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EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS,  
28/29 JUNE 1982

**GENSCHER-COLOMBO PROPOSALS/LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE**

**OBJECTIVES**

1. The Presidency will not be making a report on the Genscher/Colombo proposals and the subject will not come up formally. If a suitable informal opportunity arises the Prime Minister could re-emphasise the importance we attach to the maintenance of the Luxembourg Compromise.

**POINTS TO MAKE**

Luxembourg Compromise

2. Remain very concerned about events of 18 May. Very sensitive issue in UK Parliament. Ability of Member State to have majority decision deferred where it considers its important national interests are at stake one of the basic elements in the case presented to Parliament in 1971 for membership. Member State must be sole judge of its important interests.

3. Note support by four other Member States on 20 June for continuation of practice since 1966 of deferring majority vote where a Member State considers its important interests are at stake. Hope this means that practice followed by Community since 1966 will continue to operate. Will have to see how this works out in practice.

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BACKGROUND

References:-

- A: Latest text of the Genscher/Colombo proposals
- B: Commentary by officials on the Text
- C: Text of Luxembourg Compromise
- D: Luxembourg Tels nos 210 and 217 reporting Foreign Ministers' discussion on 20 June.

Luxembourg Compromise

4. At the Foreign Ministers' meeting on 20 June, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary made clear the Government's view that where a Member State considers that very important interests are at stake, discussion must be continued until unanimous agreement is reached. This position was supported unreservedly by Denmark and Greece and with qualifications by France and Ireland. The others, with varying degrees of emphasis supported the legal interpretation of the Treaty but did not seek to reopen the Luxembourg Compromise.

5. The Luxembourg Compromise of 1966 was an agreement to differ with only the French maintaining the view that majority decisions must be deferred, where a Member State considers its important national interests to be at stake. There is no prospect that the five Member States who refused to accept this interpretation of the Luxembourg Compromise in 1966 will do so now, though they may well be prepared to acquiesce in the continuation of the practice since 1966. While there is no prospect of agreement by Heads of Government on this issue it would be helpful to get a clear statement of positions, in particular from President Mitterrand.

Genscher/Colombo Proposals

5. The Genscher/Colombo proposals for an Act on European Union were submitted to the European Council meeting in London on 26/27 November 1981. The European Council invited Foreign Ministers, in consultation with the Commission, to examine and clarify the proposals and report back to a future meeting of the European Council.

6. At their meeting on 24 May, the Foreign Ministers asked the ad hoc group to try to produce an agreed text which they would consider at their meeting on 20 June. In the event, Foreign Ministers had only a brief discussion on 20 June, and resolved few of the outstanding points. They agreed however that the ad hoc group would continue its work under the Danish Presidency. Adoption of a final text is likely to be delayed for some time since the Danes have shown little enthusiasm for the proposals. The Presidency do not propose to report on progress to the European Council.

7. The proposals do not amount to a great deal in substance. It has been accepted that no Treaty amendment or changes in the formal powers of the institutions will be involved. The proposals will, therefore, merely provide for improvements in the operation of the Community institutions within the framework of the Treaties; improved coordination between Treaty and non-Treaty activities; and the possibility of extending cooperation among the Ten into new areas.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
23 June 1982

P R E A M B L E

The Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Communities, meeting within the European Council:

- resolved to continue the work begun on the basis of the Treaties of Paris and Rome and to create a united Europe, which is more than ever necessary in order to meet the dangers of the world situation and which is able to assume the responsibilities incumbent on it by virtue of its political role, its economic potential and its manifold links with other peoples;
- considering that the European ideal, the achievements in the fields of economic integration and political co-operation, and the need for new developments reflect the wishes of the democratic peoples of Europe, for whom the European Parliament, elected by universal suffrage, is an indispensable means of expression;
- determined to work together to promote democracy on the basis of the fundamental rights recognized in the constitutions and laws of the Member States and in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights, notably freedom, equality, social justice (and the right to work) (2);

(1) Title still to be decided. The text of the preamble and of paragraphs 2.3.1., 2.3.2., 4.1. and 4.3. will have to be amended in the light of the decision taken.

(2) Reservations by two delegations.

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- convinced that, in order to resolve the serious economic problems facing the Member States, the Community must strengthen its cohesion, regain its dynamism and intensify its action in areas hitherto insufficiently explored;
- resolved to accord a high priority to the Community's social policy and in particular to the problem of employment, (thus creating a genuine European social area; <sup>(1)</sup>  
  
(thus developing the social dimension of the European Community;) <sup>(1)</sup>
- convinced that, by speaking with a single voice in foreign policy, including political aspects of security, Europe can contribute to the preservation of peace;
- recalling their decisions taken in Paris on 21 October 1972 and 10 October 1974, the Document on the European Identity of 14 December 1973 and the statement made by the European Council in The Hague on 30 November 1976 concerning the progressive construction of European Union;
- determined to achieve a comprehensive and coherent common political approach and reaffirming their will to transform the whole complex of relations between their States into a European Union,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS ACT:

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<sup>(1)</sup> Alternative texts.

.../...

1. OBJECTIVES

- 1.1. The Heads of State or Government, on the basis of an awareness of a common destiny and the wish to affirm the European identity, confirm their commitment to establishing an ever closer union among the peoples and Member States of the European Community.
- 1.2. The Heads of State or Government reaffirm the Declaration on Democracy adopted by the European Council on 8 April 1978 which stated that respect for and maintenance of representative democracy and human rights in each Member State are essential elements of membership of the European Communities.
- 1.3. In order to achieve ever increasing solidarity and joint action, the construction of Europe must be more clearly oriented towards its general political objectives, more efficient decision-making procedures, greater coherence and close co-ordination between the different branches of activity, and the search for common policies in all areas of common interest, both within the Community and in relation to non-member countries.

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1.4. Desiring to consolidate the progress already made towards European Union in both the economic and political fields, the Heads of State or Government reaffirm the following objectives:

- 1.4.1. to strengthen and continue the development of the Communities, which are the nucleus of European Union, by reinforcing existing policies and elaborating new policies within the framework of the Treaties of Paris and Rome;
- 1.4.2. to strengthen and develop European political co-operation through the elaboration and adoption of joint positions and joint action on the basis of intensified consultations in the field of foreign policy, including the co-ordination of the positions of Member States on the political aspects and certain economic aspects of security. [This co-operation in the field of foreign policy must lead to the search for a common foreign policy] <sup>(1)</sup>;

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<sup>(1)</sup> Addition requested by two delegations.

