

English edition

## Information and Notices

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## I

*(Information)*

## COMMISSION

Ecu <sup>(1)</sup>

26 May 1997

(97/C 160/01)

Currency amount for one unit:

Belgian and Luxembourg franc	40,3813	Finnish markka	5,90738
Danish krone	7,44979	Swedish krona	8,82025
German mark	1,95616	Pound sterling	0,705993
Greek drachma	312,733	United States dollar	1,15797
Spanish peseta	165,207	Canadian dollar	1,59394
French franc	6,60100	Japanese yen	134,521
Irish pound	0,761521	Swiss franc	1,62289
Italian lira	1928,13	Norwegian krone	8,14226
Dutch guilder	2,19968	Icelandic krona	80,8147
Austrian schilling	13,7683	Australian dollar	1,50816
Portuguese escudo	197,723	New Zealand dollar	1,67167
		South African rand	5,18596

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 'ccccc' 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 No L 379, 30. 12. 1978, p. 1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1971/89 (OJ No L 189, 4. 7. 1989, p. 1).

Council Decision 80/1184/EEC of 18 December 1980 (Convention of Lomé) (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 34).

Commission Decision No 3334/80/ECSC of 19 December 1980 (OJ No L 349, 23. 12. 1980, p. 27).

Financial Regulation of 16 December 1980 concerning the general budget of the European Communities (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 23).

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 of 16 December 1980 (OJ No L 345, 20. 12. 1980, p. 1).

Decision of the Council of Governors of the European Investment Bank of 13 May 1981 (OJ No L 311, 30. 10. 1981, p. 1).

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FORWARDED BY THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL  
DURING THE PERIOD 12 TO 16. 5. 1997**

(97/C 160/02)

*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(97) 209	CB-CO-97-194-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Directive amending the Annex to Directive 91/492/EEC laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of live bivalve molluscs <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	12. 5. 1997	12. 5. 1997	7
COM(97) 210	CB-CO-97-195-EN-C	Amended proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision amending Decision 93/383/EEC of 14 June 1993 on reference laboratories for the monitoring of marine biotoxins <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	12. 5. 1997	12. 5. 1997	10
COM(97) 208	CB-CO-97-193-EN-C	Annual status report by the Commission on the Guarantee Fund and its management in 1996	13. 5. 1997	13. 5. 1997	21
COM(97) 211	CB-CO-97-198-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EC) No 391/97 laying down, for 1997, certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway <sup>(3)</sup>	13. 5. 1997	13. 5. 1997	6
COM(97) 212	CB-CO-97-199-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EC) No 393/97 laying down, for 1997, certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of the Faeroes <sup>(3)</sup>	13. 5. 1997	13. 5. 1997	6
COM(97) 201	CB-CO-97-185-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) establishing a European Monitoring Centre for Racism and Xenophobia <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	14. 5. 1997	14. 5. 1997	24
COM(97) 202	CB-CO-97-186-EN-C	Amended proposal for a Council Directive on the burden of proof in cases of discrimination based on sex <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>	14. 5. 1997	14. 5. 1997	12
COM(97) 215	CB-CO-97-203-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Decision authorizing the French Republic to extend the application of measures derogating from Article 17 and Article 22 (3), (4) and (5) of the sixth Council Directive (77/388/EEC) of 17 May 1977 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to turnover taxes	14. 5. 1997	14. 5. 1997	11
COM(97) 173	CB-CO-97-161-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of Protocol... to the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Czech Republic, of the other part <sup>(2)</sup>	15. 5. 1997	15. 5. 1997	111

Code	Catalogue No	Title	Date adopted by the Commission	Date forwarded to the Council	Number of pages
COM(97) 213	CB-CO-97-200-EN-C	Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) laying down certain conservation and control measures applicable to fishing activities in the Antarctic and replacing Regulation (EC) No 2113/96 of 25 October 1996 <sup>(1)</sup> <sup>(2)</sup>	15. 5. 1997	15. 5. 1997	30
COM(97) 219	CB-CO-97-210-EN-C	Report from the Commission to the Council on the respect of market access commitments by WTO members in the textiles and clothing sectors	15. 5. 1997	15. 5. 1997	11

<sup>(1)</sup> This document contains an impact assessment on business, and in particular on SMEs.

