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EUROPEAN UNION**

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LIMITE

PUBLIC 1

TRANSPARENCY

Subject : MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS
DECEMBER 1999

This document contains:

- in **Annex I**, a summary of definitive legislative acts adopted by the Council in December 1999. 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 November 1999, 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 other acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, decisions of bodies set up by international agreements, specific budgetary decisions, etc.

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
<p>2230th Council (Energy) on 2 December 1999</p> <p>Council Regulation defining the investment projects to be communicated to the Commission in accordance with Article 41 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community</p>	12477/99	245/99, 246/99	
<p>2232nd Council (General Affairs) on 6 December 1999</p> <p>European Parliament and Council Directive on minimum requirements for improving the safety and health protection of workers potentially at risk from explosive atmospheres (Fifteenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC)</p>	PE-CONS 3623/99		
<p>2233rd Council (Internal Market) on 7 December 1999</p> <p>Council Regulation amending for the second time Regulation (EC) No 48/1999 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches for 1999 and certain conditions under which they may be fished</p>	13250/99		

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
<p>2234th Council (Transport) on 9 December 1999</p> <p>Council Decision establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection</p>	<p>13075/99 + COR 1 (dk) + COR 2 (fin) + REV 1 (s)</p>	<p>247/99, 248/99, 249/99</p>	
<p>2235th Council (Environment) on 13 December 1999</p> <p>Outcome of the 2nd reading of the European Parliament on the common position of the Council on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision adopting a programme of Community action (the DAPHNE Programme) (2000-3000) on preventive measures to fight violence against children, young persons and women</p>	<p>12996/99 PE-CONS 3627/99</p>	<p>250/99, 251/99, 252/99</p>	
<p>2236th Council (Agriculture) on 14 December 1999</p> <p>Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2201/96 on the common organisation of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables</p> <p>Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2596/97 extending the period provided for in Article 149(1) of the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden</p>	<p>11389/99</p> <p>12369/99</p>		

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1251/99 establishing a support system for producers of certain arable crops	13613/99	253/99	Abstention UK
Council Regulation on measures to provide information on, and to promote, agricultural products in third countries	13371/99	254/99, 255/99	Abstention D
Council Decision relating to the granting of national aid by the Austrian Government to small producers in less-favoured areas by virtue of Annex XV of the 1994 Act of Accession	13679/99 + COR 1 (fin)	256/99	
Council Decision amending Commission Decision 97/534/EC on the prohibition of the use of material presenting risks as regards transmissible spongiform encephalopathies	13982/99 + COR 1 (f,d,i,nl,en,dk,gr,es,p,s)	257/99, 258/99, 259/99 260/99	Against P
2237th Council (Fisheries) on 16 December 1999			
Council Regulation laying down certain control measures applicable in the area covered by the Convention on future multilateral cooperation in the north-east Atlantic fisheries	13677/1/99 REV 1	261/99, 262/99	Abstention P

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
2237th Council (Fisheries) on 17 December 1999			
Council Regulations (EC) fixing for the 2000 fishing year			Against B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I, parts A, D and E of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 the Community producer price for the fishery products listed in Annex III to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 	13251/99 13252/99 13253/99		
Council Regulation (EC) on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products	13254/99 + COR 1 (f,en,gr,p) + COR 2 (i,es) + COR 3 (d) + REV 1 (nl,dk,fin,s) + COR 4 (f)	263/99, 264/99, 265/99, 266/99, 267/99	
Council Regulation laying down the detailed rules and arrangements regarding Community structural assistance in the fisheries sector	13255/99 + COR 1 (f,d,i,en,gr,es,p,s) + COR 2 (f) + REV 1 (nl,dk,fin)	268/99, 269/99, 270/99, 271/99, 272/99, 273/99	Against NL Abstention UK
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 850/98 for the conservation of fishery resources through technical measures for the protection of juveniles of marine organisms	11215/99		

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 745/99 opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products	14020/99 + COR 1	274/99	Against I
Outcome of the 2nd reading of the European Parliament on the common position adopted by the Council on a proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive on speedometers for two- or three-wheel motor vehicles and amending Council Directive 92/61/EEC	12264/99 PE-CONS 3601/00		
Outcome of the 2nd reading of the European Parliament on the common position adopted by the Council on a proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive relating to liquid fuel tanks and rear underrun protection of motor vehicles and their trailers	12263/99 PE-CONS 3602/00		
Outcome of the 2nd reading of the European Parliament on the common position adopted by the Council on a proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision amending Decision No 210/97/EC adopting an action programme for customs in the Community (Customs 2000) and repealing Council Decision 91/341/EEC	14001/99 PE-CONS 3635/99	275/99	
Council Decision authorising Member States to apply and to continue to apply to certain mineral oils, when used for specific purposes, existing reduced rates of excise duty or exemptions from excise duty, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Directive 92/81/EEC	13985/99 + COR 1 (es) + COR 2 (i) + COR 3 (en)	276/99, 277/99, 278/99, 279/99, 280/99, 281/99, 282/99	

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
Outcome of the 2nd reading of the European Parliament on the common position adopted by the Council on a proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive relating to cableway installations designed to carry passengers	12265/99 PE-CONS 3603/99		
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1255/96 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain industrial and agricultural products	13907/99		
Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the second phase of the Community action programme in the field of education "SOCRATES"	PE-CONS 3626/99 + COR 1 (d,p) + COR 2 (fin)	283/99, 284/99	
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	13905/99 + COR 1 (es) + REV 1 (s)	285/99	
Council Regulation opening and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas bound in GATT and certain other Community tariff quotas and establishing detailed rules for adjusting the quotas, and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1808/95	13490/99 + COR 1 (fin)		
Council Regulation temporarily suspending some or all of the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain fishery products (2000)	13626/99 + REV 1 (fin)		

