

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

6379/91 (Presse 73)

1490th Council meeting  
- Development Co-operation -  
Brussels, 27 May 1991

President: Mr Georges WOHLFART,

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs  
and Co-operation  
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



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Italy:

Mr Federico DI ROBERTO

Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Georges WOHLFART

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs  
and Co-operation

Netherlands:

Mr Jan PRONK

Minister for Development Co-operation

Portugal:

Mr José Manuel DURAO BARROSO

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs  
and Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mrs Lynda CHALKER

Minister for Overseas Development

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Commission:

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

Mr Abel MATUTES

Member

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#### EC INVESTMENT PARTNERS

The Council held a policy debate on the Commission proposal for a Regulation aimed at providing a legal basis for the EC Investment Partners scheme and continuing the scheme set up in 1988 for a further experimental period starting on 1 January 1992.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its proceedings on this matter and agreed to resume its discussions when it had received the Opinion of the European Parliament.

#### TROPICAL FORESTS

The Council noted a report from the Commission on the preparation by Brazil, in co-operation with the World Bank and the Commission, of a pilot programme to combat the destruction of the Brazilian forests.

It confirmed the importance it attached to the rational management and conservation of tropical forests, in the interests of the countries of both North and South.

The ensuing discussion enabled delegations to make comments which the Commission will take into account in further proceedings.

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HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION POLICY

The Council held a detailed discussion on the Commission communication entitled "Human rights, democracy and development co-operation policy".

The increased importance of this dimension of development co-operation was emphasized.

The Council requested the Community bodies, in close co-operation with Political Co-operation, to continue examining this problem to enable guidelines and common criteria to be drawn up so that positions could be adopted within international bodies and in the implementation of the development co-operation policy of the Community and its Member States.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME OF FOOD AID FOR AFRICA - COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

The Council heard a report from Mr MARIN on the implementation of the special emergency programme of food aid for Africa. It thanked the Commission for the effectiveness of its action.

The Council noted that the programme had been implemented rapidly, despite difficulties in channelling the aid locally, and appealed to all the authorities concerned to facilitate the forwarding operations to the utmost of their ability.

The Council noted the amount of national contributions to this programme which had already been committed by the Member States and their intention to make the highest possible contributions to it and to give all the logistic assistance in

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their power to support the Commission's action. It also stressed the need for effective co-ordination with other donors and the organizations responsible for distributing the aid.

Lastly, the Council decided that it would be useful, in the light of recent experience, to hold a more detailed policy debate on the implementation of emergency aid and asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to hold a discussion on this subject on the basis of the Commission's suggestions.

#### BANGLADESH

The Council reviewed progress in implementing the ECU 60 million programme of emergency aid for Bangladesh.

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CO-OPERATION WITH NGOs

After holding a discussion on co-operation with NGOs, the Council noted that such co-operation was extremely valuable and generally functioned satisfactorily.

Following the discussion, it adopted the following Resolution:

- "1. Community co-operation with the Non-Governmental Development Organizations began in 1976, at the initiative of the European Parliament, with the entry in the budget of an amount of ECU 2,5 million intended for the joint financing of programmes and projects. The funds available for this type of development co-operation, which has had the particular support of the European Parliament, have been regularly increased to the extent that an amount of ECU 105 million has been entered under this item in the 1991 budget.

Over the years, other articles in the budget have been established as and when necessary in order to allow for co-operation with the NGOs in specific areas. The amount set aside in 1990 for this type of co-operation totalled ECU 318 million, to which should be added financial contributions from the EDF.

It would seem an opportune moment, after 15 years of experience, to review the action taken in this field, examine what has been achieved and draw some lessons for future action.

2. The Council welcomes the fact that NGOs from the different Community Member States are collaborating with each other in this field. The Community has found the NGOs to be efficient and reliable partners in the work of implementing programmes and projects aimed at making lasting improvements in the living conditions and development prospects of the peoples of the

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beneficiary countries. The Community's contribution is a response to the many years of commitment and support displayed by the general public in Europe for co-operative non-governmental action.

The NGO-EC Liaison Committee plays an essential role in strengthening the Community's collaboration with the NGOs and collaboration among the NGOs themselves.

