

PRESS RELEASE

9621/93 (Presse 177)

1697th meeting of the Council

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Brussels, 5 November 1993

President: Mr Eric TOMAS
Chairman of the French-speaking
Community and Minister with
responsibility for Culture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Hugo WECKX

Minister for Culture and Brussels Affairs (Flemish Community)

Mr Bernd GENTGES

Minister for Education, Culture and Youth Affairs (Executive of the German-speaking Community)

Mr Elio DI RUPO

Minister for Education, Audiovisual Matters and the Civil Service (Executive of the French-speaking Community)

Denmark:

Ms Jytte HILDEN

Minister for Culture

Mr Erik JACOBSEN

State Secretary for Cultural Affairs

Germany:

Ms Ursula SEILER-ALBRING

Minister of State, Foreign Affairs

Mr Hans ZEHETMAIR

Minister for Education, Science and the Arts, Bavaria

Greece:

Ms Melina MERCOURI

Minister for Culture

Spain:

Ms Carmen ALBORCH BATALLER

Minister for Culture

France:

Mr Jacques TOUBON

Minister for Culture and the French-speaking World

Ireland:

Mr Michael D. HIGGINS

Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht

Italy:

Mr Alberto RONCHEY

Minister for Cultural Assets

Luxembourg:

Ms Marie-Josée JACOBS

Minister with responsibility for Cultural Affairs

Netherlands:

Ms Hedy D'ANCONA

Minister for Welfare, Health and Cultural Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Pedro Miguel SANTANA LOPES

State Secretary for Culture

Mr Manuel FREXES

Deputy State Secretary for Culture

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter BROOKE

Secretary of State for National Heritage

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Commission:

Mr João de DEUS PINHEIRO

Member

EUROPEAN CITY OF CULTURE AND EUROPEAN CULTURAL MONTH

The Ministers designated:

– as **European city of culture**

1998 Stockholm

1999 Weimar

– for the **European cultural month**

1995 Ljubljana and Nicosia.

The Ministers acknowledged the cultural importance of Avignon, Bologna and Prague, whose applications were supported by several delegations. They agreed to devote some attention in the first half of 1994 to the concepts of the European City of culture and the European cultural month and how these had developed. The future Greek Presidency agreed to take charge of the process.

The Ministers pointed out that the year 2000 would be of quite specific symbolic importance. They agreed to consider the possibility of involving a larger number of towns and cities in events planned for that year, including Avignon, Bologna and Prague.

The President of the Council thanked Antwerp and Graz for their efforts in organizing events for the "European city of culture" and "European cultural month" in 1993 and congratulated them on making them highly successful.

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CULTURE AND ITS JOB-CREATING ROLE

On the basis of a note from the Presidency, the Council exchanged views on the economic aspects of culture and its job-creating role.

Following the discussion, the President noted that the Commission would take account of the comments made in its white paper on growth, competitiveness and employment. He also invited the Commission to draw up an assessment of the contribution of culture as a job-creator in the Member States.

FIXED BOOK PRICE AND STATUS OF THE ARTIST

The Council heard an oral report from the Presidency on the informal meeting of Ministers for Culture in Antwerp on 19 and 20 September 1993.

The Presidency reminded the meeting that the Commission had undertaken to carry out a further exploratory examination of the fixed book-price issue in the hope of finding pragmatic solutions for cross-border trade in the same language area.

The Presidency pointed out that the Commission was prepared to carry out an inventory of work relating to the status of the artist with the assistance of an ad hoc working party of representatives of the Member States. It would be for the Council to draw any conclusions from that work.

Mr PINHEIRO confirmed the undertakings given in Antwerp.

