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Information and Notices

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance

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I

*(Information)***COUNCIL****Council Resolution concerning the reinforcement of the mobility strategy within the European Research Area (ERA)**

(2001/C 367/01)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION:

1. RECALLING the importance which Heads of State or Government at recent European Councils held at Lisbon, Nice and Stockholm have attached to increased professional and vocational mobility for men and women throughout the European Union;
2. RECALLING the creation of ERA which was endorsed by the Heads of State or Government at the Lisbon European Council; and in this context, RECALLING the need to take steps to remove obstacles to the mobility of researchers in Europe by 2002 and to attract and retain high quality research talent in Europe;
3. RECALLING the Council Resolution of 15 June 2000 and 16 November 2000 in respect of ERA ⁽¹⁾ which invited the Member States and the Commission to cooperate to identify and subsequently to remove obstacles to the mobility of researchers and which welcomed the importance attached to human resources in the creation of ERA and to fostering the mobility of researchers;
4. REAFFIRMS the importance of researchers' mobility in making a reality of ERA; and REITERATES its intention to eliminate persistent obstacles to the mobility of researchers, which are multifaceted in nature and include those of a cultural, social, administrative, legal and regulatory nature;
5. WELCOMES the cooperation established between Member States and the Commission which has led to a first analysis of the major obstacles to researcher mobility;
6. WELCOMES the general approach of the Commission set out in its communication for 'A mobility strategy for ERA' and in particular, EMPHASISES the need to:
 - consider actions to be taken to create a favourable environment for mobility and for the pursuit of scientific excellence by this means;
 - take account of the particular situation of researchers in the context of mobility in general,
 - stress the importance given to human resources and mobility in the context of the sixth EC research framework programme;
7. ENDORSES efforts to:
 - improve information on mobility to researchers, in particular by the creation of a dedicated internet portal, a network of mobility centres, where appropriate building on existing structures, and by the better dissemination of vacancies,
 - examine qualitative issues in respect of, for example, exchanges of best practice and benchmarking;
8. INVITES the Commission:
 - to give due emphasis to the importance of the mobility of researchers in its 'mobility action plan' which will be presented to the European Council in spring 2002 on developing and opening up new European labour markets; as well as, *inter alia*, to promote gender equality and enhance the contribution of young scientists to research,
 - to ensure that the candidate countries are fully associated with the definition and execution of actions in favour of mobility,
 - to report annually on the progress achieved in undertaking its strategy in favour of mobility for researchers.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 205, 19.7.2000, p. 1.
OJ C 374, 28.12.2000, p. 1.

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

20 December 2001

(2001/C 367/02)

1 euro	=	7,4392	Danish krone
	=	9,512	Swedish krona
	=	0,6203	Pound sterling
	=	0,8973	United States dollar
	=	1,4155	Canadian dollar
	=	115,05	Japanese yen
	=	1,4675	Swiss franc
	=	7,984	Norwegian krone
	=	90,31	Icelandic króna ⁽²⁾
	=	1,7677	Australian dollar
	=	2,1751	New Zealand dollar
	=	12,1203	South African rand ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

⁽²⁾ Source: Commission.

Communication from the Commission in the framework of the implementation of Council Directive 89/686/EEC of 21 December 1989 in relation to personal protective equipment ⁽¹⁾, as amended by Directives 93/68/EEC ⁽²⁾, 93/95/EEC ⁽³⁾ and 96/58/EC ⁽⁴⁾

(2001/C 367/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(Publication of titles and references of European harmonised standards under the Directive)

ESO ⁽¹⁾	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) ⁽²⁾
CEN	EN 132:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Definitions of terms and pictograms	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 133:1990	Respiratory protective devices — Classification	19.2.1992
CEN	EN 134:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Nomenclature of components	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 135:1998	Respiratory protective devices — List of equivalent terms	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 136:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Full-face masks: requirements, testing, marking	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 137:1993	Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained open-circuit compressed-air breathing apparatus — requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 138:1994	Respiratory protective devices — Fresh air hose breathing apparatus for use with full face mask, half-mask or mouthpiece assembly — Requirements, testing, marking	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 139:1994	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline breathing apparatus for use with full face mask, half-mask or mouthpiece assembly — Requirements, testing, marking	30.8.1995
CEN	EN 139/A1:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline breathing apparatus for use with a full face mask, half-mask or a mouthpiece assembly — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 1	5.11.1999
CEN	EN 140:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Half-masks and quarter-masks — Requirements, testing, marking	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 141:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Gas filters and combinets filters — Requirements, testing, marking	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 142:1989	Respiratory protective devices — Mouthpieces assemblies — Requirements, testing, marking	19.2.1992

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 399, 30.12.1989, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 220, 30.8.1993, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 276, 9.11.1993, p. 11.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 236, 18.9.1996, p. 44.

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 143:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Particle filters — Requirements, testing, marking	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 144-1:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Gas cylinder valves — Thread connection for insert connector	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 144-2:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Gas cylinder valves — Part 2: Outlet connections	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 145:1997	Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus compressed oxygen or compressed oxygen-nitrogen type — Requirements, testing, marking	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 145/A1:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus compressed oxygen or compressed oxygen-nitrogen type — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 1	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 148-1:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Threads for facepieces — Part 1: Standard thread connection	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 148-2:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Threads for facepieces — Part 2: Centre thread connection	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 148-3:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Threads for facepieces — Part 3: Thread connection M 45 x 3	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 149:2001	Respiratory protective devices — Filtering half-masks to protect against particles — Requirements, testing, marking	This is the first publication

Warning: The presumption of conformity, conferred by standard EN 149 of 1991 published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 240, 19.9.1992, ends from the date of this publication.

CEN	EN 165:1995	Personal eye protection — Vocabulary	15.5.1996
CEN	EN 166:1995	Personal eye protection — Specifications	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 167:1995	Personal eye protection — Optical test methods	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 168:1995	Personal eye protection — Non-optical test methods	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 169:1992	Personal eye protection — Filters for welding and related techniques — Transmittance requirements and recommended utilisation	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 170:1992	Personal eye protection — Ultraviolet filters — transmittance requirements and recommended use	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 171:1992	Personal eye protection — Infrared filters — transmittance requirements and recommended use	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 172:1994	Personal eye protection — Sunglare filters for industrial use	15.5.1996
CEN	EN 172/A1:2000	Personal eye protection — Sunglare filters for industrial use — Amendment 1	4.7.2000

ESO ⁽¹⁾	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) ⁽²⁾
CEN	EN 174:2001	Personal eye protection — Ski goggles for downhill skiing	This is the first publication

Warning: The presumption of conformity, conferred by standard EN 174 of 1996 published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 180, 14.6.1997, ends from the date of this publication.

CEN	EN 175:1997	Personal protection — Equipment for eye and face protection during welding and allied processes	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 207:1998	Personal eye protection — Filters and eye-protectors against laser radiation (laser-eyes protectors)	21.11.1998
CEN	EN 208:1998	Personal eye protection — Eye-protectors for adjustment work on lasers and laser systems (laser adjustment eye protectors)	21.11.1998
CEN	EN 250:2000	Respiratory equipment — Open-circuit self-contained compressed air diving apparatus — Requirements, testing, marking	8.6.2000
CEN	EN 269:1994	Respiratory protective devices — Powered fresh air hose breathing apparatus incorporating a hood — Requirements, testing, marking	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 270:1994	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline breathing apparatus incorporating a hood — Requirements, testing, marking	30.8.1995
CEN	EN 270/A1:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline breathing apparatus incorporating a hood — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 1	8.6.2000
CEN	EN 271:1995	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline or powered fresh air hose breathing apparatus incorporating a hood for use in abrasive blasting operations — Requirements, testing, marking	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 271/A1:2000	Respiratory protective devices — Compressed airline or powered fresh air hose breathing apparatus incorporating a hood for use in abrasive blasting operations — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 1	8.6.2000
CEN	EN 340:1993	Protective clothing — General requirements.	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 341:1992	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — Descender devices	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 341/A1:1996	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — Descender devices — Amendment 1	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 344:1992	Requirements and test methods for safety, protective and occupational footwear for professional use	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 344/A1:1997	Requirements and test methods for safety, protective and occupational footwear for professional use — Amendment 1	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 344-2:1996	Safety, protective and occupational footwear for professional use — Part 2: Additional requirements and test methods	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 345:1992	Specification for safety footwear for professional use	23.12.1993

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 345/A1:1997	Specification for safety footwear for professional use — Amendment 1	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 345-2:1996	Safety footwear for professional use — Part 2: Additional specifications	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 346:1992	Specification for protective footwear for professional use	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 346/A1:1997	Specification for protective footwear for professional use — Amendment 1	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 346-2:1996	Protective footwear for professional use — Part 2: Additional specifications	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 347:1992	Specification for occupational footwear for professional use	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 347/A1:1997	Specification for occupational footwear for professional use — Amendment 1	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 347-2:1996	Occupational footwear for professional use — Part 2: Additional specifications	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 348:1992	Protective clothing — Test method: determination of behaviour of materials on impact of small splashes of molten metal	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 352-1:1993	Hearing protectors — Safety requirements and testing — Part 1: ear-muffs	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 352-2:1993	Hearing protectors — Safety requirements and testing — Part 2: ear-plugs	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 352-3:1996	Hearing protectors — Safety requirements and testing — Part 3: ear-muffs attached to an industrial safety helmet	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 353-1:1992	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — guided-type fall arresters — Part 1: guided-type fall arresters on a rigid anchorage line	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 353-2:1992	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — guided-type fall arresters — Part 2: guided-type fall arresters on a flexible anchorage line	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 354:1992	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — Lanyards	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 355:1992	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — Energy absorbers	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 358:1999	Personal protective equipment for work positioning and prevention of falls from a height — Belts for work positioning and restraint and work positioning lanyards	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 360:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — Retractable type fall arresters	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 361:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — Full body harnesses	23.12.1993

Warning: The presumption of conformity, conferred by standard EN 358 of 1992 published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 345, 23.12.1993, ends from the date of this publication.

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 362:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — Connectors	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 363:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — Fall arrest systems	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 364:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — Test methods	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 365:1992	Personal equipment against falls from a height — General requirements for instructions for use and for marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 366:1993	Protective clothing — Protection against heat and fire — Method of test: Evaluation of materials and material assemblies when exposed to a source of radiant heat	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 367:1992	Protective clothing — Protection against heat and fire — Method of determining heat transmission on exposure to flame	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 368:1992	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Test method: resistance of materials to penetration by liquids	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 369:1993	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Test method: resistance of materials to permeation by liquids	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 371:1992	Respiratory protective devices — AX gas filters and combined filters against low-boiling point organic compounds — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 372:1992	Respiratory protective devices — SX gas filters and combined filters against specific named compounds — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 373:1993	Protective clothing — Assessment of resistance of materials to molten metal splash	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 374-1:1994	Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms — Part 1: Terminology and performance requirements	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 374-2:1994	Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms — Part 2: Determination of resistance to penetration	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 374-3:1994	Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms — Part 3: Determination of resistance to permeation by chemicals	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 379:1994	Specification for welding filters with switchable luminous transmittance and welding filters with dual luminous transmittance	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 379/A1:1998	Specification for welding filters with switchable luminous transmittance and welding filters with dual luminous transmittance — Amendment 1	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 381-1:1993	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain saws — Part 1: Test rig for testing resistance to cutting by a chainsaw	23.12.1993

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 381-2:1995	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain saws — Part 2: Test methods for leg protectors	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 381-3:1996	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain-saws — Part 3: Test methods for footwear	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 381-4:1999	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chainsaws — Part 4: Test methods for chainsaw protective gloves	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 381-5:1995	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain saws — Part 5: Requirements for leg protectors	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 381-7:1999	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chainsaws — Part 7: Requirements for chainsaw protective gloves	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 381-8:1997	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain saws — Part 8: Test methods for chain saw protective gaiters	18.10.1997
CEN	EN 381-9:1997	Protective clothing for users of hand-held chain saws — Part 9: Requirements for chain saw protective gaiters	18.10.1997
CEN	EN 388:1994	Protective gloves against mechanical risks	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 393:1993	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Buoyancy aids — 50 N	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 393/A1:1998	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Buoyancy aids — 50 N — Amendment 1	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 394:1993	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Additional items	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 395:1993	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 100 N	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 395/A1:1998	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 100 N — Amendment 1	11.6.1998
CEN	EN 396:1993	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 150 N	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 396/A1:1998	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 150 N — Amendment 1	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 397:1995	Industrial safety helmets	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 397/A1:2000	Industrial safety helmets — Amendment 1	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 399:1993	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 275 N	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 399/A1:1998	Lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids — Lifejackets — 275 N	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 400:1993	Respiratory protective devices for self-rescue — Self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus — compressed oxygen escape apparatus — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 401:1993	Respiratory protective devices for self-rescue — Self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus — chemical oxygen (KO ₂) — escape apparatus — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 402:1993	Respiratory protective devices for escape — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus with full face mask or mouthpiece assembly — Requirements, testing, marking	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 403:1993	Respiratory protective devices for self-rescue — Filtering devices with hood for self-rescue from fire — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 404:1993	Respiratory protective devices for self-rescue — Filter self-rescuer — Requirements, testing, marking	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 405:1992	Respiratory protective devices — valved filtering half-masks to protect against gases or gases and particles — Requirements, testing, marking	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 407:1994	Protective gloves against thermal risks (heat and/or fire)	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 412:1993	Protective aprons for use with hand-knives	23.12.1993
CEN	EN 420:1994	General requirements for gloves	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 421:1994	Protective gloves against ionising radiation and radioactive contamination	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 443:1997	Helmets for firefighters	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 458:1993	Hearing protectors — Recommendations for selection, use, care and maintenance — Guidance document	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 463:1994	Protective clothing for use against liquid chemicals — Test method: Determination of resistance to penetration by a jet of liquid (jet test)	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 464:1994	Protective clothing for use against liquid and gaseous chemicals including aerosols and solid particles — Test method: Determination of leak-tightness of gas-tight suits (internal pressure test)	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 465:1995	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for chemical protective clothing with spray-tight connections between different parts of the clothing (Type 4 equipment)	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 465/A1:1998	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for chemical protective clothing with spray-tight connections between different parts of the clothing (Type 4 equipment) — Amendment 1	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 466:1995	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for chemical protective clothing with liquid-tight connections between different parts of the clothing (Type 3 equipment)	12.1.1996