The Council endorses the Commission's efforts to give support for action by new NGOs as well as action which has not in the past been the subject of Community co-operation.

3. One of the main aims of the Community's development co-operation policy is to help provide for the needs of the poorest peoples. Maintaining close contacts as they do with these peoples at the grass roots and knowing their conditions and needs, the NGOs are well placed to make a significant contribution towards achieving this aim.

The Council recognizes that because of their presence on the ground or their networks the NGOs are in a position to ensure the effective channelling of emergency aid to people in the direst need following natural disasters or other occurrences.

The Council also emphasizes the highly significant contribution which the NGOs make in certain areas such as the advancement of women's status and environmental protection. It urges the Commission to share information on these matters with the NGOs.



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Furthermore, in their campaigns to inform, educate and foster the awareness of the public about development matters, the NGOs play an essential part in channelling the energies of European citizens into this area. They thus foster public understanding and the support which is essential if a development policy is to succeed.

4. The Council stresses the importance of the NGOs being autonomous and independent, whether established in the north or in the south. In particular, they must be solely responsible for development projects which they put forward for joint financing.

The Council notes that in a number of developing countries there are private or local development schemes. It welcomes the European NGOs' wish to encourage such schemes.

5. In this regard, the Council is pleased to note the emphasis which the fourth Lomé Convention places on decentralized co-operation, which is based on an approach similar to that used with the European NGOs while at the same time being aimed more directly at the decentralized agencies in the developing countries themselves. Properly implemented, this new concept should enable a close relationship to be forged between the peoples of the north and the south concerned with development. It may also be applied in the Community's co-operation machinery in the fields of redirecting the Mediterranean policy and new guidelines for co-operation with the Asian and Latin American developing countries.

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Indeed, the Council believes it essential to support and strengthen the decentralized agencies in the developing countries, including the NGOs and the local authorities, in order to involve the local people fully in the development effort. Government action, though important, is not sufficient to ensure that development is both sustainable and harmonious.

Moreover, the fact that there are associations of private persons dedicated to development work in the southern countries is in itself an encouragement for democracy to take root and an incitement to greater respect for human rights. The Council is convinced that these two aspects are essential if development schemes are to succeed. This is especially important at a time when a number of developing countries are engaged in the process of democratization. The Council considers that particular attention should be paid to supporting the NGOs and other bodies in the developing countries dedicated to the promotion and observance of human rights.

6. Each year the Council examines a Commission report on the previous year's co-operation with the NGOs. These discussions have shown that the Community system, which must be complementary to national efforts of the same kind, is working satisfactorily. Nonetheless, the Council would stress the need for some analytical data, other than statistics, to be included in this report, and accordingly asks the Commission to proceed with assessments.

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It seems at this stage appropriate to draw some conclusions from the Community's and the NGO's long field experience. A number of aspects should be examined, such as:

- possible improvements in the system for selecting projects in view of the large number of projects postponed from one year to the next;
- consistency of the procedures used for the different budget headings;
- simplification and speeding-up of administrative procedures for the NGOs;
- giving effect to Community emergency aid;
- strengthening the machinery for exchanges of views between the NGOs and the Commission.

The Council will examine the outcome of this study at a future meeting.

7. To conclude, the Council emphasizes the importance it attaches to this type of co-operation and, noting the NGOs' great absorptive capacity, firmly hopes that the regular increases in appropriations earmarked for them within the resources allocated to development will continue in the years to come."

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USE OF COUNTERPART FUNDS GENERATED BY THE VARIOUS  
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE INSTRUMENTS - COUNCIL RESOLUTION

- "1. The Council notes that in view of the increasing volume of counterpart funds generated by the various development assistance instruments, and their integration into the structural adjustment policies pursued by an increasingly large number of countries, it should be ensured that such funds are used for the optimum growth of the developing countries. It therefore agrees to define, on the basis of a Commission staff working paper, a number of general principles which should help to guide the policies to be followed in this area at Community and Member State level.
  