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
Council Decision abrogating the decision on the existence of an excessive deficit in Greece	13630/99 + REV 1 (s)		
Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 80/181/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement	PE-CONS 3636/99		
Council Decision concerning the placing on the market and administration of bovine somatotrophin (BST) and repealing Decision 90/218/EEC	13813/99	286/99	
Council Regulation 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 and amending Regulation (EC) No 66/98	14039/99	287/99, 288/99, 289/99, 290/99, 291/99, 292/99, 293/99, 294/99, 295/99, 296/99, 297/99, 298/99, 299/99, 300/99, 301/99, 302/99, 303/99, 304/99, 305/99	Against F
Written procedure completed on 21 December 1999			
Council Regulation providing for the general rules for a compulsory beef labelling system	14159/99		Against F

DECEMBER 1999			
DEFINITIVE LEGISLATIVE ACTS	TEXTS ADOPTED	STATEMENTS	VOTES AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE
<p>Written procedure completed on 22 December 1999</p> <p>Council Directive on the marketing of forest reproductive material</p> <p>Legislative act adopted following 2nd reading by the European Parliament under the co-decision procedure</p> <p>European Parliament and Council Regulation on orphan medicinal products (15 December 1999)</p>	<p>13897/99 + COR 1 + REV 1 (f,d,es)</p> <p>14152/99 PE-CONS 3637/99</p>	<p>306/99, 307/99, 308/99, 309/99, 310/99, 311/99, 312/99, 313/99</p>	<p>Against DK</p>

STATEMENT 245/99

Concerning the Regulation

"The Council and the Commission agree that, in full conformity with the Euratom Treaty and in particular Article 44 thereof, the Commission and the Member State concerned should make every effort to ensure transparency in relation to relevant projects."

STATEMENT 246/99

Re Article 1

"The Council and the Commission agree that, where such information has been provided to the Commission in the context of the submission of general data under Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty, the investment notification can be limited to essential characteristics and cross refer to the Article 37 submission."

STATEMENT 247/99

"The Council and the Commission state that the implementation of this action programme should be carried out in close liaison with other relevant activities within the Commission such as the work carried out for implementing the so-called SEVESO and SEVESO II Directives.

In this context, the Council and the Commission strongly recommend that the departments concerned with implementing the programme and the Directives and other relevant activities co-ordinate their action as far as possible."

STATEMENT 248/99

"The Council notes that, to the extent possible, the Member States undertake to appoint the same representatives to the management committee as to the Permanent Network of National Representatives on Civil Protection."

STATEMENT 249/99

"The Commission believes that the management procedure adopted by the Council for the implementation of a Community action programme in the field of civil protection breaches the criteria laid down in Article 2 of Council Decision 1999/468/EC, which state that measures concerning the implementation of programmes with substantial budgetary implications should be adopted by use of the management procedure.

In view of the budgetary implications of this programme, the Commission considers that correct application of Article 2 of the above Decision should have led the Council to opt for a consultative procedure, as proposed by the Commission.

The Commission considers it extremely important that the terms of Decision 1999/468/EC, recently adopted by the Council, should be fully observed."

STATEMENT 250/99

Statement by the Swedish delegation concerning the consequences of violence (Recital 1)

"The Swedish delegation welcomes the DAPHNE programme which aims to contribute towards ensuring a high level of protection of physical and mental health by protecting children, young persons and women against violence. The programme is based on Article 152 concerning Public Health. Therefore, Sweden considers it very unfortunate that the first recital includes formulations which could imply that violence against children, young persons and women in every situation constitutes a breach of the human right to life."

STATEMENT 251/99

Statement by the United Kingdom and Danish delegations concerning the reference to the World Health Organisation's definition of health (Recital 3)

"The United Kingdom and Denmark consider that the reference to the WHO definition of public health in the recitals of this measure is inappropriate. That definition goes beyond the scope of Article 152, has no place in a Community instrument and is not necessary."

STATEMENT 252/99

Statement by the Commission concerning the implementation of the Programme, consultation of the Member States by the Commission (Article 2(2))

"The Commission considers that consultation of the Member States should take place within the framework of the Committee provided for in Article 6(3) of the Decision."

STATEMENT 253/99

Statement by the Council

"In the light of the preparatory work on this issue, the Council notes that there exists a large degree of agreement for calculating the soya bean meal equivalency on the basis of pure protein content, and therefore invites the Commission to take due account of this orientation should action be necessary.

The Council is of the opinion that the contracts made and the sowings carried out before the publication of the Regulation may create legitimate expectations. The Council therefore invites the Commission to take the necessary measures, if any, on the basis of Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 1251/1999."

STATEMENT 254/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 1(2)

"Promotional measures will normally be generic in nature and must provide information about the specific characteristics and qualities 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 255/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 8(4)

"There is nothing new about the Member States' responsibility under Article 8(4); responsibility for similar monitoring activities already exists (e.g. in the management of refunds for particular destinations).

To facilitate such monitoring with regard to specific measures, the rules for implementing the Regulation should specify the terms under which the departments responsible in the Member States concerned are to collaborate."

STATEMENT 256/99

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission considers that use of the procedure laid down in the third subparagraph of Article 88(2) in this particular case should not set a precedent."

STATEMENT 257/99

The Council emphasises that a link exists between:

- the position to be adopted by the Member States and the Commission by the next meeting of the OIE (May 2000),
- the common position to be adopted on the TSE proposals,
- the decision to be adopted regarding the SRMs in conjunction with the decision referred to in the preceding indent.

STATEMENT 258/99

The Member States and the Commission will accordingly endeavour to comply with the following timetable:

- February 2000: Council to agree on a joint guideline for the TSE proposals ¹,

The Council invites the Commission to make the necessary approaches to the European Parliament, so that account is taken of the guidelines set out in the Presidency's most recent compromise (which forms a compromise basis acceptable to a majority of delegations), so that a lengthy conciliation procedure may be avoided,

- March 2000: common position to be adopted on the text to be submitted to the OIE for its May meeting,
- 30 June 2000: deadline for a Commission decision (by the SVC procedure) on SRMs.

