

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: GERMANY

JANUARY-JUNE 1988

Meetings and press releases June 1988

Meeting number	Subject	Date
1245 th	Internal Market/Consumers	7 June 1988
1246 th	Energy	9 June 1988
1247 th	Labour/Social Affairs	9 June 1988
1248 th	Economics/Finance	13 June 1988
1249 th	General Affairs	13-14 June 1988
1250 th	Agriculture	13-17 June 1988
Special meeting	General Affairs	20 June 1988
1251 st	Environment	16-17 June 1988
1251 st continued	Environment	28-29 June 1988
1252 nd	Transport	20-21 June 1988
1253 rd	Internal Market	22 June 1988
1254 th	Fisheries	23-24 June 1988
1255 th	Industry	24 June 1988
1256 th	Research	29 June 1988
1257 th	Telecommunications	30 June 1988

PRESS RELEASE

6635/88 (Presse 78)

1245th Council meeting

- Internal Market/Consumer Protection and Information

Luxembourg, 7 June 1988

Presidents: Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs of the Federal Republic
of Germany

Mr Otto SCHLECHT

State Secretary, Federal Ministry
of Economic Affairs

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Hans DUBORG State Secretary, Ministry for
Industry

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary, Federal Ministry
of Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Elias LYMBEROPOULOS Deputy Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES State Secretary for Relations with
the European Communities

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Seamus BRENNAN Minister of State at the
Department of Industry and Commerce

Italy:

Mr Antonio LA PERGOLA Minister with responsibility for
Community Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Johny LAHURE State Secretary for Economic
Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Mr A.J. EVENHUIS

State Secretary for Economic
Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Vitor A.M. da COSTA MARTINS

State Secretary for European
Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr Francis MAUDE

Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Lord COCKFIELD

Vice-President

Mr Giorgis VARFIS

Member

Mr Abel MATUTES

Member

RECOGNITION OF HIGHER-EDUCATION DIPLOMAS

The Council returned to its discussions on the introduction of a general system for the recognition of higher-education diplomas awarded on completion of vocational courses of at least three years' duration, proceeding on the basis of an overall compromise drawn up by the Presidency further to the work carried out in the Permanent Representatives Committee since the last Council meeting on 3 May 1988.

The compromise was intended to clear the way for progress in the Council on the key issues still outstanding on this important Directive, i.e.: the aptitude test, in particular its application in the legal field and the choice of subjects, the period of probationary practice, the inclusion of alternative training routes in the Directive, the role of private professional organizations, such as chartered bodies, under whose aegis certain professions are practised, the treatment of diplomas obtained in third countries and the inclusion of engineers in the general system.

Following discussions which enabled substantial headway to be made on all these problems, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to press ahead with its discussions in the light of the approach worked out by the Council, so that at its meeting on 22 June the Council could reach a common position on the Directive, which is of central importance for ensuring the free movement of holders of higher-education diplomas in the Community.

TRADE MARK LAW

The Council addressed the two aspects of Trade Mark Law: the Community Trade Mark and the approximation of the laws of Member States in this area.

The Council had before it an overall compromise proposal submitted by the Presidency and designed to help the Council reach the decisions which will enable Community Trade Mark Law to enter into force and which are priority requirements for the completion of the Internal Market; the overall compromise proposal dealt with the budget of the Trade Marks Office and legal remedies against the Office's decisions as well as a range of technical issues but left temporarily in abeyance the question of the seat of the future Office.

The Council made progress on the issues discussed and asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite the work on this subject with a view to enabling the Council to reach a conclusion at its next meeting on 22 June.

AGREEMENT RELATING TO COMMUNITY PATENTS

The Council was informed of the progress made on a number of unresolved technical problems connected with the Agreement relating to Community patents. It also exchanged views on the political issues outstanding and considered the possibility of bringing the Agreement into force on 31 December 1992 with ratification by ten Member States, with two Member States retaining the option of accession at a later stage.

It was agreed that the discussion would be resumed at the informal meeting of Ministers in Athens on 28 and 29 July.

PLAN OF PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INFORMATION SERVICES MARKET

The Council approved a common position on the establishment at Community level of a policy and plan of priority actions for the development of an information services market.

The aim of this two-year programme proposed by the Commission is to encourage the development of the information services sector, which is undergoing rapid change and will have an increasing influence on the economy.

The Council recognized the importance of the initiative, underlined also by the European Parliament, and agreed to a total appropriation of 36 MECU.

The programme lays special emphasis on the launching of a number of pilot and demonstration projects to be selected from proposals submitted to it by users and industry.

RIGHT OF RESIDENCE

The Council again discussed the problems still unresolved regarding the proposal on a right of residence: evidence of sufficient resources required of students, elimination of any inequalities in social security schemes, form of the legal act, in particular with regard to people not exercising an economic activity.

Following the discussion the President of the Council noted that differences remained on these issues.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of this dossier.

IMPROVEMENT OF CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT IN STANDARDIZATION
- COUNCIL RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Whereas the treaty provides that one of the aims of the Community is the improvement of the living conditions of its citizens, including the protection of the health, safety and interests of consumers;

Taking account of the Council resolution of 7 May 1985 on a new approach to technical harmonization and standards (*);

Considering the conclusions of the European forum on consumers and standardization from 4 to 6 June 1987 in Brussels,

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

A. At the level of the Member States, the competent authorities are called upon to foster:

1. the improvement of consumer involvement in the standardization process;
2. the representation of consumer interests in:
 - standardization bodies;
 - national delegations to European and international standardization bodies;
3. the provision, if possible and as far as necessary, of appropriate means to allow consumers to carry out their required functions.

(*) OJ No C 136, 4.6.1985, p. 1.

B. On a Community scale, the Council

1. welcomes the Commission's intention of preparing a programme of priorities in the context of technical standards and rules for consumer goods which are of particular interest to consumers;
2. calls upon the Commission, as far as necessary, to organize seminars on the problems of standardization in order to improve consumer co-operation in technical standardization.

