

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: BELGIUM

JULY-DECEMBER 1977

Meetings and press releases July-October 1977

Meeting number	Subject	Date
463 rd	Agriculture	18-19 July 1977
464 th	Economics/Finance	25-26 July 1977
465 th	Budget	20 July 1977
466 th	Foreign Affairs	25-26 July 1977
467 th	Agriculture	13 September 1977
468 th	Economics/Finance	19 September 1977
469 th	Foreign Affairs	20 September 1977
470 th	Fisheries/Agriculture	26-27 September 1977
471 st	Agriculture	11 October 1977
472 nd	Economics/Finance	17 October 1977
473 rd	Foreign Affairs/Finance	17 October 1977
474 th	Foreign Affairs	17-18 October 1977
475 th	Fisheries	24-25 October 1977
476 th	Energy	25 October 1977
477 th	Research	25 October 1977
478 th	Transport	27 October 1977
479 th	Social Affairs	28 October 1977



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

463rd Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 18 and 19 July 1977

President: Mr Antoine HUMBLET,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 20 July 1977
898/77 (Presse 91) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M
to Press Release
No 898/77 (Presse 91)
of 18 and 19 July 1977

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Page 16:

First paragraph penultimate line:

Should read: "..... pour de nouveaux traitements
ou pratiques" (Concerns French
text only).

Page 18:

line 3:

Should read: "..... as regards the harmonization of
excise duties on wine"

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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN Minister for Fisheries

Mr Hans Jørgen KRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister for Agriculture

Mr Marcel CAVAILLE State Secretary at the Ministry
of Equipment and Regional
Development responsible for
Transport (Fisheries)

Mr Jacques BLANC State Secretary at the Ministry
of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Jim GIBBONS Minister for Agriculture

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Agriculture,

Mr Arcangelo IO BIANCO Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr Vito ROSA Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of Shipping

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Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS
Mr Albert BERCHEM

Minister for Agriculture
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Bruce MILLAN

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Gavin STRANG

Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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FISHERIES POLICY

The Council held a general discussion on the basis of an oral communication by Vice-President GUNDELACH, the Commissioner responsible for fisheries policy. This communication indicated the progress of work in this sector as regards both internal and external aspects, stressed the main lines of the proposals already submitted or to be submitted by the Commission and outlined the timetable for the urgent work envisaged for the working out of the definitive arrangements.

The Council emphasized the urgency of finalizing the common fisheries policy in the context of the 200-mile zones in view of the need to conserve fish stocks, to give Community fishermen guidance for the future and to make it easier to continue the fisheries negotiations with non-member countries.

During the discussions the Commission, over and above its previous proposals, undertook to submit before the end of September

- proposals on various technical conservation measures (e.g. mesh size, by-catches) applicable from 1 January 1978

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- proposals concerning certain actions in the socio-structural field, and provisions concerning the financing of the expenditure arising out of the controls
- a model with figures showing the allocation of resources in 1978.

The Council agreed to examine the whole problem **urgently**, taking these new factors into account. It proposed to put this item on the agenda for its meeting on 10 and 11 October, and would in any case devote a special meeting to it on 24 and 25 October 1977, since decisions had to be taken in good time for the new fisheries policy to be effectively implemented on 1 January 1978.

The current negotiations with non-member countries concerning fishing in the various maritime zones will be continued in the meantime.

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HERRING FISHING

The Council agreed on the Regulation defining the interim measures for the conservation and management of certain herring stocks.

This Regulation forbids the catching of herring by direct fishing in the North Sea until 30 September 1977 in sub-zone IV and division VII(d) as defined by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

Member States are, however, authorized to catch North Sea herring when fishing directly for other species, up to a limit of 10% by weight of catches of sprat and 5% by weight of catches of Norway pout, sand eel and other species on each voyage.

The permitted by-catches calculated on an annual basis may not, however, exceed 15,000 tonnes for Denmark, 1,650 tonnes for the United Kingdom, 410 tonnes for the Federal Republic of Germany and 275 tonnes for the other Member States.

The Council agreed to act on the subsequent arrangements for herring in the North Sea at its meeting scheduled for 26 and 27 September, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to conduct a detailed re-examination of the scientific data on this question in the meantime in order to enable the Council to act on the basis of full information at its next meeting.

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The Council also agreed on the Regulation banning herring fishing in division VII(f) as defined by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, until 31 December 1977. This measure concerns the Bristol Channel and is in addition to the ban already adopted by the Council regarding the Celtic Sea.

In the Irish Sea - division VII - direct herring fishing is banned until 31 December 1977 in a 12-mile zone starting from the base-lines off the east coasts of Northern Ireland and Ireland between 53°20' and 54°40' latitude north.

The Council also decided on a ban until 31 August 1977 on direct herring fishing in part of the waters of West Ireland defined as follows:

North: latitude 54°30' N South: latitude 52°30' N
West: longitude 13°00' W East: Irish coast

The Regulation nevertheless authorizes catches for 1977 by each Member State on an annual basis in respect of the direct fishing of herring of certain stocks or groups of stocks moving in certain sub-zones and divisions defined by the ICES as follows:

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Stock			Catches in thousands of tonnes	
Species	Geographical region	ICES Division	Quota 1 June to 31 Dec. 1977	
Herring	West of the Celtic Sea	VII j, k	Ireland	1.0
			Other Member States	0.1
Herring	Irish Sea (1)	VII a	France	0.19
			Ireland	1.0
			Netherlands	0.11
			United Kingdom	11.9
Herring	West Ireland	VII b, c	Germany	0.83
			France	0.42
			Ireland	4.58
			Netherlands	8.33
			United Kingdom	0.83
Herring	West Scotland	VI a	Germany	3.7
			Denmark	0.2
			France	1.2
			Ireland	6.4
			Netherlands	3.0
			United Kingdom	39.0

Herring catches made from these stocks during the period from 1.1.1977 until the entry into force of this Regulation will be charged against these quotas.

(1) Subject to an arrangement concerning fisheries around the Isle of Man.

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The Member States will as far as possible take all measures necessary to ensure compliance with this Regulation as regards the maritime waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction and covered by Community fisheries regulations. The controls carried out by the Member States will be the subject of regular reports to the Commission.

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BAN ON INDUSTRIAL FISHING

The Council agreed in principle, subject to the Opinion requested of the European Parliament, on the Commission proposal for a ban on direct fishing and on the landing of herring intended for industrial purposes.

NORWAY POUT

The Council agreed on the Regulation banning fishing for Norway pout from 1 September until 15 October 1977 in the zone referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 350/77.

This measure is intended to conserve, inter alia, stocks of young haddock and whiting which might otherwise be caught as by-catches, and will be reviewed before the expiry date of the Regulation in the light of an additional independent scientific opinion.

HERRING IMPORTS

In order to resolve the difficult Community supply situation resulting from the measures to conserve herring stocks, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation suspending until 31 December 1977 the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on the following products intended for the processing industry:

- Fillets of herring, fresh, chilled or frozen (ex 03.01 B II a) and B II b) 7 of the CCT);
- Herring, dried, salted or in brine, whole, headless or in pieces (ex 03.02 A I a) of the CCT);
- Fillets of herring, dried, salted or in brine (ex 03.02 A II d) of the CCT);
- So-called boneless herring, prepared or preserved in vinegar, put up in barrels or other containers containing not less than 10 kg (ex 16.04 C II of the CCT);
- Herrings, spiced and salted, put up in barrels (ex 16.04 C II of the CCT).

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER AND CHEESE

The Council discussed the Commission proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation No 226/73 as regards the price to be observed at the cif stage on the importation into the United Kingdom of butter and cheese from New Zealand, pursuant to Protocol 18 of the Act of Accession.

The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to study this question as soon as possible, taking into account the various aspects resulting both from Protocol 18 and from the Declaration by the European Council in Dublin in March 1975, and agreed to act on the matter at its next meeting on 26 and 27 September 1977.

CO-RESPONSIBILITY LEVY

The Council took note of the Commission report on the conditions for applying the co-responsibility levy in the milk sector, which indicated the progress of the talks on this subject between the Commission and the professional producers' organizations.

The Commission at the same time made known its intentions concerning the application of the levy in Italy.

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MARKETING OF MILK PRODUCTS

During a discussion on the proposal for a Regulation laying down general rules for the marketing of milk products, the Council identified the final problems outstanding at this stage and instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to put the finishing touches to the possible solutions in the light of the day's discussions. It agreed to return to this matter at its next meeting on 26 and 27 September.

EAGGF: GUIDANCE SECTION

At the request of the Italian delegation the Council held a discussion on the individual projects the financing of which is not provided for in the preliminary draft budget of the European Communities for 1978 (Guidance Section of the EAGGF).

The Council noted that it was no longer possible to finance individual projects under Regulation No 17/64 since the annual appropriations of 325 MUA of the EAGGF Guidance Section had been used to finance the common measures decided on by the Council (Article 6(4) of Regulation No 729/76).

However, this would not rule out the possibility of using appropriations earmarked in previous years for individual projects and not used for this purpose. The Commission undertook to examine this problem.

If appropriate, this question will be taken up again in a general discussion on structural policy over the next few months.

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WINE-GROWING SECTOR

The Council adopted a series of measures aimed at improving the provisions concerning the common organization of the wine market in the light of the economic and technical experience gained and in order to meet public health concerns. These measures include:

- supplementing the basic regulations (Regulation No 816/70) on the common organization of the market in wine
- new provisions relating to authorized oenological practices
- amendments as regards the maximum total sulphur dioxide content of wines other than liqueur wines.

The amendments to the basic Regulation concern, in particular, redefinition of the private-storage arrangements for grape must and concentrated grape must and the conditions for initiating preventive distillation and the distillation of wines suitable for producing certain wine potable spirits with a registered designation of origin. The measures also include certain administrative simplifications and technical specifications.

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With a view to the satisfactory operation of the common organization of the wine market and to facilitating the free movement of wine in the Community, the new provisions on oenological practices and processes lay down additional common rules concerning the composition and processing of wines to ensure good wine-making and proper preservation by specifying, in a new Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70, the products and processes which may be used in wine-making and the limits on their use. In addition, an experimental procedure for new oenological processes and practices has been introduced.

The changes in the maximum total sulphur dioxide contents of wines other than liqueur wines involve a reduction of the present levels for most wines and the establishment of special rules for wines of specific natures. The Regulation also provides for procedures for decision-making in certain producing regions in the event of exceptional weather conditions and for the determination of future reductions in the light of advances in scientific and technical knowledge.

Transitional measures are provided for in certain cases in order to allow the production industry and the trade to adapt to the new rules.

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The Council also agreed to continue, at its next meeting, its discussions on certain other outstanding questions, in particular the problem of determining average prices and weighted average prices for table wines and the acidification of certain wines.

In the same sector, the Council also adopted three Regulations relating to distillation operations concerning

- amendments relating to the distillation of wine-making by products;
- fixing of the prices to be paid, for the 1977/1978 wine-growing year, for the compulsory distillation of wine-making by-products and the maximum amount of the contribution by the EAGGF (Guarantee Section), namely:
 - = 0.57 UA/°/hl: buying-in price of wine product deliveries
 - = 0.91 UA/°/hl: alcohol price of deliveries of wine products produced from marcs
 - = 0.91 UA/°/hl: alcohol price of deliveries of wine products produced from lees
 - = 0.91 UA/°/hl: alcohol price of deliveries of wine products produced from wine
 - = maximum amount of the contribution by the EAGGF (Guarantee Section): 0.25 UA/°/hl;
- amendments to the payment arrangements for wine distillation operations.

The Council heard a statement by the French delegation on future work to be carried out in the wine sector, in particular as regards the harmonization of duties on wine, export refunds, the performance guarantee to be given to producers and quality improvement. The Council took note of the Commission representative's statements about the Commission's intentions regarding the action to be taken on the points raised.

MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURE

The Council took note of a statement by the French delegation on the problems of Mediterranean agriculture in which it indicated its intention of forwarding a general memorandum to the Council and to the Commission in the near future.

The Italian delegation also recalled that it had recently transmitted a memorandum.

The Council stressed the importance and urgency of the matter, and agreed to hold a general discussion on a date to be fixed in the next few months. It took note of the Commission's intention of submitting practical proposals in good time and will arrange the organization of its proceedings on this question at its next meeting.

POULTRY MEAT

The Council adopted an amendment to the Regulation laying down common standards for the water content of frozen and deep-frozen chickens, hens and cocks; in order to take account of certain administrative difficulties the dates for the entry into force of the Regulation in question were deferred for three months.

The Council agreed to continue its discussions of the question of a possible derogation from the Regulation for products exported to third countries which apply less stringent standards at its next meeting, after a further examination of the matter by the Commission.

CEREALS AND RICE

When examining certain proposed amendments to the Regulation on production refunds in the cereals and rice sector, the Council recorded its agreement in principle on an increase, as from 1 August 1977, in the minimum price to be paid to potato producers, thereby raising the minimum price from 172 to 175 UA/tonne, and on an increase of 17 UA/tonne for production refunds for maize starch, together with a proportional increase for other starch products.

