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Bruxelles, le 19 novembre 1993 (23.11)
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NOTE POINT "A"

du : Comité des représentants permanents

au : Conseil (Justice et Affaires intérieures)

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Objet : Projet de conclusions du Conseil sur le racisme et la xénophobie

Un accord est intervenu sur le projet de conclusions du Conseil qui figure à l'annexe. Il est donc proposé que le Conseil "Justice et Affaires intérieures" adopte ces conclusions lors de sa session des 29 et 30 novembre 1993.

ANNEX

COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS
relating to racism and xenophobia

1. The Council took note of the results of the survey into racist and xenophobic acts initiated by the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs in May 1993.

2. It reiterated its abhorrence at and concern about attacks on immigrants which have taken place in many Community States and condemned the rise in right-wing extremism which had occurred throughout Europe.

3. The Council recalled its resolution adopted on 29 May 1990 [1] on the fight against racism and xenophobia which set out a number of measures to counteract these phenomena.

4. The Council acknowledged the important work undertaken by the European Parliament in this area as well as the recent initiatives taken by the Council of Europe summit on 8/9 October 1993 and in particular its action plan on the fight against racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and intolerance. It also welcomed the conclusions reached by the 5th Conference of European Ministers responsible for migration questions held in Athens on 18/19 November 1993 under the auspices of the Council of Europe, which indicated inter alia possible measures which governments could take against racism and xenophobia.

5. Based on the results of the survey and as a first step to promoting improved co-operation between Member States to prevent racist and xenophobic acts, the Council endorsed the measures set out below and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to report to it by the end of 1994 at the latest on the progress achieved and on any other concrete measures considered appropriate to combat racism and xenophobia :

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(1) OJ No. C 157/1 of 27.06.93.

- Member States not already applying the multi-agency approach (involving schools, social services, police, etc.) which could provide a useful tool to combat the problem of racism an xenophobia, should give consideration to the possibilities afforded by it. Where appropriate, key elements to this approach could be agreed and adopted by the Member States in due course.

- Emphasis should be given to appropriate training by the various enforcement agencies at national level, so that they are increasingly aware of racism and xenophobia and are sensitive to those who suffer from these phenomena. The Member States could discuss the essential elements of a training programme aimed at raising awareness levels in particular within the police, thus increasing co-operation possibilities and encouraging exchanges in experiences in this field to take place.

- To the extent that it is possible, Member States should examine ways of broadly improving the collection and publication of statistics relating to racist and xenophobic acts.

  Improved data collection should cover both quantitative and qualitative aspects, be based on a broad acceptance of what constitutes a racist or xenophobic act and aim at establishing a "typology" of these acts.

  Such an improvement would allow for better monitoring of the situation throughout the Community and permit valid comparisons to be made concerning the efficacity of the steps taken by the different Member States to combat the phenomenon.

- Particular emphasis should be given to cross-border co-operation in relation to combatting racism and xenophobia. This should involve, inter alia, continuing and improving exchanges of information between the Member States at the operational level (quantity, nature, structure, modus operandi and profile of perpetrators, profile of victims, target groups), in particular in relation to racist acts of violence or manifestations by right-wing extremists to ensure that they are satisfactorily monitored and investigated.