2. The Council points out here that the Community provisions on counterpart funds, which are still the basis of the relevant Community policy, were defined by the Lomé Convention and by food aid Regulation No 3972/86 and the Council Resolutions of 13 November 1988 and 21 November 1989. It further notes that in the case of the Member States other administrative or legislative provisions govern the detailed rules for the constitution and use of counterpart funds.
  
3. The Council underlines the importance of seeing, in all the countries benefiting from counterpart funds, that such funds are rapidly constituted, are the subject of transparent and stringent management and supervision and are used in accordance with the priorities agreed in the legislative or administrative instruments governing the projects of the Community and its Member States generating counterpart funds.

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4. The Council recognizes that counterpart funds do not pose problems of the same type in all countries and that their use must be adapted both to the economic situation of the countries concerned and to the volume of counterpart funds generated there. It considers it necessary to step up Community co-ordination and co-ordination with other providers of funds, in particular the World Bank and the IMF, in this sphere, in particular in the countries pursuing stabilization and adjustment policies.
5. The Council considers in this light that for countries which are marginal beneficiaries of counterpart funds and do not have serious imbalances, the traditional practice of allocating counterpart funds, within the framework of the budgetary priorities and practices of the States concerned, to specific projects or programmes can be continued.
6. The Council thinks it essential nevertheless, for adjustment countries, that stabilization and reform requirements should be reconciled with the requirement to use funds in accordance with the texts governing the policies of the various providers of funds. In this connection, the Council would recall its Resolution of 16 May 1989 on co-ordination on support for structural adjustment.

The Council holds that efficient and optimum use of counterpart funds should be based on the following principles:

- (i) the counterpart funds generated by the various development assistance instruments constitute resources which must be managed as part of a single and consistent budgetary policy in the context of a programme of reforms;

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(ii) the effectiveness of the support for structural adjustment depends on the policies and institutional reforms put in train, including those concerning public expenditure. The Community and the Member States should therefore make sure that counterpart funds are used consistently in broad budgetary headings of on-budget priority public expenditure. In respect of the countries subject to adjustment, the process of drawing up and monitoring this programme should be strengthened as regards both current and investment expenditure so as to ensure that public resources are allocated to the most urgent requirements in terms of effectiveness and fairness.

(iii) the agreements concluded with the beneficiary countries concerning the management of counterpart funds must be consistent with the stabilization and adjustment targets agreed under the reforms.

(iv) all counterpart funds of each donor should be consolidated in a single account by donor at the Central Bank consistent with that donor's statutory regulations. Donors should agree with the authorities in each recipient country on a common form for reporting on counterpart fund payments due to be collected from importers, and amounts actually paid.

7. The Council considers that the implementation of such principles also postulates a strengthening of co-ordination at the level of the Community and its Member States with the aim of:

- planning, whenever possible, the constitution and allocation of counterpart funds;

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- undertaking, as part of concerted efforts by all the providers of funds, a progressive reduction in the accumulated stocks of counterpart funds which exceed the capacity to make effective and non-inflationary use of them;
  - simplifying, harmonizing and standardizing procedures for the constitution, use and monitoring of counterpart funds, according to the characteristics of each developing country and according to the budgetary rules of the developing countries and the Member States of the Community.
8. As for the Community as such, the Council, on the basis of the general principles defined above, and in order to implement the Lomé Convention, approves the Commission's approach giving priority, within the framework of the priority aims defined by the States concerned, to the social dimension of adjustment in the use of counterpart funds, in particular by providing for appropriate coverage of the education and health sectors and special attention for environmental protection. This does not preclude other possible allocations for counterpart funds in accordance with the text of the Lomé Convention and the texts governing food aid.
9. In conclusion, the Council refers to the need for the Community to strive for greater co-ordination of budgetary policy with the other providers of funds, in particular the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, in order to ensure at a very early stage in the process, by means of appropriate exchange of information and active participation in the formulation of public expenditure and public investment programmes, that appropriate account is taken of Community concerns and that the level and composition of the budget are effective and equitable.

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10. The Council stresses the need for all providers of funds, in implementing these principles, to strive for the greatest possible consistency among themselves. To this end, it invites the Member States and the Commission to make use of the forum for co-ordination offered by SPA to strengthen this necessary consistency in the effective and equitable use of counterpart funds.
  