1.4.3. to promote, to the extent that these activities cannot be carried out within the framework of the Treaties:

- closer co-operation on cultural matters, in order to affirm the awareness of a common cultural heritage as a part of the European identity;
- approximation of certain areas of the legislation of the Member States in order to facilitate contacts between their nationals;
- a common analysis and concerted action to deal with international problems of law and order, serious acts of violence, organized international crime and, in general, international lawlessness.



2. INSTITUTIONS

The Heads of State or Government emphasize the importance of greater coherence and close co-ordination between the existing structures of the European Communities and European political co-operation at all levels so that comprehensive and consistent action can be taken to achieve European Union.

Matters within the scope of the European Communities are governed by provisions and procedures laid down in or pursuant to the Treaties of Paris and Rome and in agreements supplementing them. In matters of political co-operation, procedures apply which were agreed on in the Luxembourg (1970), Copenhagen (1973) and London (1981) reports, and other procedures to be agreed on, if necessary.

2.1. THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

2.1.1. The European Council brings together the Heads of State or Government and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States, as well as the President and a Member of the Commission.

2.1.2. In the general perspective of European Union, the European Council:

- provides a general political impetus to the construction of Europe;
- defines general orientations to further the construction of Europe and issues general political guidelines for the European Communities and European political co-operation;

.../...

- deliberates upon matters concerning European Union in its different aspects with due regard to consistency among them;
- initiates co-operation in new areas of activity;
- solemnly expresses the common position in questions of external relations.

2.1.3 Whenever the European Council acts in matters within the scope of the European Communities, it does so in its capacity as the Council within the meaning of the Treaties.

2.1.4 The European Council will present a report to the European Parliament after each of its meetings. This report will be presented at least once during each Presidency by the President of the European Council.

The European Council will also submit a written annual report to the European Parliament on progress towards European Union.

In the debates to which these reports give rise the European Council will normally be represented by its President or one of its members.

.../...

2.2 THE COUNCIL (AND THE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS) <sup>(1)</sup>

2.2.1 The consistency and continuity of the work needed for the further construction of European Union as well as the preparation of meetings of the European Council are the responsibility of the

either <sup>(1)</sup> { (Council composed of Ministers for Foreign Affairs)

or <sup>(1)</sup> { (Council (General Affairs) in areas within the scope of the European Communities, and of meetings of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in other areas) <sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> The solution here will depend on the solution adopted for paragraph 2.2.2.

.../...

2.2.2.

either (1)

With a view to bringing the institutional apparatus of the Community and that of political co-operation closer together, the Council acts in matters for which it is competent under the Treaties in accordance with the procedures laid down by the latter, and deals also, in accordance with the appropriate procedures, with all other areas of European Union, particularly with matters coming within the scope of political co-operation. In the case of the latter, agreements reached do not constitute acts within the meaning of the Treaties.

or (2)

With a view to bringing the institutional apparatus of the Community and that of political co-operation closer together, the Council deals with matters for which it is competent under the Treaties in accordance with the procedures laid down by the latter, and its members will deal also, in accordance with the appropriate procedures, with all other areas of European Union, particularly matters coming within the scope of political co-operation.

or (3)

With a view to bringing the institutional frameworks of the Communities and of political co-operation closer together, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meet either as the Council or in political co-operation, whenever possible in the same place and consecutively in one or the other capacity, with due regard to the co-ordination and consistency of the matters dealt with.

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- (1) Text supported by the majority of delegations.  
(2) Text suggested by one delegation.  
(3) Text suggested by one delegation.

2.2.3.

Vital importance is attached to the application of the decision-making procedures laid down in the Treaties of Paris and Rome in order to improve the European Communities' capacity to act.

Within the Council every possible means of facilitating the decision-making process will be used, including, in cases where unanimity is required, the possibility of abstaining from voting.

- either (1) [The Presidency will put decisions to the vote wherever the Treaties so provide, it being accepted that voting will be postponed if one or more Member States so request in order to defend a vital national interest.
- or (2) [The Presidency will put decisions to the vote wherever the Treaties so provide, it being accepted that voting will be postponed if one or more Member States so request in order to defend a vital national interest which is directly related to the subject under discussion, and which they confirm in writing.
- or (3) [The Presidency will put decisions to the vote wherever the Treaties so provide, it being accepted that voting may be postponed exceptionally if one or more Member States so request in order to defend a vital national interest, giving reasons in writing. In such cases, the question is placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting, which then decides.
- or (4) [The Presidency will put decisions to the vote wherever the Treaties so provide.

- 
- (1) Text preferred by two delegations.  
(2) Text preferred by two delegations.  
(3) Text preferred by three delegations.  
(4) Text preferred by two delegations.

.../...

2.2.4 To attain the objective of a Europe speaking with a single voice and acting in common in the field of foreign policy, the Member States will make a constant effort to increase the effectiveness of political co-operation and will seek, in particular, to facilitate the decision-making process, in order to reach common positions more rapidly.

They recently adopted new arrangements recorded in the London report of 13 October 1981. In the light of experience they will continue in this direction, in particular by:

- strengthening the Presidency's powers of initiative, of coordination and of representation in relations with non-member countries;
- appropriately strengthening operational support for successive Presidencies, corresponding to the increasing tasks which they have to perform.

.../...

2.3. THE PARLIAMENT:

In the development of European Union the European Parliament will play its own essential role;

either (1)

it must therefore be able to take part in that development and exercise appropriate review functions

or (2)

it must therefore have the corresponding participatory powers and review functions

or (3)

it must therefore be able to take part in that development and exercise the review functions which have been conferred on it by the Treaties or may subsequently be conferred on it

2.3.1.

The European Parliament shall deliberate on matters relating to the European Communities, in accordance with the provisions and procedures laid down in the Treaties establishing the European Communities. In addition, it may [deliberate on] (5) [debate] (6) questions relating to political co-operation and other matters relating to European Union as defined in this Act.