<sup>(2)</sup> This document will be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

<sup>(3)</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.

**Standing invitation to tender pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 570/88 of 16 February 1988 on the sale of butter at reduced prices and the granting of aid for butter and concentrated butter for use in the manufacture of pastry products, ice-cream and other foodstuffs**

(97/C 160/03)

(See notice in Official Journal of the European Communities No L 55 of 1 March 1988, page 31)

**Tender No: 206**

*Date of Commission Decision: 20 May 1997*

(ECU/100 kg)

Formula		A/C—D		B	
Incorporation procedure		With tracers	Without tracers	With tracers	Without tracers
Minimum price	Butter ≥ 82 %	Unaltered	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—
Processing security		Unaltered	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—
Maximum aid amount	Butter ≥ 82 %	125	121	125	121
	Butter < 82 %	120	116	—	—
	Concentrated butter	154	150	154	150
	Cream	—	—	54	—
Processing security	Butter	138	—	138	—
	Concentrated butter	170	—	170	—
	Cream	—	—	60	—

**Communication of Decisions under sundry tendering procedures in agriculture (milk and milk products)**

(97/C 160/04)

*(See notice in Official Journal of the European Communities No L 360, 21. 12. 1982, p. 43)*

*(ECU/100 kg)*

Standing invitation to tender	Tender No	Date of Commission Decision	Maximum aid	End-use security
Commission Regulation (EEC) No 429/90 of 20 February 1990 on the granting by invitation to tender of an aid for concentrated butter intended for direct consumption in the Community (OJ No L 45, 21. 2. 1990, p. 8)	166	20. 5. 1997	179	197

**Communication of Decisions under sundry tendering procedures in agriculture (milk and milk products)**

(97/C 160/05)

*(See notice in Official Journal of the European Communities No L 360, 21. 12. 1982, p. 43)*

*(ECU/100 kg)*

Standing invitation to tender	Tender No	Date of Commission Decision	Maximum buying-in price
Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1589/87 of 5 June 1987 on the sale by tender of butter to intervention agencies (OJ No L 146, 6. 6. 1987, p. 27)	219	20. 5. 1997	295,38

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration**

**(Case No IV/M.873 — Bank Austria/Creditanstalt)**

(97/C 160/06)

**(Text with EEA relevance)**

On 11 March 1997, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in German and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CDE' version of the Celex database, under document No 397M0873. Celex is the computerized documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,  
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),  
2, rue Mercier,  
L-2985 Luxembourg,  
Tel.: (352) 29 29 42 455, fax: (352) 29 29 42 763.

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration**  
**(Case No IV/M.900 — BT/TELE DK/SBB/Migros/UBS)**

(97/C 160/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 16 April 1997, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CEN' version of the Celex database, under document No 397M0900. Celex is the computerized documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,  
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),  
2, rue Mercier,  
L-2985 Luxembourg,  
Tel.: (352) 29 29 42 455, fax: (352) 29 29 42 763.

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**Non-opposition to a notified concentration**  
**(Case No IV/M.886 — MRW/MHP)**

(97/C 160/08)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 22 April 1997, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in German and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CDE' version of the Celex database, under document No 397M0886. Celex is the computerized documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

EUR-OP,  
Information, Marketing and Public Relations (OP/4B),  
2, rue Mercier,  
L-2985 Luxembourg,  
Tel.: (352) 29 29 42 455, fax: (352) 29 29 42 763.

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**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case No IV/M.933 — ICI/Unilever)**

(97/C 160/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 20 May 1997, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89<sup>(1)</sup> by which Imperial Chemical Industries plc. ('ICI') acquires within the meaning of Article 3 (1) (b) of the Regulation control of Unilever plc, speciality chemicals division, comprising National Starch, Quest, Unichema and Crosfield (jointly 'the Division'), by way of purchase of shares and assets.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- ICI: coatings, paints, industrial chemicals and material and performance chemicals,
- the Division: industrial chemicals, esters, resins, fragrances, flavours and derivatives.