11. The Council would ask the Commission to submit during 1993 a report on the implementation of this Resolution; if necessary, it will revise its guidelines."



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RELATIONS WITH THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

After a brief discussion on future association arrangements for the OCT, the Council noted the positions expressed by the various delegations and the Commission on the nature of the trade arrangements to be adopted for the OCT.

It once again drew attention to the urgency of the matter and emphasized the need to adopt the future association arrangements before the existing transitional measures expired (on 30 June).

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the problems which had arisen with this in mind and appealed to all the delegations and the Commission to be flexible, in order to achieve the compromise solutions which were essential for this purpose.

The Council noted that the Presidency was accordingly endeavouring to draw up a compromise which would be acceptable to all the delegations and which it intended to submit to them shortly for consideration.

RATIFICATION OF THE FOURTH LOME CONVENTION

After reviewing the progress of the procedures for the ratification of the Fourth ACP-EEC Convention by the Member States of the Community, the Council noted that all the Member States should normally be in a position to deposit their instruments of ratification by 30 June 1991.

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COMBATING AIDS

The Council heard a statement by Mr MARIN, Vice-President of the Commission, concerning the Commission's intention to put forward a new programme for combating AIDS, which is ravaging a large number of developing countries, particularly in Africa, and welcomed that intention.

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## MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

### Anti-dumping

The Council adopted a Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of aspartame (falling within CN code ex 2924 29 90) originating in Japan and the United States of America.

The duty will be ECU 25,15 per kilogram (net weight) on imports of aspartame originating in the United States of America and ECU 27,21 per kilogram (net weight) on imports of aspartame originating in Japan.

### 4th Financial Protocols with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt and with Israel

The Council approved the outcome of the negotiations as communicated by the Commission and decided to sign the protocols, subject to their approval.

It should be possible for these Protocols to be signed in the first half of June.

### Action programme for small and medium-sized enterprises

The Council adopted the Resolution - the substance of which was approved by the Industry Council on 29 April 1991 - on the action programme for small and medium-sized enterprises including craft industry enterprises (see press release No 5812/91 Presse 55 of 29 April 1991).

Appointments

The Council:

- appointed members representing Portuguese employers' organizations on the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions;
  - replaced a member and an alternate on the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work.
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MESSAGE # 133  
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COMPUTER MESSAGE :

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TO : C.E. WASHINGTON - WASHINGTON  
REF : 1144020888 - 24-05-1991 12:04

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BRUXELLES. LE 24 MAI 1991

NOTE BIO(90)168 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
CC AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

PREPARATION DU CONSEIL DEVELOPPEMENT DU 27 MAI 1991 (X. PRATS)

LE CONSEIL DEVELOPPEMENT SE REUNIRA LE LUNDI 27 MAI A 10H00.  
VOICI LES PRINCIPAUX POINTS A L'ORDRE DU JOUR (UNE NOTE SUR LES  
THEMES FORET TROPICALE ET 'EC INVESTMENT PARTNERS' SUIVRA) :

1. FAMINE EN AFRIQUE - PROGRAMME SPECIAL DE LA COMMISSION :

DEPUIS LA FIN DE 1990. IL EXISTE UNE CRISE ALIMENTAIRE DE GRANDE  
ENVERGURE EN AFRIQUE SUBSAHARIENNE. LES ORGANISATIONS  
INTERNATIONALES (ET NOTAMMENT LE PROGRAMME ALIMENTAIRE MONDIAL.  
PAM) ESTIMENT QU'IL Y A DESORMAIS 31 MILLIONS DE PERSONNES  
AFFECTEES ET QUE LES BESOINS D'AIDE ALIMENTAIRE S'ELEVENT A 4.5  
MILLIONS DE TONNES DE PRODUITS CEREALIERES. COMPTE TENU DES  
ENGAGEMENTS ACTUELS DES DONNEURS INTERNATIONAUX. IL EXISTE UN  
DEFICIT NON COUVERT D'ENVIRON 1,5 MILLION DE TONNES.

