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I

(Information)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

of 27 November 2003

on strengthening Community cooperation in the field of civil protection assistance

(2003/C 317/01)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. RECALLING the recent exceptional events and occurrences and in particular the large forest fires that occurred during summer 2003 in many Member States, together with their tragic human toll — including casualties for fire-fighters and members of rescue teams and forestry services — as well as their damage to health, environment, infrastructure and property;
2. HAVING REGARD to the Resolution of the European Parliament, of 4 September 2003, on the effects of the summer heatwave, which contains important elements relevant to civil protection;
3. SALUTES the dedication of the volunteers and fire-fighters that were involved in missions to combat and respond to the forest fires and other disasters and serious accidents;
4. WELCOMES the unprecedented manifestations of concrete solidarity amongst the Member States during summer 2003, i.a. by the dispatch of both aerial and terrestrial means, which resulted in the largest number of mutual assistance interventions ever performed in the Community;
5. CONSIDERS this solidarity to be in line with the outcome of the European Convention on the introduction into the draft Constitutional Treaty of provisions related to Civil Protection;
6. NOTES the positive impact of the Council Decision establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection⁽¹⁾ on the cooperation between Member States and the Commission, i.a. in making available fora for a still closer and more developed cooperation between Member States and the Commission;
7. RECOGNISES the positive contribution of the Community Civil Protection Mechanism established under Council Decision 2001/792/EC, Euratom⁽²⁾ and especially of the Commission's Monitoring and Information Centre established under that Decision;
8. WELCOMES the efforts by the Commission to implement the tasks imposed by the Community Mechanism and to improve the capabilities of the monitoring and information centre in facing emergencies of an exceptional magnitude;
9. WELCOMES the announcement by the Commission that it will examine, in the framework of the existing instruments, its present capabilities for dealing with natural and technological disasters and accidents and TAKES NOTE that, if appropriate, it will propose new instruments;
10. INVITES the Commission to present within the shortest time-span the appropriate proposals to achieve the developments referred to in paragraph 9 and soon to inform the Council of their form and timetable;
11. WELCOMES the intention of the Commission in the meantime to enable the Monitoring and Information Centre to play a dynamic and proactive supporting role with a view to facilitating Member States' coordination in any forthcoming emergency or threat and to that end:
 - to identify the needs, and to examine ways and means to provide it with the necessary adequate resources,
 - to continue its efforts aiming at further improving the functioning of the Monitoring and Information Centre and at eliminating difficulties in its operation and to amend its procedures as necessary;
12. Also INVITES the Commission as soon as possible to present the announced communication on a common approach to the prevention of risks.

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 1999/847/EC of 9 December 1999 establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection (OJ C 327, 21.12.1999, p. 53).

⁽²⁾ Council Decision 2001/792 EC, Euratom of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions (OJ L 297, 15.11.2001, p. 7).

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

of 27 November 2003

on the contribution of industrial policy to European competitiveness

(2003/C 317/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

sectors in the European Union, including those with a high growth potential;

I. IN RELATION TO HORIZONTAL ISSUES

1. RECALLING:

- the Commission communication on 'an integrated approach to competitiveness' ⁽¹⁾;
- the contents of the 'Competitiveness report (2003)' ⁽²⁾, the 'Enterprise scoreboard (2003)' ⁽³⁾, the 'Innovation scoreboard (2003)' ⁽⁴⁾ as well as the 'State aids scoreboard (2003)' ⁽⁵⁾ drawn up by the Commission;

— Community and national policies, whilst pursuing their primary objectives, should also contribute to improving the framework conditions for European competitiveness and to creating a favourable environment for enterprise;

— open and transparent consultation of stakeholders and ongoing assessment of the impact on EU enterprises of all major legislative and other proposals are needed; while the Commission's proposal on chemicals is a first case for implementing this approach, the Commission's annual work programme will provide an important basis for systematic impact assessment by helping to identify other proposals likely to have a significant impact on competitiveness;

2. RECOGNISING that:

- a fully integrated approach to enhance competitiveness requires coherence, synergies and complementarities between policies;
- industrial competitiveness is one of the key areas where such an integrated approach is required;
- both the European Union and the Member States have active roles to play in successfully developing this approach;
- it is essential to continue to develop, where necessary, the means for coordinating activities relevant to industrial policy undertaken by the Member States and by the European Union to meet the objectives set by the Lisbon strategy;
- all policies related to enhancing competitiveness should be based on a careful analysis of the relevant aspects, as well as on an equilibrium between the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development;
- sectorial analysis should contribute to sharpening horizontal policies and to addressing the needs of industrial

— social dialogue constitutes an important element for a successful industrial policy;

— it is necessary to improve the European industrial framework with a view to avoiding de-industrialisation, and that further analysis is needed in this respect;

3. WELCOMES the report by the Commission services on competitiveness, as well as the enterprise, innovation and State aids scoreboards, which are important instruments for developing a systematic analysis of the state of competitiveness of the EU economy;

4. TAKES NOTE of the findings of these reports and, as a result, UNDERLINES in particular that:

— prospects for raising the standard of living in the European Union are directly related to enhancing the competitiveness of EU enterprises across all sectors: additional actions to increase both employment and labour productivity are needed to meet the objectives of the Lisbon strategy;

— positive developments in terms of innovation, ICT investment, internet penetration and commercial use, as well as e-government need to be complemented by organisational innovation, so as to exploit their full potential;

— delays in achieving the Lisbon objectives need to be addressed both by structural reforms and by appropriately stimulating entrepreneurship, competitive conditions, innovation and providing venture capital and guarantee mechanisms at EU, national and regional levels;

⁽¹⁾ See doc. 15287/03 COMPET 70 IND 171 MI 299 RECH 234 ECO 251 ECOFIN 382.

⁽²⁾ See doc. 15217/03 COMPET 69 IND 169 MI 296 RECH 231 ECOFIN 375 ECO 249.

⁽³⁾ See doc. 15036/03 COMPET 63 IND 165 MI 292 ECO 244.

⁽⁴⁾ See doc. 14793/03 COMPET 61 IND 159 MI 282 RECH 205.

