

English edition

Information and Notices

<u>Notice No</u>	Contents	Page
	<i>I Information</i>	
	Commission	
97/C 233/01	Ecu	1
97/C 233/02	Non-opposition to a notified concentration (Case No IV/M.919 — Abeille Vie/Viagère/Sinafer) ⁽¹⁾	2
97/C 233/03	Notification of a joint venture (Case No IV/36.556/E-2) ⁽¹⁾	2
	<i>II Preparatory Acts</i>	
	
	<i>III Notices</i>	
	Commission	
97/C 233/04	Call for expressions of interest for the post of Member of one of the Scientific Committees	3
97/C 233/05	Financial support for cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations — Cancellation of the call for proposals (96/C 246/15)	8

I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Ecu ⁽¹⁾

(97/C 233/01)

Currency amount for one unit:

	31. 7. 1997	July ⁽²⁾		31. 7. 1997	July ⁽²⁾
Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40,8548	40,8486	Finnish markka	5,90362	5,86507
Danish krone	7,53997	7,53646	Swedish krona	8,59558	8,62871
German mark	1,97853	1,97881	Pound sterling	0,660104	0,660966
Greek drachma	309,249	310,426	United States dollar	1,08046	1,10491
Spanish peseta	167,082	166,903	Canadian dollar	1,49114	1,52097
French franc	6,67085	6,67586	Japanese yen	127,656	127,200
Irish pound	0,741665	0,738280	Swiss franc	1,62879	1,63583
Italian lira	1931,40	1926,48	Norwegian krone	8,20770	8,22132
Dutch guilder	2,22855	2,22805	Icelandic krona	77,7929	78,5153
Austrian schilling	13,9217	13,9233	Australian dollar	1,45281	1,48886
Portuguese escudo	200,068	199,781	New Zealand dollar	1,66943	1,66927
			South African rand	4,98253	5,03625

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 ecu,
- 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 fax answering service (No 296 10 97/296 60 11) providing daily data concerning calculation of the conversion rates applicable for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ No L 379, 30. 12. 1978, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1971/89 (OJ No L 189, 4. 7. 1989, 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).

⁽²⁾ The monthly average of ecu exchange rates will be published at the end of each month.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration
(Case No IV/M.919 — Abeille Vie/Viagère/Sinafer)

(97/C 233/02)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 12 June 1997, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the Celex database, under document number 397M0919. Celex is the computerized documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg,
telephone: (352) 29 29 4 24 55, fax: (352) 29 29 4 27 63.

Notification of a joint venture

(Case No IV/36.556/E-2)

(97/C 233/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 25 June 1997, the Commission received notification of agreements pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 17⁽¹⁾ by which Harcros Chemicals UK Limited and Nippon Denko Co. Ltd have created in the United Kingdom a world sized production joint venture ('NB Chrome'), with the object of manufacturing chromic acid for sale to the parent companies. The marketing of the chromic acid produced will be done by each of the parent companies.
2. Upon preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified joint venture could fall within the scope of Regulation 17.
3. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation.
4. Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 299 24 64) or by post, under reference number IV/36.556/E-2, to the following address:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),
Directorate E,
Office 2/100,
Avenue de Cortenberg/Kortenberglaan 150,
B-1040 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 13, 21. 2. 1962, p. 204/62.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Call for expressions of interest for the post of Member of one of the Scientific Committees

(97/C 233/04)

In its Communication to the Council and European Parliament on 'Consumer Health and Food Safety' (COM(97) 183 final), the European Commission emphasised that high-quality Scientific Committees are an essential foundation for Community rules in this area.

A pro-active approach has been adopted, including a far-reaching reform of the system of scientific opinions in matters relating to consumer health, i.e. not only consumer health in the strict sense, but also animal health and welfare, plant health and environmental hygiene.

Up to now responsibility for delivering scientific opinions lay with six Scientific Committees created by the Commission in the fields of food, animal nutrition, pesticides, toxicity and ecotoxicity, veterinary public health and cosmetology.

In line with the Commission's Communication it has been decided to restructure this system. The following committees are being created and will replace the existing ones:

- a Scientific Committee on Food,
- a Scientific Committee on Animal Nutrition,
- a Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare,
- a Scientific Committee on Veterinary Public Health,
- a Scientific Committee on Plants,
- a Scientific Committee on Cosmetic Products, and Non-Food Products intended for Consumers,
- a Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment,
- a Scientific Committee on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices.

The Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare is composed of a subcommittee on animal health and a subcommittee on animal welfare.

These scientific committees will meet approximately ten times a year and members will have to make a substantial contribution to the preparatory and monitoring work.

Each of these scientific committees shall be made up of a maximum of 19 members. The number of members in each committee shall be determined by the Commission in function of the necessary expertise. The area of competence and expertise required is set out in Annex 2.

