Parliament on 22 April subject to amendments slowing down the reduction in the butter price and authorizing certain quota transfers in Germany and Portugal.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.124. Proposal for a Council Regulation providing for an offer of compensation to certain producers of milk or milk products temporarily prevented from carrying on their trade.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 introducing a system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy herds: OJ L 131, 26.5.1977

Council Regulation (EEC) No 857/84 adopting general rules for application of the additional levy: OJ L 90, 1.4.1984; Bull. EC 3-1984, point 1.2.4

Judgment of the Court of Justice, 19.5.1992 (Joined Cases C-104/89 and C-37/90): OJ C 152, 17.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.7.31

Communication from the Council and the Commission regarding milk and milk products ('SLOM' producers): OJ C 198, 5.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.206

Adopted by the Commission on 21 April. Milk producers who under Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 had undertaken not to market milk ('SLOM' producers) were not assigned reference quantities when the milk quota scheme was introduced in 1984. The Court decided in a judgment of 19 May 1992 that the Council and Commission must make these producers' losses good. The two institutions then announced that they would give full effect to the judgment, suspended the legal time-limit for introduction of claims for damages not already time-barred and announced that general compensation arrangements would be introduced. These are the purpose of the proposal, which specifies requirements for obtaining compensation and the exact amounts that may be granted.

COM(93) 161

State aid

Decision to raise no objection

Germany

1.2.125. Commission decision on aid for environmental improvement on farms in Saxony.

Adopted on 6 April. The aid scheme is designed to improve the environmental acceptability of farmers' disposal of animal manure. It is primarily an investment aid scheme but for small farmers unable to invest themselves part of the cost of having their manure dealt with by a better equipped third party will be met. Aid of this second type would normally be considered an operational aid but has been cleared given the environmental objective, the particularly strict terms laid down, the fact that it will not cover all the farmer's costs and its limited duration (to 31 December 1993).

Decision to initiate proceedings

Germany

1.2.126. Commission decision on aid for a construction of a slaughterhouse at Kronach (Bavaria).

Adopted on 21 April. The investment planned does not meet the Commission's selection criteria covering improvement of the processing and marketing of agricultural products. It would increase slaughter capacity in the area.

Decision to close proceedings

Germany

1.2.127. Commission decision on an aid for fodder drying enterprises.

Adopted on 21 April. The aid has been withdrawn.

Fisheries

Resources

Internal aspects

1.2.128. Council Regulation (EEC) No 927/93 amending Regulation (EEC) No 3919/92 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches (TACs) for 1993 and certain conditions under which they may be fished.

Regulation amended: Regulation (EEC) No 3919/92: OJ L 397, 31.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-992, point 1.3.261

Commission proposal: COM(93) 77; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.137

Adopted on 19 April. Following consultations with Norway and Sweden the Regulation sets

definitive 1993 TACs in the Kattegat and Skagerrak.

OJ L 96, 22.4.1993

External aspects

South Africa

1.2.129. Council Decisions authorizing Spain and Portugal to extend until 7 March 1994 their agreements on mutual fishery relations with the Republic of South Africa.

Reference: Treaty concerning the accession of Spain and Portugal to the EEC and the ECSC: OJ L 302, 15.11.1985; Bull. EC 11-1985, points 2.2.1 to 2.2.4

Previous extensions: OJ L 69, 14.3.1992; Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.2.200

Commission proposals: COM(93) 50 and 51; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.196

Adopted on 6 April.

Iceland

1.2.130. Proposal for a Council Regulation on conclusion of an agreement on fisheries and the marine environment between the Community and Iceland.

Commission proposal: OJ C 346, 30.11.1992; COM(92) 531; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.276

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April subject to an amendment on provision of information to Council and Parliament.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Madagascar

1.2.131. Council Regulation (EEC) No 983/93 on conclusion of the Protocol defining for the period 21 May 1992 to 20 May 1995 the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the Community and Madagascar on fishing off Madagascar.

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

Parliament opinion: OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.140

Adopted on 6 April. Provides for 42 freezer tuna seiners and 8 surface longliners to fish simultaneously off Madagascar and sets minimum compensation for the duration of the Protocol of ECU 1 350 000.

OJ L 106, 30.4.1993

Market organization

1.2.132. Parliament resolution on the crisis in the market in fishery products.

References:

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. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.284

Commission Regulation (EEC) No 420/93 making imports of certain fishery products subject to observance of the reference price (OJ L 48, 26.2.1993), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 592/93: OJ L 61, 13.3.1993

Commission Regulation (EEC) No 695/93 adopting safeguard measures applicable to the placing in free circulation of fishery products landed in the Community by fishing vessels from third countries: OJ L 73, 26.3.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.148

Adopted on 22 April. In view of the serious turbulence on the Community market resulting from imports from third countries below the reference prices, Parliament considers it necessary to strengthen the present Community rules. It calls for an extension beyond 30 June of the minimum prices already set for certain species, a freeze on the opening of new import quotas, definitive regulation of the terms of direct landings from third country vessels that is no less stringent than the average of equivalent regulation in other States with Atlantic seaboard, re-examination of the operating conditions of the common organization of the markets so as to re-establish balance between production and imports, coordination, involving Community participation, of national aid systems to compensate for losses incurred by the industry owing to the crisis and introduction in agreements concluded with third countries, Russia in particular, of provisions to eliminate dumping.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.133. Proposal for a Council Regulation setting up specific measures in favour of cephalopod producers permanently based in the Canary Islands.

Commission proposal: OJ C 17, 22.1.1993; COM(92) 567; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.286

Economic and Social Committee opinion: OJ C 129, 10.5.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.147

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April subject to an amendment on revision of the annual assistance.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

International cooperation

1.2.134. Council decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate at an intergovernmental conference on straddling stocks and highly migratory species.

Recommendation for a decision: SEC(93) 283

Adopted on 19 April. Authorizes the Commission to negotiate on behalf of the Community at an intergovernmental conference on straddling stocks and highly migratory species convened under United Nations auspices.

A people's Europe

Public health

1.2.135. Parliament resolution on the treatment of mental defectives on the Greek island of Leros.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 815/84 on exceptional financial support in favour of Greece in the social field: OJ L 88, 31.3.1984

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament recalled the steps taken by the Community to end the appalling conditions in which mental patients were living in the hospital on the island of Leros and noted the progress which had been made there. Nevertheless, Parliament urged the

Commission to continue its close scrutiny of the hospital and called on the hospital's administrative board to refrain from interfering with the organization of clinical work, to reinstate the qualified Greek staff and to renew its contracts with Dutch and Italian medical teams.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Solidarity

Measures for the disabled

1.2.136. Parliament resolution on the upsurge of violence against handicapped persons.

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament condemned the upsurge in Europe of acts of violence and discrimination against handicapped persons. It called on the Commission to set up a forum whose terms of reference would include investigating the possibility of introducing anti-discrimination laws based on the US model.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Measures to help disaster victims

Greece

1.2.137. Commission decision to grant emergency aid to earthquake victims in the Pyrgos region.

Commission approval: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.2.153

Adopted on 13 April. The Commission decided to grant ECU 400 000 in aid to the victims of the earthquake which occurred on 26 and 27 March.

1.2.138. Parliament resolution on the earthquake in the Pyrgos region (Ilia).

Adopted on 22 April. While noting that the Commission had granted aid to the victims of the earthquake, Parliament called on the Commission to increase the amount granted, in view of the extent of the disaster, and to

promote the establishment in the region of a European centre for the study of seismic phenomena. It also urged the Greek Government to take all the necessary measures.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Human rights

1.2.139. Parliament resolution on the resurgence of racism and xenophobia in Europe and the danger of right-wing extremist violence.

Adopted on 21 April. Parliament condemned any form of incitement to extremist violence, racism, anti-semitism or religious intolerance. It asked the Council to provide for the introduction of legislation in the Member States to combat racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism and called on the Commission to present a four-year action programme to combat these phenomena, to support non-governmental organizations campaigning against racial prejudice and to declare 1995 'European Year of Harmony among Peoples'. It also urged the Member States, in certain cases, to grant voting rights in local elections to persons who have been legally resident in a Member State for five years, subject to certain conditions, and to bestow national citizenship on the children of immigrants and refugees born in European Community countries. Finally, it advocated the inclusion in the school curriculum, from primary school onwards, of specific courses on the fundamental principles of a democratic society.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.2.140. Parliament resolution on the compulsory mention of religion on Greek identity cards.

Reference: Parliament resolution on religious freedom in Greece and the compulsory declar-

ation of religion on the Greek identity card: OJ C 42, 15.2.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.214

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament called on the Greek Government to amend the relevant legal provisions in order to abolish once and for all any mention of religion on identity cards. It also urged the Council and the Commission to do their utmost to ensure that Greece complies with democratic principles.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Audiovisual media, information, communication and culture

Audiovisual policy and production

1.2.141. Parliament resolution on the HDTV strategy of the European Community.

Reference: Council Directive 92/38/EEC on the adoption of standards for satellite broadcasting of television signals: OJ L 137, 20.5.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.1.201

Adopted on 21 April. Parliament called for the development of a common European standard for HDTV. It feared that a strategy based solely on a common format could mean a continuation of the proliferation of existing standards and market divisions within the Community. It disapproved of any approach which denies the public authorities the right to set standards. It also called for the reworking of the HD-MAC Directive and the presentation of proposals for a digital HDTV strategy in the Community.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

3. The role of the Community in the world

Enlargement

Norway

References:

Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, point I.6

Accession negotiations opened with Austria, Finland and Sweden: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.1

Application for membership: Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.3

Commission opinion: COM(93) 142; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.1

1.3.1. Council conclusions on the opening of accession negotiations.

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. In the light of the conclusions adopted by the Edinburgh European Council concerning the EFTA countries seeking membership of the European Union,

'The Council:

- welcomed the Commission's favourable assessment of Norway's application;
- decided to open negotiations with Norway on accession to the Union;
- approved the general negotiation framework for the Union negotiations.'

1.3.2. Inaugural ministerial meeting.

References:

Signing of the Agreement establishing the European Economic Area (EEA): Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.1

Signing of the Protocol adjusting the EEA Agreement: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.2

Meeting held in Luxembourg on 5 April. Negotiations for Norwegian membership of the

European Union were formally opened by the Community's foreign ministers and Mr Godal, Norwegian Minister for Trade and Shipping. The Commission was represented by Mr van den Broek.

Opening the proceedings, the Danish Foreign Minister and President of the Council, Niels Helveg Petersen, underscored the need for Norway to accept the *acquis communautaire*, including the Treaty on European Union, in its entirety. He said that the negotiations could be concluded only if the Treaty was ratified, as agreed at the Edinburgh European Council. While implementation of the EEA Agreement would make it easier for Norway to accept the *acquis*, Mr Helveg Petersen stressed that the Union Treaty went beyond trade relations and economic and monetary integration: it would affect citizens' daily lives and contained provisions on a common foreign and security policy and on cooperation in the fields of justice and home affairs. He said that the negotiations would as far as possible run parallel to those with Austria, Finland and Sweden. Mr van den Broek said that Norway's membership would bolster the Community's cohesion and make for greater integration.

Pointing to Norway's efforts to draw closer to the Community (it had become an associate member of the WEU), Mr Godal said he wished to see the EEA Agreement implemented as speedily as possible. He highlighted a number of areas of key importance to his country, namely the arrangements for developing its oil resources, fisheries, agriculture, regional policy and the alcoholic beverages monopoly, and underlined the contribution Norway could make to the Community, particularly in social affairs and the environment.

European Free Trade Association

Bilateral relations

Sweden

1.3.3. Visit by Mr Delors on 15 and 16 April.

During an official visit at the invitation of the royal family Mr Delors saw the Prime Minister, Carl Bildt, and the Minister for European Affairs, Mr Dinkelspiel. They discussed the negotiations with Sweden on Community membership, the outlook for the entry into force of the EEA Agreement and issues such as the economic situation in Europe and relations with third countries.

Mr Delors addressed the Riksdag (parliament) and took the opportunity to meet several MPs.

He also accepted an invitation by the Prime Minister to go with him to the north of the country to meet the regional authorities and the local population.

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

Central Europe

Assistance for Central Europe

1.3.4. Financing decision implementing Council Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92 amending Regulation (EEC) No 3800/91 in order to extend economic aid to include other countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Reference: Financing decision implementing Council Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92

amending Regulation (EEC) No 3800/91 in order to extend economic aid to include other countries of Central and Eastern Europe: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.10

Adopted by the Commission on 21 April. The Commission approved the financing under the PHARE programme of 52 projects to promote democracy in Central and Eastern Europe. They cover six areas: parliamentary practice, human rights, the independence of the media, the development of NGOs and representative structures, local democracy and participation, and public education.

Relations with Central Europe

1.3.5. Commission communication on Community support for continued reform and development in Central and Eastern Europe.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on economic aid to certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.2.25) as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92 in order to extend economic aid to include other countries of Central and Eastern Europe: OJ L 227, 11.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.27

Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, point I.76

Commission report entitled 'Towards a closer association with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe': Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.5

Approved by the Commission on 28 April. The Commission approved guidelines for Community support for continued reform and development in Central and Eastern Europe, seeking, in line with the ideas set out in its December 1992 report entitled 'Towards a closer association with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe', to offer greater opportunities to the Central and East European countries associated with the Community, and more particularly to put forward material for discussion at the Copenhagen European Council.

The Commission first emphasized that the Community needs to make clear its intention to forge closer links with the countries of the region, in view of the possibility of their acced-

ing to the Community in the future. It must take appropriate steps to improve their access to the Community markets and the effectiveness of the Community programme of economic assistance to the countries concerned. At the same time, the Community should encourage more rapid integration of the economies of the countries themselves, and of their economies with those of the Community Member States. The Commission also recommended that the European Council reiterate that the countries of Central and Eastern Europe might accede to the European Union when they were able to accept the *acquis communautaire*, cope with the competition which accession entails, guarantee that democracy and human and minority rights would be respected, observe the rule of law and operate market economies, and when the Community itself is able to absorb new members.

The Commission took stock of what had been done and what was planned in this regard. On the subject of improving market access, it proposed a number of measures to accelerate the dismantling of Community customs duties and quantitative restrictions, a process provided for in the Europe Agreements, in order to help the countries concerned to increase exports and raise resources to fund their development and foreign debt repayments.

With regard to economic aid, the Commission proposed that the granting of PHARE allocations be made dependent in the future on progress with economic reform, and that they be made on a multiannual basis, with the Commission coordinating its activities with those of other external and international donors in order to boost the capacity of the countries concerned to attract investment. In the field of infrastructure, the Commission's main proposal was for PHARE allocations to be made available to provide the resources needed to give the countries access to the international loans they need for major projects.

The Commission also anticipated taking steps towards greater political dialogue, particularly by establishing half-yearly meetings, chiefly at ministerial level, and by organizing regular consultations and information meetings between the Community institutions and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

1.3.6. Third Pan-European Conference of Environment Ministers (→ point 1.2.110).

Bilateral relations

Baltic States

Reference: Trade and cooperation Agreements with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania: OJ L 403, 31.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.9

1.3.7. Visit made by the Community troika and Mr van den Broek to Copenhagen on 19 April.

The Community troika, represented at ministerial level by Niels Helveg Petersen, Danish Foreign Minister and President of the Council, and Willy Claes, Belgian Foreign Minister, and accompanied by Mr van den Broek, met Mr Velliste, Estonian Foreign Minister, Mr Andrejevs, Latvian Foreign Minister, and Mr Gylys, Lithuanian Foreign Minister. This initial meeting, part of the political dialogue begun when the trade and cooperation Agreements were signed, provided the opportunity to review the political ties between the Community and the Baltic States. Also discussed were the state of economic liberalization in these countries, their relations with Russia and cooperation within the Baltic region.

1.3.8. Parliament resolution on the situation in the Baltic Republics.

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. Expressing its view that the continued presence of troops of the former Soviet Union in the territories of the Baltic Republics was incompatible with the exercise of their sovereignty and with international law, Parliament called on Russia to do everything in its power to accelerate their withdrawal, and called on the Community and Member States to do what they could, particularly in financial terms, to facilitate the repatriation of the troops to Russia. With regard to their economic and financial situation, Parliament considered that the forcible annexation of the Baltic Republics by the former Soviet Union meant that they could not be required to pay a share of the latter's debt. In the light of the Baltic Republics' complete dependence

on the former Soviet Union and the consequent absence of the economic and technical structures needed for economic development, Parliament urged cooperation in science and technology between the Republics and the Community, and the opening-up of Community markets to the Baltic Republics' exports, which was an essential precondition for economic integration with the rest of Europe. It also considered it necessary to convert the recently concluded trade and cooperation Agreements into association agreements as rapidly as possible. Recognizing the Baltic Republics' extremely serious environmental problems, Parliament called on the Commission to draw up a programme of action to tackle these difficulties, most particularly those relating to nuclear safety. With regard to the political situation, Parliament urged the Community to ask the Group of 24 to adopt a uniform approach to consolidate democracy, establish the rule of law and guarantee observance of human and minority rights in the Baltic Republics. It welcomed the organization and calling of elections in the countries in question.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Bulgaria

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on economic aid to certain countries of Central and Eastern Europe (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.2.25) as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92 in order to extend economic aid to include other countries of Central and Eastern Europe: OJ L 227, 11.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.27

Europe (association) Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bulgaria, of the other part: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.8

1.3.9. Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Economic Community and the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and Bulgaria, of the other part.

