

28.05.91

EG - K

Unterrichtung

durch die Bundesregierung

Vorschlag für einen Beschluß des Rates betreffend den Abschluß von Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft einerseits und den EFTA-Ländern und dem Fürstentum Liechtenstein andererseits über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms (Aktionsprogramm der Europäischen Gemeinschaft zur Förderung der Mobilität von Hochschulstudenten)

KOM(91) 128 endg.; Ratsdok. 6055/91

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KEP-AE-Nr.: 911446

Übermittelt vom Bundesminister für Wirtschaft am 28. Mai 1991 gemäß Artikel 2 des Gesetzes zur Einheitlichen Europäischen Akte (BGBl. II 1986 S. 1102 f.).

Die Vorlage ist vom Herrn Präsidenten der Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften am 30. April 1991 dem Herrn Präsidenten des Rates der Europäischen Gemeinschaften übermittelt worden.

Die Kommission strebt eine möglichst baldige Beschlußfassung durch den Rat an.

MITTEILUNG DER KOMMISSION AN DEN RAT

BETR.: Vorschlag für einen Beschluß des Rates betreffend den Abschluß von Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft einerseits und den EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein andererseits über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms (Aktionsprogramm der Europäischen Gemeinschaft zur Förderung der Mobilität von Hochschulstudenten).

1. Das ERASMUS-Programm wurde im Juni 1987 durch einen Beschluß des Rates, geändert durch Beschluß des Rates vom 14. Dezember 1989, erstellt.
2. Die im Rat vereinigten Minister für Bildungswesen brachten am 14. Dezember 1989 in ihren Schlußfolgerungen ihr Interesse für eine Ausdehnung des Programms auf die EFTA-Länder zum Ausdruck.
3. Am 5. November 1990 ermächtigte der Rat die Kommission zur Aushandlung bilateraler Abkommen mit den EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein im Hinblick auf eine Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms. Zu diesem Zweck wurden der Kommission besondere Weisungen für die Verhandlungen erteilt, die hauptsächlich Sicherheitsklauseln betrafen, die in die mit den EFTA-Ländern zu schließenden Abkommen aufgenommen werden sollten, um eine Beibehaltung des Gemeinschaftscharakters des ERASMUS-Programms und entsprechende finanzielle Vereinbarungen einer Beteiligung der EFTA-Länder an dem Programm zu gewährleisten.
4. Nachdem alle sechs EFTA-Länder und Liechtenstein ihre Bereitschaft zur Beteiligung am ERASMUS-Programm zugesagt hatten, eröffnete die Kommission am 25. November 1990 die Verhandlungen entsprechend den vorstehend erwähnten Verhandlungsrichtlinien.

Fünf formelle Verhandlungsrunden mit den sechs EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein fanden am 26. November 1990, 5. Dezember 1990, 19./20. Dezember 1990, 17./18. Januar 1991 und 13./14. Februar 1991 statt.

5. Nachdem die EFTA-Länder und Liechtenstein den Grundsatz, daß ERASMUS ein Gemeinschaftsprogramm ist und bleibt, in dem die Interessen der Gemeinschaft gewahrt werden müssen, als Hauptbezugskriterium anerkannt hatten, wurden sechs identische bilaterale Abkommen vereinbart.

Das Abkommen mit Liechtenstein weicht in Artikel 3.2. betreffend den im Rahmen von Aktion 2.2 Liechtenstein zu gewährenden Mindestbetrag sowie in Artikel 4 betreffend den jährlichen Beitrag Liechtensteins zu dem Gesamthaushalt für das ERASMUS-Programm von diesen fünf bilateralen Abkommen ab.

Dem Übereinkommen mit Island wird ein Anhang beigelegt bezüglich der Höhe des für Island festzustellenden Betrags aus Aktion 2 Mitteln (Stipendien für Studenten).

6. Die Entwürfe der Abkommen, die dem beiliegenden Entwurf für einen Beschluß des Rates als Anhang beigelegt sind, sehen folgendes vor:

- a) besondere Bedingungen und Regelungen betreffend die Beteiligung von Hochschulen aus EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein am ERASMUS-Programm zur Wahrung der Gemeinschaftsinteressen;
- b) einen jährlichen finanziellen Beitrag der EFTA-Länder und Liechtensteins zur Finanzierung von Projekten, die von der Kommission im Rahmen der verschiedenen Aktionen des ERASMUS-Programms zu genehmigen sind; die Höhe dieses finanziellen Beitrags ist proportional zum Bruttoinlandsprodukt jedes EFTA-Landes - mit Ausnahme Liechtensteins (siehe Ziffer 5) - und die Mittel werden an den Gemeinschaftshaushalt (Kapitel B3-104) gemäß den Vorschriften für die finanzielle Durchführung (Anhang 2 des Abkommens) überwiesen. Ebenso zahlen die EFTA-Länder und Liechtenstein der Kommission einen Festbetrag zur Deckung der Kosten für die Vorbereitungsarbeiten, die von der Kommission vor Inkrafttreten der Abkommen geleistet werden;
- c) die Errichtung von Gemeinsamen Ausschüssen, bestehend aus Vertretern der Gemeinschaft einerseits und Vertretern jedes EFTA-Landes und Liechtensteins andererseits, die die ordnungsgemäße Durchführung dieses Abkommens und eine gegenseitige Koordinierung und Information über die Entwicklung des ERASMUS-Programms gewährleisten. Diese Ausschüsse geben sich eine Geschäftsordnung;
- d) das Abkommen wird für die Dauer von fünf akademischen Jahren abgeschlossen;
- e) alle Abkommen sehen folgendes vor: sofern die Ratifikationsverfahren nicht bis Ende September eines Jahres abgeschlossen sind, treten die Bestimmungen der Abkommen nicht vor dem 2. akademischen Jahr nach dem Zeitpunkt der Ratifizierung in Kraft.

7. Die Kommission schlägt dem Rat vor, die beiliegenden Entwürfe für Beschlüsse zu verabschieden.

Vorschlag für einen Beschluß des Rates über den Abschluß eines Abkommens zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und (*) über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms

DER RAT DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFTEN —

gestützt auf den Vertrag zur Gründung der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft, insbesondere auf Artikel 235,

auf Vorschlag der Kommission,

nach Stellungnahme des Europäischen Parlaments,

in Erwägung nachstehender Gründe:

Mit Beschluß 87/327/EWG (1) verabschiedete der Rat das Aktionsprogramm der Gemeinschaft zur Förderung der Mobilität von Hochschulstudenten (ERASMUS), das durch Beschluß 89/663/EWG (2) abgeändert wurde.

Am 5. November 1990 ermächtigte der Rat die Kommission, mit den EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein bilaterale Abkommen mit dem Ziel der Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms gemäß besonderen Verhandlungsweisungen abzuschließen.

Ein Kooperationsabkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und (*) verstärkt per se die Auswirkungen des ERASMUS-Programms, entwickelt die Zusammenarbeit zwischen Hochschulen und trägt zur beruflichen Qualifikation des Humankapitals in Europa bei —

BESCHLIESST:

Artikel 1

Das Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und (*) über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms wird im Namen der Gemeinschaft genehmigt.

Der Wortlaut des Abkommens ist diesem Beschluß beigelegt.

Artikel 2

Der Präsident des Rates nimmt die Mitteilung im Sinne von Artikel 13 des Abkommens vor.

(*) Dem Königreich Norwegen, dem Königreich Schweden, der Republik Österreich, der Republik Finnland, der Republik Island, der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft, dem Fürstentum Liechtenstein.

(1) ABl. Nr. L 166 vom 25. 6. 1987, S. 20.

(2) ABl. Nr. L 395 vom 30. 12. 1989, S. 23.

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Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und ⁽¹⁾ über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms

DIE EUROPÄISCHE WIRTSCHAFTSGEMEINSCHAFT —

SIND WIE FOLGT ÜBEREINGEKOMMEN:

im folgenden „Gemeinschaft“ genannt,

und

⁽¹⁾ —

im folgenden genannt,

⁽²⁾

beide im folgenden „Vertragsparteien“ genannt,

in Erwägung nachstehender Gründe:

Die Gemeinschaft hat das gemeinschaftliche Aktionsprogramm zur Förderung der Mobilität von Hochschulstudenten, im folgenden „ERASMUS“ genannt, verabschiedet.

Die Vertragsparteien haben ein gemeinsames Interesse an einer Zusammenarbeit in diesem Bereich als Teil der umfassenderen Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und den EFTA-Ländern im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung mit dem Ziel, eine dynamische und homogene Entwicklung in diesem Bereich zu unterstützen.

Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und ... bei der Verfolgung der Ziele von ERASMUS im Rahmen des Netzwerkes einer hochschulübergreifenden Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und den gesamten EFTA-Ländern stärkt die Wirkung der ERASMUS-Aktionen und erweitert die berufliche Qualifikation der menschlichen Ressourcen in der Gemeinschaft und

Die Vertragsparteien erwarten demzufolge einen beiderseitigen Nutzen von der Beteiligung ... an ERASMUS.

„Eine erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit in diesem Bereich beinhaltet für beide Seiten die allgemeine Verpflichtung, durch zusätzliche Bemühungen die Studentenmobilität zu fördern —

⁽¹⁾ Das Königreich Norwegen, das Königreich Schweden, die Republik Österreich, die Republik Finnland, die Republik Island, die Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft.

⁽²⁾ Norwegen, Schweden, Österreich, Finnland, Island, Schweiz.

Artikel 1

Zwischen der Gemeinschaft und ... wird eine Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der hochschulübergreifenden Kooperation und Mobilität im Rahmen der Durchführung von ERASMUS vereinbart. Die Aktionen des ERASMUS-Programms sind in Anhang I niedergelegt.

Artikel 2

Im Rahmen dieses Abkommens wird der Begriff „Hochschule“ für alle Arten der nach Abschluß der Sekundarstufe II weiterführenden allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildungseinrichtungen verwendet, an denen, gegebenenfalls im Rahmen einer fortgeschrittenen Ausbildung, Qualifikationen oder Diplome des entsprechenden Niveaus erlangt werden können, und zwar ungeachtet der jeweiligen Bezeichnung in den Vertragsparteien.

An diesen Einrichtungen eingeschriebene Studenten kommen ungeachtet ihres Studienfachs bis einschließlich zur Promotion für eine Unterstützung aus dem ERASMUS-Programm in Frage, sofern die in der Gasthochschule mit dem Lehrplan der Hochschule des Herkunftslands in Einklang stehende Studienzeit Teil ihrer beruflichen Ausbildung darstellt.

Das ERASMUS-Programm deckt nicht Tätigkeiten im Bereich der Forschung und der technologischen Entwicklung.

Artikel 3

Sofern in diesem Artikel nicht anders festgelegt, gelten die Angaben in Anhang I dieses Übereinkommens mit Bezug auf die Mitgliedstaaten der Gemeinschaft für die Zwecke des vorliegenden Abkommens auch für

Was die verschiedenen Aktionen von ERASMUS betrifft, so unterliegt die Beteiligung von Universitäten aus ... an ERASMUS-Aktivitäten den besonderen Bedingungen und Regelungen, die in diesem Artikel enthalten sind.

1. Aktion 1: Schaffung und Arbeitsweise eines europäischen Hochschulnetzes.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 1.

1) Hochschulen aus ... können offiziell an Hochschulkoooperationsprogrammen (HKP) teilnehmen und eine finanzielle Unterstützung für ihre Beteili-

gung erhalten. Zur Schaffung eines Netzwerkes von Hochschulkoooperationsprogrammen zwischen der Gemeinschaft und ... wird dabei multilateralen HKP der Vorzug gegeben. Gemäß diesem Grundsatz sollen die HKP mindestens zwei Hochschulen aus Gemeinschaftsstaaten umfassen. Im ersten Geltungsjahr dieses Abkommens kommen jedoch auch HKP, die eine oder mehrere Hochschulen aus mindestens einem Gemeinschaftsstaat umfassen, ausnahmsweise für eine finanzielle Unterstützung in Frage.

- 2) Aktivitäten im Rahmen der Aktion 1, die ausschließlich zwischen Hochschulen in ... und EFTA-Ländern stattfinden, kommen nicht für eine finanzielle Unterstützung in Frage, auch wenn diese Länder mit der Gemeinschaft ein Kooperationsabkommen betreffend ERASMUS abgeschlossen haben.

- 3) Unter den in 1) und 2) genannten Umständen können Hochschulen aus ... die Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie Hochschulen der Mitgliedstaaten in Anspruch nehmen.

2. Aktion 2: Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms.

Inhalte und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 2.

- 1) Die Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms können Studenten aus ... zur Erleichterung einer Studienzeit in einem Mitgliedstaat der Gemeinschaft und umgekehrt gewährt werden. Diese Studenten müssen Staatsangehörige eines EG-Mitgliedstaates oder ... sein oder entsprechend ihren ständigen Wohnsitz dort haben. Es werden keine Stipendien an Studenten aus ... zur Erleichterung einer Studienzeit in einem anderen EFTA-Land (oder umgekehrt) vergeben, auch wenn dieses Land ein Kooperationsabkommen mit der Gemeinschaft betreffend das ERASMUS-Programm abgeschlossen hat.