THE CINEMA'S FIRST CENTURY

At the initiative of the French delegation, the Council adopted the following Resolution on the cinema's first century:

"THE COUNCIL

Aware of the place which the cinema has occupied for a hundred years in our common cultural heritage and the importance of its influence on the development of other means of expression and communication both in the arts and in the media;

Aware of the fundamental role as a witness to the history of our community which the cinema has played throughout that period,

Recognizing the importance of the cultural, technical and economic exchanges it has led to in Europe,

Whereas the centenary of the invention of the cinematograph will be celebrated in the next few years,

AGREES, with a view to celebrating the centenary of cinema, to:

- increase action to restore films from the European heritage in the context of greater co-operation between Member States' archives, notably in the framework of the MEDIA programme (Lumière project);
- encourage the dissemination of this heritage in European festivals and cinemas in initiatives to highlight the importance of this heritage for the future of European cinema;
- promote awareness of the artistic trends of European cinema, its pioneers and its schools, in the interests of a continuing dialogue with contemporary film-makers;

CALLS ON the Commission to participate in this campaign, in particular in liaison with the Council of Europe, by:

- continuing and expanding its activities to commemorate this centenary, particularly as part of its action in support of film festivals;
- helping to give maximum publicity to action taken in all Member States."

"In adopting this Resolution, the Ministers for Culture recalled with gratitude and emotion the figure of Federico Fellini, whose work helped to stimulate a love of the cinema over several generations, both in Europe and throughout the world."

EVALUATION OF THE MEDIA PROGRAMME

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

"The Council took note of the Commission communication of 23 July 1993 on the evaluation report drawn up in accordance with Article 8 of the Decision of 21 December 1990 setting up the MEDIA programme.

It requested the Commission to take the appropriate action as a result, particularly as regards the co-ordination and financial supervision of activities, with the assistance of the Committee set up under Article 7 of the Decision and in accordance with the procedures laid down in that Article, respecting the decentralized character of the programme.

It considered that the programme's objectives responded to considerable demand in the European audiovisual field and that they were worth pursuing in the future.

On the question of funding for the MEDIA programme up to the end of 1995 which was raised in the evaluation report, the Council noted the need to ensure continuity in existing activities.

Finally, the Council considered that it was necessary to examine as of now the measures which would be needed to launch the MEDIA II programme after 1995."

AUDIOVISUAL MATTERS

Following a statement by Mr DI RUPO on the results of the seminar of Ministers responsible for Audiovisual Matters (Mons, 4 and 5 October 1993), the Ministers exchanged views with Commissioner PINHEIRO on the latest developments in the GATT negotiations as regards audiovisual matters.

