

PART D

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

1. The European Council adopted the attached Declarations on the former Yugoslavia, the treatment of Muslim women in the former Yugoslavia, Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and the Middle East Peace Process.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

2. The European Council examined its policy on recognition of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the context of the Lisbon Declaration and in the light of the report by the Presidency's Special Representative. It invites Foreign Ministers to remain seized of this question.

3. The European Council welcomes United Nations Security Council Resolution 795 authorising the United Nations Secretary General to establish an UNPROFOR presence in the Republic.

4. The European Council recalls its Declaration at Birmingham on the need to prevent this Republic from bearing the unintended consequences of UN sanctions. In this context the European Council underlines the importance of providing access to funding from the international financial institutions and of the regular and properly monitored supply of oil.

5. The European Council agrees that in addition the Community should make available to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia a substantial package of economic assistance. It welcomed the intention of the Commission to earmark 50 mecu of humanitarian and technical assistance to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Member States also agree to provide a matching amount from their own resources.

Turkey, Cyprus and Malta

6. The European Council welcomed the positive results of the Association Councils held this year with Malta and Turkey, and looked forward to the forthcoming Association Council with Cyprus. It invited the Council to continue developing appropriate and specific

links with these countries along the lines set out in Lisbon.

Central and Eastern Europe

7. The European Council welcomed the Commission's report "Towards a new association with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe". It saw this as a positive response to the commitment of the Lisbon European Council to develop the Community's partnership with these countries within the framework of the Europe Agreements and to the proposals in a Memorandum from the Visegrad countries.

8. The European Council regards the Europe Agreements as the means by which the Community intends to support and encourage political stability and economic growth in Central and Eastern Europe. It believes that they must be implemented speedily and in full in order to strengthen the Associate countries' links with the Community. It welcomed the intensified political dialogue which has been established with the Visegrad countries at Ministerial and Head of Government level, and called for this to be further extended.

9. The European Council called on the Council of Ministers to give early consideration to the Commission's recommendations and to promote a wide ranging debate, involving interested parties in the Community and in these countries. The European Council at its meeting in Copenhagen will reach decisions on the various components of the Commission's report in order to prepare the Associate countries for accession to the Union.

Former Soviet Union

10. The European Council welcomes the start of negotiations with Russia on a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, and looks forward to swift progress in negotiations with the other states. These Agreements will help the development of democracy and respect for human rights in all states of the former Soviet Union. The European Council recalls that the EC's 1.25 becu humanitarian loan to the states of the former Soviet Union is being used to purchase food and medical products, and expects that this will be sufficient to meet needs given the improved harvest in 1992.

11. The European Council hopes that it will be possible to reach early agreement on a realistic and generous rescheduling of the external debt of the former Soviet Union within the framework of the Paris Club. The European Council also looks forward to early agreement between Russia and the IMF which would allow access to substantial resources from the IFIs and other sources.

Nuclear Safety in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union

12. The European Council welcomes the conclusions of the Council of Ministers on 7 December on nuclear safety in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The Community will coordinate its efforts with other donors, and give the highest priority to implementing the measures identified by the Munich Economic Summit and adopted by the G24.

The PHARE Programme

13. The European Council welcomes the more flexible operational guidelines agreed for the PHARE programme of technical assistance, the Commission's intention to extend its cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

European Energy Charter

14. The European Council reiterates its support for an early successful outcome to the negotiations on the Basic Agreement of the European Energy Charter.

Iran

15. Given Iran's importance in the region, the European Council reaffirms its belief that a dialogue should be maintained with the Iranian Government. This should be a critical dialogue which reflects concern about Iranian behaviour and calls for improvement in a number of areas, particularly human rights, the death sentence pronounced by a Fatwa of Ayatollah Khomeini against the author Salman Rushdie, which is contrary to international law, and terrorism. Improvement in these areas will be important in determining the extent to which closer relations and confidence can be developed.

16. The European Council accepts the right of countries to acquire the means to defend themselves, but is concerned that Iran's procurement should not pose a threat to regional stability.

17. In view of the fundamental importance of the Middle East Peace Process, the European Council also expresses the wish that Iran take a constructive approach here.

Africa

18. The European Council confirms its commitment to improve conditions of life in Africa. During the last six months the Community and its member States have provided substantial food, medical and other humanitarian assistance to help overcome the disasters of drought and famine. In those countries most affected, they have provided up to half of the total aid.

19. The Community and its member States have also been closely involved in efforts to end conflicts. Individually and jointly, they have supported United Nations activities to end the civil war in Liberia and have made significant political efforts to encourage the implementation of the peace agreements in Angola and Mozambique. In Angola the European Council urges both sides, particularly UNITA, to abide by the peace agreement, respect the ceasefire, proceed with demobilisation and with the formation of the new unified armed forces. It calls upon UNITA to accept unequivocally the results of the 29/30 September elections and encourages the Government to continue the democratic process with a view to the reconciliation of the people of Angola.

20. The Community and its member States fully support UNSCR 794 authorising UN member States to use all necessary means to provide a secure environment for humanitarian relief operations in Somalia. The European Council welcomes the humanitarian efforts of the Community and its member States and the contributions of a number of member States to the UN force. It hopes that the implementation of UNSCR 794 will encourage national reconciliation and promote a lasting political settlement. It attaches particular importance to ensuring the safety of the personnel involved in the relief effort.

21. In South Africa the European Council notes that the prospects for a resumption of negotiations have improved. It urges the parties to proceed soon to a transitional government and fully democratic elections. The Community and its member States hope that the presence of EC observers and the provision of development aid will help to put an end to all types of violence and assist a peaceful transition.

22. The European Council notes with concern reports from Kinshasa that President Mobutu has dismissed the government and suspended the implementation of the democratic reforms decided by the National Sovereign Conference of Zaire. The European Council reaffirms the importance it attaches to the democratic process in Zaire, condemns any interference with this process and underlines its support for the present government appointed by the National Conference.

23. The European Council recalls that the Community and its member States have had cause to express concern in recent months about the human rights situation in a number of African countries. It is nevertheless encouraged by the continuing efforts being made in many countries to apply the principles of democracy, good government, human rights and to implement sound economic policies. The Community and its member States will continue to support these efforts.

El Salvador

24. The European Council notes with satisfaction the progress reached so far in the fulfilment of the Peace Agreement signed on 16 January 1992 between the Government of El Salvador and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. It also welcomes the adjustment to the implementation programme, as proposed by the UN Secretary General. It hopes that these positive developments will ensure national reconciliation thus putting an end to the armed conflict on 15 December.

25. The European Council calls upon both parties to show flexibility in order to allow the fulfilment of the remaining commitments and reaffirms the determination of the European Community and its member States to maintain their contribution to the national reconstruction of El Salvador.

CFSP: preparatory work on security

26. The European Council notes the preparatory work already done by Foreign Ministers on security in connection with the mandate from the Lisbon European Council and invites them to continue their work with a view to defining the necessary basic elements for a policy of the Union by the date of entry into force of the Treaty.