- 2) Die Verwaltung der ERASMUS-Stipendien für Studenten von Hochschulen aus ... werden über die zuständigen Stellen in ... abgewickelt, die zu diesem Zweck von ... ernannt werden.

- 3) Unter den in 1) und 2) genannten Umständen können Hochschulstudenten aus ... die in Aktion 2 in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Maßnahmen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie Hochschulstudenten aus den Ländern der Gemeinschaft in Anspruch nehmen.

3. Aktion 3: Maßnahmen zur Verbesserung der Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung von Diplomen und Studienzeiten.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 3.

Entsprechende Einrichtungen und Organisationen in ... können sich an Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion beteiligen und Nutzen aus ihnen ziehen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie vergleichbare Einrichtungen und Organisationen in den Mitgliedstaaten.

4. Aktion 4: Flankierende Maßnahmen zur Förderung der Studentenmobilität in der Gemeinschaft.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 4.

Entsprechende Einrichtungen und Organisationen in ... können sich an Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion beteiligen und Nutzen aus ihnen ziehen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie vergleichbare Einrichtungen und Organisationen in den Mitgliedstaaten.

Artikel 4

- (1) ... leistet einen jährlichen Beitrag zu der Finanzierung des ERASMUS-Programms, beginnend mit dem auf das Inkrafttreten dieses Abkommens folgenden Kalenderjahr und einschließlich des Kalenderjahres, in dem das letzte Studienjahr im Rahmen der Laufzeit dieses Abkommens beginnt.

- (2) Der jährliche finanzielle Beitrag ... wird im Verhältnis zu dem jährlichen Gesamthaushalt für das ERASMUS-Programm festgesetzt.

- (3) Der Proportionalitätsfaktor zur Bestimmung des ... Beitrags ergibt sich aus dem Verhältnis zwischen seinem Bruttoinlandsprodukt zu Marktpreisen und der Summe der Bruttoinlandsprodukte zu Marktpreisen der Mitgliedstaaten der Gemeinschaft und ... Dieses Verhältnis wird unter Zugrundelegung der aktuellsten statistischen Daten der OECD berechnet.

- (4) Zu Beginn jedes Jahres unterrichtet die Kommission ... über die für dieses Jahr bewilligten Mittel für das ERASMUS-Programm. Die Kommission unterrichtet ... über etwaige, im Laufe des Jahres vorgenommene Änderungen dieses Betrags.

- (5) Zusätzlich zu dem im Absatz 1 genannten jährlichen Beitrag leistet ... spätestens bis zu dem Zeitpunkt des Inkrafttretens dieses Abkommens einen einmaligen Beitrag von ... ECU zur Deckung der Kosten der von der Kommission in Zusammenhang mit der Durchführung dieses Abkommens geleisteten vorbereitenden Arbeiten.

(6) Die für den finanziellen Beitrag ... zur Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms geltenden Vorschriften sind in Anhang II dieses Abkommens niedergelegt.

Artikel 5

Vorbehaltlich der in Artikel 4 dieses Abkommens festgelegten besonderen Auflagen betreffend die Beteiligung von Hochschulen in ... gelten für die Vorlage und Beurteilung von Bewerbungen sowie für die Bewilligung und den Abschluß von Verträgen im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms die gleichen Bedingungen wie für Hochschulen der Gemeinschaft.

Artikel 6

- (1) Es wird ein Gemeinsamer Ausschuß eingesetzt.
- (2) Der Ausschuß ist für die Durchführung dieses Abkommens zuständig.
- (3) Die Delegation der Gemeinschaft sorgt für die Koordinierung zwischen der Durchführung dieses Abkommens und den Beschlüssen der Gemeinschaft zur Durchführung von ERASMUS.
- (4) Zur ordnungsgemäßen Durchführung des Abkommens tauschen die Vertragsparteien Informationen aus und konsultieren einander auf Antrag einer Partei im Ausschuß.
- (5) Der Ausschuß kann Stellungnahmen abgeben und Leitlinien zur Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms erarbeiten, soweit sie für die Beteiligung von ... relevant sind.
- (6) Der Ausschuß gibt sich eine Geschäftsordnung.
- (7) Dem Ausschuß gehören Vertreter der Gemeinschaft und Vertreter ... an.
- (8) Der Ausschuß trifft seine Entscheidungen einvernehmlich.
- (9) Der Ausschuß tritt auf Antrag einer Vertragspartei nach Maßgabe der in der Geschäftsordnung festgelegten Bedingungen zusammen.

Artikel 7

Die Entscheidungen zur Auswahl der verschiedenen in Anhang I (Aktion 1, 3 und 4) beschriebenen Vorhaben werden von der Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften getroffen.

Entscheidungen über die Vergabe von ERASMUS-Stipendien an Studenten von ... Hochschulen (Aktion 2) werden von den zuständigen Stellen in ... in enger Zusammenarbeit mit den beteiligten Hochschulen getroffen. Die Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften wird

den obengenannten zuständigen Stellen zu diesem Zweck entsprechende Leitlinien zur Verfügung stellen.

Artikel 8

Die Vertragsparteien tragen dafür Sorge, die Freizügigkeit und den Aufenthalt von Studenten, Dozenten und Verwaltungspersonal bei einer Verlegung des Aufenthaltsortes von ... in die Gemeinschaft und umgekehrt zu erleichtern, wenn dies im Rahmen der Teilnahme an den in diesem Abkommen genannten Aktivitäten geschieht.

Artikel 9

Um die Kommission bei der Abfassung des Jahresberichts über die Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms sowie eines Berichts über die bei der Anwendung des Programms gewonnenen Erfahrungen zu unterstützen, legt ... der Kommission einen Beitrag vor, in dem die von ... in dieser Hinsicht getroffenen Maßnahmen beschrieben sind. Ein Exemplar dieser Berichte wird ... übermittelt.

Artikel 10

Bei allen Anträgen, Verträgen und Berichten sowie bei allen sonstigen Verwaltungsregelungen für das ERASMUS-Programm sind die Amtssprachen der Gemeinschaft zu verwenden.

Artikel 11

Dieses Abkommen gilt einerseits für die Gebiete, in denen der Vertrag zur Gründung der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft angewendet wird, und nach Maßgabe dieses Vertrags für das Gebiet ... andererseits.

Artikel 12

(1) Dieses Abkommen wird für die Dauer von fünf Studienjahren ab dem Termin des Inkrafttretens geschlossen. Es kann für weitere fünf Jahre durch ein Übereinkommen zwischen den Vertragsparteien verlängert werden. Vor Ablauf des dritten Studienjahres nach Inkrafttreten dieses Abkommens ist eine Überprüfung vorzunehmen.

(2) Wird das ERASMUS-Programm von der Gemeinschaft überarbeitet, so kann das Abkommen neu ausgehandelt oder beendet werden. ... wird über den genauen Inhalt des überarbeiteten Programms binnen einer Woche nach dessen Annahme durch die Gemeinschaft unterrichtet. Ist eine Neuaushandlung und Beendigung des Abkommens vorgesehen, so teilen sich dies die Vertragsparteien innerhalb von drei Monaten nach Annahme des Beschlusses der Gemeinschaft mit. Im Falle der Beendigung sind die praktischen Einzelheiten zur Regelung ausstehender Verpflichtungen Gegenstand von Verhandlungen zwischen den Vertragsparteien.

(3) Jede Vertragspartei kann jederzeit eine Überarbeitung des Abkommens verlangen. Zu diesem Zweck unterbreitet sie der anderen Vertragspartei einen entsprechenden Antrag. Die Vertragsparteien können den Gemeinsamen Ausschuß beauftragen, den Antrag zu prüfen und ihnen gegebenenfalls Empfehlungen, insbesondere im Hinblick auf die Einleitung von Verhandlungen, auszusprechen.

Artikel 13

Dieses Abkommen wird von den Vertragsparteien nach deren eigenen Verfahren genehmigt. Sofern die Vertragsparteien einander bis zu diesem Zeitpunkt mitgeteilt haben, daß die hierzu erforderlichen Verfahren abge-

schlossen sind, tritt dieses Abkommen am ersten Tag des zweiten auf diese Mitteilung folgenden Monats in Kraft. Ergeht diese Mitteilung jedoch nicht bis Ende September eines Jahres, so treten die Bestimmungen dieses Abkommens nicht vor dem zweiten Studienjahr nach dem Zeitpunkt der Benachrichtigung in Kraft.

Artikel 14

Dieses Abkommen wird in zwei Urschriften in dänischer, deutscher, englischer, französischer, griechischer, italienischer, niederländischer, portugiesischer, spanischer und ... Sprache abgefaßt, wobei jeder Wortlaut gleichermaßen verbindlich ist.

ANHANG I

AKTION 1

Schaffung und Arbeitsweise eines Europäischen Hochschulnetzes

1. Die Gemeinschaft wird das Europäische Hochschulnetz, das im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms errichtet wurde und mit dem der gemeinschaftsweite Austausch von Studenten gefördert werden soll, weiter ausbauen.

Das Europäische Hochschulnetz setzt sich aus Hochschulen zusammen, die im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms Vereinbarungen getroffen haben und Programme veranstalten, die den Studenten- und Dozentenaustausch mit Hochschulen anderer Mitgliedstaaten vorsehen und in deren Rahmen die volle Anerkennung von außerhalb der Hochschule des Herkunftslands zurückgelegten Studienzeiten sichergestellt wird.

Jede zwischen den Hochschulen getroffene Vereinbarung soll vor allem den Studenten einer Hochschule die Möglichkeit bieten, in wenigstens einem weiteren Mitgliedstaat eine Studienzeit abzuleisten, die voll als Bestandteil ihrer Abschlußprüfung oder akademischen Qualifikation anerkannt wird. Diese gemeinsamen Programme könnten gegebenenfalls einen integrierten Zeitraum der fremdsprachlichen Vorbereitung und die Zusammenarbeit zwischen Dozenten und Verwaltungspersonal umfassen, um die erforderlichen Voraussetzungen für den Studentenaustausch und die gegenseitige Anerkennung von im Ausland zurückgelegten Studienzeiten zu schaffen. Soweit möglich, sollte mit der fremdsprachlichen Vorbereitung vor Abreise des Studenten im Herkunftsland begonnen werden.

Programme, die einen integrierten und voll anerkannten Studienaufenthalt in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat vorsehen, werden bevorzugt behandelt. Für jedes gemeinsame Programm wird jede teilnehmende Hochschule zunächst für einen Zeitraum von längstens drei Jahren einen Zuschuß bis zu einem jährlichen Höchstbetrag von 25 000 ECU erhalten, der in regelmäßigen Abständen zu überprüfen sein wird.

2. Zuschüsse werden auch für den Austausch von Dozenten zur Wahrnehmung integrierter Lehraufgaben in anderen Mitgliedstaaten gewährt.
3. Zuschüsse werden auch für Vorhaben der gemeinsamen Curriculumentwicklung durch Hochschulen in verschiedenen Mitgliedstaaten gewährt, um die akademische Anerkennung zu erleichtern und durch den Austausch von Erfahrungen zur Erneuerung und Verbesserung der Studiengänge auf gemeinschaftsweiter Grundlage beizutragen.

4. Außerdem werden Zuschüsse von bis zu 20 000 ECU Hochschulen gewährt, die Intensivkurse von kurzer Dauer für Studenten aus verschiedenen Mitgliedstaaten durchführen. Dies ist eine ergänzende Maßnahme.
5. Die Gemeinschaft wird auch Mitglieder des Lehr- und Verwaltungspersonals der Hochschulen unterstützen, damit sie andere Mitgliedstaaten besuchen, Programme für integrierte Studiengänge mit Universitäten dieser Mitgliedstaaten ausarbeiten und ihre gegenseitigen Kenntnisse von Ausbildungsaspekten der Hochschulsysteme anderer Mitgliedstaaten erweitern können. Außerdem werden Stipendien bereitgestellt, damit Dozenten eine Reihe spezialisierter Vorlesungen in mehreren Mitgliedstaaten halten können.

AKTION 2

Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms

1. Die Gemeinschaft wird ein System zur unmittelbaren finanziellen Unterstützung von Studenten weiter ausbauen, die an einer Hochschule im Sinne von Artikel 1 Absatz 2 des Beschlusses 87/327/EWG studieren und eine Studienzeit in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat ableisten. Bei der Festsetzung der Gesamtausgaben für Aktion 1 bzw. Aktion 2 berücksichtigt die Gemeinschaft die Zahl der innerhalb des europäischen Hochschulnetzes im Laufe der Zeit auszutauschenden Studenten.
2. Die Verwaltung der ERASMUS-Stipendien wird über die zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten abgewickelt. Jedem Mitgliedstaat wird unter Berücksichtigung der weiteren Entwicklung des europäischen Hochschulnetzes ein Mindestbetrag von 200 000 ECU zugewiesen (Gegenwert von etwa 100 Stipendien); beim Restbetrag wird bei der Zuweisung an die Mitgliedstaaten ausgegangen von der Gesamtzahl der Studenten an den Hochschulen im Sinne von Artikel 1 Absatz 2, von der Gesamtzahl der Jugendlichen im Alter von 18 bis 25 Jahren in jedem Mitgliedstaat, von den durchschnittlichen Kosten einer Reise zwischen dem Land, in dem die Universität des Heimatlands des Studenten liegt, und dem Land, in dem die Gastuniversität liegt, sowie von dem Unterschied zwischen den Lebenshaltungskosten in dem Land der Heimatuniversität des Studenten und in dem Land der Gastuniversität.