⁽⁵⁾ See doc. 14584/03 RC 13 ECO 221.

- education, lifelong learning, the qualification level of the workforce and the quality of work output are important factors for European industrial competitiveness;
- for growth prospects to be strengthened, and thus to create more employment, the EU and Member States must encourage high productivity and competitiveness, as well as those aimed at facilitating structural change and industrial modernisation, bearing in mind the challenges and opportunities resulting from enlargement.

In response to the foregoing considerations:

5. INVITES European Industry to:

- use its technological and organisational excellence to improve its competitiveness and attain market leadership, notably through increased investments in RTD, innovation and improved training of the workforce;
- make use of the specific competences and skills of workers and enterprises in the acceding countries for improving Europe's position in global markets;
- continue to adapt in order to meet the challenge of global competition;
- assume its corporate social responsibility for improving the competitiveness of European industry;

6. INVITES the Member States and the Commission, within their respective competences, to:

- implement structural reforms and policy measures aimed at achieving a business environment conducive to entrepreneurship, innovation and industrial competitiveness taking into account the principle of better regulation;
- encourage enterprises to increase investment, innovation and productivity in order to create growth and jobs, including through venture capital and clustering, as well as organisational innovation;
- continue initiatives aimed at strengthening industrial competitiveness, notably by taking into account the needs and specificities of individual sectors;
- further improve methods of applying impact assessment to regulatory proposals;
- encourage the increase of labour productivity in the industrial sector;

- continue efforts to extend e-government and encourage the commercial use of the Internet;
- facilitate management of industrial change, *inter alia* through promoting foresight studies;
- set voluntary targets in the area of innovation, as a basis for the Commission's periodic assessments of progress made;
- after undertaking analysis, take action: either in the regulatory field in accordance with the principle of better regulation, or in the area of fostering research, innovation and entrepreneurship, where appropriate through the open method of coordination;

7. LOOKS FORWARD to receiving from the Commission:

- the Action Plan on Entrepreneurship referred to in its Conclusions of 3 March 2003 ⁽¹⁾;
- an Innovation Action Plan with specific actions aimed at mobilising resources and policies in order to boost the innovative performance of European enterprises;
- a Communication in the first half of 2004 which will report on follow-up activities, notably the application of industrial policy to specific sectors, the screening exercise and the issue of de-industrialisation with a view to improving the impact of EU policies on the competitiveness of industry;

8. UNDERTAKES, with a view to providing a structured contribution to the Spring European Council, indicating priority actions to examine in depth:

- the overall state of competitiveness of the EU and notably, in cooperation with the Commission, proposals having a significant impact on competitiveness,
- the Commission's communication on an integrated approach to competitiveness.

II. IN RELATION TO SECTORIAL ISSUES

1. RECALLING the Commission's communications on:

- 'The future of the textiles and clothing sector in the Enlarged European Union' ⁽²⁾;
- 'LeaderSHIP 2015 — Defining the Future of the European Shipbuilding and Ship-Repair Industry — Competitiveness through Excellence' ⁽³⁾;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 64, 18.3.2003.

⁽²⁾ See doc. 14314/03 COMPET 56 IND 149 MI 269 RECH 190 ECO 217 TEXT 17 WTO 115.

⁽³⁾ See doc. 15288/03 COMPET 71 IND 172 MI 300 RC 20 RECH 235 ECO 252 ECOFIN 383 WTO 131.

- 'A coherent Framework for Aerospace — a Response to the STAR 21 Report' ⁽¹⁾;
2. RECALLING the Commission's communication on 'Industrial policy in an enlarged Europe' ⁽²⁾, as well as the Council Conclusions of 13 May 2003 on 'Industrial competitiveness in an enlarged Europe' ⁽³⁾, where, *inter alia*, the Commission was invited to establish concrete ways in which industrial policy can contribute to achieving the Lisbon objectives;
3. REITERATING the need to ensure that EU horizontal policies aiming at securing framework conditions favourable to industrial competitiveness take into account the specific needs and characteristics of individual sectors, as well as those of small and medium enterprises, in particular new innovative SMEs; ACKNOWLEDGING that the implementation of the European Charter for Small Enterprises plays a significant role in this respect;
4. WELCOMES the initiatives proposed so far by the Commission to improve European competitiveness, notably in the individual industrial sectors addressed below including interrelated areas and looks forward to receiving further Commission communications in relation to other important industrial sectors.

Regarding TEXTILES AND CLOTHING:

5. RECOGNISES that:
- while the textile and clothing industry, from synthetic fibres to industrial and technical products, is an important overall contributor to employment, production and export in the enlarged European Union, it also has a particular impact on the economy of certain regions;
 - the European textile and clothing sector is facing new and continuous challenges, in particular the abolition on 1 January 2005 of quantitative restrictions (quotas), a permanent process of restructuring and modernisation as well as a marked slowdown in economic activity, production and employment;
 - the textile and clothing industry has high capacity for development and innovation, readiness to learn from 'success stories' and ability to adapt itself to change;
6. STRESSES the strategic importance of the interaction of different policies such as research and development, innovation, information and communication technologies, vocational training and the protection of intellectual

property rights, in order to strengthen a competitive sector that continues to provide employment;

7. NOTES

- the importance for the competitiveness of the EU textiles and clothing sector of ensuring a positive trade policy framework to allow open and fair trade, in particular better access to third countries' markets;
 - the important contribution that could be given by speedy entry into force of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area;
8. STRESSES the importance of encouraging the efforts of stakeholders to reinforce corporate social responsibility, and, on a voluntary basis, to promote 'ethical commerce' based for example on labelling;
9. WELCOMES the intention of the Commission to create a High-level Group with representatives of Member States and stakeholders in order to stimulate the debate on the situation and on the future of the textiles and clothing sector in the enlarged EU and on possible initiatives and recommendations aimed at facilitating the sector's adjustment to the challenges ahead.

