



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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LIMITE

PUBLIC 12

TRANSPARENCY

Subject : MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS
 DECEMBER 2000

This document contains:

- in **Annex I**, a summary of definitive legislative acts adopted by the Council in December 2000. It is accompanied by statements in the minutes which the Council decided to make public (**Annex II**). The summary also mentions any votes against and abstentions, as well as explanations of voting.

It should be noted that only the minutes concerning the definitive adoption of legislative acts are authentic. Extracts from the minutes in question, and the information contained in Annexes I and II hereto, are available to the public on the Internet at the "Eudor" website (<http://www.eudor.com> – see "Transparency of the Council's legislative activities").

- in **Annex III**, a list of the other acts ¹ adopted by the Council in December 2000, with a reference, where appropriate, to voting results, explanations of voting and statements which the Council has decided to make public.

¹ With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
2314th Council (Justice and Home Affairs) on 1 December 2000				
Council Decision on the application of the Schengen acquis in Denmark, Finland and Sweden, and in Iceland and Norway	12741/1/00 REV 1 + COR 1 (nl)	124/00, 125/00		
2316th Council (General Affairs) on 4 December 2000				
Proposal for a Council Decision amending Decision 200/24/EC so as to establish an EIB special action programme in support of the consolidation and intensification of the EC-Turkey customs union	13595/1/00 REV 1 + REV 1 COR 1	126/00		
2317th Council (Agriculture) on 4 December 2000				
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables, Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 on the common organisation of the market in processed fruit and vegetables and Regulation (EC) No 2202/96 introducing a Community aid scheme for producers of certain citrus fruits	13657/00 + COR 1 (el,sv) + COR 2 (fi)	127/00, 128/00, 129/00		Against DK/NL/S/UK

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
Council Decision concerning certain protection measures with regard to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and the feeding of animal protein	14182/00	130/00, 131,00	Against D/FIN	
2318th Council (Industry/Energy) on 5 December 2000				
Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council setting up a Community framework for cooperation in the field of accidental or deliberate marine pollution	PE-CONS 3651/00 + COR 1 (fi) + COR 2 (nl)			
Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on unbundled access to the local loop	PE-CONS 3654/1/00 REV 1 + COR 1 (sv) + COR 2 (sv) + REV 1 (fr)	132/00, 133/00, 134/00, 135/00		
Council Regulation concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative cooperation in trade between the customs territory of the Community and Ceuta and Melilla	12536/00 + COR 1 (fi)			

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
Adoption of legislative acts following the European Parliament's second reading				
Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision on the implementation of a training programme for professionals in the European audiovisual programme industry (MEDIA - Training) (13.12.2000)	14636/00 PE-CONS 3667/00			
Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive amending Council Directive 70/220/EEC concerning measures to be taken against air pollution by emissions from motor vehicles (13.12.2000)	14635/00 PE-CONS 3602/01			
Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Regulation on the distribution of permits for heavy goods vehicles travelling in Switzerland (14.12.2000)	14651/00 PE-CONS 3665/00			
2319th Council (Health) on 14 December 2000				
Council Regulation opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products	13347/00			
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1255/96 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain industrial and agricultural products	13715/00			

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2505/96 opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural and industrial products	13783/00 + COR 1 (fi)			
2320th Council (Fisheries) • 14 December 2000				
Council Regulation fixing for the 2001 fishing year the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annexes I and II and the Community producer price for the fishery products listed in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 104/2000	13158/00	136/00		
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2742/1999 fixing for 2000 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where limitations in catch are required	14066/00	137/00		
Council Regulation extending Regulation (EEC) No 1657/93 temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain industrial products intended to equip the free zones of the Azores and Madeira as regards the Madeira free zone	13334/00			

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
Council Regulation on information and promotion actions for agricultural products on the internal market	14172/00 + COR 1 (de) + COR 2 (fi) + COR 3 (nl)	152/00, 153/00, 154/00, 155/00, 156/00, 157/00, 158/00, 159/00, 160/00		
Wine sector				
(a) Council Decision on the granting of exceptional national aid by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany for the distillation of certain wine sector products	14596/00	161/00		
(b) Council Decision on the granting of exceptional national aid by the Government of the Italian Republic for the distillation of certain wine sector products	14597/00			
(c) Council Decision on the granting of exceptional national aid by the Government of the French Republic for the distillation of certain wine sector products	14598/00			
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1907/90 on certain marketing standards for eggs	14544/00	162/00, 163/00, 164/00	Against D	

DECEMBER 2000				
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE	
2323rd Council (Employment/Social Affairs) on 20 December 2000 Council Decision establishing a Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005) Council Decision on the implementation of a programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works (MEDIA Plus – Development, Distribution and Promotion) (2001-2005)	13647/00 + COR 1 (sv) 13136/2/00 REV 2 + COR 1 (fr) + COR 2 (nl) + REV 3 (pt) + REV 4 (it)	165/00 166/00, 167/00, 168/00, 169/00		
2324th Council (Transport) • 20 December 2000 Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on summer-time arrangements	PE-CONS 3646/00	170/00, 171/00, 172/00		
Council Decision on a multiannual programme for enterprise and entrepreneurship, and in particular for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) (2001-2005)	14370/00 + COR 1 (fr) + COR 2 (da, de, es, fi, it, nl, pt, sv) + COR 3 (el)			

DECEMBER 2000			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
Written procedure completed on 28 December 2000 Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding the implementation of measures to promote economic and social development in Turkey	PE-CONS 3601/00	178/00	Against EL

STATEMENT 124/00

Council statement

"The provisions of Article 3(2) of the draft Council Decision on the application of the Schengen acquis in Denmark, Finland and Sweden, and in Iceland and Norway, do not imply any derogation from the rule whereby the application of the Schengen acquis in new Member States takes place under the conditions and on the dates set by the Council acting by unanimity of its members."

STATEMENT 125/00

Statement by the Swedish delegation

"Sweden confirms its obligation to apply the entire Schengen acquis. The Swedish Government has therefore commissioned a Committee of Inquiry to review existing legislation concerning carrier liability in order to comply with the provision of Article 26(2) of the Schengen Convention.

The Government undertakes to present a proposal to the Parliament based on the findings of the Committee and sets as an objective the adoption of new legislation before July 2002.

The Government will also regularly inform the Council about its undertakings in this regard."

STATEMENT 126/00

Commission and Council statement

"The Commission and the Council acknowledge that this special EIB lending action is only possible as a result of the Helsinki European Council conclusions, which recognised the new status of Turkey as a candidate State."

STATEMENT 127/00

Council statement

"The Council invites the Commission to ensure that, in the framework of the implementing measures, the certification of actual deliveries of the raw material is determined jointly by the producers' associations and the processors, under the supervision and the responsibility of the competent national authority."

STATEMENT 128/00

Council statement

"The Council considers that the concentration of supply is a fundamental objective of the common organisation of the market in the fruit and vegetable sector. For that reason, it requests the Commission to take this aspect more particularly into consideration when drawing up its report on the operation of this common organisation of the market. To this end, the Council requests the Commission to examine if, and to what extent, it is possible to include guidelines which could favour, in particular, the amalgamation of producer groups in any proposals to be brought forward."

STATEMENT 129/00

Commission statement

"As far as the tendering procedure for the fixing of refunds is concerned, the Commission will examine on a case-by-case basis whether the tendering procedure is appropriate and, if so, what arrangements should apply."

STATEMENT 130/00

Commission statement

"The Commission will investigate with Member States the levels of exports of MBM to third countries, to the entry into force of this proposal. This investigation will look in particular at any suggestion of fraudulent use of such MBM from its intended use. If there is any evidence of such fraudulent use, the Commission will take the appropriate action."

STATEMENT 131/00

Commission statement

"The Commission reserves its position on the respect of the deadlines for the submission of proposals requested by the Council."

STATEMENT 132/00

Commission statement

"Article 3(2) states that, where access is refused, the aggrieved party may submit the case to the dispute resolution procedure referred to in Article 4(5). This procedure also applies in cases where a notified operator refuses on the basis of technical feasibility to meet a request within the time period requested by the beneficiary"

STATEMENT 133/00

Unilateral statement by the Finnish delegation

"Finland considers on the basis of Article 1(4) that the Regulation does not prevent Member States from also obliging operators other than those with Significant Market Power to provide unbundling".

STATEMENT 134/00

Unilateral statement by the Swedish delegation

"Sweden is in principle in favour of the introduction of regulations on mandatory access to the local loop at the EU level, and that this is done through a regulation. The proposed regulation however is not compatible with the Swedish constitution. The Swedish government will work to amend the constitution so that it will be compatible with the regulation, but a change can come into force in 1 January 2003, at the earliest."

STATEMENT 135/00

Unilateral statement by the German delegation

"Germany underlines the importance of recital 6. It takes the constitutional conditions and the conditions of Community Law into full account with regard to the obligations under Article 3 of the Regulation. Hence recital 6 clarifies the legally certain application without affecting the overall aim to promote competition in the area of the local loop".

