

**ARCHIVES HISTORIQUES  
DE LA COMMISSION**

**COLLECTION RELIEE DES  
DOCUMENTS "COM"**

**COM (77)305**

**Vol. 1977/0103**

Historical Archives of the European Commission

### ***Disclaimer***

Conformément au règlement (CEE, Euratom) n° 354/83 du Conseil du 1er février 1983 concernant l'ouverture au public des archives historiques de la Communauté économique européenne et de la Communauté européenne de l'énergie atomique (JO L 43 du 15.2.1983, p. 1), tel que modifié par le règlement (CE, Euratom) n° 1700/2003 du 22 septembre 2003 (JO L 243 du 27.9.2003, p. 1), ce dossier est ouvert au public. Le cas échéant, les documents classifiés présents dans ce dossier ont été déclassifiés conformément à l'article 5 dudit règlement.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 305 final.

Brussels, 1st July 1977.

COMPLETION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING  
OF THE COMMISSION IN LUXEMBOURG  
AND CESSION TO THE COURT OF JUSTICE  
OF THE PRESENT COMPUTER CENTRE BUILDING

---

(Communication from the Court of Justice and from the  
Commission)

COM(77) 305 final.

**COURT OF JUSTICE  
OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

---

**COMMISSION  
OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

---

**COMPLETION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING  
OF THE COMMISSION IN LUXEMBOURG  
AND CESSION TO THE COURT OF JUSTICE  
OF THE PRESENT COMPUTER CENTRE BUILDING**

---

**I - The Commission's departments in Luxembourg**

Since the beginning of November 1976 the Commission's departments in Luxembourg have occupied all completed sections of the building belonging to the Société Immobilière du Kirchberg and called the "Bâtiment Jean Monnet".

The complete plan provided for three rectangular blocks situated on a common diagonal. Two of the rectangles or "rings" have been completed to date and the owner has available the land and all necessary authorizations to construct the third ring and is ready to begin work whenever required.

.. / .

The Commission, in agreement with the Budget Committee of the Council, estimated in 1974 that the two rings should be sufficient for the number of employees in Luxembourg at the time; this figure has not increased significantly up to 1977. The total gross surface area available is 58.000 m<sup>2</sup> (1). When the area taken up by infrastructure, already fully installed to serve the building in its final 3-ring form (set of conference rooms, interinstitutional medical centre, restaurant, telephone, exchange, heating installation etc.) is subtracted the actual gross office space is 34.000 m<sup>2</sup>.

The net measured office space is 19.000 m<sup>2</sup>. This accomodates 1216 people (officials and local agents) - all the staff employed in Luxembourg with the exception of those in the Computer Centre (which has its own building), one Directorate of the Statistical Office of the European Communities and one translation section. The actual average working space per person is therefore 15 m<sup>2</sup>.

The prospects of growth in the number of staff employed in Luxembourg centre on the Statistical Office of the European Communities (for this reason Directorate F "Trade, Transport and Services Statistics" has been kept in a small annex, thus easing the Accomodation situation for the other Directorates of the Statistical Office) the Medium- and Long-term Translation Service (which works partly for the European Parliament; plans will have to be made for increasing the number of language sections in the future), the Euratom Safeguards Department, and the Computer Centre. The present Computer

.. /.

---

(1) Plus 24.000 m<sup>2</sup> of underground garage space - essential in this situation where there is very little public transport and where parking is forbidden at ground level on the public roads.

Centre building is already full to capacity and from 1978 will be subject to the effects of a change of computer and of developments in data processing activity in general.

It is therefore necessary in any case to broach the problem of a possible extension to the Bâtiment Jean Monnet, even if on a long-term basis.

## II - Situation at the Court of Justice

The Court of Justice has a much more immediate problem. The building on Kirchberg which it took over in 1972 was planned in 1962. It was therefore designed and constructed at a time when the Court had nine judges and advocates-general and a staff of about 75. Since 1973 the building has housed the current thirteen judges and advocates-general and a staff of 225. It is therefore already too small and any enlargement of the Community, which would have a disproportionate effect on the Court in relation to the number of its staff and from the point of view of its linguistic requirements, would create an insoluble problem. The design of the Court building precludes any extension and it is not even possible to consider adding a wing.

The Court would therefore be obliged to construct a second block some distance from the present building and face all the inconveniences this would create.

The Court has therefore suggested to the Commission that it should take over the present Computer Centre, which is built on a site next to the Court, thereby also enabling the Commission in a single operation to rehouse its data processing centre in new accommodation perfectly suited to its further needs and to extend its administrative accommodation, a step which is in any case becoming essential.

