

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

**PRESS RELEASE**

6775/92 (Presse 100)

1584th meeting of the Council

**TOURISM**

Luxembourg, 4 June 1992

President: Mr Fernando FARIA DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Trade and  
Tourism of the Portuguese  
Republic

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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium

Mr Joseph MARAITE  
Minister for Training, Cultural Activities  
and the Media  
(German-speaking Community)

Denmark

Ms Anne Birgitte LUNDHOLT  
Minister for Industry and Energy

Germany

Mr Klaus BECKMANN  
State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economic  
Affairs

Greece

Mr Marios RAPHAEL  
President of the Greek Tourist Organization

Spain

Mr Claudio ARANZADI  
Minister for Industry and Energy

France

Mr Jean-Michel BAYLET  
Minister with special responsibility for  
Tourism

Ireland

Mr Brendan KENNEALLY  
Minister of State at the Department of  
Tourism, Transport and Communications

Italy

Mr Rocco Antonio CANGELOSI  
Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg

Mr Fernand BODEN

Minister for Education and Tourism

The Netherlands

Mr A. OOSTRA

Deputy Permanent Representative

Portugal

Mr Fernando Faria DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Trade and Tourism

Mr Alexandre RELVAS

State Secretary for Tourism

United Kingdom

Mr Robert KEY

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for  
National Heritage

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Commission

Mr Antonio CARDOSO E CUNHA

Member

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN TO ASSIST TOURISM

The Council reached agreement in principle on the Commission's amended proposal for a Decision on an action plan to assist tourism, with a view to its formal adoption at a forthcoming Council meeting.

The draft Decision establishes a three-year framework programme, starting from 1 January 1993, to promote tourism in the Community. The financial resources for the action plan are estimated at ECU 18 million.

The draft Decision reflects the growing importance of tourism under Community and national policies and envisages the implementation of some specific new measures. It aims to promote greater knowledge of Community Member States' cultures and ways of life on the part of all citizens. The action plan will also help improve the quality and competitiveness of the Community tourist industry and will encourage more effective interaction between tourism and the environment.

The planned measures concern the following fields in particular:

- improving knowledge of the tourist industry and ensuring greater consistency of measures;
- tourists as consumers;
- cultural tourism;
- tourism and the environment;
- training.

The draft Decision was drawn up in compliance with the principle of subsidiarity and will be implemented, via a management committee, in close co-operation with the Member States.

At the end of the plan's third year, the Council is to take a decision regarding its extension on the basis of a report to be supplied by the Commission, following its assessment of the results of the action plan.

#### COMMUNITY INTERVENTION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

The Council took note of a Commission communication on Community intervention in the field of tourism.

The communication highlights the horizontal dimension of tourism and is designed to give an overview of measures affecting tourism taken under the various Community policies. It focuses on three main aspects: structural policies, Community programmes and initiatives and specific Community measures. The report complements the one described below.

#### COMMUNITY POLICIES AND MEASURES WITH AN EFFECT ON TOURISM

The Council took note of a Commission communication on Community policies and measures with an effect on tourism.

The communication complementing the one on Community intervention as described above, deals firstly with general measures in connection with the completion of the internal market, such as the abolition of border controls, transnational business co-operation and freedom of establishment and to provide services, and

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secondly with measures deriving from the implementation of certain Community policies in fields such as competition, consumer policy, cultural affairs, the environment, new technology and statistics.

SPAS AND HYDROTHERAPY IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council heard a statement by the Portuguese delegation regarding the outcome of the Conference on spas and hydrotherapy in the European Community, held in Lisbon from 14 to 16 May 1992.

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Commercial policy

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries, for matters not covered by agreements between the Community and the third countries in question and provided that their provisions are not inconsistent with existing Common policies.

Anti-dumping measures

The Council adopted the Regulation extending, for two months, the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of radio broadcast receivers of a kind used in motor vehicles originating in South Korea. The extension, to which exporters did not object, is designed to enable the investigation to be completed.

Textiles: Brazil

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4136/86 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in third countries. The purpose of this Regulation is to implement the Decision on the conclusion of the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters with Brazil on trade in textiles, for a period of twelve months from 1 January to 31 December 1992 (see press release 5470/92 Presse 48).





Bruxelles, le 5 juin 1992

NOTE BIO (92) 145 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
cc: aux Membres du Service du Porte-Parole

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CONSEIL TOURISME du 4 juin 1992 (O. Nette)

Le Conseil a adopté hier le plan d'actions communautaires en faveur du tourisme.

La Commission avait proposé un tel plan, répondant ainsi aux vœux exprimés notamment par le Parlement Européen et le Conseil Economique et Social ainsi que les opérateurs touristiques. Dans son intervention, le Commissaire Cardoso e Cunha a insisté sur l'importance économique du tourisme, qui sera la plus grande "industrie" en Europe à la fin du siècle.

Le plan est doté de 18 mécus pour une période de 3 ans. A la fin de cette période, le Conseil statuera sur sa prolongation.

Le plan ne vise pas du tout le financement d'infrastructures touristiques par exemple, mais surtout à promouvoir, de manière subsidiaire aux actions nationales :

- la mise en rapport des différents acteurs dans le domaine touristique (administrations publiques nationales, bureaux de tourisme, opérateurs etc.) permettant une meilleure échange d'informations sur le marché européen de tourisme;
- le soutien à des projets ayant valeur d'exemple pour le développement du tourisme, et transposables à d'autres régions d'autres Etats membres.

Sur la base de ces principes, sont visées en particulier toutes les initiatives transnationales, le tourisme culturel (élaboration de parcours culturels par exemple), le tourisme respectueux de l'environnement, le tourisme rural, le tourisme social (par exemple les personnes handicapées), le tourisme des jeunes, ainsi que - en tant que projet-pilote - la promotion sur les marchés japonais et américain de l'Europe en tant que espace touristique.

Par ailleurs, la Commission a présenté deux rapports au Conseil :

- "Politiques et mesures communautaires ayant une incidence sur le tourisme" : ce rapport dresse la liste de toutes les politiques communautaires -de l'élimination des contrôles aux frontières jusqu'à la collecte de statistiques en passant par la politique des transports - qui ont une influence sur le tourisme;
- "Intervention communautaires en matière de tourisme" : il s'agit d'une description du soutien financier dont bénéficie le tourisme au titre de certaines politiques communautaires. Parmi celles-ci, la politique structurelle mobilise les fonds les plus importants : ainsi plus de 2 milliards d'écus ont été affectés au bénéfice du tourisme par le seul FEDER.

Amitiés,  
Bruno Dethomas