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 466/A1:1998	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for chemical protective clothing with liquid-tight connections between different parts of the clothing (Type 3 equipment) — Amendment 1	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 467:1995	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for garments providing protection to parts of the body	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 467/A1:1998	Protective clothing — Protection against liquid chemicals — Performance requirements for garments providing protection to parts of the body — Amendment 1	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 468:1994	Protective clothing for use against liquid chemicals — Test method: Determination of resistance to penetration by spray (spray test)	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 469:1995	Protective clothing for fire-fighters — Requirements and test methods for protective clothing for firefighting	15.5.1996
CEN	EN 470-1:1995	Protective clothing for use in welding and allied processes — Part 1: General requirements	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 470-1/A1:1998	Protective clothing for use in welding and allied processes — Part 1: General requirements — Amendment 1	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 471:1994	High-visibility warning clothing	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 510:1993	Specification for protective clothing for use where there is a risk of entanglement with moving parts	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 511:1994	Protective gloves against cold	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 530:1994	Abrasion resistance of protective clothing material — Test methods	30.8.1995
CEN	EN 531:1995	Protective clothing for industrial workers exposed to heat (excluding firefighters' and welders' clothing)	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 531/A1:1998	Protective clothing for workers exposed to heat — Amendment 1	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 532:1994	Protective clothing — Protection against heat and flame — Test method for limited flame spread	12.1.1996
CEN	EN 533:1997	Protective clothing — Protection against heat and flame — Limited flame spread materials and material assemblies	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 568:1997	Mountaineering equipment — Ice anchors — Safety requirements and test methods	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 659:1996	Protective gloves for fire-fighters	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 702:1994	Protective clothing — Protection against heat and flame — Test method: Determination of the contact heat transmission through protective clothing or its materials	12.1.1996

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 795:1996	Protection against falls from a height — Anchor devices — Requirements and testing	12.2.2000

Warning: This publication does not concern the equipment described in classes A (structural anchors), C (anchor devices employing horizontal flexible lines), and D (anchor devices employing horizontal rigid anchor rails) referred to in paragraphs 3.13.1, 3.13.3, 3.13.4, 4.3.1, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.4, 5.2.5, 5.3.2 (in respect of class A 1), 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.5, 6 (in respect of classes A, C and D), Annex A (paragraphs A.2, A.3, A.5 and A.6), Annex B, and Annex ZA (in respect of classes A, C and D), in respect of which there shall be no presumption of conformity with the provisions of Directive 89/686/EEC.

CEN	EN 795/A1:2000	Protection against falls from a height — Anchor devices — Requirements and testing — Amendment 1	24.1.2001
CEN	EN 812:1997	Industrial bump caps	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 813:1997	Personal protective equipment for prevention of falls from a height — Sit harnesses	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 863:1995	Protective clothing — Mechanical properties — Test method: Puncture resistance	15.5.1996
CEN	EN 892:1996	Mountaineering equipment — Dynamic mountaineering ropes — Safety requirements and test methods	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 958:1996	Mountaineering equipment — Energy absorbing systems for use in <i>klettersteig</i> (via ferrata) climbing — Safety requirements and test methods	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 960:1994	Headforms for use in the testing of protective helmets	15.5.1996
CEN	EN 960/A1:1998	Headforms for use in the testing of protective helmets — Amendment 1	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 966:1996	Helmets for airborne sports	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 966/A1:2000	Helmets for airborne sports — Amendment 1	4.7.2000
CEN	EN 967:1996	Head protectors for ice hockey players	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1061:1996	Respiratory protective devices for escape — Self-contained closed-circuit breathing apparatus — Chemical oxygen (NaClO ₃) escape apparatus — Requirements, testing, marking	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1073-1:1998	Protective clothing against radioactive contamination — Part 1: Requirements and test methods for ventilated protective clothing against particulate radioactive contamination	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 1077:1996	Helmets for alpine skiers	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 1078:1997	Helmets for pedal cyclists and for users of skateboards and roller-skates	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1080:1997	Impact protection helmets for young children	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1082-1:1996	Protective clothing — Gloves and arm guards protection against cuts and stabs by hand knives — Part 1: Chain-mail gloves and arm guards	14.6.1997

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 1082-2:2000	Protective clothing — Gloves and arm guards protection against cuts and stabs by hand knives — Part 2: Chain-mail gloves and arm guards	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 1082-3:2000	Protective clothing — Gloves and arm guards protecting against cuts and stabs by hand knives — Part 3: Impact cut test for fabric, leather and other materials	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 1095:1998	Deck safety harness and safety line for use on recreational craft — Safety requirements and test methods	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 1146:1997	Respiratory protective devices for self-rescue — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood (compressed air escape apparatus with hood) — Requirements, testing, marking	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1146/A1:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood (compressed air escape apparatus with hood) — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 1	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 1146/A2:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Self-contained open-circuit compressed air breathing apparatus incorporating a hood (compressed air escape apparatus with hood) — Requirements, testing, marking — Amendment 2	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 1149-1:1995	Protective clothing — Electrostatic properties — Part 1: Surface resistivity (Test methods and requirements)	10.10.1996
CEN	EN 1149-2:1997	Protective clothing — Electrostatic properties — Part 2: Test method for measurement of the electrical resistance through a material (vertical resistance)	19.2.1998
CEN	EN 1150:1999	Protective clothing — Visibility clothing for non-professional use — Test methods and requirements	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 1384:1996	Helmets for equestrian activities	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1385:1997	Helmets for canoeing and white water sports	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 1486:1996	Protective clothing for firefighters — Test methods and requirements for reflective clothing for specialised fire-fighting	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 1621-1:1997	Motorcyclists' protective clothing against mechanical impact — Part 1: Requirements and test methods for impact protectors	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 1731:1997	Mesh-type eye and face protectors for industrial and non-industrial use against mechanical hazards and/or heat	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1731/A1:1997	Mesh-type eye and face protectors for industrial and non-industrial use against mechanical hazards and/or heat — Amendment 1	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 1809:1997	Diving accessories — Buoyancy compensators — Functional and safety requirements, test methods	13.6.1998
CEN	EN 1827:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Half-masks without inhalation valves and with separable filters to protect against gases or gases and particles or particles only — Requirements, testing, marking	24.2.2001

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 1835:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Light duty construction compressed airline breathing apparatus incorporating a helmet or a hood — Requirements, testing, marking	8.6.2000
CEN	EN 1836:1997	Personal eye protection — Sunglasses and sunglare filters for general use	14.6.1997
CEN	EN 1836/A1:2001	Personal eye protection — Sunglasses and sunglare filters for general use — Amendment 1	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 1868:1997	Personal protective equipment against falls from a height — List of equivalent terms	18.10.1997
CEN	EN 1891:1998	Personal protective equipment for the prevention of falls from a height — Low stretch kernmantel ropes	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 1938:1998	Personal eye protection — Goggles for motorcycle and moped users	4.6.1999
CEN	EN ISO 4869-2:1995	Acoustics — Hearing protectors — Part 2: Estimation of effective A-weighted sound pressure levels when hearing protectors are worn (ISO 4869-2:1994)	15.5.1996
CEN	EN ISO 10819:1996	Mechanical vibration and shock — Hand-arm vibration — Method for the measurement and evaluation of the vibration transmissibility of gloves at the palm of the hand (ISO 10819:1996)	3.12.1996
CEN	EN 12083:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Filters with breathing hoses, (Non-mask mounted filters) — Particle filters, gas filters and combined filters — Requirements, testing, marking	4.7.2000
CEN	EN 12270:1998	Mountaineering equipment — Chocks — Safety requirements and test methods	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 12275:1998	Mountaineering equipment — Connectors — Safety requirements and test methods	16.3.2000
CEN	EN 12276:1998	Mountaineering equipment — Frictional anchors — Safety requirements and test methods	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 12277:1998	Mountaineering equipment — Harnesses — Safety requirements and test methods	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 12278:1998	Mountaineering equipment — Pulleys — Safety requirements and test methods	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 12419:1999	Respiratory protective devices — Light duty construction compressed airline breathing apparatus incorporating a full face mask, half-mask or quarter mask — Requirements, testing, marking	5.11.1999
CEN	EN 12492:2000	Mountaineering equipment — Helmets for mountaineers — Safety requirements and test methods	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 12568:1998	Foot and leg protectors — Requirements and test methods for toecaps and metal penetration resistant inserts	6.11.1998
CEN	EN 12628:1999	Diving accessories — Combined buoyancy and rescue devices — Functional and safety requirements, test methods	4.7.2000

ESO (1)	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) (2)
CEN	EN 12941:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Powered filtering devices incorporating a helmet or a hood — Requirements, testing, marking	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 12942:1998	Respiratory protective devices — Power assisted filtering devices incorporating full face masks, half-masks or quarter-masks — Requirements, testing, marking	4.6.1999
CEN	EN 13087-4:2000	Protective helmets — Test methods — Part 4: Retention system effectiveness	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13087-5:2000	Protective helmets — Test methods — Part 5: Retention system strength	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 13087-8:2000	Protective helmets — Test methods — Part 8: Electrical properties	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13087-10:2000	Protective helmets — Test methods — Part 10: Resistance to radiant heat	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13158:2000	Protective clothing — Protective jackets, body and shoulder protectors for horse riders — Requirements and test methods	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 13178:2000	Personal eye protection — Eye protectors and for snow-mobile users	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13274-1:2001	Respiratory protective devices — Methods of test — Part 1: Determination of inward leakage and total inward leakage	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13274-2:2001	Respiratory protective devices — Methods of test — Part 2: Practical performance tests	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13274-5:2001	Respiratory protective devices — Methods of test — Part 5: Climatic conditions	This is the first publication
CEN	EN 13277-1:2000	Protective equipment for martial arts — Part 1: General requirements and test methods	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 13277-2:2000	Protective equipment for martial arts — Part 2: Additional requirements and test methods for instep protectors, shin protectors and forearm protectors	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 13277-3:2000	Protective equipment for martial arts — Part 3: Additional requirements and test methods for trunk protectors	24.2.2001
CEN	EN 13356:2001	Visibility accessories for non-professional use — Test methods and requirements	This is the first publication
CEN	EN ISO 13997:1999	Protective clothing — Mechanical properties — Determination of resistance to cutting by sharp objects (ISO 13997:1999)	4.7.2000
CEN	EN ISO 14460:1999	Protective clothing for automobile racing drivers — Protection against heat and flame — Performance requirements and test methods (ISO 14460:1999)	16.3.2000

ESO ⁽¹⁾	Reference	Title of the harmonised standards	First publication (OJ) ⁽²⁾
CEN	EN 24869-1:1992	Acoustics — Hearing protectors — Part 1: Subjective method for the measurement of sound attenuation (ISO 4869-1:1990)	16.12.1994
CEN	EN 24869-3:1993	Acoustics — Hearing protectors — Part 3: Simplified method for the measurement of insertion loss of ear-muff type protectors for quality inspection purposes (ISO/TR 4869-3:1989)	16.12.1994
Cenelec	EN 50237:1997	Gloves and mitts with mechanical protection for electrical purposes	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 50286:1999	Electrical insulating protective clothing for low-voltage installations	16.3.2000
Cenelec	EN 50321:1999	Electrically insulating footwear for working on low-voltage installations	16.3.2000
Cenelec	EN 60743:1996	Terminology for tools and equipment to be used in live working (IEC 60743:1983 + A1:1995)	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 60895:1996	Conductive clothing for live working at a nominal voltage up to 800 kV a.c. (IEC 60895:1987 — Modified)	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 60903:1992	Specification for gloves and mitts of insulating material for live working (IEC 60903:1988 — Modified)	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 60903/A11:1997	Specification for gloves and mitts of insulating material for live working — Amendment 11	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 60984:1992	Sleeves of insulating material for live working (IEC 60984:1990 — Modified)	4.6.1999
Cenelec	EN 60984/A11:1997	Sleeves of insulating material for live working — Amendment 11	4.6.1999

⁽¹⁾ ESO (European standardisation organisation):

- CEN: rue de Stassart/Stassartstraat 36, B-1050 Brussels, tel. (32-2) 550 08 11, fax (32-2) 550 08 19,
- Cenelec: rue de Stassart/Stassartstraat 35, B-1050 Brussels, tel. (32-2) 519 68 71, fax (32-2) 519 69 19,
- ETSI: 650, route des Lucioles, F-06921 Sophia Antipolis Cedex, tel. (33-4) 92 94 42 00, fax (33-4) 93 65 47 16.

