

English edition

Information and Notices

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(*) Text with EEA relevance

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I
(Information)

COUNCIL

List of appointments made by the Council (April, May, June and July 1998)

(Social field)

(98/C 247/01)

Committee	End of term of office	Published in OJ	Person replaced	Resignation	Member/alternate	Category	Country	Person appointed	Affiliation	Date of Council Decision
Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers	8.6.1999	C 194, 25.6.1997	Mr E. Jacobsson	Resignation	Member	Government	Sweden	Ms E. Häggström	Arbetsmarknads-departementet	13.7.1998
Advisory Committee on Vocational Training	15.3.2000	C 99, 1.4.1998	Mr K. Koudahl Petersen	Resignation	Member	Workers	Denmark	Mr E. Schmidt	FTF	30.4.1998
Advisory Committee on Vocational Training	15.3.2000	C 99, 1.4.1998	Mr D. van Elslande	Resignation	Alternate	Employers	France	Mr M. Guyot	CNPF	13.7.1998
Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers	23.7.1999	C 241, 7.8.1997	Mr F. Perl	Resignation	Member	Workers	Belgium	Mr T. Aerts	...	13.7.1998
Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work	6.7.2000	C 220, 19.7.1997	Mr A. Gunkel	Resignation	Member	Employers	Germany	Mr R. Lehr	Leiter Arbeitswirtschaft und -gestaltung Daimler Benz AG	13.7.1998
Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work	6.7.2000	C 220, 19.7.1997	Mr U. W. Kuhlmann	Resignation	Alternate	Employers	Germany	Mr A. Gunkel	Bundesvereinigung der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände	13.7.1998

Committee	End of term of office	Published in OJ	Person replaced	Resignation	Member/alternate	Category	Country	Person appointed	Affiliation	Date of Council Decision
Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work	6.7.2000	C 220, 19.7.1997	Mr J. Tassin	Resignation	Alternate	Employers	France	Mr P. Thillaud	Association médicale interentreprises	13.7.1998
Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work	6.7.2000	C 220, 19.7.1997	Mr J.-C. Aubrun	Resignation	Alternate	Employers	France	Mr P. Levy	Solvay France	13.7.1998
Administrative Board of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work	4.10.1998	C 296, 10.11.1995	Mr R. Lindahl	Resignation	Alternate	Employers	Finland	Mr J. Forss	Employers' Confederation of Service Industries	30.4.1998
Administrative Board of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work	4.10.1998	C 296, 10.11.1995	Mr M. Ferreira Saramago	Resignation	Member	Workers	Portugal	Mr L. F. Nascimento Lopes	Cabral UGT	30.4.1998

COUNCIL DECISION**of 20 July 1998****appointing a member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives**

(98/C 247/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to Council Decision 80/156/EEC of 21 January 1980 setting up an Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 3 and 4 thereof,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of 1994, and in particular Article 165(1) thereof,

Whereas, under the terms of Article 3 of the abovementioned Decision, the said Committee is composed of three experts per Member State and an alternate for each of those experts; whereas, under the terms of Article 4 of the same Decision, the term of office of those experts and alternates runs for three years;

Whereas, by its Decision of 7 November 1995 ⁽²⁾, the Council appointed members and alternates of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives for the period from 23 October 1995 to 22 October 1998;

Whereas the Italian Government has put forward a candidate for appointment as a member of the Committee,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The following is hereby appointed a member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives for the period until 22 October 1998:

C. Experts from the competent authorities of the Member State*Member*

Italy Dott.ssa Teresa CUOMO

Done at Brussels, 20 July 1998

For the Council

The President

W. MOLTERER

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 33, 11.2.1980, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 292, 7.11.1995, p. 2.

COUNCIL DECISION

of 20 July 1998

designating the representative organisations of workers in France required to draw up lists of candidates for the representation of workers on the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community

(98/C 247/03)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Having regard to Article 18 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community,

Article 1

Whereas the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community, whose term of office expired on 3 March 1998, should be renewed;

The representative organisations of workers listed in the table annexed to this Decision are hereby designated to draw up lists of candidates on the basis of which the members representing workers on the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community shall be appointed in numbers equal to those shown in the aforesaid table in respect of those same organisations.