FACE A CETTE SITUATION D'URGENCE EXTREME. LA COMMISSION A PROPOSE  
LE 18 AVRIL DERNIER. A L'INITIATIVE DU VICE-PRESIDENT MARIN. UN  
PROGRAMME SPECIAL D'AIDE ALIMENTAIRE EN FAVEUR DES POPULATIONS  
LES PLUS MENACEES PAR LA FAMINE EN AFRIQUE (CFR NOTE IP(91)317).

L'ACCORD DES ETATS MEMBRES SUR LE PROGRAMME PROPOSE PAR LA COMMISSION EST INTERVENU LE 17 MAI DERNIER: LE FINANCEMENT (140 MECU DESTINES A L'ACHAT DE 400.000 TONNES SUPPLEMENTAIRES DE CEREALES) A ETE REGLE LE 15 MAI PAR LES DECISIONS DU CONSEIL ET DU PARLEMENT SUR LE BUDGET RECTIFICATIF ET SUPPLEMENTAIRE 1991. CETTE SOMME S'AJOUTE AUX 516 MECU PREVUS ORIGINAIREMENT DANS LE BUDGET AIDE ALIMENTAIRE 1991. QUI DEVAIT PERMETTRE L'ACHAT D'ENVIRON 1,4 MILLIONS DE TONNES DE CEREALES.

LE GROS DU PROGRAMME, DONT LES PREMIERES OPERATIONS ONT DEJA COMMENCE, SERA MOBILISE DANS LES QUINZE JOURS A VENIR. ENTRETEMPS, LES AIDES NORMALES ET D'URGENCE POUR L'AFRIQUE, DECIDEES PAR LA COMMUNAUTE A L'INITIATIVE DE LA COMMISSION DES LA FIN DE L'ANNEE DERNIERE, CONTINUENT A ARRIVER PROGRESSIVEMENT SUR PLACE (NOTAMMENT AU MOZAMBIQUE, ETHIOPIE ET SOUDAN). L'EXECUTION DU PROGRAMME DEVRA SURMONTER DES CONDITIONS DIFFICILES DE TRANSPORT ET D'ORGANISATION DE DISTRIBUTION DANS LA

PLUPART DES PAYS CONCERNES (INFRASTRUCTURES DES TRANSPORTS DEGRADEES OU MANQUANTES, ETC).

LA COMMISSION CONSIDERE INDISPENSABLE QU'IL Y AIT MAINTENANT UNE CONTRIBUTION BILATERALE ADDITIONNELLE DE LA PART DES ETATS MEMBRES AU PROGRAMME, DANS LE CADRE D'UN EXERCICE DE COORDINATION COMMUNAUTAIRE VISANT A ASSURER UNE PARTICIPATION TRES IMPORTANTE DE LA CE DANS SON ENSEMBLE A L'ACTION INTERNATIONALE. C'EST SUR CET EFFORT D'AIDE ET DE COORDINATION QUE LE CONSEIL DEVRAIT SE

PENCHER LUNDI.

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## 2. LES DROITS DE L'HOMME, LA DEMOCRATIE ET LA POLITIQUE DE COOPERATION AU DEVELOPPEMENT :

AU MOMENT OU LA COMMUNAUTE EST EN TRAIN DE METTRE AU POINT UNE POLITIQUE EXTERIEURE ET DE SECURITE COMMUNE, IL EST INDISPENSABLE DE SE POSER LA QUESTION DU ROLE QUE DOIT OCCUPER LA PROMOTION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET DE LA DEMOCRATIE DANS LES ORIENTATIONS DES POLITIQUES DE COOPERATION. A CETTE FIN, LA COMMISSION A PRESENTE, LE 19.3.1991, UNE COMMUNICATION AU CONSEIL (CFR NOTE P-20).

EN FONCTION DE LA GRAVITE DE CETTE PROBLEMATIQUE ET DE SON IMPORTANCE A L'HEURE ACTUELLE, LA COMMISSION A DEMANDE QUE LE CONSEIL AIT UN PREMIER DEBAT D'ORIENTATION A CE SUJET LE 27 MAI, AFIN DE DEGAGER DE FUTURES LIGNES DE CONDUITE AU NIVEAU COMMUNAUTAIRE.