INFORMATION ON DANGERS ARISING FROM THE USE OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS

The Council examined the issues still unresolved regarding the extension of the Community system for the rapid exchange of information on dangers arising from the use of consumer products.

Following its discussion the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining this matter in the light of what had been said, with a view to enabling the Council to reach a conclusion at its next meeting on the Internal Market on 22 June.

FIRST REPORT ON THE INTEGRATION OF CONSUMER POLICY IN THE OTHER
COMMON POLICIES - COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Council takes note of the first report on the integration of consumer policy in the other common policies submitted by the Commission in response to the Council Resolution of 15 December 1986.

The Council invites the Commission to intensify its efforts in certain priority areas with a view, in particular, to improving consumer safety and the protection of the consumer's economic interests.

2. It supports the Commission's efforts to foster dialogue between the suppliers of goods and services and consumers and encourages the Commission to promote this in all sectors of the economy.
3. The Council welcomes the Commission's intention of intensifying consultation of consumer organizations when preparing measures affecting consumers in order to tailor its proposals to meet consumers' needs. It shares the Commission's view that it is desirable to set up representative consumer organizations where they do not exist and to strengthen those that are too weak.
4. The Council recalls the Commission's decision to strengthen its internal procedures so that consumer interests are taken fully into account in the drafting of all proposals. It therefore invites the Commission to establish a procedure providing, by means of an interdepartmental consultation within the Commission, for the examination of each proposal's repercussions on consumers in the Community before it is submitted to the Council. It also invites the Commission to consider the possibility of including in the impact report for small and medium-sized enterprises a statement of the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal for consumers.
5. The Council calls upon the Commission to step up its efforts to implement the Council Resolution of 15 December 1986, reallocating existing resources as necessary, and to submit a further report by June 1989.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND ACTION TO PROMOTE THE
DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISES, ESPECIALLY SMEs IN THE COMMUNITY -
COUNCIL RESOLUTION (*)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Council Resolution of 3 November 1986 on the Action Programme on Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and its statement on reducing the administrative burden on business as well as the Council Resolution of 22 December 1986 on an Action Programme on Employment and Growth,

Having regard to the following Commission communications:

- Second Report on the realization of the objectives of the Community Action Programme for SMEs (5030/88 ECO 13).
- Commission communication on strengthening co-operation between European firms. A response to the 1992 internal market deadline (5866/88 ECO 27).
- Commission communication on the evaluation of the Euro Info Centres - extension of the project (5657/88 ECO 24).
- Commission communication on simplifying administrative procedures within the Community (6554/88 ECO 44).
- Commission communication on an enterprise policy for the Community (6304/88 ECO 38),

Acknowledging that the completion of the internal market represents at the same time a major opportunity and a challenge for businesses and that small and medium-sized enterprises will be increasingly drawn into the process of integration of the European economies,

acknowledging that the development of the spirit of enterprise and the creation of new firms in the Community must be encouraged,

acknowledging that the development of SMEs is of great importance in increasing the competitiveness of the European economy, for employment growth and for economic and social cohesion in the Community,

acknowledging that the economic and regulatory environment should favour the development of firms and should not impose unnecessary costs on them,

acknowledging that SMEs require adequate financial resources, especially risk capital, a highly qualified workforce and management capable of meeting new challenges in an ever more rapidly changing world and access to new technology and marketing skills which enable them to operate successfully on the European internal market and to meet competition from third countries,

(*) Provisional version

acknowledging that at Community level the availability of relevant information on the Community and co-operation between firms in different Member States are of particular importance,

undertakes, in full agreement with the Commission, to provide a favourable business environment and to promote small and medium-sized enterprises in the Community; this policy will be worked out in consultation between the Member States and the Commission and will be based on the following guidelines:

- (a) the promotion of SMEs must be achieved through a strengthening of market forces;
- (b) the cost to enterprises of compliance with Community legislation must be minimized and unnecessary regulations avoided;
- (c) existing legislation should be reviewed with a view to appropriate simplification;
- (d) measures at Community level should not duplicate those at the level of the Member States; they should, as far as possible, make use of existing structures rather than create new ones;
- (e) the opportunities for SMEs in the Structural Funds, in the Community's research and development programmes and in other Community programmes should be increased;
- (f) at Community level specific services with a European dimension are of importance to SMEs, amongst others the provision of information and the promotion of transfrontier co-operation between firms and with other private and public organizations;
- (g) at Community level the exchange of experiences from the various parts of the Community and the demonstration of concrete measures can help to improve the efficiency of programmes to support SMEs; the Commission will take up, develop and encourage these initiatives;
- (h) Community measures should be taken in close consultation with the social partners;
- (i) the action should take account of the variety of institutional and cultural structures in the Community, which gives rise to different needs;

welcomes the progress which has been made in implementing the Action Programme for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and requests the Commission, in the light of the completion of the internal market, to accelerate its work on implementing all the aspects of this policy and to provide the necessary conditions for close co-operation with the Member States;

underlines the importance of the impact assessment exercise to assess the consequences and costs of compliance with Community legislation for all enterprises and requests the Commission continually to seek improvements to the system along the lines set out in the abovementioned Commission Communication on simplifying administrative procedures;

underlines the need for simple legal and fiscal regulations for SMEs and in this context urges in particular that the 4th company law Directive be examined with a view to its further substantial simplification;

emphasizes the need for Member States to take account of the impact assessments in discussions in the Council;

underlines the necessity of improving the flow of information to SMEs on Community affairs and in this context supports the Commission's intention of carrying out, together with the Member States, an evaluation of the Euro Info Centres project and to that end invites the Commission to convene a Committee composed of representatives of the Member States; finally, invites the Commission to submit, in the light of the results of the evaluation and after consultation with the Committee, a programme for the extension of that project;

underlines the necessity of strengthening business co-operation across frontiers and welcomes in this connection the further development of the Commission's programme in this area, and especially the Business Co-operation Network (BC-NET) pilot project;

considers also that it is necessary to intensify the discussions on SME policy in the Council.