STATEMENT 136/00

Statement by the Danish and Finnish delegations on the price of herring

"The Danish and Finnish delegations find that the compromise on the price of herring could lead to a situation where the price policy of the Community in the fisheries sector will find itself out of line with the latest developments in trade prices and trends on the world market and the Community supply situation for 2001".

STATEMENT 137/00

Swedish declaration concerning the amendment of Regulation (EC) N°2742/1999,

Polish transfer of herring in the Baltic Sea to the Community

"Pursuant to Article 124 of the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union, fisheries agreements concluded by Sweden with third countries are managed by the Community. The rights and obligations resulting for Sweden from these agreements are not affected during the period in which the provisions of these agreements are provisionally maintained.

There exists no fisheries agreement between the Community and Poland but the agreement concluded by Sweden. Thus the transfers from Poland must be made in compliance with this agreement and the transfers should be available only for Sweden according to the agreement, in addition to the Swedish quota of the Community share of the IBSFC TAC. Nothing has occurred that could constitute an exception from this basic principle, also applied by the European Court of Justice in judgement 29 June 1999, case C-206/97.

An amendment according to the Commission's proposal can under no circumstances establish a precedent."

STATEMENT 138/00

Statement by the Council and the Commission concerning the recovery plans for hake and cod

"The Council and the Commission are concerned that the stocks of cod in the North Sea and west of Scotland and of Northern hake are in a very critical state.

The Council and the Commission concur that, in addition to TAC reductions for 2001, conservation measures of longer duration will be put in place as soon as possible. Such measures should be formulated within multiannual recovery plans of at least five years' duration. These plans will include technical measures, effective and transparent control measures, provisions for further research and multiannual procedures for setting TACs in future years. They will bring and maintain fishing mortalities and spawning stock biomasses within limits determined on the basis of scientific analyses, so ensuring the recovery and the sustainability of the resources, whilst paying appropriate attention to socio-economic factors.

Technical measures will include increased mesh sizes and other means to improve selectivity of fishing gear and also protection of nursery areas.

For hake, the specific objectives of the technical measures will be to eliminate significant catches of individuals smaller than the minimum landing size and bring about a large reduction in the catches of other juvenile hake.

Specific control programmes will be defined according to Article 34c in Council Regulation No 2846/94 amending Regulation No 2847/93."

The Council invites the Commission to :

- adopt, by March 2001 at the latest, appropriate emergency measures by means of a Commission Decision;
- adopt specific control regulations before the end of March 2001;
- submit, before mid-May 2001, proposals for multiannual recovery plans for the relevant stocks.

The Council and the Commission strongly recommend Member States, in order to fulfil their obligation to cooperate with the Community institutions in accordance with Article 10 of the EC Treaty, to:

- ensure full transparency in the application of control measures;
- provide to the Commission by 31 January 2001 a description of the measures considered appropriate to ensure compliance with quotas and technical measures;
- send to the Commission each month an assessment of the catches of cod and hake in mixed fisheries.

The Council and the Commission strongly recommend the Member States to ensure that appropriate research efforts are deployed and targeted at the specific requirements of the preparation of the emergency measures and of the recovery plans."

STATEMENT 139/00

Statement by the Commission concerning associated species

"The Commission will put forward proposals to revise TACs of those species caught in association with cod and/or hake if information provided by Member States indicates that this is appropriate for those species and is compatible with the protection of cod and hake."

STATEMENT 140/00

Statement by the Council and the Commission concerning deep-water species

"The Council and the Commission are concerned about the vulnerable biological condition of the deep-water species and concur that it is necessary to introduce catch limits, by the end of 2001 at the latest, by means of TACs, accompanied as appropriate by other management measures. The Commission will undertake consultations with Member States during 2001.

These TACs will be allocated among Member States on the basis of their past fishing activities, in accordance with the principles of the common fisheries policy. The Commission will explain the basis for the TACs and their allocation.

To assist this process, Member States will provide the Commission at the earliest possible opportunity with statistics on historical landings of deep-water species in the North-East Atlantic for the period 1990-1999, indicating quantities taken within the waters of third countries. To assist in the preparation of possible TACs applicable in zones within the North-East Atlantic, these statistics should be disaggregated by ICES division.

Member States will take appropriate steps to stabilise their fishing effort on deep-water species in 2001 at no more than the level of recent years. The Commission, when assembling its package of proposals for TACs, will not consider track record achieved during 2000 and 2001."

STATEMENT 141/00

Statement by the Commission concerning North Sea mackerel

"The Commission will continue its efforts to find a satisfactory solution as soon as possible in order for Sweden also to fish in the Norwegian fishing zone in ICES IVab for the mackerel quota which is limited to ICES IIIa and Community waters in IVab."