Außerdem wird die Kommission die notwendigen Schritte unternehmen, um eine ausgewogene Beteiligung aller Fachgebiete zu gewährleisten, um die Nachfrage nach Programmen und die Studentenströme zu berücksichtigen und um bestimmte spezifische Probleme zu lösen, insbesondere die Finanzierung bestimmter Stipendien, die wegen der Struktur der außergewöhnlichen Programme nicht von den einzelstaatlichen Stellen verwaltet werden können. Der für diese Maßnahmen verwendete Anteil darf 5 v. H. der jährlichen Gesamtmittel für Stipendien nicht übersteigen.

3. Die für die Stipendienvergabe zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten gewähren Stipendien bis höchstens 5 000 ECU je Student für einen einjährigen Aufenthalt unter folgenden Bedingungen:
 - a) Die Stipendien sollen die durch die Mobilität entstehenden zusätzlichen Kosten ausgleichen, d. h. die Reisekosten, erforderlichenfalls die Kosten der sprachlichen Vorbereitung und höhere Lebenshaltungskosten im Gastland (gegebenenfalls einschließlich der zusätzlichen Kosten, die dadurch entstehen, daß der Student sich außerhalb seines Herkunftslands aufhält). Sie sollen nicht die vollen Kosten des Auslandsstudiums decken.
 - b) Studenten, die an Studiengängen im Rahmen des europäischen Hochschulnetzes gemäß Aktion 1 teilnehmen, und Studenten, die an dem Europäischen System zur Anrechnung von Studienleistungen (European Community Course Credit Transfer System — ECTS) gemäß Aktion 3 teilnehmen, werden vorrangig behandelt. Stipendien können auch Studenten gewährt werden, die an Studiengängen in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat teilnehmen, für die Sondervereinbarungen außerhalb des Hochschulnetzes getroffen worden sind, sofern sie die Stipendienkriterien erfüllen.
 - c) Stipendien werden nur in Fällen gewährt, in denen die in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat zurückgelegte Studienzeit von der Hochschule im Herkunftsland des Studenten voll anerkannt wird. Jedoch können Stipendien ausnahmsweise auch in Fällen gewährt werden, in denen die Studienzeit in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat von der den Abschluß verleihenden Universität in diesem Mitgliedstaat voll anerkannt wird, sofern diese Vereinbarung Teil einer nach Aktion 1 unterstützten Vereinbarung zwischen Hochschulen ist.
 - d) Die Gasthochschule erhebt von den aufgenommenen Studenten keine Studiengebühren; gegebenenfalls zahlen die Stipendiaten weiterhin Studiengebühren an der Hochschule in ihrem Herkunftsland.
 - e) Stipendien werden für eine als erheblich anzusehende Studienzeit an einer Hochschule in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat mit einer Dauer von drei Monaten bis zu einem vollen Studienjahr oder im

Fälle stark integrierter Studienprogramme auch für mehr als zwölf Monate gewährt. In der Regel werden keine Stipendien für das erste Studienjahr gewährt.

- f) Alle Zuschüsse oder Darlehen, die Studenten in ihrem Herkunftsland gewährt werden, werden während der Studienzeit an der Gastuniversität, für die sie ein ERASMUS-Stipendium erhalten, in vollem Umfang weitergezahlt.

AKTION 3

Maßnahmen zur Verbesserung der Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung von Diplomen und Studienzeiten

Die Gemeinschaft wird in Zusammenarbeit mit den zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten die nachstehenden Maßnahmen mit dem Ziel ergreifen, die Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung der in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat erworbenen Diplome bzw. zurückgelegten Studienzeiten zu verbessern:

1. Maßnahmen zur versuchsweisen Förderung eines europäischen Systems zur Anrechnung von Studienleistung (European Community Course Credit Transfer System — ECTS) auf freiwilliger Basis, um Studenten, die im Rahmen ihrer theoretischen und praktischen Ausbildung in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat studieren, die Möglichkeit zu bieten, an Hochschulen in anderen Mitgliedstaaten erbrachte Studienleistungen auf ihr Studium angerechnet zu erhalten. Eine begrenzte Anzahl von Zuschüssen in Höhe von 20 000 ECU pro Jahr wird an die am Pilotsystem teilnehmenden Hochschulen vergeben.
2. Maßnahmen zur Förderung des gemeinschaftsweiten Austausches von Informationen über die akademische Anerkennung der in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat erworbenen Diplome und zurückgelegten Studienzeiten vor allem durch die Weiterentwicklung des Gemeinschaftsnetzes nationaler Informationszentren für Fragen der akademischen Anerkennung der Diplome und Studienzeiten; jährliche Zuschüsse bis zu 20 000 ECU werden an die Zentren vergeben, um den Informationsaustausch insbesondere durch ein Datenaustauschsystem auf EDV-Basis zu erleichtern.

AKTION 4

Flankierende Maßnahmen zur Förderung der Studentenmobilität in der Gemeinschaft

1. Durch die flankierenden Maßnahmen soll folgendes finanziert werden:
 - Die Unterstützung von Zusammenschlüssen und Verbänden von Hochschulen, Hochschuldozenten, Verwaltungspersonal oder Studenten auf europäischer Ebene, insbesondere mit dem Ziel, Initiativen auf spezifischen Gebieten der Ausbildung in der Gemeinschaft besser bekannt zu machen;
 - Veröffentlichungen, die darauf abzielen, auf Möglichkeiten zum Studium und zur Abhaltung von Lehrveranstaltungen in anderen Mitgliedstaaten sowie auf wichtige Entwicklungen und neue Modelle im Bereich der Hochschulzusammenarbeit in der Gemeinschaft aufmerksam zu machen;
 - sonstige Initiativen zur Förderung der Hochschulk Kooperation in der Gemeinschaft im Bereich der Berufsausbildung;
 - Maßnahmen zur Erleichterung der Verbreitung von Informationen über das ERASMUS-Programm;
 - ERASMUS-Preise der Europäischen Gemeinschaft für Studenten, Mitglieder des Lehrpersonals, Hochschulen oder ERASMUS-Vorhaben, die einen besonderen Beitrag zur Entwicklung der Zusammenarbeit zwischen Hochschulen in der Gemeinschaft geleistet haben.
2. Die Kosten der Maßnahmen im Rahmen der Aktion 4 sollen höchstens 5 v. H. der jährlichen Mittelausstattung des ERASMUS-Programms betragen.

ANHANG II

Vorschriften für die finanzielle Durchführung

Artikel 1

Die Verwaltung der Mittel erfolgt nach der geltenden Haushaltsordnung für den Gesamthaushaltsplan der Europäischen Gemeinschaften.

Artikel 2

Zu Beginn jedes Jahres oder jeweils dann, wenn sich durch eine Überarbeitung des ERASMUS-Programms die für die Durchführung in den Haushaltsplan der Gemeinschaft eingesetzten Mittel erhöhen, ruft die Kommission bei ... die Mittel entsprechend dessen Beitrag zu den Kosten des Abkommens ab.

Dieser Beitrag wird in Ecu ausgedruckt und auf ein Ecu-Bankkonto der Kommission überwiesen.

... überweist seinen Beitrag zu den jährlichen Kosten im Rahmen des Abkommens entsprechend dem Abruf und spätestens einen Monat, nachdem der Abruf ergangen ist. Bei verspäteter Überweisung hat ... vom Fälligkeitstag an Zinsen auf den ausstehenden Betrag zu zahlen. Der Zinssatz entspricht dem Zinssatz, den der Europäische Fonds für währungspolitische Zusammenarbeit (FECOM/EFMC) für den Monat des Fälligkeitsdatums bei seinen Transaktionen in Ecu (*) anwendet, zuzüglich 1,5 Punkte.

(*) Der Prozentsatz wird monatlich im *Amtsblatt der Europäischen Gemeinschaften*, Reihe C, veröffentlicht.

Entwurf der Briefe, die bei der Unterzeichnung des Abkommens zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Republik Island zu unterschreiben sind und die die Kooperationsvereinbarungen im Bereich Erziehung und Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms festhalten

Brief Nr. 1 (von Island zu unterzeichnen)

(Begrüßungsformel)

Im Namen der Republik Island bestätige ich hiermit unser Einverständnis, daß die an Island zu entrichtende Gesamtsumme unter Aktion 2 des ERASMUS-Programms zur Zeit nicht das in Absatz 2 von Aktion 2 der Anlage I zum Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Republik Island bezüglich der Zusammenarbeit im Bereich Bildung und Ausbildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms überschreiten wird. Es wird jedoch davon ausgegangen, daß diese Situation einer Überprüfung durch den im Abkommen vorgesehenen Gemeinsamen Ausschuß unterzogen wird.

(Schlußformel)

Brief Nr. 2 (von der Gemeinschaft zu unterzeichnen)

(Begrüßungsformel)

Hiermit bestätige ich im Namen der Gemeinschaft den Erhalt Ihres Briefes vom ..., der folgendermaßen lautet:

(zitieren)

Im Namen der Gemeinschaft bestätige ich, daß dies unseren Vorstellungen entspricht, wie das Abkommen, das zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Republik Island, welches die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich Bildung und Ausbildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms festlegt, ausgeführt werden soll.

(Schlußformel)

THIS TABLE CONTAINS
THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALL EFTA COUNTRIES
MENTIONED IN ART. 4.5 OF THE AGREEMENTS,
CONCERNING THE PREPARATORY COST.
EACH FIGURE SHOULD BE INSERTED
IN THE FINAL AGREEMENT TEXT
WHERE THERE IS A BLANK

Beitrag von EFTA-Ländern und Liechtenstein an den Vorbereitungskosten in bezug auf die Erweiterung von ERASMUS (basiert auf dem vereinbarten Anteil ihres jeweiligen BIP)

	BIP (1)	Verteilung der 500.000 ECU (000)
ÖSTERREICH	126,7	92,2
FINNLAND	103,6	75,7
ISLAND	5,9	4,4
NORWEGEN	90,7	66,5
SCHWEDEN	178,8	128,7
SCHWEIZ	183,4	131,9
LIECHTENSTEIN (2)		0,6
EFTA		500
EG		

Anmerkung :

- (1) Das BIP ist in derzeitigen Marktpreisen und Wechselkursen angegeben, wie von COMETT II verwendet für die Beiträge der EFTA-Länder 1990.
- (2) Der Beitrag Liechtensteins ist im Verhältnis zum schweizerischen Beitrag berechnet, auf derselben Basis wie für COMETT II.

Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und dem Fürstentum Liechtenstein über die Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms

DIE EUROPÄISCHE WIRTSCHAFTSGEMEINSCHAFT —

im folgenden „Gemeinschaft“ genannt,

und

DAS FÜRSTENTUM LIECHTENSTEIN —

im folgenden Liechtenstein genannt,

beide im folgenden „Vertragsparteien“ genannt,

in Erwägung nachstehender Gründe:

Die Gemeinschaft hat das gemeinschaftliche Aktionsprogramm zur Förderung der Mobilität von Hochschulstudenten, im folgenden „ERASMUS“ genannt, verabschiedet.

Die Vertragsparteien haben ein gemeinsames Interesse an einer Zusammenarbeit in diesem Bereich als Teil der umfassenderen Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und den EFTA-Ländern im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung mit dem Ziel, eine dynamische und homogene Entwicklung in diesem Bereich zu unterstützen.

Die Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und Liechtenstein bei der Verfolgung der Ziele von ERASMUS im Rahmen des Netzwerkes einer hochschulübergreifenden Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Gemeinschaft und den gesamten EFTA-Ländern stärkt die Wirkung der ERASMUS-Aktionen und erweitert die berufliche Qualifikation der menschlichen Ressourcen in der Gemeinschaft und Liechtenstein.

Die Vertragsparteien erwarten demzufolge einen beiderseitigen Nutzen von der Beteiligung Liechtensteins an ERASMUS.

Eine erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit in diesem Bereich beinhaltet für beide Seiten die allgemeine Verpflichtung, durch zusätzliche Bemühungen die Studentenmobilität zu fördern —

SIND WIE FOLGT ÜBEREINGEKOMMEN:

Artikel 1

Zwischen der Gemeinschaft und Liechtenstein wird eine Zusammenarbeit im Bereich der hochschulübergreifen-

den Kooperation und Mobilität im Rahmen der Durchführung von ERASMUS vereinbart. Die Aktionen des ERASMUS-Programms sind in Anhang I niedergelegt.