⁽²⁾ Date from which the use of this standard guarantees a presumption of conformity to the essential requirements it covers.

NOTE:

Any information concerning the availability of the standards can be obtained either from the European standardisation organisation or from the national standardisation bodies of which the list is annexed to the Directive 98/34/EC ⁽¹⁾ of the European Parliament and Council amended by the Directive 98/48/EC ⁽²⁾.

Publication of the references in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* does not imply that the standards are available in all the Community languages.

This list replaces all the previous lists published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

The Commission ensures the updating of this list.

A complete updated list can be found on the Europa server in the Internet at:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/newapproach/standardization/harmstds/reflist/ppe.html>

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 204, 21.7.1998, p. 37.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 217, 5.8.1998, p. 18.

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of rubber-grade carbon blacks originating in Egypt and Russia

(2001/C 367/04)

The Commission has received a complaint pursuant to Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 384/96⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2238/2000⁽²⁾ ('the Basic Regulation'), alleging that imports of rubber grade carbon blacks, originating in Egypt and Russia ('countries concerned'), are being dumped and are thereby causing material injury to the Community industry.

1. Complaint

The complaint was lodged on 12 November 2001 by CEFIC (European Chemical Industry Council) ('the complainant') on behalf of producers representing a major proportion, in this case more than 75 %, of the total Community production of rubber-grade carbon blacks.

2. Product

The product allegedly being dumped is rubber-grade carbon blacks, a carbon-based chemical used as a functional filler in rubber products due to its reinforcing properties, originating in Egypt and Russia ('the product concerned'), currently classifiable within CN codes ex 2803 00 10 and ex 2803 00 80. These CN codes are only given for information.

3. Allegation of dumping

The allegation of dumping in respect of Egypt is based on a comparison of normal value established on the basis of a constructed normal value and domestic prices, with the export prices of the product concerned to the Community.

In view of provisions of Article 2(7) of the Basic Regulation, the complainant established normal value for Russia on the basis of domestic prices in a market economy country, which is mentioned in point 5(1)(d) of this notice. The allegation of dumping is based on a comparison of normal value, as set out in the preceding sentence, with the export prices of the product concerned when sold for export to the Community.

On this basis, the dumping margins calculated are significant.

4. Allegation of injury

The complainant has provided evidence that imports of the product concerned from Egypt and Russia have increased overall in absolute terms and in terms of market share.

It is alleged that the volumes and the prices of the imported product concerned have, among other consequences, had a negative impact on the market share held, the quantities sold

and the level of prices charged by the Community industry, resulting in substantial adverse effects on the overall performance and the financial situation of the Community industry.

5. Procedure

Having determined, after consulting the Advisory Committee, that the complaint has been lodged by or on behalf of the Community industry and that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of a proceeding, the Commission hereby initiates an investigation pursuant to Article 5 of the Basic Regulation.

5.1. Procedure for the determination of dumping and injury

The investigation will determine whether the product concerned originating in Egypt and Russia is being dumped and whether this dumping has caused injury.

(a) Sampling

In view of the apparent large number of parties involved in this proceeding, the Commission may decide to apply sampling in accordance with Article 17 of the Basic Regulation.

(i) Sampling for importers

In order to enable the Commission to decide whether sampling is necessary and, if so, to select a sample, all importers, or representatives acting on their behalf, are hereby requested to make themselves known to the Commission and to provide the following information on their company or companies within the time limit set in point 6(b)(i) of this notice:

- name, address, e-mail address, telephone, and fax, and/or telex numbers and contact person,
- the total turnover in euro of the company during the period 1 October 2000 to 30 September 2001,
- the total number of employees,
- the precise activities of the company with regard to the product concerned,
- the volume in tonnes and value in euro of imports into and resales made in the Community market during the period 1 October 2000 to 30 September 2001 of the imported product concerned originating in Egypt and Russia,

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 56, 6.3.1996, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 257, 11.10.2000, p. 2.

- the names and the precise activities of all related companies ⁽¹⁾ involved in the production and/or selling of the product concerned,
- any other relevant information that would assist the Commission in the selection of the sample,
- an indication of whether the company or companies agree to their inclusion in the sample, which implies replying to a questionnaire and accepting an on-the-spot investigation of their response.

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for the selection of the sample of importers, the Commission will, in addition, contact any known associations of importers.

(ii) Final selection of the sample

All interested parties wishing to submit any relevant information regarding the selection of the sample must do so within the time limit set in point 6(b)(i) of this notice.

The Commission intends to make the final selection of the sample after having consulted the parties concerned that have expressed their willingness to be included in the sample.

Companies included in the sample must reply to a questionnaire within the time limit set in point 6(b)(ii) of this notice and must cooperate within the framework of the investigation.

If sufficient cooperation is not forthcoming, the Commission will base its findings, in accordance with Articles 17(4) and 18 of the Basic Regulation, on the facts available.

(b) *Questionnaires*

In order to obtain the information it deems necessary for its investigation, the Commission will send questionnaires to the Community industry and to any association of producers in the Community, to the exporters/producers in Egypt and Russia to any association of exporters/producers, to the sampled importers, to any association of importers named in the complaint, and to the authorities of the exporting countries concerned.

In any event, all parties should contact the Commission forthwith by fax, but not later than the time limit set out in point 6(a)(i) of this notice, in order to find out whether they are listed in the complaint and, if necessary, request a

questionnaire, given that the time limit set in point 6(a)(ii) of this notice applies to all such interested parties.

(c) *Collection of information and holding of hearings*

All interested parties are hereby invited to make their views known, submit information other than questionnaire replies and to provide supporting evidence. This information and supporting evidence has to reach the Commission within the time limit set in point 6(a)(ii) of this notice.

Furthermore, the Commission may hear interested parties, provided that they make a request showing that there are particular reasons why they should be heard. This request must be made within the time limit set in point 6(a)(iii) of this notice.

(d) *Selection of the market economy country*

In accordance with Article 2(7)(a) of the Basic Regulation, it is envisaged to choose Hungary as an appropriate market economy country for the purpose of establishing normal value in respect of Russia. Interested parties are hereby invited to comment on the appropriateness of this choice within the specific time limit set in point 6(c) of this notice.

(e) *Market economy status*

For those exporters/producers in Russia who claim and provide sufficient evidence that they operate under market economy conditions, i.e. that they meet the criteria laid down in Article 2(7)(c) of the Basic Regulation, normal value will be determined in accordance with Article 2(7)(b) of the Basic Regulation. Exporters/producers intending to submit duly substantiated claims must do so within the specific time limit set in point 6(d) of this notice. The Commission will send claim forms to all exporters/producers in Russia and to any association of exporters/producers named in the complaint, as well as to the authorities of Russia.

5.2. *Procedure for assessment of Community interest*

In accordance with Article 21 of the Basic Regulation and in the event that the allegations of dumping and injury caused thereby are substantiated, a decision will be reached as to whether the adoption of anti-dumping measures would not be against the Community interest. For this reason the Community industry, importers, their representative associations, representative users and representative consumer organisations, provided that they prove that there is an objective link between their activity and the product concerned, may, within the general time limits set in point 6(a)(ii) of this notice, make themselves known and provide the Commission with information. The parties which have acted in conformity with the precedent sentence may request a hearing setting the particular reasons why they should be heard within the time limit set in point 6(a)(iii) of this notice. It should be noted that any information submitted pursuant to Article 21 will only be taken into account if supported by factual evidence at the time of submission.

⁽¹⁾ For guidance on the meaning of related companies, please refer to Article 143(1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 concerning the implementation of the Community Customs Code (OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1).

6. Time limits

(a) General time limits

(i) For parties to request a questionnaire or other claim forms

All interested parties should request a questionnaire or other claim forms as soon as possible, but not later than 15 days after the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

(ii) For parties to make themselves known, to submit questionnaire replies and any other information

All interested parties, if their representations are to be taken into account during the investigation, must make themselves known by contacting the Commission, present their views and submit questionnaire replies or any other information within 40 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, unless otherwise specified. Attention is drawn to the fact that the exercise of most procedural rights set out in the Basic Regulation depends on the party's making itself known within the aforementioned period.

Companies selected in a sample must submit questionnaire replies within the time limits specified in point 6(b)(ii) of this notice.

(iii) Hearings

All interested parties may also apply to be heard by the Commission within the same 40-day time limit.

(b) Specific time limit in respect of sampling

(i) All information relevant for the selection of the sample should reach the Commission within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, given that the Commission intends to consult parties concerned that have expressed their willingness to be included therein on the final selection of the sample within a period of 21 days of the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

(ii) The questionnaire replies from sampled parties must reach the Commission within 37 days from the date of the notification of their inclusion in the sample.

(c) Specific time limit for the selection of the market economy country

Parties to the investigation may wish to comment on the appropriateness of Hungary which, as mentioned in point

5(1)(d) of this notice, is envisaged as a market economy country for the purpose of establishing normal value in respect of Russia. These comments must reach the Commission within 10 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

(d) *Specific time limit for submission of claims for market economy status*

Duly substantiated claims for market economy status, as mentioned in point 5(1)(e) of this notice, must reach the Commission within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

7. Written submissions, questionnaire replies and correspondence

All submissions and requests made by interested parties must be made in writing (not in electronic format, unless otherwise specified), and must indicate the name, address, e-mail address, telephone and fax, and/or telex numbers of the interested party.

Commission address for correspondence:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Trade
Directorates B and C
TERV — 0/13
B-1049 Brussels
Fax (32-2) 295 65 05
Telex: COMEU B 21877.

8. Non-cooperation

In cases in which any interested party refuses access to or does not provide the necessary information within the time limits, or significantly impedes the investigation, provisional or final findings, affirmative or negative, may be made in accordance with Article 18 of the Basic Regulation, on the basis of the facts available.

Where it is found that any interested party has supplied false or misleading information, the information shall be disregarded and use may be made of the facts available.

9. Schedule of the investigation

The investigation will be concluded, according to Article 6(9) of the Basic Regulation within 15 months of the date of the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. According to Article 7(1) of the Basic Regulation, provisional measures may be imposed no later than nine months from the publication of this notice in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

STATE AID — SPAIN

Aid C 39/2001 (ex N 11/2001) — Restructuring aid in favour of Minas de Río Tinto SAL

Invitation to submit comments pursuant to Article 88(2) of the EC Treaty

(2001/C 367/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

By means of the letter dated 20 June 2001, reproduced in the authentic language on the pages following this summary, the Commission notified Spain of its decision to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 88(2) of the EC Treaty concerning the abovementioned aid.

Interested parties may submit their comments on the aid in respect of which the Commission is initiating the procedure within one month of the date of publication of this summary and the following letter, to:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
State Aid Registry
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
Fax (32-2) 296 12 42.

These comments will be communicated to Spain. Confidential treatment of the identity of the interested party submitting the comments may be requested in writing, stating the reasons for the request.

SUMMARY

By letter dated 9 January 2001 the Spanish authorities notified the aid that Spain planned to implement in favour of MRT for restructuring purposes consisting of a loan of ESP 1 000 million (EUR 6 million) granted by the ICO.

By letter dated 15 February 2001, the Spanish authorities informed the Commission that the State guarantee approved by the Commission as rescue aid (State aid N 498/99. OJ C 94, 1.4.2000) would be in force until 31 December 2003.

MRT belongs to its own workers under the legal form of a 'labour limited company' (Sociedad Anónima Laboral) where the shares are distributed among all the workers. It was founded in 1995 by former workers from Rio Tinto Minera (nowadays Atlantic Copper SA) with the aim of taking over Rio Tinto Minera's mining activities. The company is mainly active in the extraction of copper, gold and silver. Its copper production amounts to approximately 30 000 tonnes per year.

Because of falling copper prices on the world market, MRT ceased the copper extraction in September 1998 and applied to the Spanish authorities for a temporary lay-off, an administrative situation whereby work contracts are suspended over a limited period and the workers qualify for unemployment benefits. This situation was prolonged through 1999 for most of its workers. Following the approval by the Commission of rescue aid in February 2000, MRT restarted its copper operations. In November 2000, however, the company had

to temporarily cease production again due to the lack of funds and the evolution in the prices of copper.

On 26 November 1998 the company requested the suspension of debt payments. It continued, nevertheless, its gold and silver activities, which represented around 15 % of its total turnover, under judicial review. On 12 January 2001, the judge approved, after having obtained the agreement of the majority of the creditors, the plan for the reduction and rescheduling of MRT's ordinary debts amounting to EUR 25,5 million. MRT has made substantial losses in the years 1997-2000.

From the industrial point of view, the restructuring plan presented by the Spanish authorities aims at the exploitation of MRT's copper reserves with higher metal contents withdrawing from the gold/silver activities. From the financial point of view, the plan is based on the termination of the insolvency proceedings with the acceptance by creditors of a reduction and a rescheduling of their credits, the continuance of the guarantee by the Junta de Andalucía of the loan of ESP 1 500 million approved as rescue aid, the disbursement by the Junta de Andalucía of the remaining of the aid already approved in 1997 and 1998 (aid approved amounting to ESP 1 243 million of which ESP 364 million have not yet been disbursed) under regional schemes approved by the Commission, and the granting of a loan by the ICO amounting to ESP 1 000 million. MRT has also decided to initiate the legal steps for increasing its capital and is looking for an investor with industrial and commercial activities in the copper sector.