¹ or a common position if the European Parliament's Opinion is available by then.

STATEMENT 259/99

"Thus, the Council recognises the need to postpone by six months the date by which Member States must comply with Decision 97/534/EC.

In the light of the new situation, the Council also confirmed the statements entered in the minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 1998."

STATEMENT 260/99

"Portugal states that it has voted against both the six-month extension of Decision 97/534 and the statement proposed by the Presidency."

STATEMENT 261/99

Joint Council/Commission statement suggested by the Presidency

"As regards the ad hoc arrangement for the year 2000 as provided for in Articles 6(2), 6(3), 8, 10 and 11 of the text adopted, the Council and the Commission declare that:

- this ad hoc arrangement does not prejudge future decisions,
- the relevant Member States and the Commission will participate in ensuring compliance with Community obligations."

STATEMENT 262/99

Statement by the Portuguese delegation

"The Portuguese delegation regards implementation of the rules adopted by the regional fishery organisations and accepted by the European Community as a matter of great importance; nevertheless, it is unable to accept the text of the Presidency compromise proposal for a Council Regulation for the following reasons:

1. The proposal specifically covers the possible transfer to the Member States, for a transitional period, of the burden of surveillance of Community vessels in the NEAFC area, which is at variance with the undertaking entered into at the December 1998 Council meeting to retain the present burden-sharing arrangements pending the adoption of the appropriate regulations by the Council.
2. The Commission having already announced the submission of a communication to the Council and to the Parliament on the Regional Fishery Organisations in which an analysis of the burden-sharing problem is carried out, we believe that the proposal for a Regulation under discussion anticipates the permanent overall, universally applicable decision which the Council will be required to take.

The Portuguese delegation would also like to point out that since Portugal has the most extensive exclusive economic zone of the various Member States of the European Community and since in particular the sub-areas of the EEZ of the Azores and of the EEZ continent cover the NEAFC area, Portugal's inspection effort is already especially significant."

STATEMENT 263/99

Joint statement by the Council and the Commission

"With the objective of enhancing the competitiveness of the Community fish processing industry, the Council agrees to decide by 31 December 2000, on a proposal by the Commission, on the opening of autonomous multiannual tariff quotas for the years 2001-2003 for the following products:

- "Loin" fillets of tunas and skipjack intended for processing and falling within CN code ex 1604 14 16. The applicable duty rate shall be 6% for a yearly quantity of 4 000 tonnes.
- Fresh, chilled or frozen herring (*Clupea harengus*, *Clupea pallasii*) intended for processing and falling within CN codes ex 0302 40 98, ex 0303 50 98, ex 0304 10 96 and ex 0304 90 27. The customs duty shall be entirely suspended for a yearly quantity of 20 000 tonnes between 1 November and 31 December each year.
- Cod (*Gadus morhua*, *Gadus ogac* and *Gadus macrocephalus*) and fish of the species *Boreogadus saida*, salted or in brine, but not dried or smoked, for processing and falling within CN code ex 0305 62 00 and ex 0305 69 10. The customs duty shall be entirely suspended for a yearly quantity of 10 000 tonnes.
- Cooked and peeled shrimps and prawns of the species *Pandalus borealis* intended for processing and falling within CN code 1605 20 99. The applicable duty rate shall be 6% for a yearly quantity of 5 000 tonnes.
- Herrings, spiced/vinegar cured, in brine, preserved in barrels of at least 70 kg net drained weight intended for processing and falling within CN code 1604 12 99. The applicable duty rate shall be 6% for a yearly quantity of 5 000 tonnes.

If during the period 2001-2003 the Community market in one or more of the products mentioned above is affected by serious disturbances or supply problems, the Commission will submit forthwith a proposal to the Council to remedy the situation."

STATEMENT 264/99

Statement by the Commission:

Re the issue of the multiannual tariff quota on fresh, chilled or frozen herring:

"Concerning the multiannual tariff quota on fresh, chilled or frozen herring, the Commission declares that only herring of a large size will be eligible for the tariff reduction. Furthermore, the Commission will propose to set a reference price for herring flaps during the applicable period of the multiannual quota."

STATEMENT 265/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 5(2):

"The Commission considers that the requirement that producer organisations may be recognised by Member States only if they are "sufficiently active economically in their territory" serves to facilitate the monitoring of such producer organisations by the Member States concerned and may not be interpreted as a supplementary condition for the establishment of a "genuine economic link" according to the case law of the Court of Justice."

STATEMENT 266/99

Statement by the Commission:

Re Article 9:

"The Commission declares that the requirement for producer organisations to draw up operational programmes in Article 9 of the Regulation on the common organisation of the market in fishery and aquaculture products does not prejudice the operation of the Netherlands co-management system as currently implemented or Member States' quota management systems established under Article 9 of Council Regulation 3760/92."

STATEMENT 267/99

Statement by the Portuguese delegation:

"The extent of the market in non-dried salted and dried salted products within the Community, particularly important to Portugal as regards cod, calls for the establishment of universal concepts and rules allowing transparency in trade in these products, guaranteeing their safety, as well as consumer protection, when they are purchased.

Portugal stresses that, during the discussion on this revision of the CMO, it insisted several times on the need to solve this problem, expressing some fundamental reservations, which it withdrew once the Commission, in bilateral contacts, acknowledged the importance of the issue and offered to find a solution in the appropriate framework.

In this context, it is clear that the Commission needs to start as soon as possible procedures for discussing the definition of criteria allowing the classification of cod (dried and non-dried), in a manner similar to the arrangements for fresh and frozen products.

It is only with precise criteria that the consumer can be protected and the fairness of trade ensured."

STATEMENT 268/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 9 (public aid for fleet renewal and modernisation of fishing vessels)

"The Commission confirms that where the modernisation of a vessel can be measured in terms of tonnage or power, it is subject to the provisions of Article 9(1)(a) and 9(1)(b), whether or not the modernisation results in a net change in capacity.