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The Council also approved the new definition of isoglucose to be inserted in Regulation No 2742/75 on production refunds in this sector.

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ITALIAN LIRA

The Council held a brief discussion on the application of the new representative rate for the Italian lira to additional aid granted for conversion projects in the citrus-fruit sector. It took note of the Commission's intention to submit a proposal on the matter, and agreed to act on it as soon as possible.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements, together with replies by the Commission where appropriate:

- progress in the Commission's discussions on additions or amendments to be made by 31 December 1977 to the list of third countries from which Member States may authorize imports of bovine animals, swine and fresh meat (German delegation);
- the price of rice in La Réunion (French delegation);
- questions relating to pigmeat (United Kingdom delegation)
- agricultural structures (Irish delegation);
- the peach market (Italian delegation).

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on acceptance by the Community of parts of certain Codex standards for sugars intended for human consumption.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the protection of animals during international transport.

Furthermore the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations

- on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of skimmed-milk powder held by the intervention agencies of the other Member States;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 564/77 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of common wheat held by the German intervention agency;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 823/68 as regards the conditions for the entry of certain cheeses under certain tariff headings;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 522/77 laying down special provisions applicable to trade in tomato concentrates and peeled tomatoes between the Community as originally constituted and the new Member States;
- determining for the 1977/1978 marketing year the threshold prices for husked rice and broken rice;
- on the certification of hops.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning employment aid for certain slaughterhouses in Northern Ireland.

The Council took note of the Commission communication concerning the final estimates for the 1975/1976 wine-growing year.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council authorized the Commission to open negotiations with Poland in the textile products sector, and adopted the negotiating directives for that purpose.

It also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities,

- Regulations

- = concerning import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Thailand and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 845/77 as regards Thailand and Regulation (EEC) No 1183/77;
 - = concluding the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on trade in textile products;
 - = maintaining in force the arrangements subjecting to authorization imports into Germany, the Benelux countries, France and the United Kingdom of certain knitted and crocheted articles of clothing originating in the Republic of Singapore;
 - = on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreements with the Maghreb and Mashreq countries;
 - = on the application of Decision No 2/76 of the EEC-Israel Joint Committee amending Protocol No 3 of the EEC-Israel Agreement as regards the rules of origin;
 - = on olive oil imports from Lebanon;
 - = extending the arrangements applicable to trade with the Republic of Cyprus beyond the date of expiry of the first stage of the Association Agreement;
- a Decision authorizing prolongation or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and third countries.

Research and development

The Council formally adopted the research programme to be carried out by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community and the European Economic Community (1977-1980).

This programme, for which the financial appropriation is 346 million units of account, therefore becomes operational. It will be recalled that it comprises the following aspects:

I. NUCLEAR SAFETY

(Joint programme)

1. Reactor safety

(Nuclear)

The programme comprises six projects covering the following research:

- reliability and risk assessment,
- out-of-pile and in-pile studies of accidents involving loss of coolant in light water reactors,
- liquid metal fast breeder subassembly thermohydraulics,
- core melt-down and fuel-coolant interactions,
- dynamic structure loading and response,
- prevention of structural failure in reactors.

2. Plutonium fuels and actinide research
(Nuclear)

The programme comprises three projects covering the following research:

- utilization limits of plutonium fuels,
- plutonium and actinides aspects of the safety of the nuclear fuel cycle,
- actinide research.

3. Management of nuclear materials and radioactive waste
(Nuclear)

The programme comprises three projects covering the following research:

- assessment of the long-term hazards of radioactive waste storage,
- chemical separation and nuclear transmutation of actinides,
- studies on reactor component decontamination.

II. FUTURE FORMS OF ENERGY

(Joint programme)

1. Solar Energy
(Non-nuclear)

The programme comprises three projects covering the following research:

- habitat and thermal conversion,
- European solar irradiation facility,
- orientation studies centred around direct conversion.

2. Hydrogen
(Nuclear)

The programme comprises two projects covering the following research:

- thermo-chemical processes for the decomposition of water,
- heat source coupling.

3. Thermonuclear fusion technology
(Nuclear)

The programme comprises the following activities:

- conceptual studies on thermonuclear fusion reactors,
- research on materials necessary for fusion, in particular on their behaviour under irradiation, and analysis of required testing methods and equipment,
- study of the problems concerning safety and the environment.

4. High-temperature materials
(Nuclear)

The programme comprises four projects covering the following fields:

- meeting point Petten,
- the effect of the operational environment on the mechanical properties of high-temperature materials,
- failure modes of high-temperature materials,
- the relationship between structure, impurities and properties of high-temperature materials.

III. ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES

(Joint programme)(Non-nuclear)

The programme comprises four projects covering the following fields:

- atmosphere,
- water,
- chemical products,
- renewable resources.

IV. MEASUREMENTS, STANDARDS AND REFERENCE TECHNIQUES (METRE)

(Joint programme)

The programme comprises five projects covering the following fields:

- measurements of nuclear data (nuclear project),
- nuclear reference materials and techniques (nuclear project),
- non-nuclear reference materials and techniques (non-nuclear project),
- scientific support for the Commission (non-nuclear project),
- scientific support for the Secretariat of the Community Bureau of References (CBR) (non-nuclear project).

V. SERVICE AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

(Nuclear)

The programme comprises five projects covering the following activities:

(a) Joint programme

- informatics,
- training and education,
- fissile material control,
- technical evaluations in support of the Commission.

(b) Supplementary programme

- operation and utilization of the HFR reactor for programmes of the participating States. The free capacity can be placed at the disposal of the JRC without charge or of third parties in return for a fee.

INDICATIVE BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS AND STAFF

	Commitments for expenditure (in MUA)	Staff on 1.1.1977 (1)		Staff on 31.12.1980 (1)	
		Total	of which research staff	Total	of which research staff
<u>1. NUCLEAR SAFETY</u>					
- reactor safety	77.20	564	229	531	207
- plutonium fuels and actinide research	39.29	219	121	212	117
- management of nuclear materials and radioactive waste	21.06	138	64	133	62
	<u>137.55</u>	<u>921</u>	<u>414</u>	<u>876</u>	<u>386</u>
<u>2. FUTURE FORMS OF ENERGY</u>					
- solar energy	14.53	74	35	70	33
- hydrogen	15.33	102	50	100	50
- thermonuclear fusion technology	11.99	62	30	62	30
- high temperature materials	8.20	52	36	50	35
	<u>50.05</u>	<u>290</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>148</u>
<u>3. ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES</u>	35.18	232	109	227	109
<u>4. MEASUREMENTS, STANDARDS AND REFERENCE TECHNIQUES (METRE)</u>	53.37	340	175	328	170
<u>5. SERVICE AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES</u>	33.26	241	107	234	105
T O T A L	309.41	2,024	956	1,947	918
OPERATION AND UTILIZATION OF THE HFR REACTOR (2)	36.59	94	42	91	41
GRAND TOTAL	346.00	2,118	998	2,038	959

(1) Staff included the staff members placed at the disposal of the UNICEF country in accordance with...

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Resolution concerning the Advisory Committees on Research Programme Management.

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With reference to the Commission communication of 31 December 1976 concerning the external relations of the Community in the field of research and development, the Council took note of the Commission's intention to conclude, within the framework of the International Energy Agency, the implementation Agreement relating to the development of and experiments on solar heating and cooling systems.

ECSC

The Council gave the assents requested by the Commission

- pursuant to Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty (housing for ECSC staff)
- pursuant to Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty (redevelopment costs for the Société Sommer Allibert, France).

Statistics

The Council adopted the statement relating to the Communities 1977-1979 Statistics Programme.

In this statement the Council approved in principle the broad lines of the Communities 1977-1979 Statistics Programme. The individual projects will be finalized by the Commission, and if necessary the Council, committees and working parties, account being taken of the comments made by the Council regarding certain individual projects, namely

- the five-yearly enquiry which is to supplement the annual enquiry into the activities of industrial undertakings;
- enquiries into the structure and activities of haulage firms;
- **transport** indicators: arrangements for goods transport market surveys;
- enquiry into the consumption of important raw materials in the various branches of industry.

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Appointments

The Council, acting on a proposal from the Italian Government, appointed Mr Corrado POLITI, Confederazione Generale dell' Industria Italiana, a full member of the European Social Fund to replace Mr G. RANDONE, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 28 October 1977.

The Council, acting on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, also appointed Mr T. JENKINS, T.U.C., a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr WALSH, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 16 September 1978.

Finally, acting on a proposal from the German Government, the Council appointed Mr Werner KIENAPPEL, Bundesvorstand der Industriegewerkschaft Bau - Steine - Erden, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr MARKS, who has died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 4 May 1978.

Food aid

In the context of the milk product aid programmes for 1976 and 1977 the Council recorded its agreement on emergency aid through the intermediary of the Catholic Relief Service for certain sectors of the population of Chile (3,000 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder and 2,000 tonnes of butteroil).

PRESS RELEASE

464th meeting of the Council
- Economic Affairs/Finance -
Brussels, 18 July 1977

President: Mr Gaston GEENS
Minister for Finance
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Gaston GEENS Minister of Finance
Mr Willy CLAES Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Per HAEKKERUP Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Erling JØRGENSEN State Secretary,
 Ministry for Finance

Germany:

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary,
 Federal Ministry for Economic
 Affairs
Mr Joachim HIEHL State Secretary,
 Federal Ministry for Finance

France:

Mr Robert BOULIN Minister responsible for
 Economic and Financial Affairs

Ireland:

Mr George COLLEY Minister for Finance
Mr Martin O'DONOGHUE Minister for Economic Planning
 and Development

Italy:

Mr Gaetano STAMMATTI Minister of the Treasury

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Mr Gaston GEENS, Minister for Finance of Belgium and President-in-Office of the Council, made a statement at the start of the Council meeting on the work programme for the Council on Economic Affairs and Finance which the Belgian Presidency has set itself for the current half year.

The text of the statement is attached to this release.

The President's suggestions will be examined in accordance with the usual procedures. The Council in particular asked the Monetary Committee, the Committee of the Governors of the Central Banks and the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the suggestions made regarding credit mechanisms and to report back to it for its October meeting.

SECOND QUARTERLY EXAMINATION OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE
COMMUNITY

The Council examined the economic situation in the Community on the basis of a Commission communication on economic policy to be followed in 1977 and the preparation of public budgets in 1978.

At the end of its examination the Council signified its agreement on the guidelines, for the Community as a whole and for each individual Member State, relating to the preparation of public budgets for 1978. These guidelines will form the subject of a Council Decision which will be formally adopted at the earliest opportunity after legal and linguistic finalization.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE LONDON MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON
29 AND 30 JUNE 1977

The Council instructed the Monetary Committee and the Economic Policy Committee to carry out a technical examination of the Commission communication on investment and borrowing in the Community. It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to report back to it on the communication in the light of the opinions of those two committees in time for its October meeting.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

At the beginning of this, the first Council meeting on Economics and Finance over which I have the honour to preside, I would like to put before you the objectives, plan of action and work programme for the second half of the year.

I. OBJECTIVES

I think we are all in agreement on the most important objective. We must reduce in practical terms the differences in economic and monetary conditions between the Member States and at the same time reduce the structural differences between our economies.

In my view this is the aim both of our Governments and of the two sides of industry and the Commission, as was clearly shown by the recent tripartite meeting so effectively chaired by our colleague Denis HEALEY.

In addition we must make progress at European level with fiscal harmonization and with the combatting of tax evasion.

Moreover we must ensure that Europe can act as one, speaking with a single voice in international economic and monetary debates. This must apply inter alia at the September meeting of the Interim Committee and at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund.

II. PLAN OF ACTION

1. Reduction of the differences in economic and monetary conditions

This means that priority must be given to our efforts with regard to the policy that must be followed, firstly to reduce unemployment and inflation and secondly to smooth out the differences between the Member States.

We therefore feel that Europe must be active in two fields: first co-ordination in monetary and budgetary policy must be improved and second such improvement must be accompanied by adjustment of the credit mechanisms. The credits available must be expanded. They should also be made subject to more stringent terms. This proposal must be regarded as a continuation of part of the DUISENBERG Plan.

To achieve an improvement in co-ordination in monetary and budgetary policy it is necessary for States to decide on compatible objectives in consultation with one another.

With that in mind we would like all Community States to define the ultimate objectives of their monetary and budgetary policies and in particular to state which target - internal or external balance - takes precedence in the event of a conflict between the two. Consultations should be held at Community level on the objectives defined in this manner and agreement arrived at on them.

There must be consultation at Community level on the choice of the means used by each country to achieve these objectives (e.g. interest rates) and the implications of that choice for the achievement of the other EEC countries' objectives.

Finally - and this is very important - the intermediate targets (money supply, credit, etc.) chosen or to be chosen by the monetary authorities in each country of the Community must be co-ordinated. To be effective these monetary policy targets must be accompanied by precise and compatible budgetary targets.

