



PM/84/118

PRIME MINISTER

European Community: Ad Hoc Committees on 'A People's Europe'  
and Institutional Affairs

1. Dr Fitzgerald may raise this with you at the same time as he does the Presidency of the Commission.
- / 2. I attach a copy of the Presidency conclusions from Fontainebleau about the terms of reference for these groups.
3. You may wish to ask Dr Fitzgerald how he proposes to carry this work forward; what arrangements he envisages for the chairmanship; and how he sees the relationship between the two groups. There are reports from Dublin that he intends to appoint Senator Dooge, formerly Foreign Minister, as the next Irish Commissioner in Brussels. It may be that he will be asked to preside over one or both of these groups.
4. It is not yet clear whether other member states will be represented at a political level, e.g. State Secretary, though the Dutch have indicated that they will be. In that event, I would be inclined to recommend that we should be represented by a Minister. You will note that the committee on institutional affairs is likely to deal with matters going beyond Community business including 'political', or any other, co-operation'.

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5. I am not sure, however, that a Minister would be able to devote time to both these groups. Representation at senior official level might be appropriate, especially on that concerned with 'A People's Europe'. We could decide about this in the light of your discussion with Dr Fitzgerald and further indications about the intentions of the others.

6. We shall want discussion of the development of the Community to deal with the issues we have raised in our paper on 'Europe - the Future'. Some of these ideas can be carried forward through the normal Community processes. But in the area of 'A People's Europe' we shall want to try to use the ad hoc committee to give some further impetus to our ideas on the abolition of intra-Community barriers of all kinds, cheaper air services, etc. It would be worth making this point to Dr Fitzgerald.

(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

10 July 1984

The European Council considers it essential that the Community should respond to the expectations of the people of Europe by adopting measures to strengthen and promote its identity and its image both for its citizens and for the rest of the world.

An ad hoc Committee will be set up to prepare and co-ordinate this action. It will be composed of representatives of the Heads of State or of Government of the Member States.

The European Council approves the agreement reached on the principle of creating a European passport and asks the Council to take the necessary decisions to ensure that this passport is actually available to Member States' nationals by 1 January 1985 at the latest.

It asks the Council and the Member States to put in hand without delay a study of the measures which could be taken to bring about in the near future, and in any case before the middle of 1985:

- a single document for the movement of goods;
- the abolition of all police and customs formalities for people crossing intra-Community frontiers;
- a general system for ensuring the equivalence of university diplomas, in order to bring about the effective freedom of establishment within the Community.

The Committee will examine inter alia the following suggestions:

- symbols of the Community's existence, such as a flag and an anthem;
- formation of European sports teams;
- streamlining procedures at frontier posts;
- minting of a European coinage, namely the ECU.

It would also like the Member States to take steps to encourage young people to participate in projects organised by the Community beyond its frontiers, and in particular to support the creation of national committees of European volunteers for development, bringing together young Europeans who wish to work on development projects in the third world.

The ad hoc Committee will also examine the following suggestions:

- measures to combat drug abuse;
- the twinning of children's classes.

The Commission will contribute to the proceedings of the Committee within the limits of its powers.

7. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

The European Council decided to set up an ad hoc Committee consisting of personal representatives of the Heads of State and of Government, on the lines of the "Spaak Committee".

The Committee's function will be to make suggestions for the improvement of the operation of European co-operation in both the Community field and that of political, or any other, co-operation.

The President of the European Council will take the necessary steps to implement that decision.