

WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

W.E.U. CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Transfer of Social and Cultural Activities

The Secretary-General circulates herewith an outline of a procedure, worked out in collaboration with the Council of Europe Secretariat, for the transfer of the social and cultural activities (cf. CR (59) 12, II. b).

This text sets out the main headings of an agreement which might be concluded between the two Organisations.

It would appear that an agreement on these lines would satisfy the Council's wish that the present effective conditions for carrying out the social and cultural activities be maintained in the Council of Europe.


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TRANSFER OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

I. The social and cultural activities of W.E.U. are transferred to the Council of Europe.

The form of the transfer will be such that the activities in question can be carried out as effectively in the Council of Europe as hitherto in W.E.U.

II. This will be achieved by the procedure of Partial Agreements, introduced by Resolution (51) 62 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

To this end, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will authorise the member States of W.E.U. to continue, within the Council of Europe, the activities included in the transfer.

III. The working methods hitherto employed by W.E.U. will be maintained under this Partial Agreement.

This means that:

- 1) the liaison section system, which enables officials of the government departments concerned to keep close contacts with one another and provides an efficient means of developing European co-operation on the technical level, will be maintained;
- 2) the background documentation will continue to be prepared by national delegations;
- 3) all documentation will remain confidential until its wider distribution has been agreed. This will maintain the existing atmosphere of free and frank discussion;
- 4) certain meetings will be held away from the headquarters of the Council of Europe in order to enable participants to study on the spot questions within their competence and to enable officials of the host country to become more conversant with European problems.

IV. Any activity covered by the Partial Agreement can, as required, be extended to other member States of the Council of Europe.

/V. Committees ...

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V. Committees and sub-committees set up under the Partial Agreement will report on their activities to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which, at meetings limited to representatives of member States party to the Partial Agreement, will decide what action to take on these reports. The latter will be forwarded for information to the competent expert committees of the Council of Europe.

A chapter on the activities in question will be incorporated in the report which the Committee of Ministers is required to submit to the Consultative Assembly.

VI. The Secretaries-General of the two Organisations will take **all** necessary executive action for the transfer.

They will also make arrangements for the preservation of archives.

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