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 ((32 2) 296 43 01/296 72 44) or by post, under reference IV/M.933 — ICI/Unilever, 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 No L 395, 30. 12. 1989; corrigendum: OJ No L 257, 21. 9. 1990, p. 13.

## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal**

(97/C 160/10)

COM(97) 161 final — 97/0122(CNS)

*(Submitted by the Commission on 18 April 1997)*

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas Article 13 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal <sup>(1)</sup> provides for the granting of export refunds; whereas exports of live animals benefiting from Community funds should be carried out in such a way as to respect the welfare of the animals concerned; whereas experience shows that this is not always the case; whereas it should therefore be stipulated that the payment of export refunds shall be subject to compliance with the animal welfare standards as set out in Community legislation concerning animal transport and in particular Council Directive 91/628/EEC <sup>(2)</sup>; whereas it is therefore necessary to amend the aforementioned Article 13 accordingly; whereas it is necessary for practical reasons to provide that the Commission will lay down detailed implementing rules for the application of these rules to imports into third countries,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 is hereby amended as follows:

1. in paragraph 9 the following subparagraph shall be added:

‘Moreover, the payment of the refund for exports of live animals is subject to compliance with the provisions established in Community legislation concerning animal welfare and, in particular, the protection of animals during transport.’;

2. in paragraph 12 the following subparagraph shall be added:

‘With regard to the provisions laid down in paragraph 9, last subparagraph, the detailed rules for the application may also include conditions concerning, in particular, imports into third countries.’

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply from . . .

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 24. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2222/96 (OJ No L 296, 21. 11. 1996, p. 50).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No L 340, 11. 12. 1991, p. 17. Directive as last amended by Directive 95/29/EC (OJ No L 148, 30. 6. 1995, p. 52).

**Proposal for a Council Regulation (ECSC, EC, Euratom) amending the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities**

(97/C 160/11)

COM(97) 163 final — 97/0123(CNS)

(Submitted by the Commission on 22 April 1997)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing a single Council and a single Commission of the European Communities, and in particular Article 24 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal presented by the Commission after consulting the Staff Regulations Committee,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the Court of Justice,

Having regard to the opinion of the Court of Auditors,

Whereas Article 1 of Annex II to Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 259/68, as last amended by Regulation (ECSC, EC, Euratom) No . . . , lays down the term of office of the members and alternates if any, of the Staff Committee;

Whereas that term of office, which is currently fixed at a maximum of two years, should be replaced by a term of three years to permit fuller implementation of the staff representatives' mandate;

Whereas it is unnecessary to amend the minimum term of office of members of the Staff Committee and their alternates,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

The first subparagraph of Article 1 (Section I) of Annex II to the Staff Regulations is replaced by the following:

'The Staff Committee shall comprise the members thereof, together with their alternates if any, whose term of office shall be three years. The institution may, however, decide to fix a shorter term of office, which may not be less than one year. Every official of the institution shall be entitled to vote and stand for election.'

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

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## III

(Notices)

## COMMISSION

## CITIZENS FIRST

## Call for proposals

(97/C 160/12)

1. European Commission, Directorate-General XV/A/1, Internal Market and Financial Services, General matters and coordination. Free movement of persons and direct taxation. Operation of the internal market and economic analysis Rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Brussel. Tel. 299 11 11. Fax: 295 43 51. Telex: COMEU B 21877. Telegraphic address: COMEUR Brussels.
2. **Call for proposals**  
  