Intitalling of the Agreement: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.12

Proposal for a Council Decision and draft Commission Decision on the conclusion of the Agree-

ment: COM(93) 46; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.8

Council Decision on the signature of the Agreement adopted and Agreement signed: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.9

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement on behalf of the European Economic Community endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Proposal for a Commission Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement on behalf of the European Coal and Steel Community endorsed by the ECSC Consultative Committee on 2 April.

1.3.10. Parliament resolution on relations between the European Community and Bulgaria.

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. As a result of Bulgaria's progress with democratization and its economic and technical assistance needs, Parliament advocated closer links with the Community through a Europe Agreement, and called for the process of cooperation set in motion with Bulgaria to take in Romania as well, in order to maintain a parallel structure between EC-Bulgaria and EC-Romania relations. Parliament strongly linked its endorsement of the Agreement to obtaining assurances that reform in economic and political matters and protecting human and minority rights would continue. In the light of the need to strengthen links between the Community and all the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Parliament urged the countries of south-eastern Europe, including Bulgaria, to establish closer relations and work together with the Visegrad group of countries. It also pressed the Commission to step up Community activities targeted at Bulgaria through the PHARE programme, and called for common environmental protection programmes to be drawn up.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.11. Parliament resolution on economic and trade relations between the European Community and Bulgaria.

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. Recognizing that Bulgaria was in a phase of transition

towards a market economy, a process which had substantially slowed down economic activity, Parliament advocated rapid ratification of the association agreement and the gradual establishment, in a manner biased in Bulgaria's favour, of a free-trade area. This would speed up the process of reform which was under way. It acknowledged the Bulgarian Government's efforts to stabilize the money supply, interest rates, price levels and the budget deficit, and welcomed the introduction of currency convertibility and the improvement in Bulgaria's trade balance with the Community. Parliament stressed the importance of privatizing the economy and transferring technical know-how to the country. It called for greater regional cooperation between Bulgaria and other Central and East European countries, particularly in environmental matters.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.12. Visit made by Mr van den Broek on 15 and 16 April.

Reference: Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.76

Mr van den Broek saw Zhelyu Zhelev, Bulgaria's President, Mr Berov, the Prime Minister, and other members of the government, for talks which covered the follow-up to the conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council on future relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the situation in Russia and the situation in the former Yugoslavia. Discussions on bilateral relations between the Community and Bulgaria provided an opportunity to assess progress with the ratification of the Europe (association) Agreement, which the Bulgarian parliament had unanimously approved. With regard to the PHARE programme, the Bulgarian authorities were very positive in their reaction to the various activities, which had drawn allocations of over ECU 187 million since 1990, with priority given to developing agriculture, health care, nuclear energy for civil uses, the environment and monetary matters.

Romania

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3906/89 on economic aid to certain countries of Central and

Eastern Europe (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989; Bull. EC 12-1989, point 2.2.25) as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2334/92 in order to extend economic aid to include other countries of Central and Eastern Europe: OJ L 227, 11.8.1992; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.27

Europe (association) Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bulgaria, of the other part: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.8

1.3.13. Parliament resolution on relations between the European Community and Romania.

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. Acknowledging Romania's efforts to introduce political democracy and economic liberalization, but also recognizing the poor state of its economy and basic infrastructure, Parliament advocated closer links with the Community through a Europe Agreement. Parliament strongly linked its endorsement of the Agreement to obtaining assurances that reform in economic and political matters and protecting human and minority rights would continue, and that the United Nations Security Council's decisions on the embargo against the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro would be adhered to. In the light of the need to strengthen links between the Community and all the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Parliament urged the countries of southeastern Europe, including Romania, to establish closer relations and work together with the Visegrad group of countries. It considered that substantial assistance, funded from the PHARE programme, should be devoted to developing freedom of information and pluralism in the media in Romania, and to eliminating shortcomings in the economy. It advocated the development of common programmes for environmental matters.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.14. Parliament resolution on economic and trade relations between the European Community and Romania.

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. In the light of the serious difficulties Romania was encountering in its progress towards macroeconomic stability, particularly in agriculture, industry and foreign trade, Parliament welcomed the

signing of the association agreement, which would help to consolidate political stability and encourage the development and modernization of the economy and society through the gradual establishment, in a manner biased in Romania's favour, of a free-trade area. It considered that the industrialized nations should share the burden of financial and commercial assistance supplied to ensure the success of the reform embarked on in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and asked the Commission to give priority consideration under the PHARE programme to the private sector in Romania's economy, and, more particularly, to progress with the monetary system. Recalling furthermore that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms was an absolute prerequisite for closer cooperation between the Community and Romania, Parliament welcomed the inclusion of a democratic principles clause in the association agreement, and called on the Council to ensure that it was applied, in the interests of bringing about a transition to true democracy, with assurances that the individual and collective rights of the citizen, and particularly the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, would be respected. Parliament also urged Romania to participate fully in the embargo against the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.15. Visit made by Mr van den Broek on 16 April.

Mr van den Broek saw Ion Iliescu, Romania's President, Mr Vacaroiu, the Prime Minister, and other members of the government, for talks which covered current relations between the Community and Romania. It was noted that the Romanian parliament had endorsed the association agreement, and that the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters would enter into force on 1 May. Both sides welcomed the considerable progress made by the Romanian Government on the political front, but recognized that the economic situation remained precarious, with high inflation. During discussion of the situation in the former Yugoslavia, the government emphasized the need for steps to be taken at international level to offset the damage to the Romanian economy caused by the embargo against the former

Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

Visegrad countries (Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia)

1.3.16. Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate two separate Europe Agreements, between the Community and the Czech Republic, and between the Community and Slovakia.

Commission recommendation: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.12

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The Agreements are intended to supersede the Europe Agreement signed with the former Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. Except for a few technical changes, their content will be identical to that of the old Europe Agreement.

Independent States of the former Soviet Union

Bilateral relations

Russian Federation

1.3.17. Special meeting of G7 Foreign Ministers and Finance Ministers.

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

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.3.28

Meeting held in Tokyo on 14 and 15 April. The foreign ministers and finance ministers of the seven major industrialized nations (the United States, Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Japan and Canada) met to discuss the issue of contributing to economic and political democratization in Russia. The country's Foreign Minister, Andrei Kozyrev, and its Economics and Finance Minister, Boris Fyodorov, were also present at the meeting, in which the Community, represented by Niels Helveg Petersen, Danish Foreign Minister and President of the Council, and Henning Christophersen took part for the first time. The minis-

ters agreed on multilateral aid of USD 43.4 billion, and adopted a statement which reaffirmed their support for the process of reform begun under the leadership of Boris Yeltsin, took note of the last two years' considerable progress towards democratization, and confirmed their determination to work with Russia to evolve lasting cooperation based on the principle of partnership. The assistance given to Russia would be pragmatic, tailored to the Russian economy's ability to absorb it, and provided in stages. It would take a number of forms: support for macroeconomic stabilization from the IMF, assistance for structural reform from the World Bank, help for SMEs provided mainly by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), support for privatizing large concerns (the G7 would look at the options for action in this area), debt rescheduling, action in connection with the export credit agency, developing trade, energy, nuclear safety, the dismantling of nuclear weapons (the G7 would look at the options for action in this area), science and technology, food and medical aid, technical assistance and bilateral cooperation.

In his address, Mr Christophersen announced that the Community was making an allocation of USD 3 billion for all the new independent States of the former Soviet Union, with 1.8 billion for Russia. He reiterated the Commission's feeling that there should be a multilateral policy covering all of the former Soviet Union, and that assistance should also go to the countries of Central Europe in order to shield them from any risks which might be associated with a failure of reform in Russia. He added that a distinction should be made between macroeconomic assistance and microeconomic assistance, with conditions being attached to the first.

1.3.18. Council Decision amending the negotiating directives for the partnership and cooperation Agreement with Russia.

Recommendation for a Decision: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.3

Negotiating directives: Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.4.19

Proposal for a Council Decision amending the directives: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.19

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The new directives provide for the addition to the Agreement of a future developments clause to allow for the eventual establishment of a free-trade arrangement between the partners once Russia is in a position to comply with GATT obligations, with a view to drawing it into a wider area of cooperation in Europe. The safeguard clause initially envisaged will be aligned on the rules that are generally applicable under GATT when Russia is in a position to fulfil the GATT obligations. The provisions on the setting-up of firms have been considerably improved. The Agreement will furthermore include rules to prevent distortion of competition resulting from action on the part of firms or government assistance. Provision will also be made for cooperation in preventing illegal activities.

1.3.19. Mr Churkin, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister and special adviser to the Russian Government on the former Yugoslavia, visited the Commission on 22 April.

References:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 990/93 concerning trade between the European Economic Community and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro): OJ L 102, 28.4.1993; point 1.3.27 of this Bulletin

Decision 93/235/ECSC of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council concerning trade between the European Coal and Steel Community and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro): OJ L 102, 28.4.1993; point 1.3.27 of this Bulletin

Mr Churkin saw Mr van den Broek for talks on the political and military situation in the former Yugoslavia. Mr van den Broek dwelt on the need to consolidate and expand the sanctions established by the international community and indicated that it would be necessary in the future to contemplate some military options in order to increase pressure on the Serbs and secure a political solution between the warring parties. Mr Churkin expressed the view that efforts should focus on continuing negotiations between the parties on the basis of the Vance-Owen plan, modified if necessary.

Mediterranean and Middle East

Mediterranean countries

Bilateral relations

Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria

1.3.20. Visit by the Community troika, accompanied by Mr van den Broek, from 30 March to 2 April.

In Jordan the Community troika, represented at ministerial level by Mr Helveg Petersen, Danish Foreign Minister and Council President, and Mr Urbain, Belgian Minister for Foreign Trade, and accompanied by Mr van den Broek, saw King Hussein, Mr Al Sharif Zaïd Ben Chaker, Prime Minister, and Mr Abou Djaber, Foreign Minister. In Syria, the delegation saw the Foreign Minister, Mr Ash-Shara', and in Lebanon the Prime Minister, Mr Al-Hariri, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Bouez. In Israel, the Community team had talks with the Prime Minister, Mr Rabin, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Peres.

The main purpose of this visit was to encourage the countries concerned to participate in the negotiations promoting the peace process in the region, and to pledge Community support for any initiative in this field. During the talks, it became apparent that there was a general desire to see the negotiations get under way again, on condition that a satisfactory solution was found to the issue of the Palestinians expelled from Israel.

Malta

1.3.21. Visit to the Commission by Mr De Marco, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, on 26 April.

Reference: Application for accession: Bull. EC 7/8-1990, point 1.4.25

Mr De Marco met Sir Leon Brittan, with whom he discussed the progress of the opinion the Commission is shortly to deliver on Malta's application for accession to the Community. They also spoke of the economic reforms introduced by the Maltese Government with a view to bringing the island's economic structures more into line with the Community's.

Slovenia

1.3.22. Agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Slovenia; Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the ECSC, of the one part, and the Republic of Slovenia, of the other part.

References:

Signing of the Cooperation Agreement with Yugoslavia: Bull. EC 4-1980, point 2.2.48

Council Decision 91/602/EEC denouncing the Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: OJ L 325, 27.11.1991; Bull. EC 11-1991, point 1.3.21

Recommendation for a Council Decision on the negotiating directives: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.14

Council Decision: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.26

Agreement initialled: COM(92) 487; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.31

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement: COM(92) 487; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.31

Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreements and signing of the Agreements in Luxembourg on 5 April. The Agreements were signed by the Member States' Foreign Ministers, and by the Slovenian Prime Minister, Mr Drnovsek; the Commission was represented by Sir Leon Brittan.

The Agreement on trade and economic cooperation is similar in content to the 1980 Agreement, with the exception of the social clauses. It includes a future developments clause, holding open the possibility of concluding a 'Europe Agreement' at a later date, and explicitly emphasizes the importance of respecting democratic principles and human rights.

In the field of trade, products of Slovenian origin are given free access to the Community market, and concessions are granted for a number of agricultural products. In return, Slovenia accords the Community most-favoured-nation status. As regards economic cooperation, the Agreement states that Slovenia may receive financing under the PHARE programme. Particular emphasis is placed on regional cooperation, especially cross-border cooperation with Italy.

At institutional level, the Agreement provides for the creation of a Cooperation Council, assisted by a Cooperation Committee.

In a joint political declaration, the contracting parties agree to establish regular political dialogue to accompany and consolidate their increasingly close ties and to support the political and economic reforms under way in Slovenia.

1.3.23. Protocol on financial cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Slovenia.

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol: OJ C 74, 16.3.1993; COM(93) 56; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.21

Protocol signed in Luxembourg on 5 April. The financial Protocol, which was signed at the same time as the Agreement on trade and economic cooperation and the ECSC Agreement (→ point 1.3.22), provides for European Investment Bank loans totalling ECU 150 million. During the first three years, these funds are to be used solely to finance transport infrastructure projects.

1.3.24. Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Slovenia in the field of transport (→ point 1.2.77).

Syria

1.3.25. Decision approving a financing proposal under the Mediterranean financial Protocols.

Reference: Council Decision 92/549/EEC on the conclusion of the third financial Protocol: OJ L 352, 2.12.1992; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.20

Adopted by the Commission on 26 April. Purpose: to award a grant of ECU 900 000 to finance water supply installations for 13 villages in the region of Deir Ez Zor.

Turkey

1.3.26. Parliament resolution on the problem of the Kurds in Turkey.

Reference: Parliament resolution on the rights of the Kurdish people: OJ C 176, 13.7.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.20

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Noting the shared desire of the Kurdish Turks and the Turkish Government to find a solution to the conflict between them, the establishment of a ceasefire, certain Kurdish leaders' acceptance of the principle of autonomy, and the freedom recently accorded the Turkish media, Parliament called for negotiations on the granting of political and cultural rights to the Kurdish Turks and establishing full respect for human rights.

However, Parliament remained concerned by the continuing violence and by the murder of five journalists in previous weeks. It condemned these murders and other grave violations of human rights perpetrated both by the security forces and the PKK.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Former Yugoslavia

1.3.27. Council Regulation (EEC) No 990/93 concerning trade between the European Economic Community and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro); Decision 93/235/ECSC of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council concerning trade between the European Coal and Steel Community and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Reference: Declaration by the Community and its Member States meeting in the context of European political cooperation: point 1.4.3 of this Bulletin

Regulations and Decisions repealed:

Council Regulation (EEC) No 1432/92: OJ L 151, 3.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.12,

as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3534/92: OJ L 358, 8.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.27

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2655/92: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.3.20

Council Regulation (EEC) No 2656/92: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.3.21, as last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 40/93: OJ L 7, 13.1.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.23

Decision 92/285/ECSC of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council: OJ L 151, 3.6.1992; Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.12, as last amended by Decision 92/555/ECSC: OJ L 358, 8.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.27

Decision 92/470/ECSC of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council: OJ L 266, 12.9.1992; Bull. EC 9-1992, point 1.3.21, as last amended by Decision 93/8/ECSC of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council: OJ L 7, 13.1.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.23

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) and a draft ECSC Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, adopted by the Commission on 21 April.

COM(93) 173

Adopted by the Council and by the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on 26 April. These measures were adopted in consequence of United Nations Security Council Resolution 820/93, with the aim of strengthening the embargo against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), in particular by preventing transit through the territory in question.

The new provisions strengthen the existing prohibitions, allowing only a few exceptions for humanitarian purposes, and then only with the authorization of the United Nations Sanctions Committee. The texts in question specifically apply the embargo to Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina and to the areas of the Republic of Croatia placed under UN protection. Exceptions in the latter cases may be authorized only by the Bosnian or Croatian Governments. The embargo is also specifically extended to the territorial sea of the Federal

Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Another important feature of the new provisions requires Member States to impound Yugoslav vessels, freight vehicles, rolling stock and aircraft and to detain and indeed confiscate means of transport from elsewhere suspected of violating the embargo or found to have done so.