Where a modernisation cannot be measured in terms of tonnage or power it is subject to the provisions of Article 9(1)(c)."

STATEMENT 269/99

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission declares with reference to Article 9(1), last paragraph, that it will submit to the Council a report on the development of the fleets and of the fish stocks based on the most recent scientific advice available."

STATEMENT 270/99

Statement by the Commission

"The Commission will authorise the development with public aid of the fishing fleet of the French overseas "Départements" within the objectives approved by Commission Decision No 1999/442/EC of 7 June 1999 and in accordance with the provisions of Article 6."

STATEMENT 271/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 11 (small-scale coastal fishing)

"The measures for small-scale coastal fishing covered by Article 11 are without prejudice to the definition of the small-scale coastal segment used for the purposes of the multiannual guidance programmes for the fishing fleets. In this respect the Commission points out that Article 3 of Council Decision 97/413/EC, which fixed the guidelines for the multiannual guidance programmes, explicitly excluded trawlers from the small-scale coastal segment.

Small-scale coastal fishing within the meaning of Article 11 may include inland fishing as well as maritime fishing."

STATEMENT 272/99

Statement from the Commission

Re Article 13 (scope)

"The Commission confirms that restocking or even initial stocking is not a structural action and should not be financed by the FIFG although it might be eligible for state aid. However, it should be stressed that the provision in the existing Regulation regarding in particular aquaculture, fishing port facilities and marketing, including for inland fishing and inland fish products, are maintained in the present Regulation.

Fishing techniques on inland ice may be eligible to FIFG grants under "inland fishing" within the meaning of Article 13(1)(e) and Annex III point 2.5 Moreover, fishing techniques on sea ice may be considered analogous to fishing techniques on inland ice and therefore equally eligible to FIFG grants under the same provisions."

STATEMENT 273/99

Statement by the Commission

Re Article 16 (temporary cessation of activities and other financial compensations)

"Article 16(2) does not preclude the possibility for Member States to grant, during the programming period 2000 - 2006 and under to the conditions of Article 16, projects resulting from Article 11a of Council Regulation (EC) No. 894/97 of 29 April 1997 as modified by Council Regulation (EC) No 1239/98 of 8 June 1998 under which technical adjustment is possible until 31 December 2001."

STATEMENT 274/99

"The Italian delegation considers the failure to grant the request for reopening of the quota for tuna loins to be unjustified and detrimental to the interests of the Italian canning industry. The decision also disregards the reasons which prompted the Council to undertake to authorise the opening of an annual quota of 4 000 tonnes as from 2001."

STATEMENT 275/99

"The Council and the Commission agree that the principles laid down in Articles 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Council Decision of 20 June 1991 on the adoption of a programme of Community action on the subject of the vocational training of customs officials (Matthaeus Programme) ¹ will be followed until the appropriate committee has adopted adequate implementation provisions."

¹ OJ L 187, 13.7.1991, p. 41.

STATEMENT 276/99

"The Council and the Commission undertake to examine as soon as possible the Italian request aimed at obtaining a derogation on diesel oil for commercial road transportation."

STATEMENT 277/99

"The Commission agrees to the adoption of this Council Decision subject to the inclusion of the three minute statements that set out the principles of the Commission's original proposal on this matter. Despite the concerns raised in these minute statements, the Commission can agree to the adoption of this Decision because it simply extends the authorisations of current derogations for one year and in doing so achieves two goals. Firstly it gives Member States legal certainty when the current authorisations cease on 31 December 1999. Secondly it gives both the Council and the Commission a further twelve months in which to examine and discuss the issues raised by the Commission's minute statements."

STATEMENT 278/99

Re Article 1

"The Commission states that it considers derogations for an unlimited time to be contrary to the principles of Community law."

STATEMENT 279/99

Re Articles 1 and 2

"The Commission considers that the exemptions and reduced rates authorised for waste oils run counter to the objective of Directive 75/439/EEC, as amended, inasmuch as they impede the development of a market for the regeneration of waste oils. They should therefore soon be discontinued."

STATEMENT 280/99

Re Articles 1, 2 and 3

"The Commission considers that the exemptions and reduced rates allowed under this Decision are authorised without prejudice to the State aid provisions of the Treaty establishing the European Community and that the Commission may make use of the procedures laid down in Article 88 of the Treaty."

STATEMENT 281/99

Re Article 3(3), second indent

"The French delegation states that the request for a derogation which has been submitted concerning the reimbursement of part of the excise duty on diesel oil used by commercial vehicles is not intended to allow a reduction in the current rate of excise duty. The purpose of the planned reimbursement is to partially offset for those vehicles the increase in the rate of excise duty which has been decided on for diesel oil."

STATEMENT 282/99

Re Article 3(5), first indent

"The Netherlands delegation states that its request for a differentiated rate for diesel oil has a specific background. The Netherlands considers it necessary to increase the rate of excise duty on diesel oil for passenger cars in the context of environmental and mobility policy. In view of international conditions, the Netherlands feels that it is undesirable at present to increase the excise duty on diesel oil for heavy goods vehicles to the same extent. The Netherlands undertakes, however, not to use the derogation to reduce the rate of excise duty on diesel oil for heavy goods vehicles."

STATEMENT 283/99

Re Article 8(1)

"Austria, Belgium and Germany assume that the Committee will comprise two representatives from each Member State, thus continuing the practice adopted for the Committee of the "SOCRATES" Community Action Programme of 14 March 1995."

STATEMENT 284/99

Re Article 8(1)

"When submitting its draft of the rules of procedure to be adopted by the Committee, the European Commission will propose that the committee be assisted by two subcommittees in the areas of school education and higher education, to be composed of the representatives of the Member States and to be chaired by the representative of the Commission, and that the committee may also establish working groups for certain specific issues such as Action 3 (Grundtvig) and Action 7 (Joint Actions)."

