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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY

UK Presidency: Internal Market Action Programme

1. Thank you for your letter of 24 June about the handling of internal market issues under our Presidency. I fully agree with the approach you propose.

2. The success of the UK Presidency is likely to be judged to a large extent on how far we manage to speed up progress on the internal market. I am concerned, therefore, that, as we agreed in Cabinet, we should all set out with a very clear idea of what our priorities will be and how we propose to achieve them. I think it would be useful if you and Alan Clark, together with Nigel Lawson, Michael Jopling and John Moore, could join me and Lynda Chalker for a short meeting to discuss the handling of internal market issues during our Presidency. It would be particularly helpful if we could meet before the first Internal Market Council under our Presidency on 24 July. My office will be in touch to fix a date.

3. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, Members of OD(E), John Moore and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

7 July 1986

Ends POC

Ends Council

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