In response to the foregoing considerations:

10. INVITES Member States, in line with overall Community policies, to take appropriate action so that the European textile and clothing sector can face its challenges, *inter alia* through research, education and training;
11. INVITES the Commission to regularly inform the Council on the results of the high-level group discussions on textiles and clothing and report back, for the first time before the end of July 2004, on initiatives deemed appropriate in this respect, which may take the form of an Action Plan.

Regarding SHIPBUILDING:

12. RECOGNISES

- the strategic dimension of shipbuilding and ship repair for Europe, particularly with regard to: the trade in manufactured goods for import and export, employment opportunities, including those provided by the marine equipment industry, defence needs, the competitiveness of ports and maritime activities in Europe, the development of advanced technologies and the retaining of know-how;

⁽¹⁾ See doc. 13705/03 COMPET 49 IND 140 RECH 176 TRANS 263 POLARM 24.

⁽²⁾ See doc. 5078/03 IND 1 ECO 2.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 149, 26.6.2003.

- the important role that the European shipbuilding industry should play, together with Community institutions and Member States, in the improvement of maritime safety and global environmental protection, promoting intermodality, by means of the appropriate instruments and programmes and with regard to the successful development of short sea shipping;
 - the trade distortions and overcapacity which still affect the world market for shipbuilding;
13. STRESSES that the EU should maintain a policy approach aimed at enhancing the industrial competitiveness of this sector; particular efforts are needed regarding:
- the development and harmonisation of rules and regulations affecting the European defence market;
 - EU State aid rules on investment in innovation, where the specific conditions of the shipbuilding industry should be taken into account, in order to allow the implementation of workable and effective programmes aiming at maintaining the technological leadership of the European industry;
 - full use of the possibilities of Member States to encourage research, development and innovation in an effective way;
 - protection of intellectual property rights by Member States and industry, by making full use of the existing instruments as well as by examining the possibility of strengthening the enforcement of international patent rules applicable to shipbuilding;
 - facilitating a consolidation process among European producers through the creation of adequate framework conditions by the Member States and by the Commission;
 - encouraging approaches designed to bring about greater cooperation between naval and civilian shipbuilding resources in Europe, based on market mechanisms involving companies in the areas of commercial and naval shipbuilding and marine equipment;
 - analysing and addressing new skill requirements, ideally in the context of the social dialogue within the sector.

In response to the foregoing considerations:

14. INVITES Member States, in line with overall Community policies, to take appropriate action so that the European shipbuilding sector can face its challenges;

15. INVITES the Commission to:

- continue efforts in the framework of WTO and OECD to establish, at a global level, fair competition in the shipbuilding industry;
- examine the consequences of the expiry of the temporary defensive mechanism for shipbuilding, particularly in connection with the timetable for the WTO dispute settlement procedure;
- inform the Council regularly on the results of the LeaderSHIP 2015 initiative and to report on the implementation of its recommendations before the end of 2004;
- examine, together with the shipbuilding industry, whether a European entity, such as e.g. the European Investment Bank, could take a leading role in pre- and post-delivery financing for shipbuilding projects.

Regarding AEROSPACE:

16. RECOGNISES that the aerospace industry:

- engenders and promotes key skills and technologies, is an important driver for innovation and helps maintain global competition across a wide range of products in commercial and strategic markets;
- brings together several segments, such as civil aeronautics, defence and space, and that important market segments require a stronger European dimension so as to increase competitiveness;

17. STRESSES the need for:

- a consolidated industrial and institutional approach to maintain and develop the European space industry, while noting the good progress being made in relation to Galileo and the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) and in relation to developing the cooperation between the European Space Agency and the European Union;
- better coordination of civil and defence-related aerospace programmes at a European level, as well as for the efficient allocation of resources;
- a fully operational European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), to provide the EU with a suitable regulatory environment capable of meeting its internal and international needs;
- improving technology transfer, in particular in relation to SMEs working as subcontractors;

18. ACKNOWLEDGES the Commission's proposed preparatory action on security research and TAKES NOTE of the ongoing work leading to the planned creation of an inter-governmental agency in the field of defence capabilities, development, research, acquisition and armaments.

Agreement and the Action Plan for implementing the European Space Policy ⁽¹⁾;

— pursue the ongoing efforts in relation to the European Aviation Safety Agency becoming fully operational;

In response to the foregoing considerations:

— take the necessary steps, as appropriate, to continue to back the implementation of the agency in the field of defence capabilities development, research, acquisition and armaments, including continuing the efforts of the Member States in liaison with the Commission towards the creation of an internationally competitive EU defence market, as appropriate.

19. INVITES the Member States and the Commission, within their respective competences, to:

— continue, in cooperation with ESA, the ongoing efforts to develop a coherent European space policy, taking into account the provisions of the EC-ESA Framework

⁽¹⁾ See doc. 14886/03 RECH 211 COMPET 62 IND 164 TRANS 293 POLARM 36.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

of 27 November 2003

on equal access to and participation of women and men in the knowledge society for growth and innovation

(2003/C 317/03)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

linked with ICTs and in particular groups such as unemployed women; and

1. RECALLING:

that one of the objectives of the European Union is to eliminate inequalities and to promote equality between men and women in all its activities;

— UNDERLINED that the European Social model includes the fight against all forms of discrimination, that gender equality at work must underpin the transformation to the knowledge-based economy and that more and better jobs are the key to social inclusion;

the Lisbon Strategy, which drew attention to the importance of equipping all citizens with the skills needed to live and work in the knowledge-based society, and to the need to raise the present employment rate of women;

the Council Resolution of June 2001 on Science and Society and on Women in Science ⁽¹⁾, which invited the Commission to continue and intensify its effort to promote the role of women in science and technology, and in particular within the sixth framework programme;

the European Councils in Brussels (March 2003), Seville, Barcelona and Nice, which in turn:

the Council Conclusions of March 2003 on the Promotion of Entrepreneurship and small firms ⁽²⁾, which stressed the need to encourage women entrepreneurs in order to create more new innovative and competitive firms;

— WELCOMED the strengthening of the implementation, coordination and follow-up of gender equality and gender mainstreaming in the European Union and requested that employment guidelines should address *inter alia* entrepreneurship and gender equality;

the Council Conclusions of May 2003 on Adapting e-Business Policies in a Changing Environment ⁽³⁾, which underlined the need to narrow and close e-skills gaps and the need for inclusiveness of the entire available potential labour pool addressing in particular the severe under-representation of women in the ICT workforce;

— ENDORSED the objectives of the Commission's Action Plan for eEurope 2005 — an information society for all, thereby addressing the need to provide the workforce with the key skills required for the knowledge-based society;

— CALLED UPON the Council to ensure that all citizens are well equipped with basic qualifications, especially those

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 199, 14.7.2001, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 64, 18.3.2003, p. 6-8.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 149, 26.6.2003, p. 7-9 and Doc. 9857/03.

the Council Resolution of July 2003 on Social and Human Capital ⁽¹⁾, which stressed the need to address the current gender gap in access to ICT-related education, jobs and the use of ICT, and to encourage more women to pursue higher-education studies in subjects related to the information society;

the conclusions of 14th March 2003 of the UN Commission on the Status of Women which noted that a focus on the gender dimensions of ICTs is essential for preventing an adverse impact of the digital revolution on gender equality.

2. RECOGNISING:

the important role that gender equality can play in the context of the Lisbon strategy for contributing to the European Union becoming the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion and the key role that the social partners and NGOs can play in reducing gender inequalities and the digital divide.

3. UNDERLINING:

the need to foster equal participation of men and women in the knowledge society paying particular attention to:

- skills for the knowledge society;
- employment, research, innovation and entrepreneurship;
- social and regional inclusion.

4. INVITES Member States:

in general to:

- enhance the possibilities for achieving gender equality and for the economic, political and social empowerment of women in the context of a more widespread use of ICTs including infrastructures and, while recognising that women are large consumers and users of ICTs and multimedia, to further promote their participation in and influence on all levels of production, research and innovation;
- integrate gender perspectives in national policy making concerning the ICT sector, *inter alia* in the design and

implementation of e-Government initiatives, and to ensure early and full participation of women therein, and, in this context, to take into account the needs of vulnerable groups;

in the area of skills for the knowledge society to:

- evaluate the need for increasing efforts regarding existing policies and initiatives addressing the current under-representation of women in ICT-related education, *inter alia* by adapting ICT education at all levels to take into account the needs of female students and support research into women's use of ICT, in particular their information needs and interests;
- consider the usefulness of reinforcing initiatives, such as awareness campaigns and digital literacy courses, starting from the early stages of education, aimed at shaping attitudes and combating negative stereotypes and paying specific attention to women belonging to disadvantaged groups and areas;

in the area of employment, research, innovation and entrepreneurship to:

- further develop, *inter alia* by using the Structural Funds, initiatives aimed at training women in ICT, in particular for entry, re-entry and re-skilling in the labour market, also exploiting the added-value resulting from public-private partnerships and from the involvement of local communities and digital networks;
- promote suitable work organisation arrangements and new ways of reconciling work and family life for both men and women in order to combat low representation and retention rates of women in the ICT sector as well as in research and technological development;
- foster greater participation of women in research-based activities and businesses, as a tool for enhancing innovation;
- encourage, in particular through awareness campaigns and support of start-ups, the creation and ongoing development of enterprises by women, especially in knowledge-intensive sectors, as well as the equal participation of men and women in policy and decision making in the ICT and media sectors;

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 175, 24.7.2003, p. 3.

in the area of social and regional inclusion to:

— pay specific attention to women belonging to all groups at risk of digital exclusion, in order to increase their participation in social and working life in the knowledge society;

— exploit the possibilities offered by new technologies for the inclusion and economic development of disadvantaged regions, *inter alia* by improving the opportunities to reconcile work and family life for both men and women, for example through telework;

— recognise the importance of establishing appropriate infrastructures, including broadband connections, and of providing facilities for equal access of women and men, adequate basic training and *e*-learning, in particular for the development of remote and sparsely populated areas;

5. NOTES the commitments already undertaken by the social partners and RECOMMENDS them to pay specific attention to:

— improving training of women and men for the knowledge society, as well as providing equal access to it;

— increasing cooperation with the educational system in order to ease the transition to work and promote lifelong learning;

— developing family-friendly work organisational forms so that men and women can reconcile work and family life, thus facilitating women's participation and retention in the ICT sector;

— addressing gender equality in the knowledge society through corporate social responsibility.

6. INVITES the Commission to:

— pay special attention in its ongoing policies and initiatives to the three areas and to the specific aspects identified above;

— monitor, in cooperation with the Member States, progress in this field and continue the analysis of the different factors underlying current gaps and possible solutions, including the collection and dissemination of information on good practices;

— foster the development of partnerships among relevant stakeholders, including civil society, to facilitate the participation of women in the knowledge society;

— in collaboration with Member States and without creating unnecessary bureaucratic burdens, develop, collect and publish gender-disaggregated statistics, as well as statistics related to gender equality, on different aspects of the knowledge society;

— to report on progress of the Women in Industrial Research (WIR) initiative in the context of research, development, innovation and entrepreneurship.

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

29 December 2003

(2003/C 317/04)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,2499	LVL	Latvian lats	0,6689
JPY	Japanese yen	133,68	MTL	Maltese lira	0,4312
DKK	Danish krone	7,4437	PLN	Polish zloty	4,6796
GBP	Pound sterling	0,704	ROL	Romanian leu	40 723
SEK	Swedish krona	9,0891	SIT	Slovenian tolar	236,83
CHF	Swiss franc	1,5587	SKK	Slovak koruna	41,16
ISK	Iceland króna	89,50	TRL	Turkish lira	1 766 109
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,434	AUD	Australian dollar	1,6801
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,6315
CYP	Cyprus pound	0,58606	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	9,704
CZK	Czech koruna	32,508	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,9248
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	SGD	Singapore dollar	2,1289
HUF	Hungarian forint	260,63	KRW	South Korean won	1 497,19
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4523	ZAR	South African rand	8,3786

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

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾**24 December 2003**

(2003/C 317/05)