STATEMENT 285/99

"The Finnish and Swedish delegations have been informed that the proposal by Eurofer and Euroalliage to increase the duty-free quota No 09.2711 for ferrochrome to 1 035 000 tonnes for the current year 1999 is due to a significant increase in demand for this product, to which demand the Community producers are unable to respond in the short term.

The proposal by the above organisations to open the quota for ferrochrome for the year 2000 at the same level of 1 035 000 tonnes is based on the continuous high demand for ferrochrome foreseen by the consuming industries.

The acceptance of the above proposal refers to the years 1999 and 2000 only and shall not prejudice any commitment by the Finnish and Swedish delegations for the year 2001 and subsequent years."

STATEMENT 286/99

"The Commission recalls that the Scientific Committee (Public Health) has concluded that not enough data is available on consumer risk assessment. If this risk were to be confirmed in the light of new scientific developments, it would make relevant proposals to the Council – on the appropriate legal basis – to ensure appropriate risk management, including vis-à-vis imported products.

Furthermore, the Commission will continue to uphold the position it has defended to date within the Codex, i.e. that other legitimate factors should be taken into account in opposing the adoption of the MRL for BST."

STATEMENT 287/99

Statement by the Commission on anchovy stocks in the Bay of Biscay

"The Commission acknowledges the need to enhance scientific and technical knowledge in order to define precautionary reference points for the management of the stock of anchovy in the Bay of Biscay. In this regard, the Commission will entrust STECF to produce an extended risk analysis showing, under different multi-annual management strategies, the consequences on the sustainability of the resource expressed in terms of risk of stock collapse and on the total annual yield. This study should be finalised by 31 March 2000.

The Commission will endeavour to convene a workshop to analyse from a managerial point of view the risk analysis conducted by STECF. The workshop shall be chaired by the services of DG Fisheries and include as participants scientists working in the field of small pelagic fish and officials from the Commission and from Member States. The expected result from the workshop would be a detailed analysis of the various precautionary management regimes and their biological, economic, social and political consequences.

In order to secure an updated decision of the anchovy TAC for 2000, the Commission will convene, before 31 May 2000, a meeting under the auspices of STECF in order to analyse i) the results of the acoustic and egg surveys conducted in April-May, ii) the commercial catch rates observed during the first months of 2000, and iii) as far as possible, any physical and oceanographic features, such as the upwelling index, allowing a forecast of the strength of the 2000 year-class. Taking into account the results of the outcome of the managerial workshop mentioned above, and in the light of STECF findings, the Commission will take immediately appropriate action."

STATEMENT 288/99

Commission statement on Irish Sea cod

"The Council and the Commission note the very poor state of the cod stock in the Irish Sea (ICES Division VIIa). The Council agrees that the TAC of 2 100 tonnes for 2000 was adopted to ensure that fishing mortality on this stock will be reduced in 2000 to the lowest achievable level and was set in the expectation that urgent action will be taken to develop and apply measures additional to total allowable catches to aid recovery of this stock and that therefore a recovery plan should be put in place in the immediate future.

The Council and the Commission note the desirability of securing the maximum level of agreement between the Commission and the Member States concerned on the measures to be introduced within any such recovery plan, so as to ensure that the measures are widely supported and are capable of effective implementation.

The Commission will envisage during January 2000 introducing measures additional to the TAC under conditions defined in Article 15 of Regulation 3760/92. The additional measures to be considered will be directed at reduction in fishing mortality of juveniles of recent year-classes and the urgent protection of the adult spawning stock in the spawning areas from February to April 2000.

The Commission will also establish a Group comprising government experts, fishermen and scientists to advise the Commission prior to the formulation of said additional measures and thereafter to review the measures put forward by the Commission and the effect of such measures."

STATEMENT 289/99

Commission statement on bluefin tuna

"In connection with the adoption of the TAC of 18,950 tonnes of bluefin tuna by the Community for 2000 in accordance with the recommendations of the ICCAT, the Commission declares that it will propose to the Council as soon as Member States notify their final catch declarations for 1999, and in due time to allow the Council to make the decision before the beginning of the fishing campaign, a modification of the Community TAC and of its distribution, taking due account of the Community remainder of 2,581 tonnes resulting from catches in 1998 as recorded by the *Compliance Committee* of the ICCAT, and in such a manner that the Community does not contravene its commitments in this organisation and on the basis of over-utilisation or under-utilisation for 1998 and 1999, of fishing possibilities allocated to each Member State."

STATEMENT 290/99

Council statement on bluefin tuna

"When taking note of the Commission's undertaking to submit, before the beginning of the 2000 bluefin tuna fishing campaign, a proposal for the apportionment of the additional quota granted to the Community, the Council stresses the importance of that apportionment being based on criteria that allow for a balanced use of the quota allocated to each Member State in 1998 and 1999.

The Council acknowledges the request by Greece to re-examine catch statistics in the light of the revised ICCAT data."

STATEMENT 291/99

Statement by the Italian delegation

"Italy's vote in favour of the entire proposal for a Regulation which fixes the fishing possibilities for the year 2000 for certain fishing populations and groups of fishing populations in no way prejudices Italy's position on the criteria for the apportionment to the Member States of the total admissible catches of bluefin tuna allocated to the European Community by ICCAT, expressed in the context of the appeal submitted to the Court of Justice for the annulment of Council Regulation No 49/99 of 18 December 1998."

STATEMENT 292/99

Statement from the Commission on mackerel fishing in Norwegian waters

"The Commission will continue its efforts to find a satisfactory solution as soon as possible for Sweden to fish also in the Norwegian fishing zone in ICES IVab the mackerel quota, which for 2000 is limited to ICES IIIa and Community waters in IVab."

STATEMENT 293/99

Statement from the Council on mackerel fishing in Norwegian waters

"The Council welcomes the progress already done on this problem in 1999, and notes the intention of the Commission to continue its efforts to find a satisfactory solution as soon as possible for Sweden to fish also in the Norwegian fishing zone in ICES IVab the mackerel quota, which for 2000 is limited to ICES IIIa and Community waters in IVab."