Whereas in its Decision of 30 April 1998 ⁽¹⁾ the Council designated the representative organisations of producers and workers required to draw up lists of candidates for the representation of producers and workers on the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community, except for the representative organisations of workers in France and one representative organisation of workers in the United Kingdom;

Article 2

This Decision shall be published, for information, in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Whereas a notification has been submitted by the French Government,

Done at Brussels, 20 July 1998.

*For the Council**The President*

W. MOLTERER

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 156, 21.5.1998, p. 1.

ANNEX

Country	Names of organisations	Number of seats
Representative workers' organisations		
FRANCE	— Confédération générale du travail (CGT), Paris	1
	— Confédération française de l'encadrement (CFE-CGC), Paris	1
	— Confédération générale du travail — Force ouvrière	1
	— Confédération française des travailleurs chrétiens (CFTC)	1

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL**

of 20 July 1998

concerning the expiry of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community

(98/C 247/04)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

RECALLING:

- the resolution of the European Council on growth and employment adopted in Amsterdam on 16 and 17 June 1997, according to which the Commission is invited to make the appropriate proposals in order to ensure that, on expiry in 2002 of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community (hereinafter referred to as 'the ECSC'), the revenues of outstanding reserves are used for a research fund for sectors related to the coal and steel industries,
- the Commission's communication on the expiry of the ECSC Treaty — Financial Activities of 10 October 1997,

1. NOTE THAT:

- (a) it is important to recognise the excellent results of research funded by the ECSC and the contribution made to the improvement of the competitiveness and social conditions in the coal and steel industries;
- (b) the overall approach contained in the Commission's communication of 10 October 1997 is in line with the guidelines adopted by the European Council in its abovementioned resolution;
- (c) this approach is consistent with the opinions already expressed by the European Parliament, the ECSC Consultative Committee and the coal and steel industries which, through their levy payments, made a significant contribution to the ECSC assets.

2. NOTE THAT, in relation to the ownership of the ECSC assets and liabilities:

- (a) on expiry of the ECSC Treaty, ownership of these assets and liabilities will revert to the Member States, in accordance with the principles

of international law unless the Member States decide otherwise by common accord;

- (b) the decision on the ownership of the assets and liabilities must be consistent with the achievement of the aim agreed at the Amsterdam European Council to use the revenues and outstanding reserves for a research fund for sectors related to the coal and steel industries;
- (c) implementation of the conclusions of the Amsterdam European Council requires further consideration, in particular the legal means by which they can be brought into effect and their practical consequences. This should be a subject for further study by the Council, the Commission and the Member States.

3. CONSIDER THAT in relation to the management of the ECSC assets:

- (a) in order to ensure separation from other Community funds, it is important to secure the ECSC assets as the 'ECSC in liquidation';
- (b) these funds should remain separate from other Community funds for the purposes agreed by the Member States, even after all outstanding financial operations have been completed and all the possible contingencies that could emerge have been adequately covered;
- (c) administration of the assets should be entrusted to the Communities remaining, as represented by the Commission. This will enable the continuing management of budgetary and financial operations not completed in 2002;
- (d) any changes to the purpose for which the assets have been provided should be subject to a unanimous decision of Member States;
- (e) to ensure the long-term viability of the assets, they should be managed on the basis of multi-annual financial guidelines proposed by the Commission and adopted by the Council. The management of the assets readily available should be aimed at the highest possible yield that is securely attainable;

