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C/M(99)1/PROV



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OLIS : 25-Jan-1999
Dist. : 25-Jan-1999

Or. Eng./Fre.

COUNCIL

Council

PROVISIONAL CONCLUSIONS

**of the 940th session of the Council
held on Thursday 21 January 1999**

73783

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1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

THE COUNCIL

adopted the draft Agenda for its 940th session [C/A(99)1/PROV].

2. APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 920th, 924th, 928th and 933rd SESSIONS

THE COUNCIL

approved the Summary Records of its 920th, 924th, 928th and 933rd sessions [C/M(98)6/PROV and ANN1 & 2, C/M(98)10/PROV, C/M(98)14/PROV, C/M(98)19/PROV].

3. ECONOMIC PROSPECTS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN BRAZIL

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted the introductory remarks by the Head of the Economics Department, Mr. Visco and the Room document "Causes and impacts of the currency crisis in Brazil";
- b) noted the comments by Members of the Council.

4. BUDGET FOR 1999, AND REVIEW OF THE PRINCIPLES AND RULES FOR ESTABLISHING THE SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted the remarks by the Secretary-General;
- b) noted the comments by Members of the Council;
- c) agreed to return to this question at its next session.

5. RENEWAL OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(99)13;

- b) noted the statements by Canada and Italy (reproduced in Annex 1);
- c) adopted the draft Resolution of the Council concerning the Renewal of the Terms of Reference of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy set out in the Annex to C(99)13.*

[This Resolution will be issued under the reference C(99)13/FINAL.]

6. ELECTIONS FOR 1999

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted the remarks by Switzerland concerning the Council Working Party on Shipbuilding;
- b) agreed to the following designations for 1999: Italy and Poland to the vice-chairmanship of the Council at Ministerial Level; Mr. Zehnder (Switzerland) to the chairmanship of the Executive Committee; Mr. Jacobs (Netherlands) to the Committee on Co-operation with Non-Members; Mr. Vattani (Italy) to the Council Working Party on Information; Mr. Valaskakis (Canada) to the Council Working Party on the Decision-Making Process; Mr. Přívratský (Czech Republic) to the Liaison Committee with the ECMT; Mr. Suarez Davila (Mexico) to the Budget Committee; Mr. Balogh (Hungary) to the Council Working Party on Staff Policy; Mr. Salerno (EC) to the Council Working Party on Shipbuilding;
- c) agreed to return to the designation of the chairmanship of the remaining subsidiary bodies directly dependent on Council at a forthcoming session.

7. ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEES

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted the proposals of the Secretary-General regarding regular briefings in Council on committee activities for a three-month trial period (Room document No. 2);
- b) noted the comments by Members of the Council;
- c) agreed to the following programme of dialogue with committees' chairs for February-April 1999:
 - Trade Committee on 18 February;
 - WP No. 1 of EPC on 11 March;

* Subject to a factual correction in the French version: see Annex 1.

- EPOC on 25 March;
 - DAC on 8 April;
 - Agriculture Committee on 22 April;
- d) agreed to consider at its meeting of 22 April the question of formally establishing such a system of dialogue on a regular basis with committee chairs in the light of the experience of the trial period.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

THE COUNCIL

i) Activity Report

- a) noted the intention of the Secretary-General to submit to Council proposals on the theme "The OECD and the world beyond" and on the Development Centre; noted the status report concerning the Bribery Convention; and noted information regarding recent and forthcoming meetings and visits of the Secretary-General (cf. Room document No. 3);

ii) Date of the next ECSS session

- b) noted the remarks by the United States regarding the date for the next ECSS meeting: the preference of the ECSS Chair for the 4-5 May, beginning in the afternoon, or, if this posed problems, the alternative of 3-4 May;

iii) Date of the next Council session

- c) agreed to hold its next session on Wednesday 27 January 1999.