1 euro =

Currency		Exchange rate	Currency		Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,2407	LVL	Latvian lats	0,6665
JPY	Japanese yen	133,12	MTL	Maltese lira	0,4307
DKK	Danish krone	7,443	PLN	Polish zloty	4,6694
GBP	Pound sterling	0,70175	ROL	Romanian leu	40 485
SEK	Swedish krona	9,0905	SIT	Slovenian tolar	236,81
CHF	Swiss franc	1,559	SKK	Slovak koruna	41,16
ISK	Iceland króna	89,66	TRL	Turkish lira	1 770 408
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,4198	AUD	Australian dollar	1,6727
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9553	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,6349
CYP	Cyprus pound	0,58575	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	9,635
CZK	Czech koruna	32,64	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,9181
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	SGD	Singapore dollar	2,1185
HUF	Hungarian forint	260,36	KRW	South Korean won	1 488,41
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4521	ZAR	South African rand	8,4762

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

FRAMEWORK ON STATE AID TO SHIPBUILDING

(2003/C 317/06)

1. INTRODUCTION

1. Since the early 1970s, State aid to shipbuilding has been subject to a series of specific Community regimes. Compared to industrial sectors that have not been subject to specific rules, the regimes applicable to the shipbuilding sector have contained a mixture of both stricter and more lenient provisions. This Framework provides for new rules for the assessment of State aid to shipbuilding following the expiry of Council Regulation (EC) No 1540/98 of 29 June 1998 establishing new rules on aid to shipbuilding⁽¹⁾ on 31 December 2003.

2. The objectives of this Framework are, to the largest extent possible, to remove the differences between the rules applicable to the shipbuilding industry and to other industrial sectors and, thereby, to simplify and make more transparent the Commission's policy in this area, by extending general horizontal provisions to the shipbuilding sector.

3. Nevertheless, the Commission recognises that certain specific factors affecting the shipbuilding sector should be reflected in the Commission's policy of State aid control. These factors include:

- (a) over-capacity, depressed prices and trade distortions in the world shipbuilding market;
- (b) the nature of ships as very large, capital goods, which raises the potential of State-supported credit facilities to distort competition;
- (c) the fact that World Trade Organisation ('WTO') unfair trade disciplines are difficult to apply in the shipbuilding sector;
- (d) the existence of agreements within the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development ('OECD') in the shipbuilding sector, namely the 1998 OECD Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits with its Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Ships, which applies in the Community pursuant to Council Decision 2001/76/EC of 22 December 2000 replacing the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits⁽²⁾.

4. The Commission acknowledges that work is being undertaken within the OECD framework to replace the 1994 Agreement on respecting normal competitive conditions in the shipbuilding and repair industry⁽³⁾, which has not entered into

force. This Framework is in no way intended to prejudice the outcome of that work and may be reviewed in the light of an agreement within the OECD.

5. In the light of these special characteristics, the objectives of this Framework, in addition to simplifying the applicable rules, are to:

- (a) encourage greater efficiency and competitiveness of Community yards, in particular through the promotion of innovation;
- (b) facilitate the reduction of economically non-viable capacity where necessary;
- (c) respect applicable international obligations in the field of export credits and development aid.

6. In order to achieve these objectives, this Framework provides for specific measures in relation to aid for innovation, closure aid, export credits and development aid and regional aid.

7. Certain features make shipbuilding unique and distinguish it from other industries such as short production series, the size, value and complexity of the units produced as well as the fact that prototypes are generally used commercially. As a consequence, shipbuilding is the only sector eligible for innovation aid. Investment aid for innovation was introduced by Regulation (EC) No 1540/98 and was intended to be authorised only in duly justified cases, as an incentive to technological risk-taking. However, the implementation of this provision was not satisfactory. It is considered that the unique characteristics of the shipbuilding industry justify maintaining a sector-specific innovation aid. Therefore, this Framework aims at improving support to innovation, by taking into account notably the difficulties of application of the previous provision.

8. The Commission may only consider aid to shipbuilding, ship repair and ship conversion to be compatible with the common market if it complies with the provisions of this Framework.

9. This Framework is without prejudice to the temporary measures established by Council Regulation (EC) No 1177/2002 of 27 June 2002 concerning a temporary defensive mechanism to shipbuilding⁽⁴⁾.

2. DEFINITIONS

10. For the purposes of this Framework, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) 'shipbuilding' means the building, in the Community, of self-propelled seagoing commercial vessels;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 202, 18.7.1998, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 32, 2.2.2001, p. 1. Decision as amended by Decision 2002/634/EC (OJ L 206, 3.8.2002, p. 16).

⁽³⁾ OJ C 375, 30.12.1994, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 172, 2.7.2002, p. 1.

- (b) 'ship repair' means the repair or reconditioning in the Community of self-propelled seagoing commercial vessels;
- (c) 'ship conversion' means the conversion, in the Community, of self-propelled seagoing commercial vessels of not less than 1 000 gt, on condition that conversion operations entail radical alterations to the cargo plan, the shell, the propulsion system or the passenger accommodation;
- (d) 'self-propelled seagoing commercial vessels' means:
- (i) vessels of not less than 100 gt used for the transportation of passengers and/or goods,
 - (ii) vessels of not less than 100 gt for the performance of a specialised service (for example, dredgers and ice breakers),
 - (iii) tugs of not less than 365 kW,
 - (iv) fishing vessels of not less than 100 gt, with regards to export credits and development aid if in compliance with the 1998 OECD Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits and with its Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Ships, or with any agreement amending or replacing either of them, as well as with the Community rules governing State aid in the fishery and aquaculture sector,
 - (v) unfinished shells of the vessels referred to in points (i) to (iv) that are afloat and mobile.

For the purposes of the above, 'self-propelled seagoing vessel' shall mean a vessel that, by means of its permanent propulsion and steering, has all the characteristics of self-navigability on the high seas. Military vessels (i.e. vessels which according to their basic structural characteristics and capability are specifically intended to be used exclusively for military purposes, such as warships and other vessels for offensive or defensive action) and modifications made or features added to other vessels exclusively for military purposes shall be excluded, provided that any measures or practices applied in respect of such vessels, modifications or features are not disguised actions taken in favour of commercial shipbuilding inconsistent with State aid rules;

- (e) 'related entity' means any natural or legal person who:
- (i) owns or controls an undertaking engaged in shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion, or
 - (ii) is owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, whether through stock ownership or otherwise, by an undertaking engaged in shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion.

