Order 418 (1983)[1]

European scientific co-operation in the 1980s

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having regard to the progress of activities (1978-82) within the framework of its "Exercise in Scientific Co-operation" (Doc. 5085) ;

2. Noting the increasingly fruitful interaction of the "Exercise" :

a. in regard to the series of public parliamentary hearings, with the work of Assembly committees in preparing plenary debates ;

b. in regard to the scientific groups, with the Intergovernmental Work Programme of the Council of Europe (notably in higher education and research) ;

3. Noting the increasingly fruitful interaction of the "Exercise" with other international and transnational organisations (for example OECD, the European Communities, the European Space Agency, the European Science Foundation, the International Council of Scientific Unions, the United Nations system and the Intergovernmental Oceanography Commission of UNESCO), for which it has served to organise and express the concerted views and proposals of various specialised European scientific communities- particularly in the fields of research co-operation and advanced training, of environmental protection and of development aid ;

4. Considering that the "Exercise" has served to stimulate new and flexible patterns of research cooperation and advanced training in Europe ;

5. Considering that the "Exercise" has thus contributed to the groundwork for the construction of a European network of centres of scientific and technological excellence, with a view to making more effective use of scientific and technological capabilities and thus improving Europe's capacity for fruitful collaboration with other countries, including the United States and Japan ;

6. Welcoming the initiative of the Committee of Ministers to convene a ministerial conference to consider proposals for improving research co-operation and advanced training ;

7. Welcoming developments within the Council of Europe Intergovernmental Work Programme in regard to communication technologies and genetic engineering ;

8. Considering that the effects on society of scientific and technological development have thus become an implicit major theme of the Council of Europe's programme, in accordance with longstanding concerns of the Assembly,

9. Instructs the Committee on Science and Technology :

9.1. to continue its support for the "Exercise in Scientific Co-operation" and to report thereon to the Assembly at regular intervals ;

9.2. to encourage closer relations between the "Exercise" and the Intergovernmental Work Programme of the Council of Europe, particularly in its scientific and technological aspects ;

---

1. See Doc. 5085, information report of the Committee on Science and Technology, and Doc. 5094, motion for an order. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 1 July 1983.

9.3. to develop proposals for the establishment of an activity to ensure reflection on scientific policy within the Council of Europe, in the light of recent initiatives by the Committee of Ministers in the fields of research co-operation, communication technologies and genetic engineering, and in liaison with the Assembly's series of "parliamentary and scientific conferences".