The key factor for the restructuring plan is the recovery of the price of copper. The assumption of the plan is that copper prices will be USD 1 850/t for 2000, USD 2 137/t for 2001 and USD 2 250/t for the period 2002-2005. These figures have been obtained by extrapolating the historical trends. According to the plan, the mine is only profitable if copper prices stay over USD 1 750 per tonne.

Both the State guarantee on the loan of ESP 1 500 million and the loan by the ICO of ESP 1 000 million are State aid as the company would not have been able to obtain funds from private sources. They are part of the restructuring plan presented by the Spanish authorities, they are intended to restore MRT's long-term viability and therefore tend to distort competition. Since copper is traded throughout the Community, this aid affects trade between Member States and therefore they fall within the scope of Article 87(1) of the EC Treaty.

As the primary objective of the aid concerns the restoration of long-term viability of an undertaking in difficulty the Community guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter rescue and restructuring guidelines) apply.

The rescue and restructuring guidelines require that the restructuring plan 'must restore the long-term viability of the firm within a reasonable timescale and on the basis of realistic assumptions as to future operating conditions'. The improvement in viability 'must derive mainly from internal measures contained in the restructuring plan and may be based on external factors such as variations in prices and demand over which the company has no great influence if the market assumptions made are generally acknowledged' (point 32). It should be noted that in the present case, the main factor on which viability is based is the price of copper of USD 2 137/t (EUR 2 171) in 2001 and USD 2 250/t (EUR 2 258) for the period 2002-2005.

Although it is expected that copper prices will increase above its 1999 levels, the assumptions included in MRT's restructuring plan are not generally acknowledged. In fact, for instance, in the first four months of 2001, the price of copper was only USD 1 738. Moreover, it should be noted that in 2000 copper prices have been over the minimum value contemplated in the plan and nevertheless MRT has made huge losses and has had to stop production again. This constitutes already an indication that the assumptions of the plan might be over optimistic as to MRT's costs.

In any case, as noted above, if the prices of copper do not reach the expected values, the only solution for the company is to stop production. In the case of MRT, since copper extraction would be its only source of revenues, the stop in production would only aggravate its already deteriorated financial situation. In such circumstances MRT would not be able to

generate resources to pay its debts or its suppliers and to carry out the necessary investments. On this ground only, the restructuring plan does not appear to enable MRT to progress towards a new structure that offers it prospects for long-term viability and enables it to stand on its own feet as the restructuring guidelines require.

The rescue and restructuring guidelines also expect the beneficiaries of the aid to make a significant contribution to the restructuring plan through their own resources. In the present case, MRT does not make any contribution to the restructuring plan through its own resources. For the time being, neither the increase in capital nor the participation of an industrial partner are secured and therefore this condition does not appear to be met.

The Commission, at this stage of the procedure, has doubts that the implementation of the restructuring plan will restore MRT's long-term viability and that the aid is limited to the minimum. It has therefore decided to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 88(2) of the EC Treaty against both the State guarantee on the loan of ESP 1 500 million and the loan by the ICO of ESP 1 000 million in favour of MRT.

In accordance with Article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999, all unlawful aid can be subject to recovery from the recipient.

TEXT OF THE LETTER

'Por la presente, la Comisión tiene el honor de comunicar a España que, tras haber examinado la información facilitada por sus autoridades sobre la ayuda arriba indicada, ha decidido incoar el procedimiento previsto en el apartado 2 del artículo 88 del Tratado CE.

1. EL PROCEDIMIENTO

- (1) Mediante carta de 9 de agosto de 1999 las autoridades españolas notificaron a la Comisión su intención de conceder una ayuda de salvamento a Minas de Río Tinto SAL (en lo sucesivo, «MRT»), en forma de garantía estatal de préstamos concedidos por bancos a la empresa hasta 1 500 millones de pesetas españolas.
- (2) Mediante carta de 16 de febrero de 2000 la Comisión comunicó a España su decisión de considerar la ayuda compatible con el mercado común⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 288, 9.10.1999, p. 2.

⁽²⁾ DO C 94 de 1.4.2000, p. 8.

- (3) Mediante carta de 27 de octubre de 2000 España presentó el plan de reestructuración para MRT para el período 2000-2005 con fecha de agosto de 2000.
- (4) Mediante carta de 4 de diciembre de 2000 la Comisión solicitó a España que notificara la ayuda incluida en el plan de conformidad con las Directrices comunitarias sobre ayudas estatales de salvamento y de reestructuración de empresas en crisis ⁽³⁾ (en lo sucesivo, «las Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración»).
- (5) Mediante carta de 9 de enero de 2001, registrada el día siguiente, las autoridades españolas notificaron la ayuda que España tenía previsto conceder a MRT para reestructuración.
- (6) Mediante carta de 2 de febrero de 2001, la Comisión solicitó información adicional.
- (7) Mediante carta de 15 de febrero de 2001 las autoridades españolas informaron a la Comisión de que la citada garantía estatal aprobada por la Comisión estaría en vigor hasta el 31 de diciembre de 2003.
- (8) Mediante carta de 17 de abril de 2001, registrada el 25 de abril de 2001, las autoridades españolas facilitaron información adicional en respuesta a la solicitud de la Comisión de 2 de febrero de 2001.
- (12) La empresa se dedica principalmente a la extracción de cobre, oro y plata. Su producción de cobre representa aproximadamente 30 000 toneladas al año.
- (13) Además de sus actividades de minería, MRT ofrece servicios adicionales, tales como el suministro de agua potable a toda la región minera y el control y el mantenimiento de las balsas mineras a fin de evitar cualquier daño medioambiental.
- (14) Debido a la caída de los precios del cobre en el mercado mundial, MRT abandonó la extracción de cobre en septiembre de 1998 y solicitó a las autoridades españolas un «expediente temporal de regulación de empleo», situación administrativa en la cual durante un período limitado se suspenden los contratos laborales, y los trabajadores pueden optar a subsidios de desempleo. En septiembre de 1999 MRT solicitó la prórroga de esta situación durante un año más, lo que autorizaron las autoridades españolas (con la posibilidad de que la empresa restableciera la relación contractual con parte de los trabajadores).
- (15) Tras la aprobación por parte de la Comisión de una ayuda de salvamento en febrero de 2000, MRT reanudó sus actividades en el cobre. En noviembre de 2000, sin embargo, la empresa tuvo que volver a paralizar temporalmente la producción debido a la falta de fondos y la evolución de los precios del cobre (en noviembre eran de 1 795 dólares estadounidenses por tonelada (2 096 euros). Según algunas noticias aparecidas en la prensa, al parecer el ICO ha pagado ya parte del préstamo y MRT comenzó el desmonte de una de sus zonas mineras en abril de 2001 para reanudar la extracción de cobre. Al no haber respuesta a la solicitud de información al respecto enviada por la Comisión a España, la Comisión no ha podido saber si el préstamo ha sido desembolsado parcial o totalmente.
- (16) El 26 de noviembre de 1998, la empresa solicitó la suspensión de los pagos de la deuda. No obstante, prosiguió la explotación de oro y plata, sectores que representaban alrededor del 15 % de su volumen de negocios total, bajo supervisión judicial. El 12 de enero de 2001, tras conseguir el acuerdo de la mayoría de los acreedores, el juez declaró la firmeza del convenio de acreedores respecto a las deudas ordinarias de MRT, que ascendían a 25,5 millones de euros. Según dicho plan, los acreedores renuncian al 50 % de sus deudas y el resto se devolverá sin intereses en cinco años a partir del tercer año. Las deudas privilegiadas por valor de 21 millones de euros, algunas de ellas por atrasos en los pagos a la seguridad social y Hacienda, también se han renegociado y aplazado. Del informe anual de MRT del año 1999 (adjunto a la carta de España de 17 de abril de 2001), se deduce que el Estado renuncia a parte de su deuda y el resto se ha aplazado. La Comisión solicitó información al respecto para evaluar la posible existencia de ayuda estatal.
- (17) El 8 de noviembre de 1999, MRT suscribió un acuerdo con la empresa suiza Glencore, dedicada al comercio internacional de materias primas. En virtud de este acuerdo, Glencore se compromete a facilitar a MRT:

2. DESCRIPCIÓN DE LA AYUDA

2.1. La ayuda

- (9) La ayuda consiste en un préstamo concedido por el Instituto de Crédito Oficial (en lo sucesivo, «el ICO»), la agencia financiera estatal dependiente del Ministerio de Economía, de 1 000 millones de pesetas españolas durante cinco años a Euribor 6 meses + 1 % así como en la garantía de la Junta de Andalucía hasta el 31 de diciembre 2003 sobre préstamos de hasta 1 500 millones de pesetas españolas concedidos por bancos privados a MRT.

2.2. La empresa

- (10) MRT pertenece a sus propios trabajadores según la forma jurídica «sociedad anónima laboral», mediante la cual las acciones se distribuyen entre todos los trabajadores. Fue fundada en 1995 por antiguos trabajadores de Río Tinto Minera (actualmente Atlantic Copper SA), a fin de hacerse cargo de sus actividades de explotación minera. Atlantic Copper SA es una filial de la empresa estadounidense Freeport-MacMoran Copper & Gold que opera una fundición y refinería de cobre en Huelva. Dada su proximidad y su vinculación histórica con MRT, Atlantic Copper es uno de los principales clientes de MRT.
- (11) La empresa tiene su sede en Huelva (Andalucía), región subvencionada con arreglo a la letra a) del apartado 3 del artículo 87 del Tratado CE. El índice de desempleo en la región es elevado (29,9 % en 1998, 32 % en 1997 y 33 % en 1996). En septiembre de 2000, MRT empleaba a 623 trabajadores.

⁽³⁾ DO C 288 de 9.10.1999, p. 2.

— asistencia y asesoramiento jurídico y financiero,

- ayuda a la gestión comercial,
 - cooperación en la gestión integral de la mina,
 - una financiación de 780 millones de pesetas españolas para la reapertura de la línea de producción de cobre, sujeta a la aprobación de la ayuda de salvamento por la Comisión.
- (18) A cambio, Glencore comercializará los concentrados de cobre durante un período mínimo de tres años y estudiará su futura participación en el capital social de MRT.
- (19) Este acuerdo nunca se llevó a la práctica porque, según la información facilitada por las autoridades españolas en su carta de 17 de abril de 2001, a Glencore dejó de interesarle la inversión.
- (20) Los principales indicadores financieros de MRT en los años 1997-2000 son los siguientes:

En millones de euros	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Volumen de negocios	52,8	33,1	16,7	27,6
Pérdidas de explotación	10,0	19,1	14,4	19,0
Deudas a largo plazo	10,6	14,5	10,7	31,1
Deudas a corto plazo	33,9	42,8	53,0	24,7
Recursos propios (capital + reservas - pérdidas)	20,4	13,1	9,4	6,3

2.3. El mercado

- (21) El cobre se extrae de diversos minerales o se recupera a partir de residuos y chatarra. El mineral de cobre extraído se procesa para convertirse en un polvo fino y gris denominado «concentrado», que contiene hasta un 45 % de cobre y pasa a la fundición. Posteriormente, el concentrado de cobre es tratado y refinado y se moldea en lingotes que se transportan a los trenes de laminación donde son laminados, extrusionados o forjados.
- (22) En la Unión Europea, quedan todavía cuatro países con minas de cobre en funcionamiento que, en 1999, produjeron las siguientes cantidades: Portugal, 100 500 toneladas; Suecia, 71 300 toneladas, Finlandia, 10 500 toneladas, y España 3 900 toneladas (esta cifra no incluye la producción de MRT, que normalmente sería de unas 30 000 toneladas). La gran mayoría del consumo de la Unión Europea procede de terceros países. Las importaciones de concentrados de cobre en la Unión Europea en 1999 ascendieron a unos 2 millones de toneladas.
- (23) El comercio intracomunitario es bastante limitado si se compara con las importaciones procedentes de terceros países. Sólo hicieron importaciones significativas de otros

Estados miembros Alemania (212 580 toneladas), España (98 455 toneladas) y Finlandia (153 255 toneladas).

- (24) Desde 1877, el cobre se cotiza internacionalmente en la Bolsa de metales de Londres (en los sucesivos, «BML»). Los precios del cobre metálico, como los de los demás metales, fluctúan intensamente. En 1995, los precios medios del cobre rondaban los 3 000 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada. En septiembre de 1998, cuando MRT paralizó la producción, el precio del cobre (cotización *cash* de la Bolsa de metales de Londres) era de 1 648 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (1 351 euros); aunque en términos nominales descendió a 1 378 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada en marzo de 2000, debido al efecto del tipo de cambio euro/dólar estadounidenses aumentó hasta 1 803 euros; en noviembre de 2000 cuando MRT volvió a paralizar la producción, estaba en 1 795 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (2 096 euros); en abril de 2001 descendió a 1 663 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (1 911 euros).
- (25) En cuanto a los precios de los concentrados de cobre, puesto que son el resultado de restar los costes de tratamiento y refinado (CT/CR) del precio cotizado *cash* del cobre (BML), siguen fluctuaciones similares. Estos CT/CR dependen de la calidad de los concentrados así como de la disponibilidad de capacidad de fundición ⁽⁴⁾ y, no reflejan, por consiguiente, la evolución del consumo de cobre metálico.