Control shall be presumed to arise once a person or undertaking engaged in shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion owns or controls an interest of more than 25 % in the other or vice versa.

- (f) 'aid' means aid within the meaning of Article 87(1) of the Treaty establishing the European Community, including measures such as credit facilities, guarantees and tax concessions.

3. APPLICABLE PROVISIONS

3.1. Scope

11. Aid to shipbuilding shall include aid to any shipyard, related entity, shipowner and third party which is granted, whether directly or indirectly, for building, repair or conversion of ships.

3.2. Application of Horizontal Provisions

12. The general principle is that aid to shipbuilding may be granted in accordance with Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty and all legislation and measures adopted on those bases, including the following provisions:

- (a) Council Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 of 22 March 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Article 93 of the EC Treaty ⁽¹⁾;
- (b) Commission Regulation (EC) No 68/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to training aid ⁽²⁾;
- (c) Commission Regulation (EC) No 69/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to *de minimis* aid ⁽³⁾;
- (d) Commission Regulation (EC) No 70/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid to small and medium-sized enterprises ⁽⁴⁾;
- (e) Regulation (EC) No 1177/2002;
- (f) Community guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulties ⁽⁵⁾;
- (g) Community guidelines on State aid for environmental protection ⁽⁶⁾; and
- (h) Community framework for State aid for research and development ⁽⁷⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 83, 27.3.1999, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 10, 13.1.2001, p. 20.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 10, 13.1.2001, p. 30.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 10, 13.1.2001, p. 33.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ C 288, 9.10.1999, p. 2.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ C 37, 3.2.2001, p. 3.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ C 45, 17.2.1996, p. 5.

3.3. Specific Provisions

13. The general principle outlined in Section 3.2 is subject to the following exceptions, which are justified by the specific factors presented in Section 1.

3.3.1. Aid to research, development and innovation

14. Aid granted to defray expenditure by shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion undertakings on research and development projects may be considered compatible with the common market if it is in compliance with the rules laid down in the Community framework for State aid for research and development, or any successor arrangement.

15. Aid granted for innovation in existing shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion yards may be deemed compatible with the common market up to a maximum aid intensity of 20 % gross, provided that:

- (a) it relates to the industrial application of innovative products and processes, i.e. technologically new or substantially improved products and processes compared to the state of the art existing in this industry in the Community, which carry a risk of technological or industrial failure;
- (b) the aid is limited to supporting expenditure on investments, design, engineering and testing activities directly and exclusively related to the innovative part of the project. Exceptionally, additional production costs that are strictly necessary to validate the technological innovation can be eligible to the extent they are limited to the minimum necessary amount.

3.3.2. Closure aid

16. Aid to defray the normal costs resulting from the total or partial closure of shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion yards may be considered compatible with the common market provided that the resulting capacity reduction is of a genuine and irreversible nature.

17. The costs eligible for the aid referred to in paragraph 16 are:

- (a) payments to workers made redundant or retired before legal retirement age;
- (b) the costs of counselling services to workers made or to be made redundant or retired before legal retirement age, including payments made by shipyards to facilitate the creation of small enterprises which are independent of the shipyards in question and whose activities are not principally shipbuilding;
- (c) payments to workers for vocational retraining;

(d) expenditure incurred for the redevelopment of the yard(s), its buildings, installations and infrastructure for use other than shipbuilding.

18. In addition, in the case of undertakings which totally cease shipbuilding, ship repair and ship conversion, the following measures may also be deemed compatible with the common market:

- (a) aid of an amount not exceeding the higher of the following two values, as determined by an independent consultant's report: the residual book value of the installations, or the discounted operational profits obtainable over a projected three-year period, less any advantages the aided undertaking derives from the closure of the installations;
- (b) aid such as loans or loan guarantees for working capital needed to enable the undertaking to complete unfinished works provided that this is kept to the minimum necessary and a significant proportion of the work has already been done.

19. Undertakings receiving partial closure aid must not have benefited from rescue or restructuring aid in the past 10 years. Where less than 10 years have elapsed since the rescue or restructuring aid was granted, the Commission will allow partial closure aid only in exceptional and unforeseeable circumstances for which the company is not responsible.

20. The amount and intensity of aid must be justified by the extent of the closures involved, account being taken of the structural problems of the region concerned and, in the case of conversion to other industrial activities, of the Community legislation and rules applicable to those new activities.

21. In order to establish the irreversible nature of aided closures, the Member State concerned shall ensure that the closed shipbuilding facilities remain closed for a period of not less than 10 years.

3.3.3. Employment aid

22. Aid granted for the creation of employment as well as for the recruitment of disadvantaged and disabled workers or to cover the additional costs of employing disadvantaged and disabled workers in shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion undertakings may be considered compatible with the common market if it is in compliance with the substantive rules laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2204/2002 of 12 December 2002 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid for employment ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 13.12.2002, p. 3.

3.3.4. *Export credits*

23. Aid to shipbuilding in the form of State-supported credit facilities granted to national and non-national shipowners or third parties for the building or conversion of vessels may be deemed compatible with the common market if it complies with the terms of the 1998 OECD Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits and with its Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Ships or any successive terms laid down in such an arrangement or replacing the Arrangement.

3.3.5. *Development aid*

24. Aid related to shipbuilding and ship conversion granted as development assistance to a developing country may be deemed compatible with the common market if it complies with the terms laid down for that purpose by the 1998 OECD Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits and its Sector Understanding on Export Credits or any successive terms laid down in such an arrangement or replacing the Arrangement.

25. The Commission will verify the particular development content of the proposed aid, that the aid is necessary and that it falls within the scope of the 1998 OECD Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits and its Sector Understanding on Export Credits for Ships or any successive terms laid down in such an arrangement or replacing the Arrangement. The offer of development assistance must be open to bids from different yards. To the extent that Community public procurement rules are applicable, bidding procedures have to comply with them.

