

## COUNCIL DECISION

of 15 March 1976

adopting a research programme (1976 to 1978) for the European Economic Community in the field of reference materials and methods (Community Bureau of Reference)

(76/310/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 235 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament<sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee<sup>(2)</sup>,

Whereas, according to Article 3(a) and (h) of the Treaty, the activities of the Community shall include *inter alia* the elimination, as between Member States, of quantitative restrictions on the import and export of goods, and of all other measures having equivalent effect, together with the approximation of the laws of the Member States to the extent required for the proper functioning of the common market;

Whereas, therefore, the research projects dealt with by this Decision appear necessary in order to achieve certain Community objectives within the functioning of the common market;

Whereas the Treaty does not provide the necessary powers for these purposes;

Whereas by its resolution of 14 January 1974<sup>(3)</sup>, the Council adopted an initial outline programme of the European Communities in the field of science and technology;

Whereas the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) has delivered an opinion on the proposal from the Commission,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

A research programme for the European Economic Community to be carried out by the Community Bureau of Reference (CBR) in the field of reference materials and methods, as defined in the Annex, is hereby adopted for a period of three years beginning 1 January 1976.

*Article 2*

The upper limit for expenditure commitments and the maximum number of staff necessary for the execution of the programme shall be 2.7 million units of account and seven staff respectively, the unit of account being defined in Article 10 of the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities<sup>(4)</sup>.

*Article 3*

On a proposal from the Commission the programme shall be reviewed during the first year to ensure, if necessary, its harmonization with the new direct action programme. Any amendments which result from this review will take effect from the beginning of 1977 at the latest.

As long as no decision to revise is taken, any projects which have been started will be continued within the limits of the funds granted.

*Article 4*

The Commission shall be responsible for the implementation of the programme. It shall be assisted in this task by the Advisory Committee on Programme Management set up by the Council resolution of 19 November 1973. It shall submit a report to the Council on the implementation of the programme annually.

*Article 5*

The information resulting from the implementation of the programme shall be disseminated in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 2380/74 of 17 September 1974<sup>(5)</sup>.

Done at Brussels, 15 March 1976.

*For the Council*

*The President*

R. VOUEL

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No C 280, 8. 12. 1975, p. 62.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No C 35, 16. 2. 1976, p. 23.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No C 7, 29. 1. 1974, p. 6.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 116, 1. 5. 1973, p. 1.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ No L 255, 20. 9. 1974, p. 1.

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*ANNEX***REFERENCE MATERIALS AND METHODS****(Community Bureau of Reference)****(indirect action — non-nuclear projects)***Joint programme*

A maximum amount of 2.7 million units of account and a maximum staff of seven Community servants will be allocated to this objective.

The aim of the Community programme shall be to strengthen, coordinate, harmonize and supplement national efforts in the field of reference materials and methods of measurement.

The aim shall include :

- (a) the activities of a secretariat ;
- (b) — characterization of materials,
  - inventory and definition of requirements for new certified reference materials (CRM),
  - technical specification of CRM,
  - perfecting and preparation of CRM,
  - organization of inter-laboratory comparisons,
  - European certification of the technical characteristics of CRM,
  - approval of laboratories.

Surveys and laboratory projects will be carried out under contract.

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