STATEMENT 294/99

Draft Council and Commission statement on blue whiting in the NEAFC Regulatory Area

"While the Community has consistently taken conservation measures for blue whiting and limited its own fishery on this stock within its own waters and the NEAFC Regulatory Area, third countries have in recent years substantially increased their fisheries on this species in the Regulatory Area. This has led to a level of fishing which is not sustainable.

In view of this situation, the Council and the Commission will revert to this issue, as appropriate, if negotiations in NEAFC in early 2000 do not result in efficient regulatory measures for the fishing of blue whiting in the Regulatory Area."

STATEMENT 295/99

Council and Commission statement on herring in the Øresund area

"In the light of the concern about the state of the North Sea herring stock, the Council and the Commission agree that the control and the enforcement of the applicable rules pertaining to the herring fishery in Southern Kattegat and the Sound needs to be improved. In view of this the Council and the Commission will revert to this issue early in 2000 in order to find a satisfactory solution to be adopted at the Fisheries Council in April 2000."

STATEMENT 296/99

Commission statement on by-catches of sole

"The Agreed Record for the fisheries arrangement for the year 2000 between the EC and Norway explicitly states that Norwegian vessels may only catch sole in EC waters as a by-catch in fisheries directed at other species.

The Commission will do its utmost to introduce appropriate measures for the "Others" quotas to ensure that the aforementioned provision for sole is respected."

STATEMENT 297/99

Statement by the Irish delegation

"Ireland's position on the TACs and quotas proposals for 2000 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 298/99

Statement by the Belgian, Danish, German and Netherlands delegations

"Mr President, our initial, very positive position left out of consideration one very critical point, namely application of the Hague preference.

As you are aware, we are opposed to application of the Hague preference after the event. It runs counter to the principle of relative stability, as does the present Presidency compromise.

In the interests of resolving this issue in what is a difficult situation, we are prepared, despite our misgivings, to make an exception and to endorse the compromise.

We request that the total volume of catches (TAC) be distributed in future on the basis of the principle of the relative stability of Member States' catch possibilities – a principle established by the basic regulation on fisheries as being central to the Common Fisheries Policy".

STATEMENT 299/99

Joint United Kingdom/Irish statement on the Hague preference

"The UK and Ireland consider that the Hague Preference constitutes an integral part of relative stability reflecting the need to safeguard the special needs of regions where local populations are especially dependent on fisheries and related industries. The Council has acknowledged in its decisions on quotas the invocation of the Hague Preference by the Member States concerned for more than 10 years; and the operation of the arrangements has been set out in the Commission's working document of October 1995. Further, the European Court (in 1998) upheld the appropriateness of the Council giving effect to the principle of relative stability through the application of the allocation keys together with the operation of the Hague Preference to take account of the special needs of the northern part of the United Kingdom and of Ireland. The UK and Ireland remain of the view that the invocation of the Hague Preference continues to constitute an essential part of the system of relative stability as applied under the CFP, and they look to the Commission and Council to continue to respect invocations of the Hague Preference."

STATEMENT 300/99

Statement by the Portuguese delegation

"Bearing in mind the conclusions adopted by the Council of Ministers on 30 October 1997 on the policy on fisheries agreements with third countries, and in particular point 4(i) thereof, the Portuguese delegation reaffirms the importance to it of making generally available to the Commission arrangements for transferring fishing possibilities from one Member State to another in the event of under-utilisation, without prejudice to the principle of relative stability.

It notes that, despite the Council's adoption of the abovementioned conclusions, the proposal for a Regulation does not include such transfer arrangements, which the Council holds to be essential to sound management, and may thus jeopardise optimum use of resources, an essential requirement if the interests of the Community as a whole are to be upheld.

The Portuguese delegation emphasises the importance of ensuring the timely submission of proposals for putting the Council guidelines into practice, pending the political guidelines which the Council intends to adopt on the basis of the cost/benefit analysis to be carried out by the Commission."

STATEMENT 301/99

Statement on unused fishing opportunities in the agreements with Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Latvia, 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, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway. This is undoubtedly essential to 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 302/99

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

"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 a 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 303/99

Statement by the Portuguese delegation

"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 2000 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 304/99

Statement by the Portuguese delegation

"The Portuguese delegation's understanding is that the allocation of quotas approved for 2000 does not prejudice the allocations to be made for subsequent years, since the quotas for the Community in the waters of 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 305/99

Statement on the allocation in 2000 of certain catch quotas in Icelandic, Latvian and Lithuanian waters

"The Spanish delegation considers that the allocation of redfish in Icelandic waters and of fishing opportunities in Latvian and Lithuanian waters between the Member States in 2000 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 306/99

Re Article 2

Commission statement

"The Commission undertakes to submit a proposal to the Council in respect of seed plantation, should such kind of material be properly defined at international level within the future OECD scheme for the control of forest reproductive material moving in international trade."

STATEMENT 307/99

Re Article 2

Statement by the French delegation

"The French delegation notes the Commission representative's reply to COREPER, according to which the above statement does not mean that the Commission shall automatically propose to align the current Directive, as regards seed plantations, with the future OECD system for certifying forest reproductive material intended for international trade."

STATEMENT 308/99

Re Article 2(a)

"The Commission confirms that detailed rules of the Directive only apply to tree species and hybrids listed in Annex I. Insofar as species and hybrids are not listed in this Annex, Article 3(2), applies."

STATEMENT 309/99

Re Article 3(3)

"The Council and the Commission acknowledge that where a supplier handles exclusively propagating material of ornamental plants, only the provisions of the Council Directive 98/56/EC apply to such a propagating material."

STATEMENT 310/99

Re Article 5

"The Council welcomes the Commission's confirmation that it will take full account of any changes made to Directive 90/220/EEC when preparing its forthcoming proposal for a European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning the issue of genetically modified basic material."