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(1) Text supported by or acceptable to the majority of the delegations.  
 (2) Text supported by two delegations.  
 (3) Text supported by two delegations.  
 (4) It was suggested that the end of this sentence should be drafted as follows: "or which it [may now] [may subsequently] be recognized as having".  
 (5) Text supported by most delegations.  
 (6) Text supported by one delegation.

2.3.2. The European Parliament may submit oral or written questions to the Council [and to ministerial meetings] <sup>(1)</sup> and to the Commission in keeping with their respective powers as defined by the Treaties establishing the European Communities, by the texts on European political co-operation and by this (Act) <sup>(2)</sup>.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Treaties concerning consultation of the European Parliament, the European Parliament may place resolutions [giving an Opinion or a recommendation] <sup>(2)</sup> before [the European Council] <sup>(3)</sup>, the Council, [ministerial meetings] <sup>(1)</sup> and the Commission in keeping with their respective powers on matters of major importance and general concern arising out of the Treaties establishing the European Communities, the texts on European political co-operation and this (Act) <sup>(2)</sup>.

either (2)

- If the Parliament asks for a reply from the Council (from ministerial meetings) <sup>(1)</sup> and from the Commission, in keeping with their respective powers, to resolutions giving an Opinion or a recommendation, the latter shall comply with this request. <sup>(4)</sup>

or (5)

- If the Parliament seeks the Council's comments on the Opinions which it gives pursuant to the Treaties, the Council shall comply with this request.

<sup>(1)</sup> The solution adopted depends on the decision taken on 2.2.2.

<sup>(2)</sup> Text supported by several delegations.

<sup>(3)</sup> Reservations by several delegations.

<sup>(4)</sup> One delegation suggested that after the first paragraph the text should read as follows: "Without prejudice to the provisions of the Treaties concerning consultation of the European Parliament, the European Parliament may place resolutions giving an Opinion or a recommendation before the Council and the Commission. The Council and the Commission will respond in keeping with their respective powers if the European Parliament asks them to do so."

<sup>(5)</sup> Text supported by several delegations.

.../...



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2.3.3. The Presidency shall keep the European Parliament regularly informed through the Political Affairs Committee of the subjects of foreign policy examined in the context of European political co-operation.

Once a year the Presidency shall report to the European Parliament in plenary sitting on progress in the field of political co-operation.

2.3.4. [ Before the appointment of the President of the Commission the President of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, shall seek the Opinion of the enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament. ] (1)

(After the appointment of the members of the Commission by the Governments of the Member States a [ n ] [ (investiture) (2) (confidence) (3) ] (4) debate shall be held on the Commission's programme (5).) (6)

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(1) Reservation by one delegation.

(2) Text supported by three delegations.

(3) Text supported by one delegation and the Commission.

(4) Text supported by the majority of the delegations.

(5) Alternative suggestion from the Presidency:

"After it has been formed, the Commission shall submit its draft programme to the European Parliament and shall adopt it after hearing the latter's Opinion".

(6) This subparagraph comes at least in part within the terms of reference of the Parliament. Some delegations consequently suggested that it be deleted. Other delegations were prepared to go along with the suggestion if the words "confidence" or "investiture" did not appear in the final text.

.../...

2.3.5. [ "The Council will enter into talks with the European Parliament and the Commission with the aim of improving the conciliation procedure provided for in the Joint Declaration of 4 March 1975 within the framework of a new agreement and of extending it on that basis" ] (1)

2.3.6. [ Before the accession of a State to the European Communities, the Parliament shall be (consulted) (2) (heard) (3) ] (4).

Before the conclusion of an associated agreement, the European Parliament shall be consulted.

[ Similarly, before the conclusion by the European Communities of other significant and long-term international agreements concerning which consultation of the European Parliament is not already provided for, the European Parliament shall be consulted, taking into account the requirements of urgency. ] (5)(6)

[ The existing procedures for providing the European Parliament with confidential and unofficial information on progress in negotiations shall be extended, taking into account the requirements of urgency, to all significant international agreements concluded by the Communities. ] (7)(8)

2.3.7. In the development of fundamental and human rights, special significance attaches to the Resolutions of the European Parliament.

(1) Text supported by several delegations and the Commission

(2) Text supported by several delegations

(3) Text supported by several delegations.

(4) Reservation by one delegation.

(5) Reservations by several delegations.

(6) One delegation suggested that the first three subparagraphs of this paragraph should read as follows:

"The European Parliament shall be consulted before:

- the accession of a State to the European Communities;

- the conclusion of an association agreement;

- the conclusion of other significant and long-term international agreements, taking into account the requirements of urgency and confidentiality."

(7) Reservations by three delegations.

(8) The Commission was understood to be planning a move in this direction.

#### 1.4. THE COMMISSION

The Heads of State or Government underline the particular importance of the Commission as guardian of the Treaties of Paris and Rome and as a driving force in the process of European integration. They confirm the value of making more frequent use of the possibility of delegating powers to the Commission within the framework of the Treaties. In addition to the tasks and powers laid down in those Treaties, the Commission is fully associated with European political co-operation and, where appropriate, with other activities within the framework of European Union.

#### 1.5. THE COURT OF JUSTICE

The Court of Justice of the European Communities has an essential role to play in progress towards European Union, by securing compliance with and development of Community law. Taking account of the respective constitutional provisions in their States, the Heads of State or Government agree to consider, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion in international conventions between Member States (provided for in the Treaty of Rome) <sup>(1)</sup> of a clause conferring on the Court of Justice appropriate powers of interpretation.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Addition requested by one delegation.

.../...

3. SCOPE

3.1. European Communities

The Heads of State or Government emphasize, in the light of the guidelines which the European Council adopted on (.....) in order to give a renewed impetus to the development of Community policies on a broad front, the importance of the following policies:

- 3.1.1 An overall economic strategy in the Community to combat unemployment and inflation and to promote convergence. Priority should be given to encouraging productive investment and raising competitiveness as a basis for creating durable jobs, bringing about sustained economic growth and reducing unemployment. In this context, effective action in the social field to alleviate unemployment should be taken at both the Community and the national levels;
- 3.1.2 Stronger economic disciplines and a more effective co-ordination of the national economic policies required for the achievement of the Community's overall objectives, in order to ensure that the main economic and sectoral objectives of the Member States are consistent with the maintenance and strengthening of the Community and with the object of consolidating the European Monetary System.