Customs procedures

The Council adopted the Decisions accepting on behalf of the Community

- the Recommendation of the Customs Co-operation Council of 13 June 1985 on the temporary admission of radio and television production and broadcasting equipment;
- Annex B 2 to the International Convention on the simplification and harmonization of customs procedures;
- Annex E 4 to the International Convention on the simplification and harmonization of customs procedures.

OTHER DECISIONS CONCERNING THE INTERNAL MARKET/CONSUMER PROTECTION

Indication of the prices of foodstuffs and non-food products

The Council formally adopted:

- the Directive on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of non-food products;
- the Directive amending Directive 79/581/EEC on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of foodstuffs;
- the Resolution on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of foodstuffs and non-food products.

The Community action programmes for a consumer protection and information policy regard improving consumer information on prices as a priority concern. Indication of the selling price and the unit price required under the two Directives makes it easier to compare prices at places of sale and so contributes to the establishment of the internal market by facilitating the movement of such products.

The first of the Directives adopted extends to non-food products the obligation to indicate the selling and unit prices of products offered to the final consumer as well as to products advertised with an indication of price; a Directive on price indication for foodstuffs has been in force since 1979.

The Directive also details those cases where the price-indication requirement is waived and stipulates the measurement, packaging and presentation specifications to be followed in indicating the selling price.

The second Directive, applying to foodstuffs, provides - in the light of progress on standardization - for a number of adjustments which make for greater simplicity and lays down exemptions from the unit-pricing requirement in the case of certain products where such indication is meaningless.

Since establishing standardized ranges of quantities is the easiest and most effective way of enabling the consumer to compare prices at places of sale, the two Directives provide that, where standardizing quantity ranges would result in simple and easily comparable quantity ranges, such standardization should take the place of the obligation to indicate the unit price. Given the progress made on standardization, the two Directives consequently recommend general exemptions for Community quantity ranges and, as a subsidiary measure, for ranges laid down at national level.

Lastly, with its adoption of the Resolution, the Council, basing itself on the Resolution of 19 June 1979, reaffirms the premise that, where the standardization of quantity ranges would result in simple and easily comparable quantity ranges, such standardization should be substituted for the obligation to indicate the unit price. In that Resolution the Council therefore asks the Commission to submit proposals to it, in particular for extending the Community ranges to further categories of products and revising and possibly improving the existing ranges.

Packaging of certain liquids

The Council adopted the Directive amending Directive 75/106/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids.

This Directive provides, in particular, for the complete harmonization of the ranges of certain prepackaged products such as wine and sparkling wine, in order to ensure that the market for them is transparent, and for additional volumes in certain ranges which on account of trade developments needed expanding.

Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations

The Council also adopted a Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations.

By establishing a method for assessing the potential hazards of a preparation, which will enable it to receive a Community classification and labelling, this Directive aims to ensure that preparations can move freely within the internal market and that users are provided with essential information on them.

Technical specifications and details of concentration values for each product are given in the Directive itself and in the Annexes.

Good Laboratory Practice

The Council adopted the Directive on the inspection and verification of the organizational processes and conditions under which laboratory studies are planned, performed, recorded and reported for the non-clinical testing of chemicals (Good Laboratory Practice - GLP).

This Directive lays down the procedures to be followed by Member States in monitoring the compliance with GLP as described in Directive 87/18/EEC of any test laboratory situated in their territory claiming to apply GLP in the tests that it carries out on chemicals (e.g. cosmetics, industrial chemicals, medicinal products, food additives, animal feed additives and pesticides) in order to assess the effects of these products on man, animals and the environment.

These monitoring procedures apply to inspection and verification of the organizational processes and the conditions under which laboratory studies are planned, performed, recorded and reported for non-clinical testing carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations.

Publication of annual accounting documents by the branches of credit institutions and financial institutions

The Council approved a common position on the proposal for a Council Directive on the obligations of branches established in a Member State by credit institutions and financial institutions having their head offices outside that Member State regarding the publication of annual accounting documents.

A pre-requisite for achieving the Single Market is that the branches of credit institutions and financial institutions having their head offices in another Member State must be treated in the same way as the branches of institutions having their head offices in the same Member State. From the point of view of the publication of annual accounting documents, this means that it is sufficient for the branches of credit institutions and financial institutions having their head offices in another Member State to publish the annual accounting documents of their institutions as a whole. It will be remembered that the annual accounts of banks were harmonized by a Directive adopted in 1986 and are consequently exactly comparable and perfectly transparent for the reader.

From the date of application of the Directive certain Member States will thus no longer be able to continue their current practice of requiring publication of the annual accounts relating to branch activities.

Under the Directive the requirements are also eased for the branches of credit institutions and financial institutions having their head offices in a non-member country, provided the following two conditions are met:

- the annual accounts of such institutions are drawn up in accordance with the Directive on the annual accounts of banks of 1986, or in equivalent manner;
- the Community institutions enjoy reciprocal treatment in the non-member country.

OTHER DECISION

Code of conduct for liner conferences

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing the Commission to participate on behalf of the Community in the review conference on the United Nations Convention on a code of conduct for liner conferences and its preparatory work and on common action in this regard.

PRESS RELEASE

6636/88 (Presse 79)

1246th Council meeting

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 9 June 1988

President: Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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 and Planning
Mr Elie DEWORME	State Secretary for Energy

Denmark:

Mr Jakob Esper LARSEN	Ambassador, Permanent Representative
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Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN	Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs
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Greece:

Mr N. VASSILAKOS	Secretary-General, Ministry of Energy
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Spain:

Mr Fernando MARAVALL	Secretary-General, Ministry of Industry and Energy
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France:

Mr François SCHEER	Ambassador, Permanent Representative
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Ireland:

Mr Ray BURKE	Minister for Energy and Communications
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Italy:

Mr Ivo BUTINI	State Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Craft Trades
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Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel SCHLECHTER

Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr R.W. DE KORTE

Minister for Economic Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Nuno Manuel Franco RIBEIRO
DA SILVA

State Secretary for Energy

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter MORRISON

Minister of State for Energy

Commission:

Mr Nicolas MOSAR

Member

INTERNAL ENERGY MARKET - PRESIDENCY CONCLUSIONS

The Council had a detailed discussion on establishing the internal energy market. The starting-point for the discussion was the Commission working paper entitled "The Internal Energy Market" (COM(88) 238 final of 2 May 1988). The Council again stressed the point made at its meeting on 2 June 1987, namely the importance of this subject for the future of the Community's energy policy.