STATEMENT 142/00

Statement by the Council concerning North Sea mackerel

"The Council welcomes the progress already made on this problem and notes the intention of the Commission to continue its efforts to find a satisfactory solution as soon as possible in order for Sweden also to fish in the Norwegian fishing zone in ICES IVab for the mackerel quota which is limited to ICES IIIa and Community waters in IVab."

STATEMENT 143/00

Statement by the Irish delegation concerning the Irish memorandum

"Ireland's position on the TACs and quotas proposals for 2001 is without prejudice to the important declaration which Ireland made on 20 October 1993 in relation to the Irish Government's memorandum on the review of the common fisheries policy (5765/92)."

STATEMENT 144/00

Statement by the Portuguese delegation concerning the allocation in 2001 of certain catch quotas in Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian waters

"The Portuguese delegation's understanding is that the allocation of quotas approved for 2001 does not prejudice the allocations to be made for subsequent years, since the quotas for the Community in the waters of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are new catch opportunities, to which all Member States have a right as established in the judgment of the Court of Justice of 13 October 1992 (Case C-63/90)."

STATEMENT 145/00

Statement by the Portuguese delegation concerning the allocation in 2001 of certain catch quotas in Icelandic waters

"The Portuguese delegation would point out that the allocation of fishing quotas under the agreement concluded with Iceland must take account of the interests of all Member States and comply with the principle of non-discrimination.

In that connection Portugal considers that the 2001 allocation of those quotas must be without prejudice to the future and that it cannot constitute a precedent for future years or for other fishing rights."

STATEMENT 146/00

Statement by the Spanish delegation concerning the allocation in 2001 of certain catch quotas in Icelandic, Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian waters

"The Spanish delegation considers that the allocation of redfish in Icelandic waters and of fishing opportunities in Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian waters between the Member States in 2001 in no way prejudices the allocation for the years to come since, under new agreements between the Community and these countries, new fishing opportunities will be involved, in which all the Member States will be entitled to participate, in accordance with the judgment of the Court of Justice of 13 October 1992 in Case C-63/90 and others."

STATEMENT 147/00

Statement by the Spanish delegation concerning unutilised fishing opportunities in the agreements with the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Norway

"The Spanish delegation, taking into account the conclusions adopted by the Council on 30 October 1997 in respect of the fisheries agreements with third countries, and in particular point 4(i) thereof, reaffirms the importance which it attaches to flexibility in the application of such agreements, especially as regards the transfer of fishing opportunities from one Member State to another in the event of under-utilisation, without prejudice to the principle of relative stability.

Despite the time which has elapsed since the adoption of these conclusions by the Council, the present Regulation does not include arrangements for such transfers in the fishing opportunities acquired under the fisheries agreements, especially in the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway. This is undoubtedly necessary for sound management, and its absence may jeopardise the full use of the fishing opportunities granted under the aforesaid agreements – an essential requirement if the interests of the Community as a whole are to be upheld.

The Spanish delegation reiterates the need for specific proposals for putting these Council conclusions into practice to be submitted swiftly."

STATEMENT 148/00

Statement by the Spanish delegation concerning footnote 2 on the anchovy stock in zone IX, X, CECAF 34.1.1

"The Spanish delegation states that it does not agree with the possible transfer of part of the anchovy quota for this zone to ICES zone VIII. Spain upholds the appeals submitted to the Court of Justice of the European Communities against the Regulations which established the possibility of such an exchange between 1996 and 2000 and will be submitting a further appeal since, in the opinion of the Spanish delegation, the judgment of the Court of Justice in Case C-179/95 failed to settle the question of relative stability."

STATEMENT 149/00

Statement by the German, United Kingdom, Danish, Swedish and Finnish delegations concerning relative stability

"The German, United Kingdom, Danish, Swedish and Finnish delegations reaffirm the importance of the conclusions adopted by the Council on 30 October 1997 concerning fisheries agreements with third countries. These included calling upon the Commission to consider to what extent greater flexibility in the implementation of fisheries agreements can be achieved, addressing *inter alia* arrangements allowing for fishing possibilities to be transferred from one Member State to another in case of under-utilisation, without prejudice to the principle of relative stability.

The German, United Kingdom, Danish, Swedish and Finnish delegations reaffirm that it would be contrary to the principle of relative stability to confer on the Commission the power to transfer fishing possibilities from one Member State to another in the case of the fisheries agreements with the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania."

STATEMENT 150/00

Statement by the Belgian, Danish, German and Netherlands delegations concerning Hague preferences

"Belgium, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands are of the opinion that the scales for the allocation of quotas for Member States were finally agreed upon in 1983. These scales constitute the basis of relative stability, which is a principle established by the basic regulation governing the common fisheries policy. It is our opinion that Hague preferences are contrary to the principle of relative stability.