OJ L 102, 28.4.1993

1.3.28. Parliament resolution on the need to ensure the delivery of supplies to the population of Tuzla (Bosnia) by reopening the town's airport under the protection of Unprofor.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Noting that Tuzla was a symbol of Bosnian resistance in that the town council was headed by a coalition of civic and democratic forces, that the town had been under siege from Serbian militias for a year and its airport was closed to humanitarian aid traffic, Parliament called on the Member States to take steps to promote the reopening of the airport under the control of Unprofor and the official municipal authorities.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

United States, Japan and other industrialized countries

United States

1.3.29. 1993 European Community report on US barriers to trade and investment.

Reference: 1992 report: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.4.17

Published by the Commission on 15 April. The report identifies the obstacles to trade and investment facing Community businesses on the US market. It will prove a useful tool in efforts to dismantle US trade barriers being

pursued through the current bilateral negotiations between the United States and the Community and multilateral negotiations under the Uruguay Round. The report also concludes that, despite the many impediments which remain, transatlantic trade was worth around USD 200 billion last year and the Community's trade deficit was lower, USD 9 billion in 1992, compared with USD 16.7 million in the previous year. Both sides have made considerable gains in areas where they have a competitive advantage and direct investment in each other's markets now stands at USD 420 billion. These factors highlight the closer economic interdependence between the two sides and the need to identify and remove barriers to trade and investment in the United States. The Commission has identified the following obstacles, or areas where access to the US market is or may be hampered:

- US unilateralism in trade legislation;
- extraterritorial application of national legislation;
- frequent use of national security arguments;
- public procurement and 'buy American' legislation;
- high tariffs, levies, import quotas and custom invoice requirements;
- subsidies to US farm exports;
- tax legislation (vehicles, transfer pricing, State unitary income taxation);
- multiplicity of standards at federal, State and municipal level;
- US services market;
- intellectual property rights;
- the investment sector.

These reflect the extent to which US policy is influenced by US domestic concerns about the competitiveness of its industries. Many of the impediments result from divergent economic regulations. The Commission suggests a two-pronged approach to the problem, bilaterally, by seeking greater convergence through agreements, and multilaterally, by negotiations in international forums such as the GATT and OECD. Such barriers, however, can be dismantled only if the United States refrains from

taking unilateral trade measures, observes the dispute settlement procedures adopted at multilateral level and cooperates with the Community and other parties to tighten up these procedures.

This publication can be obtained from the Directorate-General for External Relations at the Commission.

1.3.30. Sir Leon Brittan visited Washington on 19 and 20 April.

References:

Council Directive 90/531/EEC on the procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors: OJ L 297, 29.10.1990; Bull. EC 9-1990, point 1.2.6

Visit by Mr Kantor, US Trade Representative, to Brussels: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.32

1993 Community report on US obstacles to trade and investment: point 1.3.29 of this Bulletin

Sir Leon Brittan met Mr Kantor, the US Trade Representative. They resumed the discussions begun in March on access to public procurement. Agreement was reached on all but the telecommunications sector. Sir Leon Brittan expressed his satisfaction at the balanced solution achieved which, although it did not resolve all the outstanding problems, was a considerable advance. Agreement was reached on the heavy electrical equipment sector with the United States agreeing to abolish the 'buy American' restrictions applying to six Federal entities and the Commission undertaking to request the Council not to apply to this sector Article 29 of Directive 90/513/EEC on public procurement, which introduces a system of Community preference. However, they failed to reach an agreement in the telecommunications sector and Article 29 of the Community Directive will continue to be applied to this and the transport, water and energy sectors (excluding electrical equipment). Mr Kantor stated that sanctions would continue to be applied albeit on a more limited basis. The US Administration would ask the Federal authorities, major cities and some large US companies to abolish the domestic 'buy American' preference system. A study to be financed jointly by the Community and the United States will be

undertaken to explore the public procurement opportunities on the respective markets. The agreements concluded in the course of this visit will pave the way for the dismantling of the 'buy American' Act, which the Community would like to see abolished.

1.3.31. Conclusions of the Council on economic relations between the Community and the United States and world growth (→ point 1.2.29).

Japan

1.3.32. Mr Bangemann visited Tokyo from 29 March to 2 April.

Mr Bangemann met Mr Watanabe and Mr Kakizawa, Minister and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Mori, MITI Minister, and other members of the Japanese Government. They discussed industrial and trade relations between the Community and Japan. Mr Bangemann called on the Japanese Government to give European exporters greater access to the Japanese market in its economic revival plan. He also underlined the need for closer and more extensive industrial cooperation between the European Community and Japan in the form of sectoral round tables. Mr Bangemann welcomed the Japanese Government's projects to promote Community investment in Japan and the results of this year's monitoring exercise under the arrangements for exports of Japanese cars to the Community.

Other industrialized countries

Australia

1.3.33. Visit to the Commission by Mr Gear, Deputy Minister for Finance, on 29 April.

Mr Gear met Mr Van Miert with whom he discussed the international economic situation, institutional changes in the Community and competition policy. They also touched on the Uruguay Round trade negotiations.

Asia and Latin America

Asia

Bilateral relations

People's Republic of China

1.3.34. Joint Committee.

Reference: Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement between the Community and the People's Republic of China: OJ L 250, 19.9.1985; Bull. EC 9-1985, point 2.3.19

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 10-1991, point 1.3.20

Meeting held in Brussels on 28 and 29 April. The Chinese delegation to the meeting was headed by Mrs Wu Yi, Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, while the Commission was represented by Mr van den Broek and Sir Leon Brittan.

These talks saw the two sides examine the development of their relations since the last Joint Committee meeting was held in 1991. Sir Leon Brittan and Mr van den Broek underlined the importance that the Community attached to human rights, which it considered a key element in its relations with its partners, and welcomed the fact that China demonstrated a willingness to broach the subject. Both sides were encouraged by the growth in bilateral trade but agreed on the need to redress the balance in order to reduce the Community's trade deficit with China. They decided to set up a working party whose task it would be to analyse on a permanent basis bilateral trade and investment flows and the various barriers to their development. The Community delegation expressed its support for China's accession to GATT and the Chinese delegates reaffirmed their country's intention to carry through its economic and trade reforms. Finally, the two sides agreed on the importance of developing bilateral cooperation, in particular as regards industry and the environment.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1.3.35. Parliament resolution on the nuclear policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Parliament reiterated its attachment to the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and, remarking that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had signed an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) authorizing the inspection of nuclear sites in its territory, called on the North Korean authorities to reconsider their decision to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which constituted a real threat to peace in the region, and to grant access to its territory to the IAEA inspectors. It further called on the IAEA and the UN Security Council to explore all opportunities for negotiation to prevent North Korea withdrawing from the Treaty for good. It also urged the Security Council to do its utmost to prevent North Korea from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and called on all parties to the Treaty to suspend all scientific and technological links with the Government of North Korea.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Hong Kong

1.3.36. Mr Chris Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, visited the Commission from 29 March to 2 April.

Mr Patten saw Mr Delors and Sir Leon Brittan for talks on various aspects of Community/Hong Kong relations. Amongst topics discussed were the progressive dismantling of the Multifibre Arrangement (MFA), the application of GATT rules to the textiles sector and the anti-dumping proceedings initiated by the Commission.

Malaysia

1.3.37. Mrs D. S. Rafidah Aziz, Minister for Foreign Trade, visited the Commission on 29 April.

Mrs Rafidah Aziz met Sir Leon Brittan for talks which mainly concerned current relations between the Community and the ASEAN member countries. Mrs Rafidah Aziz advocated in particular the expansion of economic and trade relations between the two sides through the organization of regular meetings between trade and economic affairs ministers. She also emphasized the importance of an early conclusion to the Uruguay Round trade negotiations.

Latin America

Rio Group

1.3.38. Ministerial meeting between the European Community and the Rio Group of Latin American countries.

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.29

Meeting held in Copenhagen on 23 and 24 April. This conference, which took place as part of the institutionalized political dialogue between the Community and the Rio Group and which Mr Marín attended on behalf of the Commission, saw the signature of a new EC/Andean Pact Cooperation Agreement (→ point 1.3.39). The Central American and Mercosur (Southern Cone Common Market) countries were also represented at the meeting, which dwelt in the main on economic and trade issues. At the conclusion of the conference, the ministers adopted a joint political and economic communiqué which reflected the new climate of mutual understanding between the partners with respect to international relations despite some differences over the common agricultural policy and imports into the Community of certain food products originating in Latin American countries.

On the political front, the ministers welcomed the improvement of the domestic situation in Peru, which allowed Peru to be reintegrated into the Rio Group. They also expressed their deep concern about the persistent violations of human rights in Haiti and their wish that Cuba take the necessary steps towards democracy for its full reintegration into the community of

Latin American countries. On the subject of international relations, the ministers called for an immediate end to all hostilities in Bosnia-Herzegovina and for the Bosnian Serbs to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan without delay. To this end they agreed that the international community should continue to exert and step up the pressure on the former Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

On the economic front, Mr Marín spoke of the commitment made in the context of the Uruguay Round negotiations concerning the Community's internal protection and the fact that 65% of Latin American exports to the Community were exempt from duty, adding that the Community remained the Rio Group's number one trading partner. For the first time the two sides also reached agreement on the conduct of the Uruguay Round trade negotiations and were thus able to allay the fears of some Latin American countries about the effect of the single market on access to the Community market for exports from member countries of the Group in the event of a tightening of technical standards.

As regards investment, the ministers noted the measures taken by the Latin American countries to create a climate for European investment in the region, which was essential for bringing about sustainable economic and social growth.

Finally, ministers expressed satisfaction with the progress made by Mercosur and the Andean Pact towards regional cooperation and integration and reaffirmed the importance of enhancing cooperation between the Community and these regional bodies. The Rio Group ministers expressed their wish to broaden dialogue at the political level and to make greater use of the regular meetings between the two sides as a forum for dialogue and discussion so as to resolve the economic, trade and political problems affecting both regions.

Andean Pact

1.3.39. Framework Agreement on Cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Cartagena Agreement and its

member countries, namely Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

Commission recommendation: Bull. EC 3-1992, point 1.3.33

Negotiating directives: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.31

Initialling of the Agreement: Bull. EC 6-1992, point 1.4.31

Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement: OJ C 25, 28.1.1993; COM(92) 463; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.42

Signed in Copenhagen on 23 April. The aim of this Agreement is to strengthen and diversify the cooperation links between the Community and the Andean Pact countries. It is based on respect for democratic principles and human rights and places particular emphasis on strengthening and consolidating the regional integration system of the Andean Pact countries and on social development projects aimed at improving the living conditions of the poorest sections of the countries' populations.

The Agreement specifies three priority areas for cooperation between the partners: development of economic cooperation of the widest possible scope, promotion of trade expansion and diversification, in particular by granting most-favoured-nation treatment and development cooperation to increase efficiency in the agriculture, forestry and rural sectors. The Agreement also provides for a wide range of programmes and measures intended to help consolidate, deepen and diversify the ties between the parties.

1.3.40. Protocol on trade and economic cooperation between the European Coal and Steel Community, of the one part, and the Cartagena Agreement and its member countries, namely Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, of the other part.

Protocol to be replaced: Bull. EC 12-1983, point 2.2.45

Decision approving the Protocol adopted by the Commission on 28 April. In accordance with Article 34 of the Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and the Andean Pact (→ point 1.3.39), the Commission approved the signing of a Protocol on trade and economic cooperation, pursuant to

which the provisions of the abovementioned Agreement will also apply to the spheres covered by the ECSC Treaty, where such provisions also concern the coal and steel sectors. This Protocol replaces the 1984 Protocol.

Bilateral relations

Uruguay

1.3.41. Mr L. A. Lacalle, President of Uruguay, visited the Commission on 28 April.

Mr Lacalle, accompanied by Mr S. Abreu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and other government members, saw Mr Delors and Mr Marín for talks concerning cooperation between the Community and Uruguay, which mainly involves Community support for diversification of production, streamlining of manufacturing capacity and administrative structures and for the regional integration of Uruguay. The programme of cooperation to be implemented in 1993 was confirmed during the visit. Its principal components are the second phase of the aid programme for industrial restructuring with a view to Uruguay's accession to Mercosur and a programme covering business cooperation, human resources and regional planning for industry. Mr Lacalle also underlined the importance he attached to a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Venezuela

1.3.42. Mr F. Ochoa Antich, Minister for Foreign Affairs, visited the Commission on 22 April.

Mr Ochoa Antich saw Mr Marín and Mr van den Broek and presented his government's programme, for which he requested financial and administrative support from the Community, and which involved the acceptance of 10 000 well-educated and technically skilled immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe. They also discussed the generalized system of preferences and taxes on carbon dioxide emissions and on energy.

Cooperation with Asia and Latin America

1.3.43. Project financing.

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

Commission Decision adopted on 6 April to provide ECU 11 million to Peru in support of the Majes II programme, which involves extending the prototypes of intensive production already tested under the first phase of the programme to the socioprofessional sector of the Majes Siguanas, thereby enabling 2 000 farmers to benefit from the lessons learnt.

ACP countries and OCTs

Protocols

1.3.44. Council Decision on the conclusion of Agreements in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the ACP States signatory to the Protocol on sugar and India on the guaranteed prices for sugar cane for the 1992/93 delivery period.

Negotiating directives: Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.4.48

Proposal for a Council Decision: COM(93) 9; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.46

Adopted by the Council on 26 April.

Financial and technical cooperation

1.3.45. Financing of projects.

Commission decisions allocating a total of ECU 11 482 000 from the seventh EDF (see Table 9).

Table 9 — *Financing of operations under the seventh EDF*

Country	Purpose	Amount	
		Grant	Special loan
	<i>Economic infrastructure</i>		
Kenya	Building of St. Austin/Kabete road	1.970	—
	<i>Rural production</i>		
Guyana	Provision of credit to SMEs	0.250	—
	<i>Industrialization</i>		
Seychelles	Credit line for small businesses	0.250	—
	<i>Social development</i>		
Namibia	Education	0.500	—
	Education in rural areas	1.800	—
	<i>Cultural development</i>		
Kenya	Development of Swahili culture	1.990	—
	<i>Trade promotion</i>		
Gambia	Promotion of tourism	0.960	—
	<i>Other</i>		
Burundi	Aid for the elections	1.950	—
Mauritania	Technical assistance for the Ministry of Planning	1.562	—
Barbados	General technical cooperation	0.250	—
	Total	11.482	—

Institutions

ACP-EEC Joint Assembly

1.3.46. Sixteenth session.

Reference: Fourth ACP-EEC Convention: Bull. EC 9-1991, point 1.3.38

Meeting held in Boipuso-Gaborone (Botswana) from 29 March to 2 April. Co-Presidents of the Assembly were Ms L. Cassanmagnago Ceretti (Italy) and Mr E. Simmons (Barbados); Ms H. Degn, the Danish Minister for Development

Cooperation, and Mr Marín, representing the Commission, were also present.

Of the 69 ACP delegations present, 50 included parliamentarians, an improvement on their representation at previous meetings of the Assembly. Debates were dominated by the issues of the link between human rights and development and the process of democratization in Africa; the ACP States reiterated their adherence to the principle of non-interference.

The Assembly also discussed the situation in southern Africa, especially the implementation of the Lomé Convention in the region and the

prospects for the development of democracy in South Africa and that country's regional integration. After discussing the political situation in Angola, the Assembly called for implementation of the Bicesse Agreements, a halt to supplies of weapons to UNITA and more humanitarian aid.

On the subject of Zaire, the Assembly called for measures to isolate President Mobutu. Also on the agenda were the political situations in Haiti, Rwanda and Sudan; in the case of the latter there were calls for its formal exclusion from the Convention.

The Assembly expressed concern about over-exploitation of fishery resources and recommended that an ecologically viable approach that was more beneficial to the ACP States be adopted. It also argued for increased technical and financial assistance for traditional ACP banana suppliers.

It also took stock of progress in drawing up the reports on sustainable development and the implementation of Lomé IV. On this last point Mr Marín expressed his support for the Lomé Convention but insisted that some amendments were needed to adapt it to new circumstances.

Bilateral relations

Burkina Faso

1.3.47. The Prime Minister, Mr Y. Ouedraogo, visited the Commission on 20 April.

M. Ouedraogo saw Mr Marín, with whom he discussed the political situation in Burkina Faso and Africa in general, and the implementation of Community aid.

General development cooperation

Generalized preferences

1.3.48. Proposal for a Council Regulation applying supplementary generalized tariff pref-

erences in respect of certain products originating in countries benefiting from generalized preferences and sold at the Berlin 'Partners in progress' fair.

Reference: Council Regulation (EEC) No 1250/92 applying supplementary generalized tariff preferences in respect of certain products originating in countries benefiting from generalized preferences and sold at the Berlin 'Partners in progress' fair: OJ L 131, 16.5.1992; Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.2.44

Adopted by the Commission on 26 April. This Regulation renews the special tariff preferences granted each year to beneficiaries of generalized preferences in respect of products sold at the Berlin fair. The Commission has also proposed to the Council that such preferences be normally extended to other trade fairs of this type.