3.3.6. *Regional aid*

26. Regional aid to shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion may be deemed compatible with the common market only if it fulfils the following conditions:

- (a) the aid must be granted for investment in upgrading or modernising existing yards, not linked to a financial restructuring of the yard(s) concerned, with the objective of improving the productivity of existing installations;
- (b) in regions referred to in Article 87(3)(a) of the Treaty and complying with the map approved by the Commission for each Member State for the grant of regional aid, the intensity of the aid must not exceed 22,5 %;

(c) in regions referred to in Article 87(3)(c) of the Treaty and complying with the map approved by the Commission for each Member State for the grant of regional aid, the intensity of the aid must not exceed 12,5 % or the applicable regional aid ceiling, whichever is the lower;

(d) the aid must be limited to support eligible expenditure as defined in the applicable Community guidelines on regional aid.

4. NOTIFICATION OBLIGATION

27. All plans to grant new aid to shipbuilding, ship repair or ship conversion, either in the form of a scheme or as individual aid not covered by a scheme, shall be notified to the Commission except if they fulfil the conditions set forth in one of the Regulations exempting certain categories of State aid from the requirement of prior notification.

5. MONITORING

28. Member States shall submit to the Commission annual reports on all existing aid schemes pursuant to the rules set forth in Regulation (EC) No 659/1999 and in its implementing provisions.

6. OVERLAPPING AID FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES

29. The aid ceilings stipulated in this Framework are applicable irrespective of whether the aid in question is financed wholly or in part from State resources or from Community resources. Aid authorised under this Framework may not be combined with other forms of State aid within the meaning of Article 87(1) of the Treaty or with other forms of Community financing, the cumulation of which produces an aid intensity higher than that laid down in these guidelines.

30. In the case of aid serving different purposes and involving the same eligible costs, the most favourable aid ceiling will apply.

7. APPLICATION OF THIS FRAMEWORK

31. This Framework will be applicable from 1 January 2004 until 31 December 2006 at the latest. It may be reviewed by the Commission during this period, in particular in the light of the Community's international obligations.

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.3280 — Air France/KLM)**

(2003/C 317/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 18 December 2003 the Commission received a 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 French undertaking Société Air France ('Air France') acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the Dutch undertaking Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij NV ('KLM') by way of a recommended exchange offer for KLM shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Air France: international airline operating worldwide,

— KLM: international airline operating worldwide.

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.

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.3280 — Air France/KLM, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Merger Registry,
J-70,
B-1049 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.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.3358 — Hogg Robinson/Kuoni)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(2003/C 317/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 18 December 2003 the Commission received a 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 undertaking Hogg Robinson plc ('Hogg Robinson', UK), controlled by the Schröder Ventures Ltd, acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the corporate travel business of Kuoni Reisen Holding AG by way of purchase of shares of whole of the undertakings Kuoni Geschäftsreisen AG (Switzerland), Kuoni Reisen Beteiligungs-GmbH (Germany), BTI Business Travel International Deutschland GmbH (Germany), Kuoni Geschäftsreisen GmbH (Austria) and Kuoni Utazasi Iroda Kft (Hungary) (all together 'Kuoni business').

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Hogg Robinson: specialist corporate and employee services company providing outsourcing and consultancy services for example in the areas business travel,
- Kuoni business: business travel services for corporate customers.

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.3358 — Hogg Robinson/Kuoni, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Merger Registry,
J-70,
B-1049 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.

Prior notification of a concentration**(Case COMP/M.3264 — AngloGold/Ashanti Goldfields)****Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(2003/C 317/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 17 December 2003 the Commission received a 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 undertaking AngloGold Limited ('AngloGold', South Africa), controlled by Anglo American plc (United Kingdom), acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the undertaking Ashanti Goldfields Company Limited ('Ashanti', Ghana) by way of exchange of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- AngloGold: global gold mining company,
- Anglo American: global mining and natural resources company (gold, platinum, diamonds, coal, metals, minerals and forest products),
- Ashanti: gold mining and exploration in Ghana, Guinea, Tanzania and Zimbabwe; platinum exploration in South Africa.

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.3264 — AngloGold/Ashanti Goldfields, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Merger Registry,
J-70,
B-1049 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.3291 — Preem/Skandinaviska Raffinaderi)**

(2003/C 317/10)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 1 December 2003, 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 303M3291. 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.3273 — First/Keolis/TPE JV)**

(2003/C 317/11)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 8 December 2003, 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 303M3273. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

For more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

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

EUROPEAN MONITORING CENTRE ON RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA

EUMC — FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2002

(2003/C 317/12)

Table 1

EUMC — Implementation of the budget for the financial year 2002

(EUR)

REVENUE			EXPENDITURE													
Source of revenue	Revenue entered in the final budget for the financial year	Revenue received	Allocation of expenditure	FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS					APPROPRIATIONS CARRIED OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR			APPROPRIATIONS AVAILABLE (2002 budget and financial year 2001)				
				entered	committed	paid	carried over	cancelled	commitments outstanding	paid	cancelled	appropriations	committed	paid	carried over	cancelled
Community subsidies	6 100 000	4 320 000	Title I Staff	2 695 500	2 602 971	2 415 640	187 331	92 529	67 371	61 095	6 276	2 762 871	2 602 971	2 476 736	187 331	98 804
Other subsidies	70 000		Title II Operating expenditure	483 500	437 194	376 949	60 245	46 306	151 530	149 853	1 677	635 030	437 194	526 802	60 245	47 982
Other revenue		42 817	Title III Operational activities	2 991 000	2 919 804	1 685 574	1 234 229	71 197	1 180 682	1 136 889	43 793	4 171 682	2 919 804	2 822 463	1 234 229	114 990
Total	6 170 000	4 362 817	Total	6 170 000	5 959 969	4 478 164	1 481 805	210 031	1 399 583	1 347 838	51 745	7 569 583	5 959 969	5 826 001	1 481 805	261 776

NB: Any discrepancies in totals are due to the effects of rounding.

Source: Agency/Office data — These tables summarise the data supplied by the Agency/Office in its own financial statements.

