

CONFIDENTIAL



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Peter Smith Esq
Private Secretary to the
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
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25 February 1988

Dear Peter,

EUROPEAN COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

The Chief Secretary has seen Mr Fairclough's letter of 18 February to Mr Clarke. He is generally content with the proposals outlined in that letter for better use of the existing machinery to consider proposals for international collaborative R & D projects, subject to one gloss on proposal that any decision on a collaboration should take account of related projects. The Chief Secretary considers that while other related activity clearly need be taken into account, it is essential that each and every proposal is considered on its merits. The key decision criteria in both the civil and defence fields are operational need/justification and value for money. We should, moreover, take every opportunity to impress this on prospective collaborative partners.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell (No. 10), Lynn Parker (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Ian Andrews (Ministry of Defence), and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Yours,

Jill Rutter

JILL RUTTER

Private Secretary

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