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- 3.1.3 Strengthening of the European Monetary System, which is helping to consolidate an area of monetary stability in Europe and to create a more stable international economic environment, as a key element in progress towards Economic and Monetary Union and the creation of a European Monetary Fund.
- 3.1.4 Definition of Community instruments and mechanisms which will permit action geared to the situation and specific needs of the least prosperous Member States in an effort to tackle their structural problems and thereby to ensure the harmonious development of the Community.
- 3.1.5 Strengthening of the common commercial policy and development of the external economic policy on the basis of common positions, given the importance of the Community's external relations. The Community will, in this way give effect to its special responsibility as the principal world trader and to its commitment to the open trading system.

In this context, national and Community development co-operative policies must be improved and co-ordinated so that they more fully reflect the needs of the developing countries and the interdependence between them and Europe, and Europe must play a stronger role as a catalyst in relations between the industrialized and developing countries.

.../...

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3.1.6. Completion of the internal market in accordance with the Treaties, in particular the removal of the remaining obstacles to the free movement of goods, capital and services, as well as the further development of a common transport policy.

3.1.7. Continued development of the common agricultural policy in harmony with other policies, respecting its objectives as defined in the Treaty and the principles of unity of the market, Community preference and financial solidarity, and taking into account the need to ensure a fair standard of living for the agricultural community and the need to achieve a better market equilibrium in some sectors,

either <sup>(1)</sup>

[ (the importance of Mediterranean agricultural products for the development of these regions)

or <sup>(2)</sup>

[ (the particular importance of agriculture to certain regions)

(and the need to ensure that the rate of growth of agricultural expenditure will rise less rapidly than the Community's own resources) <sup>(3)</sup>.

3.1.8. The development of an industrial strategy at Community level in order to strengthen industry, make it competitive and create productive jobs in Europe.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Addition requested by two delegations.

<sup>(2)</sup> Alternative addition proposed by one delegation.

<sup>(3)</sup> Addition requested by one delegation.

.../...

Such a strategy must not consist solely of solving the difficulties of declining industries but also of encouraging industrial innovation.

As a complement to adequate notional efforts, there must be greater Community solidarity, particularly in the areas of energy and research. <sup>(1)</sup>

- 3.1.9. Development of the regional and social policies of the Communities, which implies in particular the transfer of resources to less prosperous regions, so that all Community policies and instruments can play their full role in promoting convergence and balanced development.
- 3.1.10. (Provision of the necessary own resources and financial instruments to enable the Community to develop policies in accordance with its objectives, together with means to ensure the use of these resources in the best and most rational manner.) <sup>(2)</sup>

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<sup>(1)</sup> Alternative suggestion by the Commission:

"Efforts made by industry and Governments in the areas of energy and research will be complemented by co-ordination and appropriate actions at Community level".

<sup>(2)</sup> Reservations by two delegations.

.../...

3.2. FOREIGN POLICY

In order to cope with the ever-increasing problems of international politics, the necessary reinforcement of European political co-operation must be ensured, in particular by the following measures:

- intensified consultations with a view to permitting timely joint action on all major foreign policy questions of interest to the Ten as a whole;
  
- prior consultation with the other Member States in advance of the final adoption of positions on these questions. The Heads of State or Government underline their commitment to each Member State taking full account of the positions of its partners and giving due weight to the adoption and implementation of common European positions when working out national positions and taking national action;
  
- development and extension of the practice by which the views of the Ten are defined and consolidated in the form of common positions which then constitute a central point of reference for Member States' policies;

.../...



- progressive development and definition of common principles and objectives as well as the identification of common interests in order to strengthen the possibilities of joint action in the field of foreign policy;
- increased contacts with non-member countries in order to give the Ten greater weight as a partner in the foreign policy field;
- closer co-operation in diplomatic and administrative matters between the missions of the Ten in non-member countries;
- seeking a common stance at major international conferences attended by one or more of the Ten covering questions dealt with in political co-operation;
- increasing recognition of the contribution which the European Parliament makes to the development of a co-ordinated foreign policy of the Ten.

.../...

3.3. CULTURAL CO-OPERATION

With a view to complementing Community action and stressing that, as members of the Council of Europe, they maintain their firm support for and involvement in its cultural activities, the Heads of State or Government agree to promote, encourage or facilitate the following, taking account of respective constitutional provisions:

- development of the activities of the European Foundation and the European University Institute in Florence;
- closer co-operation between establishments of higher education, including exchanges of teachers and students;
- intensified exchanges of experience, particularly among young people, and development of the teaching of the languages of the Member States of the Community;
- improving the level of knowledge about other Member States of the Community and of information on Europe's history and culture, so as to promote a European awareness;
- examination of the advisability of undertaking joint action to protect, highlight and safeguard the cultural heritage;
- (examination of the possibility of promoting joint activities in the dissemination of culture, in particular as regards audio-visual methods) <sup>(1)</sup>;

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<sup>(1)</sup> Reservation by one delegation.

.../...

- (more extensive contacts between writers of the Member States and wider dissemination of their works both inside and outside the Community) <sup>(1)</sup>;
- (closer co-ordination of cultural activities in non-member countries, within the framework of political co-operation.) <sup>(2)</sup>

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<sup>(1)</sup> Reservation by one delegation.

<sup>(2)</sup> Reservation by one delegation.

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ANNEX B

GENSCHER/COLC<sup>VR</sup> PROPOSALS ON EUROPEAN UNION

Commentary on the revised text

Title

The Germans and Italians gave their original proposals the title "Act". We have asked for a different title since the word "Act" in the UK is used to denote legislation. The Presidency at one stage suggested "Document", which we could accept. The Germans regard it as too weak, however. Other alternatives which have been suggested are declaration, solemn declaration, resolution, charter, manifesto and action programme.