These Scientific Committees shall be consulted by the Commission whenever a legal act so requires. They may also be consulted on other questions of particular relevance to consumer health and food safety.

At the Commission's request the Scientific Committees shall provide scientific opinions on matters relating to consumer health and food safety. Notably they shall:

- critically examine risk assessments made by scientists belonging to Member State organisations
- develop new risk assessment procedures in domains such as the possibility of transmission of animal diseases to man and food-borne diseases
- prepare scientific opinions so as to enable the Commission to evaluate the scientific basis of the recommendations, standards and guidelines prepared in international forums
- evaluate the scientific principles on which Community health standards are based, taking into account the risk assessment techniques developed by the international organizations concerned.

Based on the evolution of existing scientific data, the Scientific Committees may draw the Commission's attention to any specific or emerging problem falling

within their remit relating to consumer health and food safety.

The members shall be required to inform the Commission each year on their general interests and to declare any special interests which could be considered prejudicial to their independence concerning the work of the Scientific committees or their working groups.

This call for expressions of interest invites experts from Europe and elsewhere, currently working or possessing up-to-date experience in one or more scientific disciplines in the field of consumer health as defined above, to express their interest in becoming a member of one of these committees.

The Member States, the European parliament, consumer organizations and all other institutions active in the field of consumer health are invited to inform all eminent scientists about this call for expressions of interest. The Commission also welcomes expressions of interest for experts put forward by scientific organizations and universities, provided the designated expert gives his consent. All experts who have directly or indirectly expressed their interest will be evaluated and, if appointed, will hold a post on one of these Scientific Committees on a personal basis.

From the expressions of interest received before the deadline indicated below, a selection jury — chaired by the Chairman of the Scientific Steering Committee and made up of the members of this Committee who are not chairmen of an existing Scientific Committee, as well as Commission representatives working in the field of consumer health, scientific research and public health — shall, in a transparent manner, select the most suitable candidates for each Scientific Committee. The selection will be based on the criteria and procedures indicated in the Annex to this call for expressions of interest. The Commission will appoint the members of the scientific committees from among the persons selected as being scientifically most suitable.

Interested individuals are invited to communicate the following information to the address at the end of this document:

- the scientific committee or the subcommittee of the Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare of interest to them,
- their personal details, including an address at which they can be contacted,
- A detailed *curriculum vitae*, specifying notably all the candidates' connections with institutions, organ-

izations, firms, etc. actively involved in the field of consumer health,

- a declaration of all interests which might be considered as prejudicial to their independence,
- a list of appropriate publications, awards, etc.,
- any other relevant documents.

Persons who wish to express their interest in several scientific committees or subcommittees of the Committee on Animal Health and Welfare, are requested to communicate the documents mentioned above for each of these committees and subcommittees, it being understood that they cannot be appointed to more than one scientific committee.

In preparing their CV and any additional information, interested persons should take due account of the selection criteria described in the Annex to this call for expressions of interest.

Expressions of interest should be received by the Commission (one original and three copies) at the latest on 19 September 1997 or be lodged in person at the address indicated below by that time. The Commission reserves the right to reject expressions of interest received after this date. The interested persons will receive an acknowledgement of receipt. All expressions of interest will be treated confidentially.

The Commission will inform the most suitable scientific experts and appoint the members of the Scientific Committees as soon as possible. The names of the members of the Scientific Committees will be published.

All correspondence should be sent to the following address:

European Commission
 Directorate-General for Consumer Policy and Consumer Health Protection
 GD XXIV/B-1 — Secretariat of the Selection Committee for the Scientific Committees
 Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
 B-1049 Brussels.

The envelopes must be marked:

'COMITÉS SCIENTIFIQUES/APPEL À MANIFESTATION D'INTÉRÊT/CONFIDENTIEL'

Additional information may be obtained from the same address, Tel. (32 2) 295 85 54 or 295 57 95, Fax: (32 2) 296 32 79.

ANNEX 1

Selection criteria and procedure

The selection criteria and procedure described below are designed to identify experts in the field of consumer health interested in working on one of the Scientific Committees and best qualified to do so, and to ensure the transparency and impartiality of the selection process.

The Commission will appoint the members of the Scientific Committees from among the most suitable scientific experts.

Selection criteria

Preference will be given to candidates who possess:

- professional experience in the field of consumer health and, more specifically, in the areas covered by the field of competence of one of the committees,
- experience in risk assessment,
- experience in delivering scientific opinions at national or international level,
- professional experience in a multidisciplinary and international environment,
- attested scientific excellence,
- experience in scientific management.

