2251st Council meeting

- JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS -

Brussels, 27 March 2000

President :  Mr Fernando GOMES
Minister for the Interior

Mr António COSTA
Minister for Justice

of the Portuguese Republic
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For further information call 285.84.15 or 285.63.19
PARTICIPANTS

The Governments of the Member States and the European Commission were represented as follows:

**Belgium:**
- Mr Marc VERWILGHEN Minister for Justice
- Mr Antoine DUQUESNE Minister for the Interior

**Denmark:**
- Mr Frank JENSEN Minister for Justice
- Mr Niels PREISLER State Secretary for the Interior
- Ms Karen JESPERSEN Minister for the Interior
- Mr Frank JENSEN Minister for Justice
- Mr Niels PREISLER State Secretary for the Interior

**Germany:**
- Mr Otto SCHILY Federal Minister for the Interior
- Mr Eckart PICK Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Justice
- Mr Fritz BEHRENS Minister for the Interior of Nordrhein-Westfalen

**Greece:**
- Mr Stelios PERRAKIS Secretary General for European Affairs

**Spain:**
- Mr Jaime MAYOR OREJA Minister for the Interior
- Ms Margarita MARISCAL de GANTE y MIRÓN Minister for Justice

**France:**
- Mr Elisabeth GUIGOU Keeper of the Seals, Minister for Justice
- Mr Jean-Pierre CHEVENEMENT Minister for the Interior

**Ireland:**
- Mr John O’DONOGHUE Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform

**Italy:**
- Mr Enzo BIANCO Minister for the Interior, with responsibility for coordinating civil protection
- Mr Giuseppe Maria AYALA State Secretary for Justice

**Luxembourg:**
- Mr Nicolas SCHMIT Ambassador, Permanent Representative

**Netherlands:**
- Mr Benk KORTHALS Minister for Justice
- Mr Job COHEN State Secretary for Justice

**Austria:**
- Mr Dieter BÖHMORFER Minister for Justice
- Mr Ernst STRASSER Federal Minister for the Interior

**Portugal:**
- Mr Fernando GOMES Minister for the Interior
- Mr António COSTA Minister for Justice

**Finland:**
- Mr Johannes KOSKINEN Minister for Justice
- Mr Kari HÄKÄMIES Minister for the Interior

**Sweden:**
- Ms Laila FREIVALDS Minister of Justice and Home Affairs
- Ms Maj-Inger KLINGVALL Minister of Asylum and Migration

**United-Kingdom:**
- Ms Barbara ROCHE Minister of State, Home Office

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**Commission:**
- Mr António VITORINO Member
OPEN DEBATE: PROTECTION OF THE VICTIMS IN THE EUROPEAN JUDICIAL AREA

The Council held an open debate - transmitted by television to the press and wider public - on the protection of victims of crime in the European judicial area.

Introducing the debate, the President stressed that in the European space of liberty, security and justice adequate consideration needed to be given during legal proceedings to the protection and assistance of victims of crime. He recalled that in the follow-up to the Amsterdam Treaty the Vienna Action Plan had stated the need to address the question of victim support by making a comparative survey of victim compensation schemes and assessing the feasibility of taking action within the Union.

In line with this objective the Commission put forward a reflection paper in July 1999 entitled "Crime victims in the European Union: Reflections on standards and action" which constituted a very useful basis for today's Council debate.

For its part the European Council in Tampere, echoing the Commission communication, had called for minimum standards to be drawn up on the protection of the victims of crime, in particular on crime victims access to justice and on their rights to compensation for damages, including legal costs, as well as the establishment of national programmes to finance measures, both public and non-governmental, to assist and protect crime victims.

The Presidency announced its intention to present shortly a formal proposal for a framework decision on the statute of the victim in the criminal procedure dealing with the various rights of the victim.

Ministers welcomed the opportunity which was given to them in the open debate to expose their views on the matter, drawing on their national experiences and formulating numerous suggestions for action to be taken at national and Union level, concerning the right for compensation, protection, information, the right of the victims to be heard as well as for medical and psychological support.

