

UDENRIGSMINISTERIET

EUROPAUDVALGET
Alm. del - bilag 1081 (offentligt)

Medlemmerne af Folketingets Europaudvalg
og deres stedfortrædere

Asiatisk Plads 2
DK-1448 København K
Tel. +45 33 92 00 00
Fax +45 32 54 05 33
E-mail: um@um.dk
Telex 31292 ETR DK
Telegr. adr. Etrangeres
Girokonto 300-1806

Bilag
1

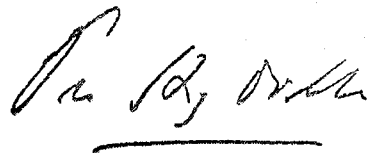
Journalnummer
400.C.2-0

Kontor
EU-sekr.

17. juni 2003



Til underretning for Folketingets Europaudvalg vedlægges i forbindelse med Det Europæiske Råd i Thessaloniki den 19.-20. juni Formandskabets note vedr. forberedelsen af samling i Rådet (almindelige anliggender og eksterne forbindelser) den 16. juni 2003 – økonomisk støtte til det vestlige Balkan, 10317/1/03 REV 1.


P. H. Ørskov



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 12 June 2003

**10317/1/03
REV 1**

LIMITE

**YU 44
COWEB 84
BUDGET 5**

NOTE

From : Presidency
Dated : 12 June 2003
To : Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject : Preparation of the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations) on
16 June 2003 - Relations with the Western Balkans
- Enhanced community financial support to the Western Balkans

1. In view of the Council meeting (General Affairs and External Relations) on 16 June 2003 and following the discussion at Coreper on 11 June, the Presidency proposes the following text for the placeholder in document 10303/03 section 2 "Thessaloniki Agenda" the subsection on Enhanced Community Financial support:

“ Efforts by Western Balkan countries to meet requirements for rapprochement to the EU will continue to be matched by substantial EU financial support. The Council welcomes the Commission’s proposal for an increase in the CARDS budget by more than Euro 200 million over the period 2004-2006, as a clear expression of this intent and a good basis for the discussions in the oncoming budget procedures; it invites the Budgetary Authority to reflect this in its deliberations. The Council also calls on the Commission and the Budgetary Authority to explore possibilities for further support during the same period, under the external actions heading of the budget, taking into account the overall balance of the Union’s priorities.

As the Western Balkan countries move closer to the EU, Community assistance will have to be adjusted accordingly. In view of the discussions on the future financial perspective and without prejudice to their outcome, the Council invites the Commission to consider possible structural support to the region, drawing from the experience of the present enlargement process and aiming at sustainable development. The possibility of further mobilising the European Investment Bank to this end should also be explored ”.