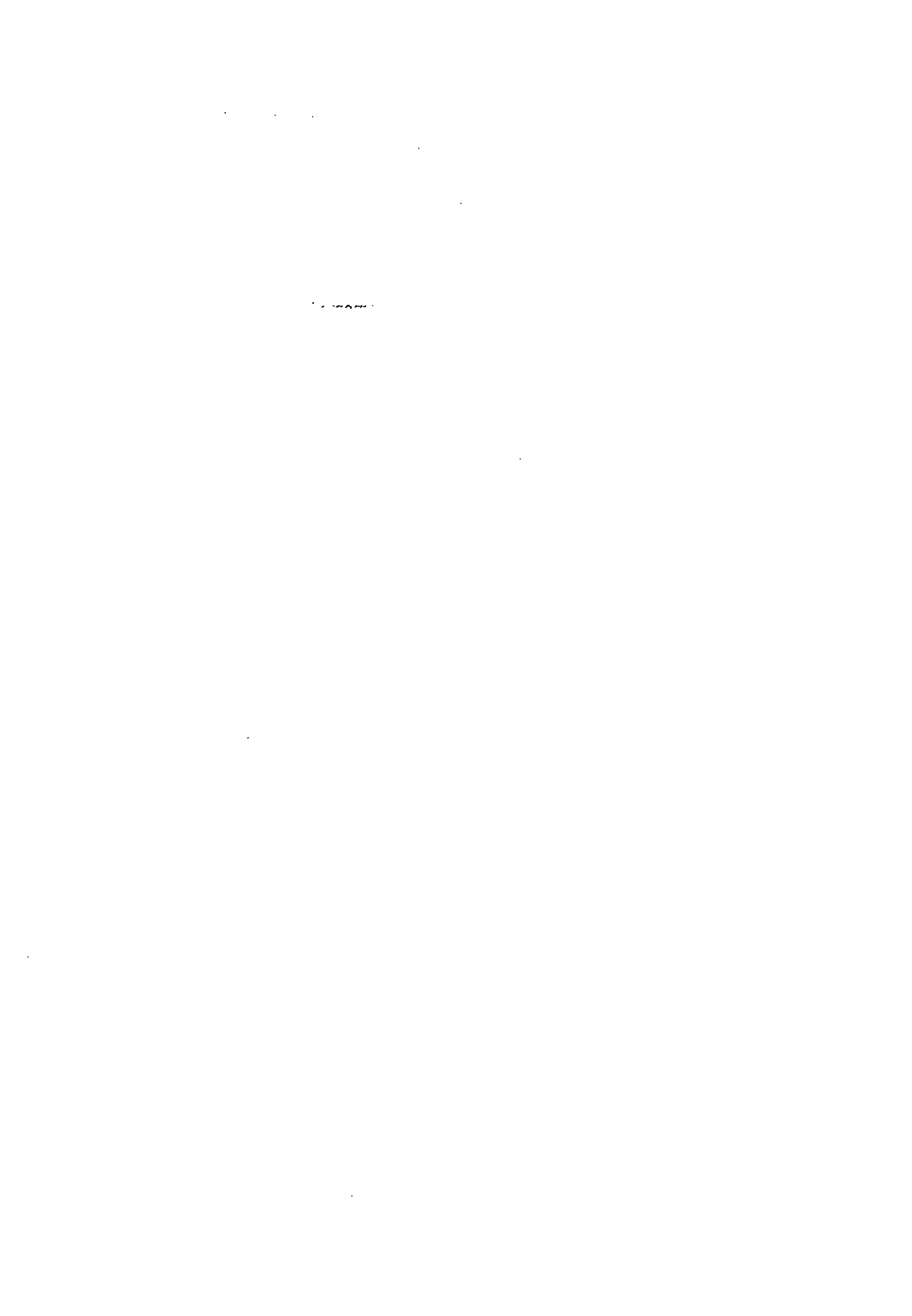
EUROPEAN CAMPAIGN ON READING FOR PLEASURE

The Council took note of an information note from the Commission on events during the "Reading for Pleasure" campaign which was launched in Copenhagen in April.

SARAJEVO

The Ministers for Culture, meeting within the Council, in a desire to enable the creative and artistic Community in Bosnia-Herzegovina to continue to express themselves and to take part in European cultural exchanges

- called on the Commission to consider providing financial support for the 10th Winter Festival in Sarajevo;
- approved the fact that some Member States intended to offer support in the way they deemed most appropriate, both in Sarajevo and in their own countries, for acts of solidarity with Sarajevo planned by artistic and cultural circles.



MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

FISHERIES

The Council adopted the Regulations:

- authorizing Estonian fishing vessels to exploit the quotas allocated to them in Community waters for 1993, in accordance with the reciprocal arrangements in force, and allocating catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in Estonian waters in the same year;
- increasing fishing possibilities for 1993 under Regulation No 3919/92 :
 - . in view of the completion of the arrangements concluded with Estonia for 1993;
 - . in view of the increased access to Norwegian waters granted to Community fishermen in accordance with the arrangements concluded with Norway;
 - . in order to increase current TACs for sprat in the North Sea, sole in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat and Norway lobster to the west of Scotland;
 - . in order to implement an exchange of quotas with Sweden in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat.

The Council also adopted the Decision allowing provisional application for the period 1 August 1993 to 31 July 1996 of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Agreement between the Community and Mauritania.