* * *

DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL UNDER THE WRITTEN PROCEDURE

[CES/PE(98)21 and CES/PE(99)2]

The draft conclusions contained in the documents listed below were approved under the written procedure on:

23 December 1998 [cf. CES/PE(98)21]:

9. FINAL CLOSING OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE ORGANISATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1996

THE COUNCIL

- a) adopted the draft Decision concerning the Final Closing and Approval of the Accounts of the Organisation for the Financial Year 1996 as set out in Annex 1

to document C(98)186 and gave formal discharge to the Secretary-General for his administration for the Financial Year 1996;

- b) adopted the draft Decision concerning the approval of the Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Staff Provident Fund of the Organisation for the Financial Year 1996 as set out in Annex 2 to document C(98)186 and gave formal discharge to the Secretary-General for his administration for the Financial Year 1996.

[These Decisions will be issued respectively under references C(98)186/FINAL and C(98)225/FINAL.]

10. RENEWAL OF A B2 STAFF PROJECT POST IN THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT THE WORK ON EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS AND INDICATORS

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)200;
- b) agreed to the renewal of a B2 project staff post at CERI for a period of 12 months, to support the work on Educational Statistics and Indicators.

11. RENEWAL OF A PROJECT STAFF POST IN THE STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)201;
- b) agreed to the renewal of one A2 project staff post for a further period of 12 months until 31 December 1999, in the Statistics Directorate.

12. FIFTH AMENDMENT TO THE LISTS OF WASTES INCLUDED IN DECISION C(92)39/FINAL CONCERNING THE CONTROL OF TRANSFRONTIER MOVEMENTS OF WASTES DESTINED FOR RECOVERY OPERATIONS

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)202;
- b) adopted the draft Decision attached to this document amending the Decision concerning the Control of Transfrontier Movements of Wastes destined for Recovery Operations [C(92)39/FINAL], with respect to the green, amber and red Lists of wastes.

[This Decision has been issued under the reference C(98)202/FINAL.]

13. RENEWAL OF FOUR PROJECT STAFF POSITIONS IN THE FISCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR FINANCIAL, FISCAL AND ENTERPRISE AFFAIRS

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)205;
- b) agreed to the renewal of 2 A4 project staff positions and 1 B3 project staff position for two years to support the work on taxation with non-member countries and to the renewal of 1 B3 project staff position for one year to support the work on consumption tax, in the Fiscal Affairs Division of the Directorate for Financial, Fiscal and Enterprise Affairs.

14. ADJUSTMENT OF THE OECD PUBLICATIONS PROMOTION FUND FOR 1998

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)207;
- b) adopted the draft Decision concerning the OECD Publications Promotion Fund as set out in Annex to C(98)207.

15. CREATION OF AN A1 PROJECT STAFF POST IN THE EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE TO SUPPORT THE WORK ON INDICATORS OF EDUCATION SYSTEMS

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document C(98)209;
- b) agreed to the creation of an A1 project staff post for the Statistics and Indicators Division in the Directorate for Education, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, for a period of one year, to support the work on indicators of education systems.

16. CREATION OF A B3 PROJECT STAFF POST IN THE NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES BRANCH OF THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted the document C(98)214;
- b) agreed to the creation of a B3 project staff post in the Non-Member Countries Branch of the Environment Directorate for 2 years to promote more effective environmental co-operation with CEECs, particularly the NIS.

20 January 1999 [cf. CES/PE(99)2]:

**17. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TERRITORIAL
DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE**

THE COUNCIL

- a) approved the creation of the Territorial Development Policy Committee and its terms of reference as set out in Annex I of document C(98)198 and CORR1, the mandate being valid for a period of three years instead of the six initially foreseen;
- b) adopted the related proposals in the Vinde Report regarding the new Committee's subsidiary bodies (other than those related to tourism) [cf. CE(98)3, paras 515-537, C(98)145, paras 90-93; and C/M(98)17, Item 209];
- c) noted that the Territorial Development Committee would examine, in the course of 1999, the mandates of both the Working Party on Territorial Policy in Urban Areas (Annex II to C(98)198), and the Working Party on Territorial Development in Rural Areas (currently the Group of the Council on Rural Development [C(95)90/FINAL]).

[The Resolution concerning the terms of reference of the new Territorial Development Committee will be issued under the reference C(98)198/FINAL.]

