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EUROPEAN UNION THE COUNCIL Brussels, 17 June 1996

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RESTREINT

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Sweden and Finland

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OUI	COME	OF P	ROCEE	DI	NGS				2	7 <u>1</u> - V		9	
of:		Working			Party	on	External		Fisheries		Policy		
dat	ed:		13		June	1996							
N.	prev.	doc	.: 57	186	5/96	PECHE	90	NIS	27				
Subject:		Ru	Russia: Inconsultations				formation from about existing					mission reements	on with

- 1. The Commission representative reminded the Working Party that Russia had previously appeared to challenge the Commission's competence to negotiate these Agreements on behalf of Sweden and Finland. Russia had now been in contact to confirm that it was willing to agree to the Commission conducting such negotiations. The Commission representative assumed that an invitation from the Russian authorities would be forthcoming. If this were not the case, the Commission would extend an invitation to the Russians to come to Brussels.
- 2. The Swedish and Finnish delegations confirmed that they too had received similar notifications from the Russian authorities. They regretted the time taken to acknowledge the Commission's competence in this matter, particularly since fishing opportunities had been lost for both countries in the first part of the year.
- 3. In response to a question from the German delegation, the Commission representative confirmed that there was no question of negotiating a second generation type agreement until the situation with the present bilateral Agreements with Sweden and Finland had been regularised.

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