LA COMMISSION CONSIDERE QUE LA COMMUNAUTE DOIT PRIVILEGIER DANS TOUTE LA MESURE DU POSSIBLE UNE POLITIQUE D'APPUI ET DE

PROMOTION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET DE LA  
DEMOCRATISATION DANS LES PAYS EN VOIE DE  
DEVELOPPEMENT. POUR ASSURER LE SUCCES DE  
CETTE POLITIQUE, IL FAUT A LA FOIS ETABLIR  
DES RAPPORTS FRANCS ET OUVERTS ENTRE LES  
PAYS EN DEVELOPPEMENT ET CONTRIUER A UNE  
PLUS GRANDE COHERENCE ENTRE LES INITIATIVES  
DE LA COMMISSION ET CELLES DES ETATS  
MEMBRES.

### 3. UTILISATION DES FONDS DE CONTREPARTIE

LES 'FONDS DE CONTREPARTIE' GENERES PAR LES  
PAYS EN VOIE DE DEVELOPPEMENT CONSTITUENT  
LA CONTREVALEUR EN MONNAIE LOCALE DE LA  
VENTE AUX OPERATEURS ECONOMIQUES DE  
L'ASSISTANCE APPORTEE SOUS FORME DE

PRODUITS (PAR EX. L'AIDE ALIMENTAIRE) OU DE  
DEVISES DESTINEES A FINANCER DES PROGRAMMES  
D'IMPORTATION. DANS LE CADRE DE LA  
COOPERATION AU DEVELOPPEMENT, LE PRODUIT DE  
CES VENTES PEUT ETRE VERSE SOIT DANS LE  
BUDGET GENERAL DU GOUVERNEMENT DES PVD EN  
QUESTION, SOIT DANS UN COMPTE SPECIAL  
UTILISE EXCLUSIVEMENT POUR FINANCER DES  
OPERATIONS DE DEVELOPPEMENT.

TRADITIONNELLEMENT, LA PRINCIPALE SOURCE DE  
CONSTITUTION DE FONDS DE CONTREPARTIE A ETE  
L'AIDE ALIMENTAIRE. MAIS AVEC LES  
NOUVELLES DISPOSITIONS DE L'OME IV EN  
MATIERE D'APPUI A L'AJUSTEMENT STRUCTUREL  
DES PAYS ACP (UNE DOTATION DE 1.15 MILLIARD  
D'ECU SUR CINQ ANS), LES FONDS DE

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CONTREPARTIE DEVIENDRONT UNE DIMENSION DE  
PLUS EN PLUS IMPORTANTE DE LA POLITIQUE DE  
COOPERATION DE LA COMMUNAUTE.

EN VUE DE CETTE IMPORTANCE ACCRUE, LA  
COMMISSION A PRESENTE POUR LA PREMIERE FOIS  
AU CONSEIL LE 5 NOVEMBRE 1990 UN DOCUMENT  
DETAILLE TRAITANT DE L'UTILISATION DES  
FONDS DE CONTREPARTIE. EN PARTICULIER, LE  
VICE-PRESIDENT MARIN PRESENTERA AU CONSEIL  
LE DOUBLE OBJECTIF POLITIQUE PRINCIPAL DE  
LA COMMISSION, QUI CONSISTE A :

- ASSURER UNE GESTION EFFICACE ET  
TRANSPARENTE DE CES FONDS AUSSI BIEN EN CE  
QUI CONCERNE LEUR CONSTITUTION QUE LEUR  
UTILISATION.

- VEILLER EN MEME TEMPS, A NE PAS ALLER A

L'ENCONTRE DES OBJECTIFS DE STABILISATION  
ET DE REFORMES POURSUIVIS PAR LES PAYS  
SOUMIS A UN PROGRAMME D'AJUSTEMENT  
STRUCTUREL.

S'AGISSANT DE L'UTILISATION DES FONDS DE  
CONTREPARTIE. L'ORIENTATION DE LA  
COMMISSION EST D'ACCORDER UNE PRIORITE  
NOTAMMENT A LA DIMENSION SOCIALE DE  
L'AJUSTEMENT STRUCTUREL. DANS LE CADRE DE  
LA CONVENTION DE LOME.