2.4. El plan de reestructuración

- (26) Desde el punto de vista industrial, el plan pretende:
- reanudar la explotación de las reservas de cobre de mejor ley,
 - proseguir la operación de la planta de oro/plata al menos durante 18 meses (hasta finales de 2001),
 - finalizar el conocimiento de la parte sur del cerro Salomón, lo que permitirá extraer 3 millones de toneladas de mineral al año,
 - proseguir el desmonte del cerro Salomón,
 - complementar la producción del cerro Salomón con la del cerro Colorado para alcanzar las 30 kt anuales durante los primeros años y 40 kt anuales al final del período,
 - consolidar las reducciones de costes, principalmente de energía, suministros y contratación exterior.
- (27) Las inversiones contempladas en el plan para el período comprendido entre el segundo semestre de 2000 y 2005 ascienden a 13,81 millones de euros. El grueso de las mismas (72 %) se realizaría durante los primeros dos años y medio.
- (28) Desde el punto de vista financiero, el plan se basa en los siguientes elementos:
- concluir los procedimientos de insolvencia mediante la aceptación, por parte de los acreedores, de una reducción de las deudas,

⁽⁴⁾ En 2000, por ejemplo, los CT/CR aumentaron espectacularmente debido al cierre de dos instalaciones en Estados Unidos, aunque la disponibilidad de concentrado aumentó de manera constante (Fuente: Informe anual de Outokumpu)

- obtener las ayudas a la inversión concedidas en 1998 que todavía no se han abonado (364 millones de pesetas españolas) ⁽⁵⁾,
 - utilizar el crédito de 1 500 millones de pesetas españolas avalado por el Gobierno de Andalucía aprobado como ayuda de salvamento,
 - utilizar un crédito de 1 000 millones de pesetas españolas concedido por el ICO.
- (29) En cuanto a la mano de obra, según la información facilitada el 17 de abril de 2001, debería reducirse de 623 (1 de septiembre de 2000) a 543 personas ⁽⁶⁾ (31 de diciembre de 2005), es decir, una reducción del 12,8 % y sería el resultado de abandonar las actividades relacionadas con el oro/plata.
- (30) El consejo de administración de MRT acordó el 11 de enero de 2001 realizar los trámites oportunos para efectuar una ampliación de capital. MRT busca activamente un inversor con actividad industrial y comercial en el sector del cobre.
- (31) El factor clave del plan de reestructuración es la recuperación del precio del cobre. El plan parte de la base de que los precios del cobre serán de 1 850 dólares estadounidenses/t en 2000, 2 137 dólares estadounidenses/t en 2001 y 2 250 dólares estadounidenses/t durante el período 2002-2005. Estas cifras se han obtenido extrapolando las tendencias históricas. En cuanto al tipo de cambio peseta/dólar estadounidense se ha tomado 179 pesetas/dólar estadounidense para el segundo semestre de 2000, 169 pesetas/dólar estadounidense en 2001 y 167 pesetas/dólar estadounidense durante el período 2002-2005.
- (32) Según el plan, la mina sólo es rentable si los precios del cobre son superiores a 1 750 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada, (tomando un tipo de cambio de 1,05 euro/dólar estadounidense). Dado que la mayoría de los costes de MRT se expresan en euros pero el cobre se cotiza en dólares estadounidenses, el tipo de cambio euro/dólar estadounidense es también de gran importancia. Esto significa que si el tipo de cambio euro/dólar estadounidense permanece al mismo nivel de abril de 2001, es decir 1,12 euro/dólar estadounidense, este nivel mínimo para los precios del cobre de 1 750 dólares estadounidenses correspondería a unos 1 673 dólares estadounidenses.
- (33) En el caso de que los precios del cobre sean inferiores al mínimo supuesto en el plan, la única medida prevista es paralizar la producción (MRT lo ha hecho ya dos veces desde que se creó en 1995). El plan reconoce que otras empresas pueden hacerlo porque o bien pertenecen a grupos del cobre integrados o porque están respaldadas por el Estado.

⁽⁵⁾ La ayuda aprobada por España a favor de MRT en 1997 y 1998 en virtud de los regímenes de ayuda regional a la inversión aprobados por la Comisión ascendió a 1 243 millones de pesetas españolas.

⁽⁶⁾ Las cifras facilitadas en la carta de 17 de abril de 2001 son distintas de las que figuran en el plan (595 personas).

3. EVALUACIÓN DE LAS AYUDAS

- (34) De conformidad con el apartado 1 del artículo 6 del Reglamento del Consejo (CE) n° 659/1999, de 22 de marzo de 1999, la decisión de incoar el procedimiento de investigación formal deberá resumir las principales cuestiones de hecho y de derecho, incluir una valoración inicial de la Comisión en cuanto al carácter de ayuda de la medida propuesta y exponer las dudas sobre su compatibilidad con el mercado común.
- (35) Tanto la garantía estatal del préstamo de 1 500 millones de pesetas españolas como el préstamo del ICO de 1 000 millones son ayudas estatales ya que la empresa por sí misma no habría podido conseguir fondos de fuentes privadas. Forman parte del plan de reestructuración presentado por las autoridades españolas, pretenden restablecer la viabilidad de MRT a largo plazo y, por consiguiente, suponen una distorsión a la competencia. Dado que el cobre se comercializa en toda la Comunidad, estas ayudas afectan al intercambio entre Estados miembros, entrando, por tanto, en el ámbito del apartado 1 del artículo 87 del Tratado CE.
- (36) Puesto que el objetivo primero de las ayudas es el restablecimiento de la viabilidad a largo plazo de una empresa en crisis, son de aplicación las citadas Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración (véase el punto 4). En virtud de las mismas, la ayuda debe cumplir ciertas condiciones para ser compatible con el mercado común.
- (37) En cuanto a si la empresa puede acogerse a la ayuda, aunque el procedimiento de insolvencia contra MRT concluyó en enero de 2001, los recursos propios de la empresa disminuyeron un tercio durante el año pasado y un 69 % desde 1997. Asimismo, el nivel de endeudamiento de la empresa (véase el punto 20) sigue siendo extremadamente elevado (las deudas representan casi nueve veces los recursos propios de MRT). Por consiguiente, MRT debe considerarse «una empresa en crisis» en el sentido de las Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración y no podría recuperarse sin ayuda del Estado.
- (38) En cuanto a la viabilidad del plan de restablecimiento, las Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración estipulan que el plan de reestructuración «ha de permitir que se restablezca la viabilidad a largo plazo de la empresa en un plazo razonable, partiendo de hipótesis realistas por lo que se refiere a las condiciones futuras de explotación». La mejora de la viabilidad «debe resultar principalmente de las medidas internas contenidas en el plan de reestructuración y sólo podrá basarse en factores externos, como el aumento de los precios o de la demanda, sobre los que la empresa no ejerza gran influencia, cuando las hipótesis sobre el mercado realizadas gocen de reconocimiento general» (punto 32). Hay que señalar que en el caso que nos ocupa, el principal factor en el que se basa la viabilidad es el precio del cobre de 2 137 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (2 171 euros) en 2001 y 2 250 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (2 258 euros) durante el período 2002-2005.

- (39) La Comisión señala que, al menos a corto plazo, este supuesto no goza de aceptación general. Por ejemplo, en la Conferencia Cobre 99 celebrada en octubre de 1999, que reunió a más de 700 ingenieros, ejecutivos, consultores, académicos, etc. relacionados con la industria del cobre, no se esperaba que el precio del cobre aumentara por encima de los 1 764 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada en 2000 y 2001. A más largo plazo, no obstante, la mayoría de los ponentes predijeron precios de 2 094-2 200 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada ⁽⁷⁾ lo que se aproximaría bastante al supuesto de MRT. Sin embargo, contrariamente a estas previsiones, el precio medio del cobre en 2000 fue de 1 791 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada (1 945 euros) y durante los cuatro primeros meses de 2001, de sólo 1 738 dólares estadounidenses (1 898 euros). Hay que señalar que cuando la Comisión aprobó la ayuda de salvamento, tuvo en cuenta que, según las distintas previsiones, los precios del cobre serían de unos 1 900-2 000 dólares estadounidenses/tonelada en 2000-2001. Como ya se ha visto, estas previsiones no se han cumplido y la empresa sigue teniendo pérdidas enormes.
- (40) Además, la Comisión señala que en 2000 los precios del cobre han sido superiores al valor mínimo contemplado en el plan, a pesar de lo cual MRT ha tenido enormes pérdidas y ha vuelto a paralizar la producción. Esto constituye ya una indicación de que los supuestos de los que parte el plan podrían ser demasiado optimistas con respecto a los costes de MRT.
- (41) En cualquier caso, como ya se ha señalado, si los precios del cobre no alcanzan el valor mínimo esperado, la única solución para la empresa es paralizar la producción. Esta medida ya la aplican los productores de cobre que, como MRT, tienen los mayores costes de producción ⁽⁸⁾. En el caso de MRT, sin embargo, puesto que la extracción del cobre sería su única fuente de ingresos, paralizar la producción no haría más que agravar su ya deteriorada situación financiera. En esas circunstancias, MRT no podría generar recursos para pagar sus deudas ni a sus proveedores y realizar las inversiones necesarias. Aunque sólo sea por esta razón, el plan de reestructuración no parece que permita a MRT una transición a una nueva estructura que le dé perspectivas de viabilidad a largo plazo y la posibilidad de funcionar con sus propios recursos, tal como exigen las Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración.
- (42) El análisis de sensibilidad facilitado por las autoridades españolas contempla únicamente un aumento de los precios del cobre en comparación con los precios previstos en el plan, por lo que no sirve en el caso de que los precios del cobre no alcancen los valores esperados, como así ha ocurrido.
- (43) Además, en proyectos de minería existe cierta incertidumbre en cuanto al contenido de metal de las reservas de manera que, si el contenido de cobre metálico de MRT fuese inferior al previsto en el plan, los costes de producción serían superiores (según el informe anual de MRT del año 1998, eso fue lo que ocurrió ese año).
- (44) Al carecer de un socio financiero más fuerte o de otras fuentes de ingresos, MRT no sobreviviría a una caída de los precios del cobre que durara unos cuantos meses. Aunque la empresa está buscando un socio industrial, todavía no ha podido encontrarlo. Incluso el acuerdo celebrado con Glencore, que tomó en cuenta la Comisión al aprobar la ayuda de salvamento, no se llevó a la práctica porque, según las autoridades españolas, a Glencore dejó de interesarle el acuerdo.
- (45) En cuanto a las reducciones de costes, el plan de reestructuración sólo prevé las reducciones derivadas de la retirada de las operaciones de oro/plata con la reducción de mano de obra de 623 empleados en 2000 a 543 finales de 2005. Sin embargo, hay que señalar que esta reducción de la mano de obra en realidad es un aumento respecto de la que tenía MRT cuando fue creada en 1995 (524) como consecuencia del notable aumento que se produjo en 1996-1997.
- (46) En cuanto a la condición de que la ayuda se limite al mínimo, las Directrices de salvamento y reestructuración exigen que los beneficiarios de la ayuda contribuyan de forma importante al plan de reestructuración con cargo a sus propios recursos. Como se ha visto (véase el punto 28), MRT no hace contribución alguna al plan de reestructuración con cargo a sus propios recursos. Hasta la fecha, no están garantizados ni el aumento de capital ni la participación de su socio industrial y, por tanto, no parece cumplirse esta condición.

4. CONCLUSIÓN

- (47) Habida cuenta de las consideraciones expuestas, la Comisión, en esta fase del procedimiento, tiene dudas de que la aplicación del plan de reestructuración restablezca la viabilidad de MRT a largo plazo y de que la ayuda esté circunscrita al mínimo. Por consiguiente, ha decidido incoar el procedimiento previsto en el apartado 2 del artículo 88 del Tratado CE tanto contra la garantía del Estado para el préstamo de 1 500 millones de pesetas españolas como contra el préstamo del ICO de 1 000 millones de pesetas españolas a favor de MRT.
- (48) En consecuencia, la Comisión insta a España para que presente sus observaciones y facilite toda la información pertinente para la evaluación de la ayuda en un plazo de un mes a partir de la fecha de recepción de la presente. Insta a sus autoridades para que transmitan inmediatamente una copia de la presente a los beneficiarios de las ayudas.
- (49) La Comisión desea recordar a España el efecto suspensivo del apartado 3 del artículo 88 del Tratado CE y llamar su atención sobre el artículo 14 del Reglamento del Consejo (CE) n° 659/1999, que prevé que toda medida concedida ilegalmente podrá recuperarse de su beneficiario.

⁽⁷⁾ Fuente: Página web de la Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration.

⁽⁸⁾ Pinto Valley, Sierrita, Chino y Tohono, San Manuel y Robertson en Estados Unidos; Ojos del Salado en Chile; Highland Valley en Canadá (Fuente: Informe anual de MRT en 1999).