Furthermore, in years with scarce and decreasing stocks, Hague preferences result in unreasonable extra allocations at the expense of other Member States.

We are opposed to the application of the Hague preferences, which run counter to the principle of relative stability, as does the present Presidency compromise."

STATEMENT 151/00

Statement by the Greek delegation concerning bluefin tuna

"Greece recalls the Fisheries Council statement on 17 December 1999 that it "acknowledges the request by Greece to re-examine catch statistics in the light of the revised ICCAT data" and notes that the proposal for a Council Regulation setting out the fishing possibilities for 2001 has not taken into account the revised ICCAT data for bluefin tuna fishing by Greece, a fact which compels it to vote against the proposal."

COMMISSION STATEMENTS

STATEMENT 152/00

Statement on the Community logo for organic production

"The Commission will be favourably disposed towards measures aiming to publicise the Community logo for organic production throughout the Community."

STATEMENT 153/00

Statement on nutritional aspects

"The Commission will ensure that promotional measures referring to nutritional aspects are scientifically tenable."

STATEMENT 154/00

Statement on Article 9(3)

"The Commission will show flexibility in the application of Article 9(3); decisions will in any case be taken following a vote in the Management Committee."

STATEMENT 155/00

Statement on Article 1(2)

"Promotional measures will normally be generic in nature and must provide information about the characteristics of the European products concerned. Such measures may envisage the presentation of a broad range of European products, including brand names, but the latter will obviously not predominate."

STATEMENT 156/00

Statement on Article 2

"The Commission confirms that, when applying this Regulation, it will take account of national provisions in force in Member States restricting the promotion of wines and spirit drinks, provided that such restrictions comply with Community law."

STATEMENT 157/00

Statement on Article 10(2)

"The responsibilities of the Member States laid down in Article 10(2) are not new. Responsibility for carrying out similar checks already exists (for example, in the management of restrictions for particular destinations and in the indirect management of contracts under the existing promotional scheme and the promotional scheme in non-member countries). In order to facilitate such checks, the detailed rules for applying the Regulation must lay down for each specific measure the conditions for cooperation between the competent departments of the Member States concerned."

STATEMENT 158/00

Statement on emergencies

"The Commission confirms that, in urgent cases, it will implement the procedures provided for in the Regulation as quickly as possible in order to respond to the problems arising."

STATEMENT 159/00

Statement on regional authorities

"The Commission confirms that Member States may law down that those regional authorities in charge of promotion may assume responsibility for vetting programmes, national funding, checks and payments."

STATEMENT 160/00

Statement on the floriculture sector

"The Commission confirms that, in the light of the evaluation reports for the three floriculture promotion campaigns, it will examine the desirability of including this sector in the list of products to be promoted."

STATEMENT 161/00

Commission statement

"The Commission in general has a negative attitude towards operating aids. Unilateral state aid measures which are simply intended to improve the financial situation of producers but which in no way contribute to the development of the sector, and in particular aids which are granted solely on the basis of price, quantity or unit of production are considered to constitute operating aids which are incompatible with the common market. Furthermore, by their very nature, such aids are also likely to interfere with the mechanisms of the common organisations of the market.

The new wine market organisation has only been in force since 1 August 2000. It reflects the common position of Member States to what kind of financial support is sufficient and necessary for the wine market to function. It is worrying that already now three Member States resort to granting additional national aids of a type which can usually not be authorised by the Commission, because they are pure operating aids which do not bring about any structural improvement in the sector.

What is worrying is the high amount of money involved: between EUR 32,08 million and EUR 37,74 million of additional state aid for 1,470.000 hl. The level of the Italian measure (EUR 123 per hl) is of particular concern.

There is a serious risk of distortion of competition between Member States if such a high amount of state aid is authorised without any check or obligation whether these aids are linked to structural measures. There will be pressure on the other Member States to follow suit, and also grant aids. The incentive for farmers to undertake structural reform under the wine market organisation will decrease."

STATEMENT 162/00

Commission statement

"As part of the implementing arrangements for the mandatory stamping of eggs with a "producer" code that also enables the farming method to be identified, the Commission will consider, as one of the options open to the producer, the stamping of eggs at the packing station and specific conditions for monitoring those options."

STATEMENT 163/00

Statement by the German delegation

"The labelling of eggs plays a crucial role in informing consumers. In that respect, the Presidency's draft compromise contains important points e.g. compulsory stamping of eggs with the producer's code, compulsory indication on packaging of the laying hen rearing system and the rules governing third countries.