Preamble

The preamble reaffirms the commitment to create a united Europe through the progressive construction of European Union on the basis of the Treaties of Paris and Rome and the Political Cooperation arrangements. The text is generally acceptable apart from the reference to "the right to work" on which the UK has placed a reserve. We would also prefer to avoid the vague phrase "European Social area" in the 5th sub-paragraph.

Recommendation: We are, in practice, already committed to "the right to work" under the "European Social Charter" of 1961, which complements the European Convention on Human Rights. In order to avoid a specific reference to "the right to work" however, we proposed that the preamble simply endorse, without listing them, the fundamental rights "laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter". Luxembourg and Belgium did not accept this on the grounds that they had not ratified the Charter. We should maintain our proposal for the present, however, but should be prepared to accept "the right to work" if we are isolated in resisting it. We could also accept "European Social Area" if isolated.

Part 1 : Objectives

This section reaffirms the commitment to create "an ever closer union" of the peoples of Europe by strengthening and developing the European Communities and the Political Cooperation arrangements. There is also a reference, proposed by the UK, to the Declaration on Democracy adopted by the European Council on 8 April 1978.

Recommendation: The text as a whole is acceptable to the UK.

Part 2 : Institutions

Introduction

This section emphasises the importance of the closest possible coordination between the existing structures of the Communities and Political Cooperation, while making clear that each will continue to be prepared according to the existing procedures.

Recommendation: Accept.

2.1 The European Council

This section defines the composition and functions of the European Council, and provides for the President of the European Council to make a statement to the European Parliament once during each Presidency.

Recommendation: Accept. No change in the existing arrangements is envisaged.

2.2 The Council (and Ministerial meetings)

This section is intended to promote greater coherence at Ministerial level between Community business and Political Cooperation. We support this aim. All member states except Denmark, can accept the first or second alternatives of paragraph 2.2.2 which provide that "the Council" shall henceforth consider

both Community business and Political Cooperation matters but that each will continue to be prepared according to existing arrangements and that agreements reached under Political Cooperation will not constitute acts in the sense of the Treaties. The Danes can only accept the third alternative which records the present position.

Recommendation: Either of the first or second alternatives would be acceptable to the UK.

### 2.2.3 Decision-taking in the Council

There are four different texts on majority voting for Ministers to choose from. The first two provide that the Presidency will have recourse to voting, where the Treaties provide for it but that a vote will be deferred at the request of one or more member states on the grounds that important national interests are involved. The second text specifies that the interests involved should be "directly related to the subject under discussion" and that reasons should be given "in writing". The third text provides that a vote would only be deferred "exceptionally" and that the question would be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council, which would decide. The fourth text states simply that the Presidency will have recourse to voting where the Treaties provide for it.

Recommendation: In the light of the setting aside of our veto at the Agriculture Council on 18 May, our objective is to secure an agreed basis for decision-taking in the Council and, in particular, that a member state should be able to have a decision deferred where important national interests are involved. We should therefore press for the first text. We could not accept any of the other texts though we could give further consideration to the inclusion of a reference to the need to put reasons in writing, as in the second text if this commanded a <sup>wide</sup>~~weak~~ degree of

support. If, as is probable, it is not possible to secure unanimous agreement on any of the alternatives our objective should be to secure the agreement of as many member states as possible that a decision will be deferred where important national interests are involved.

#### 2.2.4 Political Cooperation

This section reaffirms the importance of strengthening the Political Cooperation machinery, on the basis of the London Report of 13 October 1981, in order to attain the objective of a common foreign policy. It also provides for the Presidency to have appropriate "operational support" for the tasks it has to perform.

Recommendation: Accept.

#### 2.3 The European Parliament

This section of the text has been prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives. A clear difference of view has emerged between the "maximalists" (Germany, Italy, and Benelux) who want to do as much as possible for the Parliament, and the "minimalists" (the UK, France, Denmark and Greece) who want to preserve the existing position with only marginal concessions to the Parliament. These differences are reflected in the numerous square brackets which appear in the text. A recommended line to take on each paragraph follows.

##### Introduction

Recommendation: We should continue to press for the first of the three alternative texts, which is acceptable to most other delegations. The other two texts suggest the need for enlargement of the Parliament's powers.

2.3.1. This paragraph reaffirms the Parliament's right to debate all matters relating to "European Union".

Recommendation: Accept, provided the final text states that the Parliament "may deliberate on" not "shall debate" Political Cooperation matters.

2.3.2. This paragraph deals with the response of the other institutions to Parliamentary questions, Resolutions and Opinions.

Recommendation: Accept, subject to the final text providing that the Council is only required to respond to Parliamentary opinions required under the Treaties and not to Resolutions which the Parliament may adopt in other fields. We should therefore press for the second alternative of the last sub-paragraph. We should also press for deletion of the reference to the European Council in the second sub-paragraph.

2.3.3. This deals with the Parliament's involvement in Political Cooperation matters.

Recommendation: Accept.

2.3.4. This deals with the Parliament's role in appointing the President of the Commission and in approving the Commission's programme.

Recommendation: We can accept a text providing that Member States should "seek the opinion" of, but not "consult", the Parliament's enlarged Bureau, about the appointment of the President of the Commission. We cannot accept an "investiture" or "confidence" debate on the Commission's programme.

2.3.5. This section deals with the Conciliation procedure, which will be the subject of separate discussions between the Council, the Parliament and the Commission.



Recommendation: We should like to see improvements in the operation of the procedure before considering extension of its application. The revised text sufficiently safeguards our position and is acceptable.

2.3.6. This deals with the Parliament's role in the conclusion of Treaties and other international agreements by the Community.

Recommendation: Our main concern is to ensure that the European Parliament does not acquire the right which our own Parliament does not have to be consulted about the progress of negotiations for all the Community's international agreements. We can therefore accept that the European Parliament shall "be heard", but not "consulted" before the conclusion of Treaties of Accession. We can accept that the Parliament should be "consulted" over association agreements since this is already provided under Article 238 of the EEC Treaty. We should also be prepared to accept extension of the existing procedures for informing (but not consulting) the Parliament about the progress of trade negotiation to cover all the Community's important international agreements. The practical implications of doing so would be small.

2.3.7. This provides for particular importance to be attached to European Parliament's resolutions in the field of human rights.