In the light of discussions, the Presidency drew the following conclusions:

1. The creation of a more fully integrated internal market in the energy field is of fundamental importance for the Community's future. The internal energy market should contribute to establishing the large market of 1992 and to strengthening the achievements of the Community energy policy. It should also help to strengthen the competitiveness of the European economy and to serve as a back-up to the political integration of the Community.
2. The internal energy market should, in general, have beneficial consequences for the standard of living of citizens in the Community and for energy supplies. It should pave the way for increased trade between Member States and provide added strength for the interplay of market forces. It should also strengthen the concept of solidarity between Member States and improve the flexibility of undertakings. It will thus also be an important factor in the Community's security of supply.

3. Further discussions on this subject will have to take into consideration the different economic situations and the energy policies of the Member States, for example as regards their geographical characteristics. Account should also be taken of the special characteristics of the energy market, in particular of its international dimension and of the interdependence of world markets. Another important factor to be taken into consideration is the long-term nature of energy supplies and the considerable level of investment to be made in the exploitation and transport of energy resources.

4. During the discussion delegations welcomed the Commission's working paper, and the point was made that it represented a major contribution to the attainment of an internal energy market. Agreement was recorded on the overall approach adopted by the Commission, which advocates parallel progress in the different spheres of action in order to establish the internal energy market.

5. The following were also noted:

- A. The Commission's determination to apply the rules of Community law in order to speed up the establishment of the internal energy market (free movement of goods and services, monopolies, State aid and competition between undertakings).
- B. The achievement of a satisfactory balance between energy and the environment as an important goal under the Single Act and the Commission's intention to consider this field in greater detail and to prepare a coherent programme as soon as possible.
- C. The Commission's intention to submit specific initiatives, both - during the second half of 1988 - on transparency of energy prices and - before the end of 1989 - on energy infrastructures.

6. The Permanent Representatives Committee was requested to undertake a factual examination of the various obstacles in this field in order to:

- verify that the Commission's inventory is both complete and accurate;
- examine those obstacles which could be removed immediately without any special difficulty, taking account of the need to achieve significant progress in all areas of activity.

7. Lastly, the Commission's intention to draw up, by the end of 1989, a further report on developments in this field was welcomed and the Commission was requested henceforth to keep the Council regularly informed of any progress made, as from its next meeting on energy.

MEMBER STATES' ENERGY POLICIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE 1995 COMMUNITY ENERGY OBJECTIVES

The Council considered draft conclusions drawn up following preparatory discussions in the Permanent Representatives Committee on the Commission communication of 19 April 1988 on the main findings of the Commission's review of Member States' energy policies in the light of the 1995 Community energy objectives.

Following discussions, the President found that there were still some difficulties regarding the draft; the Council therefore asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue discussions in order for the Council to arrive at a conclusion as soon as possible.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANIES AND AUTO-PRODUCERS OF ELECTRICITY

The Council considered some problems arising with regard to the Council Recommendation to the Member States to promote co-operation between public electricity supply companies and auto-producers of electricity, which the Commission proposed in its communication of 19 May 1988.

The problems related in particular to the "common carrier" concept, designed to allow auto-producers access to public distribution systems.

Following the discussion, the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to give the matter further consideration and report back for its next meeting to enable the Council to take a decision.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN THE USE OF SOLID FUELS IN INDUSTRY
AND IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND IN DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEMS -
COMMISSION REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION BY MEMBER STATES OF THE
COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS - COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

The Council:

- takes note of the report on the examination carried out by the Commission on the implementation, at Member State level, of Council recommendations - 83/250 and 83/251/EEC (*) - and of certain amendments to be made to them;
- shares in their broad outlines the overall conclusions drawn by the Commission in this report, in particular:
 - = that encouraging results as regards conversion to solid fuels were achieved up until 1986 but that, since the fall in the oil price and in the rate of the dollar, efforts to convert have slowed down;
 - = that at the beginning of 1988 few measures to encourage investment remained in force, or still had a real effect on conversion to solid fuels;
 - = that it is necessary to continue with efforts to encourage solid fuel consumption in the sectors under review, and

(*) Recommendations of 24 May 1983 (OJ No L 140, 31.5.1983, pages 25 and 26) concerning the encouragement of investment in the use of solid fuel in, respectively:

- industry (recommendation 83/250/EEC);
- public buildings and district heating systems (recommendation 83/251/EEC).

- = that national and Community programmes of aid to research, development and demonstration in the area of new technologies for the economical and non-polluting use of solid fuels represent, in this difficult period, an essential element of support for the use of solid fuels;
- notes with interest the Commission's intention to analyse further the scope for possible measures to encourage greater use of solid fuels in the sectors under review;
 - asks the Commission to submit, in due course, a new report to the Council which will enable the further implementation of these recommendations to be pursued.

DEVELOPING THE EXPLOITATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES IN THE
COMMUNITY

Following substantive agreement on 13 November 1987, the Council formally adopted the Recommendation to the Member States on developing the exploitation of renewable energy sources in the Community.

This text proceeds on the basis that these energy sources are indigenous and that their exploitation can have a favourable effect on the diversification and security of the Community's energy supply and on the development of less-favoured regions. It addresses a series of recommendations to the Member States on, among others, the following aspects:

- appropriate legislative, administrative and financial measures;
- need to pursue the optimum exploitation of these energy sources in the Community taking account of their economic prospects and their availability in the Member States;
- need to ensure, at Community level, that the measures launched are mutually compatible and that the results and experience gained are widely disseminated so that the efforts made are profitable;
- need to facilitate co-operation among industries producing renewable energy exploitation equipment and the extension of markets.