The Protocol was initialled on 10 June 1993 and for the period in question grants Community vessels the following fishing opportunities off Mauritania:

- Specialized vessels
 - . fishing vessels specializing in crustaceans, with the exception of crawfish: 4 500 GRT/month annual average;
 - . black hake trawlers and bottom longliners: 12 000 GRT/month annual average;
 - . vessels fishing for demersal species other than black hake with gear other than trawls: 2 600 GRT/month annual average;
 - . trawlers fishing for deepwater demersal species other than black hake: 4 200 GRT/month annual average;
 - . pot vessels (crawfish): 300 GRT/month annual average.

- Vessels fishing for highly migratory species
 - . Pole-and-line tuna vessels and surface longliners : 11 vessels
 - . Freezer tune seiners : 34 vessels.

The total financial compensation amounts to ECU 26 m, of which ECU 360 000 will be devoted to training in the fisheries sector.

CUSTOMS UNION

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff.

BUDGET

The Council established letter of amendment No 1 to the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1994 which includes a change in the allocation of EAGGF Guarantee appropriations and the addition of appropriations for financial assistance to the territories of the West Bank and Gaza.

CULTURE COUNCIL OF 5 NOVEMBER 1993

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Les ministres de la culture se sont reunis aujourd'hui. Ils ont pris un nombre de decisions. Parmi les plus importantes, il y a les suivantes:

Ville Europeenne de la culture:

1998 Stockholm
1999 Weimar

Mois culturel europeen:

1995 Ljubljana et Nicosia

Il est rappele que les villes europeennes de la culture pour les prochaines annees sont:

1993 Anvers
1994 Lisbonne
1995 Luxembourg
1996 Copenhague
1997 Salonique

Ville pour le mois culturel:

1993 Graz
1994 Budapest

Les ministres ont reconnu l'importance, comme villes culturelles, d'Avignon, de Bologna et de Prague, dont la candidature a ete soutenue par plusieurs delegations. Ils ont convenu de faire, pendant le prochain semestre, une reflexion sur le concept et l'evolution de la Ville europeenne de la Culture et du Mois culturel. La future Presidence grecque a accepte de mener cette reflexion.

Les ministres ont releve que l'annee 2000 revet une importance symbolique tout a fait particuliere. Ils ont convenu d'examiner la possibilite de faire participer, dans les manifestations envisagees pour cette annee, un plus grand nombre de villes et notamment Avignon, Bologna et Prague.

Le Commissaire Pinheiro a felicite les villes retenues et exprime sa conviction qu'elles sont toutes capables d'avoir beaucoup de succes. Il a promis la cooperation de la Commission et il a ajoute que la Commission a apporte une aide financiere de 300 ecus a Anvers cette annee-ci.

EVALUATION DU PROGRAMME MEDIA:

Le Commissaire Pinheiro a fait une introduction au Conseil dans laquelle il a explique les bons resultats d'une evaluation des deux premieres annees du programme Media.

Le Conseil a invite la Commission a en tirer les consequences utiles, notamment en ce qui concerne la coordination et le controle financier des activites, avec l'assistance du Comite institue par l'article 7 de la

decision et selon les procedures prevues dans ce meme article et en respectant le caractere decentralise du programme.

Il estime que les objectifs du programme repondent a une demande importante dans le domaine de l'audiovisuel europeen et qu'ils meritent d'etre poursuivis dans le futur.

En ce qui concerne la question du financement du programme Media jusqu'a la fin de l'annee 1995, soulevee dans le rapport d'evaluation, le Conseil constate le besoin d'assurer la continuite des activites actuelles.

Enfin, le Conseil estime qu'il convient des a present d'etudier les mesures qui seraient necessaires pour permettre le demarrage du programme Media II au-dela de 1995.

PREMIER SIECLE DU CINEMA:

Sur initiative de la delegation francaise, le Conseil a adopte une resolution sur le premier siecle du cinema. Selon cette resolution, il convient de celebrier le centenaire du cinema par un renforcement des actions de restauration de films du patrimoine europeen dans le cadre d'une cooperation accrue des activites des Etats membres notamment dans le cadre du programme Media (projet Lumiere).

