



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 November 1981

*Not raised.*

*Richards*  
*20/11*

*Dear Michael,*

European Foundation

// You may wish to draw the Prime Minister's attention to UKREP telnos 4490 and 4489 of 25 November which report the outcome of yesterday's COREPER discussion on the European Foundation. The Chairman concluded that the subject was not ready for discussion by the European Council but the French indicated they might raise it nonetheless.

If so, the Prime Minister might like to take the following line:

the Presidency welcomes the recent progress that has been made towards agreement on the essential points of a framework to the establishment of a European Foundation and hopes that officials will be able to resolve the outstanding problems very quickly.

If the French press for the Council's communiqué to include a reference to the Foundation, the Prime Minister may wish to suggest the following text:

The European Council recalled their December 1977 decision in principle to establish a European Foundation to project the European Community to "the man in the street". They welcomed the progress which has been made recently towards agreement on the implementation of this decision, and agreed that the Council should endeavour to find early solutions to the outstanding problems.

*Yours ever,*

(F N Richards)  
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq  
10 Downing Street

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FM UKREP BRUSSELS 251414Z NOV 81  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 4490 OF 25 NOVEMBER  
INFO EC POSTS

UKREP TELNO 4436 : EUROPEAN FOUNDATION; COREPER 25 NOVEMBER

SUMMARY

1. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED THAT WE WERE IN SIGHT OF AGREEMENT ON ESSENTIAL POINTS BUT NOT QUITE THERE. SUBJECT THEREFORE HARDLY RIPE FOR DECISION AT LONDON EUROPEAN COUNCIL. GENERAL AFFAIRS GROUP TO STUDY AGAIN ON 30 NOVEMBER. FRENCH AFTERWARDS SAID THEY MIGHT NONETHELESS RAISE AT EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

DETAIL

2. THE NETHERLANDS MODIFIED THEIR POSITION AND SAID THEY WERE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION.

3. UKREP SAID WE WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT FINANCIAL PROVISION, PROVIDED THIS WAS EXPRESSED IN THE FORM OF AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE COMMUNITY OF A MAXIMUM ANNUAL AMOUNT OF 1 MECU OVER FIVE YEARS. OF THE OTHER DELEGATIONS WITH PROBLEMS ON FINANCE, DANES ACCEPTED UK REQUEST; FRANCE MAINTAINED A RESERVE.

4. THE FRENCH, MORE GENERALLY, HAD FAILED TO CLEAR THEIR LINES; THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO LIFT THEIR RESERVE ON THE PROVISION THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE A SITE AND BUILDINGS AVAILABLE TO THE FOUNDATION IN PARIS WITHOUT CHARGE AND WOULD UNDERTAKE THEIR UPKEEP. CONCEIVABLE THAT THEY MAY AGREE TO THIS IN LONDON. THE BELGIANS MADE UNHELPFUL COMMENTS ABOUT THE INADEQUACY OF THE PROPOSED FINANCIAL PROVISION BUT DID NOT APPEAR TO BE UNDERMINING THE COMPROMISE.

5. YOU MAY LIKE TO HAVE A TEXT READY AS A CONTINGENCY IN CASE THE FRENCH PRESS THIS ISSUE AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. MIFT CONTAINS CONCLUSIONS BASED ON THE REPORT TO COREPER TODAY. IT WOULD SEEM LIKELY TO MEET WITH AGREEMENT SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE MINOR AMENDMENTS.

FCO ADVANCE TO:-  
FCO - HANNAY O'DONNELL  
CAB - ELLIOTT

(ADVANCED AS REQUESTED)

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FM UKREP BRUSSELS 251412Z NOV 81

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 4489 OF 25 NOVEMBER

INFO ROUTINE EC POSTS.

MIFT

EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

1. THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION, AGREED UPON IN PRINCIPLE BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN 1977, WILL BE SET UP BY MEANS OF AN AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL.
2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FOUNDATION WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXT ENDORSED BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN APRIL 1978.
3. AN INDICATIVE LIST OF THE FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE AGREEMENT SETTING IT UP. THE ACTIVITIES WILL BE PRACTICAL IN NATURE AND INCLUDE ENCOURAGING KNOWLEDGE AND USE OF COMMUNITY LANGUAGES, PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER HUMAN EXCHANGES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS DEMONSTRATING IN A POPULAR WAY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES OF THE COMMUNITY.
4. AN AGREEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE FOUNDATION AND THE COMMUNITY CONCERNING THE LATTER'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES, FOR WHICH THE LEGAL BASIS WILL BE AN ACT BASED ON ARTICLE 235 OF THE EEC TREATY.
5. THE FOUNDATION'S INITIAL ENDOWMENT WILL TAKE THE FORM OF AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION FROM THE COMMUNITY OF A MAXIMUM ANNUAL AMOUNT OF 1 MECU OVER FIVE YEARS.
6. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE A SITE AND BUILDINGS AVAILABLE TO THE FOUNDATION IN PARIS WITHOUT CHARGE, AND WILL UNDERTAKE THEIR UPKEEP.

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