

# Official Journal

of the European Communities

ISSN 0378-6986

C 122

Volume 41

21 April 1998

English edition

## Information and Notices

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance

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(\*) Text with EEA relevance

## I

*(Information)*

## COUNCIL

## EC/US VETERINARY AGREEMENT

(98/C 122/01)

When adopting the Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on sanitary measures to protect public and animal health in trade in live animals and animal products<sup>(1)</sup>, the Council approved the following declaration:

'The Council takes note of the exchange of letters between the Commission and the United States Department of Agriculture and agrees to include these letters in its minutes.

The Council stresses that these letters are an essential element of its decision relating to the approval of the EC/US Veterinary Agreement.

The Council and the Commission consider that the political commitments set out in these letters are essential to ensure a proper, balanced and full implementation of the Agreement.

The Commission undertakes, that in accordance with the procedure foreseen in Article 4 of the Council Decision, it will utilize the provisions of Article 14 of the Agreement to deal with any problems of implementation which arise, bearing in mind, in particular, the importance attached by the Council in its decision to the letters from the United States. The Commission also undertakes that, should problems of the nature referred to above prove impossible to resolve, it will take the necessary procedural steps to enable the Council to take the action foreseen under Article 16 of the Agreement and will use the resources on which the Community may call pursuant to Article 2 of this Agreement.

In any case it is clear that the Commission needs to take a number of implementing decisions within the framework of the Standing Veterinary Committee. The Commission foresees that the implementation into national legislation will take a few months, in conformity with Article 8 of the Agreement, from the moment of the signing of the Agreement. During this period the Commission will closely monitor the implementation on the US side.

The Council agrees to publish this declaration and the abovementioned letters in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (series C).'

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 118, 21.4.1998, p. 1.

# COMMISSION

Ecu (<sup>1</sup>)

20 April 1998

(98/C 122/02)

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40,8507	Finnish markka	6,00637
Danish krone	7,54723	Swedish krona	8,48544
German mark	1,97910	Pound sterling	0,653116
Greek drachma	342,767	United States dollar	1,09475
Spanish peseta	168,143	Canadian dollar	1,56528
French franc	6,63388	Japanese yen	144,803
Irish pound	0,784601	Swiss franc	1,64104
Italian lira	1956,24	Norwegian krone	8,20080
Dutch guilder	2,22837	Icelandic krona	78,5267
Austrian schilling	13,9242	Australian dollar	1,69598
Portuguese escudo	202,803	New Zealand dollar	1,97431
		South African rand	5,53070

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

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

*Note:* The Commission also has an automatic fax answering service (No 296 10 97/296 60 11) providing daily data concerning calculation of the conversion rates applicable for the purposes of the common agricultural policy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FORWARDED BY THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL  
DURING THE PERIOD 6.4. TO 10.4.1998**

(98/C 122/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*These documents may be obtained from the Sales Offices, the addresses of which are given on the  
back cover*

Code	Catalogue No	Title	Date adopted by the Commission	Date forwarded to the Council	Number of pages
COM(1998) 210	CB-CO-98-225-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Decision concerning exceptional assistance for the heavily indebted ACP countries <sup>(*)</sup>	7.4.1998	7.4.1998	6
COM(1998) 212	CB-CO-98-227-EN-C	Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament <sup>(*)</sup>	7.4.1998	7.4.1998	18
COM(1998) 215	CB-CO-98-232-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 519/94 on common rules for imports from certain third countries	6.4.1998	7.4.1998	7
COM(1998) 218	CB-CO-98-234-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Bulgaria, of the other part, with regard to the establishment of a joint consultative committee by the EU-Bulgaria Association Council	7.4.1998	7.4.1998	6
COM(1998) 216	CB-CO-98-233-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs and Directive 95/69/EC laying down the conditions and the arrangement for approving and registering certain establishments and intermediaries operating in the animal feed sector and amending Directives 70/524/EEC, 74/63/EEC, 79/373/EEC and 82/471/EEC <sup>(*)</sup> <sup>(*)</sup>	8.4.1998	8.4.1998	6

<sup>(\*)</sup> This document contains an impact assessment on business, and in particular on SMEs.

<sup>(\*)</sup> This document will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

<sup>(\*)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

*NB:* COM documents are available by subscription, either for all editions or for specific subject areas, and by single copy, in which case the price is based pro rata on the number of pages.

