

R E S T R I C T E D
FRAME GENERAL/SOCIAL

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FM UKREP BRUSSELS 111933Z MAR 85
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 921 OF 11 MARCH,
INFO COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN PARIS BONN
LUXEMBOURG ATHENS LISBON MADRID,
INFO SAVING BRUSSELS.

COMMISSION PROGRAMME FOR 1985.
ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND CONSUMER PROTECTION.

SUMMARY

1. PROGRAMME CONFIRMS HIGHER PROFILE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY. PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE 1987 EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT YEAR. DIRECT LINK IDENTIFIED BETWEEN COMPETITIVENESS OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY AND ABILITY TO MATCH HIGHEST ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS. TRANSPORT SEEN AS CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH MORE OPEN AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM AND DEVELOPMENTS OF LARGE SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. VARIOUS NEW PROPOSALS PROMISED. ACTION ON MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMMES FOR PRIORITY PROJECTS. RECENT COMMISSION STATEMENT ON CONSUMER PROTECTION IS REPEATED.

DETAIL

ENVIRONMENT.

2. PROGRAMME EMPHASISES COMMISSION'S INTENTION TO BUILD ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY INTO ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRATEGY BECAUSE OF ITS INCREASING POLITICAL IMPORTANCE, ROLE IN SPEEDING UP INDUSTRIAL CHANGE, AND JOB CREATING POTENTIAL. ANALYSIS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES ARE BEST CARRIED OUT AT COMMUNITY LEVEL. 1987 SHOULD BE DESIGNATED EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT YEAR. ACTION TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH POLLUTION PREVENTION WILL CONCENTRATE ON SECURING AGREEMENT TO PROPOSALS ON THE TABLE PLUS DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PROPOSALS ON WASTE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING RECYCLING, DUMPING AT SEA AND NUCLEAR WASTE. NEW AREAS OF EXAMINATION INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL CO-OPERATION WITH ACP AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AND EXAMINATION OF ANIMAL EXPLOITATION IN ALL ITS FORMS. ON LINK BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY, PROGRAMME EMPHASISES THAT EUROPEAN INDUSTRY'S COMPETITIVENESS WILL DEPEND ON MATCHING STANDARDS OF PRODUCTS FROM ELSEWHERE. IT CONCLUDES THAT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT CREATES NEW JOBS AND PROTECTS EXISTING ONES.

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TRANSPORT.

3. PROGRAMME IDENTIFIES A MORE OPEN TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND LARGE SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AS MAIN WAYS OF HELPING TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH TRANSPORT POLICY. MORE ACTION BY COUNCIL IS CALLED FOR ON PRESENT PROPOSALS. ON SEA TRANSPORT, PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO HALTING THE DECLINE OF THE COMMUNITY FLEET BY MEASURES AGAINST UNFAIR PRACTICES, RATHER THAN BY LIBERAL POLICIES. ON AVIATION, THE COMMISSION "WILL DEFENDS ITS PROPOSALS". NEW PROPOSALS PROMISED TO PHASE OUT ROAD HAULAGE QUOTAS, TO HARMONISE WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS OF LORRIES AND TO SIMPLIFY BORDER CONTROLS. COMMISSION ALSO PROMISES IDEAS ON METHODS OF FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE. COMMUNITY AGREEMENT ON MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME FOR MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE IS TOP PRIORITY AND PROPOSALS WILL BE READY IN 1985.

CONSUMER PROTECTION.

4. AS SPELLED OUT IN COMMISSION'S RECENT STATEMENT, COMMISSION SEEK DECISIONS ON PRODUCT LIABILITY AND TOY SAFETY. THEY WILL PRESENT PROPOSALS ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND INFORMATION, AND ON PREVENTION OF HOME AND LEISURE ACCIDENTS.

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2 MARSHAM STREET
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My ref:

Your ref:
14 March 1985

Dear Mark

My Secretary of State has asked me to circulate the attached FCO telegram, which outlines the Environment Commissioner Mr Clinton Davis's plans for the next few years. This was raised at Cabinet today.

I am copying this to the Private Secretaries of all Members of the Cabinet, and Richard Hatfield at Cabinet Office.

Yours ever

Andrew Prime Minister

A C ALLBERRY
Private Secretary

ant
CJP
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Mark Addison Esq