The acceptance of a coherent, jointly oriented monetary and budgetary policy should lead both to a reduction in the inflation rate differences between EEC Member States and to greater equilibrium in the balances of payments on current and capital account and in this way contribute to greater stability in currency market developments.

To the extent that the improvement of economic and monetary co-ordination is accepted it must be accompanied by adjustment of credit mechanisms within the Community.

In particular we think that the short-term monetary support quotas should be expanded. However such increases in quotas should only be available if the applicant has accepted and observes the above-mentioned intermediate monetary targets and the budgetary targets.

As you are aware, short-term support can benefit all EEC countries and not just the snake countries. The short-term quotas however also determine the amount of credit which may be granted under the terms of the snake after the initial period which may vary between 1 and 2 months. The increase in the short-term quotas would thus also mean a strengthening of the European currency snake. Even though limited to five States, the snake is still an important factor in promotion of the convergence of the economies of the States participating in it.

As an expression of the will to reduce the differences between the snake countries and the other Community Members we proposed that the Member of the Commission responsible for economic and financial questions should attend meetings of the Ministers and Governors of the snake. This is in accordance with the proposal made by the Prime Minister, Mr TINDEMANS, in his report.

Medium-term financial co-operation, for which the amounts were laid down six years ago, should be adjusted, if for no other reason than that a large part of the medium-term credit has already been used up. Although we suggest an increase in medium-term credit, we also propose that it be paid out in instalments, subject to the observance of precise terms laid down for each instalment.

2. Reduction of structural differences

To remedy the lack of structural balance in the social field, the various existing Funds - the Regional Fund, the Social Fund, the EAGGF Guidance Section, the EIB - must be better co-ordinated with one another. The operations of the various Funds and the EIB should gradually come to be regarded as components of a joint structural policy. This policy must encourage at European level the development of key industries with a strong technological bias. In addition efforts must be made to reorganize declining industries and to implement a new international economic order.

Furthermore, the EIB's volume of operations must be increased to finance investment in the least developed parts of the Community and to help projects contributing to economic recovery in areas of industrial decline. The Bank should also give more support to investment in the energy sector. The Commission's proposals concerning investment and loans should be examined thoroughly and without delay in a constructive spirit.

3. Fiscal harmonization

A true common market requires that the Member States form a single economic area with all the characteristics of a domestic market. Tax frontiers must therefore be progressively dismantled.

In concrete terms this means that in particular as regards indirect taxes and corporation tax efforts must be made to harmonize the structures of such taxes.

One of our objectives in this context will be early approval of the draft Directive on the common system of taxation applicable to mergers between companies of different Member States, which has been before the Council for quite some time and whose purpose is to lay down common standards for exemption from corporation tax when mergers of companies take place.

The generalized application of the EEC own resources system, which will enter into force on 1 January 1978, marks an important step towards European integration. However, for the EEC to become financially independent on that date, it will be necessary to adopt a financial regulation laying down the method of calculation of the EEC's own revenue from VAT. An early decision is imperative but, in view of the fact that accounting requirements are already highly complex in most Member States, it must not increase the administrative burden on companies.

Our common fight against tax avoidance demands that first and foremost we approve two draft Directives: one concerning mutual assistance by the Member States in the field of direct taxation, and the other concerning mutual assistance in the collection of VAT and excise duties.

However, we are forced to record that, as with other moral values, the civic conscience of taxpayers has weakened appreciably during the last decade. Official reports issued in several Member States have already revealed a high incidence of tax avoidance.

Such avoidance is a threat to the equilibrium of the Member States' public finances. It distorts competition and upsets the economic and social order, both at national and at international level. Tax avoidance thereby constitutes a major obstacle to economic and monetary union.

We must therefore endeavour to work out the right tax collection system in our countries and utilize public finances in a proper manner. The Commission for its part, will have to do the same for the Community budget.

To secure better co-ordination of our efforts to combat tax evasion I would propose that the Council on fiscal affairs devote some of its discussions to this problem before the end of the year. The Commission could draft a report in preparation for these discussions. This report could be drafted in collaboration with senior fiscal experts from the Member States.

4. Single voice

Experience has already often shown that where the Member States of the Community reached agreement among themselves on major economic and monetary problems and gave evidence of such agreement, this made a very effective contribution towards the achievement of positive solutions on a wider international level. Europe must therefore try to speak with a single voice at the various international meetings dealing with all kinds of economic and international problems. It should do so in particular at the meeting of the IMF Interim Committee in September.

III. - WORK PROGRAMME

Finally, I should like to put before you a work programme aimed at making significant progress in the various areas to which I have just referred.

I would suggest that at our meeting on 19 September we prepare for the meetings of the International Monetary Fund which start in Washington on 24 September.

The Monetary Committee will prepare our meeting when it meets on 9 September.

I would also suggest that, at our meeting in October, we discuss the adaptation of short-term and medium-term credit mechanisms which I have proposed and the Commission proposals concerning investment and borrowing. This examination will have to be prepared by various committees. I would also point out that short-term credit comes within the competence of the Governors of the Central Banks and that the Committee of the Governors will therefore inform us of the results of its work on this subject.

In November we shall devote a third examination to the economic situation and also complete the report on progress towards Economic and Monetary Union, as requested by the European Council in March this year.

Towards the end of the year, we shall also have to devote a meeting to the fiscal problems to which I referred earlier.

This, Gentlemen, is the programme I wished to put before you at the start of this new presidency. I admit that it is ambitious. But when the Ministers meet, it must be to take decisions to enable the Community to make progress. However, the programme I am putting before you is also realistic and pragmatic.

I therefore hope that we shall be able to achieve significant progress together.

PRESS RELEASE

465th meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 20 July 1977

President: Mr Mark EYSKENS,
State Secretary for the Budget
for the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS State Secretary for the Budget

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Joachim HIERLE State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND State Secretary to the Minister
with responsibility for Economy
and Finance

Ireland:

Mr Pearse WYSE Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Antonio Mario MAZZARRINO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Joel BARNETT

Chief Secretary to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

Mr Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

Mr Antonio GIOLITTI

Member

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

DRAWING UP THE DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1978

Opening its discussions on the drawing up of the draft budget for 1978, the Council began by holding an exchange of views, in preparation for the meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament, on a number of general questions arising in connection with the preparatory work on the preliminary draft as submitted by the Commission.

As part of the co-operation between the European Parliament and the Council, it then met a delegation from the European Parliament composed of Mr SCOTT-HOPKINS (Vice-President), Mr LANGE (Chairman of the Committee on Budgets), Mr AIGNER (Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets), Mr SHAW (Rapporteur on the 1978 budget), Lord BRUCE (Rapporteur on the 1977 budget), Mr MEINTE, Mr TERRENOIRE, Mr RADOUX and Mr SPINELLI (Members of the Committee on Budgets).

This meeting gave the delegation from the European Parliament an opportunity to acquaint the Council with the European Parliament's initial reactions to the preliminary draft budget for 1978, particularly as regards its guiding principles and priorities. In addition, the delegation was able to raise some related matters, also arising out of the draft.

After meeting the European Parliament delegation, and before embarking on a detailed examination of the preliminary draft budget, the Council agreed to establish the draft 1978 budget in European units of account (EUA) at the present meeting, without prejudice to any future discussions on the problem of the common interpretation of Article 131 of the Act of Accession. The Council agreed to settle this latter problem as soon as possible and in any case not later than 31 October 1977.

It then examined the remaining problems point by point, bearing in mind the views expressed by the European Parliament delegation. Following this discussion, the Council established the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1978.

This draft budget, which amounts to some 11,330 MEUA in payment appropriations and 11,612 MEUA in commitment appropriations will be submitted to the European Parliament at the September plenary session, in accordance with the budget timetable.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations:

- increasing the volume of the tariff quota opened for 1977 by Regulation (EEC) No 2930/76 for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2742/75 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sector.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2757/75 as regards the accession compensatory amounts and coefficients to be applied thereto for cereals.

These amendments cover mainly the compensatory amounts applicable from 1 August to 31 December 1977 in trade between the Community as originally constituted and the new Member States and between the latter and non-member countries, the amounts being as follows for the cereals listed below:

UA/tonne

	Trade with		
	Denmark	Ireland	United Kingdom
Common wheat	1.96	1.43	8.51
Barley	1.85	3.18	9.05

PRESS RELEASE

46th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 25 and 26 July 1977

President: Mr Henri SIMONET

Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

LIBRARY

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr K.B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mrs Lise ØSTERGAARD Minister without Portfolio with special responsibility for foreign policy matters

Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Louis de GUIRINGAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr André ROSSI Minister for External Trade

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Mario PEDINI Minister for Scientific Research

Mr Vito ROSA Under Secretary of State,
Ministry of Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Frank JUDD Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS President

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI Vice-President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP Vice-President

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER Member

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON Member

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PROGRESS REPORT

The Council took cognizance of a note from the presidency on progress to date on the various problems under examination by the Council meeting in a composition other than that of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs. It briefly discussed certain aspects of the report, particularly the energy and social sectors.

GREECE

The Council prepared the 3rd session of the Conference at Ministerial level between the European Communities and Greece - accession negotiations - which was held on Monday 25 July 1977.

FISHERIES

Spain

The Council requested the Commission to continue its talks with the Spanish authorities in order to reach a solution to certain problems in adjusting the autonomous fishing arrangements currently applicable to Spanish-registered ships. The Council agreed to extend the arrangements at present in force from 1 August to 30 September 1977.

West Africa

The Council took stock of the situation regarding fishing by Community fishermen in the waters of certain west African countries. It took note in particular of the Commission report on the negotiations with Guinea Bissau, Senegal and Cape Verde and of the prospects of entering into negotiations with Mauritania.

The Council likewise took note of the intention of the Commission shortly to submit appropriate proposals regarding the conditions under which fishing agreements could be concluded with each of these countries.

It asked the Commission to take the necessary steps to maintain fishing possibilities for Community fishermen in this area pending the conclusion of the agreements.

EEC-CYPRUS and EEC-MALTA ASSOCIATIONS

Following an exchange of views, the Council agreed to suggest to these countries that the signing of the Protocols which have just been negotiated should take place (at Ambassador level) around mid-September 1977.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare for the implementing of this decision.

RELATIONS WITH LEBANON

The Council agreed to ask the Board of Governors of the European Investment Bank to let it know within what limits and on what terms the Board could consider meeting the request for exceptional aid to Lebanon whereby Lebanon would have access to EIB loans on market terms.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

The Council took note of a report by Mr HAFERKAMP, Vice-President of the Commission, on the recent talks with members of the United States administration, in particular the Special Trade Representative, Mr STRAUSS, about resuming the multilateral trade negotiations according to a detailed timetable.

The Council furthermore approved the Commission communication concerning the possible application of United States retaliatory measures against the refund of VAT on Community exports.

SUGAR NEGOTIATIONS

Following a statement by the United Kingdom delegation the Council held a brief discussion on the situation regarding the negotiation of a new international sugar agreement; it was agreed that the Community bodies would continue their discussions on the matter early in September.

MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURE

The Council heard a statement from the French delegation introducing the French Government's memorandum on the reform of Community rules governing Mediterranean agricultural produce.

The Italian delegation mentioned that it had also just submitted a memorandum to the Council concerning the Mediterranean problems of the Community.

The Council reiterated its request to the Commission to give the matter priority, in view of its wider implications, especially for enlargement.

JET

The Council agreed to continue discussing and take its final decision on the choice of the JET project site at its meeting on 20 September 1977. Consultations between the delegations concerned will take place, under the aegis of the Presidency, at the beginning of September.

The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to settle the remaining details of implementation by that date so that the Council can take a decision on all aspects of the project at the meeting.

The Council instructed the Commission to take the necessary steps to maintain the JET design team in operation until 30 September 1977.

NUCLEAR PROBLEMS

Euratom-Canada Agreement

On the basis of a statement by Commissioner BRUNNER and a report from the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Council adopted a number of guidelines which will enable the Commission to continue its negotiations with Canada on the adaptation of the 1959 Agreement.

INFCEP

The Council discussed the question of the possible participation of the Community in the work of the International Fuel Cycle Evaluation Programme (INFCEP).

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to make the appropriate preparations for the Council meeting on 20 September and to take what practical steps were necessary should the INFCEP programme begin before that date.

RELATIONS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI

After formally taking note of a request for accession to the Convention of Lomé sent by the President of the Republic of Djibouti, Mr HASSAN GOULED APTIDON, to the President of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers, the Council, recognizing the special political importance which the Community attaches to economic stability in an area of Africa which is threatened by political troubles, adopted a Decision temporarily continuing the granting to Djibouti, which became independent on 27 June, of the benefit of the arrangements provided for in the Council Decision of 29 June 1976 on the association of the overseas countries and territories (OCT) to the European Economic Community.