Commission communication concerning the procedure laid down by Article 1(4) of Council Directive 96/67/EC

(2001/C 367/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

According to the provisions of Article 1(4) of Council Directive 96/67/EC of 15 October 1996 on access to the groundhandling market at Community airports ⁽¹⁾, the Commission is required to publish, for information, a list of the airports referred to in the Directive.

	Airports whose annual traffic is more than 2 million passenger movements or 50 000 tons of freight	Airports whose annual traffic is more than 1 million passenger movements or 25 000 tons of freight	Other airports open to commercial traffic
Belgium	Brussel-Nationaal, Oostende, Liège-Bierset		Antwerpen, Charleroi
Denmark	København KLH	Billund	Århus, Aalborg, Karup, Odense, Esbjerg, Bornholm, Sønderborg, Vojens, Thisted, Stauning, Skive, Roskilde, Herning, Lolland-Falster, Viborg, Tønder, Sydfyn, Haderslev, Sindal, Vamdrup, Nakskov, Padborg, Ærø, Randers, Rø
Germany	Berlin-Schönefeld, Berlin-Tegel, Hahn, Hamburg, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt/Main, Hannover-Langenhagen, Stuttgart, München, Nürnberg, Leipzig-Halle, Köln-Bonn	Bremen, Dresden, Münster/Osnabrück, Paderborn-Lippstadt	Augsburg-Mühlhausen, Berlin-Tempelhof, Borkum, Dortmund-Wickede, Erfurt, Friedrichshafen, Helgoland, Heringsdorf, Hof, Harle, Jüist, Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden, Kassel-Calden, Kiel-Holtenau, Lübeck-Blankensee, Mannheim-City, Mönchengladbach, Norden-Norddeich, Saarbrücken-Ensheim, Schwerin-Parchim, Siegerland, Wangerooze, Westerland-Sylt
Greece	Athinai, Iraklion, Thessaloniki, Rodos, Kerkira	Chania, Kos	Alexandroupoulis, Araxos, Ioannina, Kalamata, Kastoria, Kavala, Kozani, Nea Anchialos, Preveza, Astypalaia, Chios, Icaria, Karpathos, Kasos, KastelORIZO, Kefallonia, Kithira, Skiros, Zakynthos, Milos, Leros, Limnos, Mikonos, Mitilini, Naxos, Paros, Samos, Santorini, Siros, Sitia, Skiathos
Spain	Alicante, Barcelona, Bilbao, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Ibiza, Lanzarote, Madrid-Barajas, Málaga, Menorca, Palma de Mallorca, Sevilla, Tenerife Norte, Tenerife Sur, Valencia	Santiago	Almería, Asturias, Badajoz, Córdoba, El Hierro, Gerona, Granada, Jerez, A Coruña, La Palma, León, Madrid-Cuatro Vientos, Melilla, Murcia, Pamplona, Reus, Sabadell, Salamanca, San Sebastián, Santander, Valladolid, Vigo, Vitoria, Zaragoza
France	Paris-CDG, Paris-Orly, Nice-Côte d'Azur, Marseille-Provence, Lyon-Saint Exupéry, Toulouse-Blagnac, Bâle-Mulhouse, Bordeaux-Mérignac, Strasbourg-Entzheim	Pointe-à-Pitre-Le Raizet, Nantes-Saint-Nazaire, Montpellier-Méditerranée, Fort de France-Le Lamentin, Saint-Denis-Gillot, Tahiti, Ajaccio-Campo dell'Orò	Lille-Lesquin, Bastia-Poretta, Hyères-Le-Palyvestre, Brest-Guipavas, Biarritz-Bayonne-Anglet, Pau-Pyrénées, Tarbes-Oussun-Lourdes, Clermont-Ferrand-Aulnat, Perpignan-Rivesaltes, Rennes-Saint-Jacques, Grenoble-Saint-Geoirs, Nîmes-Garons, Metz-Nancy-Lorraine, Figari-Sud Corse, Beauvais-Tille, Calvi-Sainte-Catherine, Lorient Lann-Bihoue, Quimper-Pluguffan, Avignon-Caumont, Limoges-Bellegarde, Le Havre-Octeville, Saint-Étienne-Bouthéon, Rodez-Marcillac, Chambéry-Aix-les-Bains, Béziers-Vias, Lannion-Servel, Annécly-Meythet, Caen-Carpique, Poitiers-Biard, Cherbourg-Maupertus, La Rochelle-Laleu, Périgueux-Bassillac, Rouen-Vallée de la Seine, Brive-La-Roche, Dinnard-Pleurtuit-Saint-Malo, Agen-La-Garenne, Deauville-Saint-Gatien, Dijon-Longvic, Castres-Mazamet, Bergerac-Roumanière, Reims-Champagne, Saint-Brieux-Armor, Angoulême-Brie-Champniers, Aurillac, Carcassonne-Salvaza, Tours-Saint-Symphorien, Épinal-Mirecourt, Ouessant, Ile d'Yeu-le-Grand Phare, Le Mans-Arnage, Roanne-Renaison, Le Puy-Loudes, Dole-Tavaux, La Mole, Le Touquet-Paris-Plage, Chateauroux-Deols, Auxerre-Branches, Valence-Chabeuil, Montluçon-Gueret, Courchevel, Niort-Souché, Colmar-Houssen, Cognac-Chateaubernard, Laval-Entrammes, Troyes-Barbery, Valenciennes-Denain, Gap-Tallard, Calais-Dunkerque, Morlaix-Ploujean, Vichy-Charmeil, Charleville-Mezières, Bourges, Rochefort-Saint-Agnant, La-Roche-sur-Yon-Les-Ajoncs, Cahors-Lalbenque, Granville, Albi-Le-Sequestre, Moulins-Montbeugny, Aubenas-Vals-Lanas

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 272, 25.10.1996, p. 36.

	Airports whose annual traffic is more than 2 million passenger movements or 50 000 tons of freight	Airports whose annual traffic is more than 1 million passenger movements or 25 000 tons of freight	Other airports open to commercial traffic
Ireland	Dublin, Shannon	Cork	Knock, Kerry, Galway, Donegal, Sligo, Waterford
Italy	Roma-Fiumicino, Milano-Malpensa, Milano-Linate, Napoli-Capodichino, Bologna-Borgo Panigale, Cagliari-Elmas, Catania-Fontanarossa, Palermo-Punta Raisi, Bergamo-Orio al Serio, Venezia-Tessera, Torino-Caselle, Verona-Villafranca	Olbia-Costa Smeralda, Firenze-Peretola, Bari-Palese Macchie, Pisa San Giusto, Genova-Sestri	Albenga, Alghero-Fertilia, Ancona-Falconara, Aosta, Biella-Cerrione, Brindisi-Papola Casale, Crotone, Cuneo-Levaldigi, Foggia-Gino Lisa, Forlì, Grosseto, Lamezia Terme, Lampedusa, Marina di Campo, Padova, Pantelleria, Parma, Perugia-Sant'Egidio, Pescara, Reggio Calabria, Rimini-Miramare, Roma-Ciampino, Roma Urbe, Siena-Ampugnano, Taranto-Grottaglie, Tortolì, Trapani-Birgi, Treviso-Sant'Angelo, Trieste-Ronchi dei Legionari, Vicenza
Luxembourg	Luxembourg		
Netherlands	Amsterdam-Schiphol		Rotterdam, Maastricht-Aachen, Eindhoven, Groningen-Eelde, Twente-Enschede
Austria	Wien	Salzburg	Graz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Linz
Portugal	Lisboa, Faro, Funchal, Porto-Sà Carneiro		Ponta Delgada, Lajes, Horta, Porto Santo, Santa Maria, Flores, São Jorge, Pico, Cascais/Tires, Graciosa, Vila Real, Covilhã, Viseu, Bragança, Corvo
Finland	Helsinki-Vantaa		Oulu, Turku, Rovaniemi, Vaasa, Kuopio, Tampere-Pirkkala, Jyväskylä, Joensuu, Maarianhamina, Ivalo, Kajaani, Kruunupyy, Kemi-Tornio, Kittilä, Pori, Kuusamo, Savonlinna, Lappeenranta, Varkaus, Helsinki-Malmi, Enontekiö, Mikkeli, Seinäjoki
Sweden	Göteborg-Landvetter, Malmö-Sturup, Stockholm-Arlanda		Ängelholm, Arvika, Arvidsjaur, Borlänge, Eskilstuna, Falköping, Jokkmokk, Ljungby/Feringe, Ljungbyhed, Ludvika, Gällivare, Gävle-Sandviken, Göteborg-Säve, Hagfors, Halmstad, Hemavan, Hudiksvall, Hultsfred, Jönköping, Kalmar, Karlskoga, Karlstad, Kiruna, Kramfors, Kristianstad, Lidköping, Linköping/Saab, Luleå/Kallax, Lycksele, Mora/Siljan, Norrköping/Kungsängen, Oskarshamn, Ronneby, Skellefteå, Skövde, Stockholm/Bromma, Stockholm/Skavsta, Storuman, Sundsvall/Härnösand, Sveg, Söderhamn, Torsby/Fryklanda, Trollhättan/Vänersborg, Umeå, Vilhelmina, Visby, Västerås-Hässlö, Växjö-Kronoberg, Örebro, Örnsköldsvik, Östersund/Frösön
United Kingdom	London-Heathrow, London-Gatwick, London-Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Luton, Newcastle, Aberdeen, Bristol, East Midlands, Belfast-International, Edinburgh, Glasgow	Belfast City, Leeds Bradford, London City, Cardiff, Liverpool, Prestwick, Kent International	Southampton, Teesside, Inverness, Sumburgh, Humberside, Bournemouth, Norwich, Exeter, St Mary's (Scilly), Penzance, Plymouth, Scatsta, Stornway, Kirkwall, Blackpool, City of Derry, Sheffield, Benbecula, Tresco (Scilly), Wick, Cambridge, Islay, Isle of Man, Dundee, Campbeltown, Barra, Biggin Hill, Battersea, Tiree, Lerwick, Southend, Lydd, Hawarden, Coventry, Gloucester, Shoreham, Unst, Carlisle, Barrow, Newquay, Fermanagh

New quota levels (2001) for certain textile and clothing products subject to quantitative restrictions originating in Pakistan

(2001/C 367/07)

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on transitional arrangements in the field of market access for textile and clothing products initialled in Brussels on 15 October 2001 and following Pakistan's notification to the World Trade Organisation of tariff rates for chapters 50-63 of the Combined Nomenclature the quota levels for the year 2001 have been increased by 15 %.

The new quota levels for the quota year 2001 are indicated in the table:

Group	Category	Unit	New quota level 2001
Group IA	1	tonnes	22 234
	2	tonnes	43 228
	2a	tonnes	13 466
	3	tonnes	67 090
Group IB	4	1 000 pieces	38 245
	5	1 000 pieces	10 786
	6	1 000 pieces	41 205
	7	1 000 pieces	26 428
	8	1 000 pieces	7 094
Group IIA	9	tonnes	10 917
	20	tonnes	41 801
	39	tonnes	15 392
Group IIB	18	tonnes	25 535
	26	1 000 pieces	25 864
	28	1 000 pieces	93 475

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.2666 — Berkshire Hathaway/Fruit of the Loom)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2001/C 367/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 12 December 2001 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 the American company Berkshire Hathaway Inc. acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of parts of the American company Fruit of the Loom by way of purchase of assets.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Berkshire Hathaway: property, insurance and investment,
- Fruit of the Loom: manufacturing and retailing of clothing.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽³⁾, it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the notice.

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

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) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2666 — Berkshire Hathaway/Fruit of the Loom, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat 70,
B-1000 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.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 217, 29.7.2000, p. 32.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case COMP/M.2660 — NPM/ABN AMRO/Norit Personal Care Holding)**

(2001/C 367/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 10 December 2001 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 only available 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 No 301M2660. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case COMP/M.2608 — INA/FAG)**

(2001/C 367/10)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 18 October 2001 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 only available 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 No 301M2608. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case COMP/M.2517 — Bristol Myers Squibb/DuPont)**

(2001/C 367/11)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 9 August 2001 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 only available 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 No 301M2517. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,
Information, Marketing and Public Relations,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg,
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Investigation of an alliance agreement in the field of air transport

(2001/C 367/12)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 13 December 2001 British Midland Airways (BMI) and United Airlines (United) informed the Commission of their intention to form a bilateral alliance on transatlantic routes. The proposed alliance would include profit-sharing, code-sharing, joint marketing and schedule coordination.
2. United and BMI are seeking clearance for this alliance under EU competition law from the European Commission and the UK Office of Fair Trading (OFT). The OFT will consider the parties' application for an exemption under Article 81(3) (OFT Enforcement Regulations Public Register, www.oft.gov.uk/html/about/enfregpr.htm). The Commission will also conduct an investigation and may open a formal procedure under Article 85 of the Treaty.
3. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit any observations they may have on this alliance. Observations must reach the Commission not later than 20 working days following the date of this publication. They can be sent by fax ((32-2) 295 01 28) or by post, quoting reference COMP/38.234, to:

European Commission
DG Competition
Greffe Anti-Trust
Rue Joseph II/Jozef II-straat
B-1000 Brussels.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Confirming the international role of Community research' (1998-2002)

(2001/C 367/13)

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

*(cancels and replaces OJ C 261 of 18 September 2001, p. 5)***Call identifiers:**

INCO A1 — Strategic action on training and excellence: ICFP501A1AM05

INCO A1 — Conference participation support: ICFP599A1AM02

INCO A2 — Conference participation support: ICFP599A2AM02

INCO A3 — Med: ICFP599A3AM01

INCO A4 — Dev: ICFP599A4AM01

INCO A5 — Emerging economies and industrialised countries: ICFP599A5AM01

1. In accordance with the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 1998, concerning the fifth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) activities for the period 1998 to 2002 ⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the fifth framework programme), and with the Council Decision of 25 January 1999, adopting the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Confirming the international role of Community research' ⁽²⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the specific programme), the European Commission hereby invites proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme.

