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DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS AND INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

ANDREW SHEPPARD, SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT FOR RTE (THE IRISH STATE RADIO AND TV BROADCASTING SERVICE)

Andrew Sheppard was born in Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany in 1938. He and his mother spent World War II in Berlin and Silesia while his father and three sisters were able to emigrate to Great Britain shortly before the war. His father served as a translator at the Nuremberg War Crime Tribunal after the war.

The whole family was reunited in London in 1948. Mr. Sheppard attended a Grammar School there, which was followed by a two-year conscription in the British Army. He obtained a B.A. degree in social anthropology at Manchester University (England) in 1963, working also on a student newspaper.

Mr. Sheppard joined the Lancashire Evening Telegraph as a reporter and later became a religious and educational affairs correspondent, 1963-65. He then transferred to the London office of the Thomson Chain which owns the Lancashire Evening Telegraph, working as a reporter, feature writer, film critic for the nationwide chain of morning, evening and Sunday newspapers. From 1967-72, he was political correspondent at the House of Commons of Manchester Evening News (largest evening newspaper outside London).

A. Sheppard joined Radio Telefis Eireann (RTE) as London correspondent in 1972, specializing in British current affairs and detailed negotiations between Great Britain and both parts of Ireland. He also frequently covered European Community meetings on the continent and other international events there. He has reported on the EEC regularly since 1967. Transferred to RTE headquarters in Dublin as special correspondent for foreign affairs in 1977, he reported frequently from Europe and later from the United States.

In his current work for RTE, Mr. Sheppard covers general world affairs and Irish foreign policy. Coverage of European Community affairs is shared between specialist correspondents in Brussels, Belgium and himself. Mr. Sheppard's main expertise is on the European Community's attempts to formulate a common foreign policy and a united response to crises such as Iran, the Afghanistan, the Middle East and energy.

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Since 1978, Mr. Sheppard has been Joint Honorary Secretary of the Irish section of the Association of European Journalists, a European Community Commission-sponsored organization for journalists specializing in European affairs, which organizes information meetings and conferences.

Mr. Sheppard is married and lives in Dublin, Republic of Ireland.

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