In his conclusions, the President stressed that the Council had a very constructive and fruitful debate which uncovered a great number of tracks for future work. He recalled that the Presidency held regular consultations with the three incoming Presidencies in order to secure a harmonious follow-up in particular to ensure the deadlines set by the Treaty and the Action Plans are met.

The Council asked Coreper to mandate the Article 36 Committee to initiate the actions deemed necessary and to monitor closely the rapid implementation of the different mandates.
SCORE BOARD

The Council took note of a presentation by Commissioner VITORINO of the document which the Commission has provided as its first response to the request from the Tampere European Council to present an appropriate scoreboard mechanism to keep under constant review progress towards the creation of an area of freedom, security and justice. It is recalled that Ministers have already had a discussion on the principles of the scoreboard on the basis of a preliminary draft at their informal meeting in Lisbon at the beginning of the month.

The Commissioner indicated that the format of the new version of the scoreboard had been slightly changed in order to reflect more adequately the mandates of Tampere, Vienna and Amsterdam, that its coverage was extended to include some new issues, such as citizenship, drugs and an aspect of Schengen incorporation and that some new contributions - on smuggling, crime prevention and money laundering - came from his most recent stops on his tour of capitals.

Mr VITORINO stressed that the task ahead was not an easy one, that the area was complex involving a large number of individual measures to be adopted for which a reliable road map was needed to monitor progress. The scoreboard was not a new Action Plan but rather an instrument for pro-active monitoring of already existing Action Plans. He underlined the evolving nature of the scoreboard as actions were launched and hopefully completed but also as new elements were integrated. The aim was to strike a delicate balance between the evolving nature of the document and the need to secure and maintain a firm degree of commitment for the actions it contains. He also recalled that in Lisbon there appeared to be general support for the approach that the objective of the scoreboard can only be achieved by means of partnership and co-operation involving not only the EU institutions but also the Member States individually.

The Council proceeded to a general debate on the scoreboard in which Member States expressed their appreciation for the work achieved by the Commission but also presented a number of comments and some announced written contributions which should allow the Commission to further refine and expand the scoreboard, namely to include actions against terrorism.

The Presidency concluded by thanking Commissioner VITORINO and underlined the interest of the Commission document which will serve as a road map for the next five years ahead. He stated that the Council had given its political endorsement to the approach of the scoreboard as a rolling document, to be updated once under each Presidency and that in tackling deadlines account should be taken of means available, particularly as far as manpower was concerned.
PROTECTION OF THE EURO AGAINST COUNTERFEITING - FRAMEWORK DECISION

The Council reached a political agreement on this framework decision which aims at improving the criminal law protection of the Euro. Formal adoption of the framework decision will take place at the May JHA Council.

The purpose of the framework decision is to supplement the 1929 convention, the main current legal instrument governing the suppression of Counterfeiting currency, which all Member States agree does not provide sufficient guarantees. To this end the framework decision sets out the additional offences that Member States shall make punishable by effective proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties. In particular, the Council agreed that the general offences of fraudulent making or altering of currency shall be punishable by a period of imprisonment of no less than 8 years.

The framework decision is a tangible response to a resolution adopted by the 27/28 May 1999 JHA Council on increasing protection by penal sanctions against counterfeiting in connection with the introduction of the Euro.

In response to an intervention by the French delegation, Commissioner Vitorino announced a number of accompanying measures aimed at supporting the objectives of the framework decision in the area of judicial co-operation, exchange of information and training; the formal proposal will still be made under the Portuguese Presidency with a view to the swift adoption of the proposed measures.
MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES

The Council made substantial progress in solving the last outstanding issues on the draft Convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters between the Member States of the EU.

In particular it reached agreement on the remaining problems concerning the interception of telecommunications (article 17, interception of satellite communications, and article 18, interception of a target in another State). As far as data protection (article 20A) is concerned, the Council asked its competent bodies to seek agreement on the basis of a Presidency compromise proposal put forward in today's meeting.