## STATE AID

C 66/97

Sweden

(98/C 122/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*(Articles 92 to 94 of the Treaty establishing the European Community)***Commission notice pursuant to Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty to other Member States and interested parties concerning the appropriate measure proposed by the Commission in connection with the new framework for the motor vehicle industry**

The Commission has sent the Swedish Government the following letter, informing it that it has decided to terminate the proceedings:

'By letter dated 23 October 1997, the Commission informed your authorities of its decision of 8 October to initiate proceedings under Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty against any aid schemes in force in Sweden under which aid could be granted to the motor vehicle sector as of 1 January 1998, including the transport aid scheme, the scheme for reducing social security contributions and the employment aid scheme.

In initiating proceedings, the Commission had examined the arguments put forward by your Government as justification for its refusal to accept the proposed appropriate measure within the meaning of Article 93(1) of the EC Treaty (Commission decision of 15 July 1997, communicated by letter SG(97) D/6711 of 6 August 1997) in connection with the introduction of a new Community framework for State aid to the motor vehicle industry <sup>(1)</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the "framework"). Following that examination, the Commission explained why the objections were unfounded and took the view that, at that stage of the proceedings, there was no justification for the refusal on the part of your authorities.

In its letter, the Commission also gave your Government notice to submit its observations within two weeks of receiving the letter in question. In accordance with Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty, it informed the other Member States and other interested parties accordingly by publishing the letter in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* <sup>(2)</sup>, asking them to submit their observations.

By letter dated 6 November 1997, your authorities communicated their observations to the Commission regarding the initiation of proceedings and stood by their refusal to accept the appropriate measure proposed by the Commission in connection with the framework. On 9 December, however, following a further in-depth examination, your authorities finally agreed unconditionally to the appropriate measure proposed.

The Commission notes that no observations have been received from third parties or from other Member States.

The Commission has taken note of the unconditional acceptance and has accordingly terminated the proceedings initiated under Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty on 8 October 1997.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 279, 15.9.1997, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 326, 28.10.1997, p. 3.

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case No IV/M.1164 — GEC Alsthom/Cegelec)**

(98/C 122/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 8 April 1998, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 <sup>(1)</sup> by which GEC Alsthom, a joint venture between General Electric Company plc and Alcatel Alsthom, acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation control of the whole of Cegelec (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Alcatel Alsthom), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- GEC Alsthom: power generation equipment for the transmission and distribution of electrical power, transport and shipbuilding,
- Cegelec: services relating to electrical energy and industrial process control.

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 01/296 72 44) or by post, under reference IV/M.1164 — GEC Alsthom/Cegelec, to the following address:

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

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 395, 30.12.1989; Corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

**Prior notification of a concentration****(Case No IV/M.1178 — Koch/Eurosplitter & J. Aron)**

(98/C 122/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 7 April 1998, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 <sup>(1)</sup> by which Koch Industries Inc., acquires through its own subsidiaries, Koch HC Partnership BV and Koch Trading International Inc., within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of Eurosplitter BV (a wholly-owned subsidiary of J. Aron & Company), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Koch: among others, refined products, chemicals, gas liquids, crude oil services, mineral services, energy services, chemical technology,
- Eurosplitter: among others, refinement of crude oil into jet fuel, residual fuel, gasoil and naphtha.

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 01/296 72 44) or by post, under reference IV/M.1178 — Koch/Eurosplitter & J. Aron, to the following address:

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

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 395, 30.12.1989; Corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.



## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the Community position within the Association Council on the participation of Romania in the financial instrument of the Community in the field of environment (LIFE)**

(98/C 122/07)

COM(1998) 112 final — 98/0074(CNS)

*(Submitted by the Commission on 9 March 1998)*

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 130s, paragraph 1, in conjunction with Article 228, paragraph 3, 1st alinea thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas the Additional Protocol to the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part, has been concluded by decision of the Council and the Commission of 4 December 1995,

Whereas, according to Article 1 of the Additional Protocol, Romania may participate in Community framework programmes, specific programmes, projects or other actions notably in the field of environment and the terms and conditions for the participation of

Romania in these activities shall be decided by the Association Council,

Whereas, Council Regulation (EEC) No 1973/92, as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 1404/96 of 15 July 1996 establishing a financial instrument for the environment (LIFE) and in particular Article 13a thereof, provides that this programme shall be open to the participation of associated Central European countries in accordance with the conditions set out in the Additional Protocols to the Association Agreements on participation in Community programmes;

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

The position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part, concerning the participation of Romania in the financial instrument of the Community in the field of environment, is the attached draft decision of the Association Council.