These arrangements, which include provisions on trade, the stabilization of export earnings and financial and technical co-operation, will continue to apply to the new State for one year, on the understanding that the Council of the Communities may well extend its Decision for an appropriate period.

The Council ended its discussion by adopting the following statement on relations with the Republic of Djibouti:

- "1. Pending the accession of the Republic of Djibouti to the Lomé Convention, the Community will support Djibouti's request to take part in the proceedings of the EEC-ACP institutions as an observer.

2. The Community intends to give sympathetic consideration to the request by the Republic of Djibouti concerning the measures it would like to take to ensure representation with the Community.

3. The Council hopes that the Republic of Djibouti will undertake to observe the provisions governing relations between the Community and the overseas countries and territories during the period in which these provisions are temporarily applicable to it.

4. Should the Republic of Djibouti not have acceded to the Lomé Convention by 26 June 1978 the Council will agree to extend its Decision of 25 July 1977 for an appropriate period."

TEXTILES

On the basis of the guidelines put forward by the Commission, the Council was able to reach agreement in principle on the Regulation maintaining the arrangements for the authorization of imports into the Community or certain Member States of cotton yarn and clothing originating in certain non-member countries.

It invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize this agreement and to have it formally approved as quickly as possible by means of the written procedure.

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The Council also reviewed the state of negotiations in the textile sector at the end of the Geneva discussions on the renegotiation of the Multifibre Arrangement.

COMMUNITY POSITION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS DISCUSSIONS

The Council agreed on the approach to be adopted by the Community and the Member States in the United Nations' (General Assembly and ECOSOC) discussions on international economic co-operation following the winding up of the CIEC.

BALL BEARINGS

The Council adopted a Regulation concerning the application of the anti-dumping duty on ball bearings and tapered roller bearings originating in Japan.

The Regulation provides for the introduction of a final anti-dumping duty of 15% for the above products. The application of this duty is however suspended and will be triggered if the main Japanese producers of ball bearings do not abide by their undertaking to review prices.

ZOOTECHNICS

The Council settled the remaining problems concerning the procedure for the decisions implementing the Directive on Zootechnics and adopted

- the Directive concerning pure-bred breeding animals of bovine species
- the Decision establishing a Standing Committee on Zootechnics.

This provision is intended to liberalize intra-Community trade in pure-bred breeding animals of the bovine species and regulates the technical procedures involved.

SHIPBUILDING

After the Council had heard a statement by the French delegation describing the problems besetting the shipbuilding industry, it took note of the Commission's intention of submitting proposals by October covering both the internal and external aspects of shipbuilding.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations

- concerning protective measures on imports of certain motorcycles from Japan;
- maintaining in force the arrangements for the authorization of imports into the United Kingdom of certain knitted or crocheted articles originating in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Food aid

The Council agreed, in view of the urgency of the aid, to Denmark's sending 20,000 tonnes of cereals to Mozambique as an advance on the 1977/1978 plan.

The Council also adopted the official texts of the 1977 aid programmes for milk products in the form of skimmed milk powder and butteroil. The aid programme consists of 105,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 45,000 tonnes of butteroil, and is allocated to various countries and bodies concerned as follows:

PROGRAMME D'AIDES EN LAIT ECREME EN POUDRE DE 1977

P A Y S	MONTANT en tonnes
<u>I. AIDES NORMALES</u>	
Egypte	10.000
Guinée Bissau	100
Pakistan	2.500
Soudan	4.000
Tanzanie	2.000
Yemen R.A.	1.500
Yemen R.D.P.	650
Afganistan	300
E.C.A.	150
Ghana	2.300
Guinée Conakry	900
Indonésie	1.250
Ouganda (1)	500
Philippines	2.750
Rwanda	1.000
Sri Lanka	2.000
Sao-Tomé Principe	150
Honduras	1.000
Pérou	1.500
Syrie	500

(1) Par l'intermédiaire d'un organisme spécialisé

P A Y S	MONTANT en tonnes
Uruguay	500
Jamaïque	500
El Salvador	200
Libéria	200
Malte	150
Maurice	500
II. <u>ACTIONS D'URGENCE</u>	
Botswana	30
Burundi	250
Cap Vert	650
Ethiopie	370
Jordanie	1.500
Lesotho	30
Mauritanie	1.000
Mozambique	1.000
Somalie	2.750
Vietnam	5.000
Zambie	900
III. <u>INSTITUTIONS</u>	
CICR	2.500
LICROSS	500
PAM	27.000
PAM (Portugal)	500
UNICEF	11.000
IV. <u>RESERVE</u>	12.920
TOTAL	105.000

PROGRAMME D'AIDES EN BUTTEROIL DE 1977

P A Y S	MONTANT en tonnes
I. AIDES NORMALES	
Egypte	2.800
Guinée Bissau	200
Pakistan	2.250
Soudan	1.000
Yemen R.A.	700
Yemen R.D.P.	700
Afganistan	200
E.C.A.	150
Ghana	200
Guinée Conakry	200
Ouganda (1)	200
Sénégal	200
Sri Lanka	200
Sao-Tomé Principe	200
Honduras	300
Pérou	500
Syrie	400

(1) Par l'intermédiaire d'un organisme spécialisé

P A Y S	MONTANT en tonnes
II. <u>ACTIONS D'URGENCE</u>	
Botswana	20
Burundi	300
Cap Vert	250
Ethiopie	750
Inde (2)	3.000
Jordanie	1.000
Lesotho	20
Mauritanie	1.200
Mozambique	550
Somalie	1.500
Vietnam	2.300
Zambie	550
III. <u>INSTITUTIONS</u>	
CIOR	200
LICROSS	200
PAM	10.000
UNICEF	2.000
UNRWA (3)	3.200
UNHCR (Angola)	2.000
UNHCR (Chypre)	1.000
CRS (Chili) (4)	2.000
IV. <u>RESERVE</u>	2.460
TOTAL	45.000

(2) Action déjà décidée par anticipation par le Conseil le 5 avril 1977

(3) Action déjà décidée par anticipation par le Conseil le 16 juin 1977

(4) Action déjà soumise à l'approbation du Conseil

Fisheries

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, Regulations

- laying down interim measures for the conservation and management of certain herring stocks;
- amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 350/77 as regards measures prohibiting the fishing of Norway pout.

The Council also agreed to the autonomous arrangements applicable to fishermen from the Faroe Islands as from 1 August 1977.

ECSC

The Council was consulted under Article 12 of Commission Decision 73/287/ECSC of 15 July 1973 concerning coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry of the Community, on a draft Commission Decision amending Decision 3544/73/ECSC implementing Decision 73/287/ECSC concerning coking coal and coke.

Research

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission communication on the action to be taken on the feasibility study -- Europe + 30 -- and its proposal for a research programme on forecasting and assessment in the field of science and technology, and to make a report as soon as possible for the Council of Ministers responsible for research.

Social questions

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities,

- Directives

- = on the education of the children of migrant workers;
- = on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the provision of safety signs at places of work;

- Decisions

- = amending Decision 75/459/EEC on action by the European Social Fund for persons affected by employment difficulties and Decision 76/206/EEC on intervention by the European Social Fund in favour of persons occupied in the textile and clothing industries;
- = on action by the European Social Fund for migrant workers and handicapped persons.

The Council appointed the following as full members of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work

- on a proposal by the Danish Government, Mrs Bente CHRISTENSEN, Formand for Foreningen af autoriserede Ergoterapeuter, to replace Mrs Kirsten STALLKNECHT, who has resigned, for the remainder of Mrs STALLKNECHT's term of office, i.e. until 4 May 1978;
- on a proposal by the Netherlands Government, Mr E. TINGA, Pvl. Directeur-Generaal van de Arbeid, to replace Mr H.B. ELDERING, who has resigned, for the remainder of Mr ELDERING's term of office, i.e. until 4 May 1978.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal by the Commission, Mr Romain KUGENER, Chef du service du personnel de la Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer luxembourgeois, as full member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions to replace Mr SCHLIESSER, who has resigned, for the remainder of Mr SCHLIESSER's term of office, i.e. until 14 March 1979.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, Decisions

- concluding the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and the Protocol for the prevention of the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft;
- concluding a Convention for the protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution and an Additional Agreement to the Agreement signed in Berne on 29 April 1963 concerning the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution.

Data processing

The Council agreed to a series of joint data processing projects following on from the first series of joint projects adopted by the Council in this field on 22 July 1976.

These projects concern:

- a series of studies in the field of software portability aimed at developing portable software, i.e. software which can be treated by different machines in order to make the use of computers more independent of their make and to reduce conversion costs;
- a series of studies concerning methods of using and protecting data; these studies aim to ensure the confidentiality and security of data with the particular concern of protecting the individual from the computer, the efficient use of computers by improving programming techniques and better use and management of data base systems;
- a 4-year experimental project to develop high speed data communication techniques in Europe; this project will consist of a series of data communication experiments carried out between the European Research Centre (CERN) and various European laboratories and will make use of the Satellite designed by the European Space Agency (ESA);

- a study of data processing systems for information on imports/exports for the purpose of determining the long-term conditions, in the administration of the Customs union and in the Common Agricultural Policy for the transmission and rapid processing of data on imports and exports, on the agricultural market and on its financial management;
- a series of exploratory studies to determine subsequent projects of Community interest.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 878/77 on the exchange rates applicable to additional aid for the replanting of orange and mandarin trees.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision on the preparation of public budgets for 1978.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

467th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 13 September 1977

President: Mr. Antoine HUMBLET
Minister for Agriculture of
the Kingdom of Belgium

1021/77 (Presse 103)

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSAGER Minister for Agriculture

Mr Hans Jørgen KRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister for Agriculture

Mr Jacques BLANC State Secretary at the Ministry
of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Jim GIBBONS Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Agriculture

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS
Mr Albert BERCHEM

Minister for Agriculture
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

The Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

The United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN
Mr Gavin STRANG

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

The Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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DANISH "GREEN" KRONE

The Council adopted the Commission proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation No 878/77 on the exchange rate to be applied in agriculture to the Danish krone. The aim of this Regulation is to align the "green" krone on the official rate following the recent devaluation of the Danish krone, and will consequently avoid the application of monetary compensatory amounts to Denmark.

The following table indicates the effects of this measure:

Former rate	New rate	Deval. in %	Effects	
			on prices in %	on MCA's in points
1 DKr=0.122877 UA	1 DKr=0.116733 UA	5	+ 5.263	0
1 UA =8.13822 DKr	1 UA =8.56656 DKr			

In addition, Mr GUNDELACH referred to the undertaking which the Commission had already entered into to submit a fresh proposal in the agri-monetary sector at the beginning of October. He said that the Commission would also submit the result of the examination it had made of the problems of distortion of competition arising from the system of compensatory amounts.

WINE MARKET

The Council took note of a statement by the French delegation, which the Italian delegation endorsed, concerning the wine market situation and the measures to be taken to alleviate difficulties as a result of the 1977 harvest.

The French Government had asked the Commission to examine all the measures which might be taken pursuant to Article 38 of the basic wine regulation, including the granting of aid for the use of concentrated musts to enrich the 1977 wine harvest.

Mr GUNDELACH informed the Council of the need for essential additional information before the Commission could state its conclusions in the matter.

HOP MARKET

The Council took note of a statement by the German delegation, endorsed by the Belgian delegation, concerning the situation in the hop market and the measures to be introduced to alleviate the difficulties which had arisen.

The Commission announced its intention, not only of forwarding to the Council in the near future a proposal for implementing the structural arrangements already contemplated, but also of bringing forward the submission of its report on aid in this sector.

MILK

The Council briefly considered a number of questions connected with the implementation of its decision concerning the co-responsibility levy in the milk products sector. It agreed to return to the subject at its next meeting on 26 and 27 September 1977 on the basis of a Commission report.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted the Regulation concluding an agreement with Austria, under Article XXVIII of the GATT, on the unbinding by that country of the tariff concessions for cheese.

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The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision setting up a consultation procedure on relations between Member States and third countries in shipping matters and on action relating to such matters in international organization.

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On a proposal from the British Government, the Council appointed as full members of the Committee of the European Social Fund

- Mr David DEUCHAR, Education, Training and Technology Department, Confederation of British Industry, to replace Mr Melville IPE, full member, who has resigned,
- Mr D.J. HODGKINS, Department of Employment, to replace Mrs KENT, full member, who has resigned,

for the remainder of their predecessors' terms of office, i.e. until 28 October 1977.

Acting on proposals from the United Kingdom and Danish Governments respectively, the Council appointed as full members of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training:

- Mr H.N. TOMLINSON, Assistant Director, Manpower and Training Engineering Employers' Federation, to replace Mr E. de B. MARSH, full member, who has resigned;
- Mr O.J. MIKKELSEN, Direktoratet for Erhvervsuddannelserne, to replace J.A. MORTENSEN, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of their terms of office, i.e. until 20 June 1978.

Acting on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr A.B. MARTIN, Health and Safety Executive, as a full member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr D. RICHARDSON, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 4 May 1978.

