

SIGNATURE AND ENTRY INTO FORCE: WHO WILL SIGN THE AGREEMENT? THE TWELVE MEMBER STATES PLUS OR MINUS THE COMMISSION OR VICE VERSA ?

THESE THEN ARE SOME OF THE IMPLICATIONS THAT COME TO MIND FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF WHAT THE COMMUNITY AND THE COMMISSION HAVE SO FAR UNVEILED AS TO THEIR PLANS. UNDER THE PRESENT TIME TABLE NO NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONTEMPLATED BEFORE THE COUNCIL APPROVES THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS OF JULY 1989, WHICH ARE INTENDED TO COME INTO EFFECT 1 JULY 1990. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMMUNITY'S NEGOTIATING AGENDA WILL GIVE PRIORITY TO THE EFTA COUNTRIES (AND NO DOUBT ALSO THE OTHER NON-EC MEMBERS OF ECAC). THIS WILL PROVIDE SOME ANSWERS; BUT IT MAY ALSO COMPLICATE MATTERS FURTHER FOR THIRD COUNTRIES, IF THESE COUNTRIES ARE SUBSUMED FOR AIR TRANSPORT PURPOSES INTO THE COMMUNITY'S COMMON OR UNIFIED MARKET.

WHICHEVER WAY ONE LOOKS AT IT, THE RENEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WILL REPRESENT AN INTERESTING IF FORMIDABLE INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE