
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE OF GOVERNORS
CONCERNING THE MONETARY PROVISIONS PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION
RELATING TO ARTICLE 107 OF THE TREATY

The Governors have had a first discussion on the suggestions formulated by President Delors concerning the incorporation of the European Monetary System in article 107 of the Treaty as part of a more general revision now being discussed at the Inter-Governmental Conference. They are concerned that a change of the Treaty as envisaged might affect the functioning of the European Monetary System and its future development. Therefore, they wish to refer to the conclusion of the oral report by the Chairman of the Council of the Ministers of Economic and Financial Affairs on the further treatment of EMS questions to the President of the European Council agreed at the Ecofin Meeting of 11th June 1985 "given the fact that, in the area of monetary integration, technical measures can have far-reaching political effects, and in view of the balanced functioning of the EMS, the Ministers consider it appropriate that the further development of the EMS should continue to be a matter for the Economics and Finance Ministers and the two competent committees".

Within this procedure, Governors are prepared to consider the implications, legal and otherwise, of a change in the Treaty introducing a monetary dimension. They underlined that any change should be characterised in particular by the following principles:

- (a) there should be equilibrium between progress in the monetary and the non-monetary sphere;
- (b) the decision-making process should remain unchanged and the checks and balances existing in member states between central banks and governments should be respected;
- (c) the change in the Treaty should be placed in the context of Economic and Monetary Union as the ultimate objective, taking into account the experience gained in the EMS as the framework for monetary co-operation.