COM(93) 170

1.3.49. Council Regulation (EEC) No 1028/93 supplementing Regulation (EEC) No 3917/92 extending into 1993 the application of Regulations (EEC) Nos 3831/90, 3832/90, 3833/90, 3834/90, 3835/90 and 3900/91 applying generalized tariff preferences for 1991 in respect of certain products originating in developing countries and adding to the list of beneficiaries of such preferences.

Regulation to be supplemented: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3917/92: OJ L 396, 31.12.1992; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.44

Commission proposal: COM(93) 70; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.48

Adopted by the Council on 26 April. The Regulation added Viet Nam to the beneficiaries of the generalized preferences scheme in respect of textiles products covered by the Multifibre Arrangement.

OJ L 108, 1.5.1993

Commodities and world agreements

Tropical timber

1.3.50. Recommendation for a Council Decision on the negotiation of a second International Agreement on Tropical Timber.

Reference: Council Decision 85/424/EEC of 26 March 1985 on the application of the International Agreement on Tropical Timber 1983: OJ L 236, 3.9.1985; Bull. EC 3-1985, point 2.2.38

Adopted by the Commission on 7 April. This new Agreement would replace the 1983 Agreement, which will expire on 31 March 1994. The aim of the Agreement has been to provide a framework for cooperation and consultation on tropical timber and to promote the expansion of international trade and the development of forestry and timber-use management.

Jute

1.3.51. International Jute Council.

References:

New international Agreement on jute and jute products: Bull. EC 12-1990, point 1.4.60

Proposal for a Council Directive on packaging and packaging waste; COM(92) 278; Bull. EC 7/8-1992, point 1.3.144

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.4.56

Nineteenth meeting, held in Dhaka from 20 to 23 April. The meeting was opened by Mr Hannan Shah, Bangladesh's Minister for Jute, and saw Austria become a member of the International Jute Council. The main item of debate was the Directive on packaging and packaging waste.

Cooperation via non-governmental organizations

1.3.52. Annual General Assembly of European non-governmental organizations active in the development field.

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.4.32

Nineteenth meeting, held in Brussels from 14 to 16 April. The main theme of the meeting was 'European development policy', and NGO and Commission representatives reviewed cooperation in 1992 and discussed the prospects for their work in coming years. In 1992 the Commission contributed ECU 632 million to NGO projects, up 32% on 1991 (ECU 480 million). The funds went mainly towards financing food aid (ECU 251.7 million), emergency aid (ECU

110.3 million), cofinancing small-scale development projects in the developing countries (ECU 97.9 million) and aiding victims of apartheid (ECU 80 million).

1.3.53. Projects in developing countries.

Commission cofinancing: commitment of ECU 7 296 028 for 29 operations.

1.3.54. Campaigns to raise public awareness of development issues.

Commission contribution: ECU 645 598 for seven operations.

Humanitarian aid

Emergency aid

1.3.55. Commission decisions: see Table 10.

Table 10 — *Emergency aid*

(million ECU)		
Country	Purpose	Amount

Financing: EDF (ACP countries)

Sudan	Fighting and drought	0.3
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Financing: 1993 budget

Armenia	Unrest	0.98
Croatia	Displaced women	0.5
Ecuador	Torrential rains	0.27
Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan	Fighting	0.5

1.3.56. Parliament resolution on Community emergency aid for the population of Cuba following a violent storm.

Reference: Commission decision to grant ECU 500 000 for victims of the cyclone that struck Cuba: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.51

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. In view of damage estimated at over USD 1 billion as a result of the storm in the Gulf of Mexico from 12 to 14 March, the death of at least five people, the injury of 95 others, of the fact that some 150 000 people were affected and 40 000 houses destroyed, of the serious damage to agriculture in particular with the resultant harvest losses, of the collapse of drinking water supplies and damage to telecommunications, and of the fact that the Cuban Government has asked UN agencies for aid for the first time since 1959, Parliament considered that the emergency aid of ECU 500 000 already accorded by the Commission was inadequate

and called for the sending of additional food aid, medicines, fertilizers and pesticides, and building materials. It also called on the Commission to grant Cuba trade facilities and offer financial and technical cooperation.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Food aid

Standard food aid

1.3.57. Commission decision. Grant of food worth ECU 91.311 million (see Table 11).

Table 11 — *Food aid*

Country/Organization	Cereals (tonnes)	Milk powder (tonnes)	Sugar (tonnes)	Vegetable oil (tonnes)	Other products (million ECU)
Lesotho	10 000	—	—	—	—
Mauritania	5 000	—	—	—	—
NGOs	100 000	9 000	1 200	5 000	6.0
UNRWA	8 000	700	1 000	700	1.7
ICRC	60 000	—	—	5 000	3.0

Storage programmes and early warning systems

1.3.58. Commission decisions. Grants of ECU 94 600 to Caritas for Nicaragua and ECU 323 544 to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees for Kenya.

Aid for refugees and displaced persons

1.3.59. Commission decision. Grant of ECU 260 000 to finance a programme to promote the self-sufficiency of refugees and displaced persons in Afghanistan.

Commercial policy

General matters

Operation of the customs union

1.3.60. Council Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate customs cooperation agreements with the Community's main trading partners.

Recommendation for a Decision: Bull. EC 10-1992, point 1.3.21

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. The agreements are intended to facilitate access to the markets of the countries concerned for Community exporters, to guarantee equal treatment

for Community operators in those countries and to improve relations between customs authorities in order to increase the effectiveness of efforts to combat customs fraud.

1.3.61. Proposal for a Council Regulation replacing Regulation (EEC) No 1468/81 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and cooperation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs or agricultural matters.

Commission proposal: OJ C 56, 26.2.1993; COM(92) 544; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.3.24

Endorsed by the Economic and Social Committee on 28 April. Favourable subject to comments concerning the compatibility of certain provisions with national legislation and the protection of personal data.

1.3.62. Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products.

Council Regulation to be repealed: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3033/80 laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products (OJ L 323, 11.11.1980), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1436/90: OJ L 138, 31.5.1990; Bull. EC 5-1990, point 1.2.170

Adopted by the Commission on 15 April. Changes are to be made to the arrangements applicable to imports and exports of products resulting from the processing of agricultural products but not covered by Annex II to the Treaty, and in particular to the procedure for adopting the implementing provisions for preferential agreements.

OJ C 126, 7.5.1993; COM(93) 135

1.3.63. Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3568/90 on the introduction of transitional tariff measures for Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Yugoslavia until 31 December 1992 to take account of German unification.

Commission proposal: OJ C 46, 18.2.1993; COM(93) 5; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.62

Endorsed by Parliament on 23 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.64. Council Regulation (EEC) No 1013/93 amending the autonomous import arrangements for products originating in Bulgaria or Romania.

Commission proposal: COM(93) 81; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.56

Adopted by the Council on 26 April.

OJ L 105, 30.4.1993

Commercial policy instruments

Anti-dumping and anti-subsidy proceedings

Council anti-dumping measures

1.3.65. Council Regulation (EEC) No 993/93 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain electronic weighing scales originating in Japan.

Commission proposal: COM(93) 87; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.59

Adopted by the Council on 26 April.

OJ L 104, 29.4.1993

Commission anti-dumping measures

1.3.66. Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain types of refractory chamottes originating in the People's Republic of China.

Published on 15 April.

OJ C 104, 15.4.1993

1.3.67. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 920/93 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of certain magnetic disks (3.5 inch microdisks) originating in Japan, Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

Reference: Initiation of proceeding: OJ C 174, 5.7.1991; Bull. EC 7/8-1991, point 1.3.75

Adopted by the Commission on 15 April.

OJ L 95, 21.4.1993

1.3.68. Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1103/93 imposing a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of certain electronic weighing scales originating in Singapore and the Republic of Korea.

Reference: Initiation of proceeding: OJ C 6, 10.1.1992; Bull. EC 1/2-1992, point 1.4.90

Adopted by the Commission on 30 April.

OJ L 112, 6.5.1993

1.3.69. Notice of expiry of an anti-dumping measure concerning imports of roller chains for cycles originating in the People's Republic of China.

Reference: Definitive duty: OJ L 115, 3.5.1988; Bull. EC 4-1988, point 2.2.5

Published on 23 April.

OJ C 113, 23.4.1993

Surveillance and safeguard measures

1.3.70. Notice of initiation of a Community investigation concerning imports of unwrought aluminium originating in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Published on 3 April.

OJ C 94, 3.4.1993

Export credits

1.3.71. Parliament resolution on the importance of the Arrangement on guidelines for officially supported export credits and the resulting Community acts.

References:

Council Decision 93/112/EEC extending the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits: OJ L 44, 22.2.1993; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.62

Proposal for a Council Decision on coordination and information procedures in matters of officially supported export credits, credit insurance, credit guarantees and financial credits: OJ C 344, 29.12.1992; COM(92) 502; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.4.61

Adopted by Parliament on 23 April. Parliament stressed the importance of the OECD Arrangement on export credits. It regretted that it had not been consulted on the Arrangement and asked to be consulted on the proposal concerning coordination and information procedures in matters of export credits and on all future agreements or proposals concerning these matters.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Individual sectors

Steel

1.3.72. Recommendation for a Council Decision on the negotiation of an agreement between the Community, on the one hand, and the Czech Republic and Slovakia, on the other, concerning steel imports from those countries (external measures, steel restructuring programme, 1993-95).

References:

Commission communication on greater competitiveness in the steel industry and the need for further restructuring: SEC(92) 2160; Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.3.76

Council conclusions on the restructuring of the steel industry in the Community: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.2.82

Adopted by the Commission on 21 April. In this recommendation, made as part of the external measures under the Community steel restructuring programme, the Commission sets out its proposals concerning the quantities to be negotiated with the Czech Republic and Slovakia under the tariff quota procedure which should cover steel imports from these two countries for the period 1993-95.

Textiles

1.3.73. Council Regulation (EEC) No 958/93 establishing a Community procedure for administering quantitative import restrictions and monitoring of textile and clothing products originating in certain third countries.

Commission proposal: COM(93) 33; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.74

Adopted by the Council on 5 April. This Regulation lays down the rules for administering the import restrictions and Community monitoring procedures laid down in the agreements, protocols, arrangements and specific import regimes negotiated with third countries, together with special transitional provisions, pending the implementation by the Commission of a centralized data-processing system.

OJ L 103, 28.4.1993

International organizations and conferences

United Nations and specialized agencies

1.3.74. Mr Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, visited the Commission on 23 April.

Mr Boutros Ghali saw Mr Delors and Mr van den Broek of the Commission, with whom he discussed various ways of strengthening cooperation between the Community and the UN, particularly with regard to the former Yugoslavia and Cyprus.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

1.3.75. Council Regulation (EEC) No 991/93 extending the measures taken under the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the United States of America for the conclusion of negotiations under GATT Article XXIV.6.

Commission proposal: COM(93) 111; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.69

Adopted by the Council on 23 April.

OJ L 104, 29.4.1993

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

1.3.76. Mr Paye, the OECD Secretary-General, visited the Commission on 26 April.

Mr Paye saw Mr Delors, Sir Leon Brittan, Mr Marin and Mr van den Broek of the Commission. Discussion centred on the situation and prospects of the world economy, the multilateral trading system and the OECD's relations with the rest of the world. Sir Leon spoke of his determination to make headway with the Uruguay Round negotiations, particularly in the area of market access. Mr Marin outlined the steps taken by the Community to attach more economic and political conditions to development cooperation.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

General

1.3.77. Annual general meeting.

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 4-1992, point 1.4.53

Second meeting in London, 26 and 27 April. Under its President, Mr Waigel, the Board of Governors took stock of the Bank's operations in 1992, finding that the Board of Directors had approved 55 operations totalling ECU 1.6 billion. They recognized that slow disbursement was a problem facing all international institutions active in Central and Eastern Europe, and reiterated their support for the Bank, emphasizing the absolute priority to be given to the rapid development of the private sector in the countries concerned and the importance of the statutory ratio: at least 60% of its operations have to be in the private sector. The governors welcomed the preparation by the Bank of an action plan aimed at complying with the ratio. There was also broad approval for the move by the G7 to set up a multilateral nuclear safety fund to finance the assessment and improvement of safety at Eastern Europe's nuclear power stations. In coordination with

the G24 countries, the EBRD would be acting as the secretariat for this fund.

The governors also stressed the need for rigorous management of the Bank. Mr Christophersen of the Commission pointed out the need for the Bank to inspire the utmost confidence, since it borrowed from the financial community.

Financing

Armenia

Hrasdan thermal power station

1.3.78. A loan equivalent to ECU 47.4 million was granted to the Armenian Energy Ministry and the national electricity-generating company. The loan will cover the foreign currency element (primarily imports) of the project to complete an unfinished power station and a high-tension line between the station and the Armenian capital, Yerevan.

Hungary

PCA-Budafok paperboard

1.3.79. The Bank granted a loan of USD 7 million (ECU 5 million) to a joint venture between a Hungarian recycled-paper producer, Papiripari Vallalat, and the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA). The investment will enable the factory to be upgraded and brought into line with Community environmental standards governing the discharge of pollutants.

Poland

Wielkoposki Bank (WBK)

1.3.80. The EBRD took a 27% (ECU 11 million) share in the capital of WBK, a Polish regional bank undergoing privatization. This investment increased WBK's capital. It was conditional on the success of the public sub-

scription to WBK's shares, which was scheduled for April.

Huta Warszawa-Lucchini

1.3.81. An ECU 30 million loan was granted to Huta Warszawa-Lucchini, an Italo-Polish joint venture. It will help finance the modernization of the Huta Warszawa steelworks, one of Poland's main steel producers, with the financial and technical assistance of the Italian steel company, Lucchini, the majority shareholder in the joint venture.

Czech Republic

CZ-Cagiva

1.3.82. The Bank granted a loan of LIT 15 billion (ECU 8.7 million) to the joint venture involving Holding CZ and Cagiva, the leading motorcycle producers of the Czech Republic and Italy respectively. The investment programme financed is to modernize the CZ plant at Strakonice, south of Prague. The production target was set at 40 000 motorcycles by 1995, part to be exported to Europe and North America.

Romania

Capital Group

1.3.83. The Bank took a total equity holding of USD 9.5 million in an investment bank and investment fund. Capital Group, the recipient, is a US-Romanian joint venture, in which the majority shareholder is the US bank Wasserstein Perella. The operation was backed by a major US Aid technical assistance programme.

Ion Tiriac Commercial Bank (BCIT)

1.3.84. The Bank took a 20% stake in a new commercial bank, BCIT, totalling ECU 5.5 million. Set up in 1992 with private capital (the majority shareholder being Ion Tiriac), the bank had a very profitable first year, growing

rapidly. The EBRD shareholding will enable the new institution to consolidate.

Rehabilitation of roads

1.3.85. A loan of USD 80 million was made for a major road infrastructure programme (USD 400 million in total) in Romania, cofinanced by the EIB and the World Bank. Under the programme financed by the loan 1 100 km of roads are to be repaired.

Slovakia

Slovak Telecommunications

1.3.86. The Bank granted a sovereign loan of ECU 44 million to Slovak Telecommunications to finance the extension of the telephone network and the improvement of the technical performance of existing facilities and the quality of services to users. This investment by Slovak Telecommunications is cofinanced by the EIB and the World Bank.

International road corridor

1.3.87. The Bank granted the Slovak Government a sovereign loan of ECU 15 million to finance the improvement of the country's international road links.

Slovenia

Hydroelectric scheme on the Drawa

1.3.88. A sovereign loan of DM 142.5 million was granted to DEM, the operator of the power stations on the River Drawa. This will enable the power stations to be fitted with modern generating and control equipment. The loan includes a technical assistance element.

