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COMMISSION SEMINAR ON "GREY LITERATURE" IN YORK, 13-14 DECEMBER, 1978

On the proposal of Mr. Brunner the Commission of the European Communities is holding a seminar in York on 13 and 14 December, 1978, on a problem which is becoming increasingly complex in Europe and in the world at large, namely access to "grey literature".

The term "grey literature" refers to documents, presenting the results of research projects and studies, which are not available through normal publication channels. As a consequence, many potential users are not aware of their existence. Even if they are, it is often difficult for them to obtain a copy.

Some 30 experts from the nine Member States have been invited to take part in the seminar. Their task will be to identify the problem, and to propose remedies which could be applied at various levels, regional, national and European.

The experts will limit themselves to a consideration of scientific and technical report literature only. Other material such as theses and conference proceedings, or reports dealing with subjects outside the fields of science and technology, would in principle be excluded. It may well be, however, that many of the recommendations produced by the seminar could also apply to these.