The proposal does not, however, go far enough in key areas. For instance, compulsory indication of the origin of eggs is important consumer information and is considered indispensable in Germany. Moreover, the date for compulsory labelling to take effect – 1 January 2004 – is too late. Technically speaking, compulsory labelling could easily take effect before that date.

Consequently, Germany did not approve this proposal."

STATEMENT 164/00

Statement by the Danish delegation

"Denmark acknowledges that the draft Regulation constitutes progress but shares the views of the German delegation".

STATEMENT 165/00

Re Article 11

"The Commission recalls that according to point 34 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure, legislative instruments concerning multiannual programmes not subject to co-decision will not contain an amount deemed necessary. Since the Commission proposal on the Programme relating to the Community framework strategy on gender equality (2001-2005) does not envisage the registration of a financial reference, the latter is solely the responsibility of the Council and will not affect the powers of the budgetary authority."

STATEMENT 166/00

Statement by the Commission

- **Re Article 7 and Annex 2.3.1 :**

"The Commission maintains that the intervention of a Committee under Council Decision 1999/468/EC in the choice of consultants and technical assistance offices referred to in section 2.3.1 of the Annex complies neither with the Commission's role in implementing the budget as conferred upon it by Article 274 of the Treaty, nor with its competence as a contracting authority as conferred upon it by the Financial Regulation.

Furthermore, when actually selecting these consultants and technical assistance offices, the Commission will scrupulously observe the relevant provisions of Directive 92/50/EEC on public service contracts and of the Financial Regulation."

STATEMENT 167/00

Commission statement

- **Re Article 11:**

"Before the end of the first half of 2001, the Commission will submit to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a report on the implementation and results of the MEDIA II (1996-2000) programme as provided for in Article 7(5) of Council Decision 95/563/EC of 10 July 1995. As part of this report, which will be drawn up on the basis of a study conducted by an independent body, the Commission will make a detailed evaluation from both the quantitative and qualitative standpoint of the full range of mechanisms in the programme and in particular the support system for the broadcasting of television programmes. In the light of this evaluation, the Commission will submit to the Committee provided for in Article 8 of this Decision and in the context of Article 7 thereof any appropriate proposal for changes which might be necessary for the implementation of the support mechanisms for the MEDIA Plus programme, including as regards follow up to and evaluation of the programme's achievements."

STATEMENT 168/00

Commission statement

- **Re Article 6:**

"The Commission states that when reallocating amounts deriving from repayments of sums granted in the context of the MEDIA Programme, the needs of the sectors which generated the returns will be taken into account in particular."

STATEMENT 169/00

Commission statement

- **Re Annex 1.5:**

"The Commission states that it will ensure that during the annual breakdown of resources, sufficient appropriations are given for the funding of Media desks, so that they have the necessary means for carrying out their tasks."

STATEMENT 170/00

Re Article 7 (reference amount)

"The Commission recalls that according to point 34 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure, legislative instruments concerning multiannual programmes not subject to co-decision will not contain an amount deemed necessary. Since the Commission proposal on the proposal for a Council Decision on a Multiannual Programme for Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (2001-2005) does not envisage the registration of a financial reference, the latter is solely the responsibility of the Council and will not affect the powers of the budgetary authority."

STATEMENT 171/00

Re Annex I, paragraph 5, third indent (Europartnership)

"The Belgian, German, Greek, Spanish, Italian, Luxembourg, Austrian and Swedish delegations agree with the conclusions of the Report on the evaluation of the third Multiannual Programme for SMEs in the European Union (1997-2000) – COM(1999) 313 final – regarding the organisation of cooperation between businesses (Europartnership). Although it notes some weak points which no doubt require improvement, the Report considers these business forums very useful for SMEs and encourages the Commission to continue to organise such activities."

STATEMENT 172/00

Re Annex I, paragraph 4, and Annex 2 (financial instruments)

"The Commission confirms that the arrangements for the operation of the ETF Start-up Scheme, the SME Guarantee Facility, the Seed Capital action and the Joint European Venture, possibly adapted to take into account the conclusions of the Ecofin Council on 7 November 2000, will be discussed in the Enterprise Programme Management Committee and adopted in accordance with the appropriate procedures. Any change to Annex 2 would require a further Commission proposal which would be subject to adoption by the Council."

STATEMENT 173/00

Council statement

"The Council welcomes the gradual opening up across Europe of the network for the international transport of goods, since opening up the network will help to stimulate the development of rail transport. The Council would point out that this process must take account of social requirements in such a way as to guarantee the quality of jobs and transport safety."