The Council also invited Coreper to examine Article 20 with Norway and Iceland in the Mixed Committee procedure as that provision would constitute a further development of the Schengen acquis.

The Council restated its intention to reach final adoption of the act establishing the Convention at its May session. It is expected that the question on data protection and the problem of the "territorial scope" will be resolved in time for that purpose.
JOINT TEAMS TO CONDUCT CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS IN ONE OR MORE
MEMBER STATES

The Presidency invited the relevant Council working groups to examine the best way forward to ensure the speedy implementation of paragraph 43 of the Tampere conclusions which stresses the importance of deriving maximum benefit from co-operation between member states’ authorities when investigating cross-border crime in any member state and, in that context, called for joint investigative teams to be set up without delay.

The question referred back to the Council bodies is whether a separate legally binding instrument for setting up joint investigative teams is appropriate, as put forward by the Presidency in a non paper which uses the substance of article 13 of the Convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters between Member States, or whether the item should continue to be dealt with exclusively in the framework of that Convention.

A number of delegations doubted whether a specific instrument allowing for the establishment of joint investigative teams was necessary and appropriate as the substance of this proposal was already contained in article 13 of the proposed Convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters between the Member States which the Council intends to adopt at its May session. They also expressed their concern that the legal coherence and transparency of the Convention might be compromised by a separate legal instrument allowing for the creation of joint investigative teams. In particular they pointed out the need to avoid duplication of legislation and the need for a common framework approach.
PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ORGANISED CRIME


The new EU strategy calls for practical measures in 11 different areas (containing 39 specific recommendations):

- Strengthening data collection and analysis on organised crime,
- Preventing the penetration of organised crime in the public and private sector,
- Strengthening the prevention of organised crime in the context of legal reform and strengthening partnerships between the criminal justice system and civil society,
- Reviewing and improving legislation as well as control and regulatory policies at the national and the European Union levels
- Strengthening the investigation of organised crime
- Strengthening EUROPOL
- Tracing, freezing seizing and confiscating the proceeds of crime
- Strengthening co-operation between law enforcement and judicial authorities nationally and within the EU
- Strengthening co-operation with the applicant countries
- Strengthening co-operation with third countries and other international organisations
- Monitoring the strengthening of the implementation of measures for the prevention and control of organised crime within the EU

It is recalled that the European Council, meeting in Vienna in December 1998, called for the Union to strengthen EU action against organised crime in the light of the new possibilities opened up by the Amsterdam Treaty; the strategy approved by the Council responds to this request.

COLLECTIVE EVALUATION: PRELIMINARY COUNTRY REPORTS ON CZECH REPUBLIC AND HUNGARY

The Council took note of the preliminary Country Reports on the state of implementation of the EU "acquis" in the area of justice and home affairs by the Czech Republic and Hungary. These reports, elaborated by the Collective Evaluation Working Group in conformity with the Joint Action of July 1998, outline the progress achieved by the two candidate countries but also their shortcomings. The content of these reports will be forwarded to the Enlargement Working Party.
BRUSSELS II REGULATION

Political agreement was reached on the regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgements in matrimonial matters and in matters of parental responsibility for joint children. This regulation entirely reproduces the substance of the 1998 Brussels II convention, subject to the necessary institutional adaptations. The main aim of the regulation is to allow decisions on divorce, separation or annulment as well as decisions relating to custody of children, to circulate more freely in the European Judicial area.

The regulation will be formally adopted later, subject to an agreement reached on the “territorial scope” question (Gibraltar).

Throughout the adoption process, the Commission has opposed the inclusion of a clause allowing individual Member States to disregard a decision taken by the courts of another Member State when the decision taken by the courts of the first Member State is founded on purely national competencies and when an international agreement exists under the terms of which this decision can be refused. The Commission believes that such a clause would go against jurisprudence of the Court of Justice and undermine the EU's exclusive external competencies in this area. It also opposed the inclusion of a declaration requested by one Member State, stating Member States' right to conclude unilateral agreements in this area with third party States.

As a compromise the Council will attach a declaration to the regulation which will oblige Member States to inform the Commission of all agreements that they intend to enter into with third party States as well the modification or the abrogation of such agreements.

In accordance with their wishes, the UK and Ireland will participate in the adoption and implementation of this draft regulation pursuant to their respective TEU and TEC protocols. Denmark, in keeping with articles 1 and 2 of its protocol annexed to the Amsterdam Treaty will not be affected by this regulation.
JURISDICTION AND THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS IN CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS (BRUSSELS I)

The Council took note of the state of work on this proposal and asked its competent bodies to do their outmost to prepare this proposal for rapid approval.

CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The Council took note of information provided by the Presidency on progress made in drawing up a draft Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, pursuant to the conclusions of the Cologne and Tampere European Councils.

The Convention – the name adopted by the body responsible for drawing up the Charter – has already held three plenary meetings, in December 1999 and in February and March 2000. During the first two meetings it settled questions relating to its organisation and methodology (chairmanship, organisation as a working group, role of alternate members, establishment of a praeidium, etc); it also fixed the timetable for its plenary and working group meetings up to September.

In parallel, the Convention has started discussing the horizontal aspects involved in drawing up a draft Charter of this sort. At its third meeting in March, the Convention examined a first set of preliminary draft articles relating to civil and political rights, and the preliminary drafts of the general clauses. This work continued in March on a second set of articles relating to the rights of citizens, followed by economic and social rights.

The forthcoming French Presidency has indicated that it wishes to submit the draft Charter to the European Council to be held in Biarritz on 13 and 14 October, and not as had originally been planned to the European Council in Nice in December 2000. For this reason, the Convention has decided to speed up its work, to make a first version of the Charter available before the European Council to be held in Lisbon in June.
The Council took note of the state of play of the Commission’s proposal for a European Refugee Fund and called on COREPER and the competent Working Parties to intensify work with a view to enabling the JHA Council to reach agreement on the draft Decision at its next meeting in May. It furthermore urged the Commission to bring forward a proposal on a temporary protection regime as soon as possible.

The draft decision provides for the Fund to be established for a period of five years starting from 1 January 2000, with an amount of 26 million euro for 2000, drawing on experience gained from actions set in train over the past few years, with the objective to help finance Member States’ actions for the reception, integration and voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons. The proposal also provides for a financial reserve of 10 million euro to be used for emergency assistance measures in the event of a sudden mass influx of such persons.

The European Refugee Fund will be a significant step towards setting up a framework for the development of co-operation within the Community in this area. The Presidency underlined the need for the speedy creation of legal instruments allowing for the disbursement of funds already set aside for this purpose in the 2000 budget.

With respect to the funding aspects of the proposed fund, Commissioner Vitorino indicated that a multi-annual funding programme was under consideration in the Commission, to be drawn up in full respect of the Community’s established five-year financial framework. In this context one delegation stressed the need to place an overall cap on funding levels and called for the fund to be centrally controlled.

The question of Article 5 on emergency measures in case of a sudden large influx of asylum seekers was raised by a number of delegations which feel that it is premature to include such a provision in the absence of a Community regime on temporary protection. Furthermore they asked for more specific guidelines on the groups which might benefit from the emergency funds and the terms and conditions under which such funds would be released. In this respect one delegation proposed that the Council act as the arbiter of decisions on emergency measures. Other delegations voiced the view that the inclusion of an article 5 type provision would not prejudge the future Community regime, but that it would enable those Member States faced with a large influx of “economic” asylum seekers to cope with some of the financial burden.

The Presidency voiced its satisfaction at the Commission’s openness to further discussions on the criteria and management provisions governing the allocation of funds - these important questions still need to be resolved - and to envisage the streamlining of the control mechanisms which are, in the view of most delegations, too cumbersome for the relatively modest amounts involved.
REVISION OF THE DUBLIN CONVENTION

Commissioner VITORINO made a presentation of the Commission services' working document on replacing the Dublin Convention by a Community instrument on the determination of the Member State responsible for the examination of an asylum request presented in one of the Member States.