STATEMENT 311/99

Re Article 7

"The Commission acknowledges that in the framework of Article 7 of the Directive, Member States may prohibit the approval of certain types of basic material, as defined under Article 2(c) of this Directive, grown in their own territories."

STATEMENT 312/99

Re Article 25

"The Commission undertakes in the framework of the preparation of the agendas of the meetings of the Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry, to consider positively any suggestions from Member States and it will endeavour to assemble forestry items in order to facilitate the participation of forest experts from Member States. Furthermore the Commission will make use of the Standing Forestry Committee (set up by Council Decision 89/367/EEC of 29 May 1989) as ad hoc consultation body for providing expertise on particular forestry issues relating to the implementation of the Council Directive."

STATEMENT 313/99

Re Article 5

Statement by the Danish delegation

"Denmark has voted against this proposal for a Directive as the statement re Article 5 fails to make explicit mention of the unanimous opinion that the same level of protection should be attained in the approval of genetically modified organisms under that Directive as in approval under the deliberate release Directive 90/220, as subsequently amended."

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>2229th Council (Justice and Home Affairs) on 2 December 1999</p> <p>Council decision amending the Council Act of 3 December 1998 laying down the staff regulations applicable to Europol employees, with regard to the establishment of remuneration, pensions and other financial entitlements in euro 10098/99 + COR 1</p> <p>Council Decision adjusting the remuneration and allowances applicable to Europol employees 10097/1/99 REV 1</p> <p>2230th Council (Energy) on 2 December 1999</p> <p>Common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the technical roadside inspection of the roadworthiness of commercial vehicles circulating in the Community 11287/99</p> <p>2231st Council (Research) on 2 December 1999</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Argentine Republic 9594/99 + COR 1 (f,en,d,nl,dk,p,i,gr,fin,s) + COR 2 (fin) • Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Argentine Republic 9602/99 • Council Decision concluding the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the People's Republic of China 12707/99 • Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the People's Republic of China 13471/98 + COR 1 (nl) + COR 2 (d,nl,en,es,p,i,gr,fin) + COR 3 (en) + COR 4 (f,nl,es,gr) + COR 5 (d) + COR 6 (fin) <p>Council Resolution on developing a coherent European space strategy 12974/99 + COR 1</p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>2232nd Council (General Affairs) on 6 December 1999</p> <p>Council Decision on the principles, priorities, intermediate objectives and conditions contained in the Accession Partnership with the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and the Republic of Slovenia 13332/99, 13333/99, 13334/99, 13335/99, 13336/99, 13337/99, 13338/99, 13339/99, 13340/99, 13341/99</p> <p>Council Decision amending Decision 1999/319/CFSP implementing Common Position 1999/318/CFSP concerning additional restrictive measures against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia 13590/99</p> <p>Council Regulation imposing a definitive countervailing duty on imports of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) film originating in India and collecting definitively the provisional duty imposed 13135/99</p> <p>Council Decision Council Decision on the improvement of information on the Council's legislative activities and the public register of Council documents 14076/99</p> <p><u><i>Statement by the Spanish delegation (made public):</i></u></p> <p><i>Spain voted against the Council Decision on the improvement of information on the Council's legislative activities and the public register of Council documents for the sole reason that it considers that the Decision should not be adopted until the arrangements laid down in Article 255(2) and (3) of the Treaty of Amsterdam on transparency for all the institutions have been implemented.</i></p> <p><i>The European Commission has undertaken to submit a proposal for the implementation of Article 255(2) in the near future. There is no point in the Council adopting a Decision on this matter until it has taken a position on the Commission proposal.</i></p> <p><u><i>Statement by the Netherlands delegation (made public):</i></u></p> <p><i>The Netherlands will not stand in the way of a decision on the draft text, but would have preferred a different wording for Article 2 of the draft decision. The Netherlands wants a public register of Council documents which will be as complete as possible. In such a register, the status of the documents referred to need not be visible. In the view of the Netherlands, it is unnecessary to designate exceptions to inclusion in the register, since in any case inclusion of a document in the register does not signify that the document itself is public.</i></p>	Against E