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#### 4. SIDA - LE PROGRAMME DE LA COMMISSION :

SOUS DIVERS. LE CONSEIL AURA UN ECHANGE DE

VUES SUR L'ETAT ACTUEL ET LES  
PERSPECTIVES DU PROGRAMME DE LA COMMISSION  
DE LUTTE CONTRE LE SIDA. LE VICE-PRESIDENT  
MARIN PRESENTERA LES IDEES DE LA COMMISSION  
SUR L'AVENIR DE CETTE INITIATIVE. QUI  
DEVRAIT S'INTEGRER DE PLUS EN PLUS DANS LES  
PROGRAMMES GENERAUX DE SANTE DES PAYS EN  
DEVELOPPEMENT.

LORS DE LA DERNIERE REUNION DU CONSEIL DES  
MINISTRES ACP/CEE (6-7 MAI 1991) IL A ETE  
CONVENU DE POURSUIVRE LE PROGRAMME SIDA  
AVEC DES NOUVELLES RESSOURCES. DANS LE  
CADRE DE LA COOPERATION REGIONALE ETABLIE  
PAR LA CONVENTION DE LOME IV.

LE PROGRAMME DE CONTROLE DU SIDA DE LA  
COMMISSION EST EN VIGUEUR DEPUIS 1987. IL  
EST DOTE DE 35 MECU. (CFR NOTE IP(91)178).  
EN JUILLET DE CETTE MEME ANNEE. LA  
COMMISSION CREA UNE TASK FORCE SPECIALE  
SIDA. DEPUIS SON LANCEMENT, LE PROGRAMME  
S'EST CONCENTRE SUR 3 STRATEGIES  
D'INTERVENTION :

- LE CONTROLE DE LA TRANSMISSION SEXUELLE.
- LE CONTROLE DE LA TRANSMISSION PAR VOIE  
SANGUINE.
- LE CONTROLE DE LA TRANSMISSION DE LA  
MERE A L'ENFANT.

EN DEBIT DE CES MESURES. LES ORGANISATIONS  
INTERNATIONALES PREVOIENT UNE FORTE  
CROISSANCE DE L'INCIDENCE DU SIDA DANS LES  
PROCHAINES ANNEES (10 MILLIONS DE PERSONNES  
DE PLUS AVANT L'AN 2000. DONT 90 0/0  
PROVIENDRONT DES PAYS EN DEVELOPPEMENT). CE  
QUI AURA DE GRAVES REPERCUSSIONS SUR LES



SECTEURS DE LA SANTE. DE LA SECURITE SOCIALE. DE L'EDUCATION. DU DEVELOPPEMENT, ETC.

5. COOPERATION AVEC LES ONGS

LE CONSEIL DEVRAIT EGALEMENT ADOPTER UNE RESOLUTION SOULIGNANT L'IMPORTANCE DE LA COOPERATION AVEC LES ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES. A NOTER QUE CETTE FORME DE COOPERATION, QUI A DEBUTE EN 1976 AVEC UN BUDGET DE 2.5 MECU, PORTE EN 1991 SUR UN MONTANT DE 105 MECU.

SOUS DIVERS. LE CONSEIL DISCUTERA EGALEMENT SUR LES PERSPECTIVES D' ACTIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES DECOULANT DU PROCESUS DE

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PAIX EN ANGOLA. AINSI QUE SUR LA SITUATION AU BANGLADESH ET SUR L'ETAT ACTUEL DE RATIFICATION DE LA CONVENTION DE LOME IV.

AMITIES,

C. STATHOPOULOS

SENT BY SPP AT : FRI MAY 24 11:40:48 CES 1991

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Bruxelles, le 27 mai 1991

NOTE BIO(90)168 (suite 1) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
CC AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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## CONSEIL DEVELOPPEMENT - 27 MAI 1991 (X. Prats)

### 1. FAMINE EN AFRIQUE

Toutes les délégations ont accueilli très favorablement la communication de la Commission et l'ont félicitée pour l'efficacité et la rapidité avec laquelle elle a conçu et mis en place le Programme Spécial contre la famine en Afrique, approuvé le 17 mai dernier :

Le Vice-Président MARIN, dans son intervention, a souligné notamment deux aspects fondamentaux concernant la mise en oeuvre du Programme :

- la nécessité d'agir rapidement afin d'assurer un acheminement efficace de l'aide aussi bien communautaire que bilatérale;
- la nécessité d'une coordination étroite et d'un effort supplémentaire de la part des Etats membres, pour que la contribution globale de la CE soit suffisamment importante.