Human rights in the world

South Africa

1.3.89. Parliament resolution on South Africa.

Reference: Parliament resolution on South Africa: OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.3.76

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Seriously alarmed at the lack of progress in dismantling apartheid and constructing a non-racial and democratic South Africa, Parliament condemned the assassination of Chris Hani, an ANC leader and Secretary-General of the South African Communist Party. It welcomed the announcement by the Minister for Justice that two international experts would be taking part in the murder investigation. It called on the Community to enable its observers, whose mandate needed to be clearly defined, to make public their observations in South Africa in order to contribute to the work of democratic and human rights associations.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Angola

1.3.90. Parliament resolution on the situation in Angola.

References:

Parliament resolution of 21 January 1993 on the situation in Angola: OJ C 42, 15.2.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.3.48

Sixteenth meeting of the ACP-EEC Joint Assembly in Boipuso-Gaborone; point 1.3.46 of this Bulletin

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Parliament called on UNITA's leaders, the other Angolan political leaders, and on the country's citizens, to make every effort to restore peace, democracy and coexistence, and to promote the social and economic recovery of the country. It called on the Community, through joint action by Parliament, the Joint Assembly and the Commission, to take steps to enable the Angolan National Assembly and its parliamentary committees to function as effectively as possible. It recommended that the inter-

national community stop all military aid to Mr Savimbi, called on the Community and its Member States to step up their humanitarian aid to Angola, and called on the Commission to launch forthwith the second phase of the Community support framework for Angola.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Iran

1.3.91. Parliament resolution on the continuing persecution of the Baha'is in Iran.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Parliament called on the Community to condemn strongly the Islamic Republic of Iran for its continuing refusal to recognize the fundamental human rights of Baha'is, and to support their struggle for the rights to personal liberty and security, work and education, along with the right to profess and practise their religion.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.3.92. Parliament resolution on Iranian human rights violations.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Parliament condemned Iran's use of State terrorism and the assassination by agents of the regime, in Rome on 16 March, of Mr Naghdi, representative in Italy of the Iranian National Resistance Council. It called on the foreign ministers meeting within the framework of European political cooperation to condemn the systematic and serious violation of human rights in Iran, in particular the increasing number of extrajudicial executions and arbitrary mass arrests of discontented citizens taking part in demonstrations.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Peru

1.3.93. Parliament resolution on the situation in Peru.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Expressing disquiet at the continuing serious violation of human rights in Peru, Parliament called for the abolition of the special courts, the immediate release of all journalists imprisoned for expressing their opinions and for exiles to be

allowed to return to Peru without fear of reprisal. It called on the Commission and the foreign ministers meeting within the framework of European political cooperation to obtain guarantees from the Peruvian Government that the rights to freedom of expression and information would be respected in full.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

El Salvador

1.3.94. Parliament resolution on the political situation in El Salvador.

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Noting the report by the 'Truth Commission' on human rights violations in El Salvador between 1980 and 1991 and the adoption by the country's legislative assembly of a general amnesty law, Parliament stated that this law should under no circumstances be interpreted or used to hinder full implementation of the recommendations contained in the abovementioned report. It called on the Salvadorean Government to implement all those recommendations immediately, particularly the reform of the judiciary, an inquiry into the death squads, the end of impunity and a programme of moral and material reparations for victims of human rights violations and their families.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Sudan

1.3.95. Parliament resolution on the situation in Sudan.

Reference: Fourth ACP-EEC Convention: Bull. EC 12-1989, points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3

Adopted by Parliament on 22 April. Parliament called on the Sudanese authorities to put an end to the systematic violation of human rights and to respect the rights of minorities and the freedoms of the population without distinction based on race, religion or language. It called on the Community and the Member States to organize massive aid for the population and to redouble their efforts to ensure that this aid actually reaches the population by channelling it through NGOs. It closed by calling on the Council to consider all means of exerting pres-

sure, with due regard for the commitments of Article 5 of the Fourth Lomé Convention.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Diplomatic relations

1.3.96. The following ambassadors, whose appointments took effect on the dates shown, presented their letters of credence to the President of the Council and the President of the Commission:

23 April

- HE Mrs Mary Seet-Cheng, Head of Mission of the Republic of Singapore to the European Communities;
- HE Mr Chang Man Soo, Head of Mission of the Republic of Korea to the European Communities;
- HE Mr Dugesh M. Singh, Head of Mission of the Kingdom of Nepal to the European Economic Community;

□ HE Mr Manfred Scheich, Head of Mission of the Republic of Austria to the European Communities;

□ HE Mr Volodymyr Vassilenko, Head of Mission of Ukraine to the European Communities;

26 April

□ HE Mr Hasan Ahmad, Head of Mission of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the European Communities.

1.3.97. The Head of Mission of Ukraine is the first ambassador from that country to be accredited to the European Communities.

The Government of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan announced that it was opening a mission to the European Communities from 1 April and designated Mr Sergey K. Kasymkulov as Chargé d'affaires, pending the accreditation of an ambassador.

The Government of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina announced that it was opening a mission to the European Communities from 4 April and designated Mr Nedžad Hadžimusić as Chargé d'affaires, pending the accreditation of an ambassador.

This brought the number of diplomatic missions to 154.

4. Intergovernmental cooperation

European political cooperation

1.4.1. The joint statements adopted and published in April are reproduced below in chronological order.

Suriname

1.4.2. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen, Luxembourg and Brussels on 5 April:

'The European Community and its Member States are seriously concerned at recent developments in Suriname in connection with the appointment by the Surinamese Government of a new commander of the armed forces. They reiterate their full support for the President of the Republic of Suriname, Dr. R. R. Venetiaan, and his government and recall that subordination of the armed forces to civil authority is of prime importance for the strengthening and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law.

The European Community and its Member States strongly urge all those concerned fully to respect these principles. Any infringement on these principles could not but have negative consequences for the cooperation between the European Community and Suriname.'

Former Yugoslavia

1.4.3. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen, Luxembourg and Brussels on 5 April:

'The Community and its Member States express great concern at the reiterated refusal of the Bosnian Serb leaders to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan. They continue to demand that the plan be accepted by all three parties and consequently implemented. To this end, full international pressure is now being put on the Bosnian Serbs and on the authorities in Belgrade. The Community and its Member States continue to make sanctions more effective, even

further isolating Serbia-Montenegro. In this respect they welcome the decision adopted today by the extraordinary Council of Ministers of the WEU on measures to strengthen the enforcement of the UN embargo on the Danube.

The Bosnian Serbs have repudiated the peace plan. The Community and its Member States have repeatedly made it clear (European Council, 11 and 12 December 1992, 1 February 1993) that non-acceptance of the peace plan would have the most severe consequences and would lead to total international isolation of Serbia-Montenegro. It is now time to take concrete steps down that route. The Community and its Member States have elaborated a package of possible measures for such a contingency. They therefore welcome the fact that the Security Council is at present dealing with a draft resolution supporting the peace plan and strengthening the sanctions regime, which contains essential elements of the European concept. The Community and its Member States trust that the European members of the Security Council will continue their efforts with a view to the adoption, without delay, of a resolution in accordance with this concept.

If the present policies of the Serb side are carried on, the Bosnian Serbs and Serbia-Montenegro will remain isolated for years to come. However, if the Bosnian Serbs accept the peace plan and it is being fully implemented in good faith, this pressure will gradually be lifted, leading to the full readmittance of Serbia-Montenegro to the international community.

The Community and its Member States are deeply worried about the humanitarian situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, especially its eastern part. They strongly demand that Serb attacks stop and that humanitarian assistance immediately be given free access.

The Community and its Member States welcome the prolongation of the Unprofor mandate. They urge the Croatian Government and the Serbs in Croatia to successfully negotiate a settlement of the disputes between them, based on the principles of the Vance-Owen peace plan.

The Community and its Member States, expressing their full support for the International Conference, warmly thank Cyrus Vance for his great contri-

bution to it and look forward to cooperating with Thorvald Stoltenberg.'

Cambodia

1.4.4. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 7 April:

'The European Community and its Member States refer to Security Council Resolution 810 on Cambodia, which stipulates the official start as of today, 7 April 1993, of the campaign for the elections to the Constituent Assembly from 23 to 27 May 1993.

The Community and its Member States express their continued strong support for the implementation of the Paris Agreements. They congratulate the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and UNTAC on their success in implementing the provisions of the Agreements to the fullest extent possible, particularly in electoral registration and the return of refugees and displaced persons to Cambodia.

It is of utmost importance that the remaining phase of the election process organized by the United Nations be implemented in a peaceful and secure environment, without political intimidation and harassment, to ensure free and fair elections. The Community and its Member States call on all parties to cooperate with UNTAC towards this objective and to respect fully their obligations under the Paris Agreements. They also urge the parties to commit themselves to accept and abide by the outcome of the elections.

In underlining the need for a peaceful climate for free and fair elections in Cambodia, the European Community and its Member States express their deep concern at the continued cease-fire violations, in particular the recent increase in attacks on both UNTAC military and civilian personnel and the brutal attacks against groups of Vietnamese origin. They strongly condemn these actions and urge all Cambodian parties to work for an immediate cessation of such activities.'

Zaire

1.4.5. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 7 April:

'The Community and its Member States are unable, in the context of their relations with Zaire, to acknowledge the appointment as Prime Minister of Mr Faustin Birindwa by presidential order on the proposal of the political conclave consisting solely

of the President's men, without the approval of the High Council of the Republic and consequently without this move forming part of the process of transition defined by the Sovereign National Conference.

Such a government cannot therefore enjoy the cooperation of the Community and its Member States, which have agreed *inter alia* to impose an embargo on arms sales and a policy restricting the granting of visas. The Community and its Member States have also been informed of the adoption by the former National Assembly of a so-called "harmonized" transitional act. The Community and its Member States are unable for their part to acknowledge this harmonized transitional act and its adoption by the National Assembly, since such moves are in violation of the process of democratic transition which the Community and its Member States continue to support.

The Community and its Member States reaffirm their support for the President of the High Council of the Republic and his efforts to make possible a smooth transition to the holding of free and democratic elections.'

Nagorno-Karabakh

1.4.6. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 7 April:

'The Community and its Member States are seriously concerned about the latest degradation of the relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Community and its Member States regret the enlargement of the combat zone to Kelbajar and the Fizuli area. The Armenian Government is strongly urged to use its influence on the Nagorno-Karabakh forces for an immediate withdrawal from the Azeri territory and to stop the fighting in the area. All parties are requested not to withdraw from the ongoing negotiations in the Minsk group of the CSCE due to the recent events.'

South Africa

1.4.7. The following joint statement on the assassination of Chris Hani was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 11 April:

'The European Community and its Member States strongly condemn the assassination of Chris Hani yesterday. They extend their deep-felt condolences to Mr Hani's wife and family.

It is indeed tragic that Chris Hani, who has been appealing for an end to violence and return to peace, should himself die from the bullets of an assassin. A full and thorough investigation of the murder is called for. The European Community and its Member States stand ready to help in any way they can, e.g. through its observers already in South Africa or its experts with the Goldstone Commission.

While fully understanding the grief of many South Africans over the loss of Chris Hani the European Community and its Member States appeal for calm and restraint in this difficult situation. Those elements wanting to prevent a speedy and peaceful transition to a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa must not be allowed to succeed. The European Community and its Member States therefore renew their call to all parties engaged in the multiparty negotiations to redouble their efforts to reach a negotiated settlement, to do their utmost to bring the violence to an end and to renounce violence in all its forms.'

Malawi

1.4.8. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 14 April:

'The Community and its Member States have noted with satisfaction that the Government of Malawi and other parties, including those advocating multiparty democracy, have reached an agreement on 6 April 1993 on the composition of the Referendum Commission. The Community and its Member States have therefore decided to send a joint EC Observer Mission to monitor the voter registration process within the common framework established by the UN.'

Niger

1.4.9. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 16 April:

'The Community and its Member States welcome the holding of multiparty elections for parliament and president in Niger as a significant step forward in the democratization process that was initiated by the 1991 National Conference.

They welcome the fact that election campaigning and the elections themselves were conducted in a free and fair manner, and generally free from political violence. The Community and its Member States are impressed by the way the people of Niger exercised their right to vote in a peaceful manner throughout the country. At the same time they com-

pliment the Cosupel for its organization of the elections.'

Pakistan

1.4.10. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 23 April:

'The European Community and its Member States value their relations with Pakistan and are following political developments in that country with interest and attention. They note that this is the third occasion since 1988 on which the President of Pakistan has dismissed the Prime Minister and dissolved the national assembly before the end of its due term.

The European Community and its Member States note that the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the National Assembly intend to take legal action to challenge the decision to dismiss the government. They hope that a clear legal decision by the Supreme Court will be reached soon.

The European Community and its Member States urge all concerned in Pakistan to display full support for the democratic process and express the hope that any fresh elections will be fair and free.

The European Community and its Member States express the hope that the programme of economic reform undertaken by the previous government will continue unaffected by the change in government.'

Angola

1.4.11. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 23 April:

'More than half a year has passed since the first multiparty elections took place in Angola, as an outstanding achievement of the process that began with the signing of the Bicesse Accords in May 1991. Contrary to the expectations of those who participated enthusiastically in them and of those who observed and found them as having been generally free and fair, their significance for the future of the country has ever since been overshadowed by the outbreak of hostilities, violence and destruction on a scale yet unknown, in spite of the increasing efforts of the international community to convince UNITA to accept the outcome of the elections.

The Community and its Member States reaffirm their belief that democracy and its inherent values of tolerance and respect for human rights are the

only means of overcoming differences and reconciling the Angolan nation. Therefore the Bicesse Peace Agreements and the institutions formed on the basis of the results of the elections and legality must strongly be supported against all adversity, be it military, ideological, financial or otherwise, internal or external. UN Security Council Resolutions 804 and 811 must be complied with.

The Community and its Member States welcome that the Government of Angola and UNITA have opened negotiations in Abidjan under the auspices of the United Nations. They express their strong wish that these negotiations will result in a peaceful solution to the Angolan conflict leading to national unity and reconciliation. There is a need for a re-establishment of the cease-fire and an immediate cessation of all hostilities.

The Community and its Member States are extremely concerned with the humanitarian situation in Angola. The United Nations has issued a strong appeal for humanitarian assistance. We are prepared to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Angolans who are the tragic victims of the fighting. In this context, the Community and its Member States recall that they consider it unacceptable to make relief operations dependent on any conditions and that they consider that all sides have an obligation to ensure that the humanitarian aid reaches the populations in need, irrespective of under whose control the areas concerned happen to be.'

Russia

1.4.12. The following joint statement on the situation in Russia following the referendum on 25 April was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 27 April:

'The preliminary result of the referendum on 25 April is a convincing victory for democracy in the Russian Federation. It underscores that a majority of the population supports President Yeltsin and his efforts to promote democracy and a transition to a more market-oriented economy.

The Community and its Member States welcome this outcome of the referendum. They congratulate President Yeltsin on the results. It underlines the importance of Russia moving ahead with the necessary democratic and market-economy reforms. As the democratically expressed will of the population, the results of the referendum should be respected by

all political forces in Russia and should form the basis for a solution of the constitutional problems.

The Community and its Member States are ready to continue and enhance their support for the Russian reform process and look forward to an early agreement on the partnership and cooperation agreement currently under negotiation between the EC and Russia.

The Community and its Member States look forward to intensified cooperation with Russia in the future based on the principle of partnership.'

Eritrea

1.4.13. The following joint statement on the referendum in Eritrea was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 29 April:

'The Community and its Member States welcome the successful holding of the referendum in Eritrea from 23 to 25 April 1993.

Through the referendum the registered voters almost unanimously voted in favour of an independent Eritrea, thus peacefully ending more than 30 years of conflict.

The EC observation teams noted that the voting procedures were carried out without any major problems and the result clearly reflects the choice of the majority of the people of Eritrea.

The Community and its Member States therefore welcome the emergence of the independent State of Eritrea and they will now proceed to take the national steps necessary for their individual recognition of Eritrea as a new member of the international community.'

Togo

1.4.14. The following joint statement was published in Copenhagen and Brussels on 29 April:

'The Community and its Member States have taken note of the timetable for elections proposed by the Togolese authorities. They do however feel that it will not be possible to conduct a successful electoral process in Togo unless prior agreement has been reached between all political forces, given the tense situation which has prevailed there for many months.

These elections should really be held in a climate of peace and openness, and the inhabitants of Lomé who have fled should be able to participate.'

5. Financing Community activities

Budgets

General budget

Budgetary procedures

1994 financial year

1.5.1. Preliminary draft budget for 1994.

References:

Conclusions of the Edinburgh European Council: Bull. EC 12-1992, points I.45 to I.72

Preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget No 1/1993: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.5.2

Approved by the Commission on 28 April. This preliminary draft budget (see Table 12) fits into the framework of the second package of structural and financial measures (Delors II package), which was approved by the Edinburgh European Council but still has to be covered by an interinstitutional agreement. Because of the difficult economic situation, the increases in expenditure proposed in the preliminary draft are small: commitment appropriations total ECU 73.167 billion, an increase of 5.9% (2.4% in real terms) over 1993, and payment appropriations total ECU 70.099 billion, an increase of 7.0% (3.5% in real terms).

The reason for the larger increase in payment appropriations is that payments must also cover commitments from past years which still have to be honoured. The 5.9% increase in commitment appropriations is calculated in relation to the 1993 budget excluding supplementary and amending budget No 1, which has still not been adopted. The real increase in appropriations will thus be very low.

The appropriations for structural operations will rise by 4.5% in nominal terms. The rate of growth for the Cohesion Fund will be 18.4% (rising from ECU 1.565 billion to ECU 1.853

billion), while the Structural Funds will grow by 3.44% (from ECU 20.613 billion to ECU 21.323 billion).