En outre, les ministres rappellent avec gratitude et emotion la figure de Frederico Fellini qui 'a contribue a faire croitre l'amour pour le cinema chez plusieurs generations en Europe et dans le monde'.

Apres l'entree en vigueur du Traite sur l'Union europeenne, le Commissaire Pinheiro a insiste a ce que cette decision soit prise par le Conseil.

FESTIVAL D'HIVER DE SARAJEVO:

Les ministres ont egalement adopte un communique sur le Festival d'hiver de Sarajevo.

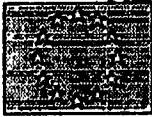
'Les ministres de la Culture reunis au sein du Conseil, soucieux de permettre aux createurs et aux artistes de Bosnie-Herzegovine de continuer a s'exprimer et a participer aux echanges culturels europeens

- invitent la Commission a envisager d'octroyer un soutien financier au 10eme Festival d'hiver de Sarajevo;
- approuvent l'intention de certains Etats membres de soutenir, a la fois sur place et dans leur pays, de la maniere qu'ils jugeront la plus appropriee, les initiatives de solidarite avec Sarajevo envisagees par les milieux artistiques et culturels.'

Finalement, les ministres ont eu de brefs debats sur les aspects economiques de la culture, prix fixe du livre, les resultats de la reunion de Mons sur l'audiovisuel et la campagne europeenne 'plaisir de lire'.

A la fin de la reunion, la delegation danoise a demande que les resultats de vote soient publies. Cette proposition a ete rejetee par une majorite des delegations qui ont souligne qu'un code de conduite n'est pas encore etabli a cet egard.

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**COMMISSION
OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES**

Directorate-General
Audiovisual, Information, Communication, Culture
Documentation
X/3.4

Brussels, 5 November 1993

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For the immediate attention of Heads of Office, Monde
From Hans Wooning
No. Pages Cover + 7
Date 5 November 1993.
Message: Rendez-vous de midi

Pls find enclosed; Background note "Conseil Culture" today, Note by Mr. B. Julien; Visite du Commissaire Van Miert au Japon and Note by Mrs. V. d'Udekem; Conseil Education du Lundi 8 novembre '93.

Monday also a General Affairs Council; Main points on the Agenda: Russia; Negotiations on commercial cooperation and monitoring the elections beginning December next by members of parliament of the member states. EC/Turkey association negotiations. Situation in Ex-Yugoslavia/humanitary aid and following the extraordinary Summit; South Africa and general elections overthere and the GATT of course.

Next week Sir Leon visits Japan and talks about the GATT and after that he will probably (to be confirmed) travel from there to Washington.

Mardi, 9 novembre 1993. 14h45. (Brussels local time) Conference de presse conjointe Président Delors/M. Arafat.

IP/93/952 - Le dialogue au Forum maritime donne un nouvel optimisme a l'industrie européenne.

IP/93/954 - TACIS' impact on food and agriculture in Russia.

IP/93/955 - Comité d'écoute des Entreprises: Mme Scrivener presente le bilan des 6 premiers mois du nouveau regime TVA - accises et annonce de nouvelles simplifications.

In case of missing pages please call 299 9100 and ask for:

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Bruxelles, 27 octobre 1993

**BACKGROUND
CONSEIL CULTURE**

Bruxelles, le vendredi 5 novembre 1993

Ville européenne de la culture

Le Conseil est appelé à désigner les villes européennes de la culture pour 1998 et 1999. La discussion sur ce point aura lieu la veille du Conseil, dans le cadre du dîner des Ministres.

La liste des villes nommées depuis 1985 ainsi que les candidatures à examiner pour 1998 et 1999 figurent à l'Annexe I.