The document will be examined in the appropriate Council bodies with a view to formulating guidelines which could assist the Commission in drawing up a formal proposal to replace the Dublin Convention by a Community instrument.

HIGH LEVEL WORKING GROUP ON ASYLUM AND MIGRATION

The Council took note of the state of play with regard to the work of the High Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration. It noted with satisfaction that this Group had now completed its work on the Action Plan for Albania and the neighbouring region.

Furthermore, it took note of the methodology agreed by the High Level Group with regard to the future work on the implementation of the five Action Plans which were adopted by the Council last October (Afghanistan and the region, Irak, Morocco, Somalia and Sri Lanka), and looked forward to rapid progress being achieved in the preparation of the implementation of the Action Plans with a view to making a report to the European Council by the end of this year.
OTHER BUSINESS

– **Competition in public procurement markets - German initiative on disloyal practices**

The Council took note of a presentation by the German delegation of its initiative - in the form of a framework decision replacing an earlier proposal for a common action - on legal protection against fraudulent and disloyal practices in the context of public procurement markets.

– **Tackling serious drugs problems in an enlarged Europe**

The Council heard an urgent appeal by the UK for the elaboration for an action plan for drug free societies in an enlarged European Union. It also expressed the hope that the European Council in Feira will be able to endorse an agreed programme of action to implement the EU strategy on drugs. COREPER was asked to forward the matter to the appropriate Council body (the Article 36 Committee) for further consideration.

– **EuroMed forum for Justice Ministers**

The Finnish delegation drew the Council’s attention to its recent visit to Israel at the invitation of the Israeli Justice Minister – the invitation was issued during the Finnish Presidency of the Council to discuss the setting up of a EuroMed forum for Justice Ministers with the aim of increasing awareness of judicial procedures. The Finnish delegation has informed the EuroMed co-ordination groups of this initiative and calls on the Council to examine this proposal in the framework of the Barcelona and Middle-East processes.
ITEMS APPROVED WITHOUT DEBATE

(Decisions for which statements for the Council minutes have been made available to the public are indicated by asterisks; the statements in question may be obtained from the Press Office.)

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Common action for the Russian Federation on combating organised crime

The Council adopted the EU Action Plan on common action for the Russian Federation on combating organised crime to be published in the Official Journal of the EU.

Europol Work Programme

The Council took note of the Europol Work Programme 2000 which has been drafted by Europol taking into account its internal five-year Business and Financial Plan, the 1999 Activity Programme and the evaluation of the 1998 Activity Plans.

Europol agreements with third States and non-EU related bodies*

The Council adopted a decision authorising the Director of Europol to enter into negotiations on agreements with third States and non-EU related bodies concerning, in particular, the receipt of information by Europol from third parties.

New synthetic drugs

The Council took note of information concerning MBDB, a new synthetic drug, provided in accordance with Article 5 paragraph 1 of Joint Action of 17 June 1997 concerning information exchange, risk assessment and the control of new synthetic drugs.

C.SIS installation and operation budget for 1998

The Council approved the Management Report on the implementation of the C.SIS installation and operation budget for 1998 presented by the French delegation, as approved by the financial controller of the French Ministry of the Interior (this approval is the equivalent of a final discharge for the French Republic).

C.SIS installation expenditure for 1999

The Council approved the multiannual table of authorised installation expenditure for the C.SIS for the 1999 financial year.
Financial Regulation SISNET

The Council adopted the Financial Regulation governing the budgetary aspects of the management by the Deputy Secretary-General of the Council, of contracts concluded in his name, on behalf of certain Member States, relating to the installation and the functioning of the communication infrastructure for the Schengen environment, "SISNET".

Combat counterfeit travel documents

The Council adopted a decision on the improved exchange of information to combat counterfeit travel documents.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

The Council approved on behalf of the EU a draft Decision of the EEA Joint Committee amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement, on co-operation in specific fields outside the four freedoms.

This draft Decision aims to amend Protocol 31 to extend co-operation in the field of education, training and youth. It provides a framework for co-operation and sets out the modalities for full participation of the EFTA/EEA States in the Community programme and actions in this field (second phase of the Community action programme in the field of education – « Socrates »).

