

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

**ROME
26-26 MARCH 1977**

Documents in the dossier include:

Conclusions

Session of the European Council
Reproduced from *The European Council*
Dossier of the Group of the European People's Party
Luxembourg 1990

The European Summit

European Community Background Information No.11/1977
European Community Information Service
Washington DC

Rome Meeting of the EEC Heads of Government

Official Statements on Growth and Steel
Statement by James Callaghan, Prime Minister and President of the European Council
in the House of Commons on 28 March 1977
British Information Services
New York NY

Guidelines for Steel Policy

Information Memo P-26, March 1977

Spokesman's Group

Commission of the European Communities

(The document mentioned in this note, SEC (77) 1079, was marked "internal" and has not reproduced. It was only available in French. This is a summary of the Communication)

Session of the European Council

Rome, 25 and 26 March 1977

Conclusions

Economic growth, inflation and employment

1. The European Council considered the prospects for economic development within the Community and agreed that, in order to promote sustained economic recovery and mitigate the severe unemployment being experienced in member countries, without risking the renewal of inflation, there is a need for intensified cooperation at the Community as well as the international level.
2. The European Council recognized that such action must in large part be undertaken on a world scale in which the Community has an important role to play. In this connection they noted first that Community Finance Ministers have reached a large measure of agreement on the views they will put forward on international financing problems at the meeting of the IMF Interim Committee in Washington at the end of April, and secondly that ways of encouraging a stronger, but still balanced, growth of world economic activity will be a major theme of the London summit in early May.
3. The European Council further agreed in particular to seek action at the Community level in three directions: firstly, to promote measures to help resolve specific labour market problems, especially in improving training and employment opportunities for young people and women, secondly to encourage higher levels of investment in the Member States, and thirdly to halt divergence and promote convergence in their economic performance. To this end, the European Council invites on the one hand the Commission, in particular by the better use of Community instruments, and on the other hand the Board of Governors of the European Investment Bank to seek ways of improving the effectiveness of their activities.
4. The European Council emphasized the importance of cooperation between the social partners in these matters and agreed to the holding of a further tripartite conference in the first half of this year, at a date to be fixed, at which progress and possibilities could be reviewed. The European Council agreed to reconsider progress on this range of problems at its own projected meeting in June.

5. The European Council agreed to conduct at its meeting at the end of the year an examination of the results obtained in the fields of growth, employment and the fight against inflation, and to assess the Community's prospects of making progress towards Economic and Monetary Union.

Situation in the steel sector

The European Council has considered the situation in the steel sector, on the basis of a communication from the Commission. This sector is experiencing a depression more serious than at any time in the history of the Coal and Steel Community. The Heads of State and Government have taken this opportunity to reaffirm their resolve to restore to the steel industry through the appropriate measures, the viability and competitiveness essential to the maintenance of a truly European industrial potential.

The European Council expresses its appreciation of the efforts being undertaken by the Commission to put forward at an early date practical proposals and initiatives for short-term remedial measures to stabilize the market, for a longer term structural reorganization of the European steel industry and for measures in the social field to assist workers adversely affected by such reorganization.

The European Council expresses the wish that the Council of Ministers give its urgent attention to the Commission's proposals and initiatives on these issues.

Japan

The European Council, recalling its statement of 30 November 1976,

- reaffirms the importance it attaches to maintaining good relations between the Community and Japan;
- notes that some progress has been made over the past four months towards resolving certain specific trade problems;
- observes however that not all the problems have yet been solved and considers that efforts have to be continued particularly with a view to the sustained expansion of exports from the Community to Japan;
- invites accordingly the responsible Community institutions to continue the intensive discussions with the Japanese authorities with the aim of resolving outstanding difficulties as rapidly as possible.

Community participation in the London economic summit

The President of the Council and the President of the Commission will be invited to take part in those sessions of the Downing Street summit at which items which are within the competence of

the Community are discussed. Examples of such items are negotiations about international trade and the North-South dialogue.

North-South dialogue

We have agreed on the basis of a common position.

We agreed that there should be commodity price stabilization agreements where appropriate and that there should be a Common Fund. There will also be a study of export earnings stabilization measures for developing countries and of special action for the CIEC on aid.

This will now be worked out in detail at the Council on 5 April and will be brought forward in the preparations for the CIEC ministerial meeting in Paris, in which the Community will coordinate its position with the other industrialized countries in the Group of Eight. This will be followed by detailed negotiations at the UNCTAD conference.

The Community will call on other countries, for instance in Eastern Europe and oil-producing countries, to make an adequate contribution in the development field.

European Foundation

The European Council also took note of the Commission's intention to present proposals for the establishment of a European Foundation as proposed in the Tindemans Report on European Union.

Organization of European Council meetings

The problem of organizing the Council's work was referred to the Council of Foreign Ministers.