STATEMENT 174/00

Statement by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany

"As the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany understands it, the new wording of Article 6(3) of Directive 91/440/EEC decided on in accordance with Article 1(7) of the Directive amending Directive 91/440/EEC does not exclude performance of the essential functions in Annex II to that Directive or the provision of rail services by undertakings which are legally separate, but linked in the form of a holding company.

Article 4 and Article 14 of Directive / /EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the allocation of railway infrastructure capacity and the levying of charges for the use of railway infrastructure and safety certification do not, as the Federal Republic of Germany understands them, exclude the assessment, calculation and collection of charges or track allocation also being performed by undertakings which are legally separate from the provision of rail services, but linked in the form of a holding company."

STATEMENT 175/00

Statement by the Council on the creation of a public digital promotion Group

"The Council notes with satisfaction the Commission's intention to set up a public digital promotion Group in the context of the e-Content programme, composed of Member States' representatives, actors from the information, content and language industries, consumers' organisations and other representatives of citizens' interests.

Without prejudice to Article 5 of the Decision, this Group could concentrate particularly on the exchange of information and best practice between Member States, and on the identification of barriers which could be dealt with at Community level."

STATEMENT 176/00

Statement by the Commission concerning the amount deemed necessary

"The Commission points out that according to paragraph 34 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure, legislative instruments concerning multiannual programmes not subject to the codecision procedure will not contain an "amount deemed necessary". Since the Council proposal for the adoption of a multiannual Community programme to stimulate the development and use of European digital content on global networks and to promote linguistic diversity in the Information Society does not provide for the inclusion of a financial reference, this is solely the responsibility of the Council and does not affect the powers of the budgetary authority."

STATEMENT 177/00

Statement by the Commission on the relationship between the threshold for project funding and referral to the Committee

"The Commission states that the threshold of EUR 700 000 (referred to in Article 4(2)(c) and (3)) implies that the Management Committee for the programme will have referred to it a very large majority of the projects to be funded."

STATEMENT 178/00

Statement by the Greek delegation

"Greece supports the measures included in the Regulation for the promotion of economic and social development in Turkey and has accepted, on first reading, all the European Parliament's amendments.

However, also bearing in mind that our proposal for postponement to a more opportune moment was not accepted, we feel that to complete the procedure for adopting the Regulation in question in the present circumstances would be to send the wrong message to European public opinion.

Greece will therefore abstain from voting on the above matter."

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Written procedures completed on 8 December 2000	
Common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the distribution of permits for heavy goods vehicles travelling in Switzerland 14463/00	
Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Community, of the United Nations Convention against transnational organised crime and its Protocols on combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea 14109/00 + COR 1 (de)	
2316th Council (General Affairs) on 4 December 2000	
Council Regulation amending the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 2042/2000 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of television camera systems originating in Japan 13351/00	
Council Decision on the conclusion of Agreements on trade in textile products with certain third countries (Republic of Belarus, Kingdom of Nepal, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, People's Republic of China, Ukraine, Arab Republic of Egypt) 9930/1/00 REV 1 + REV 1 COR 1 (fi) + REV 1 COR 2 (nl)	
Conclusions of the Council and the representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on combating doping 13908/00	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
2318th Council (Industry/Energy) on 5 December 2000 Council Decision concerning the approval of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the Community and each of the EFTA countries that grants tariff preferences under the Generalised System of Preferences (Norway and Switzerland), providing that goods with content of Norwegian or Swiss origin shall be treated on their arrival on the customs territory of the Community as goods with content of Community origin (reciprocal agreement) 12537/00 + REV 1 (fi) + REV 1 COR 1 (fi) Relations with the Balkan States (a) Council Regulation on assistance for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia repealing Regulation (EC) No 1628/96 and amending Regulations (EEC) No 3906/89 and No 1360/90 and Decisions 97/256/EC and 99/311/EC 13598/00 + COR 1 (b) Council Regulation on the European Agency for Reconstruction 13599/00 + COR 1(en,da) Written procedure completed on 11 December 2000 Council Regulation concerning the establishment of "Eurodac" for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of the Dublin Convention 12186/00 + COR 1 (pt) 2319th Council (Health) on 14 December 2000 Council Regulation establishing certain concessions in the form of Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural products and providing for an adjustment, as an autonomous and transitional measure, of certain agricultural concessions provided for in the Europe Agreement with Lithuania 13319/00	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Joint Action supplementing Joint Action 1999/189/CFSP concerning a contribution by the European Union to the reestablishment of a viable police force in Albania 14252/00 Council Decision setting up a Provisional Judicial Cooperation Unit 13282/00 + COR 1 (fi) Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1950/97 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of sacks and bags made of polyethylene or polypropylene originating, inter alia, in India 13766/00 Council Decision implementing Joint Action 1999/34/CFSP with a view to a European Union contribution to combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons in South Ossetia 13654/00 Draft Council Resolution on health and nutrition 14274/00 ANNEX I + REV 1 (sv) Draft Council Resolution on paediatric medicinal products 14275/00 ANNEX I + REV 1 (sv) 2320th Council (Fisheries) on 14 November 2000 Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters concerning the provisional application of the Protocol setting out, for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2003, the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on fishing off the coast of Côte d'Ivoire 13544/00 Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters concerning the provisional application of the Protocol setting out for the period 3 May 2000 to 2 May 2002 the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola on fishing off the coast of Angola 13546/00	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters concerning the provisional application of the Protocol establishing, for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea on fishing off the coast of Equatorial Guinea 13547/00 + COR 1 (fr) Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council concerning an action plan for mobility 13649/00 Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the social inclusion of young people 13684/00 Council Joint Action appointing the Special Representative of the European Union for the African Great Lakes Region and repealing Joint Action 96/250/CFSP 13962/00 Council Joint Action appointing the European Union Special Representative for the Middle East peace process and repealing Joint Action 96/676/CFSP 13966/00 Council Joint Action appointing the Special Representative of the European Union to act as Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and repealing Joint Action 1999/523/CFSP 13964/00 Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters concerning the provisional application of the Fourth Protocol laying down the conditions relating to fishing provided for in the Agreement on fisheries between the European Economic Community, on the one hand, and the Government of Denmark and the local Government of Greenland, on the other hand 14154/00	Abstention P