Recommendation: Accept.

#### 2.4 The Commission

The text reaffirms the role of the Commission as guardian of the Treaties and "driving force" of the integration process, and confirms the value of delegating powers to the Commission "within the framework of the Treaties".

Recommendation: Accept. The text merely reaffirms the existing position.

2.5 The Court of Justice

The text reaffirms the important role of the Court of Justice and opens the possibility of the Court being given powers of interpretation in international conventions concluded between Member States.

Recommendation: The text is acceptable.

Part 3 : Scope

3.1 The European Communities

This section sets out the priorities for work within the framework of the Communities in language closely based on the agreed 30 May Mandate guidelines. It is therefore generally acceptable to the UK.

Recommendation: Accept, subject to ensuring that the section on the CAP (3.1.7) does not include a specific reference to Mediterranean agriculture, and that the section on Community resources (3.1.10), on which we and the Germans have placed reserves, is either deleted altogether or redrafted to make clear that the provision of "the necessary own resources" will not be automatic.

3.2 Foreign Policy

This section reaffirms the necessity of strengthening Political Cooperation through intensified consultation and coordination on foreign policy questions.

Recommendation: Accept. The text contains no commitments which have not already been accepted.

3.3 Cultural Cooperation

The text provides for the promotion of cultural cooperation on a Community basis, while respecting the work already being undertaken in this area by the Council of Europe. A number of specific areas for closer cooperation are listed.

Recommendation: Accept. The text merely provides for Ministers to "promote, encourage or facilitate" cooperation in the areas mentioned.

3.4 Approximation of laws

The text provides for the promotion of approximation of laws both within and outside the Treaty framework.

Recommendation: Accept, subject to deletion of the final sub-paragraph, which refers to cooperation in matters of "criminal and procedural law".

Part 4 : Final Provisions

This section provides for a review of progress towards European unification after five years. Some Member States want a commitment that this review will result in a "Treaty on European Union". Other Member States, including the UK, are unable to accept a commitment to a Treaty.

Recommendation: Accept, subject to there being no commitment to a future Treaty.

3.4. APPROXIMATION OF LAWS

- 3.4.1. Approximation of laws in areas within the competence of the European Communities will be pursued and intensified through effective use of the measures provided for in the Treaties.
- 3.4.2. With a view to complementing the approximation of laws within the European Communities, and having full regard, in particular, to the work of the Council of Europe, the Member States will endeavour to approximate their laws in other areas by having recourse to the appropriate instruments, including international conventions. A special effort will be made to implement or supplement without delay international conventions already negotiated between Member States in the Community framework, and notably those provided for by the Treaties.
- 3.4.3. Among the activities which can be conducive to the attainment of European Union, the following deserve special attention:
- the introduction of legal instruments which can strengthen co-operation among the judicial authorities of the Member States, notably in civil and commercial matters, and which can thereby make the administration of justice more efficient and less cumbersome;
  - a further approximation in the field of the protection of industrial and commercial property, consumer protection and, whenever necessary, in the field of the law relating to companies;
  - (co-operation in the area of the repression of infringements of Community law) <sup>(1)</sup>;
  - (co-operation in matters of criminal and procedural law.) <sup>(2)</sup>

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<sup>(1)</sup> Reservation by one delegation.

<sup>(2)</sup> Addition requested by one delegation.

.../...

4. FINAL PROVISIONS

4.1. The Heads of State or Government stress the link between membership of the European Communities and participation in the activities described in this act.

4.2. European Union is being achieved by deepening and broadening the scope of European activities so that they coherently cover, albeit on a variety of legal bases, a growing proportion of Member States' mutual relations and of their external relations.

4.3. The Heads of State or Government will subject this act to a general review in order to take stock of the progress achieved towards European unification

(1)

or (2) [and to incorporate it in a Treaty on European Union.

or (3) [and to formalize it in an appropriate manner.

The Opinion of the European Parliament will be sought on this subject.

---

(1) General reservation by one delegation.  
(2) Text supported by several delegations.  
(3) Text supported by several delegations.

ENG (B2) (82) 4 June 1

b) *Majority voting*

"I. Where, in the case of decisions which may be taken by majority vote on a proposal of the Commission, very important interests of one or more partners are at stake, the Members of the Council will endeavour, within a reasonable time, to reach solutions which can be adopted by all the Members of the Council while respecting their mutual interests and those of the Community, in accordance with Article 2 of the Treaty.

"II. With regard to the foregoing paragraph, the French delegation considers that where very important interests are at stake the discussion must be continued until unanimous agreement is reached.

"III. The six delegations note that there is a divergence of views on what should be done in the event of failure to reach complete agreement.

"IV. The six delegations nevertheless consider that this divergence does not prevent the Community's work being resumed in accordance with the normal procedure".

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ANNEX D

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DESKBY 210830Z

FROM LUXEMBOURG 202150Z JUN 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 210 OF 20 JUNE 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS

INFO PRIORITY BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN PARIS  
BONN ATHENS

FROM UKREP BRUSSELS

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL 20 JUNE

MAJORITY VOTING AND THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE

SUMMARY

1. IN A FIRST DISCUSSION FIVE MEMBER STATES (UK, DENMARK, GREECE: FRANCE AND IRELAND WITH QUALIFICATIONS) TOOK THE LINE THAT IF AN IMPORTANT NATIONAL INTEREST WAS AT STAKE VOTING SHOULD BE DEFERRED. THE OTHERS WITH VARYING EMPHASIS SUPPORTED THE LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF THE TREATY BUT DID NOT SEEK TO REOPEN THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE. TINDEMANS REFUSED TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS. A LATER DISCUSSION AMONG MINISTERS ALONE CONFIRMED THE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AND LED TINDEMANS TO CONCLUDE THAT EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN NEITHER APPROVED NOR REJECTED. AN INTERIM REPORT ON THE GENSCHER-COLOMBO PROPOSALS WILL BE MADE TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

DETAIL

2. YOU OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY SAYING THAT YOU HAD EXPRESSED YOUR VIEW OF THE SITUATION ON 24 MAY: THE DECISION ON 18 MAY TO TAKE A VOTE WHEN THE BRITISH DELEGATION HAD MADE CLEAR THAT IMPORTANT NATIONAL INTERESTS WERE INVOLVED HAD CREATED DOUBT AND CONFUSION ABOUT THE COMMUNITY'S DECISION TAKING PROCEDURES.

