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EUROPEAN COUNCIL: RHODES : 2-3 DECEMBER

MIPT DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

FOLLOWING IS TEXT ADOPTED BY EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

DECLARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON THE INTERNATIONAL ROLE
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
(RHODES 2-3/XII/1988)

1. REAFFIRMING ITS COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE CONCRETE PROGRESS
TOWARDS EUROPEAN UNITY ON THE BASIS OF THE SINGLE EUROPEAN ACT,

- DETERMINED TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC STAGE, IN COOPERATION WITH ALL OTHER STATES AND
APPROPRIATE ORGANISATIONS,

- AND AWARE THAT THE COMPLETION OF THE INTERNAL MARKET IN 1992,
WHICH IS ALREADY INSPIRING A NEW DYNAMISM IN THE COMMUNITY'S
ECONOMIC LIFE, WILL EQUALLY AFFECT THE COMMUNITY'S POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC ROLE IN THE WORLD,

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL REAFFIRMS THAT THE SINGLE MARKET WILL BE
OF BENEFIT TO COMMUNITY AND NON-COMMUNITY COUNTRIES ALIKE BY
ENSURING CONTINUING ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE INTERNAL MARKET WILL
NOT CLOSE IN ON ITSELF. 1992 EUROPE WILL BE A PARTNER AND NOT A
"FORTRESS EUROPE". THE INTERNAL MARKET WILL BE
A DECISIVE FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO GREATER LIBERALIZATION IN
INTERNATIONAL TRADE ON THE BASIS OF THE GATT PRINCIPLES OF
RECIPROCAL AND MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS ARRANGEMENTS. THE COMMUNITY
WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE GATT URUGUAY ROUND,
COMMITTED AS IT IS TO STRENGTHEN THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM.
IT WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO PURSUE, WITH THE U S X JAPAN AND THE OTHER
OECD PARTNERS, POLICIES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE
NON-INFLATIONARY GROWTH IN THE WORLD ECONOMY.

2. THE COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES WILL CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY AND COOPERATIVELY WITH THE UNITED STATES TO MAINTAIN AND DEEPEN THE SOLID AND COMPREHENSIVE TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. CLOSER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH JAPAN AND THE OTHER INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES WILL ALSO BE DEVELOPED. IN PARTICULAR, THE COMMUNITY WISHES TO STRENGTHEN AND TO EXPAND RELATIONS WITH EFTA COUNTRIES AND ALL OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS WHICH SHARE THE SAME IDEALS AND OBJECTIVES. OPEN AND CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION WILL BE ACTIVELY PURSUED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OR REGIONAL GROUPS OF THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE MEDITERRANEAN, AFRICA, THE CARIBBEAN, THE PACIFIC, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION.

3. THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL EMPHASISES THE NEED TO IMPROVE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND TO PROMOTE STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT, BOTH THROUGH TRADE AND AID. IT ALSO RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF A CONTINUING POLICY TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS OF THE HIGHLY INDEBTED COUNTRIES ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. IT LOOKS FORWARD TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE CONVENTION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS 66 AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC PARTNERS DURING THE COMING YEAR.

4. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES ARE DETERMINED TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE PRESERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND IN THE SOLUTION OF REGIONAL CONFLICTS, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. EUROPE CAN NOT BE ACTIVELY DEMONSTRATE ITS SOLIDARITY TO THE GREAT AND SPREADING MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND FULL SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THE TWELVE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO STRENGTHEN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO ITS PEACE-KEEPING ROLE.

5. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF IMPROVED EAST-WEST RELATIONS, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL WELCOMES THE READINESS OF THE EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF THE CMEA TO DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND REAFFIRMS ITS WILLINGNESS TO FURTHER ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH THEM, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT EACH COUNTRY'S SPECIFIC SITUATION, IN ORDER TO USE THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL WAY.

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL REAFFIRMS ITS DETERMINATION TO ACT WITH RENEWED HOPE TO OVERCOME THE DIVISION OF OUR CONTINENT AND TO PROMOTE THE WESTERN VALUES AND PRINCIPLES WHICH MEMBER STATES HAVE

IN COMMON.

TO THIS EFFECT, WE WILL STRIVE TO ACHIEVE:

- FULL RESPECT FOR THE PROVISIONS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AND FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE CSCE PROCESS, INCLUDING AN EARLY AND SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE VIENNA FOLLOW-UP MEETING:
- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECURE AND STABLE BALANCE OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE AT A LOWER LEVEL, THE STRENGTHENING OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND MILITARY TRANSPARENCE AND THE CONCLUSION OF A GLOBAL VERIFIABLE BAN ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS:

- PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, FREE CIRCULATION OF PEOPLE AND IDEAS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE OPEN SOCIETIES: PROMOTION OF HUMAN AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST:

- THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH OUR EASTERN NEIGHBOURS.

6. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE TWELVE ARE DETERMINED TO MAKE FULL USE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE SINGLE EUROPEAN ACT IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN SOLIDARITY AMONG THEM, COORDINATION ON THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF SECURITY, AND CONSISTENCE BETWEEN THE EXTERNAL POLICIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE POLICIES AGREED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION. THEY WILL STRIVE TO REACH SWIFT ADOPTION OF COMMON POSITIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT ACTION.

7. THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL INVITES ALL COUNTRIES TO EMBARK WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AS WORLD PARTNER ON AN HISTORIC EFFORT TO LEAVE TO THE NEXT GENERATION A CONTINENT AND A WORLD MORE SECURE, MORE JUST AND MORE FREE.

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