RESOLUTION OF THE MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

of 17 February 1986

on the establishment of transnational cultural itineraries

(86/C 44/02)

THE MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Solemn Declaration on European Union of 19 June 1983, and in particular Section 3.3 thereof devoted to cultural cooperation,

Having regard to the final report on a People's Europe approved by the European Council at its meeting on 28 and 29 June 1985,

Whereas the establishment of transnational cultural itineraries can contribute to:

— a deepening of knowledge about Europe's history and culture, thereby promoting European awareness,

— an increase in tourism and hence a stimulus to the economic development of the regions concerned, including the creation of jobs;

Bearing in mind nevertheless the need to avoid disturbance of the cultural identity and environment of the areas concerned, as well as to avoid damage to vulnerable monuments and cultural institutions by the visits of too many tourists;

Welcoming the presentation by the Italian authorities of a system of cultural itineraries covering Community Europe, which provides a useful reference point for further initiatives in this field;

Considering that the creation of such itineraries is being envisaged by the authorities of a number of Member States;

Considering in particular that the scheme for itineraries presented by the Luxembourg authorities for the Grand Duchy and adjacent areas provides a good example of what could be done in this field;

Taking into account the work accomplished by the Council of Europe and the potential role of the European Foundation in this field,

AGREE both to stimulate activities in the field of transnational cultural itineraries by encouraging the competent authorities of the Member States to cooperate across frontiers in the study and possible development of itineraries of European interest, and to leave such cooperation open to other European countries;

NOTE that such schemes may be eligible for support from the various existing Community instruments;

UNDERTAKE to review progress in this area within two years.