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COM (84) 455

Vol. 1984/0186

Historical Archives of the European Commission

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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(84) 455 final

Brussels, 10 September 1984

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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
National Westminster Bank, PLC, United Kingdom

COM(84) 455 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 National Westminster Bank, PLC, United Kingdom.

I. FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY
=====

No. 402

Applicant : National Westminster Bank, PLC

Registered Office : 41, Lothbury,
London, EC2P 2BP

Shareholders : The Bank is a public limited company formed in 1970 following the merger of its three constituent banks, the Westminster Bank, the National Provincial Bank and the District Bank. Shares are widely dispersed.

II. RECIPIENTS
=====

: The Bank will, through its over 3000 branches mainly in England and Wales, sub-lend the loan to small and medium sized firms which are extending existing activities or creating new ones.

Field of Activity of recipients

: Financing industrial and service activities.

III. THE PROJECT

=====

Procedure

This loan is in addition to an earlier global loan of £5 million granted in July 1982 which has been virtually totally utilised. In this instance, the Commission will make £10 million (about 17.04 Mio ECU) available to the National Westminster Bank, PLC. The loan will be paid in tranches over three years as sub-loans are approved. The Commission will approve individual sub-loans on the basis of its published objectives and application criteria (O.J. No C.191 of 16 July 1983). The Bank will report annually to the Commission on the use made of the global loan; it will also report each year on the re-employment of former ECSC workers in the firms financed from the global loan.

Total amount of investment

: at least £ 20 million (+ 34.08 Mio ECU)

IV. THE REGION

=====

Project location

: ECSC employment areas in Britain. (*)

Unemployment rate

: Wales	16.1%	
Scotland	15.4%	
England	12.4%	April 1984
Britain	13.0%	

National aid status of project area

: Steel and coal closure areas.

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

(*) Outside ECSC employment areas the strict social clause will be applied (OJ C 191 of 16.7.1983, operating principles, operating principles §14, second sentence)

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

ECSC redundancies in
project area

:	1978 - 1983
England	72,502
Wales	41,067
Scotland	<u>10,573</u>
Britain	124,142

Jobs to be created
by the project : 1278 jobs approximately of which 852 will be for former ECSC workers and on which the interest rebate will be based.

Training : Through the Manpower Services Commission and the sub-loan recipients

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

VI. GLOBAL LOAN
=====

Loan applied for : £ 10 million

Loan to be granted : The Commission has approved a loan of £ 10 million (about 17.04 MioECU) or equivalent to the above-mentioned institution (1)

Interest rebate : 5 percentage points per year for five years
on 17.04 MioECU

Job basis of interest rebate : 852 jobs suitable for former ECSC workers,

VII. COUNCIL ASSENT
=====

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

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