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CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

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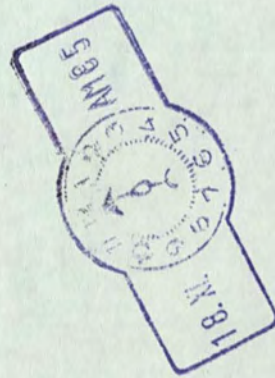
Own Resources Decision: UK Notification of Adoption

1. Ian Gow wrote to me on 12 November about the timing of our notification to the Secretary General of the Council that we have completed the necessary national procedures for adoption of the new Own Resources Decision.
2. I agree there is no good reason to delay, and I have accordingly given instructions to notify forthwith. I also agree that there is no need for any announcement.
3. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
19 November 1985

Euro Pol Budget Pt 30





Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

12 November 1985

Ian Gow

NEW OWN RESOURCES DECISION: UNITED KINGDOM NOTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Now that the European Communities (Finance) Act has become law, the United Kingdom can formally notify the Secretary-General of the Council that we have completed the necessary national procedures for its adoption.

The Decision requires member states to make their notifications "without delay" and I can see no reason for the United Kingdom not to comply with that requirement. I think that we should do so now. There might, perhaps, be some comment at home if it became known that we were - as I understand may well be the case - the first to make that notification. But this possibility is not an adequate reason to delay. There could be advantages in encouraging some member states to make progress once they see that others have adopted the Decision.

I understand that it is for you to make the formal notification, and that the correct form of words is being prepared for you. I hope that you will be content to proceed accordingly. I assume that we shall make no announcement at home about what is a pure formality.

Copies of this letter go to the Prime Minister and Malcolm Rifkind, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Ian Gow

7 Ian

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP