

Amended draft reply to Assembly Recommendation 329 on the industrial bases of European security (London, 12 September 1979)


Caption: On 12 September 1979, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates a new draft reply to Assembly Recommendation 329 drawn up by the working group on the basis of the document prepared by the British delegation (WPM(79)25). The French delegation proposes several amendments to the British draft.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General note. Recommendation 329 on the industrial bases of European security. London : 12.09.1979. WPM(79)25/1. 6 p. Archives nationales de Luxembourg (ANLux). <http://www.anlux.lu>. Western European Union Archives. Secretariat-General/Council's Archives. 1954-1987. Organs of the Western European Union. Year: 1979, 01/06/1979-30/11/1979. File 202.413.25. vol 1/1 .

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URL:
http://www.cvce.eu/obj/amended_draft_reply_to_assembly_recommendation_329_on_the_industrial_bases_of_european_security_london_12_september_1979-en-bao2cc81-f066-4764-811b-04e105712dfc.html

Last updated: 25/10/2016



WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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Original: English/French

WPM (79) 25/1

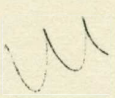
12th September, 1979

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Recommendation 329 on the industrial bases of European security (C (79) 87)

The Secretary-General circulates herewith a draft reply to Recommendation 329 on the industrial bases of European security.

This text, prepared at the working group of 10th September, 1979, on the basis of WPM (79) 25, will be considered at the next meeting of the group on Tuesday, 25th September at 10 a.m.


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London, S.W.1.

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Draft reply to Recommendation 329

1. The Council agree that [there is a need]⁽¹⁾ OR [it might be useful]⁽²⁾ to determine priority areas for defence equipment co-operation [and standardisation]⁽³⁾ [. However, this work is already being coordinated]⁽¹⁾ OR [; however, this type of consideration has already begun]⁽²⁾ under NATO's Conference of National Armaments Directors and the independent European Programme Group [, as these bodies contain, respectively, all the members of the Alliance and all the European members of the Alliance with armed forces. Within CNAD and the I.E.P.G. considerable work is already going on. The NATO Long-Term Defence Programme is aimed at improving priority areas of Alliance co-operative defence]⁽⁴⁾. [CNAD is developing a NATO Armaments Planning Review and a Periodic Armaments Planning System to ensure that opportunities for standardisation and interoperability are identified as soon as possible. The I.E.P.G.'s work is specifically intended to identify areas for European equipment co-operation.]⁽¹⁾ OR [CNAD is at present studying a Periodic

/Armaments Planning ...

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- (1) Original British version.
 - (2) Version proposed by the French delegation.
 - (3) The French delegation proposes the deletion of these words.
 - (4) The French delegation proposes the deletion of this passage; it would however be prepared to accept retention of the sentence "Within CNAD ... already going on."

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Armaments Planning System designed to increase opportunities for interoperability of the equipment used by the member countries; as the Assembly is aware, the I.E.P.G.'s work is essentially intended to identify areas for European equipment co-operation, particularly with a view to protecting the interests of European countries in their future exchanges with the United States.](1)

2. Industrial co-operation in collaborative projects has taken several different forms. In every project, the form of co-operative structure adopted must be that best suited to the particular circumstances. The Council believe that the governments, ministries and industries of member States are already fully aware of the advantages and disadvantages of different co-operative structures.

3. European governments are very conscious of the importance of certain areas of advanced technology for both civil and military applications. [They pursue co-operation in these

/fields]

(1) Version proposed by the French delegation.

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fields]⁽¹⁾ OR [In this connection they make every effort to extend their co-operation to these particular fields,]⁽²⁾ either under CNAD and I.E.P.G. auspices or bilaterally as appropriate, with those nations who have similar interests and requirements. Such co-operation can take the form of information exchange or collaborative research and development for projects. Devising further formal methods for co-operation of this sort [is more likely to hinder than to promote further co-operation.]⁽¹⁾ OR [does not seem for the time being to promote co-operation.]⁽³⁾

4. All nations have over the years devised procurement procedures best suited to their own circumstances. These are constantly being refined, and both CNAD and the I.E.P.G. have done work on harmonising procedures wherever [this is]⁽¹⁾ OR [this has been found]⁽²⁾ possible or desirable. Certainly one example is in the field of industrial or intellectual property rights. This is a vital component of co-operation, and a sub-group of CNAD has been examining the problems. The Council do not believe that this work should be duplicated.

/5. Permanent ...

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- (1) Original British version.
(2) Version proposed by the French delegation.
(3) Version proposed by the German delegation.

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5. Permanent industrial consortia may well be established in the future as an effective means of undertaking collaborative armaments projects. However, industrial and management structures must be tailored to the particular circumstances of each project, and, before the establishment of a permanent consortium, the participants would have to be fully satisfied that there would be sufficient long-term work for the consortium, involving, in every case, the same nations and firms. The Council are aware that in CNAD, the I.E.P.G., [FINABEL and elsewhere,]⁽¹⁾ considerable work is being done on agreeing concepts, specifications and on examining replacement timetables. The framework necessary to encourage co-operation already exists. As with industrial and managerial arrangements, methods of finance for co-operative projects must be flexible and must be those best suited to the circumstances of the project and to the budgetary systems of the participating nations.

/6. The Council ...

(1) The French delegation proposes deletion of these words.

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6. The Council believe that the necessary framework for decision-making already exists. The governments concerned are necessarily concentrating on the [detailed problems involved in potential co-operative projects where their interests and requirements are in sufficient conformity.](¹) OR [specific problems raised by the consideration of particular projects where their interests and requirements appear to be in sufficient conformity.](²) [If European co-operation is to be improved, the Council believe it must be by promoting specific projects rather than by devising new structures and methodology.](¹) OR [The Council believe that the improvement and tightening of European co-operation require first and foremost the consideration and setting up of concrete projects rather than the devising of new structures and methodology.](²)

(1) Original British version.

(2) Version proposed by the French delegation.

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