- (f) in order to ensure transparency, the Commission should adopt annual financial reports certified by the Court of Auditors and then transmitted to the Council;
4. FURTHERMORE, CONSIDER THAT in relation to the organisation of research funds:
- (a) the revenues from the ECSC assets should constitute 'dedicated' revenue under the general budget of the European Communities to be administrated by the Commission. This should be directed to a research programme for sectors related to the coal and steel industries, guided by the proposals on scientific and technical content set out in the Commission communication and including the possibility of widening the scope of the existing programme to applied research. Further changes to the use of the revenue should be subject to a unanimous decision of Member States;
- (b) to maximise the impact of research on the competitiveness of these industries, the research programme should be managed along lines similar to the existing research programme and on the basis of multiannual research guidelines proposed by the Commission and adopted by the Council, in close consultation with industry;
- (c) these guidelines should further develop the current research programme financed by the ECSC, by ensuring a high degree of concentration and by making it complementary to those under the Community framework programme. They should take account of the objective of strengthening competitiveness, growth and employment. The guidelines should state clearly how industry experts are to be involved both in future research decisions and in the monitoring of projects;
- (d) in order to ensure the efficient annual allocation of funding, the existing procedures concerning the adoption of individual research projects should be respected, that is, the decisions of the Commission should be taken with the agreement of the Council and in consultation with the sectors concerned;
- (e) it is important that a full evaluation of the research is undertaken at the completion of the projects financed during the period covered by each multiannual research guideline. In particular, this evaluation should examine the benefits of the research to the sectors concerned. It is also important that preliminary results of research are made known to Member States before the expiry of each guideline as a basis for future decision-making.
5. CALL ON the Commission, in consultation with interested parties, to present, before the next meeting of the Council, a contribution to the study referred to in paragraph 2(c) which reflects the consequences of any possible solution.
6. INVITE the Commission, in doing so, to consider how:
- new Member States might join in any arrangements established to implement the conclusions of the Amsterdam European Council, after having contributed appropriately,
 - the breakdown between the allocations for the coal-related research and that for steel-related research can be calculated. This should initially be based on the financial contribution paid by the two industries with the possibility for future review.
7. INVITE the Commission to bring forward, where appropriate and in good time, proposals in other areas affected by the expiry of the ECSC Treaty, and for their part, agree to adopt all necessary measures to deal with the consequences of the expiry.
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COMMISSION

Ecu (*)

6 August 1998

(98/C 247/05)

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40,5627	Finnish markka	5,97984
Danish krone	7,49584	Swedish krona	8,83518
German mark	1,96704	Pound sterling	0,681144
Greek drachma	326,336	United States dollar	1,11176
Spanish peseta	166,954	Canadian dollar	1,69021
French franc	6,59509	Japanese yen	160,761
Irish pound	0,782987	Swiss franc	1,65653
Italian lira	1940,86	Norwegian krone	8,39215
Dutch guilder	2,21819	Icelandic krona	79,1909
Austrian schilling	13,8403	Australian dollar	1,83520
Portuguese escudo	201,296	New Zealand dollar	2,15918
		South African rand	6,89293

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.

(*) Council Regulation (EEC) No 3180/78 of 18 December 1978 (OJ L 379, 30.12.1978, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1971/89 (OJ L 189, 4.7.1989, p. 1).

Council Decision 80/1184/EEC of 18 December 1980 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ L 349, 23.12.1980, p. 34).

Commission Decision No 3334/80/ECSC of 19 December 1980 (OJ L 349, 23.12.1980, p. 27).

Financial Regulation of 16 December 1980 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 345, 20.12.1980, p. 23).

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 of 16 December 1980 (OJ L 345, 20.12.1980, p. 1).

Decision of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 13 May 1981 (OJ L 311, 30.10.1981, p. 1).

Call for tenders for co-financed projects within the scope of the Synergy programme for 1999

(98/C 247/06)

Synergy is the Community programme for international cooperation with third countries in the energy sector. This programme institutes cooperation projects for the elaboration, formulation and implementation of energy policy in areas of mutual interest, in addition to promotional actions for industrial cooperation between the Community and non-member countries, in the energy sector. Synergy helps to meet the Union's energy policy objectives: security of supply, over-all competitiveness and environmental protection.

Synergy was implemented by Council Regulation (EC) No 701/97 (OJ L 104, 22.4.1997), for a period of one year ending on 31 December 1997. This was later extended to 31 December 1998 by Council Regulation (EC) No 2598/97 (OJ L 351, 23.12.1997). This call for project tenders is contingent on the continuing activities of this programme in 1999.

In addition to projects launched at the European Community's initiative, the Synergy programme can also make financial contributions to projects proposed by third parties. This call for tenders is destined solely for the latter category of project.

Financial assistance may be requested for projects involving a proposer from a Member State and/or a proposer from a non-member country. The Community contribution shall not exceed 50 % of the total project cost and should not, in principle, be more than ECU 200 000.

Proposed projects must concern the following fields of action:

- energy policy advice and training,
- energy analysis and forecasting,
- reinforcement of dialogue in terms of energy policy and information sharing, particularly through the organisation of conferences and seminars,
- cross-border regional cooperation support,
- improvement of industrial energy cooperation structures.

Neither energy-related investment and infrastructure financing at any stage, nor research, demonstration, development or innovative technology dissemination projects are eligible.

Generally speaking, any action which can obtain or has obtained financing from another Community instrument is not admissible.