In the present state of the technology, the sources offering the most practical development prospects in the short and medium term are solar, geothermal and wind energy, biomass and energy from waste and hydroelectricity, especially low-power installations.

PRESS RELEASE

6637/88 (Presse 80)

1247th Council meeting

- Labour and Social Affairs -
Luxembourg, 9 June 1988

President: Mr Norbert BLUM
Federal Minister for
Labour and Social Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Luc VAN DEN BRANDE Minister for Labour and Employment

Denmark:

Mr Henning DYREMOSE Minister for Labour

Germany:

Mr Norbert BLUM Federal Minister for Labour and
Social Affairs

Mr Wolfgang VOGT Parliamentary State Secretary to
the Federal Minister for Labour
and Social Affairs

Greece:

Mr Giorgos YENNIMATAS Minister for Labour

Spain:

Mr Alvaro ESPINA Secretary-General for Employment

France:

Mr Michel DELEBARRE Minister for Social Affairs
and Employment

Ireland:

Mr Bertie AHERN Minister for Labour

Italy:

Mr Enrico PIETROMARCHI

Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER

Minister for Labour

Netherlands:

Mr L. DE GRAAF

State Secretary,
Ministry of Employment and
Social Security

Portugal:

Mr José Albino da SILVA PENEDA

Minister for Labour and
Social Security

United Kingdom:

Mr John COPE

Minister of State for Employment

Commission:

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

ORGANIZATION OF WORK IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL POLICY BY THE TROIKA

The Council approved the work schedule agreed between the current Presidency and the following two Presidencies (Troika) regarding the organization of work in the field of health and safety at the work place during the period until 30 June 1989.

The Council noted the importance of the Troika's co-operation in the cohesive implementation of the Council's discussions on the social dimension of the large internal market.

It was agreed that the Troika's co-operation would be extended to other areas of social policy and beyond 30 June 1989.

The Council invited the Greek Presidency to report back to the Council at its next meeting on the Troika's programme for the period from 1 July 1988 to 31 December 1989.

BAN ON CERTAIN CARCINOGENIC SUBSTANCES

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the protection of workers by the banning of certain specified agents and/or certain work activities (fourth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 8 of Directive 80/1107/EEC).

The Directive provides for a ban, subject to certain exceptions and derogations, on the production and use of the following carcinogenic substances which play a part in particular, in the manufacture of colouring agents:

- 2-naphtylamine and its salts (CAS No 91-59-8),
- 4-aminobiphenyl and its salts (CAS No 92-67-1),
- benzidine and its salts (CAS No 92-87-5),
- 4-nitrodiphenyl (CAS No 92-93-3),

PROTECTION OF WORKERS FROM EXPOSURE TO BENZENE

The Council adopted a common position on the proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to benzene (fifth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 8 of Directive 80/1107/EEC).

The aim of the Directive is to ensure greater protection for the health and safety of workers exposed to benzene, a carcinogenic substance used in particular in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, by laying down limit values and applying a system of specific protection (e.g. protective clothing and equipment, medical surveillance) applicable where these values are exceeded.

As part of the co-operation procedure the common position will be forwarded to the European Parliament pursuant to Article 149(2) of the EEC Treaty.

LIMIT VALUES FOR EXPOSURE TO CHEMICAL, PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL AGENTS
AT WORK

The Council adopted a common position on the proposal for a Directive amending Directive 80/1107/EEC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work.

The Directive supplements the provisions of the 1980 framework Directive with a view to providing better protection for workers against chemical, physical and biological agents at work.

In particular, it provides for indicative limit values to be drawn up at Community level to cover as many dangerous chemical, physical and biological agents as possible, in addition to the binding limit values.

The Directive comprises a uniform measurement strategy at Community level which is an essential condition for the harmonization of limit values.

As part of the co-operation procedure the common position will be forwarded to the European Parliament pursuant to Article 149(2) of the EEC Treaty.

PROTECTION AGAINST RISKS DUE TO CARCINOGENS AT WORK

The Council held a policy debate on the proposal for a Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens at work (sixth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 8 of Directive 80/1107/EEC).

It noted a tendency in favour of replacing the list of 31 substances by a reference to the Directives on the classification of dangerous substances and preparations, as this would broaden the scope of the Directive and automatically update it.

The Council was in favour of the inclusion in the scope of the Directive of substances that are not marketed and are to be found only at the workplace, as well as certain processes, on the understanding that they should be included gradually and in the light of the findings of experts.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its discussions on this proposal for a Directive to enable the Council, in accordance with the timetable laid down by the Troika, to adopt a common position at its next meeting.

NEW FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE AND WORKPLACE DIRECTIVE

The Council also held a policy debate on the proposals for Directives:

- on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at the workplace ("new framework Directive");
- concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the workplace (first individual Directive within the meaning of Article 13 of the new framework Directive) (Directive on the workplace).

These proposals constitute the first two instruments in a package of six proposals based on Article 118a of the EEC Treaty and submitted to the Council by the Commission in March 1988.

During the discussions on these proposals, the Council paid particular attention to the following issues:

- the application of the second subparagraph of Article 118a(2) of the EEC Treaty whereby directives shall avoid imposing administrative, financial and legal constraints in a way which would hold back the creation and development of small and medium-sized undertakings;
- relations between employers and workers, in particular the information, consultation and instruction and training of workers;
- a new approach whereby uniform application of the minimum requirements of the Directive should be guaranteed by recourse to technical reports drawn up, for example, by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN).

At the close of its discussions the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its discussions on the two proposals for Directives to enable the Council, in accordance with the timetable laid down by the Troika, to adopt common positions at the earliest possible date with a view to the final adoption of the two Directives by 30 June 1989 at the latest.

EQUAL TREATMENT FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES - THIRD DIRECTIVE

The Council took note of a report from the Presidency on progress in discussions on the proposal for a Directive completing the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in statutory and occupational social security schemes.

