EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

OPINION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

of 18 April 2002

on a recommendation from the Council of the European Union on the appointment of the Vice-President of the European Central Bank

(CON/2002/11)

(2002/C 100/06)

1. By letter of 15 April 2002, the President of the Council of the European Union requested the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) to deliver its opinion on the Council Recommendation of 15 April 2002 on the appointment of the Vice-President of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (2002/287/EC) (1).

2. The abovementioned Recommendation, which will be submitted for decision to the Heads of State or Government of the Member States which have adopted the euro after consultation of the Governing Council of the ECB and the European Parliament, recommends that Mr Lucas D. Papademos be appointed as Vice-President of the Executive Board of the ECB for a term of office of eight years with effect from 1 June 2002.

3. The Governing Council of the ECB is of the opinion that the proposed candidate is a person of recognised standing and professional experience in monetary or banking matters as required by Article 112(2)(b) of the Treaty establishing the European Community (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Treaty’).

4. The Governing Council of the ECB has no objection to the Council’s Recommendation relating to the appointment of the proposed candidate as the Vice-President of the ECB. In accordance with Article 13.1 and Article 46.1 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Statute’) the function of Vice-President is exercised by the same person in the three decision-making bodies of the ECB, and therefore the position should be officially termed as ‘Vice-President of the ECB’ instead of ‘Vice-President of the Executive Board of the ECB’.

5. The Governing Council of the ECB has adopted this opinion in accordance with Article 112(2)(b) of the Treaty and Article 11.2 and Article 43.3 of the Statute.

6. This opinion shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

Done at Frankfurt am Main on 18 April 2002.

On behalf of the Governing Council of the ECB

The President

Willem F. DUISENBERG