3. THE KEY QUESTION TO BE ANSWERED WAS WHETHER THE PRACTICE OF CONTINUING DISCUSSION UNTIL UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WHERE A MEMBER STATE CONSIDERED ITS IMPORTANT INTERESTS TO BE AT STAKE REMAINED THE BASIS ON WHICH COMMUNITY BUSINESS WAS TRANSACTED. YOU ASKED FOR A CLEAR STATEMENT OF EACH MEMBER STATE'S POSITION ON THIS QUESTION.

4. YOU SAID THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WAS QUITE CLEAR. THE UK HAD ALWAYS ACCEPTED THE USE OF MAJORITY VOTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TREATIES, SUBJECT TO THE QUALIFICATION THAT, WHERE VERY IMPORTANT INTERESTS WERE AT STAKE, THE DISCUSSION MUST BE CONTINUED

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UNTIL UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. WHEN THE UK JOINED THE COMMUNITY WE HAD CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ESTABLISHED PRACTICE IN THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1966, WAS THAT WHERE A MEMBER STATE CONSIDERED ITS IMPORTANT NATIONAL INTERESTS WERE INVOLVED, NO VOTE WAS OR WOULD BE TAKEN AND THE DISCUSSION WAS CONTINUED UNTIL UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT WAS REACHED: AND THAT EACH MEMBER STATE WAS THE JUDGE OF WHAT CONSTITUTED ITS IMPORTANT NATIONAL INTERESTS. AT THE TIME OF ACCESSION THE WHITE PAPER PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY TO EXPLAIN THE TERMS OF ENTRY TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE SET OUT THIS PRACTICE - THIS IMPORTANT SAFEGUARD OF A MEMBER STATE'S IMPORTANT INTERESTS. THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE WAS THUS FOR US A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF THE BASIS ON WHICH WE JOINED THE COMMUNITY. IT CONTAINED AN INHERENT SAFEGUARD WHICH MANY MEMBER STATES HAD USED. YOU WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THE PRACTICE FOLLOWED SINCE 1966 REMAINED THE BASIS ON WHICH COMMUNITY BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED. YOU HOPED TO RE-ESTABLISH THAT THE POSITION REMAINED AS IT HAD BEEN BEFORE 18 MAY.

5. OLESEN (DENMARK) ENDORSED YOUR VIEWS. IN THE FOLKETING HE HAD BEEN ASKED AFTER THE EVENTS OF 18 MAY WHETHER THE COMPROMISE STILL EXISTED. HE HAD ANSWERED THAT IT DID, FULLY. IT MUST BE RIGHT FOR EACH MEMBER STATE TO ASSESS WHAT WAS FOR IT A VITAL NATIONAL INTEREST, THOUGH IT TOOK A RESPONSIBILITY IN DOING SO.

6. VAN AGT (NETHERLANDS) STRESSED THAT IN 1966 NO CHANGE HAD BEEN MADE TO THE TREATIES: IT HAD MERELY BEEN NOTED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS OF THEM. IT HAD BEEN AN AGREEMENT TO DISAGREE. AS FAR AS THE NETHERLANDS WERE CONCERNED THE TREATIES WERE THE BASIS OF THE COMMUNITY'S WORK. BUT THEY HAD TO BE USED IN A REASONABLE WAY. DISCUSSION SHOULD CONTINUE IN AN EFFORT TO REACH FULL AGREEMENT AS LONG AS THE ISSUE IN QUESTION ALLOWED. BUT IT WAS NOT RIGHT TO POSTPONE DECISION SO THAT PARALYSIS RESULTED. ON SOME ISSUES THE POINT COULD BE REACHED QUITE SOON WHEN THE TREATIES MUST BE APPLIED.

7. THORN SPOKE FOR THE TRADITIONAL VIEW THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD OPERATE ON THE TREATIES AND NOTHING BUT THE TREATIES. HE ADDED THAT THIS ISSUE HAD NEVER BEEN RAISED IN ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR UK ACCESSION, WHATEVER BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS MIGHT HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

8. GENSCHER (FRG) SAID THAT VAN AGT HAD DESCRIBED THE SITUATION CORRECTLY. HE TOOK IT THAT NOONE WANTED TO CHANGE THE SITUATION WHICH HAD EXISTED 3, 6 OR 9 MONTHS AGO. VARFIS (GREECE) AGREED WITH YOU AND OLESEN. COLOMBO (ITALY) AGREED WITH VAN AGT. HE HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE FORMULATION OF THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE, AND ACCEPTED HIS SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT. IT HAD SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF

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THE EMPTY CHAIR BUT HAD NOT BEEN INTENDED TO CHANGE THE TREATIES OR INTRODUCE A RIGHT OF VETO. FRANCE HAD INSISTED THAT DISCUSSION MUST CONTINUE BUT HAD NOT DEMANDED A VETO. FURTHERMORE IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE SEARCH FOR UNANIMITY SHOULD BE CONFINED TO THE ITEM UNDER DISCUSSION WITHOUT REFERENCE TO OTHER UNRELATED SUBJECTS.

9. CHEYSSON (FRANCE) SAID THAT THE FRENCH POSITION WAS UNCHANGED. WE WERE ALL BOUND BY THE TREATIES: BUT IT HAD BEEN NOTED IN 1966 THAT THERE WERE OCCASIONS WHERE A VOTE SHOULD BE DEFERRED. AS INDICATED IN THE FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR INSERTION IN THE GENSCHER-COLOMBO TEXT, THE IMPORTANT INTEREST AT STAKE SHOULD RELATE DIRECTLY TO THE ITEM UNDER DISCUSSION. THE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY MUST NOT BE PARALYSED, NOR SHOULD THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREED COMMUNITY POLICY BE PREVENTED. ON 18 MAY, HAD THE VOTE BEEN DEFERRED, THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE FOUND ITSELF WITH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICIES OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE TREATIES.

