

Official Journal

of the European Communities

ISSN 0378-6986

C 282

Volume 25

27 October 1982

English edition

Information and Notices

Contents

I *Information*

Commission

ECU..... 1

State aids (Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry) — Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned, other than Member States, regarding proposed aids by the Belgian Government to the steel firm Les Forges de Clabecq 2

State aids (Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry) — Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned, other than Member States, regarding proposed aids by the Belgian Government to three steel firms (Laminaires du Ruau, Fabrique de Fer and Usines Gustave Boël) 2

State aids (Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry) — Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned other than Member States regarding proposals by the United Kingdom Government to provide regional and general aids to the steel industry 3

II *Preparatory Acts*

Council

Assent Nos 35/82 and 36/82 given by the Council at its 795th meeting held on 18 October 1982 4

Commission

Proposal for a Council Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community 5

I

(Information)

COMMISSION

ECU (*)

26 October 1982

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc con.	45.5018	United States dollar	0.925303
Belgian and Luxembourg franc fin.	47.3662	Swiss franc	2.02271
German mark	2.35397	Spanish peseta	107.751
Dutch guilder	2.55633	Swedish krona	6.86297
Pound sterling	0.548653	Norwegian krone	6.65709
Danish krone	8.26989	Canadian dollar	1.13350
French franc	6.63858	Portuguese escudo	83.6011
Italian lira	1343.77	Austrian schilling	16.5352
Irish pound	0.691712	Finnish markka	5.08731
Greek drachma	66.9086	Japanese yen	255.152
		Australian dollar	0.988043
		New Zealand dollar	1.30324

The Commission has installed a telex with an automatic answering device which gives the conversion rates in a number of currencies. This service is available every day from 3.30 p.m. until 1 p.m. the following day.

Users of the service should do as follows:

- call telex number Brussels 23789;
- give their own telex code;
- type the code 'cccc' which puts the automatic system into operation resulting in the transmission of the conversion rates of the EUA;
- the transmission should not be interrupted until the end of the message, which is marked by the code 'ffff'.

Note: The Commission also has an automatic telex answering service (No 21791) providing daily data on calculation of monetary compensatory amounts for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.

(*) Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ No L 379, 30. 12. 1978, p. 1).
Council Decision 80/1184/EEC of 18 December 1980 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 34).

Commission Decision No 3334/80/ECSC of 19 December 1980 (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 27).
Financial Regulation of 16 December 1980 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 23).

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 of 16 December 1980 (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 1).
Decision of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 13 May 1981 (OJ No L 311, 30. 10. 1981, p. 1).

STATE AIDS

(Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry)

Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned, other than Member States, regarding proposed aids by the Belgian Government to the steel firm Les Forges de Clabecq

1. Having initiated proceedings under Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC against these aids, the Commission hereby gives notice to all parties concerned, other than Member States, to submit their comments within one month from the date of this notice to:
Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels.
2. These are investment aids under the Law on economic expansion (State guarantee, interest-rate subsidy of 7 % for five years, tax aids) for an existing investment programme costing a total of Bfrs 2 350 million. This programme would have no significant effect on the firm's production capacity.
3. Further information concerning this notice may be obtained from the Directorate-General for Competition, Directorate D, Division 3 (tel. 02/235 82 38).

STATE AIDS

(Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry)

Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned, other than Member States, regarding proposed aids by the Belgian Government to three steel firms (Laminoirs du Ruau, Fabrique de Fer and Usines Gustave Boël)

1. Having initiated proceedings under Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC against these aids, the Commission hereby gives notice to all parties concerned, other than Member States, to submit their comments within one month from the date of this notice to:
Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels.
 2. The aids are those normally granted under the law on economic expansion to investments (interest-rate subsidy of 7 % for five years on 75 % of the investment or an equivalent capital premium, tax advantages and, in the case of Ruau, a government guarantee). In addition, the Belgian Government would subscribe an increase in the capital of Laminoirs du Ruau. The investments would total some Bfrs 3 000 million; in two cases they would have no significant impact on capacity and in the third they would increase it by 10 %.
 3. Further information concerning this notice may be obtained from the Directorate-General for Competition, Directorate D, Division 3 (tel. 02/235 82 38).
-