**Draft Decision of the EC—Romania Association Council adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the financial instrument of the Community in the field of environment**

THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part<sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the Additional Protocol to the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part, concerning Romania's participation in Community programmes, and in particular Articles 1 and 2 thereof<sup>(2)</sup>,

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 357, 31.12.1994, p. 2.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 317, 30.12.1995, p. 40.

Whereas according to Article 1 of the said Additional Protocol, Romania may participate in Community framework programmes, specific programmes, projects or other actions notably in the field of environment;

Whereas according to Article 2 of the said Additional Protocol the terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the activities referred to in Article 1 shall be decided by the Association Council,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

Romania shall participate in the European Community financial instrument for environment LIFE according to the terms and conditions set out in annexes I and II which shall form an integral part of this Decision.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall apply for the duration of the financial instrument for the environment LIFE.

*Article 3*

This Decision shall enter into force the first day of the month following its adoption.

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*ANNEX I*

**Terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in LIFE**

1. Romania will participate in all actions of the Community financial instrument of the environment LIFE (hereinafter called 'LIFE') in accordance with the objectives, criteria, procedures and time limits laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1404/96, amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 973/92 establishing a financial instrument for the environment (LIFE).
2. The terms and conditions for the submission, assessment and selection of applications related to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of Romania will be the same as those applicable to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of the Community.  
  
Language preparation and training activities concern the official languages of the Community. In exceptional circumstances, other languages could be accepted if the implementation of LIFE so requires.
3. To reflect the Community dimension of LIFE, transnational projects and activities proposed by Romania should, whenever relevant, include partners from the Member States of the Community.
4. In conformity with the terms of the relevant provisions of the Regulation on LIFE, Romania will provide the appropriate structures and mechanisms at national level and will take all other necessary steps to ensure national coordination and organisation of the implementation of the Programme.
5. Romania will pay each year a contribution to the budget of the Community to cover the costs resulting from its participation in LIFE (see Annex II).

The Association Committee is entitled to adapt this contribution whenever necessary.

6. The Member States of the Community and Romania will make every effort to facilitate the free movement of eligible persons between Romania and the Community in activities covered by this Decision.
7. Without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Commission and the Community's Court of Auditors in relation to the control and monitoring of LIFE pursuant to Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Regulation on LIFE, the participation of Romania in LIFE will be continuously monitored on a partnership basis

involving the Commission and Romania. Romania will submit to the Commission relevant reports and take part in other specific activities undertaken by the Community to this end.

8. Without prejudice to the procedures referred to in Article 13 of the Regulation on LIFE, Romania will be invited to coordination meetings on any question concerning the implementation of this Decision prior to the regular meetings of the Committee. The Commission will inform Romania about the results of such regular meetings.
9. The language to be used as regards the application process, decisions, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for LIFE, will be one of the official languages of the Community.

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## ANNEX II

### Financial contribution of Romania to LIFE

1. The financial contribution of Romania will cover:
  - subsidies or any other financial support from LIFE to Romania participants;
  - supplementary administrative costs related to the management of LIFE by the Commission stemming from Romania's participation.
2. For every financial year, the aggregated amount of subsidies or any other financial support received from LIFE by Romanian beneficiaries will not exceed the contribution paid by Romania, after deduction of the supplementary administrative costs.

Should the contribution paid by Romania to the budget of the Community, after deduction of the supplementary administrative costs, be higher than the aggregated amount of the subsidies or other financial support received by the Romanian beneficiaries from LIFE, the Commission of the European Communities will transfer the balance to the next budgetary exercise, and it will be deducted from the following year's contribution. Should such a balance be left when LIFE comes to an end, the corresponding amount will be reimbursed to Romania.

3. Romania's annual contribution will be ECU 2 200 000 per annum for both 1998 and 1999. From this sum, an annual amount of ECU 110 000 will cover supplementary administrative costs related to the management of LIFE by the Commission stemming from Romania's participation.
4. The financial regulations applicable to the general budget of the European Communities will apply, notably to the management of the contribution of Romania.

Upon entry into force of this Decision and at the beginning of the following year, the Commission will send to Romania a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the Decision.