Acting on a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr H.J. CURLIS, General and Municipal Workers' Union, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr B.G. HARKIN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 16 September 1978.

Acting on a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Morten Kjaergaard HANSEN as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training to replace Mr SCHIØLLER, alternate, for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 5 April 1979.

PRESS RELEASE

468th Council meeting

- Economics/Finance -

Brussels, 19 September 1977

Chairman: Mr Gaston GEENS,
Minister for Finance
of the Kingdom of Belgium

LIBRARY

The Netherlands:

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

The United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

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ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND
THE WORLD BANK

The Council dealt with matters preparatory to the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank which are to be held in Washington at the end of this month. It approved the statements to be made on behalf of the Community at these meetings by the Council President.

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council held an exchange of views on the latest developments in the economic situation in the Community, and in particular on the economic policy measures recently taken or currently under examination in the different countries.

It agreed to continue its exchange of views at its meeting on 17 October 1977.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

469th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 20 September 1977

President: Mr Henri SIMONET,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mrs Lise ØSTERGAARD Minister without Portfolio,
with special responsibility
for foreign policy questions

Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

France:

Mr Pierre-Christian TAITTINGER State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Vito ROSA Deputy State Secretary,
Merchant Navy Office

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Edmund DELL Secretary of State for Trade

Mr Frank JUDD Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP Vice-President

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER Member

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON Member

20.IX.77

RELATIONS WITH SPAIN

The Council agreed to acknowledge the letters in which Mr A. SUAREZ, President of the Spanish Government, applied on 26 July 1977 for Spanish accession to the European Communities. At the same time it agreed to set in train the relevant procedure laid down by the Treaties.

20.IX.77

EURATOM - IAEA RELATIONS

The Council agreed on the basis for an arrangement between Euratom and the IAEA on the introduction of verification by the Euratom Control Agency in respect of nuclear fuel reprocessing plants and light-water reactors. The Council also laid down a set of guidelines to assist the Commission in the further negotiations with the Vienna agency on other establishments.

WORK IN PREPARATION FOR THE INFCEP

The Council noted that the Commission expects to be invited to attend the INFCEP organizing conference and intends to accept.

20.IX.77

ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY DIRECT UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

The Council took stock of progress in legislative procedures in the Member States for instituting elections of representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage; all the Governments confirmed their determination to do their utmost to terminate these procedures in good time for the elections to be held in May/June 1978.

The Council agreed to return to this matter regularly.

SEA FISHING

The Council examined certain aspects of the external part of its fisheries policy, namely, a system of licences for controlling the fishing activities of certain non-member countries, the autonomous regime applicable to certain non-member countries as from 1 October 1977 and the difficulties encountered by Community fishermen off the West African coasts.

The Council agreed that as from 1 October 1977 the Commission would issue licences to vessels from non-member countries which were subject to such a licensing system and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the procedures for administering this system.

As regards the fishing possibilities of the Soviet Union, Poland and the German Democratic Republic, the Council agreed to extend the status quo by 2 months in order to permit the negotiations on the envisaged framework agreements with those countries to be concluded.

The Council also agreed on the system to be applied to the Faroe Islands for the remainder of 1977.

20.IX.77

Finally, the Council took note of a report by Vice-President GUNDELACH on fishing relations with a number of other non-member countries and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work in this area. In this connection, the Council took particular note of the progress in the negotiations with certain West African countries and recognised the need to find a solution to the difficulties encountered by the fishermen of certain Member States in that region.

SUGAR

The Council discussed the attitude to be adopted by the Community during the second phase of the Negotiating Conference on sugar now in progress in Geneva. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to make active efforts over the next few days to arrive at joint conclusions.

TEXTILES

The Council held a general discussion which allowed delegations to express their views on the various parts of this Commission recommendation. As a result of this discussion the Council was able to reach certain conclusions which will serve as a frame of reference for the Commission.

In this connection, the Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to continue its work to enable the Directives for the forthcoming bilateral talks to be approved in the near future; these talks are expected to start on 10 October 1977.

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The Commission had put before the Council a proposal for a Regulation confirming, until the end of 1977, a series of provisional safeguard measures which it had taken on 10 August with regard to textiles.

This Regulation (¹) was adopted by the Council with certain amendments proposed by the Commission as a result of developments that had taken place since its initial proposal was finalized.

(¹) This Regulation will be published shortly in the Official Journal.

20.IX.77

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation introducing a Community export declaration form.

The Council also adopted Decisions on:

- the signing of
 - = an Agreement between the EEC and the Socialist Republic of Romania on trade in textile products
 - = an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and the Socialist Republic of Romania on trade in textile products
- the conclusion of an agreement on macaroni, spaghetti and similar products between the EEC and Austria negotiated under Article XXVIII of the GATT.

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Acting on proposals from the Danish Government, the Council appointed

- Mr Erik TØTTRUP, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, full member, in place of Mr Hans ØHRSTRØM, who has resigned;
- Mrs Grete REDDER, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, alternate, in place of Mr Erik TØTTRUP, who has resigned;
- Mr Gorm HELSTEEN JESSEN, Direktoratet for arbejdsmarkedsudannelserne, alternate, in place of Mrs Bente FLINDT SØRENSEN, who has resigned;

as members of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training, for the remainder of the respective terms of office, which are due to expire on 20 June 1978.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

470th meeting of the Council

Fisheries/Agriculture

Brussels, 26 and 27 September 1977

President: Mr Antoine HUMBLET,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister of Agriculture

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN Minister of Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFF State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister of Agriculture

Mr Marcel CAVAILLE State Secretary,
Ministry for Public Investments
and Regional Development with
special responsibility for
Transport (Fisheries)

Mr Jacques BLANC State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Jim GIBBONS Minister for Agriculture

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Fisheries

27.IX.77

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA

Minister of Agriculture

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Minister of Agriculture

Mr Albert BERCHEM

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.N. VAN DER STEE

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Bruce MILLAN

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Gavin STRANG

Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

The Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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HERRING

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation laying down interim measures for the conservation and management of North Sea herring.

This Regulation extends the ban on fishing North Sea herring until 31 October 1977, pending the Council's discussions, at its meeting on 24 October next, on definitive internal fisheries arrangements.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation prohibiting for an indefinite period the direct fishing and landing of herring for industrial purposes other than human consumption.

This Regulation applies to fishermen who are nationals of Member States as well as to those of non-member countries in all Community waters. It has proved necessary in view of the precarious state of herring stocks in Community waters and the imperative need to conserve those stocks for human consumption.

RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Community the Regulations laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Finland and Portugal and to fisheries vessels from the Faroe Islands.

These Regulations extend the existing autonomous arrangements for a period of three months as from 1 October 1977. They set forth the conditions and procedures to be complied with by the fishing vessels of the third countries in question and stipulate inter alia that licences will henceforth be delivered by the Commission.

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The Council also adopted the Regulations extending until 30 November 1977 the fishing arrangements applicable to the GDR and Poland.

With regard to autonomous arrangements for fishing vessels flying the USSR flag, the Council - following the receipt of certain information from the Soviet authorities regarding Community fishing activities in the Barents Sea - directed the Presidency and the Commission to make the necessary requests to clarify the situation.

CATCH QUOTAS NORTH OF 62° NORTH

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation laying down the following distribution among the Member States of the catch quotas allocated by Norway to the Community in the waters situated north of 62° latitude North for the period from 1 September to 31 December 1977:

1 September - 31 December 1977

Species	Quota	Allocation per Member State
Cod	18,500 tonnes	FRANCE 3,200 tonnes GERMANY 2,300 tonnes UNITED KINGDOM 13,000 tonnes Other Member States token entry
Haddock	13.3% as by-catch of cod	
Saithe	5,000 tonnes	FRANCE 400 tonnes GERMANY 3,500 tonnes UNITED KINGDOM 1,100 tonnes Other Member States token entry
Greenland Halibut	1,300 tonnes	UNITED KINGDOM 1,300 tonnes Other Member States token entry

In the same Regulation, the Council fixed the catch quota for herring from West of Scotland stocks which vessels flying the flag of Norway are authorized to take for the same period.

IMPORTS FROM NEW ZEALAND

The Council took note of the report from the Commission on the application of Protocol No 18 to the Act of Accession on the import of New Zealand butter and cheese into the United Kingdom during 1976, and there was an exchange of views.

The Council then discussed the price to be observed at the cif stage for imports of New Zealand butter into the United Kingdom. At the end of its debate, the Council adopted the Regulation raising the price from 107.16 UA to 117.88 UA per 100 kg with effect from 1 October 1977.

It was agreed that the Commission would continue its discussions with the New Zealand authorities on the basis of the provisions of Protocol No 18.

CO-RESPONSIBILITY LEVY IN THE MILK SECTOR

The Council took note of a report by the Commission representative on the application of a co-responsibility levy as from 16 September 1977 and on the current preparation of a programme of measures promoting the extension of the milk products market.

The Council was informed of progress in administrative work within the Member States and at Community level and agreed to resume its examination of this item at its next meeting scheduled for 10 and 11 October 1977.

STRUCTURES POLICY

In reply to a question on progress made with the structures policy and an accompanying question on Mediterranean agricultural problems, Vice-President GUNDELACH stated that the Commission had practically completed a number of texts to serve as a basis for the forthcoming discussions by the Council on the future direction of the common agricultural structures policy, particularly with reference to Mediterranean agriculture.

The Council took note of the Commission's intention of submitting by 19 October 1977 a communication on the Mediterranean policy comprising a summary of studies on the imbalance between the Mediterranean region and the remainder of the Community together with an outline of projected proposals regarding market organizations for certain agricultural products and structural policy. The Commission intends to submit specific proposals on Mediterranean questions in these two areas in December 1977.

With reference to more wide-ranging structural problems, the Commission will report to the Council in the very near future on the experience gained in implementing existing Directives concerning structural policy, and will propose certain adjustments to them. Additional proposals will be submitted subsequently.

TRANSFER OF COMMON WHEAT

Following an exchange of views, the Council signified its agreement in principle to the Commission proposal for the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of 200,000 tonnes of common wheat held by the German intervention agency.

It nevertheless agreed to direct the Special Committee on Agriculture to re-examine the technical details for the transportation of this quantity and to finalize the relevant texts in order to enable the Council to arrive at a formal decision by the most expeditious means.

WINE

The Council adopted certain adjustments to the wine regulations supplementing those made in July and concerning the fixing of representative and weighted average prices, the acidification and de-acidification of wines and the relevant oenological processes.

The Council also noted the fact that at the request of the French delegation, supported by the Italian delegation, the Commission would in the near future be submitting a proposal concerning the granting of aid to certain producers for the use of concentrated must in the making of table wine in certain disaster-stricken wine-growing areas. The Council recorded its agreement in principle to this measure and instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to finalize the Regulation as soon as possible so that it could be formally adopted by means of the quickest procedure.

SUGAR

The Council agreed upon additional directives for the Community's position during the second stage of the Negotiating Conference on sugar currently under way in Geneva.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements together with the Commission replies where applicable:

- on the quality criteria for rye for intervention
(Danish delegation)
 - on imports of apples and pears into the Community
(United Kingdom delegation)
 - on the recovery and re-utilization of aid from the
Guidance Section of the EAGGF in implementation of
Regulation No 3171/75
(Italian delegation)
 - on the Commission's schedule of work as regards
Mediterranean agriculture
(French delegation)
 - on the sale of intervention butter at reduced prices
(Italian delegation).
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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- Decisions:

- = on concerted action by the European Economic Community in the field of the treatment and use of sewage sludge;
- = authorizing the tacit renewal or continued operation of certain Treaties of Friendship, Trade and Navigation and similar agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the field of vision of motor vehicle drivers.

The Council likewise adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Japan.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a series of Decisions on priority projects in the field of informatics. These projects include:

- a series of informatics projects in the field of software portability;
- a series of studies in support of the use of informatics;

- an experimental application project in high-speed data-transmission techniques;
- a number of exploratory studies in the field of informatics:
- a study of informatics systems for the processing of data on imports/exports and on the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations.

The Council also amended its Decision of 27 July 1976 setting up an Advisory Committee on Joint Data Processing Projects to take account of this new series of projects.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2742/75 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sectors.

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Acting on a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr John LYNCH, Director of Business Policy, Confederation of Irish Industry, member of the European Social Fund Committee in place of Mr T.A. LARKIN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 28 October 1977.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr R.S. ALLISON, Department of Employment, member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions in place of Mr N.S. FORWARD, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 14 March 1979.

Lastly, on a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Philippe FREDERIC-MOREAU, Adjoint délégué à la Sécurité du CNPF, alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr Jacques DUBUISSON, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 4 May 1978.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

471st meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 11 October 1977

President: Mr Antoine HUMBLET,

Minister for Agriculture
and Small Firms and Trades
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister of Agriculture and Small Firms and Trades

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister of Agriculture

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN Minister of Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT State Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Jim GIBBONS Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Minister of Agriculture

Mr Albert BERCHEM

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.N. VAN DER STEE

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Gavin STRANG

Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

The Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

NORWAY POUT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending from 15 to 31 October 1977 the ban on fishing for Norway pout, with the western limit of the zone being moved in from 4° to 3°.