Persons who wish to propose projects are invited to submit proposals in accordance with the rules set out below.
3. (a) The call for proposals is for non-governmental organizations or organizations of equivalent status to supplement and reinforce the Citizens First initiative launched by the European Parliament and the European Commission. Citizens First seeks to inform people of their rights arising from the single market and create a dialogue with citizens about the exercising of these rights. The themes covered by Citizens First are:
  - Working in another country of the EU,
  - Living in another country of the EU,
  - Studying and doing research in another country of the EU,
  - Buying goods and services in the single market,
  - Travelling in the EU,
  - Equal opportunities in the EU,
  - and Health issues for workers in the EU.
- (b) Financial contributions may be made to NGOs supplying information services in respect of projects of limited duration of a value less than ECU 200 000. The Commission may part finance any project submitted up to an upper limit of 50 % (exceptionally 75 %).
4. The supply of services shall be within any of the 15 Member States of the European Union.
5. Proposals must be submitted, on the basis set out below, no later than 30 June 1997.
6. The suppliers shall be non-governmental organizations or organizations of an equivalent status.
7. Applications shall be presented in written form to the Representations of the European Commission in the Member States. They shall include all the information requested in point 8. The addresses of the Commission's Representations can be obtained by calling the fax number in point 1.
8. All applications shall include a detailed outline of the proposed project (complete with provisional budget costed in ecu and local currency), complete with an indication source of funding not supplied by the Citizens First financial contribution. The outline must detail the type of the project, its duration and likely impact. The information submitted should allow an accurate appraisal of the project.  
  
Projects requiring an on-going or open-ended subsidy cannot be considered. The same applies to projects not able to show sources of finance not covered by the financial contribution. The submission should also include evidence of NGO or equivalent status (in other words its statutes), and any information necessary to judge the suitability of the organization as a service-provider for the Citizens First initiative.

## 9. Further information

The Citizens First initiative is one of the priority information actions of the European Parliament and the European Commission.

### What is Citizens First?

The Citizens First initiative aims to inform EU citizens about their rights and the opportunities available to them in the European single market. Most citizens, around 80 % according to recent surveys, feel under informed about these rights. The Citizens First initiative aims to raise awareness, informing citizens in plain language about their rights and then to obtain feedback from them about exercising these rights.

Citizens First has already published three guides: *Working in another country of the European Union*, *Living in another country of the EU* and *Studying in another country of the European Union*. The working titles of the next four guides to be published are: 'Travelling in another country of the EU', 'Buying goods and services in the European single market', 'Equal opportunities in the EU' and 'Health issues for workers in the EU'.

Accompanying each guide there are more detailed factsheets on specific topics. Both guides and factsheets are available on request by contacting a

national freephone number (in Austria and the Netherlands charged at a local rate) or by accessing the Internet. For more detailed questions callers can use the same telephone number to contact a signpost service, whereby an expert calls the citizen back with details of the competent authority to contact to handle their problem.

Since its launch on 26 November, Citizens First has achieved a high response rate, both to its call centre and its website (more than 400 000 responses in its first three months). However it is always seeking to improve on this and the Commission is especially concerned to reach those citizens not reached in the normal course of the initiative.

NGO projects are intended to reinforce these themes; special consideration will be given to good projects dealing with the themes covered by the next four guides.

The kind of submissions envisaged are training programmes, debates, exhibitions; however any other proposal relevant to the issues covered by Citizens First, which fulfils the requirements laid down and acts as a good multiplier-event will be considered.

10. Date of dispatch of notice: 21 May 1997.

11. Date of receipt of notice by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities: 21 May 1997.

**Assessment of humanitarian operations financed under Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid**

(97/C 160/13)

*(This text annuls and replaces that published in Official Journal No C 149 of 17 May 1997)*

Firms or groups of firms wishing to undertake an assessment of humanitarian aid operations pursuant to Article 20 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 are invited to make their submission.

Preference will be given to bids involving the services of a team of European experts comprising different nationalities.

No prior participation in humanitarian operations financed by the Commission (ECHO) since 1 July 1996 is permitted by such firms or experts proposed in respect of this assignment. They will be asked to make a statement to this effect.

Detailed information may be obtained from Mr Díaz Marquina, ECHO 5 (Assessment), tel: (32-2) 295 13 97; fax: (32-2) 299 11 73.

Expressions of interest should be submitted, accompanied by details of the experience of the firm or groups of firms in the field of humanitarian aid and aid assessment, before 10 July 1997, by post or fax (number above) to the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO), addressed to:

Mrs Jacqueline Coëffard, Head of Unit ECHO 5 (Assessment), Office 5/278, Rue de Genève 1, B-1140 Brussels.

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