In conformity with Article 5 of the specific programme, a work programme ⁽³⁾, specifying detailed objectives and RTD priorities and an indicative timetable for their implementation, was drawn up by the European Commission to serve as the basis for implementing the specific programme. The objectives, priorities, indicative budget and types of indirect actions referred to in this call notice correspond to those set out in the work programme.

2. This call (**apart from 'Strategic action on training and excellence'**) relates to proposals, specified under point 4 of this call, which are invited under a continuous submission scheme ⁽⁴⁾, and which will be evaluated following the respective deadlines for receipt.

Details of the types of indirect actions and their associated deadlines for receipt are specified under point 4 of this call notice. Proposals under this scheme may be submitted at any time up to the date of closure of the scheme.

For '**Strategic action on training and excellence**', this call relates to proposals, specified under point 4, **called by a fixed deadline**, following which evaluation will take place.

Proposals are submitted in one step.

3. The specific programme is implemented notably through indirect RTD actions as provided for in Annexes II and IV of the fifth framework programme and in Annex III of the specific programme.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 64, 12.3.1999.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2001) 4240 of 13 December 2001.

⁽⁴⁾ NB: The starting date for initiatives submitted by the coordinator of each proposal should be at least six months after the chosen deadline for submission. Correspondence and requests forwarded by individual participants will not be taken into account.

Evaluation and selection criteria and modalities relevant to this call are given in the fifth framework programme, the specific programme, the Council Decision of 22 December 1998, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the fifth framework programme⁽⁵⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the rules for participation and dissemination), and the work programme. The fifth framework programme manual of proposal evaluation procedures⁽⁶⁾, along with its annex on the specific programmes, and the European Commission Regulation on the implementation of the rules for participation and dissemination⁽⁷⁾, provide further details.

Information on these rules and on how to prepare and submit proposals is given in the guide for proposers, which can be obtained, along with the work programme and other information relating to this call, from the European Commission using one of the following addresses:

European Commission
DG RTD — Unit 06
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail: inco@cec.eu.int
Web: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp5>

4. Those eligible to participate in indirect RTD actions under the specific programme, according to the rules for participation and dissemination, are hereby invited to submit proposals that address the following parts of the work programme.

INCO A1 — STATES IN THE PHASE OF PRE-ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. STRATEGIC ACTION ON TRAINING AND EXCELLENCE

(Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia)

Deadline: 18 January 2002

Budget: Approximately EUR 2,0 million

Call identifier: ICFP501A1AM05

Objectives and approach

As a contribution to maintaining and reinforcing the scientific excellence of the candidate countries and to allowing the Member States to benefit from the scientific

expertise from these countries, a number of high level researchers from these countries will be supported in their scientific mobility in order to strengthen scientific cooperation among the parties involved in a mutually beneficial approach. This strategy combines attracting the most promising researchers from candidate countries to a training period in a Member State and giving them the possibility to bring back the experience acquired.

Scientific research areas to be addressed

Any of the scientific areas of the fifth framework programme might be addressed in a bottom-up approach. Special emphasis should be given to **scientific areas of excellence** having major social/economic implications for the countries involved.

Details on eligibility criteria and payments for applicants and institutions are described in the Annex L of the 'Manual of proposal evaluation procedures for the fifth framework programme' and also described in the Guide for proposers part 2, appendix 6: Evaluation guideline, part B 'Specific application to INCO calls': call INCO A1: 'Strategic action on training and excellence'.

2. CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION SUPPORT

(Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey)

Deadline: 15 March 2002 (last deadline)⁽⁴⁾

Budget: Approximately EUR 0,9 million for the overall period

Call identifier: ICFP599A1AM02

In order to promote the creation of networks with a view to future participation in joint projects and concerted actions of the fifth framework programme, participation of researchers from these countries in conferences organised in western Europe will be supported, as well as the organisation of conferences in the countries themselves. **The initiatives can also cover information days about the programmes of the EU framework programme.** Evaluations will be based on the scientific relevance of the proposed event in relation to the themes covered by the fifth framework programme as well as its administrative and financial soundness. The Community policy on equal opportunities between men and women will also be taken into account. The call is continuously open.

In addition to calls for proposals (see indicative timetable), certain accompanying measures may be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 46.

⁽⁶⁾ Commission Decision C(1999) 710 of 24 March 1999, modified by Decisions C(2000) 2002 of 14 July 2000, and C(2001) 2917 of 1 October 2001.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 122, 12.5.1999, p. 9.

INCO A2 — NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES AND CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES NOT IN THE PRE-ACCESSION PHASE

(Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldavia, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan)

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION SUPPORT

Deadline: 15 March 2002 (last deadline) ⁽⁴⁾

Budget: Approximately EUR 1,5 million for the overall period

Call identifier: ICFP599A2AM02

In order to promote the creation of networks with a view to future participation in joint projects and concerted actions of the fifth framework programme, participation of researchers from these countries in conferences organised in western Europe will be supported, as well as the organisation of conferences in the countries themselves. Evaluations will be based on the scientific relevance of the proposed event in relation to the themes covered by the fifth framework programme ⁽⁸⁾ as well as its administrative and financial soundness. The Community policy on equal opportunities between men and women will also be taken into account.

In addition to calls for proposals (see indicative timetable), certain accompanying measures may be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

INCO A3 — MEDITERRANEAN PARTNER COUNTRIES

(Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey)

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

Deadline: 15 March 2002 (last deadline) ⁽⁴⁾

Budget: Approximately EUR 2,9 million for the overall period

Call identifier: ICFP599A3AM01

Accompanying measures will include workshops, seminars, studies, conference support and networking in order to establish the state of the art in subjects of particular interest; to disseminate results to scientists, decision-makers or other appropriate parties; to evaluate and monitor research projects for quality control purposes; to conduct

regional dialogue and priority-setting; to coordinate research groups or to provide specific RTD training.

In addition to calls for proposals (see indicative timetable), certain accompanying measures may be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

INCO A4 — RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT

(All countries covered by A4, see work programme)

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

Deadline: 15 March 2002 (last deadline) ⁽⁴⁾

Budget: Approximately EUR 4,5 million for the overall period

Call identifier: ICFP599A4AM01

Accompanying measures will include workshops, seminars, studies, conference support and networking in order to establish the state of the art in subjects of particular interest; to disseminate results to scientists, decision-makers or other appropriate parties; to evaluate and monitor research projects for quality control purposes; to conduct regional dialogue and priority-setting; to coordinate research groups or to provide specific RTD training.

In addition to calls for proposals (see indicative timetable), certain accompanying measures may be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

INCO A5 — EMERGING ECONOMIES AND INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES

Deadline: 18 February 2002 (last deadline) ⁽⁴⁾

Budget: Approximately EUR 3 million for the overall period

Call identifier: ICFP599A5AM01

Objectives

This activity aims to ensure access for European researchers and engineers to the expertise and knowledge which exists in third countries in order to contribute to the success of the fifth framework programme, while giving appropriate access to researchers and engineers in these countries to Community expertise and knowledge. In addition it aims to contribute to Community external policy.

⁽⁸⁾ It is recalled that the main evaluation criterion for the countries covered by A2 is the particular relevance of the conference topic, namely health, environment and sustainable use of natural resources.

Determination of S & T cooperation activities of European interest

In order to determine the needs and opportunities for S & T cooperation with these countries and regions, studies and analyses will be carried out on the evolution of their S & T capacities in areas of common interest to the Community. These activities may be the subject of calls for proposals, be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

Implementation of S & T cooperation agreements

A series of activities will continue to be undertaken within the framework of the cooperation agreements: information on and promotion of the possibilities offered by the agreements, both in the Community and in the third countries and regions concerned, evaluation of the impact and results of the agreements, follow-up of existing collaborations and stimulation of joint projects. These activities, which will include appropriate detailed studies and the organisation of conferences and seminars, may be the subject of calls for proposals, or be based on unsolicited proposals or on a call for tender.

Concertation and coordination

Joint committees and meetings will ensure the necessary concertation with the third countries and regions, whilst using synergies amongst Community instruments and fostering open coordination with Member States' bilateral activities. In addition, several other forums may be used, e.g. the OECD, G7 (Carnegie Group), the framework of the Transatlantic Agenda, and the 'EC-Japan Forum on Science and Technology'.

- Proposers are encouraged to prepare proposals with a software tool (the Proposal Preparation Tool — ProTool) which is available from the Commission via the Internet (<http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/prottool>), by electronic mail or on CD-ROM. It will help them prepare the administrative and technical information required.

Proposals may be sent in one of two ways:

- Made with ProTool and sent electronically, by use of a sealing mechanism, including encryption and server uploading or electronic mail.

The coordinator must request a digital certificate from the Commission's certification authority for electronic signature of the proposal file. When the proposal has been finalised, it is then 'sealed' and a short validation file ('fingerprint') is created.

The validation file, which identifies the proposal file uniquely, must be sent (electronically or by fax) not later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on the applicable

closing date (see point 4). The unmodified proposal file must be received electronically not later than 48 hours after expiry of the deadline.

- Prepared on the paper forms distributed with the information package or made with ProTool and then printed out by the coordinator.

To be receivable, proposals submitted on paper must be received by the Commission not later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on the applicable closing date ⁽⁹⁾ (see point 4) at the following address:

European Commission
ORB 8
INCO 2
(call identifier)
Square Frère Orban/Frère Orbanplein 8
B-1040 Brussels.

Important: The above constitutes a change with respect to previous calls where deadlines applied to submission. Deadlines now apply to receipt by the Commission.

Proposers are requested to use only one of the methods described above, by which to submit proposals, and to submit only one version of any given proposal. In the case of an eligible proposal being received in both paper and electronic formats, only the electronic version will be considered.

- In all correspondence relating to this call (e.g. when requesting information, or submitting a proposal) please make sure to quote the relevant call identifier.

In submitting a proposal, proposers accept the procedures and conditions as described in this call and in the documents to which it refers.

According to the rules for participation and dissemination and the European Commission regulation for implementing them, Member States and associated States may have access, on presentation of a reasoned request, to useful knowledge which is relevant to policy-making. This knowledge must have been generated by those RTD actions supported as a result of this call and which addressed a part of the work programme specified as eligible for such access.

All proposals received by the European Commission will be treated in strict confidence.

The European Community pursues an equal opportunities policy and, in this context, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals or to be involved in their submission.

⁽⁹⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following: (32-2) 296 02 45.

Call for proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Confirming the international role of Community research' (1998-2002)

INCO-MED

(2001/C 367/14)

SHARED COST ACTIONS, CONCERTED ACTIONS, THEMATIC NETWORKS

Call identifier: ICFP502A3PR03

1. In accordance with the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 1998, concerning the fifth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) activities for the period 1998 to 2002 ⁽¹⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the fifth framework programme), and with the Council Decision of 25 January 1999, adopting the specific programme for research, technological development and demonstration on 'Confirming the international role of Community research' ⁽²⁾ (hereinafter referred to as the specific programme), the European Commission hereby invites proposals for indirect RTD actions under the specific programme.

In conformity with Article 5 of the specific programme, a work programme ⁽³⁾, specifying detailed objectives and RTD priorities and an indicative timetable for their implementation, was drawn up by the European Commission to serve as the basis for implementing the specific programme. The objectives, priorities, indicative budget and types of indirect actions referred to in this call notice correspond to those set out in the work programme.

2. This call relates to proposals, specified under point 4 of this call, called by a fixed deadline, following which evaluation will take place, and following which no other proposal will be considered under this call notice.

Proposals are submitted in one step.

3. The specific programme is implemented notably through indirect RTD actions as provided for in Annexes II and IV of the fifth framework programme and in Annex III of the specific programme.

Evaluation and selection criteria and modalities relevant to this call are given in the fifth framework programme, the specific programme, the Council Decision of 22 December 1998, concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the fifth framework programme ⁽⁴⁾ (hereinafter referred

to as the rules for participation and dissemination), and the work programme. The fifth framework programme manual of proposal evaluation procedures ⁽⁵⁾, along with its annex on the specific programmes, and the European Commission Regulation on the implementation of the rules for participation and dissemination ⁽⁶⁾, provide further details.

Information on these rules and on how to prepare and submit proposals is given in the guide for proposers, which can be obtained, along with the work programme and other information relating to this call, from the European Commission using one of the following addresses:

European Commission
DG RTD — Unit 06
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
E-mail: inco@cec.eu.int
Web: <http://www.cordis.lu/fp5>

4. Those eligible to participate in indirect RTD actions under the specific programme, according to the rules for participation and dissemination, are hereby invited to submit proposals that address the following parts of the work programme.