Proposed projects must aim to meet at least one of the following objectives:

- security of the European Union's energy supply,
- improved competitiveness and support for European enterprises trying to settle in non-member countries,
- environmental protection and improvement, notably through reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The projects must be mutually beneficial for the European Union and the non-member countries. Synergy is open to energy actors from both European and non-member countries. During evaluation, priority shall be given to projects bringing together several partners from several Member States and one or several partners from non-member countries.

For information only, the non-exclusive list of entities that are eligible to propose projects is as follows: specialised international and regional organisations, national energy ministries or commissions, companies or groups of companies, regulation or privatisation organisations, financial institutions, energy and/or environmental agencies, local authorities, non-governmental organisations, etc.

Taking account of the priorities defined in the indicative action programme of Annex III to the Council proposal of 18 November 1997 adopting a multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector (1998 to 2002) COM(97) 550 final, on the one hand, and the need to avoid duplications with other Community programmes in operation in each country, on the other hand, the priorities per geographical region are as follows:

Central and East European countries

- cooperation in terms of reinforcing energy policy with a view to preparing for accession to the European Union,
- relations between energy policies and environmental protection,
- regional energy cooperation, particularly for inter-connections.

Newly independent States

- promotional actions for industrial cooperation,
- reinforcement policies for energy efficiency.

India and China

- energy policy promotion,
- reinforcement of energy efficiency.

Rest of Asia

- support for the market-penetration efforts of European energy industries,
- promotion of regional integration.

Latin America

- participation of European enterprises in liberalising the energy market,
- relations between energy policies and environmental protection.

Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific

- implementation of national energy policies contributing to sustainable development,
- reinforcement of local structures for cooperation in energy matters.

Mediterranean

- development of energy networks,
- industrial cooperation in the energy sector,
- relations between energy policies and environmental protection.

Each applicant must complete the application form available at the address listed below. Completed forms may not be sent by fax; they must be posted. These forms can also be downloaded from the Internet site listed below.

Each application must specify, as indicated on the form, the context, general and specific objectives, expected results (direct and indirect), the methodology, human and financial resources, the timetable and any other relevant justifications.

Requests may be presented by a coordinator settled either in the Member State or the non-member country in question. The application must include letters of intent for other sources of finance for the project and adequate information on their financial capacity to carry out the project to completion, including presentation of financial accounts.

Enterprises interested in this call for tenders should send four copies of their offer to the address listed below by Friday, 30 October 1998 at the latest. Applications must be either posted or given in person with a receipt. They can also be sent by e-mail to the following address: yolanda.lok@bxl.dg17.cec.be. The postmark or the date of acknowledgement of receipt on the e-mail shall be taken into account for the proposal deadline.

Any offers sent or handed in after this date and those failing to include the requested number of copies will in no case be taken into consideration.

Information — form — receipt of applications

Synergy programme
European Commission,
Directorate-General for Energy — XVII,
Directorate A — Unit A4,
Mrs Yolanda Lok
Avenue de Tervueren/Tervuerenlaan 226-236,
TERV 8/2,
B-1150 Brussels.

Tel. (32-2) 296 34 04

Fax (32-2) 295 98 16

Internet sites:

<http://europa.eu.int/en/comm/dg17/synergy.htm>

<http://www.cordis.lu/synergy/home.html>

Application deadline: Friday, 30 October 1998.

Notice pursuant to Article 19(3) of Council Regulation No 17 concerning an application for negative clearance or exemption under Article 85(3) of the EC Treaty

Case No IV/E-2/36.949 — KGS

(98/C 247/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Introduction

1. On 3 March 1998 the Commission was notified pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation No 17 of various agreements to the effect that Cerestar Deutschland GmbH, Krefeld, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, and BASF AG, Ludwigshafen had set up a joint venture (JV) for the biotechnological production of 2-keto-L-gulonic acid (KGA), an intermediate product in the manufacture of vitamin C from sorbitol.
2. On 17 March 1998 the Commission published a notice⁽¹⁾ concerning the aforementioned notification, in which it explained that on preliminary examination it had found that the joint venture could fall within the scope of Regulation No 17. Interested third parties were invited to submit their observations on the proposed operation. The Commission has received no comments.