ANNEX 1

**RENEWAL OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATION POLICY**

STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA

“Canada strongly endorses the proposed terms of reference for the Committee. The purpose of this intervention, Mr. Chairman, is to outline the Canadian Government’s view with respect to the leading role to be played by the ICCP in the follow-up to the Ottawa Ministerial Conference, as outlined in the 4th preambular paragraph.

Electronic commerce is a truly horizontal issue for the OECD. At the Ottawa Conference, OECD Ministers attached particular importance to the OECD’s role in the fields of taxation, privacy, consumer protection, authentication, access to infrastructures and the socio-economic impact of electronic commerce, among others. Many of these activities are supported by other OECD committees, including Fiscal Affairs, Trade, and Consumer Policy, each of which brings to bear a unique but valuable perspective.

The ICCP has justifiably been identified as the natural leader for the OECD on electronic commerce. However, it cannot successfully manage this responsibility and fulfill the expectations of the Ottawa Conference without active co-operation and co-ordination with its sister committees. Although this will be a challenging task for all, it is absolutely essential if the OECD is to work towards a common timeframe and a coherent set of products.

Canada believes that such leadership should include:

- the mutual extension of invitations to representatives of key committees and working parties to attend each other’s meetings;
- the provision of regular updates by the concerned committees on progress made and anticipated time-lines;
- and the consideration of joint meetings.

We also interpret the statement in paragraph 3 that “the committee shall maintain close working relationships with the other relevant bodies of the Organisation” as reinforcing the need for such active measures among committees and directorates.”

STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY

“Italy supports the Secretariat’s proposal to integrate into the mandate of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy issues concerning electronic commerce and information infrastructure. We consider this to be an area of increasing engagement for our Organisation and it would be appropriate to ensure coherence with the overall work of the OECD, under the co-ordinating work of one committee.

We welcome the establishment of an element of liaison and co-operation with partners from the private sector, trade unions and public interest groups, in view of the importance of this subject for consumers.

I would like to underline, finally, the opportuneness of planning a five-year mandate period, allowing long-term work to be undertaken, especially on the new aspects of the mandate.”

REQUEST BY FRANCE

France requested, immediately after the meeting, a factual correction to the French version of the mandate:

In paragraph 3 of the operative part, last line, “public interest groups” should be translated in the French version by “*groupes de défense de l’intérêt **du** public*”.

ANNEXE/ANNEX 2

PRESENTS

M. Johnston (Président)

M. Kaufmann-Bühler	Allemagne/Germany
M. Hinton	Australie/Australia
M. Schramek	Autriche/Austria
Mme Bertrand	"
M. Schmidt	Belgique/Belgium
M. Valaskakis	Canada
M. Young	Corée/Korea
M. Hedegaard	Danemark/Denmark
M. Feito	Espagne/Spain
Mme Bondurant	Etats-Unis/United States
M. Ristimäki	Finlande/Finland
M. Harth	France
M. Lioukas	Grèce/Greece
M. Balogh	Hongrie/Hungary
M. O'Connor	Irlande/Ireland
M. Helgason	Islande/Iceland
M. Vattani	Italie/Italy
M. Nogami	Japon/Japan
M. Hoscheit	Luxembourg
M. Bernal	Mexique/Mexico
M. Magnus	Norvège/Norway
M. Ludbrook	Nouvelle-Zélande/New Zealand
M. Sciarone	Pays-Bas/Netherlands
M. Woroniecki	Pologne/Poland
M. de Lemos Godinho	Portugal
M. Prívratský	Républiquetchèque/Czech Republic
M. Vereker	Royaume-Uni/United Kingdom
M. Ferm	Suède/Sweden
M. Zehnder	Suisse/Switzerland
M. Alptuna	Turquie/Turkey

M. Mazzocchi

Commission européenne/
European Commission

M. Shigehara

Secrétaire général adjoint/Deputy Secretary-General

M. Moe

Secrétaire général adjoint/Deputy Secretary-General

M. Noreau

Directeur exécutif/Executive Director

M. Visco

Chef du Département des affaires économiques/
Head, Economics Department

M. Small

Directeur des affaires juridiques/
Director of Legal Affairs

M. Harmel

Chef du Secrétariat du Conseil/
Head of the Council Secretariat