STATE AIDS

(Decision No 2320/81/ECSC of 7 August 1981 establishing Community rules for aids to the steel industry)

Notice given in accordance with Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC to parties concerned other than Member States regarding proposals by the United Kingdom Government to provide regional and general aids to the steel industry

1. Having initiated the procedure provided for in Article 8 (3) of Decision No 2320/81/ECSC in respect of the above aids, the Commission hereby gives notice to all parties concerned other than Member States to submit their comments within one month of the date of this notice to:

Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels.

2. The aids in question are Regional Development Grants totalling about £ 29 million for the British Steel Corporation in 1982/83 and Regional Development Grants and other grants amounting to £ 2.25 million for five private sector steel undertakings in 1982. The aids are in favour of various investment projects and the rate of grant ranges from 15 to 25 % of the investment cost. The investments will have no significant effect on the capacity of the undertakings concerned.
 3. Enquiries regarding this notice may be made to the Directorate-General for Competition, Directorate D, Division 3 (tel. 02/235 82 38).
-

II

(Preparatory Acts)

COUNCIL

ASSENT Nos 35/82 AND 36/82

given by the Council under Article 56 (2) (a) of the ECSC Treaty to enable the Commission to grant the following conversion loans:

- Bfrs 201.5 million (approximately 4.46 million ECU) to Idelux (Association intercommunale d'équipement économique de la province du Luxembourg), Arlon and SA Magolux, Messency, Belgium for a project located in the Province of Luxembourg, Belgium,
- DM 13.5 million (approximately 5.65 million ECU) to the firm Arbed-Finanz Deutschland (AFDG), Federal Republic of Germany for a project located in the Saarland.

The Commission requested the Council's assent to these projects on 3 August 1982.

The Council gave its assent at its 795th meeting held on 18 October 1982.

For the Council

The President

N. A. KOFOED

COMMISSION

Proposal for a Council Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans under the New Community Instrument for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council on 19 October 1982)

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,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas, given the vital role of investment in raising growth rates, adjusting production structures and providing a lasting solution to the unemployment problem, the Community's lending instruments should be strengthened to support investment, especially in the growth sectors of the future;

Whereas, in order to stimulate economic activity and support common policies, the financing facility established by Council Decisions 78/870/EEC ⁽¹⁾ and 82/169/EEC ⁽²⁾ empowering the Commission to contract loans for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community should be renewed and strengthened alongside existing Community financial institutions and bodies, whose scope should be widened;

Whereas this Community facility makes an additional contribution to investment promotion in the Community and has a real follow-through effect and financial impact far beyond its apparent size, thus promoting the convergence of Member States' economic trends;

Whereas plentiful finance can be found on the capital markets which could be tapped to finance investments within the Community;

Whereas the Community has creditworthiness in its own right which must be used to best advantage to reinforce European support for the said investments and to support policies decided on at Community level;

Whereas the European Investment Bank has stated that it is willing to contribute to the implementation of the facility,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Commission is hereby empowered to contract on behalf of the European Economic Community a new tranche of loans under the New Community Instrument which shall not exceed the equivalent of 3 000 million ECU in principal.

The proceeds of these loans shall be lent to finance investment projects that contribute to greater convergence and integration of the economic policies of the Member States and, through the dissemination of technology and innovation or by other means, to reinforcing the competitiveness of the Community economy.

These projects shall be such that they serve the Community's priority objectives in the energy and infrastructure sectors, and in the productive sector, taking account *inter alia* of their regional impact and the need to combat unemployment.

This facility may be used on its own or in conjunction with other Community financing instruments.

Article 2

The loan tranche shall be released by way of allocations.

After consulting the European Parliament about the amount and purpose of each allocation for which loans may be contracted, the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, shall by qualified majority authorize each allocation and lay down guidelines for the eligibility of projects.