The Commission is proposing ECU 36.465 billion for agriculture, 7.1% up on 1993. Although the ceiling of the agricultural guideline has already been reached, it is possible that this will not be sufficient to cover all CAP expenditure, mainly because of the financial consequences of changes in exchange rates.

The resources for internal policies are increased by only 3.3%, most of it accounted for by the trans-European networks (up by 40%), the internal market (flanking measures: 27.2%), information policy (18.6%) and environment policy (10.6%).

The increase in external policy appropriations is restricted to 1.5%. An increase of some 4% for cooperation with Mediterranean countries (increase connected with the implementation of the third and fourth protocols) takes appropriations from ECU 408.7 million to ECU 424.5 million. For cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and with the new independent States of the former Soviet Union, 1994 will be a year of consolidation as regards new commitments. The Commission proposes the same sum as in 1993: ECU 1.537 billion. There will, however, be a very substantial increase in payments (ECU 965 million compared with ECU 692.5 million in 1993, an increase of 43%), in order to speed up progress on current projects.

Under the financial framework the Commission can count on a 5.8% increase for administrative expenditure. However, as payments for pensions will increase by almost 18%, other expenditure on staff can rise by only 4%, and this increase is cancelled out by the loss in purchasing power of the ecu against the Belgian and Luxembourg francs. This means that in 1993 and 1994 drastic economy measures will have to be taken, such as a halt to all recruitment: nearly a thousand posts will have to remain unfilled.

Table 12 — Preliminary draft budget for 1994 (commitment appropriations)

(million ECU)

Financial perspective	Budget heading	Budget for 1993	Financial perspective for 1994	Preliminary draft budget for 1994	Percentage difference (3)/(1)	Difference (3)-(1)
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	<i>Common agricultural policy</i>					
	Markets (B1-1 to B1-3)	33 811.000		35 864.000	6.07	2 053.000
	Accompanying measures (B1-4 and B1-5)	241.000		601.000	149.38	360.000
	Total 1	34 052.000	36 465	36 465.000	7.09	2 413.000
	Margin			0.000		
2	<i>Structural operations</i>					
	Structural Funds	20 612.963	21 323	21 323.000	3.44	710.037
	Cohesion Fund	1 565.000	1 853	1 853.000	18.40	288.000
	Total 2	22 177.963	23 176	23 176.000	4.50	998.037
	Total margin			0.000		
3	<i>Internal policies</i>					
	Research (B6)	2 550.822		2 552.996	0.09	2.174
	Other agricultural operations (B2-5)	203.800		205.825	0.99	2.025
	Other regional operations (B2-6)	30.000		31.000	3.33	1.000
	Transport (B2-7)	12.770		13.000	1.80	0.230
	Fisheries and the sea (B2-9)	25.000		25.640	2.56	0.640
	Education, vocational training, youth (B3-1)	270.579		281.000	3.85	10.421
	Culture and audiovisual sector (B3-2)	63.575		65.300	2.71	1.725
	Information and communications (B3-3)	33.731		40.000	18.59	6.269
	Other social operations (B3-4) ¹	168.695		143.000	3.10	-25.695
	Energy (B4-1)	202.292		202.250	-0.02	-0.042
	Euratom nuclear safeguards (B4-2)	11.500		19.480	69.39	7.980
	Environment (B4-3)	100.733		111.450	10.64	10.717
	Consumer protection (B5-1)	16.000		15.000	-6.25	-1.000
	Aid for reconstruction (B5-2)	12.900		9.250	-28.29	-3.650
	Internal market (B5-3)	108.315		137.764	27.19	29.449
	Industry (B5-4)	37.350		39.100	4.69	1.750
	Information market (B5-5)	10.000		11.200	12.00	1.200
	Statistical information (B5-6)	29.000		30.000	3.45	1.000
	Trans-European networks (B5-7)	221.500		310.000	39.95	88.500
	Research — Subtotal	2 550.822		2 552.996	0.09	2.174
	Networks — Subtotal	221.500		310.000	39.95	88.500
Other policies — Subtotal	1 336.240		1 380.259	3.29	44.019	
Total 3	4 108.562	4 325	4 243.255	3.28	134.693	
	Margin			81.745		

Budgets

(million ECU)

Financial perspective	Budget heading	Budget for 1993	Financial perspective for 1994	Preliminary draft budget for 1994	Percentage difference (3)/(1)	Difference (3)-(1)
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	<i>External action</i>					
	EDF (B7-1)	pm		—	—	—
	Food aid (B7-2)	574.000		582.600	1.50	8.600
	Cooperation — Latin America and Asia (B7-3)	634.000		643.700	1.53	9.700
	Cooperation — Mediterranean (B7-4)	408.700		424.500	3.87	15.800
	Other cooperation measures (B7-5)	626.700		641.900	2.43	15.200
	Cooperation — Central and Eastern Europe and independent States of former USSR (B7-6)	1 573.000		1 573.000	0.00	0.000
	Cooperation — Other third countries (B7-7)	0.000		0.000		0.000
	External aspects of certain Community policies (B7-8 and B7-0)	293.700		307.915	4.84	14.215
	Total 4	4 110.100	4 236	4 173.615	1.55	63.515
	Margin			62.385		
5	<i>Administrative expenditure of institutions</i>					
	Commission (Part A not including pensions)	1 998.941		2 081.080	4.11	82.139
	Pensions (A1-9)	284.669		334.761	17.60	50.092
	Commission — Total	2 283.610		2 415.841	5.79	132.231
	Other institutions — Total	1 117.249		1 163.159	4.11	45.910
	Total 5	3 400.859	3 579	3 579.000	5.24	178.141
	Margin			0.000		
6	<i>Reserves</i>					
	Monetary reserve (B1-6)	1 000.000		1 000.000	0.00	0.000
	Guarantee (B0-23)	0.000		318.000		318.000
	Humanitarian reserve (B7-91)	209.000		212.000	1.44	3.000
	Total 6	1 209.000	1 530	1 530.000	26.55	321.000
	Margin			0.000		
	Grand total — Appropriations for commitments					
	comp.	36 291.162		39 099.834	7.74	2 808.672
	non-comp.	32 767.322		34 067.036	3.97	1 299.714
	Total comp. + non-comp.	69 058.484	73 311	73 166.870	5.95	4 108.386
	Margin			144.130		
	Grand total — Appropriations for payments					
	comp.	36 211.962		39 033.870	7.79	2 821.908
	non-comp.	29 310.677		31 065.044	5.99	1 754.367
	Total comp. + non-comp.	65 522.639	70 232	70 098.914	6.98	4 576.275
	Margin			133.086		
	Own resources (% GNP)	1.14		1.20		

¹ The change between 1993 and 1994 does not take account of a specific measure for customs agents in 1993.

Discharge procedure

1991 financial year

1.5.2. Parliament decision giving discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities for the 1991 financial year as regards Sections I—Parliament, II—Council, III—Commission, IV—Court of Justice and V—Court of Auditors; Parliament resolution containing the comments which form part of the decision giving discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities for the 1991 financial year.

Council recommendation: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.5.5

Adopted on 21 April. In its resolution accompanying the discharge, Parliament noted in particular that the deficiencies in the implementation of the 1991 budget were a result of the dispersal of responsibility for Community spending. It called on the Commission to monitor the actual use of Community funds more closely and even unilaterally suspend payments to Member States which do not exercise adequate management and control of these appropriations. It also called upon all bodies responsible for the allocation of Community funds, especially the Council, to operate in a transparent fashion, on the basis of established objective criteria.

Parliament would like to see better coordination between the bodies responsible for implementing the budget and also called on the Commission to place far more stress on *ex ante* and *ex post* evaluation of all policies with reference to verifiable and objective criteria, with such evaluation to include case-by-case analysis of whether the Community's fundamental policy goals are being achieved at reasonable cost. Finally, it reviewed the various sectors of the budget and, for each of them, made a number of suggestions designed to improve implementation of the budget and effectiveness of spending.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.5.3. Parliament decision giving discharge in respect of the implementation of its budget for the 1991 financial year.

Adopted on 22 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.5.4. Parliament decision giving discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions for the 1991 financial year.

Adopted on 22 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.5.5. Parliament decision giving discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training for the 1991 financial year.

Adopted on 22 April.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

1.5.6. Parliament decision granting discharge to the Commission in respect of the financial management of the fifth, sixth and seventh European Development Funds for the 1991 financial year; Parliament resolution containing the comments which form part of the decisions granting discharge to the Commission in respect of the financial management of the fifth, sixth and seventh European Development Funds for the 1991 financial year.

Council recommendations: OJ L 69, 30.3.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.5.6

Adopted on 22 April. In the resolution accompanying the discharge, Parliament repeated its disagreement with the fact that the European Development Funds are not entered in the budget and called on the Commission to carry out the groundwork for a revision of the EDF's financial organization, focusing on increasing and improving global monitoring of appropriations and on controlling performance of contracts. It also called on the Commission to submit a report on the action taken in response to the discharge decisions for 1989, 1990 and 1991. Parliament also took the view that management by the EIB both of EDF

resources and of its own resources must be guided more by development considerations.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

ECSC operating budget

Discharge procedure

1991 financial year

1.5.7. Parliament resolution on postponement of the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the management of the ECSC for the 1991 financial year.

Adopted on 22 April. Parliament reserved its discharge decision until the Commission provides the necessary information on recent property transactions, on the quantitative analysis of the ECSC loans considered by the Commission to be 'at risk' and on the loans made to Community officials from the former ECSC pension fund.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Financial operations

Loans raised

1.5.8. In April on behalf of the ECSC the Commission made a FF 1 500 million 10-year public issue at 7% with an issue price of 97.785%.

Loans granted

1.5.9. Acting under Articles 54 and 56 of the ECSC Treaty, the Commission granted loans totalling ECU 27 million.

Industrial loans

1.5.10. Industrial loans (Article 54) totalling ECU 25.4 million were made to the United Kingdom.

Conversion loans

1.5.11. No conversion loans (Article 56) were made in April.

Workers' housing

1.5.12. Loans totalling ECU 1.6 million were granted for steelworkers and mineworkers in Germany and Spain.

Anti-fraud measures

Results

1.5.13. Commission's fourth annual report on the fight against fraud — 1992 report and action programme for 1993.

Reference: Commission statement on the campaign against fraud and irregularities affecting the Community budget: Bull. EC 3-1989, point 2.5.12

Previous report: Bull. EC 5-1992, point 1.4.9

Adopted on 20 April. In 1992 the Community budget for combating fraud totalled ECU 76.5 million (plus ECU 15 million in reserve), rising to ECU 133.2 million in 1993. The reason for

this appreciable increase is that the Community is jointly financing the integrated management and control system connected with the reform of the CAP. The bulk of these resources will be used to strengthen control systems in the Member States.

Of special interest in the 1992 report is the further simplification of agricultural legislation, more systematic targeting according to the level of risk, the establishment of databases, the continuation of training programmes, and the development of cooperation with non-member countries. In addition, significant results were achieved with surveys and the analysis of reports from the Member States.

The multiannual action programme which the Commission set itself in 1989 is by and large complete. The Commission now plans to work on the basis of annual programmes. The programme for 1993 contains a large number of measures, the main ones being:

- simplification of agricultural legislation;

- establishment of an integrated management and control system in agriculture in conjunction with the reform of the CAP;
- adoption of a proposal for a Regulation laying down details of the measures for reporting and investigating fraud affecting the Structural Funds;
- development of computerized systems for combating fraud (IRENE, DAF, SCENT and SID);
- extensive use of remote-sensing techniques;
- use of risk analysis techniques in all areas;
- conclusion of assistance agreements with non-member countries, in particular the European Economic Area;
- continuation of the Matthaëus programmes (training and exchanges of customs and tax officials, training and exchanges of agriculture officials);
- finalization of the comparative study of national provisions for combating fraud affecting the Community budget.

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6. Community institutions

Interinstitutional relations

1.6.1. Joint declaration of Parliament and the Commission on the 1993 legislative programme.

References:

Commission's work programme for 1993-94: OJ C 125, 6.5.1993; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.6.15; Supplement 1/93 — Bull. EC

Commission's legislative programme for 1993: OJ C 125, 6.5.1993; COM(93) 43; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.6.16; Supplement 1/93 — Bull. EC

Parliament resolution on the legislative programme for 1993: OJ C 115, 26.4.1993; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.6.11

Adopted on 20 April.

'The European Parliament, represented by the enlarged Bureau, and the Commission, in the presence of the Council:

having regard to the need for swift ratification and effective implementation of the Treaty on European Union,

having regard to the Commission's work programme for 1993, presented by its President to Parliament on 10 February 1993,

having regard to the work programme of the Council Presidency for the first half of 1993,

having regard to Article 29a of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure,

having regard to Parliament's resolution of 10 March 1993 on the legislative programme for 1993,

having regard to the measures which the Commission plans to submit to the Council within the time-limit envisaged in its legislative programme (COM(93) 43 final),

1. confirm the importance of better programming and coordination between the institutions, to improve the effectiveness of the Community's decision-making process as well as transparency *vis-à-vis* its citizens (Declarations of Birmingham and the Edinburgh European Council);

2. welcome the new approach adopted by the Commission in its presentation, which is more consistent and clearer in its objectives, and the indication of:

measures which would give rise to prior consultations with the other institutions and with the representatives of the economic and social partners,

proposals for the consolidation of legislation during the current year,

policy discussions which the Commission intends to conduct during the current year (White Papers, Green Papers),

international agreements to be negotiated and concluded by the end of the year,

measures it intends to put forward within the new pillars of foreign policy and cooperation in justice and home affairs;

3. approve the legislative programme with the addition of the measures listed in paragraph 4 and the document programming its work which each institution is to implement as part of the legislative process;

4. agree to act as appropriate in the following areas:

proposal on the right of residence for students,

communication on energy policy,

report on the application of the Directive on equal treatment for self-employed men and women,

implementation of the pilot stage for student mobility,

further consideration of the rules on committee procedures in order to achieve greater transparency;

5. confirm their commitment as a matter of priority to the following principles:

measures to aid recovery and combat unemployment,

strengthening and implementation of the single market,

preparations for EMU,

- cooperation with third countries,
- democracy, transparency and subsidiarity in the Community decision-making process;

6. call on the Council to adopt as soon as possible proposals on the implementation of the Community Charter of Fundamental Social Rights and on worker participation as well as on the proposals for a European company statute and a European cooperative society;

7. believe that, pending the entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty, work should continue on a European industrial policy and a policy on asylum, immigration, visas and security checks to catch those in possession of drugs;

8. undertake to inform each other as soon as possible of any changes envisaged as regards any new initiatives and any timetable changes; the Commission undertakes to submit its proposals in good time and Parliament undertakes to deliver its opinion as quickly as possible;

9. undertake to revise the Interinstitutional Code of Conduct with a view to ratification of the Treaty on European Union;

10. confirm the mandate of the Interinstitutional Coordinating Group to continue its work of exchanging information, monitoring implementation of the legislative programme and solving any technical problems arising;

11. decide to forward the legislative programme and this declaration to the other institutions and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and to publish them in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* for public information.'

OJ C 125, 6.5.1993

Parliament

Part-session, Strasbourg, 19 to 23 April

1.6.2. Although major traditional items such as agricultural prices and the budgetary discharge were on the agenda, Parliament confined its attention mainly to the situation in

the former Yugoslavia, environmental issues and the holding of extra part-sessions in Brussels.

On this last point, it was decided that there would be three extra part-sessions on 29 and 30 September, 13 and 14 October and 1 and 2 December 1993. Another institutional measure taken while Parliament was sitting was the adoption by Parliament, represented by its enlarged Bureau, and the Commission, in the presence of the Council, of a joint declaration approving the legislative programme for 1993 (→ point 1.6.1).

The events in the former Yugoslavia were the focus of the external relations debates. The Danish Foreign Minister and President of the Council, Mr Helveg Petersen, and Sir Leon Brittan, Member of the Commission, addressed the House, the former to underline the intention of the international community to step up measures to terminate the conflict and the latter to announce new sanctions designed to isolate Serbia. Most of the speakers in the debate deplored the powerlessness of the international organizations and the failure so far of the Vance-Owen peace plan. At the end of the debate, the House passed a resolution on supplies for the population of Tuzla in Bosnia (→ point 1.3.28). A number of other resolutions concerning external relations were also adopted — on the situation in the Baltic republics (→ point 1.3.8), relations with Bulgaria (→ points 1.3.10 and 1.3.11) and Romania (→ points 1.3.13 and 1.3.14) — as was an opinion on the interim agreement between the EEC and the ECSC and Bulgaria (→ point 1.3.9). Parliament also delivered its opinion on the Community guarantee for loans granted to Albania (→ point 1.6.18) and the transitional measures to be applied in respect of a number of countries to take account of German unification (→ point 1.3.63).