The limits of the banned zone are now as follows:

- east coast of the United Kingdom at latitude 56° 00' North;
- latitude 56° 00' North - longitude 00° 00';
- latitude 60° 00' North - longitude 00° 00';
- latitude 60° 00' North - longitude 03° 00' West;
- latitude 58° 30' North - longitude 03° 00' West;
- east coast of the United Kingdom at latitude 58° 30'.

This extension of the temporary ban is to enable the Council to re-examine the matter in the substantive debate on internal fisheries arrangements scheduled for the meeting on 24 and 25 October 1977.

TRANSFER OF COMMON WHEAT

After settling the final details of implementation, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of 200,000 tonnes of common wheat of bread-making quality held by the German intervention agency.

This decision falls within the context of the Council's decision in principle of 25 and 26 April 1977 and has proved advisable because of supply difficulties on the Italian market.

CEREAL EXPORT REFUNDS

Following a request by the Italian delegation, the Council took note of a Commission statement on its general policy regarding export refunds for cereals.

POTATOES

The Council discussed the Commission proposal on the common organization of the market in potatoes, with particular reference to the basic guidelines underlying the proposed system.

At the end of the discussion, the Council agreed to ask the Commission to prepare a study with a view to a possible amendment of the original proposal in the light of the comments made.

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The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending Directive 66/403/EEC on the marketing of seed potatoes.

HOPS

The Council adopted two Regulations on hops in the official languages of the Communities.

The first Regulation concerns the ban on the extension of areas under hops registered in respect of each individual producer as at 30 June 1977 while maintaining the possibility of substitute crops, and aid for conversion to other varieties and restructuring (max. of 1800 UA/ha, calculated on the basis of actual costs), accompanied by the obligation to reduce the areas by at least 40% and paid only to recognized producer groups. In the case of grubbing-up, the total amount of such aid would be intended as compensation for future investments.

The second Regulation amends Regulation (EEC) No 879/73 on the granting and reimbursement of aid accorded by the Member States to recognized producer groups in the hops sector by including those which were already recognized under the old rules insofar as they have incurred expenditure in adapting to the criteria laid down.

The Commission announced its intention of submitting a report on developments in this sector before the end of the next year of application of the measures in question.

APPLE MARKET

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal for a Regulation temporarily and totally suspending the autonomous CCT duties (14%) on dessert apples until 31 December 1977, the Council confined itself to a preliminary discussion on the subject.

The Council agreed to instruct the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the question as a matter of urgency once the European Parliament had delivered its Opinion so that a decision could be taken in the near future.

The Commission stated that it intended shortly to put proposals to the Management Committee regarding authorization to market grade III apples.

FRESH POULTRYMEAT

The Council briefly discussed the proposal for a Directive on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat.

It agreed to return to this question at its next meeting, which is scheduled for 7 and 8 November, the Permanent Representatives Committee being requested to seek a solution in the meantime to the remaining problems raised by the proposal.

EGGS AND POULTRY

The Council recorded its agreement to the principles underlying the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2967/76 laying down common standards for the water content of frozen and deep-frozen chickens, hens and cocks, the provisions of which follow up the decision of 19 July 1977 postponing certain dates for the implementation of that Regulation and stipulate that common standards should also be applied to exports to third countries.

The Special Committee on Agriculture was asked to find a formula which would make it possible to maintain existing patterns of exports to certain third countries.

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The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2778/75 laying down rules for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for poultrymeat and Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff, together with the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2773/75 laying down rules for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for eggs and Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council took note of the introductory statement by the Commission on the amendment of the common organization of the market in beef and veal and of the Commission report on the respective merits of the systems of premiums and intervention measures for the sector.

The Council agreed to hold a substantive debate on the subject at a later date. It instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the report and prepare its discussions on the matter.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements, together with the Commissions reply where appropriate:

- veterinary problems regarding the implementation of the Directive on third countries (Netherlands delegation);
- amendment to be made to Directive 64/433/EEC as regards boar meat (Netherlands delegation);
- intra-Community trade in pieces of fresh meat of 3 kg or less (Irish delegation);
- sale of butter at reduced prices (Italian delegation);
- problem concerning the introduction of compensatory amounts on pasta made from durum wheat (Belgian delegation).

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities Decisions:

- amending the Annex to the fifth Decision (76/538/EEC) on the equivalence of field inspections carried out in third countries on seed-producing crops;
- amending the Annex to the fifth Decision (76/539/EEC) on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate exchanges of letters between the EEC, of the one part, and Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Turkey, of the other part, to renew for the period from 1 November 1977 to 31 October 1978 the additional amount to be deducted under certain circumstances from the levy on imports into the Community of untreated olive oil originating in those countries.

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On a proposal from the Netherlands Government, the Council appointed Miss G.A. de LANGE, Sociaal-ekonomisch staffunktionaris bij het Koninklijk Nederlands Landbouw Comité, an alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr de HELJ, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 28 October 1977.

On a proposal from the Netherlands Government, the Council also appointed Mr J.A. van TOL, Industriebond NKV, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work, to replace Mr S. JANSSEN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 4 May 1978.

On a proposal from the Commission, the Council appointed Mr Erik TØTTRUP, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to replace Mr Hans ØHRSTRØM, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 15 October 1978.

The Council adopted a Decision appointing the members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers provided for in Regulation No 1612/68 for the period from 11 October 1977 to 10 October 1979.

The following are appointed

(a) members

(b) alternate members

A. Government representatives

Belgium	Mr J. DEQUAN	Mr J. DENYS	Mr Ph. DOMS
Germany	Dr R. MILLER	Dr E. STOVE	Mme U. POHL
Danmark	Mr P. KIRSTEIN	Mr H. BORRESCHMIDT	Mr K. RUDFELD
France	Mr J. COURBIN	Mr M. REMONDON	Mr M. RAMOND
Ireland	Mr E.R. O'NEILL	Mr P. LEONARD	Mr K. BONNER
Italy	Dr U. TAVERNINI	Dr G. FALCHI	Dr P. COZZOLINO
Luxembourg	Mr F. EWEN	Mr F. NIMAX	Mr E. QUARING
Netherlands	Mr W.A. RENARDEL DE LAVALETTE	Mr J.W.S. PABON	Drs A. VESSEUR
United Kingdom	Mr R. CONNELL	Mr J. RIMINGTON

(a) members(b) alternate membersB. Representatives of employers' organizations

Belgium	Mr D. DENORRE	Mr A. THIEFFRY	Mr F. LARDOT
Germany	Dr W.D. LINDNER	Mr R. WEBER	Mr H. GUNTHER
Denmark	Mr C.J. CLEMMENSEN	Mr P.E. BORGQVIST	Mr J. STENBJERRE
France	Mr B. VRILLON	Mr LENOBLE	Mr M. PARION
Ireland	Mr J.C. FEGEN	Mr L.F. STEEN	Mr G.F. DEMPSEY
Italy	Dr E. PALLADINI	Dr R. SORACE	Avv G. CICERO
Luxembourg	Mr M. WAGNER	Mr F. WEYLER	Mr J. PFEIFFEN- SCHNEIDER
Netherlands	Drs J.A.P. GREVERS	Mr B.M.J. PAUW	Drs N.A. VAANDRAGER
United Kingdom	Mr W.H. TAYLOR	Mr D. TYNAN	Mr P. BRADBURY

C. Trade union representatives

Belgium	Mr X. VERBOVEN	Mr W. CANINI	Mr A. DECLERCQ
Germany	Mr E. DUDA	Mr E. KASTLEINER	Mr E. SCHUPETA
Denmark	Mr H. HANSEN	Mr E. SØNDER	Mr P. ANDERSEN
France	Mr M. APOSTOLO	Mr W. GITLER	Mr P. CAUZELIN
Ireland	Mr J. WALSH	Mr T. HEERY	Mr F. KENNEDY
Italy	Mr G. CAVAZZUTI	Mr G. FERIOLI	Mr W. CERFEDA
Luxembourg	Mr E. BAUSCH	Mr H. DUNKEL	Mr A. MIRKES
Netherlands	Mr C.N.M. COMMANDEUR	Mr D.H. GRASMAN	Mr J.H. ter HORST
United Kingdom	Mr J. JARVIS	Mr S. PEMBERTON	Mr J. MACGOUGAN

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

472nd meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Luxembourg, 17 October 1977

President: Mr Gaston GEENS,
Minister for Finance of
the Kingdom of Belgium

17.X.77

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Gaston GEENS

Minister for Finance

Mr Willy CLAES

Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Per HAEKKERUP

Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr Kurt HANSEN

State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans APEL

Federal Minister for Finance

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN

State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Mr Otto SCHLECHT

State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Robert BOULIN

Minister responsible for Economic and Financial Affairs

Ireland:

Mr George COLLEY

Minister for Finance

Mr Martin O'DONOGHUE

Minister for Economic Planning and Development

Italy:

Mr Gaetano STAMMATI

Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Finance

The Netherlands:

Mr J.H. LUBBERS

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President.

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17.X.77

CONCLUSION BY THE PRESIDENT

1. The Council examined the measures to be taken to deal with the present economic situation.
2. It agreed with the overall strategy proposed by the Commission for the Community.

This strategy entails a purposeful policy in the Community so as to obtain:

- a minimum growth rate of 4 to 4½% in the Community's GDP in real terms resulting from 1% additional growth in internal demand without increasing production costs
 - an improvement in the situation on the labour market by implementing a more dynamic policy in the area of employment and vocational training and the development of labour mobility
 - a reduction in the inflation rate in the Community to 8%, with a reduction in the spread of rates to a range of 4 to 10%.
3. These objectives are achievable provided that efforts are pursued in a co-ordinated and purposeful manner by all the member countries and in collaboration with the other industrialized countries. It is recognized that the

responsibility for maintaining internal demand at an adequate level lies firstly with the relatively strong countries, but that other countries too can make their contribution to strengthening the economy.

4. The Council has decided to examine at each of its meetings the implementation of this general strategy by the member countries. On 21 November 1977, it will establish the economic policy guidelines appropriate for each Member State.
5. (a) The Council considers that the implementation of this general economic strategy must be accompanied by an adaptation of credit mechanisms, together with a strengthening of procedures aimed at ensuring by effective means that the economic policy conditions linked to these mechanisms are properly fulfilled.
- (b) The Council took note of the interim reports of the Monetary Committee, the Committee of the Governors of the Central Banks and the Economic Policy Committee concerning
 - the suggestions made by the Belgian delegation concerning the adaptation of credit mechanisms,
 - the communication from the Commission concerning investment and borrowing in the Community.

The Council invited these Committees to submit their final reports in time to enable it to take a decision on these matters at its meeting on 21 November 1977.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

473rd meeting of the Council
- Foreign Affairs/Finance -
Luxembourg, 17 October 1977

President: Mr Henri SIMONET,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

LIBRARY

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Gaston GEENS Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr K.B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Joachim HIEHLE State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Jean-François DENIAU State Secretary to the Minister for
Foreign Affairs
Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND State Secretary to the Minister
responsible for Economic Affairs
and Finance

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr George COLLEY Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Gaetano STAMMATI Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Finance

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Joel BARNETT

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Mr Frank JUDD

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

17.X.77

OWN RESOURCES -- VAT COLLECTION

The Council approved the details of a provisional five-year arrangement for VAT to be made available as an own resource of the Community.

This decision enables discussions to continue with a view to the adoption of the Financial Regulation necessary for the finalization of the integral system of Community own resources by 1 January 1978.

The Danish delegation said it was maintaining its general reservation on this Regulation, which was linked to the achievement of reasonable progress towards solution of the problem raised by the agricultural compensatory amounts.

17.X.77

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 131 OF THE ACT OF ACCESSION

After an exchange of views on this subject, the Council agreed to postpone the decision on the implementation of Article 131 of the Act of Accession until its meeting on 21 and 22 November 1977.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

474th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 17 and 18 October 1977

President: Mr Henri SIMONET,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr K.B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary,
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Klaus VON DOHNANYI Minister of State,
 Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr André ROSSI Minister for External Trade
Mr Jean-François DENIAU State Secretary to the Minister for
 Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs

18.X.77

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Edmund DELL

Minister of Commerce

Mr Frank JUDD

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

18.X.77

MEDITERRANEAN

After a broad discussion, in the course of which the Commission confirmed its intention of submitting specific and detailed proposals before the end of the year, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to study the matters of which the Commission had informed it at the meeting with a view to working out guidelines and suggestions which might serve as a basis for further Commission discussions.

ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE

The Council took the necessary steps to prepare for the 4th session of the Conference at Ministerial level between the European Communities and Greece - accession negotiations - held in Luxembourg on Monday 17 October 1977.