The parties

3. Cerestar Deutschland is controlled by Montedison Spa, Milan through Eridania Béghin-Say SA Paris (EBS). The Montedison group's consolidated turnover in 1996 was approximately ECU 12,331 billion. Cerestar manufactures starch and starch derivatives.
4. Merck is a listed company operating worldwide, which had a consolidated group turnover in 1996 of approximately ECU 3,495 billion. Merck's business is primarily in pharmaceuticals, laboratory products and special chemicals.
5. BASF is a listed company operating worldwide, which had a consolidated group turnover in 1996 of approximately ECU 24,671 billion. It operates in the manufacture, processing and sales of chemical, chemicotechnical and metallurgical products of all kinds.

Nature of the cooperation

6. The parties have set up the KGS Keto-Gulonsäure Produktionsgesellschaft mbH (Keto-Gulonic Acid Production Company), with its registered office in Krefeld. The joint venture, in which the three partners have an equal share, will build and operate a plant for the manufacture of KGA. The production plant will be erected on Cerestar's site at Krefeld, where it will be integrated with the existing works. Cerestar will supply all services necessary for the operation of the plant under a site service contract. The manufacturing process for converting sorbitol into KGA will be licensed to the JV by Cerestar under a technology-licensing contract.

The sorbitol required for the production of KGA comes from Cerestar's sorbitol production plant. Legally speaking, the sorbitol is supplied under separate contracts to Merck and to BASF Health & Nutrition A/S, Ballerup, Denmark (BHN), a wholly owned subsidiary of BASF. BHN and Merck obtain the sorbitol exclusively from Cerestar, which for its part is obliged to supply the raw material. The price for the sorbitol which Merck and BHN have to pay Cerestar depends on their (different) selling prices for vitamin C. Merck and BHN make the sorbitol obtained from Cerestar available to the JV, which manufactures KGA from it for Merck and BHN on commission. Independently of each other, Merck and BHN carry out the processing of KGA into vitamin C, and the ensuing sales.

7. The three partners will also cooperate in the field of research and development. This work relates to the conversion of starch, sorbitol and other starch derivatives into KGA and vitamin C. The aim is, first, to optimise the KGA production process and then, building on this, to develop an optimum process for manufacturing vitamin C from starch or starch derivatives. The field of research extends beyond the sorbitol-to-KGA stage of production, since any changes in that stage, even if they alter the specification of the KGA only slightly, affect the KGA-to-vitamin C production stage. During the life

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 81, 17.3.1998, p. 4.

of the joint venture (at least 15 years), the partners rule out any independent parallel research or cooperative research with third parties in the field covered by the agreement. If one of the partners withdraws from the joint venture, it may not use any know-how or patents obtained, or any know-how and rights contributed by the partners, during the remaining life of the joint venture and at least for a period of 15 years from the entry into force of the joint venture agreement.

The relevant market

8. KGA is not traded as a separate product on the market but merely constitutes a necessary intermediate product in the production of vitamin C from sorbitol. There is no supply of or demand for KGA. The market for vitamin C (ascorbic acid) should therefore be regarded as the relevant product market. Vitamin C is primarily required in the food, pharmaceuticals and animal foodstuffs industries. It is not interchangeable with other products and therefore constitutes a separate market.
9. The relevant geographic market for vitamin C is the world market. Since the price of vitamin C is high in proportion to its volume, transport costs do not form a market barrier.
10. On the European market for vitamin C, Merck and BASF had a combined market share of 18 % in 1996. The market leader is Hoffmann-La Roche, with a market share of 40 %. Cerestar does not operate on this market.
11. The customers for vitamin C are a large number of firms in the pharmaceuticals, food (especially meat), beverages and food additives industries.
12. Upstream of the vitamin C market is the polyols (polyvalent alcohols) sector. Polyols are used

primarily in foodstuffs (especially in confectionery) and in the production of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. The polyols sorbitol and maltitol form a separate submarket, since their prices differ significantly from those for other polyols. In the production of foodstuffs, tobacco products, toothpaste and cosmetics, they can be replaced by glycerol. Given existing market regulations, the relevant geographic market for sorbitol/maltitol is the European market. In the case of glycerol, a worldwide market should be assumed.

Cerestar has 39 % of the European market for sorbitol/maltitol. Merck and BASF do not operate on that market. Merck produces sorbitol essentially for its own vitamin C manufacture, while BASF does not produce it at all.

The market leader on the European sorbitol/maltitol market is Roquette Frères, with an estimated market share of 51 %. A new supplier will enter the market this year — the Dutch company Amylum (production capacity: 50 000 tonnes/year). For glycerol, Unichema, Emmerich is the market leader, with an estimated market share of 25 %.

