

DECLARATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Today's world is confronted by environmental problems of increasing magnitude. In the interests of sustained growth and a better quality of life, it is urgent to find solutions to such global issues as the depletion of the ozone layer, the rise in the temperature of the earth's atmosphere ("the greenhouse effect"), threats to the natural environment, the problem of water resources, soil erosion, safe management of toxic chemicals and waste, air pollution, particularly "acid rain", and problems of urban areas. Effective action will in many cases require better scientific research and understanding.
2. The goals of environmental protection laid down for the Community have recently been defined by the Single European Act. Some progress has been made in reducing pollution and in ensuring prudent management of natural resources. But these actions by themselves are not enough. Within the Community, it is essential to increase efforts to protect the environment directly and also to ensure that such protection becomes an integral component of other policies. Sustainable development must be one of the overriding objectives of all Community policies.
3. The expected achievement of the Single Market by 1992 and the accompanying economic growth offers both a challenge and an opportunity. Europe's industrial future and international competitiveness will depend in part on applying the high level of environmental protection foreseen in the Treaty. Special attention needs to be devoted to the seas and coastal regions of the Member States, which are of outstanding importance from the economic and ecological stand-point, particularly the Mediterranean region, the North Sea and the Irish Sea. The Community should redouble its efforts to protect these vital resources.
4. In the wider international context, the Community and the Member States are determined to play a leading role in the action needed to protect the world's environment and will continue to strive for an effective international response, particularly to such global problems as depletion of the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect and the ever-growing threats to the natural environment, thus contributing to a better quality of life for all the peoples of the world.

AUDIOVISUAL EUREKA
EIGHT PROPOSALS FOR RHODES

for the promotion, experimentation and development of
high-definition television

1. The European Standard and the European High-Definition Television System successfully demonstrated in Brighton on 23 September 1988 create a basis for the future of the European audiovisual industry. The Community should therefore work effectively and with determination to promote the said system among the other European States, notably those in Eastern Europe.
2. To this end, encouragement and support should be given to the Commission's initiative in creating a European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG) whose task is, in particular, to devise the technical means whereby the European Standard can be demonstrated and promoted.

A demonstration will be organized at the next European Council in Madrid, in June 1989, and at the Summit of the seven industrialized countries in July 1989.

3. Outstanding cultural or sporting events (for example the 1992 Olympic Games) will be filmed with equipment using the European-standard digital-component system. These too will provide an opportunity for demonstrating the high definition system.

TOWARDS A EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL AREA

4. To give practical shape to the European Audiovisual Eureka initiative, a conclave will be held next spring, bringing together interested States and professionals concerned (public and private-sector broadcasters and

producers, writers, directors, advertisers, etc.). This "European Audiovisual Conclave" will be intended primarily for the Community, its Member States and the Commission; but it will also be open to other European countries, including Eastern European ones, according to arrangements to be worked out and in the same spirit as presided over the launch of Technological Eureka in 1985.

France is prepared to organize and host this Conclave.

5. With this end in view, each interested State and the Commission will appoint a head for Audiovisual Eureka at the earliest opportunity. The tasks of these representatives will be to conduct all necessary consultations with persons working in this field and to affirm the ambition of Audiovisual Eureka, which is to encourage the emergence of a strong European audiovisual market and foster the development of common policies for the purchase and production of programmes among both public and private-sector TV channels.
6. It will be necessary to mobilize the appropriate resources in support of public and private initiatives. France stands ready to provide substantial specific financing.
7. Initiatives taken by the Commission (such as the Media Plan) should be pursued and encouraged. France would like them to be extended to include the production and exchange of documentaries, school and university television programmes, and news magazines.
8. Filming of a major European work will start in 1989.

EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION

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European Political Cooperation

1. EAST-WEST RELATIONS

Within the framework of East-West relations, the European Council had an in-depth discussion of the overall relations with the Soviet Union and the countries of eastern Europe based on various contributions concerning the political and economic fields. Ministers of Foreign Affairs have been entrusted with ensuring the necessary follow-up.

The European Council has approved a paragraph on East-West relations, to be included in the text of a declaration on the international role of the European Community and its Member States, which it has decided to make public at the end of its meeting in Rhodes.

2. MIDDLE EAST

Arab-israeli conflict

The European Council had a thorough discussion on the situation in the Middle East. It reaffirmed the positions expressed by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs in their declaration of 21 November 1988, as well as in the declaration of 30 November 1988.

Lebanon

The European Council reaffirmed the importance it attaches to the election of a President of the Lebanese Republic.

It supports the efforts which the Lebanese are currently undertaking in order to search for a consensus which constitutes the condition for the maintenance of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The European Council considers it essential that the International Community continues to demonstrate an active interest in Lebanon and in the election of the President.

It expresses the view that the United Nations could in particular, if that would be useful, contribute to the satisfactory holding of the Presidential election.

3. CYPRUS

The European Council had a discussion of the Cyprus problem. It acknowledged the fact that the tragic division of the island remains unchanged and reaffirmed the previous declarations of the Twelve, which support without any reservation the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Cyprus.

While expressing its satisfaction at the resuming of the intercommunal dialogue, the European Council expressed the wish that this dialogue should progress and lead rapidly to a solution of the problem, on the basis of the above principles and the relevant U.N. resolutions.

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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

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continue to pursue, with the US, 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 but 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 transparency and the conclusion of a global and 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 consistency

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.