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
2321st Council (Environment) on 18 December 2000 Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2402/98 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of unwrought unalloyed magnesium originating in the People's Republic of China 14098/00 2322nd Council (Agriculture) on 19 December 2000 Common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 79/373/EEC on the circulation of compound feedingstuffs and repealing Commission Directive 91/357/EEC 13292/00 Council Decision on the signing of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Ukraine concerning the extension and amendment of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Ukraine on trade in textile products initialled on 5 May 1993, as last amended by the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters initialled on 15 October 1999 and authorising its provisional application 12613/00 + COR 1 (pt) + COR 2 (it) 2325th Council (Telecommunications) on 22 December 2000 Council Regulation establishing certain concessions in the form of Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural products and providing for an adjustment, as an autonomous and transitional measure, of certain agricultural concessions provided for in the Europe Agreement with the Republic of Poland and repealing Regulation (EC) No 3066/95 13943/00 + COR 1	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Council Regulations - concerning the export of certain ECSC steel products from Poland to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2001 (extension of the double-checking system) 14230/00 + COR 1 (fi) - concerning the export of certain ECSC steel products from Romania to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2001 (extension of the double-checking system) 14231/00 - concerning the export of certain ECSC and EC steel products from the Slovak Republic to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2001 (extension of the double-checking system) 14232/00 - concerning the export of certain ECSC and EC steel products from the Czech Republic to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2001 (extension of the double-checking system) 14233/00 Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1334/2000 with regard to intra-Community transfers and exports of dual-use items and technology 14492/00 + REV 1 (es) Council Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty and definitively collecting the provisional duty imposed on imports of polyester staple fibres originating in India and the Republic of Korea 14378/00 Council Decision concerning the conclusion of an agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cyprus adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of the Republic of Cyprus in Community programmes in the fields of training, education and youth 14279/00	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Community and Republic of Tunisia concerning reciprocal liberalisation measures and amendment of the agricultural Protocols to the EC/Tunisia Association Agreement 14091/00 + COR 1 (fr,es,da,en,el,it,pt,fi,sv) Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of the Agreement on trade in textile products between the European Community and the Republic of Croatia initialled in Brussels on 8 November 2000 14207/00 Council Decision establishing a European Police College (CEPOL) 13857/00 Council Regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters 14067/00 + COR 1 (nl) + COR 2 (fr,de,en,da,el,es,pt,fi,sv) + COR 3 (da) + COR 4 (fr,de,nl,en,da,es,pt,fi,sv) + COR 5 (fi) + COR 6 (de) + REV 1 (it) + REV 1 COR 1 (it) + REV 2 (el)	
Council Decision on the application of principles of a framework agreement on project finance in the field of officially supported export credits 9869/99 + REV 1 (dk)	
Council Decision replacing the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits 9870/99 + REV 1 (es) + REV 1 COR 1 (es)	
Council Joint Action of on the European Union Monitoring Mission 14690/00	

DECEMBER 2000	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
Council Decision on the rules applicable to national experts on detachment to the General Secretariat of the Council in the context of an exchange system for officials of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and officials of national administrations or of international organisations 14771/00	

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