published in the 'C' series of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

3. The share of a Member State in GDPmp of the Community shall be its share in the sum of GDPmp of the Member States over five years, expressed as a percentage.

Article 8

The weighting of a national central bank in the key shall be the arithmetic mean of the shares of the Member State concerned in the population and in the GDPmp of the Community.

Article 9

The various steps of calculation shall use sufficient digits to ensure their accuracy. The weighting of national central banks in the key shall be expressed to four decimal places.

Article 10

The data referred to in this Decision shall be communicated by the Commission to the European Monetary Institute before the day the establishment of the ECB becomes effective.

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC, Euratom, ECSC) amending Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 260/68 which lays down the conditions and procedure for applying the tax for the benefit of the European Communities

(98/C 118/09)

COM(97) 725 final — 98/0058(CNS)

(Submitted by the Commission on 20 February 1998)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Having regard to the Treaty establishing a single Council and a single Commission of the European Communities,

Having regard to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities, and in particular Articles 13 and 23 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Monetary Institute,

(1) Whereas the European Central Bank, hereafter referred to as 'the ECB', will be established as soon as its Executive Board is appointed;

(2) Whereas it is appropriate to extend the application of the tax for the benefit of the European Communities, on the terms and in accordance with the procedure laid down in Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 260/68 [1], to the salaries, wages and emoluments of the members of the Governing Council and the General Council of the European Central Bank and the staff of that Bank;

whereas the application of this tax to the European Monetary Institute becomes irrelevant when the Institute goes into liquidation,

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 12a of Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 260/68 is replaced by the following text:

'*Article 12a*

This Regulation shall apply to the members of the Governing Council and of the General Council of the European Central Bank, to members of its staff and to recipients of the pensions paid by the Bank who are included in the categories determined by the Council pursuant to the first paragraph of Article 16 of the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities, with regard to salaries, wages and emoluments and to disability, retirement and survivors' pensions paid by the Bank.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day on which the establishment of the European Central Bank becomes effective.

The Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

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[1] OJ L 56, 4.3.1968, p. 8.