



Comments given to
Mr. Deminick.

GO.
[Pol. Coop. in the EC].

1. This is the present state of the draft on political cooperation.
2. The preamble makes clear that the Community as such could have no competence in the matter, i.e. it is an agreement between the member states. There could be no jurisdiction for the Court or other Community institutions.
3. Except for paragraphs 19 and 20, all the language is in existing agreed documents.
4. All the agreement does, therefore, is codify existing practice. But the provisions in paragraphs 4 and 6 and 10 to 13 could give us additional help on some issues, e.g. the Falklands, and put more pressure on the Greeks.
5. Paragraphs 17 and 18 are essential for Kohl. The Irish may have to enter reservations about them, but that is their problem. Paragraph 19 is desirable. It is what we want and would put more pressure on the French over the European Fighter Aircraft.
6. Grateful for any personal thoughts before this is submitted here.

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DRAFT AGREEMENT ON POLITICAL COOPERATIONI) Introduction

1. The Member States of the European Community, mindful of the many agreements which already bind them, notably the Treaties of Rome and Paris, have decided to confirm and strengthen the commitments they have undertaken in European Political Cooperation so as to ~~provide a secure~~ ^{enable them} ~~and lasting basis for joint action in world affairs.~~ ^{to act jointly more openly & more effectively}

II) Objectives

2. The Member States undertake to work for the following objectives, for which purpose they have established European Political Cooperation:

- To ~~ensure~~ ^{develop} by means of regular consultations and exchanges of information ~~mutual understanding~~ ^{be broad similarity views} as regards the main problems of international relations.
- To ensure that their combined influence is deployed in the most effective way through the ~~harmonisation~~ ^{coordination} of their views, the alignment of their positions and, particularly, joint action.

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- Progressively, to aim towards a common external policy.

III) Basic Principles

3. Member States will consult on all important questions of Foreign Policy, including the political and economic aspects of security.

4. Such consultations will ^{as a rule} take place before Member States adopt final positions on major Foreign Policy questions of interest to them all.

5. Each Member State will take full account of the position of its partners and give due weight to the desirability of the adoption and implementation of common European positions when working out national positions and taking national action.

6. Member States will avoid action likely to damage their joint reputation as a coherent force in international relations.

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IV) Structure

7. The instruments of Political Cooperation will operate under the general guidance of the European Council. The structure is set out in Annex I, which may be amended by unanimous agreement.

V) Relations with the Institutions of the European
Communities

8. Member States will ensure maximum coherence between the external policies of the Community and the policies agreed in European Political Cooperation. To this end the Commission will be fully associated with Political Cooperation. In particular, unless in any particular case all Member States agree to the contrary, the Commission will be invited to all meetings of Political Cooperation.

9. Member States will ensure that the European Parliament is informed of developments in Political Cooperation.

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VI) The Ten in International Organisations

10. Member States will work for common positions in international organisations and at major international conferences attended by one or more of them and covering questions dealt with in Political Cooperation.

11. Paras 4 and 5 above will apply to actions by Member States in such organisations on questions involving all Member States.

12. Para 6 above will also apply in such organisations.

13. In particular a Member State will not support a resolution in such organisations which directly criticises, or might gravely affect the vital interests of, another Member State. Member States will also avoid a situation where one or more of them co-sponsor a resolution which another or others of them intend to oppose.

VII) Contacts with Third Countries

14. With the aim of making their joint diplomacy effective, the Member States will ensure that Political

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Cooperation establishes the necessary contacts with third countries and regional groupings of interest to the Ten.

VIII) Missions of Member States

15. The Member States will work to intensify cooperation between their missions in third countries and in international organisations. The aim of such cooperation will be to enable missions to perform their functions more effectively and economically through mutual assistance, shared facilities, shared information and joint action.

16. In particular Member States will work both to take advantage of local opportunities, and to establish general schemes, for strengthened cooperation in third countries on the matters listed in Annex III, which may be amended by unanimous agreement.

IX) Security

17. The Member States agree that closer European cooperation on security matters is an essential component of the effort to develop Europe's external political identity. The aim of such cooperation will be to

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maximise the contribution Member States can make to the objectives of the organisations specifically established to guarantee Western security, in particular the Atlantic Alliance and the Western European Union.

18. The Member States will develop and strengthen consultation on security problems in European Political Cooperation. They will in particular exchange information and views on the effect on their security interests of international developments. They will work to concert their position on the major problems posed by the preservation of peace in Europe.

19. Member States will also work to enhance their contribution to the objectives of the Alliance and other relevant bodies by strengthened cooperation in the joint design, development and production of military equipment and systems.

20. The Member States are determined to maintain the technological and industrial conditions necessary for their security. They will work both individually and, as appropriate, through their joint institutions for this end.

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ANNEX I: THE STRUCTURE OF POLITICAL COOPERATION

(a) The Presidency of Political Cooperation will be held by the same Member State as holds the Presidency of the Communities.

(b) The Presidency will be responsible for the day to day management of Political Cooperation. It will in particular be responsible for the timetable and other arrangements for meetings, and for the preparation of and circulation of drafts, agendas, conclusions and other necessary texts.

(c) Foreign Ministers will discuss Political Cooperation matters formally at least four times per year, and informally as appropriate. These discussions may take place on the same occasion as meetings of Ministers in the Community framework.

(d) Political Directors will meet monthly in the Political Committee in order to maintain the continuity of Political Cooperation and to prepare discussions among Ministers.

(e) Working Groups of experts from Member States' Foreign Ministries, whether of a continuing nature or ad hoc to deal with particular problems, will meet as directed by the Political Committee.

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(f) The Political Committee or, if necessary, a Ministerial meeting, will convene within 48 hours at the request of three Member States.

(g) The Presidency will be assisted by a small Secretariat based in the main place of work of the Community. The office space and services will be provided by the Council Secretariat. The Head of the Secretariat will be appointed by agreement among the Member States.

(h) The functions of the Secretariat, which will work under the direction of the Presidency, will include those set out in Annex II, which may be amended by unanimous agreement.

(i) As is required by their functions the Head and Members of the Secretariat will be free to attend relevant meetings held in the Community framework.

(j) Formal Political Cooperation meetings at Ministerial level may take place in the capital of the Presidency. At official level they will normally take place at the Community's places of work unless otherwise agreed.

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ANNEX II: FUNCTIONS OF THE POLITICAL COOPERATIONSECRETARIAT

The Secretariat will:

- (a) Advise the Presidency as necessary on the conduct of Political Cooperation, in particular in maintaining coherence between the external policies of the Community and the policies agreed in European Political Cooperation.
- (b) Provide support for Political Cooperation meetings - including as necessary the preparation and circulation of texts, keeping of records and preparation of conclusions.
- (c) Assist the Presidency in the preparation of texts to be issued on behalf of the Member States including replies to European Parliament questions.
- (d) Keep a Political Cooperation archive.
- (e) Prepare, and to update as necessary, a full codification of Political Cooperation rules and practices.

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ANNEX III: AREAS FOR COOPERATION AMONG MEMBER STATES'
MISSIONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES

1. Exchange of Political and Economic Information.
2. Shared Information on Administrative Problems.
3. Mutual Assistance and Sharing of Organisational Infrastructure.
4. Cooperation on Communications.
5. Exchange of Information and Joint Planning for Local Crises.
6. Cooperation on local Security Measures.
7. Cooperation on Consular Matters.
8. Cooperation on Health Matters.
9. Cooperation on Information Matters.
10. Cooperation on Cultural Matters.
11. Cooperation on Development Aid Matters.

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