Face à cette situation d'extrême gravité, M. MARIN a fait appel aux Etats membres pour qu'ils apportent toute l'aide logistique à leur disposition (moyens de transport par avion au cas où les destinations les plus éloignées ne seraient pas accessibles en raison des pluies ou des blocages des routes par la guerre civile, etc). La mise en oeuvre du Programme sera entreprise par les moyens habituels (ONGs, Organismes des Nations Unies); cependant, vu l'ampleur du problème, il sera peut-être nécessaire de faire appel à des moyens exceptionnels, tel qu'il a été le cas pour l'aide aux kurdes, par exemple.

La mise en oeuvre du Programme spécial repose largement sur les capacités logistiques des organisations humanitaires. Par ailleurs, il serait insensé de contribuer à la surcharge des ports et des transports intérieurs des pays concernés en débarquant de grandes quantités d'aide de manière non coordonnée. La Commission accorde donc une importance particulière à une bonne articulation entre le programme normal d'aide alimentaire pour 1991 et le Programme spécial approuvé en mai.

La Commission avait proposé que les Etats membres apportent un tiers environ de l'action d'urgence, soit 200.000 tonnes, ce qui porterait les aides supplémentaires de la CE à 600.000 tonnes de céréales. Or, la Commission a constaté avec satisfaction que plusieurs délégations se sont d'ores et déjà engagées à fournir des aides de façon à dépasser ce seuil de 200.000 tonnes.

### 2. DROITS DE L'HOMME, DEMOCRATIE ET DEVELOPPEMENT

Le Vice-Président MARIN s'est déclaré très satisfait de l'accueil que la communication de la Commission a reçu de la part des Etats membres. En effet, toutes les délégations ont confirmé qu'à l'avenir il y aura

une action et une coordination communautaires pour ce qui est des rapports entre droits de l'homme, démocratie et développement.

Le débat ouvert entre les Etats membres a permis de mettre en lumière des sensibilités différentes sur l'équilibre entre mesures positives et mesures négatives de promotion des Droits de l'homme, ainsi que sur la nature du lien entre ceux-ci et la politique de coopération au développement. Ces éléments seront précisés davantage par le Conseil Affaires générales en Juin prochain, et il est clair d'ores et déjà que sous présidence néerlandaise on pourra aboutir à un document final du Conseil sur ce thème fondamental.

Le Vice-Président MARIN a été particulièrement satisfait du résultat des discussions. En effet, le fait d'établir un lien entre Droits de l'homme et développement constitue le seul moyen de ne pas marginaliser l'Afrique dès l'évolution actuellement en cours dans les relations Nord-Sud.

### 3. FONDS DE CONTREPARTIE

Le Conseil a approuvé une résolution qui reprend les préoccupations et les priorités de la Commission (cfr Note BIO 168). En particulier les ministres ont souligné l'importance de veiller à une constitution rapide de fonds, à une gestion transparente et à une coordination communautaire renforcée.

La Commission se réjouit particulièrement du fait que le Conseil ait confirmé son orientation visant à accorder une priorité aux secteurs de l'éducation et de la santé; les Douze ont également attribué une attention particulière au thème de l'environnement (à la demande des délégations NL et D).

Le Conseil a également approuvé les orientations de la Commission concernant l'avenir du Programme de lutte contre le SIDA, ainsi qu'une résolution sur le renforcement de la coopération avec les ONG.

Pour ce qui concerne l'état de ratification de la Convention de Lomé IV, tous les Etats membres devraient être en mesure de déposer les instruments de ratification dans le délai convenu (fin Juin 1991). En tout état de cause, la Commission a obtenu la garantie que les mesures transitoires seront prorogées par le Conseil dans le cas improbable où la ratification doive être reportée de quelques semaines.

Amitiés,



B. DETHOMAS