Selection procedure

The candidates will be selected on the basis of the above mentioned criteria as follows:

1. A selection jury will be composed of members of the Scientific Steering Committee who are not chairmen of an existing Scientific Committee, as well as Commission representatives responsible for consumer health and scientific research.
2. The jury will evaluate the expressions of interest on the basis of the established selection criteria.
3. Taking into account the evaluation made by each of its members, the jury will collectively identify the most suitable scientific experts.
4. An observer from the European Parliament and an observer from the Council will be invited to assist in the selection procedure.

ANNEX 2

Scientific Committee on Food*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning consumer health and food safety associated with the consumption of food products and in particular questions relating to toxicology and hygiene in the entire food production chain, nutrition, and applications of agrifood technologies, as well as those relating to materials coming into contact with foodstuffs, such as packaging.

Expertise required:

Toxicology, pathology, human and veterinary medicine, food allergies, public health, epidemiology, molecular/genetic biology, genetics, science and food technology, microbiology and food hygiene, human food, food composition and food consumption, analytical chemistry, biotechnology.

Scientific Committee on Animal Nutrition*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning animal nutrition, its effect on animal health, on the quality and health of products of animal origin, and concerning the technologies applied to animal nutrition.

Expertise required:

Human or veterinary medicine, sciences relating to animal production, animal or human nutrition, impact on the environment and on man, (bio)chemistry, biology, microbiology, biotechnology.

Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare**Subcommittee Animal Health:***Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning all aspects of animal health, hygiene, animal diseases and therapies, including zoonoses of non-food origin and zootechnics.

Expertise required:

Veterinary and human medicine, public health, microbiology, virology, epidemiology, immunology, toxicology, pathology, biochemistry, hygiene, diagnostics, fish-farming, zootechnics, biotechnology.

Subcommittee Animal Welfare:*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning the protection of animals, notably in regard to animal husbandry, herd management, transport, slaughter and experimentation, and the application of biotechnology.

Expertise required:

Ethology, biology and breeding zootechnics, animal behaviour, zootechnics, clinical veterinary medicine, epidemiology, physiology, neurophysiology, biochemistry, genetics, epidemiology, veterinary economics, biotechnology, agrifood technology.

Scientific Committee on Veterinary Public Health*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning consumer health and food safety, and relating to zoonotic, toxicological, veterinary and notably hygiene measures applicable to the production, processing, and procurement of food of animal origin and the application of agrifood technologies.

Expertise required:

Veterinary and human medicine, public health, microbiology, virology, epidemiology, immunology, toxicology, pathology, biochemistry, hygiene, food technology, diagnostics, human food, zootechnics, veterinary economics, biotechnology.

Scientific Committee on Plants*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions relating to plants intended for human or animal consumption or the production of non-food products as regards characteristics liable to affect human or animal health or the environment, including the use of pesticides, and relating to the application of agrifood technologies.

Expertise required:

Sciences linked to the production of plant products, chemistry, biology, mammalian toxicology, ecotoxicology, human nutrition, human medicine, biotechnology.

Scientific Committee for Cosmetic Products and Non-Food Products intended for Consumers*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions concerning consumer health relating to cosmetic products and non-food products intended for the consumer especially substances used in the preparation of these products, their composition, use as well as their types of packaging and labelling.

Expertise required:

Human medicine, public health, toxicology, pharmacy, dermatology, biology, chemistry, biotechnology.

Scientific Committee on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions relating to Community legislation concerning medicaments for human and veterinary use, without prejudice to the specific competences given to the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products and the Committee on Veterinary Medicinal Products⁽¹⁾ in the context of the evaluation of medicaments. Scientific and technical questions relating to Community legislation concerning medical materials and equipment.

Expertise required:

Chemistry, biochemistry, molecular and genetic biology, physics, pharmacology, physiology, microbiology, virology, haematology, pharmaceutical technology, toxicology, immunology, biocompatibility, epidemiology, medical technology in diagnostics and therapeutics, biotechnology, human and veterinary medicine, public health, applied medical research, evaluation of medical technology, zootechnics.

Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment*Field of competence:*

Scientific and technical questions relating to examination of the toxicity and ecotoxicity of chemical compounds whose use may have harmful consequences for human health and the environment.

Expertise required:

Human medicine, public health, toxicology, ecotoxicology, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, epidemiology, statistics, biotechnology.

⁽¹⁾ Committees established in the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products.

Financial support for cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations**Cancellation of the call for proposals (96/C 246/15)**

(97/C 233/05)

The Commission has decided to withdraw the proposal for a Council Decision in relation to the multiannual work programme (1994-96) in favour of cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations in the Community, which has become obsolete owing to delays in its adoption by the Council.

The call for proposals⁽¹⁾ (96/C 246/15) 'Financial support for cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations', which was based on this programme, has therefore been cancelled.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 246 and S 163 of 24. 8. 1996.