## THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

## LUXEMBOURG 8 APRIL 1991

Documents in the dossier include:

The Middle East: problems created by the Gulf War Reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 4/1991

X

#### Mediterranean and Middle East

### I

# The Middle East: problems created by the Gulf War

1.3.13. Informal meeting of the European Council.

Meeting held in Luxembourg on 8 April. The Council decided to provide ECU 150 million of humanitarian aid for the Kurdish and other refugees in the region. ECU 100 million of this sum would come from the Community budget, supplementing the allocations already made, with the remaining ECU 50 million coming from Member State budgets. The Commission would coordinate the aid. The Council expressed its support for the move to establish in Iraq a United Nations protected zone for minorities and backed the Commission's proposals for economic cooperation between the Community and the Middle East. With regard to political matters, it emphasized the irreplaceable role of the United Nations and again called on Iraq to implement immediately UN Security Council Resolution 687.

It pointed out the three conditions needed for peace and stability in the region: a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian question, greater democratic legitimacy of governments, and economic development with reduced disparities in income levels. Also discussed were Lebanon and Cyprus and the convening of a conference on security and cooperation in the Mediterranean.

In its consideration of economic issues, the Council examined the situation with regard to emergency measures, the implementation of policies agreed upon and new spheres of activity for the future, notably within the context of relations with the Arab Maghreb Union, Israel and Iran.