Mois culturel européen

Le Conseil est appelé à désigner le Mois culturel européen pour 1995. Il est rappelé que cette manifestation se déroule chaque année depuis 1992 dans une ville d'un pays européen se fondant sur les principes de la démocratie, du pluralisme et de l'Etat de droit.

Les villes déjà désignées sont Cracow en 1992, Graz en 1993 et Budapest en 1994.

Les candidatures à partir de 1995 sont celles de Ljubljana, Nicosia et Aarhus.

Les aspects économiques de la culture et son rôle comme créateur d'emplois

Sur la base d'une note de la Présidence, le Conseil procédera à un premier échange de vues sur les aspects économiques de la culture et son rôle comme créateur d'emplois.

Selon cette note, il conviendrait

- de s'entendre sur l'extension du concept de culture et des domaines des biens et services qu'il recouvre;
- d'estimer la valeur et le poids qu'occupe le secteur culturel dans l'économie, en termes de valeur ajoutée, de consommation finale ou de volume d'emplois;
- d'estimer l'impact direct de la culture dans l'économie, entendu comme la somme des flux de dépenses des opérateurs culturels, réparties entre différents destinataires (l'Etat et les organismes sociaux, l'économie locale et nationale et les économies étrangères).

Prix fixe du livre et situation de l'artiste

Le Conseil est appelé à prendre acte d'un rapport oral que la Présidence fera sur la réunion informelle d'Anvers et notamment sur les engagements pris par la Commission concernant le prix fixe du livre et la situation de l'artiste.

Centenaire du cinéma

Le Conseil est appelé à adopter, sur initiative de la délégation française, une résolution sur le centenaire du cinéma.

Avec cette résolution, le Conseil convient

- de renforcer les actions de restauration de films faisant partie du patrimoine européen (action Lumière du programme MEDIA);
- d'encourager la diffusion de ce patrimoine dans les festivals et les salles d'Europe;
- de favoriser la connaissance des courants esthétiques du cinéma européen, de ses pionniers et de ses écoles.

Le Conseil invite également la Commission à participer à cette manifestation, notamment en liaison avec le Conseil de l'Europe.

Evaluation du programme MEDIA

Le Conseil est appelé à adopter un projet de conclusions qui devraient permettre le bon fonctionnement du programme MEDIA pour le restant de la période jusqu'à la fin de 1995.

Plus particulièrement, ces conclusions devraient répondre au besoin d'une meilleure coordination entre les projets et d'un contrôle financier plus strict ainsi qu'au besoin de compléter le financement de MEDIA en 1995.

Séminaire des Ministres de l'Audiovisuel

Le Conseil prendra acte de l'information que la Présidence lui donnera sur le séminaire des Ministres de l'Audiovisuel à Mons. Les thèmes principaux de discussions ont été le secteur audiovisuel et le GATT ainsi que le programme MEDIA.

Campagne européenne "Plaisir de lire"

Le Conseil prendra acte de l'information que la Commission lui donnera sur les manifestations qui ont eu lieu, qui sont en cours ou qui sont prévues, y compris la liste des manifestations européennes spéciales prévues dans les Etats membres.

ANNEXEVILLE EUROPÉENNE DE LA CULTUREa) Villes nommées depuis 1985

1985	Athènes	1991	Dublin
1986	Florence	1992	Madrid
1987	Amsterdam	1993	Anvers
1988	Berlin	1994	Lisbonne
1989	Paris	1995	Luxembourg
1990	Glasgow	1996	Copenhague
		1997	Thessaloniki

b) Candidatures à examiner pour 1992 et 1993i) à l'extérieur de la Communauté :

<u>Ville</u>	<u>Date d'introduction de la candidature</u>
Istanbul	05.09.1989
Graz	03.11.1989
Stockholm	12.05.1992
Prague	19.06.1992 et confirmé le 05.11.92

ii) à l'intérieur de la Communauté

Weimar	12.11.1992 lors du Conseil
Bologne	25.06.1993
Avignon	30.06.1993