18.X.77

COMMON FUND

The Council agreed on the general outlines of the common position which the Community and the Member States would adopt for the resumption of discussions and negotiations on the Common Fund, both within the Group of industrialized countries ("Group B") and within UNCTAD (Geneva, 7 November - 2 December 1977).

The Council will discuss this question again at its next meeting in November.

CSCE - Basket II

The Council defined the attitude to be taken by the Community delegation at the Belgrade Conference to problems relating to the organization of conferences on energy and transport.

18.X.77

GATT - MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

The Council heard a detailed statement from the Commission on the progress made with the preparation of all the matters to be dealt with in the final round of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations and in particular on the talks which have recently been held with the American authorities on this subject.

The Council held an exchange of views, during which the delegations had the opportunity of stating their positions.

The Council agreed to take stock of the situation again at its meeting on 21 November 1977.

TEXTILES SECTOR

Following a brief exchange of views during which all the outstanding questions were clarified, the Council authorized the Commission to enter into bilateral negotiations and discussions with a number of textile-supplying countries and adopted the necessary directives for this purpose.

This decision enables the Commission to open these negotiations immediately.

REGIONAL POLICY

The Council took note of a statement by the Italian delegation concerning the regional policy in which it expressed its concern at the manner in which this policy was developing, particularly with regard to the financing of the Regional Fund.

The Irish and United Kingdom delegations supported the statement made by the Italian delegation and expressed similar concern.

JET

The Council recorded its agreement on all the procedures for the implementation of the JET project.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations on the opening, allocation and administration of Community tariff quotas for

- certain plywoods of coniferous species, falling within subheading No ex 44.15 of the Common Customs Tariff (1978)
- rosin (including "brais résineux") falling within subheading No 38.08 A of the Common Customs Tariff (1978)
- ferro-silicon falling within subheading No 73.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff (1978)
- ferro-silico-manganese falling within subheading No 73.02 D of the Common Customs Tariff (1978)
- ferro-chromium containing not more than 0.10% by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not exceeding 90% inclusive by weight of chromium (super-refined ferro-chromium) falling within subheading No ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff (1978).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded by Member States with third countries.

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The Council adopted the amendment of the Commission proposal on the Regulation amending "Title VII - Special provisions applicable to research and development appropriations" of the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973.

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Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the granting of a consumer aid for butter in Italy.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

475th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Luxembourg, 24 and 25 October 1977

President: Mr Antoine HUMBLET

Minister for Agriculture
and Small Firms and Traders
of the Kingdom of Belgium

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS Minister of Agriculture and
 Viticulture

Mr Albert BERCHEM State Secretary,
 Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. van der STEE Minister of Agriculture and
 Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN Minister of Agriculture,
 Fisheries and Food

Mr Bruce MILLAN Secretary of State for Scotland

Commission:

Mr GUNDELACH Vice-President

FISHERIES POLICY

The Council held a detailed discussion on the whole range of proposals aimed at establishing definitive fishing arrangements, a discussion which enabled it to identify the key problems that remained to be solved by the end of this year.

These problems concerned primarily:

- the criteria to be adopted as a basis for calculating the allocation of catch quotas among Member States;
- technical Community conservation measures;
- supervision of compliance with the procedures for implementing the Community rules;
- aid measures for the re-organization of the fishing industry;
- the criteria and procedures applicable to any compensation that might be decided on for herring fisheries.

Pending a decision taking in all aspects of this policy, the Council agreed to extend the ban on direct fishing for herring in the North Sea until 31 December 1977. At the same time it took note of the Commission's undertaking to examine as a matter of urgency the desirability of a limited number of exemptions in the case of special situations of a social nature, and to make its proposals in good time for the Council of Agriculture Ministers, to be able to take the relevant decisions at its meeting on 7 and 8 November.

The Council did not adopt the Commission proposal to extend the ban on direct fishing for Norway pout in an area to the North-East of Scotland to the end of the current year.

Finally, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on all the matters outstanding, including those relating to external relations in this field, with particular reference to fishing in West African and Yugoslav waters, so as to pave the way for a decision on the definitive arrangements at the next Council meeting on fisheries, scheduled for 5 and 6 December 1977.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Decision amending Decision 76/402/EEC on the level of interest-rate subsidy provided for in Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms to be applied in Italy for the purposes of correcting Decision 77/343/EEC;
- the Regulations on the opening, allocation and administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - dried grapes in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kilograms or less, falling within subheading 08.04 B I of the Common Customs Tariff (1978);
 - ferro-chromium containing not less than 4% by weight of carbon falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff and extending the benefit of this quota to certain imports of ferro-chromium containing a quantity of between 3 and 4% by weight of carbon.

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Following the recent flooding in Northern Italy, the Council agreed to grant emergency aid of one million UA to the communities affected.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

476th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 25 October 1977

President: Mr Willy CLAES,
Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Willy CLAES Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister of Commerce

Germany:

Mr Detlev Karsten ROHWEDDER State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

France:

Mr Paul MENTRE Delegate-General for Energy

Ireland:

Mr Desmond O'MALLEY Minister for Industry and
Commerce

Italy:

Mr Carlo DONAT CATTIN Minister for Industry, Trade and
Craft Trades

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr R.P.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Tony BENN

Secretary of State for Energy

Mr Alexander EADIE

Parliamentary Secretary of State,
Department of Energy

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE HYDROCARBONS SECTOR

The Council adopted a Decision concerning support measures for Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector.

Under this decision, subsidies - repayable in the event of commercial exploitation - totalling 53,408,611 UA will be granted for the period 1977-1979, for the implementation of 40 projects which are of fundamental importance in ensuring the Community's supply of hydrocarbons which are particularly likely to accelerate the development of resources and to improve the storage and transport conditions for hydrocarbons in the Community.

The projects which are to receive Community support under this Decision are in particular concerned with prospecting, drilling, hydrocarbon production and processing systems, secondary recovery, the different means of transport and storage and the testing of materials.

REFINING PROBLEMS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The Council examined a number of matters relating to the definition of a Community approach to refining problems within the Community.

The Council's discussions centered mainly on the question of establishing general monitoring of developments in the refining sector, a procedure for consultation on the construction of new primary distillation capacity and a procedure for monitoring imports of refined products from third countries.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to carry out the preparatory work for future Council discussions on this subject.

IMPORTS OF HARD COAL ORIGINATING IN THIRD COUNTRIES

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, agreed in principle to a Decision concerning Community surveillance of imports of hard coal originating in third countries.

This Decision provides that for a trial period of two years information on imports of coal from third countries is to be obtained in the Member States and automatically sent to the Commission so that the latter may prepare reports on and estimates of the trends on the common market in coal.

The information to be forwarded by the Member States to the Commission for each quarter is to give firstly particulars of the tonnage of steam coal imported, with a breakdown by country of origin and an indication of the calorific value, and secondly the average quarterly prices per tonne of such imports.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO COAL

Following an exchange of views on problems relating to coal in the context of Community policy, the Council asked the Commission to give further consideration to the problems raised during examination of its proposals on the grant of aid for the use of coal in electricity generation and for financing cyclical stocks of hard coal, with a view to submitting new proposals on these matters if appropriate.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of these problems to enable the Council to include them on the agenda for its meeting in December.

ENERGY REDUCTION IN THE EVENT OF SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES

The Council recorded its agreement on the substance of Community arrangements for reducing the consumption of energy in the event of difficulties in the supply of crude oil or petroleum products.

The arrangements provide for a uniform policy among the Member States for the purpose of preserving the unity of the market and ensuring that all energy consumers in the Community bear their fair share of the difficulties arising from the crisis.

The system also provides for the savings in petroleum products to be shared out among the Member States.

RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY

In the framework of the second set of measures proposed by the Commission relating to the rational use of energy, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities three Recommendations on

- the regulating of space heating, the production of domestic hot water and the metering of heat in new buildings
- the rational utilization of energy in industrial undertakings
- the creation of national advisory bodies on combined heat and power production in the industrial sector and for district heating.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN ENERGY SAVING

To enable it to hold a worthwhile discussion on the Commission proposal on the granting of financial aid for demonstration projects in energy saving at its meeting in December, the Council drew up certain guidelines for the examination of the proposal in question.

In particular it asked the Commission to prepare, with the assistance of the parties concerned, a file containing a set of examples of projects which would make it possible to determine the scope of any Community programme which might be adopted in this field and also the type and volume of financial aid which might prove justified.

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The Council agreed to defer the other items still on the agenda until its next meeting on energy questions, scheduled for 13 December.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision subscribing to a joint declaration of intent to implement a European project on the subject of "Electronic traffic aids on major roads" (COST Project 30).

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

477th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Luxembourg, 25 October 1977

President: Mr Henri SIMONET,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

25.X.77

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Rik VANDERKERCKHOVE Minister for Scientific Policy

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister of Commerce

Germany:

Mr Hans MATTHOEPER Federal Minister for Research and Technology
Mr Hans Hilgar HAUNSCHILD State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Research and Technology

France:

Mr Jacques SOURDILLE State Secretary attached to the Prime Minister (Research)

Ireland:

Mr Desmond O'MALLEY Minister for Industry, Commerce and Energy

Italy:

Mr Mario PEDINI Minister for Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL Minister for Energy

25.X.77

Netherlands:

Mr R.P.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Tony BENN

Secretary of State for Energy

Mr Alexander EADIE

Parliamentary Under Secretary
of State,
Department of Energy

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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After the Council had recorded that the majority of its members were in favour of Culham as the site for the JET 1 project and that no delegation was opposed to such majority being recorded, the site of the project was fixed as Culham.

During its discussions on the choice of site for the JET project, the Council unanimously agreed that

- all the Member States as well as the Joint Research Centre would be eligible for selection as the site for the JET 1 project;
- if the Council were to decide in the future on the construction of a JET 2, all the Member States as well as the Joint Research Centre, with the exception of the Member State or Centre chosen as the site for the JET 1 project, would be eligible for selection as the site for the new project;
- this decision in no way prejudices any Council decision that may be taken to construct a JET 2 or the nature of such a project.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

478th meeting of the Council

- Transport -

Luxembourg, 27 October 1977

President: Mr Jos CHABERT,
Minister for Transport
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Jos CHABERT Minister for Transport

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN Minister of Public Works and Communications

Germany:

Mr Heinz RUHNAU State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Transport

France:

Mr Marcel CAVAILLE State Secretary,
Ministry of Public Investments and
Regional Development (Transport)

Ireland:

Mr Pdraig FAULKNER Minister for Tourism and Transport

Italy:

Mr Costante DEGAN Deputy State Secretary
Ministry for Transport

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL Minister for Transport

Netherlands:

Mr T.E. WESTERTERP

Minister of Transport and
Waterstaat

United Kingdom:

Mr William RODGERS

Minister of Transport

Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State for Trade

Commission:

Mr Richard BURKE

Member

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HARMONIZATION OF SOCIAL LEGISLATION

Having re-examined the proposal for the harmonization of certain social legislation relating to road transport and the related proposals concerning the amendments to the Regulation on the introduction of the tachygraph and on the bringing into force of the AETR, the Council agreed to an overall compromise put forward by the President.

This decision confirms the consensus reached at the Council meeting on 28 and 29 June 1977 and involves mainly:

- the abolition in the case of vehicles equipped with a tachygraph, of the "double crew" rule applicable to certain vehicles covering distances in excess of 450 km per day;
- an increase of five hours in the weekly rest period, bringing it to a total of 29 hours;
- the possibility of reducing the period of 29 hours to not less than 24 hours, provided that compensation equivalent to the reduction is granted during the same week;
- a ban on certain types of remuneration which may endanger road safety;
- special arrangements for rest taken on a ferry or a train;
- exemption from the use of the tachygraph for a period of 18 months from 1 January 1978 for the carriage of goods within a radius of 50 km or by vehicles of a total laden weight of not more than 6 tonnes;
- national derogations from the social regulations;
- amendment of the technical provisions in the tachygraph Regulation;
- ratification of the AETR.

The decision also involves the inclusion in the social Regulation of a safeguard clause which will enable Member States who are in a difficult position to ask the Commission to grant them additional derogations for national transport operations over a period of 3 years from 1 January 1978. The Commission will grant derogations in such a way as to ensure that national provisions are gradually brought fully into line with the Community standards by the end of that period.

CARRIAGE RATES

The Council signified its agreement ⁽¹⁾ to the Regulation on the fixing of rates for the international carriage of goods by road between Member States, due to enter into force from 1 January 1978 for an experimental period of 5 Years.

The provisions of this Regulation provide for a tariff system based either on reference tariffs or on compulsory tariffs. The Member States concerned decide by mutual agreement on the application of one or other of the tariff systems, taking particular account of the economic and technical conditions of the transport market concerned.

Subject to compliance with this principle, the Member States may maintain compulsory tariffs where such tariffs have been applied in pursuance of a Community Regulation. They may also introduce reference tariffs where no Community tariff Regulation has been applied.

