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Conformément au règlement (CEE, Euratom) n° 354/83 du Conseil du 1er février 1983 concernant l'ouverture au public des archives historiques de la Communauté économique européenne et de la Communauté européenne de l'énergie atomique (JO L 43 du 15.2.1983, p. 1), tel que modifié par le règlement (CE, Euratom) n° 1700/2003 du 22 septembre 2003 (JO L 243 du 27.9.2003, p. 1), ce dossier est ouvert au public. Le cas échéant, les documents classifiés présents dans ce dossier ont été déclassifiés conformément à l'article 5 dudit règlement.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

**COMMISSION  
OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

General Secretariat

COM(83) 629 final

Brussels, 26 October 1983

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Communication from the Commission to the Council

Request for assent, pursuant to Article 56 2a) of the ECSC Treaty  
to the granting of a global loan to the Bank of Scotland,  
United Kingdom

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COM(83) 629 final

Communication to the Council

Subject : Request for assent, pursuant to Article 56 2a) of the ECSC Treaty to the granting of a global loan to the Bank of Scotland, United Kingdom.

I. FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY  
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No. 386

Applicant : Bank of Scotland

Registered Office : Edinburgh

Shareholders : The Bank was established by Act of Parliament and is owned 24% by private shareholders; the rest is held by banking and financial institutions which include Barclays Bank (35%) and the Kuwait Investment Office (9%).

II. RECIPIENTS  
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: The Bank will pass on the loan in the form of sub-loans to small and medium-sized firms which are expanding existing activities or creating new ones.

Field of Activity of recipients

: Industrial and service activities.



III. THE PROJECT  
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Procedure

: The Commission will make £ 5 m (about 8.575 MioECU) available to the Bank of Scotland, to be paid in tranches over four years as sub-loans are approved by the Commission's departments.  
The Bank of Scotland will report annually on the use made of the global loan. The Bank will also report each year on the re-employment of former ECSC workers in the firms financed from the global loans.

Total amount of investment

: at least £ 10 m (+ 17.15 MioECU)

IV. THE REGION  
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Project location

: Those areas in Scotland where there have been coal and steel closures in recent years.

Unemployment rate

: June 1983  
Scotland overall 14.5% (323,887)  
Strathclyde 16.9% (184,277)  
West Central 17% (180,949)  
Dumfries and Galloway 12.6% (6,966)  
Fife 12.7% (17,240)  
Lothian 11.8% (40,789)

National aid status of project area

: Assisted areas, and coal and steel conversion areas.

The ECSC industry has been and still is a major employer in the area.

V. CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 56 2a) OF THE ECSC TREATY

ECSC redundancies in project area

: During the period 1970-1982 employment in the Scottish coal industry fell by almost 14,000 to around 20,000. During the same period employment in metal manufacture, of which the bulk is iron and steel, fell by over 23,000 to around 16,500. The decline in the latter industry has been particularly severe in Strathclyde with job losses of well over 12,000 in the more recent period.

Jobs to be created by the project

: 645

Training

: Through Manpower Services Commission and loan recipients.

The Commission considers that the application complies with Article 56 2a) of the ECSC Treaty.

VI. GLOBAL LOAN

Loan applied for

: £ 5 m (8.575 MioECU)

Loan to be granted

: The Commission has approved a loan of £ 5 m (about 8.575 MioECU) or equivalent to the above mentioned institution (1)

Interest rebate

: 5 percentage points per year for five years on 8.575 MioECU

Job basis of interest rebate

: 429 jobs suitable for former ECSC workers, to whom they will be offered in priority.

VII. COUNCIL ASSENT

The Commission requests the Council to give its assent to the foregoing decision

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(1) In accordance with Article 56 application criteria (OJ C 191, 16 July 1983).