Table 2

EUMC — Revenue and expenditure account for 2002 and 2001

(EUR 1 000)

	2002	2001
Revenue		
Own revenue		
Subsidy from the Commission	4 320	5 000
Miscellaneous revenue		
Financial revenue	43	46
Total revenue (a)	4 363	5 046
Expenditure		
<i>Staff — Title I of the budget</i>		
Payments	2 416	2 072
Appropriations carried over	187	67
<i>Operating activities — Title II of the budget</i>		
Payments	377	662
Appropriations carried over	60	151
<i>Operational activities — Title III of the budget</i>		
Payments	1 686	990
Appropriations carried over	1 234	1 181
Total expenditure (b)	5 960	5 123
Out-turn for the financial year (c = a - b)	- 1 597	- 77
Balance carried over from the previous year	- 8	179
Appropriations carried over which have been cancelled	52	75
Appropriations for re use from the previous year	151	0
Repayments to the Commission	- 179	- 174
Exchange-rate differences	2	- 11
Balance for the financial year	- 1 579	- 8

NB: Any discrepancies in totals are due to the effects of rounding.

Source: EUMC.

Table 3

EUMC — Balance sheet at 31 December 2002 and 2001

(EUR 1 000)

ASSETS	2002	2001	LIABILITIES	2002	2001
Fixed assets			Fixed capital		
Property			Own capital	183	385
Buildings			Reserve		
Equipment and furniture	234	245	Balance for the financial year	- 1 579	- 8
Vehicles					
Computer hardware	141	85	Subtotal	- 1 396	377
Intangible assets	70	55			
Current immovable assets					
Depreciation	- 262				
Subtotal	183	385	Current liabilities		
Stocks			Commission		
Office supplies	0	0	Other contributors ⁽²⁾		
Current assets			Non-automatic carry-overs of appropriations	0	0
Subsidy from the Commission	13		Automatic carry-overs of appropriations	1 482	1 400
Other subsidies receivable			Sundry accounts due	225	318
Advances to other Community agencies and bodies ⁽¹⁾			Salary deductions		
Other advances	1	3	VAT/other taxes	507	488
Recoverable VAT	541	454	Advances from clients		
Recovery orders			Subtotal	2 214	2 206
Sundry accounts receivable	66	2			
Subtotal	621	459			
Cash accounts			Suspense accounts		
Banks	113	2 029	Sums to be reused	99	291
Cash			Deferred revenue		
Imprest account		1	Subtotal	99	291
Subtotal	113	2 030			
Suspense accounts			Subtotal	99	291
Total assets	917	2 874	Total liabilities	917	2 874

⁽¹⁾ e.g. Cdt or OOEPEC.⁽²⁾ e.g. Non-EU countries.

NB: Any discrepancies in totals are due to the effects of rounding.

Source: EUMC.

Table 4

EUMC — Cash flow analysis for the financial year 2002

(EUR 1 000)

Situation as at 31 December 2001	
'Banks' balance	2 029
'Cash' balance	
'Imprest account' balance	1
(a) Total	2 030
Actual revenue for 2002	
Budgetary revenue	4 363
Non-budgetary revenue	164
(b) Total	4 527
Actual expenditure for 2002	
Budgetary expenditure	5 966
Non-budgetary expenditure	478
(c) Total	6 444
Situation as at 31 December 2002	
'Banks' balance	113
'Cash' balance	
'Imprest account' balance	
(d) = (a + b - c) Total	113

NB: Any discrepancies in totals are due to the effects of rounding.
Source: EUMC.

III

(Notices)

COMMISSION

Notice of invitation to tender for the reduction in the import duty on maize imported from non-member countries

(2003/C 317/13)

I. SUBJECT

1. Notice is hereby given of an invitation to tender for the reduction in the duty on imports from non-member countries of maize falling within subheading 1005 90 00 of the Combined Nomenclature.

2. The total quantity in respect of which the reduction in the import duty may be fixed is 250 000 tonnes.

3. Contracts will be awarded in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2315/2003 ⁽¹⁾.

II. TIME LIMITS

1. The period for submission of tenders for the first weekly invitation begins on 2 January 2004 and expires on 8 January 2004 at 10 a.m.

2. The period for submission of tenders for subsequent weekly invitations begins on the Friday of each week and expires on the following Thursday at 10 a.m.

This notice is published only in respect of the issue of this invitation to tender. Unless amended or replaced, this notice is valid for all weekly invitations issued during the period of validity of this invitation to tender.

However, for the weeks where there will be no Management Committee for Cereals, the invitation to tender is suspended.

III. TENDERS

1. Tenders must be submitted in writing and must either be delivered personally against a receipt or be sent by registered letter, telex, telefax or telegram, arriving no later than the date and time stated in Title II, to the following address:

Ministério das Finanças
Direcção Geral das Alfândegas e Impostos Especiais sobre o Consumo
Terreiro do Trigo — Edifício da Alfândega
P-1149-060 Lisboa
Télécopieur (351) 218 81 42 61
Tél. (351) 218 81 42 63

Tenders not submitted by telex, fax or telegram must be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked 'Tender for the reduction in the import duty on maize — Regulation (EC) No 2315/2003'. This envelope must itself be enclosed in another sealed envelope bearing the address in question.

Tenders submitted shall remain firm until the Member State concerned informs the interested party that his tender has been successful.

2. The tender and the proof and declaration referred to in Article 6(3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1839/95 ⁽²⁾ shall be written in the official language, or one of the official languages, of the Member State whose competent authority has received the tender.

IV. SECURITY FOR TENDER

The tendering security shall be made payable to the competent authority.

V. AWARD OF THE CONTRACT

The award of the contract shall establish:

- (a) the successful tenderer's entitlement to be issued, in the Member State in which the tender was submitted, with an import licence stating the reduction in the import duty mentioned in the tender and awarded in respect of the quantity in question;
- (b) the successful tenderer's obligation to apply, in the Member State referred to in (a), for an import licence for that quantity.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 392, 30.12.2003, p. 34.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 177, 28.7.1995, p. 4.