Artikel 2

Im Rahmen dieses Abkommens wird der Begriff „Hochschule“ für alle Arten der nach Abschluß der Sekundarstufe II weiterführenden allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildungseinrichtungen verwendet, an denen, gegebenenfalls im Rahmen einer fortgeschrittenen Ausbildung, Qualifikationen oder Diplome des entsprechenden Niveaus erlangt werden können, und zwar ungeachtet der jeweiligen Bezeichnung in den Vertragsparteien.

An diesen Einrichtungen eingeschriebene Studenten kommen ungeachtet ihres Studienfachs bis einschließlich zur Promotion für eine Unterstützung aus dem ERASMUS-Programm in Frage, sofern die in der Gasthochschule mit dem Lehrplan der Hochschule des Herkunftslands in Einklang stehende Studienzeit Teil ihrer beruflichen Ausbildung darstellt.

Das ERASMUS-Programm deckt nicht Tätigkeiten im Bereich der Forschung und der technologischen Entwicklung.

Artikel 3

Sofern in diesem Artikel nicht anders festgelegt, gelten die Angaben in Anhang I dieses Übereinkommens mit Bezug auf die Mitgliedstaaten der Gemeinschaft für die Zwecke des vorliegenden Abkommens auch für Liechtenstein.

Was die verschiedenen Aktionen von ERASMUS betrifft, so unterliegt die Beteiligung von Universitäten aus Liechtenstein an ERASMUS-Aktivitäten den besonderen Bedingungen und Regelungen, die in diesem Artikel enthalten sind.

1. Aktion 1: Schaffung und Arbeitsweise eines europäischen Hochschulnetzes.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 1.

1) Hochschulen aus Liechtenstein können offiziell an Hochschulkoooperationsprogrammen (HKP) teilnehmen und eine finanzielle Unterstützung für ihre Beteiligung erhalten. Zur Schaffung eines Netzwerkes von Hochschulkoooperationsprogrammen zwischen der Gemeinschaft und Liechtenstein wird dabei multilateralen HKP der Vorzug gegeben. Gemäß diesem Grundsatz sollen die HKP mindestens zwei Hochschulen aus Gemeinschaftstaaten umfassen. Im ersten Geltungsjahr dieses

Abkommens kommen jedoch auch HKP, die eine oder mehrere Hochschulen aus mindestens einem Gemeinschaftsstaat umfassen, ausnahmsweise für eine finanzielle Unterstützung in Frage.

2) Aktivitäten im Rahmen der Aktion 1, die ausschließlich zwischen Hochschulen in Liechtenstein und EFTA-Ländern stattfinden, kommen nicht für eine finanzielle Unterstützung in Frage, auch wenn diese Länder mit der Gemeinschaft ein Kooperationsabkommen betreffend ERASMUS abgeschlossen haben.

3) Unter den in 1) und 2) genannten Umständen können Hochschulen aus Liechtenstein die Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie Hochschulen der Mitgliedstaaten in Anspruch nehmen.

2. Aktion 2: Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 2.

Der in Aktion 2.2 erwähnte Mindestbetrag wird jedoch im Falle Liechtensteins auf 6 000 ECU festgesetzt.

1) Die Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms können Studenten aus Liechtenstein zur Erleichterung einer Studienzeit in einem Mitgliedstaat der Gemeinschaft und umgekehrt gewährt werden. Diese Studenten müssen Staatsangehörige eines EG-Mitgliedstaates oder Liechtensteins sein oder entsprechend ihren ständigen Wohnsitz dort haben. Es werden keine Stipendien an Studenten aus Liechtenstein zur Erleichterung einer Studienzeit in einem anderen EFTA-Land (oder umgekehrt) vergeben, auch wenn dieses Land ein Kooperationsabkommen mit der Gemeinschaft betreffend das ERASMUS-Programm abgeschlossen hat.

2) Die Verwaltung der ERASMUS-Stipendien für Studenten von Hochschulen aus Liechtenstein werden über die zuständigen Stellen in Liechtenstein abgewickelt, die zu diesem Zweck von Liechtenstein ernannt werden.

3) Unter den in 1) und 2) genannten Umständen können Hochschulstudenten aus Liechtenstein die in Aktion 2 in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Maßnahmen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie Hochschulstudenten aus den Ländern der Gemeinschaft in Anspruch nehmen.

3. Aktion 3: Maßnahmen zur Verbesserung der Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung von Diplomen und Studienzeiten.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 3.

Entsprechende Einrichtungen und Organisationen in Liechtenstein können sich an Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion beteiligen und Nutzen aus ihnen ziehen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie vergleichbare Einrichtungen und Organisationen in den Mitgliedstaaten.

4. Aktion 4: Flankierende Maßnahmen zur Förderung der Studentemobilität in der Gemeinschaft.

Inhalt und Ziele dieser Aktion entsprechen der in Anhang I dieses Abkommens genannten Aktion 4.

Entsprechende Einrichtungen und Organisationen in Liechtenstein können sich an Maßnahmen im Rahmen dieser Aktion beteiligen und Nutzen aus ihnen ziehen auf derselben Grundlage und unter denselben Bedingungen wie vergleichbare Einrichtungen und Organisationen in den Mitgliedstaaten.

Artikel 4

(1) Liechtenstein leistet einen jährlichen Beitrag zu der Finanzierung des ERASMUS-Programms, beginnend mit dem auf das Inkrafttreten dieses Abkommens folgenden Kalenderjahr und einschließlich des Kalenderjahres, in dem das letzte Studienjahr im Rahmen der Laufzeit dieses Abkommens beginnt.

(2) Der jährliche finanzielle Beitrag Liechtensteins wird auf einer Jahresbasis im Verhältnis zu dem jährlichen Gesamthaushalt für das ERASMUS-Programm festgesetzt.

Im ersten Jahr des Inkrafttretens dieses Übereinkommens wird der finanzielle Beitrag Liechtensteins auf 35 000 ECU festgesetzt. Nachfolgende Jahresbeiträge Liechtensteins werden im Rahmen des Gemeinsamen Ausschusses festgesetzt.

Diese Beiträge werden jedoch mindestens dem Betrag gleich sein, der proportional zum Beitrag der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft steht, berechnet in Bezug auf die jeweilige Bevölkerung Liechtensteins und der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft.

(3) Zu Beginn jedes Jahres unterrichtet die Kommission Liechtenstein über die für dieses Jahr bewilligten Mittel für das ERASMUS-Programm. Die Kommission unterrichtet Liechtenstein über etwaige, im Laufe des Jahres vorgenommene Änderungen dieses Betrags.

(4) Zusätzlich zu dem in Absatz 1 genannten jährlichen Beitrag leistet Liechtenstein spätestens bis zu dem Zeitpunkt des Inkrafttretens dieses Abkommens einen einmaligen Beitrag von 600 ECU zur Deckung der Kosten der von der Kommission in Zusammenhang mit der Durchführung dieses Abkommens geleisteten vorbereitenden Arbeiten.

(5) Die für den finanziellen Beitrag Liechtensteins zur Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms geltenden Vorschriften sind in Anhang II dieses Abkommens niedergelegt.

Artikel 5

Vorbehaltlich der in Artikel 4 dieses Abkommens festgelegten besonderen Auflagen betreffend die Beteiligung von Hochschulen in Liechtenstein gelten für die Vorlage und Beurteilung von Bewerbungen sowie für die Bewilligung und den Abschluß von Verträgen im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms die gleichen Bedingungen wie für Hochschulen der Gemeinschaft.

Artikel 6

- (1) Es wird ein Gemeinsamer Ausschuß eingesetzt.
- (2) Der Ausschuß ist für die Durchführung dieses Abkommens zuständig.
- (3) Die Delegation der Gemeinschaft sorgt für die Koordinierung zwischen der Durchführung dieses Abkommens und den Beschlüssen der Gemeinschaft zur Durchführung von ERASMUS.
- (4) Zur ordnungsgemäßen Durchführung des Abkommens tauschen die Vertragsparteien Informationen aus und konsultieren einander auf Antrag einer Partei im Ausschuß.
- (5) Der Ausschuß kann Stellungnahmen abgeben und Leitlinien zur Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms erarbeiten, soweit sie für die Beteiligung von Liechtenstein relevant sind.
- (6) Der Ausschuß gibt sich eine Geschäftsordnung.
- (7) Dem Ausschuß gehören Vertreter der Gemeinschaft und Vertreter Liechtensteins an.
- (8) Der Ausschuß trifft seine Entscheidungen einvernehmlich.
- (9) Der Ausschuß tritt auf Antrag einer Vertragspartei nach Maßgabe der in der Geschäftsordnung festgelegten Bedingungen zusammen.

Artikel 7

Die Entscheidungen zur Auswahl der verschiedenen in Anhang I (Aktion 1, 3 und 4) beschriebenen Vorhaben werden von der Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften getroffen.

Entscheidungen über die Vergabe von ERASMUS-Stipendien an Studenten von liechtensteinischen Hochschulen (Aktion 2) werden von den zuständigen Stellen in Liechtenstein in enger Zusammenarbeit mit den beteiligten Hochschulen getroffen. Die Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften wird den obengenannten zuständigen Stellen zu diesem Zweck entsprechende Leitlinien zur Verfügung stellen.

Artikel 8

Die Vertragsparteien tragen dafür Sorge, die Freizügigkeit und den Aufenthalt von Studenten, Dozenten und Verwaltungspersonal bei einer Verlegung des Aufenthaltsortes von Liechtenstein in die Gemeinschaft und umgekehrt zu erleichtern, wenn dies im Rahmen der Teilnahme an den in diesem Abkommen genannten Aktivitäten geschieht.

Artikel 9

Um die Kommission bei der Abfassung des Jahresberichts über die Durchführung des ERASMUS-Programms sowie eines Berichts über die bei der Anwendung des Programms gewonnenen Erfahrungen zu unterstützen, legt Liechtenstein der Kommission einen Beitrag vor, in dem die von Liechtenstein in dieser Hinsicht getroffenen Maßnahmen beschrieben sind. Ein Exemplar dieser Berichte wird Liechtenstein übermittelt.

Artikel 10

Bei allen Anträgen, Verträgen und Berichten sowie bei allen sonstigen Verwaltungsregelungen für das ERASMUS-Programm sind die Amtssprachen der Gemeinschaft zu verwenden.

Artikel 11

Dieses Abkommen gilt einerseits für die Gebiete, in denen der Vertrag zur Gründung der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft angewendet wird, und nach Maßgabe dieses Vertrags für das Gebiet Liechtensteins andererseits.

Artikel 12

(1) Dieses Abkommen wird für die Dauer von fünf Studienjahren ab dem Termin des Inkrafttretens geschlossen. Es kann für weitere fünf Jahre durch ein Übereinkommen zwischen den Vertragsparteien verlängert werden. Vor Ablauf des dritten Studienjahres nach Inkrafttreten dieses Abkommens ist eine Überprüfung vorzunehmen.

(2) Wird das ERASMUS-Programm von der Gemeinschaft überarbeitet, so kann das Abkommen neu ausgehandelt oder beendet werden. Liechtenstein wird über den genauen Inhalt des überarbeiteten Programms binnen einer Woche nach dessen Annahme durch die Gemeinschaft unterrichtet. Ist eine Neuaushandlung und Beendigung des Abkommens vorgesehen, so teilen sich dies die Vertragsparteien innerhalb von drei Monaten nach Annahme des Beschlusses der Gemeinschaft mit. Im Falle der Beendigung sind die praktischen Einzelheiten zur Regelung ausstehender Verpflichtungen Gegenstand von Verhandlungen zwischen den Vertragsparteien.

(3) Jede Vertragspartei kann jederzeit eine Überarbeitung des Abkommens verlangen. Zu diesem Zweck unterbreitet sie der anderen Vertragspartei einen entsprechenden Antrag. Die Vertragsparteien können den Gemeinsamen Ausschuss beauftragen, den Antrag zu prüfen und ihnen gegebenenfalls Empfehlungen, insbesondere im Hinblick auf die Einleitung von Verhandlungen, auszusprechen.

Artikel 13

Dieses Abkommen wird von den Vertragsparteien nach deren eigenen Verfahren genehmigt. Sofern die Vertragsparteien einander bis zu diesem Zeitpunkt mitgeteilt haben, daß die hierzu erforderlichen Verfahren abgeschlossen sind, tritt dieses Abkommen am ersten Tag des zweiten auf diese Mitteilung folgenden Monats in Kraft. Ergeht diese Mitteilung jedoch nicht bis Ende September eines Jahres, so treten die Bestimmungen dieses Abkommens nicht vor dem zweiten Studienjahr nach dem Zeitpunkt der Benachrichtigung in Kraft.

Artikel 14

Dieses Abkommen wird in zwei Urschriften in dänischer, deutscher, englischer, französischer, griechischer, italienischer, niederländischer, portugiesischer, spanischer und ... Sprache abgefaßt, wobei jeder Wortlaut gleichermaßen verbindlich ist.

ANHANG I

AKTION 1

Schaffung und Arbeitsweise eines Europäischen Hochschulnetzes

1. Die Gemeinschaft wird das Europäische Hochschulnetz, das im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms errichtet wurde und mit dem der gemeinschaftsweite Austausch von Studenten gefördert werden soll, weiter ausbauen.

Das Europäische Hochschulnetz setzt sich aus Hochschulen zusammen, die im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms Vereinbarungen getroffen haben und Programme veranstalten, die den Studenten- und Dozentenaustausch mit Hochschulen anderer Mitgliedstaaten vorsehen und in deren Rahmen die volle Anerkennung von außerhalb der Hochschule des Herkunftslands zurückgelegten Studienzeiten sichergestellt wird.

Jede zwischen den Hochschulen getroffene Vereinbarung soll vor allem den Studenten einer Hochschule die Möglichkeit bieten, in wenigstens einem weiteren Mitgliedstaat eine Studienzeit abzuleisten, die voll als Bestandteil ihrer Abschlußprüfung oder akademischen Qualifikation anerkannt wird. Diese gemeinsamen Programme könnten gegebenenfalls einen integrierten Zeitraum der fremdsprachlichen Vorbereitung und die Zusammenarbeit zwischen Dozenten und Verwaltungspersonal umfassen, um die erforderlichen Voraussetzungen für den Studentenaustausch und die gegenseitige Anerkennung von im Ausland zurückgelegten Studienzeiten zu schaffen. Soweit möglich, sollte mit der fremdsprachlichen Vorbereitung vor Abreise des Studenten im Herkunftsland begonnen werden.

Programme, die einen integrierten und voll anerkannten Studienaufenthalt in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat vorsehen, werden bevorzugt behandelt. Für jedes gemeinsame Programm wird jede teilnehmende Hochschule zunächst für einen Zeitraum von längstens drei Jahren einen Zuschuß bis zu einem jährlichen Höchstbetrag von 25 000 ECU erhalten, der in regelmäßigen Abständen zu überprüfen sein wird.

2. Zuschüsse werden auch für den Austausch von Dozenten zur Wahrnehmung integrierter Lehraufgaben in anderen Mitgliedstaaten gewährt.

3. Zuschüsse werden auch für Vorhaben der gemeinsamen Curriculumentwicklung durch Hochschulen in verschiedenen Mitgliedstaaten gewährt, um die akademische Anerkennung zu erleichtern und durch den Austausch von Erfahrungen zur Erneuerung und Verbesserung der Studiengänge auf gemeinschaftsweiter Grundlage beizutragen.
4. Außerdem werden Zuschüsse von bis zu 20 000 ECU Hochschulen gewährt, die Intensivkurse von kurzer Dauer für Studenten aus verschiedenen Mitgliedstaaten durchführen. Dies ist eine ergänzende Maßnahme.
5. Die Gemeinschaft wird auch Mitglieder des Lehr- und Verwaltungspersonals der Hochschulen unterstützen, damit sie andere Mitgliedstaaten besuchen, Programme für integrierte Studiengänge mit Universitäten dieser Mitgliedstaaten ausarbeiten und ihre gegenseitigen Kenntnisse von Ausbildungsaspekten der Hochschulsysteme anderer Mitgliedstaaten erweitern können. Außerdem werden Stipendien bereitgestellt, damit Dozenten eine Reihe spezialisierter Vorlesungen in mehreren Mitgliedstaaten halten können.

AKTION 2

Stipendien für Studenten im Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms

1. Die Gemeinschaft wird ein System zur unmittelbaren finanziellen Unterstützung von Studenten weiter ausbauen, die an einer Hochschule im Sinne von Artikel 1 Absatz 2 des Beschlusses 87/327/EWG studieren und eine Studienzeit in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat ableisten. Bei der Festsetzung der Gesamtausgaben für Aktion 1 bzw. Aktion 2 berücksichtigt die Gemeinschaft die Zahl der innerhalb des europäischen Hochschulnetzes im Laufe der Zeit auszutauschenden Studenten.
2. Die Verwaltung der ERASMUS-Stipendien wird über die zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten abgewickelt. Jedem Mitgliedstaat wird unter Berücksichtigung der weiteren Entwicklung des europäischen Hochschulnetzes ein Mindestbetrag von 200 000 ECU zugewiesen (Gegenwert von etwa 100 Stipendien); beim Restbetrag wird bei der Zuweisung an die Mitgliedstaaten ausgegangen von der Gesamtzahl der Studenten an den Hochschulen im Sinne von Artikel 1 Absatz 2, von der Gesamtzahl der Jugendlichen im Alter von 18 bis 25 Jahren in jedem Mitgliedstaat, von den durchschnittlichen Kosten einer Reise zwischen dem Land, in dem die Universität des Heimatlands des Studenten liegt, und dem Land, in dem die Gastuniversität liegt, sowie von dem Unterschied zwischen den Lebenshaltungskosten in dem Land der Heimatuniversität des Studenten und in dem Land der Gastuniversität.

Außerdem wird die Kommission die notwendigen Schritte unternehmen, um eine ausgewogene Beteiligung aller Fachgebiete zu gewährleisten, um die Nachfrage nach Programmen und die Studentenströme zu berücksichtigen und um bestimmte spezifische Probleme zu lösen, insbesondere die Finanzierung bestimmter Stipendien, die wegen der Struktur der außergewöhnlichen Programme nicht von den einzelstaatlichen Stellen verwaltet werden können. Der für diese Maßnahmen verwendete Anteil darf 5 v. H. der jährlichen Gesamtmittel für Stipendien nicht übersteigen.

3. Die für die Stipendienvergabe zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten gewähren Stipendien bis höchstens 5 000 ECU je Student für einen einjährigen Aufenthalt unter folgenden Bedingungen:
 - a) Die Stipendien sollen die durch die Mobilität entstehenden zusätzlichen Kosten ausgleichen, d. h. die Reisekosten, erforderlichenfalls die Kosten der sprachlichen Vorbereitung und höhere Lebenshaltungskosten im Gastland (gegebenenfalls einschließlich der zusätzlichen Kosten, die dadurch entstehen, daß der Student sich außerhalb seines Herkunftslands aufhält). Sie sollen nicht die vollen Kosten des Auslandsstudiums decken.
 - b) Studenten, die an Studiengängen im Rahmen des europäischen Hochschulnetzes gemäß Aktion 1 teilnehmen, und Studenten, die an dem Europäischen System zur Anrechnung von Studienleistungen (European Community Course Credit Transfer System — ECTS) gemäß Aktion 3 teilnehmen, werden vorrangig behandelt. Stipendien können auch Studenten gewährt werden, die an Studiengängen in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat teilnehmen, für die Sondervereinbarungen außerhalb des Hochschulnetzes getroffen worden sind, sofern sie die Stipendienkriterien erfüllen.
 - c) Stipendien werden nur in Fällen gewährt, in denen die in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat zurückgelegte Studienzeit von der Hochschule im Herkunftsland des Studenten voll anerkannt wird. Jedoch können Stipendien ausnahmsweise auch in Fällen gewährt werden, in denen die Studienzeit in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat von der den Abschluß verleihenden Universität in diesem Mitgliedstaat voll anerkannt wird, sofern diese Vereinbarung Teil einer nach Aktion 1 unterstützten Vereinbarung zwischen Hochschulen ist.

- d) Die Gasthochschule erhebt von den aufgenommenen Studenten keine Studiengebühren; gegebenenfalls zahlen die Stipendiaten weiterhin Studiengebühren an der Hochschule in ihrem Herkunftsland.
- e) Stipendien werden für eine als erheblich anzusehende Studienzeit an einer Hochschule in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat mit einer Dauer von drei Monaten bis zu einem vollen Studienjahr oder im Falle stark integrierter Studienprogramme auch für mehr als zwölf Monate gewährt. In der Regel werden keine Stipendien für das erste Studienjahr gewährt.
- f) Alle Zuschüsse oder Darlehen, die Studenten in ihrem Herkunftsland gewährt werden, werden während der Studienzeit an der Gastuniversität, für die sie ein ERASMUS-Stipendium erhalten, in vollem Umfang weitergezahlt.

AKTION 3

Maßnahmen zur Verbesserung der Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung von Diplomen und Studienzeiten

Die Gemeinschaft wird in Zusammenarbeit mit den zuständigen Stellen der Mitgliedstaaten die nachstehenden Maßnahmen mit dem Ziel ergreifen, die Mobilität durch akademische Anerkennung der in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat erworbenen Diplome bzw. zurückgelegten Studienzeiten zu verbessern:

1. Maßnahmen zur versuchsweisen Förderung eines europäischen Systems zur Anrechnung von Studienleistung (European Community Course Credit Transfer System — ECTS) auf freiwilliger Basis, um Studenten, die im Rahmen ihrer theoretischen und praktischen Ausbildung in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat studieren, die Möglichkeit zu bieten, an Hochschulen in anderen Mitgliedstaaten erbrachte Studienleistungen auf ihr Studium angerechnet zu erhalten. Eine begrenzte Anzahl von Zuschüssen in Höhe von 20 000 ECU pro Jahr wird an die am Pilotsystem teilnehmenden Hochschulen vergeben.
2. Maßnahmen zur Förderung des gemeinschaftsweiten Austausches von Informationen über die akademische Anerkennung der in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat erworbenen Diplome und zurückgelegten Studienzeiten vor allem durch die Weiterentwicklung des Gemeinschaftsnetzes nationaler Informationszentren für Fragen der akademischen Anerkennung der Diplome und Studienzeiten; jährliche Zuschüsse bis zu 20 000 ECU werden an die Zentren vergeben, um den Informationsaustausch insbesondere durch ein Datenaustauschsystem auf EDV-Basis zu erleichtern.

AKTION 4

Flankierende Maßnahmen zur Förderung der Studentenmobilität in der Gemeinschaft

1. Durch die flankierenden Maßnahmen soll folgendes finanziert werden:
 - Die Unterstützung von Zusammenschlüssen und Verbänden von Hochschulen, Hochschuldozenten, Verwaltungspersonal oder Studenten auf europäischer Ebene, insbesondere mit dem Ziel, Initiativen auf spezifischen Gebieten der Ausbildung in der Gemeinschaft besser bekannt zu machen;
 - Veröffentlichungen, die darauf abzielen, auf Möglichkeiten zum Studium und zur Abhaltung von Lehrveranstaltungen in anderen Mitgliedstaaten sowie auf wichtige Entwicklungen und neue Modelle im Bereich der Hochschulzusammenarbeit in der Gemeinschaft aufmerksam zu machen;
 - sonstige Initiativen zur Förderung der Hochschulkoooperation in der Gemeinschaft im Bereich der Berufsausbildung;
 - Maßnahmen zur Erleichterung der Verbreitung von Informationen über das ERASMUS-Programm;
 - ERASMUS-Preise der Europäischen Gemeinschaft für Studenten, Mitglieder des Lehrpersonals, Hochschulen oder ERASMUS-Vorhaben, die einen besonderen Beitrag zur Entwicklung der Zusammenarbeit zwischen Hochschulen in der Gemeinschaft geleistet haben.
2. Die Kosten der Maßnahmen im Rahmen der Aktion 4 sollen höchstens 5 v. H. der jährlichen Mittelausstattung des ERASMUS-Programms betragen.

ANHANG II

Vorschriften für die finanzielle Durchführung

Artikel 1

Die Verwaltung der Mittel erfolgt nach der geltenden Haushaltsordnung für den Gesamthaushaltsplan der Europäischen Gemeinschaften.

Artikel 2

Zu Beginn jedes Jahres oder jeweils dann, wenn sich durch eine Überarbeitung des ERASMUS-Programms die für die Durchführung in den Haushaltsplan der Gemeinschaft eingesetzten Mittel erhöhen, ruft die Kommission bei Liechtenstein die Mittel entsprechend dessen Beitrag zu den Kosten des Abkommens ab.

Dieser Beitrag wird in Ecu ausgedruckt und auf ein Ecu-Bankkonto der Kommission überwiesen.

Liechtenstein überweist seinen Beitrag zu den jährlichen Kosten im Rahmen des Abkommens entsprechend dem Abruf und spätestens einen Monat, nachdem der Abruf ergangen ist. Bei verspäteter Überweisung hat Liechtenstein vom Fälligkeitstag an Zinsen auf den ausstehenden Betrag zu zahlen. Der Zinssatz entspricht dem Zinssatz, den der Europäische Fonds für währungspolitische Zusammenarbeit (FECOM/EFMC) für den Monat des Fälligkeitsdatums bei seinen Transaktionen in Ecu (*) anwendet, zuzüglich 1,5 Punkte.

(*) Der Prozentsatz wird monatlich im *Amtsblatt der Europäischen Gemeinschaften*, Reihe C, veröffentlicht.

ANNEXE

DOCUMENTS D'INFORMATION

1. "Agreed Minutes" entre la CEE et les pays de l'AELE et la Principauté du Liechtenstein.
2. "Agreed Minutes" entre la CEE et la Pincipauté du Liechtenstein concernant l'article 4.2 de l'Accord.
3. Accords paraphés entre la CEE et les pays de l'AELE et la Pincipauté du Liechtenstein.

AGREED MINUTES

of the negotiations for an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the EFTA Countries establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within the framework of the ERASMUS Programme.

1. It was noted that these negotiations had been conducted under the general framework of the Luxembourg Declaration of 1984 and that the institutional arrangements as well as the form and extent of participation of the EFTA Countries in the ERASMUS Programme have been negotiated without prejudice to the EEA negotiations.
2. The Delegations of the EFTA Countries noted that the LINGUA Programme considerably contributes to student mobility by promoting the teaching and learning of foreign languages in the EC, thus providing inter alia complementary support to the success of ERASMUS among Community Member States. They, therefore, recalled the Joint Conclusions of the High Officials within the framework of the Luxembourg follow-up and in particular that the High Officials had asked experts to examine at the earliest feasible opportunity the possibility for participation by the EFTA Countries in the Youth for Europe and other educational programmes. The Commission Delegation undertook to draw the EFTA position to the attention of its authorities.
3. It was noted that the provisions of the last sentence of Art. 3.1.1, would imply in practice that bilateral ICPs would only be selected for financial support by the Commission if insufficient multilateral programmes were available for selection, either in respect of the overall involvement of the EFTA Country concerned or in respect of the involvement of that Country in applications in a particular subject area. If selected, such ICPs would, however, have to involve partners from at least one further Community Member State in order to be eligible for ERASMUS support in subsequent years.
4. As regards Art. 3.1.2, the Agreement with Liechtenstein contains provisions taking account of its specific situation.
It was noted that the provisions of the agreements should not lead to a situation where participation of EFTA Countries in ERASMUS would need to be subsidized by the Community.
5. As regards the implementation of Art. 3.3, it was noted that in preparation of EFTA Countries' participation in ERASMUS, representatives from EFTA Countries will be invited to participate as observers in meetings of NARIC and ECTS already in anticipation of the entry into force of the Agreements.

6. As regards the annual financial contribution of EFTA Countries covering their participation in the first academic year in the ERASMUS Programme the table annexed to the Agreed Minutes gives indicative amounts based on the budget estimates for the year 1991 (not including supplementary budget for the Five New German Länder -FNL-, the amount of which is not yet known). As regards subsequent years, the Commission Delegation undertook to ensure that EFTA countries would be informed as early as possible about annual budget estimates to facilitate national budgetary planning.

The Commission Delegation explained that the resources allocated by the Community to the ERASMUS Programme would be in conformity with the Community financial perspectives and their developments. Appropriations actually available each year would be decided during the Community budgetary procedure.

It was confirmed that EFTA Countries will bear their own costs in preparation of their participation up to the date when their full contribution to the ERASMUS Programme becomes due.

7. It was noted that the Joint Committees to be established in implementation of Article 6 of the Agreements with the EFTA Countries should, whenever possible, meet jointly. Meetings of the Joint Committees should be so coordinated with those of the ERASMUS Advisory Committee as to best take account of the coordination requirement provided for in Article 6 para. 3. The Commission Delegation explained that the manner in which the Community would be represented in the Joint Committees was a matter which would be decided in due course by the competent Community Authorities. It was noted, however, that, in the Joint Committees provided for in other agreements between the Community and the EFTA Countries, it had been decided that the Community should be represented by the Commission, assisted by representatives of the Member States. The EFTA Countries stressed that it was important that this should also be the case in respect of the Joint Committees in the present agreements and expressed their understanding that such representations would normally include members of the ERASMUS Advisory Committee. The Commission Delegation stressed the desirability of including at least one academic representative in each of the respective EFTA Country delegations to the Joint Committees, as is presently the case in the ERASMUS Advisory Committee. The questions of the periodicity of meetings as well as of chairmanship in the event of joint meetings of Joint Committees should be decided in the rules of procedure.

8. As regards to the Academic Advisory Groups which advise the Commission in connection with the selection of ICPs, the Commission Delegation confirmed that the EFTA Countries participating in ERASMUS would be invited to submit the names of possible experts, as was already the case for Community Member States. The final composition of such Advisory Groups would, as now, remain a matter for the Commission to decide. The Commission Delegation confirmed that travel and subsistence costs of experts from EFTA Countries would be defrayed from the ERASMUS budget on the same basis as for experts from Community Member States participating in such Advisory Groups.

9. It was noted that Article 12 para. 3 would allow the possibility for either side to propose at any time a modification of the Agreement to take account of new developments in the relations between the Community and the EFTA countries arising out of the EEA negotiations.
10. As regards the arrangements during the preparatory period, it was agreed that the EFTA Countries would each nominate a contact point for the purpose of facilitating liaison with the Commission. The Commission would assist the EFTA Countries in conducting information campaigns in their respective countries. The EFTA Countries confirmed their willingness to defray the travel and subsistence costs of Community representatives participating in the above.

Done at Brussels, 14 February 1991

FOR THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY:

Eire Hager
Thomas Breyer

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA:

Wolfgang Hainberger

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND:

Eero Liski

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF ICELAND:

Gunnar Thor Gunnarsson

FOR THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY:

Tor Thore Halvorsen

FOR THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN:

Bertil Jönsson

FOR THE SWISS CONFEDERATION:

R. Friedländer

FOR THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN:

J. Wolf

ANNEX TO THE AGREED MINUTES

Indicative table showing the contributions of EFTA countries and Liechtenstein to the total ERASMUS budget (EC/EFTA) assuming an ERASMUS budget of 70 ECU Mio for EC.

	GDP (1)	EFTA % Contrn.	Contributions to	
			total EC % EFTA	ERASMUS budget
AUSTRIA	126,7	2,61	2.128.553	
FINLAND	103,6	2,14	1.748.797	
ICELAND	5,9	0,12	101.649	
NORWAY	90,7	1,88	1.535.141	
SWEDEN	178,8	3,64	2.971.931	
SWITZERLAND	183,4	3,73	3.045.534	
LIECHTENSTEIN (2)		0,02	35.000	
EFTA		14,1581	11.566.605	
EC			70.000.000	
EC & EFTA			81.566.605	

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Drucksache 354/91

Notes :

- (1) GDP used is at current prices and exchange rates as used by COMETT II for the contributions of EFTA in 1990.
- (2) Liechtenstein's contribution is fixed at 35.000 ECU for the first year of operation of the Agreement.

Agreed minutes

Of the negotiations for an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Principality of Liechtenstein establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within the framework of the ERASMUS programme.

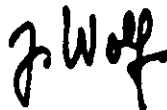
The amount of 35.000 ECU indicated in article 4.2 of the above mentioned Agreement was agreed on the basis of the calculation set out in annex 1 to the present agreed minutes and in the light of the Statement by the Liechtenstein Delegation attached in annex 2.

Done at Brussels, 1st March 1991

FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY :

P. A. Hays

FOR THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN :

J. Wolf

Annex 1

Liechtenstein : Overview of Potential Benefit from ERASMUS

Action 1 :

- ICP : 1 involvement X 2 500 =	2 500
- STV : 1 project X 2 persons X 1 000 =	2 000

Action 2

- Assuming EC Action 2 budget of MECU 40 :	8 000
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Action 3

- ECTS : 1 Institutional grant	10 000
1 X ECTS student grant	2 000
- NARIC : lump sum grant of 1 000	1 000

Action 4

- 2 projects X 2 000	4 000
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<u>Administration and Information (11 %)</u>	5 000
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TOTAL NOTIONAL LIECHTENSTEIN BENEFIT	ECU	35 000
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S T A T E M E N T

**by the Liechtenstein Delegation on the Higher Education System
of the Principality
on the 1st of March 1991 in Brussels**

The Liechtenstein Delegation entered into the negotiations on the ERASMUS program with the idea that there should be a balance between its contribution and potential benefit coming from the EC-side.

For many years the Principality of Liechtenstein has had negotiations with the neighbouring countries Switzerland, Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany concerning the recognition of secondary level diplomas giving access to universities. Only recently, in the sixties the Principality began developing the higher education system:

1962 first Higher Technical College

1969 second Higher Technical College (in cooperation with the neighbouring cantons St.Gallen and Graubünden as well as the Bundesland Vorarlberg)

1985 opening of the Philosophical Faculty

1986 opening of the Liechtenstein Research Institute comprising four branches, namely history, law, political science, economy (Cf. map on the Liechtenstein higher education system handed over to the EC on the 17th of January 1991).

All together it is a rather small higher education system like in Luxembourg. The lack of own institutions is covered by a network of agreements with Switzerland, Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany concerning the admission of our students to their universities.

Bearing this in mind we doubted whether Liechtenstein needs a total benefit of 47'000 ECU.

Nevertheless our institutions are very interested in cooperation, in inter-university cooperation programs, but they are not yet fully prepared to it. As regards the different actions of the ERASMUS program, we propose the following:

action I ICP 1 involvement
action III ECTS half of the amount suggested by the EC
action IV 3'000 instead of 4'000

This gives a total benefit of about 30'000 to 35'000 ECU.
(Liechtenstein has approximately 450 university students).

By the way our delegation could have initialled the agreement already on the 14th of February on the GDP-scale which would have been more profitable to us. But let me make quite clear that we do not like to argue about 5'000 or 10'000 ECU. There are two main reasons for initialling the agreement today: From the educational point of view cooperation between universities is very important for a small state like ours especially taking into account the highly specialised industry in Liechtenstein. From the political point of view our higher education system in some way gets an international touch by this agreement.

The EC-side is insisting on a rapid initialling, and we do not want to cause any further delay. So we are ready to initialling today, but we should be very happy if we could reach a financial regulation as we tried to describe it in these few words.

Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Kingdom of Norway

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Kingdom of Norway, hereinafter called Norway

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties",

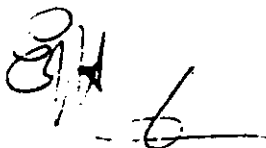
Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Norway with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Norway ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Norway in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;

an 

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Norway shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Norway.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Norway in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Norway may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity cooperation programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of interuniversity cooperation between the Community and Norway preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.
- 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Norway and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS,

- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Norway shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Norway for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Norway. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Norway for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Norway shall be administered through the competent authority in Norway, which shall be designated by Norway for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Norway may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex 1 of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Norway shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Norway shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

Tar. 8.4. 6

Article 4

1. Norway shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Norway shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Norway shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Norway. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Norway of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Norway by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Norway shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement ~~Norway~~ an initial contribution of ECU 66,500. to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement. Tou
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6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Norway to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Norway, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
 2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
 3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
 4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.
- Tou G/H*

5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Norway is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Norway.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex 1 (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from Norway universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Norway in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Norway and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Norway shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Norway in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Norway.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Norway.

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Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Norway shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Norwegian languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Norway.

Handwritten signature and initials
Tav

ANNEX I

ACTION 1

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organize programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognized period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognized period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organizing intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of these Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialized lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

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number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:

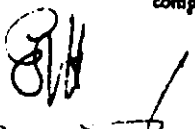
- (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
- (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
- (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
- (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
- (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
- (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot systems;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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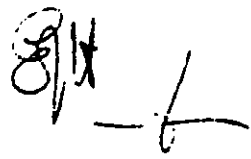
ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:

- support to associations and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
- publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
- other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
- measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
- Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.

2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.

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ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Norway a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Norway shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Norway on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU (4), increased by 1.5 percentage points.

(4) Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

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Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Kingdom of Sweden

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Kingdom of Sweden, hereinafter called Sweden

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties",

Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Sweden with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Sweden;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Sweden in ERASMUS;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility;

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HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Sweden shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Sweden.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Sweden in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Sweden may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity Cooperation Programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of Interuniversity Cooperation between the Community and Sweden preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.
- 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Sweden and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.

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- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Sweden shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Sweden for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Sweden. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Sweden for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Sweden shall be administered through the competent authority in Sweden, which shall be designated by Sweden for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Sweden may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex I of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Sweden shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Sweden shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

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Article 4

1. Sweden shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Sweden shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Sweden shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Sweden. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Sweden of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Sweden by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Sweden shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement Sweden an initial contribution of ECU 125.000 to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Sweden to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Sweden, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.

5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Sweden is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Sweden.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex I (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from Sweden universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Sweden in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Sweden and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Sweden shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Sweden in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Sweden.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Sweden.

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Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Sweden shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Sweden.

Handwritten signature

ANNEX I

ACTION I

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organise programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognised period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognised period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organising intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of those Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialised lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

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number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
 - (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
 - (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
 - (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
 - (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
 - (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot system;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:
 - support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
 - publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
 - other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
 - measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
 - Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.
 2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.
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ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Sweden a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Sweden shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Sweden on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU (4), increased by 1.5 percentage points.

(4) Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

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Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Republic of Austria

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Republic of Austria, hereinafter called Austria

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties",

Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Austria with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Austria ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Austria in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;

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HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Austria shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Austria.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Austria in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Austria may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity Cooperation Programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of interuniversity cooperation between the Community and Austria preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.
- 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Austria and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.