COMMODITIES

Jute

The Council noted that, in the absence of a mandate, neither the Commission nor the Member States would attend the UNCTAD Conference on Jute and Jute products (27-31 March 2000 in Geneva). The Secretary General of Unctad will be informed accordingly.

Discussion within the instances of the Council has shown that there exists no qualified majority in favour of the negotiation of a new agreement to succeed the 1989 International Agreement on Jute and Jute products which is due to expire on 11 April 2000.

ENVIRONMENT

Convening of the Conciliation Committee: end-of-life vehicles, water framework, LIFE

The Council having not been able to accept all the amendments to the common position adopted by the European Parliament, conciliation committees are convened, in accordance with the provisions of the co-decision procedure of the Treaty (Art. 251) in the following three cases:

- draft directive on end-of-life vehicles;
- draft regulation concerning the financial instrument for the environment (LIFE);
- draft directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.
FISHERIES

Tariff quotas for fishery products from Ceuta

The Council adopted the Regulation opening and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for live fry and juveniles of sea bass and bream, sea bass and sea bream originating in Ceuta. The quota period runs from 1 April 2000 to the end of the year 2002. The annual quotas (including the year 2000) are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Duty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live fry and juveniles of sea bass and Gilt-head seabreams</td>
<td>3 000 000 units</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea bass and gilt-head seabreams, fresh or chilled</td>
<td>100 tonnes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regulation on the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fisheries products*

The Council adopted a Regulation concerning opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fisheries products for the year 1999 (quota period 1.4 - 31.12.2000).

These quotas are essentially imports of fish to meet the needs of the fish processing industry for species or semi-processed products where the Community supply is insufficient.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quantity in tonnes</th>
<th>duty rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Fresh, chilled or frozen cod</td>
<td>90 000</td>
<td>3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Frozen cod intended for salting or drying</td>
<td>8 000</td>
<td>3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Cod livers</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Cod salted but not dried</td>
<td>8 000</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Shrimps and prawns of the species Pandalus borealis, fresh, chilled or frozen</td>
<td>12 000</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) Surimi, frozen</td>
<td>16 000</td>
<td>3.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) Blue grenadier fillets, frozen</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>3.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) Tubes of squid, frozen</td>
<td>11 000</td>
<td>3.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i) Squid, frozen whole, tentacles and fins</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j) Herrings, including flaps, fresh, chilled or frozen (quota period 1.11-31.12.2000)</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k) Tuna loins</td>
<td>4 000</td>
<td>6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l) Herring, spice/vinegar cured, in brine preserved in barrels for processing</td>
<td>5 000</td>
<td>6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m) Shrimps and prawns of the species Pandalus borealis, cooked and peeled</td>
<td>5 000</td>
<td>6 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Regulation on dialogue with the fishing sector***

The Council adopted the Regulation on closer dialogue with the fishing sector and groups affected by the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

The purpose of the Regulation is to create a legal and financial framework for measures designed to strengthen the European organisations in the sector and to develop communication with all groups involved in the CFP. The Regulation aims at giving the representatives of the fishery products and aquaculture industry together with the other groups concerned a greater role in the design, drafting and implementation of the CFP. To this effect, the European trade organisations will be given help in preparing the meetings of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture with a view to stimulating comprehensive study of the issues involved in the CFP and the impact of its measures, fostering initiatives from the industry. The industry will be informed at a very early stage of the initiates planned and the aims and details of different CFP measures are explained to all the groups concerned.

**INTERNAL MARKET**

**Front underrun protection of motor vehicles**


This Regulation aims at introducing the measures established by UN/ECE Regulation No 93 into the EC type-approval procedure set by Directive 70/156/EEC, so as to improve the protection of the occupants of passenger cars and light vans from injury in the event of a collision with the fronts of heavy goods vehicles and to allow manufacturers of such devices and vehicles equipped with such devices to obtain an EC type-approval if they meet the technical requirements of that Regulation.