The Council noted that the dossier was essential to the completion of the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in the Community.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its discussions on this proposal for a Directive; it invited the Member States to ensure that their respective national authorities gave their representatives in Brussels the necessary instructions for agreement to be reached.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Social Affairs

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation relating to the organization of a survey of labour costs in industry, wholesale and retail distribution, banking and insurance.

The Regulation provides for a statistical survey to be carried out in 1989 on the basis of uniform criteria to obtain information on labour costs in the various Member States and the impact of these costs on competition.

Customs Union

The Council adopted a Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain industrial products.

The Council also adopted a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for herrings. The zero duty quota of 34 000 tonnes, which is valid from 16 June 1988 to 14 February 1989, is allocated as follows: the first tranche of 25 000 tonnes: Benelux 893 tonnes, Denmark 17 603 tonnes, Germany 5 500 tonnes, France 859 tonnes, United Kingdom 645 tonnes; the second tranche of 8 500 tonnes constitutes the reserve.

System of monetary compensatory amounts

The European Council on 29 and 30 June 1987 had planned a review of the agri-monetary system before 1 July 1988.

In the absence of monetary developments since that decision, the Council formally adopted a text noting that, in the circumstances, such a review was impossible.

Fisheries policy

The Council adopted a Regulation adopting provisions for the implementation of the scheme of joint international enforcement adopted by NAFO.

PRESS RELEASE

6848/88 (Presse 83)

1248th Council meeting
- Economic and Financial Affairs -

Luxembourg, 13 June 1988

President: Mr Gerhard STOLTENBERG
Minister for Finance
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Economic Affairs and
the Self-Employed

Netherlands:

Mr O.C.R. RUDING

Minister for Finance

Portugal:

Mr Miguel CADILHE

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

Lord COCKFIELD

Vice-President

LIBERALIZATION OF CAPITAL MOVEMENTS

Pending receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council reached agreement on the substance of the draft Directive on the full liberalization of capital movements and of a draft Regulation establishing a single facility providing medium-term financial support for Member States' balances of payments.

Both acts are the result of a joint effort made following detailed, constructive discussions conducted by the Council on Financial and Economic Affairs since the Commission proposals were submitted in 1987, in particular at its meetings in February and April and at its informal meeting in Travemünde.

A. Full liberalization of capital movements

The aim of the draft Directive is to establish the principle of the full liberalization of capital movements. As opposed to the past, when only part of the transactions were to be liberalized, henceforth all capital movements will be liberalized. Compared with the Community rules currently in force, the most significant liberalization relates to short-term transactions, in particular the possibility of having accounts abroad, of obtaining credit from foreign banks, etc.

The agreement in principle reached today constitutes a vital stage along the path towards completion of the Large Market by 1992 and a significant opening towards the achievement of Economic and Monetary Union.

Those Member States which have not yet liberalized their capital movements will have a two-year period in which to apply the Directive, i.e. until 1 July 1990. As from that date at the latest, currency and capital will therefore be able to circulate freely beyond the Community frontiers and seek the most favourable

investment terms. Furthermore, the Member States undertake in principle to endeavour to achieve, in their relations with third countries, the same degree of liberalization as that attained within the Community (erga omnes principle).

Spain, Ireland, Greece and Portugal may maintain certain restrictions on the Directive until the end of 1992. Greece and Portugal will be able to benefit from a three-year extension of their transitional arrangements owing to balance of payments difficulties or an inadequate degree of adaptation of the national financial system.

Furthermore, the achievement of liberalization is coupled with the following special conditions:

- for reasons of domestic monetary policy, Member States may take measures to regulate bank liquidity which have a specific effect on capital transactions carried out by credit institutions with non-residents;
- in the event of a serious crisis, where short-term capital movements on an exceptional scale exert strong pressure on exchange markets and seriously disrupt the conduct of monetary and exchange-rate policy in a Member State, resulting in particular in important fluctuations in domestic liquidity, safeguard measures may be introduced, for a maximum of six months, in respect of capital movements newly liberalized by the Directive; this particularly concerns short-term transactions. It was agreed that Articles 73 and 108 of the Treaty would remain applicable and, as in the past, Member States may invoke them to deal with any serious problems which might arise.

As a general rule, the Commission will authorize the Member State to take the necessary safeguard measures, for which it will lay down the conditions and details. If necessary, owing to their urgent nature, the Member State may itself take safeguard measures. In that event, the Commission and the Member States must be notified of such measures no later than the date of their entry into force. The Commission (after consulting the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Central Bank Governors) will decide whether to maintain or discontinue those measures.

- Belgium and Luxembourg will be able to maintain their double exchange market until the end of 1992.
- Specific national provisions governing the purchase of secondary residences may be maintained pending a Community regulation on the matter.
- The Commission will submit to the Council by 31 December 1988 proposals to eliminate or attenuate the risks of tax distortions, evasion and avoidance linked with the diversity of national schemes concerning tax on savings and monitoring of their application.

The Council will have to adopt a position on the Commission proposals by 30 June 1989. Any Community tax provisions will, in accordance with the Treaty, have to be adopted unanimously.

- The Directive also provides that in the event of short-term capital movements on a large scale from or to third countries seriously disrupt the monetary policy of the Member States or lead to serious tension in exchange relations, the Member States must examine any measures which could be taken to resolve the difficulties encountered.

Lastly, the Council and the Commission placed the text of the Directive on capital movements in a wider political context by stating that:

"The Directive involves the full liberalization of capital movements within the Community and lays down the timetable and detailed procedures for implementing it. This liberalization is necessary for the completion of the internal market and marks an important step towards the achievement of economic and monetary union. It is not, however, a sufficient condition for the creation of a financial area genuinely integrated into the Community.