10. COLLINS (IRELAND) SAID THAT THE COMPROMISE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BUT RESORTED TO ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. FLESCH (LUXEMBOURG) SHARED VIEWS EXPRESSED BY VAN AGT AND COLOMBO. THE LUXEMBOURG "CONCLUSION" WAS PART OF COMMUNITY HISTORY. THERE WAS NO NEED TO DISCUSS IT. A FORM OF WORDS WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GENSCHER COLOMBO PROPOSALS, FOR IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY'S DECISION MAKING MECHANISM. DE KEERSMAEKER (BELGIUM) ADOPTED A LEGAL VIEW. THE TREATY RULES HAD TO APPLY. THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE HAD MERELY RECORDED DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OF THE TREATIES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT MAJORITY VOTING COULD ONLY TAKE PLACE ON A COMMISSION PROPOSAL, AND IT WAS FAIR TO ASSUME THAT IN MAKING ITS PROPOSAL THE COMMISSION HAD TAKEN ACCOUNT OF THE INTERESTS OF ALL MEMBER STATES.

11. TINDEMANS NOTED THAT AS IN 1966 THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT AND SUGGESTED FURTHER DISCUSSION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GENSCHER COLOMBO PROPOSALS. YOU ACCEPTED THAT THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT, BUT IT WAS ALSO TRUE THAT FIVE MEMBER STATES HAD SUPPORTED THE VIEW SET OUT IN THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE THAT "WHERE VERY IMPORTANT INTERESTS ARE AT STAKE, THE DISCUSSION MUST BE CONTINUED UNTIL UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT IS REACHED". (YOU ACKNOWLEDGED THAT CHEYSSON AND COLLINS HAD EACH ADDED QUALIFICATIONS.) YOU THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT TINDEMANS SHOULD RECORD THIS IN HIS SUMMING UP: THE POSITION WAS DIFFERENT FROM THAT IN JANUARY IN 1966. THE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THING FOR THE UK WAS THAT BUSINESS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED ON THE SAME BASIS AS DURING THE 16 YEARS AFTER 1966. TINDEMANS CONTINUED

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TO RESIST, AND GENSCHER INSISTED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DECISION ON THE MATTER. YOU NOTED THAT GENSCHER HAD ALSO SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW NOTHING HAD CHANGED. TINDEMANS THEN TURNED TO DISCUSSION OF THE GENSCHER COLOMBO PROPOSALS.

12. WHEN DISCUSSION OF THE GENSCHER/COLOMBO TEXT REACHED THE PASSAGE ON MAJORITY VOTING A MINISTERS ONLY SESSION WAS ARRANGED. EXISTING DIVISIONS OF OPINION WERE CONFIRMED. IT BECAME CLEAR AFTER SOME DISCUSSION THAT NO AGREEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE. CHEYSSON SAID SO AND VAN AGT SEEMED TO START FROM THAT ASSUMPTION. GENSCHER STATED THAT HE COULD ACCEPT NO MAJOR DEPARTURE FROM HIS DRAFT. OLESON AND VARFIS SUPPORTED ME IN EXPRESSING RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE IDEA THAT THE NATIONAL INTERESTS INVOKED SHOULD BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ITEM UNDER DISCUSSION, ASKING WHO WOULD BE THE JUDGE.

13. THE QUESTION WAS POSED WHETHER THE DOCUMENT AS A WHOLE MIGHT BE AGREED WITHOUT ANY PASSAGE ON VOTING. MINISTERS WOULD RETURN TO THE QUESTION.

14. GENSCHER THOUGHT THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN INTERIM REPORT TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. THIS WAS AGREED.

15. GENSCHER ALSO SAID THAT WHEN THE ISSUE WAS DEBATED BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AT ITS JULY SESSION - HE WOULD ATTEND. COLOMBO THOUGHT THE IDEA USEFUL. OLESON AND CHEYSSON OPPOSED. YOU TOO HAD RESERVATIONS. IT WAS HARD TO SEE HOW IT WOULD BE ORGANISED: MOST MEMBER STATES WOULD WANT THEIR VIEWS REPRESENTED. YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO REFLECT AFTER THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL BEFORE PURSUING THE THOUGHT.

16. IN A FINAL DISCUSSION OF WHAT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD APPLY IN THE COMMUNITY IF THE SECTION ON VOTING IN THE GENSCHER/COLOMBO TEXT WAS OMITTED, GENSCHER NOTED AGAIN THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DECISION AND NO CONCLUSION IN THE EARLIER DISCUSSION ON THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE. TINDEMANS SUMMED UP THAT THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN NEITHER APPROVED NOR REJECTED.

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 217 OF 21 JUNE

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DUBLIN PARIS BONN ATHENS

INFO SAVING STRASBOURG

FM UKREP BRUSSELS

LUXEMBOURG TELNO 210: FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 20 JUNE

MAJORITY VOTING AND GENSCHER/COLOMBO PROPOSALS

1. WE HAVE NOW HAD FROM THE PRESIDENCY THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE RESUMED DISCUSSION OF GENSCHER/COLOMBO OVER DINNER ON 20 JUNE, AS REPORTED BY TINDEMANS TO HIS STAFF:

A) THE AD HCC (DE SCHOUTHEETE) GROUP WILL CONTINUE ITS WORK UNDER DANISH PRESIDENCY;

B) ITALY AND GERMANY HAVE THE RIGHT TO RAISE THE GENSCHER/COLOMBO PROPOSALS AT ANY MINISTERIAL MEETING;

C) THE BELGIAN PRESIDENCY DO NOT INTEND TO MAKE THE INTERIM REPORT TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL REFERRED TO IN TUR;

D) THE DANISH PRESIDENCY WILL REPORT TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON 7 JULY.

2. TINDEMANS ALSO TOLD HIS STAFF THAT ITALY AND GERMANY WANT WORK ON THE GENSCHER/COLOMBO PROPOSALS TO CONTINUE UNTIL THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN MARCH 1983 (UNDER THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY) AND THAT THE DANISH PRESIDENCY'S REPORT TO PARLIAMENT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THEIR GENERAL PRESENTATION ON THE DANISH PRESIDENCY.

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