# Watercourses: Convention on the international Commission for the protection of the Oder, April 1996

1998/0278(CNS) - 29/03/1999 - Final act

PURPOSE: the approval on behalf of the Community of the Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Oder. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 1999/257/EC concerning the conclusion of the Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Oder. CONTENT: The Convention on the International Commission for the Protection of the Oder is approved on behalf of the Community. It was signed in Wroclaw (Poland) in 1996 by three countries,one an EU Member State (Germany), and Poland and the Czech Republic, as well as the European Commission. The Convention aims to strengthen multilateral co-operation to prevent and control pollution of the Oder, protect the environment and ensure the sustainable use of water resources. It has three main objectives, to be achieved through action programmes with timetables for their implementation: - to prevent and reduce the pollution of the Oder and the Baltic Sea by contaminants, - to achieve the most natural aquatic and littoral ecosystems possible with the corresponding species diversity, - to permit utilisation of the Oder, in particular the production of drinking water from bank filtrate and the use of its water and sediments in agriculture. ENTRY INTO FORCE: The Decision enters into force on 29.03.1999. The Convention will enter into force one month after the deposition of the last ratification instrument at the Secretariat General of the Council.