1. The proper functioning of the internal market, greater economic and social cohesion within the Community and continued progress towards economic and monetary union demand that between now and completion of the large market an increasingly high degree of stability be sought in exchange relations between Member States, with that stability being based on price stability, close convergence of economic performances and strengthened co-operation in the definition of the conduct of economic and monetary policies.
2. The liberalization of capital movements must fit into a framework which ensures a satisfactory level of protection for savers and depositors, a high degree of transparency and information for investors and shareholders, equal conditions of competition on the financial markets and the solvency of banks and other financial institutions.

It is therefore important that the programme already initiated, in particular as regards the harmonization of the safeguard and supervision rules in the field of financial services, be pressed ahead with in accordance with the guidelines and timetable laid down in the White Paper on the completion of the internal market.

3. Under full liberalization arrangements, capital movements could be influenced to a greater extent by tax considerations.

The deadline laid down for applying this Directive must be put to advantage to define within the Council, taking into account in particular the Member States' budget and tax constraints, the measures to eliminate or attenuate the risk of tax distortions, evasion and avoidance linked with the diversity of the national schemes concerning tax on savings and monitoring of their application.

According to the Commission's point of view expressed in its communication COM(87) 550 accompanying the proposal, these measures could include the harmonization of the tax systems, bases and rates and a strengthening of the detailed procedures for co-operation between the national tax authorities."

B. Establishment of a single facility providing medium-term financial support for Member States' balances of payments

The aim of this proposal is to establish a single medium-term facility by amalgamating the present two mechanisms, that of Community loans and that of medium-term financial assistance.

The new financial support could go up to a ceiling of 16 000 MECU. Funds could be provided either from loans on capital markets or from financial institutions up to a maximum of 14 000 million, or from the other Member States by way of medium-term financial assistance, depending on the ceilings on outstanding debt set for each Member State.

The financial support is designed to provide aid in the form of loans to Member States experiencing difficulties or a serious threat of difficulties in its balance of current payments or its balance of capital movements.

It is for the Council to implement the support and to lay down the economic policy conditions coupled with support.

It is for the Commission to submit any proposals it deems necessary and to monitor implementation of the programme of reorganization in the beneficiary countries.

Support will be granted in the form of repayable loans and will not involve any burden for the Community budget.

INTERINSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT ON BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE

The Council approved the Interinstitutional Agreement on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure, the text of which had been established ad referendum at the Trialogue meeting (Presidents of the Council, Commission and European Parliament) on 27 May 1988.

The Agreement is based on the following principles:

- "1. The main purpose of the Interinstitutional Agreement is to achieve the objectives of the Single European Act, to give effect to the conclusions of the Brussels European Council on budgetary discipline and accordingly to improve the functioning of the annual budgetary procedure.
2. Budgetary discipline under the Interinstitutional Agreement covers all expenditure and is binding on all the institutions involved for as long as the Agreement is in force.
3. This Agreement does not alter the respective budgetary powers of the various institutions as laid down in the Treaty.
4. The contents of the Interinstitutional Agreement may not be changed without the consent of all the institutions which are party to it."

The Agreement, in which the partners in the Trialogue went as far as possible to allay the concern of all parties, represents a proper balance between positions which were on occasion contradictory at the outset. Although the Agreement does not resolve all the problems, it constitutes a framework for proper mutual conduct which will make it possible to avoid a degree of tension that has arisen in the past and affected the equanimity of the budget debate. This is particularly important in the light of the effects which the decisions of the Brussels European Council will have, as they will each year lead to an overshoot of the maximum rate of increase in non-compulsory expenditure, notably as a result of increases for the Structural Funds, the IMPs, the framework research programme, etc.

Common rules for transposing those political decisions into the budget were therefore particularly important in order to prevent risks of potential conflict between the two branches of the budgetary authority.

A third advantage, that of improved forecasting of Community expenditure, has been secured by introducing multiannual estimates which will also make it easier for the Member States to make their own budget estimates by taking into account the amounts to be made available to the Community.

The Agreement is based on financial estimates, viz. the financial perspective 1988-1992, the table of which is set out below (page 13).

That perspective will be updated by the Commission each year prior to the budgetary procedure in order to adjust the data technically to GNP and price trends. The Commission will, moreover, submit proposals to the two branches of the budgetary authority for the necessary adjustments, taking into account the conditions of execution on the basis of the schedules for commitment and payment appropriations. The Agreement also provides for the possibility of reviewing the financial perspective by joint decision of the two branches of the budgetary authority.

For the Council the expenditure ceilings laid down in the financial estimates, plus the safety margin of 0,03% of GNP, also constitute the maximum annual limits for own resources, which will be entered, as percentages of Community GNP, in the decision on own resources as an additional component of budgetary discipline.

An important aspect of the Agreement is the mutual obligation to comply with the financing objectives set by the European Council for certain priority policy areas (Structural Funds, Integrated Mediterranean Programmes, framework programme in the field of research).

The Council, the European Parliament and the Commission are in agreement, moreover, on the budgetary discipline defined by the European Council for compulsory expenditure (in particular the guideline in the agricultural sector), and undertake to comply with it.

FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE
Commitment appropriations

million ECU at 1988 prices

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
1. EAGGF Guarantee	27 500	27 700	28 400	29 000	29 600
2. Structural operations	7 790	9 200	10 600	12 100	13 450
3. Policies with multiannual allocations (IMPs, research)(1)	1 210	1 650	1 900	2 150	2 400
4. Other policies of which non-compulsory	2 103 1 646	2 385 1 801	2 500 1 860	2 700 1 910	2 800 1 970
5. Repayments and administration (including financing of stock disposal)	5 700 1 240	4 950 1 400	4 500 1 400	4 000 1 400	3 550 1 400
6. Monetary reserve *)	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
TOTAL	45 303	46 885	48 900	50 950	52 800
of which **) compulsory	33 698	32 607	32 810	32 980	33 400
non-compulsory	11 605	14 278	16 090	17 970	19 400
Payments appropriations required	43 779	45 300	46 900	48 600	50 100
of which **) compulsory	33 640	32 604	32 740	32 910	33 110
non-compulsory	10 139	12 696	14 160	15 690	16 990
Payment appropriations as % of GNP	1,12	1,14	1,15	1,16	1,17
margin for unforeseen expenditure	0,03	0,03	0,03	0,03	0,03
Own resources required as % of GNP	1,15	1,17	1,18	1,19	1,20

TAX EXEMPTIONS

The Council held a brief exchange of views on a Presidency compromise proposal to resolve the last issues outstanding in connection with a proposal for a Directive on tax exemptions for certain temporarily imported means of transport.