The customers for sorbitol, maltitol and glycerol are mostly large multinationals in the food, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics industries.

Provisional assessment by the Commission

13. The Commission intends to adopt a positive decision with regard to the joint venture. Before a final decision is taken, however, interested third parties are invited to submit their views to the Commission within one month of the publication of this notice. Comments may be sent by fax (32-2) 299 24 64) or by post, quoting reference IV/E-2/36.949, to the following address:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV/E-2),
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case No IV/M.1253 — Paribas/JDC/Gerflor)

(98/C 247/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 30 July 1998, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which Paribas, SA and JDC Sàrl acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation joint control of the group Gerflor by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Paribas SA: Commercial banking, specialised financial services,

— JDC Sàrl: assets management,

— Gerflor: manufacture and supply of floor coverings (pvc, parquets).

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference IV/M.1253 — Paribas/JDC/Gerflor, to the following address:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition (DG IV),
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Avenue de Cortenberg/Kortenberglaan 150,
B-1040 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Notice of invitation to tender for the refund or tax for the export of rye to all third countries

(98/C 247/09)

I. Subject

1. Tenders are invited for the refund or tax for the export to all third countries of rye falling within CN code 1002 00 00.
2. The total quantity in respect of which there may be fixed a maximum export refund or minimum export tax as provided in Article 4(1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2052/97⁽²⁾, is approximately 500 000 tonnes.
3. The invitation to tender will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of:

- Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92⁽³⁾,
- Regulation (EC) No 1501/95,
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1746/98⁽⁴⁾.

II. Time limits

1. The period for the receipt of tenders for the first of the weekly awards will begin on 7 August 1998 and will expire at 10 a.m. on 13 August 1998.
2. For the subsequent weekly awards, the period for the receipt of tenders will expire at 10 a.m. on the Thursday of each week.

For the second and subsequent weekly awards, the period for the receipt of tenders will begin on the first working day following the expiry of the preceding period.

However, for the periods 18 to 31 December 1998, 26 March to 1 April 1999 and 7 to 13 May 1999, the invitation to tender is suspended.

3. This notice is published only for the purposes of the present invitation to tender. Until such time as it is amended or replaced, its terms will apply to each weekly award held during the period of validity of this invitation.

III. Tenders

1. Tenders must be submitted in writing and may be delivered personally against a receipt or sent by registered post or by telex, fax or telegram, but must in any event arrive not later than the time and date indicated in heading II above at one of the following addresses:

- Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (BLE), D-60322 Frankfurt am Main, Adickesallee 40 (fax: 1564-624),
- Office national interprofessionnel des céréales, 21, avenue Bosquet, F-75326 Paris Cedex 07 (telex: OFBLE 200490 F/OFIDM 203 662 F; fax: 47 05 61 32),
- Ministero per il commercio con l'estero, direzione generale per la politica commerciale e per la gestione del regime degli scambi, divisione II, viale America, I-00144 Roma (telex: MINCOMES; 623437, 610083, 610471; fax: 592 621 74, 599 322 48, 596 475 31),
- Hoofdproductschap Akkerbouw, Stadhoudersplantsoen 12, NL-2517 JL Den Haag (telex: HOVAKKER 32579; fax: (70) 346 14 00),
- Bureau d'intervention et de restitution belge (BIRB)/Belgisch Interventie- en Restitutiebureau (BIRB), rue de Trèves, 82/Trierstraat 82, B-1040 Bruxelles/Brussels (telex: BIRB 24076, 65567; fax: (02) 230 25 33; (02) 280 03 07),
- Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, External Trade Division, Lancaster House, Hampshire Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK-NE4 7YE (telex: 848302; fax: 583626 (0191) 226 18 39),

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 287, 21.10.1997, p. 14.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 219, 7.8.1998, p. 3.

- Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Cereals Division, Agriculture House, Kildare Street, IRL-Dublin 2 (telex: AGRI EI: 93607; telefax: 6616263),
- EU-Direktoratet, Kampmannsgade 3, DK-1780 København (telex: 15137 DK; fax: 33 92 69 48),
- Ministério da Economia, Direcção-Geral das Relações Económicas Internacionais (DGREI), Av. da República, 79, P-1000 Lisboa (telex: 13418; fax: 796 37 23, 793 05 08, 793 22 10),
- Service d'économie rurale, office du blé, 113-115, rue de Hollerich, L-1741 Luxembourg (telex: AGRIM L 2537; fax: 45 01 78),
- DIDAGEP, 241, Acharnon Street, GR-10446 Athens (telex: 221736 ITAG GR; fax: 862 93 73),
- Fondo Español de Garantía Agraria, (FEGA), C/Beneficencia 8, E-28004 Madrid (telex: 23427 FEGA E; fax: 521 98 32/522 43 87),
- Statens Jordbruksverk, Vallgatan 8, S-55182 Jönköping (telex: 70991 SJV-S, fax: 361 905 46),
- Maa- ja metsätalousministeriö, interventioyksikkö, PL 23, FIN-00171 Helsinki (fax: 09-1 60 97 60, 09-160 97 60),
- AMA (Agrarmarkt Austria), Dresdnerstraße 70, A-1200 Wien, (fax: 0043-1-33 15 13 99, 0043-1-33 15 12 98).

Tenders not submitted by telex, fax or telegram must be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked: 'Tender under invitation to tender for the refund or tax for

the export of rye to all third countries — Regulation (EC) No 1746/98 — Confidential', itself enclosed in a further sealed envelope addressed as above.

Once submitted, no tender may be withdrawn before the Member State concerned has informed the tenderer of the result of the tender.

2. Every tender and the accompanying proof and undertaking mentioned in Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 must be in the official language, or in one of the official languages, of the Member State of the competent authority to which it is submitted.

IV. Security for tender

The security for tender must be made out in favour of the competent authority concerned.

V. Award of contracts

The award will:

- (a) give the party concerned the right to be issued, in the Member State in which the tender was submitted, with an export licence for the quantity in question indicating the export refund or tax specified in the tender;
- (b) oblige the party concerned to apply in the Member State mentioned in (a), for an export licence for that quantity.

Euromed audiovisual
Euromed audiovisual cooperation programme
Call for proposals

(98/C 247/10)

1. Introduction

This call for proposals follows the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Conference on Euro-Mediterranean audiovisual cooperation held in Thessaloniki on 15 November 1997.

The Euromed audiovisual regional programme is intended to promote cooperation between the Euro-Mediterranean countries on radio, television and film production. Its objectives are to:

- save and make good use of existing archives with a view to disseminating and promoting the accumulated heritage of the Euro-Mediterranean area,
- support radio, television and film coproduction in this area,
- provide assistance for film production in Mediterranean partner countries,
- support the broadcasting, distribution and exploitation of televisual and cinematic productions in the Euro-Mediterranean area.

2. Purpose

This notice is addressed to the following types of bodies established in any of the 27 Euro-Mediterranean partner countries (as defined in the Barcelona Declaration): radio and television stations, film production or distribution companies, producers of audiovisual or

multimedia material, cinema operators, audiovisual training centres, associations or bodies active in the audiovisual sector.

The activities of these bodies must contribute towards objectives stated above.

This notice states how to obtain the documents needed for submitting a proposal in order to obtain a financial contribution from the European Union under the MEDA programme.

The European Commission department responsible for managing this call for proposals is the Programming and Economic Cooperation Unit in Directorate-General IB (External Relations).

If you are established in any of the 27 partner countries, wish to reply to this notice and obtain the Euromed Audiovisual Guidelines, please write or fax by 15 October 1998 at the latest to the following address:

Mr Frederick Sterner, DG IB/A/1, Office: CHAR 5/139, European Commission, Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Brussels. Fax (32-2) 299 02 04.

The Commission undertakes to post the above document within two days of receiving a request.

The deadline by which proposals must reach the address given in the Euromed Audiovisual Guidelines is 31 October 1998.

CORRIGENDA

Corrigendum to Commission call for proposals — to select projects aimed at optimising the socioeconomic benefits of the information society in Europe

(Official Journal of the European Communities C 236 of 28 July 1998)

(98/C 247/11)

On page 28, paragraph 3:

for: '... before September 1998 ...',

read: '... before 14 September 1998 ...'.

NOTICE

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 252 A of 11.8.1998 consists of Volume I (Chapters 1 to 24) of the integrated tariff of the European Communities (Taric) having as date of reference 1 July 1998.

This volume replaces Volume I of the Taric as published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 115 A of 15 April 1998. It has been necessary to update Volume I as a result of changes to the agriculture chapters.

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