INCO A3 — MEDITERRANEAN PARTNER COUNTRIES

(Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey)

SHARED COST ACTIONS, CONCERTED ACTIONS, THEMATIC NETWORKS

Deadline: 5 April 2002

Budget: EUR 15,5 million

Call identifier: ICFP502A3PR03

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 64, 12.3.1999.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision C(2001) 4240 of 13 December 2001.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 46.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Decision C(1999) 710 of 24 March 1999, modified by Decisions C(2000) 2002 of 14 July 2000, and C(2001) 2917 of 1 October 2001.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 122, 12.5.1999, p. 9.

Objectives and approach

The **objectives** are those of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and target long-range sustainable development around the Mediterranean Sea in the context of transboundary economic, environmental and socio-political problems. The **approach** is to concentrate on a set of five strategic areas: socioeconomic modernisation, managing scarce regional water resources, preserving and using cultural heritage, promoting healthy societies and regional environmental sustainability. These areas of specific relevance to the region are not addressed under the thematic programmes of the fifth framework programme or under the research for development part of this programme and were selected through an extensive process of Euro-Mediterranean dialogue. Synergy and complementarity between this programme, the thematic programmes and MEDA cooperation activities will be ensured.

Priorities

(b) *Managing scarce regional water resources*

(shared cost, concerted actions and thematic networks)

This theme targets comprehensive cross-sectoral policies and integrated approaches in the planning and management of water resources which are environmentally sound and implemented in a participatory mode. Special emphasis is laid on the transboundary character of water resources that needs addressing under a regional perspective. Two priorities have been identified:

(i) Comprehensive water policy and integrated planning

Improvement of water supply, planning and management with consideration of local environmental and socioeconomic (including pricing) as well as institutional and cultural conditions, of intersectoral competition and of the potential to treat and reuse wastewater; methodologies for the analysis and management of transboundary water resources to support regional cooperation in its development and use; promotion of water treatment and reuse, including desalination, with emphasis on the use of renewable energies.

Specific objectives are:

Developing policy and planning scenarios for socially and economically sound water use and reuse strategies that help explore pathways of effective implementation of existing legislation and regulatory frameworks for water for agricultural and human consumption use on the one hand and their upgrading towards the European Water Framework Directive.

(ii) Efficiency in water use

In the *agricultural* sector, through the development of sustainable irrigation technologies and water-saving approaches, reuse of drainage water, better knowledge of plant physiology in order to reduce water requirements; in the *urban/industrial* context (including tourism) through the development of water treatment and reuse approaches and technologies that take into account the diversity of industrial, runoff and domestic effluents. Efficiency in water use should be researched under prevailing socioeconomic and institutional arrangements in Mediterranean partner countries.

Specific objectives are:

- Compare technologies, 'modern' and/or 'traditional,' and approaches to water savings and sustainable irrigation and water use and reuse for overall reduction of water consumption and for different types of stakeholders (small-holders, agro-industrial estates etc.); the quality should be such as to meet the standards of the European Water Framework Directive under the institutional and economic conditions prevailing in Mediterranean partner countries; improve those technologies and management approaches which could meet the European Water Framework Directive at affordable prices for the Mediterranean partner countries concerned.
- Novel approaches to improve water use efficiency of rain-fed crops, involving integrated applications of plant physiology knowledge for management and breeding.
- Development or improvement of cost-effective and efficient technologies and strategies for water treatment and reuse in urban/industrial contexts, including desalination, which do not impinge on adjacent socioeconomic activities.

(c) *Preserving and using cultural heritage*

(shared cost, concerted actions and thematic networks)

New and traditional technologies as well as management systems for use in the restoration, conservation, valorisation and display of historical and archaeological value objects, monuments, and sites.

Research proposals should take into account cost effectiveness, enhanced accessibility to the general public and potential use, in the context of the specific sociological, economical and cultural aspects of the area addressed and their implications to regional development. The proposals should focus on the following issues:

— Identification, recovery, and improvement of ancient and traditional manufacturing technologies for material construction processes used in the production of historical as well as archaeological value objects. Attention should be paid to the cost and applicability options.

— Technologies and management approaches for restoration, conservation, valorisation and display of historical and archaeological value objects, monuments and sites, using old or new processes and materials (included comparative analysis of existing technological approaches and methodologies in order to identify the most appropriate cost/efficiency ones for a specific application).

— Technologies based on historical and archaeological remains to illustrate how human societies co-existed with the environment, modified the landscape and adapted to environmental changes. This with the aim of learning and, maybe, reviving past practices potentially useful for application today. Research would focus on integrating archaeological, historical and environmental information as constituents in the construction of viable socioeconomic landscapes of each region.

(d) *Promoting healthy societies*

(shared cost, concerted actions and thematic networks)

In the context of their socioeconomic situation and the rapid changes in lifestyle, health and health-related technologies, the Mediterranean countries face the growing new epidemiological reality of predominant and emerging diseases that can lead to a crisis situation. In order to avoid this, the challenge lies in being prepared to prevent and to control these diseases.

Research will target strategies to alleviate the burden of disease on society and to support economic activity. In order to achieve this, these important public health issues need the improvement and/or establishment of common public health policies for the Mediterranean region, as well as the improved access of also the vulnerable groups to health services in reformed and reforming health systems in the region.

The activities will focus on epidemiological reality with special reference to:

— research and networking in support of the risk assessment, prevention, control and surveillance of diseases of public health importance with emphasis on zoonoses,

— research on improvement on health policies in relation to the above diseases.

When submitting a proposal for an RTD project or a concerted action, proposers may include an application for a 'Bursary for young researcher from developing countries'. Further information on this scheme is given in the guide for proposers.

5. Proposers are encouraged to prepare proposals with a software tool (the Proposal Preparation Tool — ProTool) which is available from the Commission via the Internet (<http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/prottool>), by electronic mail or on CD-ROM. It will help them prepare the administrative and technical information required.

Proposals may be sent in one of two ways:

— Made with ProTool and sent electronically, by use of a sealing mechanism, including encryption and server uploading or electronic mail.

The coordinator must request a digital certificate from the Commission's certification authority for electronic signature of the proposal file. When the proposal has been finalised, it is then 'sealed' and a short validation file ('fingerprint') is created.

The validation file, which identifies the proposal file uniquely, must be sent (electronically or by fax) not later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on the applicable closing date (see point 4). The unmodified proposal file must be received electronically not later than 48 hours after expiry of the deadline.

— Prepared on the paper forms distributed with the information package or made with ProTool and then printed out by the coordinator.

To be receivable, proposals submitted on paper must be received by the Commission not later than 5 p.m. (Brussels local time) on the applicable closing date⁽¹⁾ (see point 4) at the following address:

European Commission
ORBN 8
INCO 2
Call identifier: ICFP502A3PR03
Square Frère Orban/Frère Orbanplein 8
B-1040 Brussels.

Important: The above constitutes a change with respect to previous calls where deadlines applied to submission. Deadlines now apply to receipt by the Commission.

⁽¹⁾ Users of courier services that ask for the recipient's telephone number should give the following: (32-2) 296 02 45.

Proposers are requested to use only one of the methods described above, by which to submit proposals, and to submit only one version of any given proposal. In the case of an eligible proposal being received in both paper and electronic formats, only the electronic version will be considered.

6. In all correspondence relating to this call (e.g. when requesting information, or submitting a proposal) please make sure to quote the relevant call identifier.

In submitting a proposal, either on paper or electronically, proposers accept the procedures and conditions as described in this call and in the documents to which it refers.

According to the rules for participation and dissemination and the European Commission regulation for implementing them, Member States and associated States may have access, on presentation of a reasoned request, to useful knowledge which is relevant to policy-making. This knowledge must have been generated by those RTD actions supported as a result of this call and which addressed a part of the work programme specified as eligible for such access.

All proposals received by the European Commission will be treated in strict confidence.

The European Community pursues an equal opportunities policy and, in this context, women are particularly encouraged to either submit proposals or to be involved in their submission.

Operation of scheduled air services

Invitation to tender issued by the United Kingdom under Article 4(1)(d) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 in respect of the operation of scheduled air services between the Orkney Mainland (Kirkwall) and the Islands of Papa Westray, North Ronaldsay, Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday

(2001/C 367/15)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. **Introduction:** In pursuance of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 of 23.7.1992 on access for Community air carriers to intra-Community air routes, the United Kingdom has imposed public service obligations (PSOs) in respect of scheduled air services operated between the Orkney Mainland (Kirkwall) to Papa Westray, North Ronaldsay, Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday. The standards required by the PSOs for Papa Westray and North Ronaldsay were published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 394/4 of 30.12.1997, as modified in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 369/2 of 22.12.2000 and C 363 of 19.12.2001. The standards required by the PSOs for Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday were published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 363 of 19.12.2001.

In so far as by 1.3.2002 no air carrier has commenced or is about to commence scheduled air services between the Orkney Mainland (Kirkwall) and the islands of Papa Westray, North Ronaldsay, Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday in accordance with the PSOs imposed and without requesting financial compensation, the United Kingdom has decided, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 4(1)(d) of the above-mentioned Regulation, to limit access to these routes to a single air

carrier and to offer the right to operate such services from 1.4.2002 by public tender.

The contract shall be awarded by Orkney Islands Council; hereinafter referred to as the 'awarding authority'.

2. **Object of invitation to tender:** Operation from 1.4.2002 of scheduled air services between the Orkney Mainland (Kirkwall) and the Islands of Papa Westray, North Ronaldsay, Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday in accordance with the PSOs imposed on the routes. The Papa Westray and North Ronaldsay PSOs were published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 394/4 of 30.12.1997, as modified in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 369 of 22.12.2000 and C 363 of 19.12.2001. The Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday PSOs were published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 363 of 19.12.2001.
3. **Participation:** Participation is open to all air carriers holding a valid operating licence issued by a Member State in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 2407/92 of 23.7.1992 on licensing of air carriers. The services will operate under the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) regulatory regime.

4. **Tender procedure:** This invitation to tender is subject to the provisions of Article 4(1)(d)-(i) of Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92.

5. **Tender dossier/qualifications, etc.:** The complete tender documentation, including form of tender, specification, conditions of contract/schedule to the conditions of contract, as well as the text of the original PSOs published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 394/4 of 30.12.1997, as modified in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 369/2 of 22.12.2000 and C 363 of 19.12.2001 (all for Papa Westray and North Ronaldsay), and in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' C 363 of 19.12.2001 (for Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday), may be obtained free of charge from the awarding authority as follows:

Orkney Islands Council, Council Offices, School Place, UK-Kirkwall KW15 1NY, Orkney. Tel.: (44-18 56) 87 35 35. Fax: (44-18 56) 87 58 46. Att: Jeremy Baster, Director of Development and Planning.

Airlines will be required to include in their tender documents, evidence of their financial standing (an annual report and audited accounts for the past 3 years must be provided and must include turnover and pre-tax profit for the past 3 years), previous experience and technical capability to provide the services described. The awarding authority reserves the right to solicit further information about any applicant's financial and technical resources and abilities.

Tenders should be priced in sterling and all supporting documents must be in English. The contract will be considered as a contract made under Scottish law and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Scottish courts.

6. **Financial compensation:** The tenders submitted should indicate the amount required by way of grant for operating the services for 2 years from the scheduled starting date. The grant should be calculated in accordance with the specification. The maximum limit finally granted may be revised only in the event of an unforeseen change in the operating conditions.

All payments under the contract will be in sterling.

7. **Period of validity, amendment and termination of the contract:** A 2-year contract for the 6 routes will

commence on 1.4.2002 and will terminate on 31.3.2004. Any amendment or termination of the contract will be in accordance with the conditions of contract. Variations in the services will be permitted only with the agreement of the awarding authority.

8. **Penalties in the event of the carrier failing to comply with the contract:** In the event of the carrier failing to operate a flight for any reason then, subject as after-mentioned, the awarding authority may reduce the grant on a pro rata basis for each occasion on which a flight is not operated provided that the awarding authority shall not make any such reduction in the grant where the failure to operate the flight is as a consequence of any of the following, and the appropriate occurrence has not arisen as a consequence of the acts or omissions of the carrier:

- weather;
- closure of the airports;
- security reasons;
- strikes;
- reasons of safety.

An explanation from the carrier for such non-operation is also required in accordance with the conditions of contract.

9. **Deadline for submission of bids:** 1 month after the date of publication of this notice.
10. **Application procedure:** Tenders must be sent to the address at 5 above. Persons admitted to open tenders are designated staff from the awarding authority.
11. **Validity of invitation to tender:** In accordance with Article 4(1)(d) of Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92, the validity of this invitation to tender is subject to the condition that no Community air carrier presents, by 1.2.2002, a programme for operating the routes in question from 1.4.2002 or before that date, in accordance with the PSOs imposed, as amended for Papa Westray and North Ronaldsay, without receiving any subsidy. The awarding authority reserves the discretion to refuse to accept any tender if, on appropriate grounds, none is considered suitable for acceptance.

CORRIGENDA**Corrigendum to the authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty****Cases where the Commission raises no objections***(Official Journal of the European Communities C 358 of 15 December 2001)**(2001/C 367/16)*

On page 4, last Aid No:

for: 'Aid No: N 125/2000',

read: 'Aid No: NN 125/2000'.