This contribution will be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Romania will pay its contribution to the annual costs under this Decision according to the call for funds and at the latest three months after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution will give rise to the payment of interest by Romania on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate will correspond to the rate applied by the European Monetary Cooperation Fund, for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU <sup>(1)</sup>, increased by 1,5 percentage points.

5. Romania will pay the supplementary administrative costs referred to in paragraph 3, from its national budget.
6. Of the remaining costs of its participation in LIFE, Romania will pay ECU 832 857 in 1998 and ECU 1 251 905 in 1999 from its national budget.
7. Subject to regular Phare programming procedures, ECU 1 257 143 will be paid from Romania's Phare National Programme in 1998 and ECU 838 095 in 1999.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Rate published monthly in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, C series.

**Amended proposal for a Council Directive establishing a safety assessment of third countries aircraft using Community airports <sup>(1)</sup>**

(98/C 122/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*COM(1998) 123 final — 97/0039(SYN)*

*(Submitted by the Commission pursuant to Article 189a(2) of the EC Treaty on 5 March 1998)*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 124, 21.4.1997, p. 39.

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ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

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AMENDED PROPOSAL

Recital 1

Whereas the Resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 15 February 1996 and the Council Conclusion of 11 March 1996 both point to the need for the Community to take a more active stance and develop a strategy to improve the safety of its citizens travelling by air or living near airports;

Whereas the Resolutions adopted by the European Parliament on 15 February 1996 and 17 July 1997 and the Council Conclusion of 11 March 1996 both point to the need for the Community to take a more active stance and develop a strategy to improve the safety of its citizens travelling by air or living near airports;

Article 1

The purpose of this Directive is to contribute to the improvement of air safety by checking third countries aircraft whenever there is suspicion that they are not operated in accordance with international safety standards, by collecting and disseminating the information related to shortcomings so that sufficient evidence can be established to decide on measures required to ensure the safety of the travelling public; and by providing for measures concerning the rectification of identified shortcomings.

The purpose of this Directive is to contribute to the improvement of air safety by inspecting third countries aircraft, their operations and their crew whenever there is suspicion that they are not operated in accordance with international safety standards, by collecting and disseminating the information related to shortcomings so that sufficient evidence can be established to decide on measures required to ensure the safety of travellers and all those affected on the ground (especially the residents of areas near airports); and by providing for measures concerning the rectification of identified shortcomings.

Article 3, definitions 4, 5 and 6

*'International safety standards'* means the safety standards contained in the Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation signed in Chicago on 7 December 1944 as in force at the date of adoption of this Directive;

*'International safety standards'* means the safety standards contained in the Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation signed in Chicago on 7 December 1944 as in force at the time of the inspection;

## ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

'*Ramp inspection*' means the examination on board and around an aircraft to check both the validity of the aircraft documents and those of its crew and the apparent condition of the aircraft and its equipment;

'*Third countries aircraft*' means an aircraft operated by an air carrier of which the Air Operator Certificate is delivered by a State which is not a Member State of the Community.

## AMENDED PROPOSAL

'*Ramp inspection*' means the examination on board and around an aircraft to check both the validity of the aircraft documents and those of its crew and the apparent condition of the aircraft and its equipment;

'*Third countries aircraft*' means an aircraft operated by an air carrier of which the Air Operator Certificate is delivered by a State which is not a Member State of the Community or an aircraft which is not used or operated under the control of a competent authority of a Member State.

## Article 4(1), introduction and first indent

1. Competent Authorities of the Member States shall collect any information deemed useful for the fulfilment of the objective stated in Article 1 of this directive, including:

- important safety information accessible, especially, through
  - passenger complaints,
  - pilots' reports,
  - maintenance organisation reports,
  - incidents reports,

1. The competent authorities of the Member States shall collect any information deemed useful for the fulfilment of the objective stated in Article 1 of this directive, including:

- important safety information accessible, especially, through
  - complaints by passengers, airport users and residents of areas near airports,
  - pilots' reports,
  - maintenance organisation reports,
  - incidents reports,
  - relevant reports from other organisations, independent from the competent authorities of the Member States;

## Article 5

1. The competent authority of each Member State shall ensure that third countries aircraft suspected of non-compliance with international safety standards landing at any of its airports is subject to ramp inspections as follows:

(a) all aircraft:

- showing signs of poor maintenance condition or with obvious damage or defect;
- which have been reported to perform abnormal manoeuvres since entering the airspace of a Member State;

1. The competent authority of each Member State shall ensure that third countries aircraft suspected of non-compliance with international safety standards landing at any of its airports is subject to ramp inspections.