The debates concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget for 1991 focused mainly on the JOULE research programme, on fraud prevention (→ point 1.5.2) and, as regards the ECSC budget, on the Commission's policy concerning premises in Paris, high-risk loans and loans to officials. As

regards the execution of the ECSC budget, discharge was reserved pending information from the Commission on the three matters debated in the House (→ point 1.5.7). The discharge in respect of the other budgets was granted without any difficulty (→ points 1.5.3 to 1.5.6).

Numerous resolutions were adopted on human rights issues in South Africa, Angola, Iran, Peru, El Salvador and Sudan (→ points 1.3.89 to 1.3.95), the situation of the Kurds in Turkey (→ point 1.3.26), the compulsory mention of religion on Greek identity cards (→ point 1.2.140) and the treatment of mental defectives on the Greek island of Leros (→ point 1.2.135); Parliament also expressed concern at the rise in violence against disabled people and at the resurgence of racism and xenophobia in Europe (→ points 1.2.136 and 1.2.139).

The April part-session was also the scene of lively debates on the environment, focusing mainly on the issues of the seat of the European Environment Agency and the account to be taken of environmental considerations in the framing of other Community policies, particularly in areas covered by the Structural Funds. Parliament welcomed Mr Helveg Petersen's pledge to do his utmost to bring about a rapid decision on the Agency's headquarters. The speakers stressed that the role of the Agency should be to ensure that the Community environment policy was correctly implemented and was not merely confined to the assembly and analysis of data. Speaking for the Commission, Mr Paleokrassas replied to the criticisms made concerning the inadequate account taken of environmental aspects in Community policies. The debate ended with the adoption of three resolutions on the Community environment policy and its definition (→ point 1.2.107) and two resolutions on the absence of a decision concerning the seat of the European Environment Agency (→ point 1.2.109) and the fifth environmental action programme (→ point 1.2.108).

Under the consultation procedure, Parliament debated the agricultural prices for 1993/94. In the course of these deliberations, which are to be seen against the more general background of the application of the reform of the common

agricultural policy, the GATT negotiations and the recent reform of the Structural Funds, Parliament gave voice to its concern to see better protection for products not covered by CAP reform and called for a speedy reform of the organization of the markets in wine, sugar and fruit and vegetables. Speaking for the Commission, Mr Steichen underlined the need to apply the reform in a consistent manner. At the end of the debate, Parliament adopted opinions on the agricultural prices (→ point 1.2.117), three proposals for Regulations pertaining to the milk sector (→ point 1.2.123), two proposals for Regulations concerning the common organization of the markets in sugar (→ point 1.2.118) and potatoes (→ point 1.2.121), a proposal for a Directive on animal health conditions governing the embryos of bovine animals (→ point 1.2.13) and the proposal for a Decision on national compensation for farmers in Germany (→ point 1.2.115). Parliament also adopted positions on two proposals for Regulations in the field of fishery statistics, one relating to the submission of statistics for catches in the North-West Atlantic and the other on the submission of data for landings of fishery products in Member States (→ points 1.2.34 and 1.2.33). It also approved a proposal for a Directive introducing measures for the control of certain fish diseases (→ point 1.2.15), a proposal for a Directive on the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products (→ point 1.2.14), a proposal for a Regulation concerning cephalopod producers in the Canary Islands (→ point 1.2.133), and a proposal for a Regulation concerning the conclusion of a fisheries agreement between the Community and Iceland (→ point 1.2.130). Parliament also adopted opinions on a proposal for a recommendation on access to continuing vocational training (→ point 1.2.71), a proposal for a Regulation on shipments of radioactive substances within the Community (→ point 1.2.111) and two opinions on the multiannual Community enterprise policy action programme (→ point 1.2.63).

Under the cooperation procedure, Parliament delivered its opinion, at first reading, on a proposal for a Regulation on the statistical classification of products by activity in the Community (→ point 1.2.30) and, at second

reading, on four proposals for Directives relating to two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles (→ point 1.2.4), three proposals for Directives relating to medicinal products (→ point 1.2.7) and five proposals for Directives concerning procurement procedures in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors (→ point 1.2.25), medical devices (→ point 1.2.8), hygiene of foodstuffs (→ point 1.2.10) and the approximation of the laws relating to cosmetic products (→ point 1.2.87). As regards the last proposal, the debate concentrated on the issue of the banning of animal experiments for cosmetics and the search for a compromise in this area.

Various other resolutions were adopted, two of them relating to telecommunications (→ points 1.2.82 and 1.2.83) and the others to aid schemes for air carriers (→ point 1.2.78), the European market in subcontracting and small business participation in public procurement (→ point 1.2.62), maritime industries (→ point 1.2.61), high-definition television (→ point 1.2.141), vocational training and the eradication of illiteracy (→ points 1.2.72 and 1.2.70), Korean nuclear policy (→ point 1.3.35), the nuclear accident in Tomsk (→ point 1.2.112), emergency aid for the population of Cuba (→ point 1.3.56), the earthquakes in the region of Pyrgos (→ point 1.2.138), the crisis in the market in fishery products (→ point 1.2.132), the Committee of the Regions (→ point 1.2.95), and export credits (→ point 1.3.71).

Report of proceedings: OJ Annex 3-429
Full text of opinions and resolutions:
OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Council

1651st meeting

1.6.3. General affairs and political cooperation (Luxembourg, 5 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.6.5

President: Mr Helveg Petersen, Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Commission: Sir Leon Brittan and Mr van den Broek.

Main items

- Europe Agreements with the Czech Republic and with Slovakia: Commission authorized to negotiate two separate agreements (→ point 1.3.16).
- Trade and economic cooperation Agreement, ECSC Agreement and financial Protocol with Slovenia: decision to sign adopted (→ point 1.3.22).
- Accession negotiations with Norway: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.3.1).
- Relations with Russia: general discussion, joint statement by Council and Commission, and adoption of Decision (→ point 1.3.18).

Other business

- Trade policy: discussed in depth.
- Middle East peace process: report by the Presidency.

Item discussed in the context of European political cooperation

- Former Yugoslavia: joint declaration with the Member States.

1652nd meeting

1.6.4. Internal market (Luxembourg, 5 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 1/2-1993, point 1.6.9

President: Mr Troejborg, Danish Minister for Industry.

Commission: Mr Bangemann and Mr Vanni d'Archirafi.

Main items

- CE conformity mark: common position agreed (→ point 1.2.1).
- Copyright and related rights applicable to satellite broadcasting and cable retransmission: common position agreed (→ point 1.2.24).

Other business

- Internal market after 1992 — Future developments: general discussion.
- Completion of internal market: statement by Commission.
- Statute for European company: policy discussion.
- Term of protection of copyright and certain related rights: discussed in depth.
- Personal protective equipment: exchange of views.
- Community trade mark: discussed.
- Foodstuffs — Additives and sweeteners: policy discussion.
- Maximum design speed of two- or three-wheeled motor vehicles: discussed.
- Telematic networks between administrations: Commission communication presented.

1653rd meeting

1.6.5. Labour and social affairs (Luxembourg, 6 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.7.3

President: Ms Andersen, Danish Minister for Labour.

Commission: Mr Flynn.

Main item

- Protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work: common position agreed (→ point 1.2.105).

Other business

- Employment situation in the Community: discussed.
- Social dialogue: discussed.
- Organization of working time: exchange of views.
- Establishment of European Works Councils: discussed in depth.
- Health and safety aboard fishing vessels: progress report.
- Protection of young people at work: examined.

1654th meeting

1.6.6. Economic and financial affairs (Luxembourg, 19 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.6.6

President: Ms Jelved, Danish Minister for Economic Affairs.

Commission: Mr Christophersen, Mr Schmidhuber and Mrs Scrivener.

Main items

- Follow-up on the Edinburgh Declaration on promoting economic recovery in Europe: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.28).
- Economic relations between the Community and the United States: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.29).

Other business

- Seventh VAT Directive: discussed.
- Company taxation: progress report.
- Interinstitutional Agreement on budgetary discipline: discussed.
- EIB loans to Albania: exchange of views.

A joint EEC/EFTA ministerial meeting was held to coincide with the Council meeting.

1655th meeting

1.6.7. Environment and energy (Luxembourg, 23 April).

Previous meetings: Bull. EC 11-1992, point 1.7.15; Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.6.10

President: Mr Auken, Danish Minister for the Environment.

Commission: Mr Matutes and Mr Paleokrassas.

Main items

- Community strategy on climate change: conclusions of the Presidency.
- Safety of nuclear reactors in Central and Eastern Europe: Commission report.

1656th meeting

1.6.8. Agriculture (Luxembourg, 26 and 27 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 3-1993, point 1.6.8

President: Mr Westh, Danish Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries.

Commission: Mr Steichen.

Main item

- Agricultural prices and related measures for the 1993/94 marketing year: three Regulations discussed and adopted (→ points 1.2.117, 1.2.119 and 1.2.121).

Other business

- Standard quality for cereals: exchange of views.
- Uruguay Round — Agriculture: progress report.
- Organization of the market in potatoes: policy discussion.
- Implementation of CAP reform — Memorandum from the German delegation: exchange of views.

- National aid for distillation of certain wines in Portugal: decision adopted.

1657th meeting

1.6.9. Research (Luxembourg, 29 April).

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.7.6

President: Mr Bergstein, Danish Minister for Research and Technology.

Commission: Mr Bangemann and Mr Ruberti.

Main items

- Fourth framework programme: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.66).
- The Community and space: conclusions adopted (→ point 1.2.64).

Other business

- European Week of Scientific Culture: briefing.

Commission

Communications, green papers and reports

1.6.10. The Commission adopted a communication on control of residues in meat (→ point 1.2.11). It also adopted a communication and a proposal for a Council resolution on the situation in the telecommunications services sector (→ point 1.2.81) and a notice setting guidelines for the Konver programme for 1993 (→ point 1.2.100).

The Commission adopted two working papers, one on promoting economic recovery in Europe (→ point 1.2.27) and the other on the fourth framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and techno-

logical development (1994-98) (→ point 1.2.65).

It adopted an information note and a recommendation for a Decision concerning implementation of the social measures and the external measures for the restructuring of the steel industry (1993-95) (→ points 1.2.104 and 1.3.72).

On the occasion of the part-session of Parliament, the Commission and Parliament, represented by its enlarged Bureau, in the presence of the Council, adopted a joint declaration on the 1993 legislative programme (→ point 1.6.1).

The Commission approved a communication on Community support for continued reform and development in Central and Eastern Europe (→ point 1.3.5).

Other decisions

1.6.11. The Commission adopted a draft opinion on the regulations and general conditions governing the performance of the Ombudsman's duties (→ point 1.1.1) and guidelines on the procedures for exercising Parliament's right of inquiry (→ point 1.1.2). It approved the financing of 52 projects to promote democracy in Central and Eastern Europe (→ point 1.3.4).

Community lawcourts

Court of Justice

1.6.12. Decisions given by the Courts are covered in the Bulletin for the month in which they are reported in the Official Journal. The operative part of the main decisions is reproduced; other decisions are simply listed by field and legal basis. Decisions in disputes between the Community and its staff are not reported.

Main decisions

Transport

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

□ 17.3.1993: Joined Cases C-72/91 and C-73/91 *Sloman Neptun v Seebetriebsrat Bodo Ziesemer*

A system established by a Member State, such as that applicable to the International Shipping Register (ISR), which enables contracts of employment concluded with seafarers who are nationals of non-member countries and have no permanent abode or residence in that Member State to be subjected to conditions of employment and rates of pay which are not covered by the law of that Member State and are considerably less favourable than those applicable to seafarers who are nationals of that Member State, does not constitute State aid within the meaning of Article 92(1) of the Treaty, and Article 117 of the Treaty does not preclude the application of a system of that kind.

OJ C 104, 15.4.1993

State aid

Article 173 of the EEC Treaty

□ 24.3.1993: Case C-313/90 *CIRFS and Others v Commission*

The Commission decision refusing to initiate the procedure provided for in Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty in relation to aid granted by the French Republic to Allied Signal and notified to the CIRFS; by letter dated 1 August 1990 is declared void.

OJ C 105, 16.4.1993

Environment

Article 173 of the EEC Treaty

□ 17.3.1993: Case C-155/91 *Commission v Council*

The application is dismissed. (Application for the annulment of Council Directive 91/156/EEC of 18 March 1991 amending Directive 75/442/EEC on waste.)

OJ C 98, 7.4.1993

External relations*Second subparagraph of Article 228(1) of the EEC Treaty*

- 19.3.1993: Opinion 2/91 *ILO Convention No 170 concerning safety in the use of chemicals at work*

The conclusion of ILO Convention No 170 is a matter which falls within the joint competence of the Member States and the Community.

OJ C 109, 19.4.1993

Customs union*Article 177 of the EEC Treaty*

- 10.3.1993: Case C-191/91 *Abbott v Oberfinanzdirektion Köln*

OJ C 94, 3.4.1993

Agriculture*Article 177 of the EEC Treaty*

- 17.2.1993: Case C-247/91 *Börsch v HZA Wuppertal*

OJ C 98, 7.4.1993

- 18.3.1993: Case C-50/92 *Molkerei-Zentrale Süd v Bundesanstalt für landwirtschaftliche Marktordnung*

OJ C 98, 7.4.1993

Free movement of persons, companies and services*Article 177 of the EEC Treaty*

- 31.3.1993: Case C-19/92 *Kraus v Land Baden-Württemberg*

OJ C 117, 28.4.1993

Free movement of workers and social policy*Article 177 of the EEC Treaty*

- 17.2.1993: Case C-358/92 *Diaz Rosas v Bestuur van de Sociale Verzekeringsbank*

OJ C 104, 15.4.1993

- 8.3.1993: Case C-372/92 *Auditeur du travail de Bruxelles v Scuvera and Institut national d'assurance maladie-invalidité*

OJ C 112, 22.4.1993

- 30.3.1993: Case C-282/91 *Bestuur van de Sociale Verzekeringsbank v de Wit*

OJ C 117, 28.4.1993

- 30.3.1993: Case C-328/91 *Secretary of State for Social Security v Thomas and Others*

OJ C 114, 24.4.1993

Transport*Article 177 of the EEC Treaty*

- 31.3.1993: Joined Cases C-184/91 and C-221/91 *Oorburg and van Messem v Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Nordwest, Aurich*

OJ C 114, 24.4.1993

Competition*Article 49 of the Court's Rules of Procedure*

- 9.3.1993: Case C-369/92 P-R *Vereniging van Samenwerkende Prijsregelende Organisaties in de Bouwnijverheid and Others v Commission*

OJ C 112, 22.4.1993

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

- 4.3.1993: Joined Cases C-84/92, C-85/92 and C-94/92 *Marchais v Mutit, Brindeau v Cancava (Orléans) and Livet v CRIC Organic (Tours)*

OJ C 112, 22.4.1993

Taxation

Article 177 of the EEC Treaty

- 18.3.1993: Case C-280/91 *Finanzamt Kassel-Goethestrasse v Viessmann*
OJ C 112, 22.4.1993
- 30.3.1993: Case C-24/92 *Corbiau v Administration des contributions*
OJ C 114, 24.4.1993

Infringements

Article 169 of the EEC Treaty

- 12.1.1993: Case C-324/92 *Commission v Luxembourg*
OJ C 94, 3.4.1993
- 9.3.1993: Case C-323/92 *Commission v Luxembourg*
OJ C 112, 22.4.1993
- 10.3.1993: Case C-111/91 *Commission v Luxembourg*
OJ C 92, 2.4.1993
- 10.3.1993: Case C-186/91 *Commission v Belgium*
OJ C 91, 1.4.1993

Articles 169 and 171 of the EEC Treaty

- 23.3.1993: Case C-345/92 *Commission v Germany*
OJ C 112, 22.4.1993

Court of First Instance

Other decisions

Competition

Articles 173 and 175 of the EEC Treaty

- 19.3.1993: Case T-86/92 *Tiercé Ladbroke v Commission*
OJ C 113, 23.4.1993

1.6.13. Special report No 2/93 on the customs territory of the Community and related trading arrangements.

Adopted on 1 April.

1.6.14. Special report No 3/93 on the implementation of measures to restructure, modernize and adapt the fishing capacity of the Community fishing fleets.

Adopted on 22 April.

1.6.15. Annual report on the accounts of the Euratom Supply Agency in respect of the 1992 financial year.

Adopted on 22 April.

1.6.16. Opinion No 1/93 on a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1552/89 implementing Decision 88/376/EEC, Euratom on the system of the Communities' own resources.