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p><i>Whether or not a document can be released on a request from the public depends on the decision of the Council in accordance with the 1993 code of conduct on public access to documents. Justified grounds for refusal, intended to protect the Council's interests, are provided for in this procedure. These grounds for refusal need not be included in a decision on the public register, as is the case in Article 2.</i></p> <p>2234th Council (Transport) on 9 December 1999</p> <p>Common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms and repealing Council Directive 90/220/EEC 11216/99 + COR 1 (es) + COR 2 (dk)</p> <p>Council Recommendation on cooperation in combating the financing of terrorist groups 13073/99</p> <p>Council Joint Action extending and amending Council Joint Action 1999/523/CFSP confirming the appointment of the Special Representative of the European Union to act as Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe 13646/99</p> <p>Resolution of the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on cooperation with candidate central and eastern European countries and Cyprus on civil protection 13233/99</p> <p>2235th Council (Environment) on 13 December 1999</p> <p>Draft Council Decision on the full application of the Schengen acquis in Greece 12073/99 REV 2</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC, ECSC, Euratom) amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities 13509/99</p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 772/1999 imposing definitive anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imports of farmed Atlantic salmon originating in Norway 13661/99</p> <p>Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1911/91 on the application of the provisions of Community law to the Canary Islands 13770/99</p> <p>2237th Council (Fisheries) on 17 December 1999</p> <p>Council Regulation adjusting with effect from 1 July 1999 the remuneration and pensions of officials and other servants of the European Communities and the weightings applied thereto 13667/99</p> <p>Resolution of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, on the employment and social dimension of the Information Society 13224/99 + REV 1 (fin)</p> <p>Council Conclusions on the strengthening of cooperation for modernising and improving social protection 13223/99 + COR 1 (d,i,nl,en,dk,gr,es,p,fin,s) + COR 2 (f) + REV 1 (s) + COR 3 (p)</p> <p>Common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a 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 12612/99</p> <p>Council Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of furfuraldehyde originating in the People's Republic of China 13837/99</p> <p>Council Regulation concerning the arrangements applicable to imports into the Community of products originating in the Republics of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia and to imports of wine originating in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Slovenia 13867/99</p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>Council Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Community and the Kingdom of Cambodia on trade in textile products 12797/99</p> <p>Council Decision amending Decision 1999/320/CFSP on a European Union contribution to the collection and destruction of weapons in Albania 13882/99</p> <p>Council Joint Action establishing a European Union Cooperation Programme for Non-proliferation and Disarmament in the Russian Federation 13957/99 + COR 1 (en)</p> <p>Footwear products originating in Vietnam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Regulation on common rules for imports of footwear products originating in Vietnam 13263/99 • Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Community, of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Government of Vietnam on the prevention of fraud in trade in footwear products, and authorising its provisional application 13269/99 <p>Relations with Tunisia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Regulation laying down general rules for the import of olive oil originating in Tunisia for the period 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2000 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 906/98 13585/99 • Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Republic of Tunisia on the arrangements for the import into the Community of untreated olive oil originating in Tunisia 13938/99 + REV 1 (f) + COR 2 (nl,gr) <p>Council Regulation on administering the double-checking system without quantitative limits in respect of the export of certain steel products covered by the EC and ECSC Treaties from the Republic of Kazakhstan to the European Community 12524/99 + COR 1 (f,d,i,es)</p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>Council Decision relating to the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Republic of Bulgaria concerning fishery products, amending the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Bulgaria, of the other part 12665/99 + COR 1 (d)</p> <p>Council Joint Action extending and amending Joint Action 96/676/CFSP in relation to the nomination of an EU Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace Process 14063/99</p> <p>Council Joint Action extending Joint Action 95/545/CFSP with regard to the participation of the Union in the implementing structures of the peace plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 14065/99</p> <p>Common Position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures to promote the full integration of the environmental dimension in the development process of developing countries 12485/99</p> <p>Common Position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries 12487/99</p> <p>Council Decision authorising the Deputy Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union to act as representative of certain Member States for the purpose of concluding contracts relating to the installation and the functioning of the communication infrastructure for the Schengen environment, "SISNET", and to manage such contracts 14078/99</p> <p>Council Conclusions on the protection of minors in the light of the development of digital audiovisual services 13665/99</p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p>Council Decision on the appointment by the Council of the members of the selection panel for the "European Capital of Culture" Community action 9808/99 + COR 1 (nl)</p> <p>Council Resolution on the promotion of the free movement of persons working in the cultural sector 13663/99</p> <p>Council conclusions on cultural industries and employment in Europe 13664/99</p> <p>Resolution of the Council and of the Ministers of Youth, meeting within the Council, on the non-formal education dimension of sporting activities in the European Community youth programmes 13667/99 + COR 1 (nl)</p> <p>Council Resolution on "Into the New Millennium": Developing new working procedures for European cooperation in the field of education and training 13669/99 + REV 1 (fin) + COR 1 (p)</p> <p>Council Decision on the settlement of the Bangemann case 14235/1/99 REV 1</p> <p>Council Regulation on certain procedures for applying the Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of South Africa 14082/99 + COR 1 (f,d,nl,en,dk,gr,p,s)</p> <p><u>Statement by the Council and the Commission (made public):</u></p> <p><i>The joint statement on the wines and spirits negotiations between South Africa and the European Community of 10 October 1999 contains the commitment by South Africa inter alia that "the Agreement will incorporate the agreement on port and sherry in the TDCA in the exact terms agreed in March. The agreement is comprehensive for all products currently using the "port" and "sherry" names."</i></p>	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<p><i>The Council and the Commission can confirm that this formula covers the case of trademarks comprising the names of "port" and "sherry". Should this commitment not be implemented as foreseen, the Council and the Commission would consider this a breach of the agreement.</i></p> <p><u>Commission statement (made public):</u></p> <p><i>The Commission is determined to conclude the Wines and Spirits Agreement as soon as possible. It considers the conclusion of this agreement to be a vital element in the global package of trade relations with South Africa. The Agreement should cover traditional expressions which are protected under European Community law and the Commission will make every possible effort to achieve that result.</i></p> <p>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 Mozambique 14027/99</p> <p>Written procedures completed on 21 December 1999</p> <p>Textile products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 517/94 on common rules for imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Community import rules 13434/99 • Council Decision on the provisional application of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus on trade in textile products 13391/99 • Council Decision on the provisional application of Agreements in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and certain third States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) on trade in textile products 13711/99 • Council Decision on the provisional application of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and Ukraine amending the Agreement between the European Community and Ukraine on trade in textile products 13780/99 	

DECEMBER 1999	
OTHER ACTS	Votes made public
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Decision on the provisional application of the Agreement between the European Community and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on trade in textile products 13824/99 + COR 1 (en) • Council Decision on the provisional application of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Arab Republic of Egypt on trade in textile products 13887/99 • Council Decision on the provisional application of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters amending the Agreements between the European Community and the People's Republic of China on trade in textile products 13962/99 <p>Council Joint Action extending Council Joint Action 1999/522/CFSP concerning the installation of the structures of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) 14211/99</p> <p>Council conclusions on the implementation of measures to combat child sex tourism 14196/99</p> <p>Written procedure completed on 22 December 1999</p> <p>Council Decision granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans for projects outside the Community (Central and Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries, Latin America and Asia and the Republic of South Africa 13260/99 + COR 1 (nl) + REV 1 (s)</p> <p>Written procedure completed on 29 December 1999</p> <p>Council Regulation concerning the provision of assistance to the partner States in Eastern Europe and Central Asia 14213/99 + COR 1 (gr) + COR 2 (es) + COR 3 (es) + REV 1 (f) + REV 1 COR 1 (f)</p>	