1a. In particular, the competent authorities shall carry out ramp inspections on all aircraft:

- showing signs or where information has been received of poor maintenance condition or obvious damage or defect;
- which have been reported to perform abnormal manoeuvres since entering the airspace of a Member State;

## ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

## AMENDED PROPOSAL

- having been subjected to a previous ramp inspection which has revealed deficiencies as long as such deficiencies have not been corrected;

- having been subjected to a previous ramp inspection which has revealed deficiencies giving rise to serious concerns that the aircraft does not comply with international standards and where the Member State is concerned that the defects may not have been corrected;

- where there is evidence that the competent authorities of the country of registration may not be exercising proper safety overview;

(b) 10 % of the movements, with a minimum of once a week, of:

- an aircraft whose operator has been the subject of a standard report according to Article 4,

- where information collected under Article 4 gives cause for concern about the operator or where a previous ramp inspection of an aircraft used by the same operator has revealed deficiencies, pending the adoption by the operator of satisfactory arrangements for corrective measures;

- an aircraft the operator of which or the country of the operator of which has been the subject of a decision according to Article 9.

- whose operator or the country of the operator has been the subject of a decision according to Article 9, pending the adoption by the competent authority of that third country of satisfactory arrangements for corrective measures.

2. The ramp inspection shall be performed according to the procedure described in Annex 2 and using a ramp inspection report form containing at least the items described in the form appended to this Annex. On completion of the ramp inspection, the commander of the aircraft shall be provided with a copy of the ramp inspection report.

2. The ramp inspection shall be performed according to the procedure described in Annex 2 and using a ramp inspection report form containing at least the items described in the form appended to this Annex. On completion of the ramp inspection, the commander of the aircraft shall be informed of the contents of the ramp inspection report and if the report discloses deficiencies, it shall be sent to the operator of the aircraft and to the competent authority of the country of registration.

3. When executing a ramp inspection under this Directive, the competent authority shall make all possible efforts to avoid an aircraft being unduly delayed.

3. When executing a ramp inspection under this Directive, the competent authority shall make all possible efforts to avoid an aircraft being unduly delayed unless there are reasonable grounds for a more thorough investigation.

## Article 6, heading and (1)

**Exchange of information**

1. The competent authorities of the Member States shall participate in a mutual exchange of information.

**Exchange of information and cooperation**

1. Member States shall make provision for the exchange of information and cooperation between their competent authorities, the competent authorities of all other Member States and the Commission.

## ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

## AMENDED PROPOSAL

## Article 7(1)

1. The information exchanged in accordance with Article 6 shall be used for the sole purpose of this Directive and its access will be limited to the participating competent authorities and the Commission.

1. The information exchanged in accordance with Article 6 shall be used for the sole purpose of this Directive and its access will be limited to the participating competent authorities and the Commission without prejudice to the provisions laid down herein concerning the publication of groundings.

## Article 8(2)

2. In the event that an aircraft is grounded, the competent authority of the Member State where the inspection took place shall immediately inform the competent authorities of the countries concerned.

2. In the event that an aircraft is grounded, the competent authority of the Member State where the inspection took place shall immediately inform in writing the operator and the competent authorities of the country of the operator and of the State where the aircraft is registered.

## Article 8(5)

5. The owner or the operator of the aircraft or his representative in the Member State concerned shall have a right of appeal against a grounding decision taken by the competent authority of the Member State. The lodging of an appeal shall not cause in itself the grounding to be suspended.

*Article 8a***Right of appeal**

1. The owner or the operator of the aircraft or his representative in the Member State concerned shall have a right of appeal against a grounding decision taken by the competent authority of the Member State. The lodging of an appeal shall not cause in itself the grounding to be suspended.

2. Member States shall establish and maintain appropriate procedures for this purpose in accordance with their national legislation.

3. The competent authority shall properly inform the commander of the aircraft of the right of appeal.

## Article 9, first paragraph, first indent

— systematic ramp inspection and other surveillance measures of a specific operator or of operators of a specific third country;

— systematic ramp inspection and other surveillance measures of a specific operator or of operators of a specific third country pending the adoption by the operator or the competent authority of that third country of satisfactory arrangements for corrective measures;

## Article 10(1)

1. Member States shall report to the Commission the operational measures taken and the resources allocated to implement the requirements of Articles 4, 5 and 6.