The Court of Justice would take over from the Commission the lease agreement with the Luxembourg government and the obligations arising therefrom, including those relating to the capital investment which the Commission has undertaken as tenant. It would moreover undertake to allow the Commission to use the present Computer Centre until the data processing equipment and staff could be transferred to their new premises.

### III - The Computer Centre

As mentioned above, the Computer Centre building, although ideally suited to the functional requirements of the Centre, was not designed in the early 1970's for the scale of expansion which was to take place in data processing. Any new members of staff would, from the beginning of next year, have to be accommodated some distance away from the work sections and computers, which would clearly be inconvenient.

Also the change of computer will require a certain amount of work on the present building. This work, which would in any case be very expensive if it had to permit the permanent installation of the new ICL computer (boosting of the computer room air-conditioning, installation of new principal and emergency power systems) could never solve the problem of space already experienced in the offices and in the data processing room since it is not possible to extend this building either.

The solution suggested by the Court of Justice would therefore benefit the Commission, provided that the transfer of the Centre did not complicate the rather delicate situation of the data processing centre associated with the change of computer. The effects of the plan in this connection should therefore be examined.

.. /.

The present study of the computer availability programme and associated work shows that the provisional installation of the ICL computer, the performance of the series of tests and establishment on an operational footing can be expected in October 1977 at the earliest. For this reason, if we have to consider fresh accommodation, the final installation would take place during 1979.

Studies undertaken with the building contractor for the Commission's administrative building, the FEAL company of Milan, have confirmed that taking into account all the requirements stemming from the location of the data processing centre, the third ring could be ready less than 24 months after signing of the contract by the Commission. The Commission experience with this contractor suggests that he will strictly observe his commitments with regard to completion dates.

Consequently, if an agreement can be signed about July 1977 with the common approval of the Court of Justice, the Commission and the Budget Authority, the plan (as already described briefly in the Commission's report to the Council in January 1977 on the location of the Community's departments) could be suitably completed at minimum expense. The administrative wing could be available towards the end of 1978 and the Data Processing Centre before the summer of 1979.

#### IV - Surface area required in the new ring

The specifications prepared by the Commission distinguish three types of need : the data processing section proper of the building (computer room and adjoining areas), offices for the data processing staff but not used for specific purposes and offices for current administrative work.



a) - Area to be used for data processing

The "operating" part of the Data Processing Centre consists of the air-conditioned computer room, the tape library immediately adjacent, the room housing the data acquisition pool and the areas for technical equipment, storage of consumable materials and working rooms for the staff directly associated with the computers, etc.

This part of the building, designed according to realistic calculations in order to ensure that the Data Processing Centre has no further space problems during the next 15 years, will have 4.825 m<sup>2</sup> of useful surface area, including 1.000 m<sup>2</sup> for the single computer room. The gross surface area, including the equipment rooms, general services, specialist library and a lecture room, will be 5.430 m<sup>2</sup>.

b) - Area for offices to house data processors

The technical specification for this area is no different from that for ordinary administrative offices: it is intended to accommodate the teams of analyst/programmers. The final number of staff for this category is estimated at 150, accommodated for the most part two to a three-window office in view of the volume of documentation that has to be on hand in these offices.

This requires a gross surface area of 4.980 m<sup>2</sup>, including additional office space for archives, a meeting room, a photocopying room, etc.

The gross surface area allotted to the Data Processing Centre would therefore be 10.400 m<sup>2</sup> as compared with 8.845 m<sup>2</sup> at the present Computer Centre (including garage space).

c) - Area for current administrative use

The installation of the last translation section and its supporting services in the Bâtiment Jean Monnet will require the equivalent of 60 two-module offices since it is essential to provide translators and revisers with individual offices.

The medium-term requirements of the Statistical Office are estimated at 100 work units plus offices for specific purposes.

The provision of a reserve of a 100 or so offices as space for expansion is reasonable in view of the prospect of an enlargement of the Community which would be sure to affect the situation with regard to linguists, statisticians and Euratom safeguards staff.

This part of the building may therefore be estimated at 8.100 m<sup>2</sup> gross.

The survey of the needs gives a total of 18.500 m<sup>2</sup>. The rooms for technical equipment and storage corresponding to this surface area plus the garage space for service vehicles which must have special headroom since there are several lorries, must be added to this surface area. The decentralized situation of the building and the infrequency of public transport entail heavy reliance upon private cars for getting to work. Since it is not possible to park on the public highways, which are all fast roads, we hope there will be as many underground car parks as possible beneath the new ring.