The Regulation represents a compromise solution involving in principle the retention of the compulsory tariffs between the six former Member States and the introduction of reference tariffs between them and the three new Member States and for transport links between the latter. In comparison with the existing compulsory tariff arrangements, which were applicable among the original six Member States only, the new system marks a step towards harmonization, since in future all the Member States will have to apply a tariff system for the carriage of goods by road.

(¹) The Danish delegation having submitted a provisional reservation.

RAILWAY UNDERTAKINGS

The Council held an exchange of views on the first biennial report on the economic and social situation of railway undertakings prepared by the Commission on the basis of Article 14 of the Council Decision of 20 May 1975.

At the conclusion of this exchange of views the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to undertake a more detailed examination of the report, the main purpose of which is to show how Community provisions on the rationalization of the financial situation of railway undertakings and the harmonization of the rules governing financial relations between such undertakings and States are being applied.

With this same object in mind, the Council also approved the Regulation on the measures necessary to achieve comparability between the accounting systems of railway undertakings.

This Regulation sets out standard forms for annual accounts (balance sheet and profit and loss account) to which railway undertakings have to transfer their annual results with the help of nomenclature specifying the content of the various items.

These forms will be used for the first time for the accounts of the current year and will be accompanied by explanatory notes designed to give them greater clarity.

An Advisoty Committee will be set up to assist the Commission in the implementation of the Regulation by giving its opinion on problems and solutions connected with greater harmonization of the accounting system of railway undertakings.

REGULAR SERVICES BY COACH AND BUS

The Council adopted the Regulation amending the Regulation on the introduction of common rules for regular and special regular services by coach and bus between Member States.

This amendment enables the Member States concerned to agree jointly to simplify the administrative formalities affecting the regular services by coach and bus linking port zones served by regular sailings.

Member States will henceforth be able to derogate in such cases from the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 517/72, relating to the content and the form of the application and the authorization to operate a regular service, from the requirement that the transporter shall not vary the conditions of the service, the obligation to give prior notice of withdrawal of the service, Commission participation in the Member States' negotiations concerning the introduction of a service and the obligation of the operator to carry certain documents on board and to supply certain particulars.

MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS

The Council signified its agreement ⁽¹⁾ to the Directive aiming at the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications for road passenger transport and goods haulage operators.

The purpose of this Directive is to ensure the validity in the other Member States of the Community of such formal qualifications for road passenger transport and goods haulage operators issued by the competent authorities of a Member State to its nationals. The certificates in question will concern the good repute and financial standing as well as the professional standing of operators.

The adoption of this Directive will facilitate the effective exercise of the right to freedom of establishment in the road transport sector.

⁽¹⁾ The United Kingdom delegation having entered a provisional reservation.

SUMMERTIME

The Council took note of the progress made in the introduction of the Community arrangements for summertime due to enter into force on 1 April 1979.

Aware both of the urgency of a decision in the matter, and of the continuing difficulties in a number of Member States, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to follow progress in the matter and submit the question to it again at its next meeting on Transport Questions scheduled for 20 and 21 December 1977.

SHIPPING

The Council took note of the working document from the Commission concerning State-trading countries' shipping and the Community, which outlines the problems arising in the sector, and the possibilities for action by the Community.

After discussing the matter, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the report in detail and on that basis prepare priority guidelines for use by the Commission when submitting shortly to the Council practical proposals for solving the problems raised by the increasing activity of fleets from State-trading countries.

In view of the importance which it attaches to this question, the Council agreed to return to it at its next meeting.

AIR TRANSPORT

The Council took note of the oral report by the Chair on the work in the field of air transport which had been started in the Council's subordinate bodies in accordance with the terms of reference approved by the Council at its meeting on 28 and 29 June 1977. This work is based on a working document from the Chair covering all the main areas of air transport.

The Council noted with satisfaction the good start made on the work and stressed the need for a Community approach to civil aviation problems. It emphasized in this connection the priority to be given to the question of co-operation with international air transport organizations such as the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and to the co-ordination of the positions of the Member States in these bodies. It also expressed its desire to receive proposals as soon as possible on other priority measures to be taken by the Community in the field of air transport.

RESOLUTION ON THE HIJACKING OF AIRCRAFT AND TERRORISM

The Ministers of Transport, meeting within the Council of the European Communities in Luxembourg, categorically condemn all forms of air piracy and terrorism.

With a view to safeguarding the transport of passengers they strongly urge that specific measures be adopted internationally, as soon as possible, in order to combat criminal violence with all due efficiency.

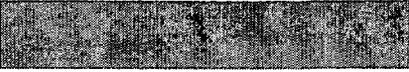
MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the statements on the following matters, accompanied where appropriate by Commission replies:

- measures which the Austrian Government intends to take regarding charges on road carriage in transit (Netherlands delegation);
- employees in auxiliary transport occupations (Belgian delegation).



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

479th Council meeting
- Social Affairs -
Luxembourg, 28 October 1977
President: Mr Guy SPITAEELS,
Minister for Labour
and Employment of the
Kingdom of Belgium

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Guy SPITAEELS Minister for Labour and Employment

Denmark:

Mr Charles J. AUKEN Minister of Labour

Germany:

Mr Reinhard STREHLKE State Secretary,
Ministry of Labour

France:

Mr Christian BEULLAC Minister of Labour

Ireland:

Mr Charles HAUGHEY Minister of Health and
Social Welfare

Italy:

Mr Baldassarre ARMATO State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

Luxembourg:

Mr Maurice THOSS State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

28.X.77

Netherlands:

Mr P.J.J. MERTENS

State Secretary
Ministry of Labour.

United Kingdom:

Mr John GRANT

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Employment

Commission:

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Council continued the discussion on the review of the tasks and operating rules of the Social Fund which was begun on 28 June 1977.

The Council reached general agreement on the common guidelines relating to the following texts which are to be forwarded to the European Parliament:

- Decision amending the basic Decision of 1 February 1971 (71/66/EEC) on the European Social Fund
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2396/71 and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2397/71 and Regulation (EEC) No 2398/71 on the implementation of the basic Decision
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 858/72 on certain administrative and financial procedures for the operation of the European Social Fund
- Article 4 Decisions which are being extended to 31 December 1980:
 - Decision amending Decision 72/428/EEC (agriculture), Decision 75/459/EEC (young people) and Decision 76/206/EEC (textile and clothing industries)
 - = Decision on action by the European Social Fund for migrant workers
- Council Regulation concerning the operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the European Social Fund.

The Council also confirmed its agreement on the principle of granting aid from the Fund for women under Article 4 of the basic Decision and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the wording of the proposal for a Decision submitted by the Commission so that the Council could adopt it at a forthcoming meeting.

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As indicated above, the Council also agreed on the Commission proposal for a Regulation concerning operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the Fund; under this Regulation, operations to be carried out in Greenland, the French Overseas Departments, Ireland, Northern Ireland and the Mezzogiorno will benefit from a higher rate of intervention.

It is agreed that the date of entry into force of this Regulation will be the same as that of the Decision making Fund assistance available under Article 4 of the basic Decision for women.

With regard to the question of the creation of a new category of aid for the promotion of employment, the Council, in the light of its discussion on the Commission communication on youth employment, adopted the following conclusions:

- The Council finds that it is not in a position at present to take a decision which would make aid for the promotion of employment available immediately.

- The Council nevertheless considers that, within the framework of the resources available for the Fund's operations, a category of aid which would be likely to promote employment - centring on employment for young workers - and which would not fall within the current categories of aid for vocational training or occupational mobility, is appropriate in the present labour market situation.

- The Council therefore asks the Commission to submit suitable proposals to it, in the light of the present discussions and of its communication on youth employment, so that this new category of aid can be introduced as soon as possible.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The Council had before it a communication from the Commission on youth employment and held a policy debate on this subject with particular reference to the nature of the joint action to be taken to stimulate such employment.

The initial suggestions made by the Commission in its communication involved mainly:

- new subsidies designed to assist the creation of jobs and the provision of work for young people in the form both of a Community subsidy for the creation of jobs by undertakings and of Community participation in job creation programmes in sectors of public interest;
- the strengthening of Community aid for post-school training for young people in the form of assistance for practical training and of projects of broader scope.

The various delegations made known their initial reactions during the discussion, and the Commission undertook to bear these reactions in mind when preparing the formal proposals to be submitted to the Council at a later stage.

At the end of this exchange of views the President drew the following conclusions:

"As instructed by the European Council at its meeting on 28 and 29 June 1977, the Council, in the light of its review of the measures taken by the Member States to promote employment and training for young people, held an initial examination of the joint action to be undertaken.

The Council accordingly invites the Commission to prepare detailed proposals for Community aid for programmes designed to encourage youth employment in the Member States. The Council considers that such proposals should be selective and should ensure that the aid is granted to areas of greatest need.

The Council invites the Commission to work out measures, within the framework of the European Social Fund, for strengthening the link between the post-school training and the employment of young people.

Finally, the Council encourages the Commission to secure an increase in assistance and co-operation among the Member States in developing their institutions for achieving optimum balance between supply and demand on the labour market."

Following the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine these proposals, and in particular their financial aspects, as soon as they had been forwarded by the Commission.

These questions will be discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment on 24 November and at the next Council meeting on Social Affairs planned for December. The Commission has undertaken to forward to the Council for this December meeting an outline programme which will precede the practical proposals it intends to make in the first few months of next year.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

The Council agreed to the amendment of the Regulations on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

The object of this amendment to Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and 574/72 is to improve the situation of the family of a migrant worker who is living in a Member State other than his state of residence, particularly as regards sickness and maternity insurance.

A further object is to enable a worker who is receiving a pension under the legislation of one Member State while working in the territory of another Member State to be ensured under the legislation of the latter Member State even if the legislation of that State exempts pensioners from compulsory insurance. In addition, it allows workers to receive, without any restrictions, a pension acquired under the legislation of a Member State and to have a pension which was awarded under the legislation of another Member State postponed in order to receive the increase in pension due as a result of that postponement.

The amendment also regulates the award of invalidity benefits in cases where a worker previously subject to legislation based on the materialization of the risk is subject to legislation based on the length of the insurance under which he becomes disabled, and where under the former legislation the award of invalidity benefits is subject to the condition that the worker has previously received cash sickness benefits or that he has been incapable of work for a specified period.

PROGRAMME TO COMBAT POVERTY

The Council agreed on an amendment to the Decision of 22 July 1975 concerning a programme of pilot schemes and studies to combat poverty, to ensure that action under the programme continues, with financial assistance from the Community, beyond the two years originally laid down.

This amendment enables the Community to continue financing projects currently in progress until 1980 and provides, under certain specified conditions, for the possibility of introducing new, in particular replacement, projects.

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The Council took note of the Commission report on the European programme of pilot schemes to combat poverty, 1976.

This report on the 21 schemes and two cross-national studies approved under the programme contains general analytical comments and a summary of the progress reports submitted by those responsible for the projects and the competent authorities of the Member States. It also contains comments on future activities in the programme.

REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Council took note of the fifth report of the European Social Fund - financial year 1976.

The Council drew particular attention to the Commission's efforts as regards both the content and clarity of the report. As well as setting out the activities of the Fund according to the field of intervention (persons leaving agriculture, persons working in the textile and clothing sectors, migrant workers, young people, the handicapped, regional projects, technical progress and groups of undertakings), the report provides additional information on the financial impact of the Fund on the less-favoured regions of the Community and on the number of persons assisted in the various fields.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH PROTECTION

The Council took note of the first progress report produced by the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work since the establishment of the Committee in June 1974 and the commencement of its activities in July 1975.

This report covers the second half of 1975 and the whole of 1976. It describes the structure of the Committee and its activities in this initial period and draws a number of conclusions relating mainly to the future activities of the Committee. In an Annex to the Report the Committee submits a Resolution on the implementation of a Community Action Programme on Health and Safety at Work.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Decision on the conclusion of the European Agreement on the exchange of tissue-typing reagents and of the Additional Protocol thereto;

- the Regulations
 - extending the term of validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 2843/76 and 2844/76 laying down special measures for the determination of the offers of olive oil on the world market and on the Greek market;

 - on the standard amount for unrefined olive oil produced entirely in Greece and transported direct from that country into the Community;

 - fixing the threshold price for olive oil for the 1977/1978 marketing year;

 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 3209/73 on the subsidy for olive oil;

 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 1900/74 laying down special measures for soya beans;

 - concluding exchanges of letters between the EEC, on the one hand, and Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Turkey on the other hand, relating to untreated olive oil, and the implementing Regulations relating to those exchanges of letters;

 - suspending application of the conditions to which the importation into the Community of certain citrus fruit originating in Spain or Cyprus is subject by virtue of the Agreements between the Community and those countries;

- concerning the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and Turkey relating to imports into the Community of Turkish prepared and preserved sardines.

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On a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Miss Rolande RUELLAN, Administrateur Civil, Chef du Bureau des Conventions Internationales de Sécurité Sociale, member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers in place of Mr Robert FONTENEAU, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 7 February 1979.