1. Member States shall report to the other Member States and to the Commission the operational measures taken and the resources allocated to implement the requirements of Articles 4, 5 and 6.

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ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

AMENDED PROPOSAL

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Article 10a (new)

*Article 10a*

**Publication of groundings**

1. Each competent authority shall as a minimum publish quarterly information available to the public concerning aircraft grounded during the previous three-month period.
2. Such information shall also include all aircraft, operators, countries of operators and States of registration whose aircraft have been detained more than once during the past 24 months.
3. The information published shall include in particular the type of aircraft, the name and country of the operator, the State of registration, the reason for grounding and the airport and date of grounding.

Article 13a (new)

*Article 13a*

**Information report and revision**

No later than two years after the entry into force of this Directive, the Commission shall draw up a report on its application, taking into account *inter alia* developments in the European Union and in international fora. Such a report may be accompanied, if it is appropriate, by proposals for a revision of this Directive.

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## III

(Notices)

## COMMISSION

## Results of the invitations to tender (Community food aid)

(98/C 122/09)

as provided for in Article 9(7) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2519/97 of 16 December 1997 laying down general rules for the mobilisation of products to be supplied under Council Regulation (EC) No 1292/96 as Community food aid

(Official Journal of the European Communities L 346, 17 December 1997, page 23)

31 March and 14 April 1998

Regulation (EC) No/ Decision of	Lot	Action No	Beneficiary/ destination	Product	Quantity (tonnes)	Delivery stage	Supplier	Awarded price (ECU/t)
599/98	A	121/97	WFP/Ethiopia	HCOLZ	580	EMB	Cebag Belgium NV — Antwerp (B)	802,67
711/98	A	637/96	Côte-d'Ivoire	FMAI	1 000	DEST	De Franceschi Spa — Monfalcone Pordenone (I)	273,75
	B	657/96	EuronAid/ Madagascar	FMAI	60	EMB	Cer. Far. Srl — Voghera (I)	177,00
	C	125/97	Niger	MAI	15 000	DEST	n.a.	( <sup>1</sup> )
712/98	A	526/96-528/96	Angola	PISUM	2 500	DEST	Gerhard Golücke GmbH & Co. — Hamburg (D)	452,52

n.a.: No contract was awarded.

(<sup>1</sup>) The invitation to tender is closed.

BLT:	Common wheat	B:	Butter	BPJ:	Beef in its own juice
FBLT:	Common wheat flour	GMAI:	Maize groats	CB:	Corned beef
CBL:	Long grain milled rice	SMAI:	Maize meal	COR:	Currants
CBM:	Medium grain milled rice	LENP:	Whole milk powder	BABYF:	Babyfood
CBR:	Round grain milled rice	LDEP:	Semi-skimmed milk powder	LHE:	High-energy milk
BRI:	Broken rice	LEP:	Skimmed-milk powder	Lsub1:	Infant milk
FHAF:	Oat flakes	LEPv:	Vitaminized skimmed-milk powder	Lsub2:	Follow-on milk
FROf:	Processed cheese	CT:	Tomato concentrate	PAL:	Pasta
WSB:	Wheat soya blend	CM:	Tinmeat mackerel	PISUM:	Split peas
SUB:	Sugar	BISC:	High protein biscuits	FEQ:	Horse beans ( <i>Vicia faba equina</i> )
ORG:	Barley	BO:	Butteroil	FABA:	Broad beans ( <i>Vicia faba major</i> )
SOR:	Sorghum	HOLI:	Olive oil	SAR:	Sardines
DUR:	Durum wheat	HCOLZ:	Refined rape or colza oil	DEB:	Free at port of landing, landed
GDUR:	Durum wheat groats	HPALM:	Semi-refined palm oil	DEN:	Free at port of landing — ex ship
MAI:	Maize	HSOJA:	Refined soya-bean oil	EMB:	Free at port of shipment
FMAI:	Maize flour	HTOUR:	Refined sunflower oil	DEST:	Free at destination
				EXW:	Ex works

**Notice of open competition**

(98/C 122/10)

The European Commission is organising an open competition COM/A/13/98 to recruit a Head of Unit (A 3), of Swedish nationality (\*).

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(\* OJ C 122 A, 21.4.1998 (Swedish version).