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- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Austria shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Austria for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Austria. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Austria for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Austria shall be administered through the competent authority in Austria, which shall be designated by Austria for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Austria may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex I of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Austria shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Austria shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

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Article 4

1. Austria shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Austria shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Austria shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Austria. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Austria of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Austria by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Austria shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement ~~Austria~~ an initial contribution of ECU 9.2.200. to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Austria to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Austria, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.

5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Austria is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Austria.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex I (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from Austrian universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Austria in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Austria and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Austria shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Austria in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Austria.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Austria.

Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Austria shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

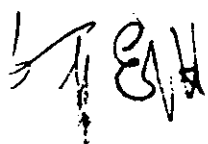
Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Austria.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. E. A.', is located at the bottom left of the page.

ANNEX I

ACTION I

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organize programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognized period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognized period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organizing intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of those Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialized lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

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number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
- (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
- (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
- (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
- (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
- (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot system;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:
 - support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
 - publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
 - other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
 - measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
 - Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.
 2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.
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ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Austria a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Austria shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Austria on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU (4), increased by 1.5 percentage points.

(4) Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

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Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Republic of Finland

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Republic of Finland, hereinafter called Finland

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties",

Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Finland with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Finland ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Finland in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;

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HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Finland shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Finland.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Finland in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Finland may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity cooperation programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of interuniversity cooperation between the Community and Finland preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.

2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Finland and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.

- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Finland shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Finland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Finland. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Finland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Finland shall be administered through the competent authority in Finland, which shall be designated by Finland for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Finland may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex I of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

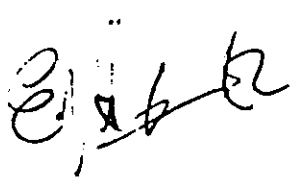
The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Finland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Finland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.



Article 4

1. Finland shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Finland shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Finland shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Finland. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Finland of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Finland by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Finland shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement ~~Finland~~ an initial contribution of ECU 3.5.7.99. to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Finland to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Finland, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.

5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Finland is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Finland.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex I (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Finland Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from ~~Finland~~ universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Finland in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Finland and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Finland shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Finland in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Finland.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

..The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Finland.

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Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Finland shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

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Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Finnish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Finland.

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ANNEX I

ACTION 1

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organise programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognized period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognized period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organizing intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of those Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialised lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.

The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
 - (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
 - (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
 - (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
 - (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
 - (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot systems;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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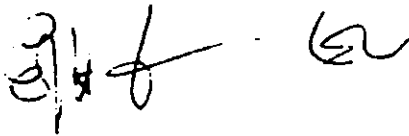
ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:

- support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
- publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
- other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
- measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
- Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.

2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.



ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

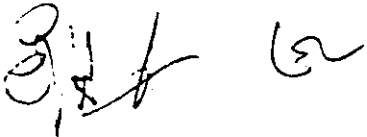
The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Finland a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Finland shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Finland on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU (4), increased by 1.5 percentage points.

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly "J. H. L." followed by a stylized flourish.

(4) Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Republic of Iceland

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Republic of Iceland, hereinafter called Iceland

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties".

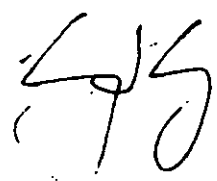
Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Iceland with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Iceland ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Iceland in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;



HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Iceland shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

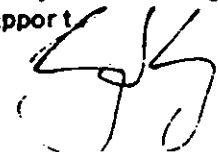
Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Iceland.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Iceland in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Iceland may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity Cooperation Programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of interuniversity cooperation between the Community and Iceland preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.
- 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Iceland and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.



- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Iceland shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Iceland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Iceland. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Iceland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Iceland shall be administered through the competent authority in Iceland, which shall be designated by Iceland for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Iceland may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex I of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Iceland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Iceland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.



Article 4

1. Iceland shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Iceland shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Iceland shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Iceland. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Iceland of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Iceland by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Iceland shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement ~~Iceland~~ an initial contribution of ECU 44.000. to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Iceland to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Iceland, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.

5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Iceland is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Iceland.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex 1 (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities. .

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from Iceland² universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Iceland in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Iceland and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

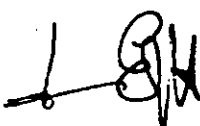
Iceland shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Iceland in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Iceland.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

"The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Iceland.

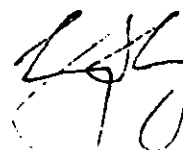
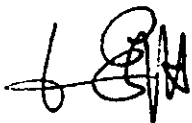


Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Iceland shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.



Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Icelandic languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Iceland.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. B. M.' with a stylized flourish.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. B. M.' with a stylized flourish.

ANNEX I

ACTION I

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organise programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognized period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

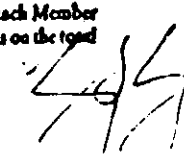
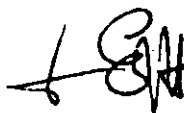
Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognized period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organizing intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of these Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialized lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total



number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5% of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
- (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
- (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
- (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
- (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
- (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot systems;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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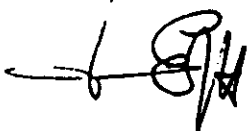
ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:

- support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
- publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
- other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
- measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
- Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.

2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5 % of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.



ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Iceland a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Iceland shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Iceland on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU (4), increased by 1.5 percentage points.

(4)

Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

Draft Exchange of Letters

to be signed on the occasion of the signature of the

Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

the Republic of Iceland

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

Letter no. 1 (to be signed by Iceland)

(Complimentary Opening)

I hereby confirm on behalf of the Republic of Iceland our understanding that the total amount allocated to Iceland under Action 2 of the ERASMUS Programme will, for the time being, not exceed the minimum referred to in paragraph 2 of Action 2 in Annex I to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within the framework of the ERASMUS Programme. It is understood, however, that this situation shall be subject to review by the Joint Committee provided for in the Agreement.

(Complimentary Close)

Letter no. 2 (to be signed by the Community)

(Complimentary Opening)

I hereby acknowledge on behalf of the Community your letter of
which reads as follows :

(quote)

I confirm on behalf of the Community that this corresponds to our understanding of how the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within the framework of the ERASMUS Programme should be implemented.

(Complimentary Close)

EPA

LS

Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Swiss Confederation

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Swiss Confederation, hereinafter called Switzerland

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties",

Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Switzerland with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Switzerland ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Switzerland in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;

1. *[Handwritten signature]* *[Handwritten initials]*

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Switzerland shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex I.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex I of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Switzerland.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Switzerland in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Switzerland may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in interuniversity cooperation programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of interuniversity cooperation between the Community and Switzerland preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.

- .. 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Switzerland and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.

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- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Switzerland shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Switzerland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Switzerland. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Switzerland for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Switzerland shall be administered through the competent authority in Switzerland, which shall be designated by Switzerland for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Switzerland may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex 1 of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Switzerland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Switzerland shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

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Article 4

1. Switzerland shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Switzerland shall be established in proportion to the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.
3. The proportionality factor governing the contribution by Switzerland shall be determined by the ratio between its Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.), at market prices, and the sum of the Gross Domestic Product, at market prices, of the Member States of the Community and Switzerland. This ratio shall be calculated year by year on the basis of the latest available OECD statistical data.
4. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Switzerland of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Switzerland by the Community.
5. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Switzerland shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement ~~Switzerland~~ an initial contribution of ECU 100.000.000 to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
6. The rules governing the financial contributions by Switzerland to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Switzerland, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.
4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.

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5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Switzerland is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Switzerland.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex I (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from ~~Switzerland~~ universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Switzerland in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Switzerland and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Switzerland shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Switzerland in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Switzerland.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

Article 11

The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Switzerland.

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Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Switzerland shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Switzerland.

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ANNEX I

ACTION 1

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organise programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognised period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Wherever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognised period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organising intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of those Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialised lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

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number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
 - (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 3. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
 - (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 3;
 - (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
 - (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
 - (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot systems;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:
 - support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administrators or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
 - publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
 - other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
 - measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
 - Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.
 2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.
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ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

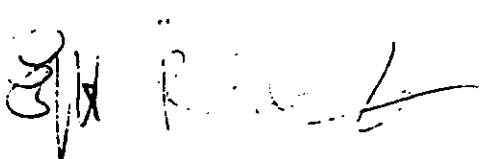
The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or whenever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Switzerland a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Switzerland shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Switzerland on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU⁽⁴⁾, increased by 1.5 percentage points.



(4) Rate published monthly in OJEC - C series

Agreement

between

the European Economic Community

and

The Principality of Liechtenstein

establishing cooperation in the field of education and training within
the framework of the ERASMUS Programme

The European Economic Community, hereinafter called "the Community"

and

The Principality of Liechtenstein, hereinafter called Liechtenstein

hereinafter both called the "Contracting Parties".

Whereas, the Community has adopted the European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students, hereinafter referred to as ERASMUS;

Whereas the Contracting Parties have a common interest in cooperation in this field, as part of the wider cooperation between the Community and the EFTA countries in the field of education and vocational training with the aim of contributing to a dynamic and homogeneous development in this field ;

Whereas in particular cooperation between the Community and Liechtenstein with a view to pursuing the objectives fixed for ERASMUS, within the context of a network of interuniversity cooperation involving the Community and the EFTA countries as a whole by its nature enriches the impact of ERASMUS actions so as to strengthen the skill levels of human resources in the Community and Liechtenstein ;

Whereas the Contracting Parties consequently expect to obtain mutual benefit from the participation of Liechtenstein in ERASMUS ;

Whereas a successful cooperation in this field implies a general commitment by both sides to make complementary efforts to stimulate student mobility ;

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HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

Cooperation between the Community and Liechtenstein shall be established in the field of inter-university cooperation and mobility in the context of the implementation of ERASMUS. The Actions of the ERASMUS programme are set out in Annex 1.

Article 2

For the purposes of the Agreement, the term "university" shall be used to cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Contracting Parties.

Students registered in those establishments, regardless of the field of study, are eligible for support within the ERASMUS Programme, up to and including doctorate level, on condition that the period of study at the host university, which is compatible with the curriculum at the student's home university, forms part of his or her vocational training.

The ERASMUS Programme does not cover research and technological development activities.

Article 3

Unless otherwise provided in this article, references in Annex 1 of this Agreement to the Member States of the Community shall be understood for the purposes of the present Agreement as referring also to Liechtenstein.

As far as the different Actions of ERASMUS are concerned, the participation of universities from Liechtenstein in ERASMUS activities shall be subject to the specific conditions and rules set out in the present Article.

1. Action 1: Establishment and operation of a European University Network

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 1 of the Annex 1 to the present Agreement.

- 1) Universities from Liechtenstein may formally participate in and receive funding for participation in Interuniversity Cooperation Programmes (ICPs). In order to create a Network of Interuniversity Cooperation between the Community and Liechtenstein preference shall be given to multilateral ICPs. In line with this principle ICPs shall include universities from at least two Community Member States. However, in the first year of operation of the present Agreement, ICPs including one or more universities from at least one Community Member State shall exceptionally be eligible for financial support.
- 2) Activities within Action 1 solely between universities from Liechtenstein and from EFTA countries, even where such countries have a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS, shall not be eligible for financial support.

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- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), universities from Liechtenstein shall benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as universities from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

2. Action 2: ERASMUS student grants scheme

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 2 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

The minimum amount referred to in Action 2.2 shall however in the case of Liechtenstein be fixed at 6 000 ECU.

- 1) ERASMUS student grants may be awarded to students from Liechtenstein for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in a Member State of the Community and vice versa. Such students shall be nationals or permanent residents in EC Member States or Liechtenstein. Grants shall not be awarded to students from Liechtenstein for the purpose of facilitating a period of study in another EFTA country (or vice versa), even where that country has a cooperation agreement with the Community concerning ERASMUS.
- 2) The ERASMUS grants for students moving from universities in Liechtenstein shall be administered through the competent authority in Liechtenstein, which shall be designated by Liechtenstein for this purpose.
- 3) Under the circumstances set out in paragraphs 1) and 2), university students from Liechtenstein may benefit from the measures referred to under Action 2 of Annex I of this Agreement, on the same basis as university students from Community Member States and under the same conditions.

3. Action 3: Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 3 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Liechtenstein shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

4. Action 4: Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

The content and objectives of this Action shall be those indicated in Action 4 of the Annex I to the present Agreement.

Relevant institutions and bodies in Liechtenstein shall be eligible to participate in and benefit from the measures referred to under this Action on the same basis as similar institutions and bodies in the Community Member States and under the same conditions.

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Article 4

1. Liechtenstein shall make an annual contribution to the financing of the ERASMUS programme, beginning in the calendar year following entry into force of this agreement up to and including the calendar year in which the last academic year of operation of this agreement begins.
2. This annual financial contribution of Liechtenstein shall be established on an annual basis in relation with the total annual budget for the ERASMUS programme.