The Commission shall decide whether or not projects are eligible in accordance with the guidelines thus laid down.

The Commission shall borrow on the capital markets within the limits of the amounts authorized.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 298, 25. 10. 1978, p. 9.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 78, 24. 3. 1982, p. 19.

Article 3

Associated borrowing and lending operations shall be expressed in the same currency units.

Lending terms as regards the reimbursement of the principal and the rate and payment of interest shall be fixed in such a way that, overall, they cover the costs and expenses incurred in concluding and performing both the borrowing and the lending sides of the operations.

Article 4

The terms of the borrowings shall be negotiated by the Commission in the best interests of the Community, having regard to the conditions on capital markets and in accordance with the constraints imposed by the duration and other financial aspects of the associated loans to be granted. Funds borrowed shall be deposited with the European Investment Bank, which shall invest them on a temporary basis if necessary.

Whereas the funds borrowed are expressed, payable or reimbursable in the currency of a Member State, they may be contracted only with the agreement of the competent authorities of that State.

Article 5

A mandate shall be given to the Bank to grant and administer loans in pursuance of this Decision. To this end, a cooperation agreement shall be drawn up between the Bank and the Commission. The Bank shall carry out operations under this mandate in the name of, for the account of and at the risk of the Community.

The Commission shall decide, in accordance with the provisions of Article 2, whether projects are eligible. Where the Commission gives a favourable decision, the Bank shall decide whether and on what terms to grant the loans, in accordance with its usual criteria and with the procedures laid down in its Statute.

Loan procedure shall be as follows:

- Loan applications shall be transmitted simultaneously to the Commission and to the Bank either direct or through a Member State.
- The Commission and the Bank shall sign the loan contracts.

Article 6

The Commission shall inform the Council and Parliament at regular intervals of the rate of utilization of the allocations and notify them, no later than the date on which total loans signed amount to two-thirds of the current allocation, of the purpose and amount it is intending to propose for the next allocation.

Article 7

The Commission shall inform the Council and Parliament annually of revenue and expenditure arising from borrowing and lending operations.

Article 8

Financial control and the audit of the Commission's accounts shall be carried out in accordance with the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.

**INVESTMENT
IN THE COMMUNITY COALMINING AND IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES
Report on the 1981 survey**

This report has been prepared on the basis of the results of the 1981 survey of investments in the Community coal and steel industries. The survey, which is conducted annually, collects information on actual and forecast capital expenditure and production potential of coal and steel enterprises.

The introductory chapter summarizes the results of the survey and the conclusions on them.

Subsequent chapters of the report examine in detail the results of the survey for each producing sector, namely:

- the coalmining industry;
- coking plants;
- briquetting plants;
- iron-ore mines;
- iron and steel industry.

The annex to the report contains a statement of the definitions under which the survey was carried out, together with tables giving a complete analysis of the results of the survey, including tables of capital expenditure and production potential by region and by category of plant for all sectors and categories of coal and steel products falling within the ECSC Treaty.

Published in: Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian

107 pages

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg: ECU 16·90; Bfrs 700; £ Ir1 11·75; £ 9·50; US \$ 19

Publication No CB-33-81-085-EN-C

ISBN 92-825-2751-4

OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
L-2985 Luxembourg

**TWENTY-EIGHTH
REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK**

1 January to 31 December 1980

The annual review of the work of the Council of the European Communities examines the different subjects which fell within the Council's scope during the year concerned.

Contents:

- Introduction
- Chapter I — The work of the institutions
- Chapter II — Freedom of movement and common rules
- Chapter III — Economic and social policy
- Chapter IV — External relations and relations with the associated States
- Chapter V — Agriculture
- Chapter VI — Administrative matters — Miscellaneous

Published in: Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian

289 pages

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg: ECU 7·26; Bfrs 300; £ Irl 5; £ 4; US \$ 7·60

Publication No BX-32-81-665-EN-C

ISBN 92-824-0078-6

OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
L-2985 Luxembourg