Reference: Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1552/89: OJ C 26, 29.1.1993; COM(92) 519; Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.6.2

Adopted on 1 April.

1.6.17. Opinions Nos 2/93 to 5/93 on proposals for a Council Decision concerning budgetary discipline, a Council Regulation establishing a Guarantee Fund, a Council Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 and a Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) amending Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1552/89 implementing Decision 88/376/EEC, Euratom on the system of the Communities' own resources.

Reference: Proposals for a Decision and Regulations implementing the decisions of the Edinburgh European Council on budgetary matters: OJ C 68, 11.3.1993; COM(93) 20; Bull. EC 1/2-1993, points 1.5.2 to 1.5.5

Adopted on 22 April.

European Investment Bank

General

1.6.18. Proposal for a Council Decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects in Albania.

Commission proposal: OJ C 46, 18.2.1993; COM(93) 598

Endorsed by Parliament on 21 April, subject to amendments concerning the provision of additional appropriations in the event of any inadequacy of available funds (in the event of a default in the repayment of loans under the guarantee), and the presentation of six-monthly reports to Parliament and the Council on the take-up rate of loans under the guarantee.

OJ C 150, 31.5.1993

Financing

1.6.19. In April the European Investment Bank, the European Community's financial institution, granted loans totalling ECU 1 312.9 million, of which 20.5 million went outside the Community.

Community

Links with Community policies

1.6.20. In the period in question loans were made for the following measures:

- ECU 845.2 million for the economic development of disadvantaged regions;
- ECU 719.9 million for the improvement of transport and telecommunications infrastructures of benefit to the Community;
- ECU 220.7 million for the protection of the environment and the improvement of the quality of life;
- ECU 31.4 million for the pursuit of Community objectives in the field of energy;

ECU 46.4 million for the enhancement of the international competitiveness of industry and its integration within the Community.

The Bank also continued its operations to support small businesses (since the beginning of the year around ECU 444 million has been granted in global loans).

In many cases individual loans come under several Community policies; some are therefore counted more than once in the above amounts.

Geographical distribution

Denmark

1.6.21. ECU 241.9 million was lent for the electrification of the Nyborg-Odense railway line, the purchase of rolling stock and the installation of an automatic train control system; the construction of three sections of motorway leading to the Great Belt, thereby opening up access to the north of Jutland; and the extension and modernization of the telecommunications network in the Copenhagen area.

Germany

1.6.22. ECU 51.2 million was lent for the modernization of a cement works near Leipzig, and global loans totalling ECU 51.2 million were made for small and medium-scale investments.

Spain

1.6.23. ECU 347.8 million was provided to improve transport: the high-speed rail link between Madrid and Seville, construction of a multimodal freight handling centre, and modernization of Bilbao and Barcelona ports. A further ECU 160.8 million was allocated for improvements to the distribution, collection and treatment of water in Andalucia and Madrid.

France

1.6.24. A global loan of ECU 76 million was made for small and medium-scale investments

and ECU 33.4 million for the modernization of production and research installations and the development of Snecma (Société nationale d'études et de construction de moteurs d'avions — National Corporation for the Design and Construction of Aircraft Engines).

Ireland

1.6.25. ECU 31.4 million was lent for the modernization and extension of the gas network in Ireland.

Italy

1.6.26. Global loans totalling ECU 148 million were made for small and medium-scale investments. ECU 130.2 million went towards the extension and modernization of telecommunications in the North, and ECU 27.8 million towards infrastructure for the collection and treatment of waste water in the Mezzogiorno and Lombardy, and towards the water flow control and the construction of dykes in Sardinia and Sicily. ECU 13 million was provided for various operations to protect the cultural heritage and for urban renewal in the Mezzogiorno, and ECU 52 million for a science park in Bologna.

United Kingdom

1.6.27. An ECU 12.5 million loan was made towards various infrastructure projects in Scotland.

Community development cooperation policy

ACP countries

Barbados

1.6.28. An ECU 10 million loan was granted to protect the environment on the south coast.

Belize

1.6.29. ECU 300 000 was provided from risk capital to carry out a feasibility study for the exploration of a gold mine.

Turks and Caicos Islands

1.6.30. ECU 150 000 was granted from risk capital for a feasibility study on the establishment of an investment bank.

Central and Eastern Europe

Slovakia

1.6.31. ECU 10 million was lent for the development of the trans-European road network.

Economic and Social Committee

305th plenary session

1.6.32. The Economic and Social Committee held its 305th plenary session on 28 and 29 April, chaired in turn by Mrs Tiemann, Mr Stechen Navarra and Mr Liverani and attended by President Delors and Mr Vanni d'Archirafi, Member of the Commission. President Delors's address on the economic situation was followed by a policy debate on the Committee's institutional role.

President Delors focused on Community measures to develop the internal market and the economic growth initiative. He observed that, although there was now a single market for goods, further action was needed in the case of the free movement of persons, taxation and the social dimension. He presented the measures adopted in the context of the economic growth initiative and stressed that it was the first common action with macroeconomic implications. He welcomed the scale of assistance given to the most disadvantaged Member

States as confirmation that the Community was founded on the principle of solidarity. Although European competitiveness was inadequate in view of the economic crisis facing the industrialized countries, he felt that the trans-European networks programme and research projects gave grounds for hope. Urgent consideration should be given to the development of technical progress and trends in savings and capital.

The debate on the institutional role of the Economic and Social Committee focused on the conditions affecting the search for a new role for the Committee in the context of the Treaty on European Union, and on its representativeness, its internal operation and its nature. Speakers believed that the Committee should not regard itself as a specialized technical body but should instead issue opinions on policy documents such as green papers and make more use of its right of initiative. Reference was also made to its links with the other institutions and the need to reinforce cooperation with Parliament.

1.6.33. The Committee debated and adopted:

- opinions on the following:
 - (i) policy for enterprise, in particular small businesses (→ point 1.2.63);
 - (ii) the third annual report on implementation of Structural Fund reform — 1991 (→ point 1.2.91);
 - (iii) VAT arrangements for gold (→ point 1.2.23);
 - (iv) particulars for the admission of securities to official stock exchange listing (→ point 1.2.22);
- own-initiative opinions concerning:
 - (i) employment in Europe (→ point 1.2.103);
 - (ii) extra-urban and/or rural areas (→ point 1.2.102).

1.6.34. The Committee adopted opinions on the following without debate:

- minimum safety and health requirements for transport (→ point 1.2.106);
- satellite earth station equipment (→ point 1.2.86);

- the common organization of the markets in sugar (→ point 1.2.118);
- the correct application of customs and agricultural law (→ point 1.3.61);
- potato ring rot (→ point 1.2.19);
- the European telecommunications equipment industry (→ point 1.2.84).

ECSC Consultative Committee

304th meeting (ordinary)

1.6.35. Luxembourg, 2 April.

Previous meeting: Bull. EC 12-1992, point 1.7.26

Chairman: Mr Cimenti.

Items discussed

- Commission report on the market for solid fuels in the Community in 1992 and the outlook for 1993: consultation (→ point 1.2.75).
- Commission report on the implementation of Community rules for State aid to the coal industry: review.
- Draft Commission Decision establishing new Community rules for State aid to the coal industry: consultation (→ point 1.2.76).
- Restructuring of the steel industry in the Community: resolution adopted (→ point 1.2.57).
- Draft Commission Decision on the conclusion of an Interim Agreement on trade-related matters between the ECSC and Bulgaria: consultation (→ point 1.3.9).
- Tariff suspensions in connection with German unification: report on written consultation.
- Steel research programme: consultation (→ point 1.2.67).
- Coal research programme: consultation (→ point 1.2.68).
- Statute of the European schools: consultation.

PART TWO

DOCUMENTATION

1. The ecu

Values in national currencies of ECU 1

April 1993 ¹		
BFR/ LFR	Belgian franc and Luxembourg franc	40.1018
DKR	Danish krone	7.48447
DM	German mark	1.94816
DR	Greek drachma	265.453
ESC	Portuguese escudo	180.714
FF	French franc	6.58705
HFL	Dutch guilder	2.18936
IRL	Irish pound	0.798933
LIT	Italian lira	1 872.31
PTA	Spanish peseta	141.186
UKL	Pound sterling	0.789258
AUD	Australian dollar	1.71442
CAD	Canadian dollar	1.54069
FMK	Finnish markka	6.83039
ISK	Icelandic króna	77.1285
NKR	Norwegian krone	8.26380
NZD	New Zealand dollar	2.26402
OS	Austrian schilling	13.7083
SFR	Swiss franc	1.78076
SKR	Swedish krona	9.08490
USD	United States dollar	1.22106
YEN	Japanese yen	137.028

¹ Average for the month; OJ C 121, 1.5.1993.

NB: Explanatory notes on the ecu and 'green' rates can be found in Bull. EC 7/8-1982, points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3, and Bull. EC 9-1989, point 2.1.3.

Representative rates ('green' rates)

Conversion rates into national currencies for the ecu used in connection with the common agricultural policy

April 1993					
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	48.5563	IRL	Irish pound	0.957268
	— All products			— All products	
DKR	Danish krone	8.97989	LIT	Italian lira	2 287.88 2 264.05 on 27.4.1993
	— All products			— All products	
DM	German mark	2.35418	PTA	Spanish peseta	166.075 166.261 on 21.4.1993 169.628 on 27.4.1993
	— All products			— All products	
DR	Greek drachma	310.351	UKL	Pound sterling	0.980715 0.978559 on 11.4.1993 0.970726 on 21.4.1993 0.964017 on 27.4.1993
	— All products			— All products	
ESC	Portuguese escudo	214.525			
FF	French franc	7.89563			
	— All products				
HFL	Dutch guilder	2.65256			
	— All products				

2. Infringement proceedings

Reasoned opinions

Failure to communicate any measures incorporating Directives into national law

2.2.1. In April the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

Internal market and industrial affairs

Directive 88/344/EEC (OJ L 157, 24.6.1988)
Extraction solvents used in the production of foodstuffs
United Kingdom

Directive 90/496/EEC (OJ L 276, 6.10.1990)
Nutrition labelling for foodstuffs
Germany, France, Italy, Portugal

Directives 89/392/EEC (OJ L 183, 29.6.1989) and 91/368/EEC (OJ L 198, 22.7.1991)
Machinery
Portugal

Directive 89/617/EEC (OJ L 357, 7.12.1989)
Units of measurement
Greece, Spain, Portugal

Agriculture

Directive 90/167/EEC (OJ L 92, 7.4.1990)
Medicated feedingstuffs
Italy

Directive 91/126/EEC (OJ L 60, 7.3.1991)
Undesirable substances and products in animal nutrition
Italy

Directive 91/334/EEC (OJ L 184, 10.7.1991)
Labelling of compound feedingstuffs for pet animals
Italy

Directive 91/336/EEC (OJ L 185, 11.7.1991)
Additives in feedingstuffs
Italy

Directives 89/437/EEC (OJ L 212, 22.7.1989) and 91/684/EEC (OJ L 376, 31.12.1991)
Production and placing on the market of egg products
Luxembourg, Portugal

Directive 89/608/EEC (OJ L 351, 2.12.1989)
Correct application of veterinary and zootechnical legislation
Luxembourg

Directive 90/426/EEC (OJ L 224, 18.8.1990)
Movement and imports of equidae
France, Netherlands, Portugal

Directive 90/427/EEC (OJ L 224, 18.8.1990)
Intra-Community trade in equidae
Netherlands

Directive 90/539/EEC (OJ L 303, 31.10.1990)
Animal health conditions governing intra-Community trade in poultry and hatching eggs
Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal

Directive 90/667/EEC (OJ L 363, 27.12.1990)
Disposal and processing of animal waste
Netherlands

Directive 91/174/EEC (OJ L 85, 5.4.1991)
Zootechnical and pedigree requirements for the marketing of pure-bred animals
France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal

Directive 91/494/EEC (OJ L 268, 24.9.1991)
Animal health conditions governing trade in fresh poultrymeat
France, Portugal

Directive 91/499/EEC (OJ L 268, 24.9.1991)
Bovine brucellosis and enzootic bovine leucosis
Netherlands, Portugal

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 88/181/EEC (OJ L 81, 26.3.1988)
Permissible sound power level of lawnmowers
France

Directive 90/219/EEC (OJ L 117, 8.5.1990)
Contained use of genetically modified micro-organisms
Luxembourg, Portugal

Directive 90/220/EEC (OJ L 117, 8.5.1990)
Deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms
Luxembourg, Portugal

Directive 91/325/EEC (OJ L 180, 8.7.1991)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances
Germany

Financial institutions and company law

Directive 89/666/EEC (OJ L 395, 30.12.1989)
Disclosure requirements in respect of branches
Germany, Greece

Directive 89/667/EEC (OJ L 395, 30.12.1989)
Single-member private limited-liability companies
Greece, Spain, Italy

Failure properly to incorporate Directives into national law

2.2.2. In April the Commission delivered a reasoned opinion in the following case:

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 85/337/EEC (OJ L 175, 5.7.1985)
Impact assessment
Ireland

Infringements of the Treaties or of Regulations; failure properly to apply Directives in practice

2.2.3. In April the Commission delivered reasoned opinions in the following cases:

External relations

Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83 (OJ L 346, 8.12.1983)
and Article 5 of the EEC Treaty
Import arrangements
Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom

Internal market and industrial affairs

Directive 71/305/EEC (OJ L 185, 16.8.1971)
Public works contracts: cleaning the Unterems river
Germany

Directives 71/305/EEC (OJ L 185, 16.8.1971), 89/440/EEC (OJ L 210, 21.7.1989) and 89/665/EEC (OJ L 395, 30.12.1989)

Public works contracts — Ardennes
France

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 85/337/EEC (OJ L 175, 5.7.1985)
Impact assessment
United Kingdom

Cases referred to the Court of Justice*Failure to communicate any measures incorporating Directives into national law*

2.2.4. In April the Commission referred the following case to the Court of Justice:

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 86/278/EEC (OJ L 181, 4.7.1986)
Sewage sludge in agriculture
Belgium

Infringements of the Treaties or of Regulations; failure properly to apply Directives in practice

2.2.5. In April the Commission referred the following case to the Court of Justice:

Environment, nuclear safety and civil protection

Directive 85/339/EEC (OJ L 176, 6.7.1985)
Failure to communicate programmes
France

Proceedings terminated*Infringements of the Treaties or of Regulations; failure properly to apply Directives in practice*

2.2.6. In April the Commission decided not to continue the following infringement proceedings:

Customs and indirect taxation

Directive 69/169/EEC (OJ L 133, 4.6.1969) and Article 171 of the EEC Treaty
Butter trip — Tax aspect
Germany
Reasoned opinions delivered on 6 June 1986

3. Additional references in the Official Journal

2.3.1. This section lists the titles of legal instruments, communications and notices of Community institutions which have appeared in the Official Journal since the last Bulletin was published but relate to items appearing in earlier issues; the references were not available when the Bulletin went to press.

The number of the Bulletin and the point to which this additional information refers are followed by the title shown on the cover of the Official Journal, the number of the issue and the date of publication.

Bull. EC 11-1992

Point 1.3.50

Commission Decision 93/252/EEC of 10 November 1992 relating to a proceeding pursuant to Articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty
OJ L 116, 12.5.1993

Point 1.3.52

Commission Decision 93/247/EEC of 12 November 1992 declaring a concentration to be compatible with the common market
OJ L 114, 8.5.1993

Bull. EC 12-1992

Point 1.3.99

Commission Decision 93/254/EEC of 9 December 1992 on Italian Decree-Law No 14 of 21 January 1992 relating, *inter alia*, to the overall refinancing of the aid measures provided for by Law No 64 of 1 March 1986 on special aid to the Mezzogiorno
OJ L 117, 13.5.1993

Bull. EC 1/2-1993

Point 1.2.79

Commission notice pursuant to Article 93(2) of the EEC Treaty to other Member States and other parties concerned regarding development aid which Germany has decided to grant for a project to build two 1 066 TEU container vessels for Indonesia
OJ C 126, 7.5.1993

Point 1.2.188

Commission Decision 93/255/EEC of 10 February 1993 concerning aid which Italy has decided to grant through AIMA for the private storage of hazelnuts
OJ L 117, 13.5.1993

Point 1.6.15

The Commission's work programme for 1993 and 1994
OJ C 125, 6.5.1993

Point 1.6.16

The Commission's legislative programme for 1993
OJ C 125, 6.5.1993

Points 1.6.42 and 1.6.43

Opinions adopted by the Economic and Social Committee at its 304th session on 24 and 25 March 1993
OJ C 129, 10.5.1993

Bull. EC 3-1993

Point 1.2.18

Council Decision 93/258/EEC of 23 March 1993 adopting the annual economic report for 1993 and determining the economic policy orientation for the Community in 1993
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