The total surface area requested, for all purposes, is therefore 35.500 m<sup>2</sup>.

#### V - Plan of the new ring

The builder has submitted an offer based on the following :

- the surface area of the new ring taking account of the architectural features of the two already built;
- areas for data processing purposes; which, since they are in many ways incompatible with the module, <sup>(1)</sup> will have to be constructed as a projection partially outside this ring,

giving a total surface area for approximately 41.000 m<sup>2</sup>.

---

)Width 1, 20 m; height 2, 70 m;  
columns every 7, 20 m

The Commission did not feel able to accept the proposal based on this figure. Although the completion of the entire plan would, no doubt be welcomed by both the contractor and the local authorities, anxious to complete the process (almost at an end) of urbanizing a sector of Kirchberg, the Commission requested the architect to reduce his plan to the figures obtained from the calculation of requirements.

The plan submitted at present is satisfactory on this point and does not yet specify whether the reduction will be achieved by architectural changes - by the creation of "empty spaces" by the contractor at his own expense and involving no obligation for the tenant, or by leasing the surplus area to third parties.

The basic rent therefore becomes (Index 274 corresponding to 1 March 1977) in m<sup>2</sup> per year:

a) - Garages for cars	8682 m <sup>2</sup> at Bfrs 2000 = Bfrs	17.364.000
b) - High-ceilinged garages for storage and service vehicles	9668 m <sup>2</sup> at Bfrs 2300 = Bfrs	22.236.400
c) - Special storage area (air-conditioned for computer paper)	518 m <sup>2</sup> at Bfrs 2600 = Bfrs	1.295.000
d) - Offices	16103 m <sup>2</sup> at Bfrs 3450 = Bfrs	55.555.350
e) - Data processing (operating section)	5262 m <sup>2</sup> at Bfrs 3900 = Bfrs	20.521.800
Total	<u>40.233 m<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>= Bfrs 116.972.550</u>

Since the contractor has undertaken to abide by these unit prices, even if the surface area rented by the Commission is between the 40.233 m<sup>2</sup> offered and a minimum of 35.913 m<sup>2</sup>, the annual leasing total would be reduced disproportionately since the space saved would consist, in particular, of the surface area for offices costing Bfrs 3.450 per m<sup>2</sup>.

../.

The unit and total rents for the part of the Bâtiment Jean Monnet already constructed (also using the index 274) are as follows :

	58.098 m2 at Bfrs 2.844	=	Bfrs 165.230.000
	24.122 m2 at Bfrs 1.767	=	Bfrs 42.625.000
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	82.220 m2		Bfrs 207.855.000

The cession to the Court of Justice of the present Computer Centre of the Commission involves the transfer to the Court of 8.845 m2 for a total rent of Bfrs 25.086.891 per year. In addition, the Commission will purely and simply relinquish three small areas at present rented for Bfrs 2.200.000, Bfrs 3.736.000 and Bfrs 3.600.000 respectively, giving a total of Bfrs 9.536.000.

#### VI - Conclusions

By means of a two-stage operation at the end of 1978 and the beginning of 1979 the Commission in Luxembourg could solve :

- the immediate problem of extending the premises of the Court of Justice - impossible under present conditions - by transferring the present Commission Computer Centre to the Court ;
- The Commission's difficulties associated with installing the new computer and with the expansion of data processing activity by completing the Bâtiment Jean Monnet, which will in any case be necessary in the future.

The Commission has a firm offer from the builder for the construction of an additional wing, including a new data processing centre, with a total surface area of between 40.233 m2 and 35.913 m2 at an average rent (including partitioning, cupboards and air conditioning in parts) not exceeding Bfrs 2.907 per m2.

.../...

This surface area, which has been particularly carefully studied, will make it possible to house the data processing centre under optimum conditions for many years to come and will solve the Commission's accommodation problem in the foreseeable future since the contractor is to build a reserve area without obligation to rent.

Expert opinions on the building already constructed testify to its structural soundness. The Commission will take all necessary steps to ensure continuity of supervision in accordance with building standards as regards the quality laid down in the specification and the execution of the work.

The Court of Justice and the Commission hope that the Budget Authority will agree to the plan set out above and that the Commission will be authorized to enter into a 15-year agreement with the constructor/owner.

The Commission estimates of expenditure already include an entry to cover the first instalments of rent due towards the end of the 1978 financial year and for the supervision mentioned above. The Court of Justice has not yet made a request for funds since it will not take over the present Computer Centre building before the end of 1978.