For the first year of operation of this Agreement, the financial contribution of Liechtenstein is fixed at 35.000 ECU. Consequent annual contributions of Liechtenstein shall be fixed in the framework of the Joint Committee.

Such contributions shall however be at least equal to an amount proportionately related to the contribution by the Swiss Confederation calculated by reference to the respective populations of Liechtenstein and Swiss Confederation.

3. At the beginning of each year, the Commission shall inform Liechtenstein of the amount of the appropriations available in the Community budget, for that year in respect of the ERASMUS programme. Amendments of this amount occurring during the year shall be communicated to Liechtenstein by the Community.
4. In addition to the annual contribution referred to in paragraph 1 above Liechtenstein shall make not later than by the entry into force of this Agreement an initial contribution of ECU 600 to cover the costs of prior preparatory work carried out by the Commission in connection with the implementation of this Agreement.
5. The rules governing the financial contributions by Liechtenstein to the development of the ERASMUS programme shall be those set out in Annex II to the present Agreement.

Article 5

Subject to the special requirements referred to in Article 4 of the present Agreement regarding participation by universities from Liechtenstein, the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of applications and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the ERASMUS Programme shall be the same as those applicable to universities in the Community.

Article 6

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of the present Agreement.
3. The Community delegation shall take the appropriate steps to ensure coordination between the implementation of this Agreement and the decisions taken by the Community in respect of the implementation of ERASMUS.

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4. For the purpose of the proper implementation of the Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall exchange information and, at the request of either Party, shall hold consultations within the Committee.
5. The Committee may deliver opinions and elaborate guidelines concerning the implementation of the ERASMUS Programme as far as the participation of Liechtenstein is concerned.
6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
7. The Committee shall consist of representatives of the Community, on the one hand, and on the other, representatives of Liechtenstein.
8. The Committee shall act by mutual agreement.
9. The Committee shall meet at the request of either Contracting Party, in accordance with the conditions to be laid down in its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Decisions concerning the selection of projects described in Annex I (Action 1, 3 and 4) shall be taken by the Commission of the European Communities.

Decisions concerning the award of ERASMUS grants for students moving from Liechtenstein universities (Action 2) shall be taken by the competent authority in Liechtenstein in close cooperation with the participating universities. For this purpose, guidelines will be provided to the above competent authority by the Commission of the European Communities.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall make efforts to facilitate the free movement and residence of students, teachers and university administrators moving between Liechtenstein and the Community for the purpose of participating in activities covered by the present Agreement.

Article 9

Liechtenstein shall submit to the Commission, to assist the latter in drafting its annual report on ERASMUS as well as a report on the experience acquired in the application of the Programme, a contribution describing the national measures taken by Liechtenstein in this regard. A copy of these reports shall be transmitted to Liechtenstein.

Article 10

In regard to the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the ERASMUS Programme, the languages used shall be the official languages of the Community.

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Article 11

The present Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the territory of Liechtenstein.

Article 12

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for a period covering the five academic years following entry into force. It may be renewed for a further period of 5 years by agreement between the contracting parties. A review of the present agreement shall be completed before the end of the third academic year after entry into force.
2. Should the Community revise the ERASMUS Programme, the present Agreement may be renegotiated or terminated. Liechtenstein shall be notified of the exact content of the revised programme within one week after its adoption by the Community. The Contracting Parties shall notify each other within three months after the Community decision has been adopted if a renegotiation or termination of the Agreement is requested. In the event of termination, the practical arrangements for dealing with outstanding commitments shall be the subject of negotiations between the Contracting Parties.
3. Either Contracting Party may at any time request a revision of the Agreement. To this end, it shall submit a request to the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties may instruct the Joint Committee to examine this request and, where appropriate, to make recommendations to them, particularly with a view to opening negotiations.

Article 13

The present Agreement shall be approved by the Contracting Parties in accordance with their existing procedures. Subject to the Contracting Parties' having notified each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose, it shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following such notification. However, if such notification has not taken place by the end of September of any year, the provisions of the Agreement shall only become operational with effect from the second academic year following such notification.

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Article 14

The Present Agreement shall be drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Done at

For the Council of the European Economic Community

For Liechtenstein.

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Z.W.

ANNEX I

ACTION 1

Establishment and operation of a European University Network

1. The Community will further develop the European University Network established within the Erasmus programme and designed to stimulate Community-wide exchange of students.

The European University Network will be composed of those universities which, in the framework of the Erasmus programme, have concluded agreements and organize programmes providing for exchanges of students and teachers with universities of other Member States and ensuring full recognition of study periods thus accomplished outside the home university.

The main aim of inter-university agreements is to give the students of one university the opportunity to undertake a fully recognized period of study in at least one other Member State, as an integral part of their diploma or academic qualification. These joint programmes could include as necessary an integrated period of foreign language preparation as well as cooperation among teachers and administrative staff in order to prepare the conditions necessary for the exchange of students and for the mutual recognition of periods of study accomplished abroad. Whenever possible, the preparation in the foreign language should be commenced in the country of origin before departure.

Priority will be given to programmes involving an integrated and fully recognized period of study in another Member State. For each joint programme, each participating university will receive support of up to an annual ceiling of ECU 25 000 for a maximum period of three years in the first instance subject to periodic review.

2. Support will also be provided for exchanges of teaching staff for the purpose of carrying out integrated teaching assignments in other Member States.
3. Support will also be provided for joint curriculum development projects between universities in different Member States as a means of facilitating academic recognition and of contributing by means of an exchange of experience to the process of innovation and improvement of courses on a Community-wide basis.
4. In addition, grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be provided to universities organizing intensive teaching programmes of short duration involving students from several different Member States. This action will be of a complementary nature.
5. The Community will also provide support for teaching staff and university administrators to carry out visits to other Member States, to enable them to prepare programmes of integrated study with universities of those Member States and to increase their mutual understanding of the training aspects of the higher education systems of other Member States. Grants will also be provided to allow teaching staff to conduct a series of specialised lectures in several Member States.

ACTION 2

Erasmus student grants scheme

1. The Community will further develop a scheme for the direct financial support of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2) carrying out a period of study in another Member State. In determining the total expenditure for Actions 1 and 2 respectively, the Community will have regard to the number of students to be exchanged within the European University Network as it develops.
2. The Erasmus student grants are administered through the competent authorities of the Member States. In view of the development of the European university network, the Member States shall each be paid a minimum of ECU 200 000 (the equivalent of approximately 100 grants); the remainder shall be allocated to each Member State on the basis of the total number of students at universities as defined in Article 1 (2), as well as on the total

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number of 18 to 25-year-olds in each Member State, the average cost of the journey between the country of the university of the student's country of origin and that of the host university as well as on the difference between the cost of living in the country of the home university and that of the host university.

Moreover, the Commission will take the necessary steps to ensure balanced participation across the various subjects, to take account of the demand for programmes and of student flow and to deal with certain specific problems, in particular the financing of certain grants which, because of the structure of the exceptional programmes concerned, cannot be administered by national agencies. The proportion available for such measures shall not exceed 5 % of the total annual student grants budget.

3. The grant-awarding authorities of the Member States will issue grants up to a maximum of ECU 5 000 per student for a stay of one year, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the grants are intended to offset the additional costs of mobility, that is travel costs, foreign language preparation as necessary and higher cost of living in the host country (including, where appropriate, the extra cost of living away from the student's home country). They do not aim to cover the full cost of study abroad;
 - (b) priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European University Network under Action 1 as well as to those students participating in the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) pursuant to Action 1. Grants may also be provided for other students on courses for whom special arrangements are made outside the network in another Member State provided they fulfil the eligibility criteria;
 - (c) grants will be awarded only in cases where the period of study spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the student's home university. However, grants may be awarded exceptionally in cases where the period of study to be spent in another Member State will be granted full recognition by the degree-awarding university in that Member State, provided that this arrangement forms part of an inter-university agreement supported pursuant to Action 1;
 - (d) no tuition fees will be charged by the host university to incoming students; where appropriate, grantholders will continue to pay tuition fees at their home university;
 - (e) grants will be awarded for a significant period of academic study in another Member State of three months to a full academic year, or to more than 12 months in the case of highly integrated programmes. Grants will not normally be awarded for the first year of university study;
 - (f) any grants or loans available to students in their own country will continue to be paid in full during their period of study at the host university for which they are receiving an Erasmus grant.

ACTION 3

Measures to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study

The Community will undertake, through cooperation with the competent authorities in the Member States, the following actions in order to promote mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study acquired in another Member State:

1. measures to promote the European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS) on an experimental and voluntary basis in order to provide a means by which students undergoing or having completed higher education and training may receive credit for such training carried out at universities in other Member States. A limited number of grants of up to ECU 20 000 per year will be awarded to the universities participating in the pilot systems;
2. measures to promote the Community-wide exchange of information on the academic recognition of diplomas acquired and periods of study spent in another Member State, notably by means of the further development of the European Community Network of national academic recognition information centres; annual grants of up to ECU 20 000 will be awarded to the centres to facilitate exchange of information, in particular by means of a computerized system for data exchange.

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ACTION 4

Complementary measures to promote student mobility in the Community

1. The complementary measures are intended to finance:
 - support to association and consortia of universities, teaching staff, administration or students acting on a European basis, in particular with a view to making initiatives in specific fields of training better known throughout the Community;
 - publications designed to enhance awareness of study and teaching opportunities in the other Member States or to draw attention to important developments and innovative models for university cooperation throughout the Community;
 - other initiatives designed to promote inter-university cooperation in the field of vocational training within the Community;
 - measures facilitating the dissemination of information on the Erasmus programme;
 - Erasmus prizes of the European Community to be awarded to students, staff members, universities or Erasmus projects which have made an outstanding contribution to the development of inter-university cooperation within the Community.
2. The cost of measures under Action 4 will not exceed 5% of the annual appropriations for the Erasmus programme.

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ANNEX II

FINANCING RULES

Article 1

The financial regulation in force applicable to the general budget of the European Communities shall apply, notably to the management of the appropriations.

Article 2

At the beginning of each year, or wherever the ERASMUS Programme is revised so as to involve an increase in the amount entered in the Community budget for its implementation, the Commission shall send to Liechtenstein a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under the present Agreement.

This contribution shall be expressed in ECU and paid into an ECU bank account of the Commission.

Liechtenstein shall pay its contribution to the annual costs under the Agreement according to the call for funds and at the latest one month after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Liechtenstein on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate shall correspond to the rate applied by the (FECOM) (EFMC), for the month of the due date, for its operations in ECU⁽⁴⁾, increased by 1.5 percentage points.

3.17.91 W.

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**Beschluß
des Bundesrates**

zum

Vorschlag für einen Beschluß des Rates betreffend den
Abschluß von Abkommen zwischen der Europäischen Wirt-
schaftsgemeinschaft einerseits und den EFTA-Ländern und dem
Fürstentum Liechtenstein andererseits über die Zusammen-
arbeit im Bereich der allgemeinen und beruflichen Bildung im
Rahmen des ERASMUS-Programms (Aktionsprogramm der Euro-
päischen Gemeinschaft zur Förderung der Mobilität von
Hochschulstudenten)

KOM(91) 128 endg.; Ratsdok. 6055/91

Der Bundesrat hat in seiner 633. Sitzung am 5. Juli 1991 zu
der Vorlage wie folgt Stellung genommen:

1. Der Bundesrat begrüßt die Öffnung des ERASMUS-Programms
für die EFTA-Länder und für Liechtenstein. Er sieht darin
einen wichtigen Beitrag zur weiteren Zusammenarbeit
zwischen der Europäischen Gemeinschaft und diesen Ländern
im Blick auf die Schaffung eines großen Europäischen
Wirtschaftsraums (vgl. hierzu die Entschließung des
Bundesrates vom 6. April 1990 - BR-Drucksache 646/89
(Beschluß) -).

...

2. Der Bundesrat erkennt an, daß aufgrund von Artikel 3 Nr. 1 Ziffer 1 der Abkommen im ersten Geltungsjahr für eine finanzielle Unterstützung auch Hochschul-Kooperationsprogramme in Frage kommen, die eine oder mehrere Hochschulen aus mindestens einem Gemeinschaftsstaat umfassen. Der Bundesrat bedauert jedoch, daß es nach den Abkommen nicht generell möglich sein soll, Kooperationsprogramme von Hochschulen der EFTA-Länder und Liechtensteins auch dann durch ERASMUS zu fördern, wenn (nur) eine Hochschule eines EG-Mitgliedsstaates daran beteiligt ist.
3. Der Bundesrat bedauert ebenso, daß die Abkommen trotz der Bemühungen der Bundesregierung keine gleichberechtigte Teilnahme der EFTA-Länder und Liechtensteins im Beratenden Ausschuß für das ERASMUS-Programm vorsehen. Die Einrichtung von Gemeinsamen Ausschüssen (Artikel 6 der Abkommen) ist kein Ersatz dafür.

Der Bundesrat bittet die Bundesregierung, sich für eine weitgehende Koordinierung der Sitzungen der Gemeinsamen Ausschüsse und des Beratenden Ausschusses für das ERASMUS-Programm einzusetzen.