The Council called upon the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work with a view to reaching a solution as soon as possible.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending Directive 83/181/EEC relating to exemption from value added tax on the final importation of certain goods.

This Directive, which aims at customs and VAT arrangements being as unified as possible, accordingly incorporates some of the amendments to customs arrangements recently adopted by the Council in Regulation No 1315/88: the introduction of exemptions for reference substances for the quality control of medical products, awards, trophies, and souvenirs of a symbolic nature and for fuel to be used for the refrigeration systems and other special systems on board transport vehicles. It is also aimed at repealing the present arrangements for optional exemption of imports of negligible value: henceforth a compulsory exemption will be introduced for items whose value does not exceed 10 ECU and an optional exemption for items whose value is greater than 10 ECU but not greater than 22 ECU. The Member States will, however, have the right to exclude mail order sales from the compulsory exemption. Lastly, the Directive introduces a new VAT exemption for importations of official publications and printed matter distributed on the occasion of elections to the European Parliament and of national elections.

OTHER FINANCIAL DECISION

The Council also formally adopted the Regulation amending Regulation No 2891/77 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources. The aim of these amendments is in particular to adapt the definition of the establishment of traditional own resources in order to cope with difficulties experienced in the past.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

6891/88 (Presse 86)

1249th Council meeting

- General Affairs -

Luxembourg, 13 and 14 June 1988

President: Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Knud-Erik TYGESEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Irmgard ADAM-SCHWAETZER	Minister of State, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS	Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES MIRO	State Secretary for Relations with the European Communities
Mr Miguel-Angel FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ	State Secretary for Trade

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON	Minister for European Affairs
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Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Maire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN	Minister of State for European Affairs

Italy:

Mr Renato RUGGIERO	Minister for Foreign Trade
Mr Gilberto BONALUMI	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Robert GOEBBELS	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN	State Secretary for European Affairs
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Portugal:

Mr Vitor MARTINS	State Secretary for European Integration
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United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE	Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Mr Christopher PATTEN	Minister for Overseas Development
Mrs Lynda CHALKER	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS	President
Mr Lorenzo NATALI	Vice-President
Lord Francis Arthur COCKFIELD	Vice-President
Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN	Vice-President
Mr Grigoris VARFIS	Member
Mr Willy DE CLERCQ	Member

PREPARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

On the basis of information provided by the Presidency and the Commission, the Council held an exchange of views on the topics which could be discussed at the meeting of the European Council on 27 and 28 June 1988 in Hanover.

DATE OF ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Council, having arrived at a common position to hold the forthcoming elections of members of the European Parliament during the period from 15 to 18 June 1989, agreed to consult the European Parliament about these dates in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 1976.

SETTING UP OF A COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE

With the President of the Court of Justice, Lord MACKENZIE STEWART, attending, the Council examined the questions still arising with regard to the establishment of a Court of First Instance, the aim of which would be, on the one hand, to lighten the workload of the Court of Justice and, on the other hand, to make access to justice easier by speeding up procedures. The questions unresolved concerned, in particular, the scope of that Court's jurisdiction.

In concluding the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the subject, also in the light of the Opinions awaited from the European Parliament and the Commission, with a view to reaching a conclusion as soon as possible.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES AND ADVOCATES-GENERAL AT THE COURT OF JUSTICE

The Conference of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States dealt with certain questions arising in connection with the appointment of 10 members of the Court of Justice (7 judges and 3 Advocates-General), since the terms of office of the present incumbents expire on 6 October, and expressed its determination to reach a decision on this matter as soon as possible.

CMEA - SIGNING OF THE JOINT DECLARATION

The Council approved the substance of the Joint Declaration on the establishment of official relations between the EEC and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and decided to proceed with its signing. The signing ceremony will take place in Luxembourg on 25 June 1988.

On this occasion, the Council was informed by the Commission that certain CMEA countries had requested that official relations be established with the Community. It was agreed that the Community procedure for this purpose would be completed as soon as possible.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH HUNGARY

The Council held an exchange of views on the progress of the negotiations with Hungary on an Agreement on trade and commercial and economic co-operation.

It defined certain guidelines which should enable these negotiations to reach an early and successful conclusion.

RELATIONS WITH THE EFTA COUNTRIES

In the context of the preparation of the forthcoming meeting of EFTA Ministers and the Commission to be held in Tampere on 15 June 1988, the Council agreed to two Decisions, one of which concerns the negotiation of agreements with the EFTA countries concerning the establishment of an exchange of information in the field of technical regulations, and the other amends Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation in order to simplify the rules on cumulation.

RELATIONS WITH THE GULF STATES

The Council decided to proceed with the signing, subject to its conclusion, of the Co-operation Agreement between the EEC, on the one hand, and the countries parties to the Charter of the Co-operation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and Kuwait), on the other hand.

This Agreement will be signed at Ministerial level at 11.30 on Wednesday 15 June 1988 at the Kirchberg European Centre in Luxembourg.

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES: GUIDELINES FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE ACP-EEC CONVENTION - CONCLUSIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY

The Council held an exchange of views on the guidelines which the Commission had proposed for the renewal of the Convention in its communication of 25 March 1988, which was considered an excellent basis for the Council's proceedings on the subject.

At the close of this exchange of views the Presidency drew the following conclusions:

1. The Council had a frank and fruitful exchange of views on the future ACP-EEC Convention. At the same time the Council again acknowledged the paramount importance of the trend-setting co-operation in the form of a partnership with these States within the framework of the Lomé Conventions and confirmed its will to continue this co-operation. The Council emphasizes the importance of human rights, without respect for which the aims of the Convention cannot be achieved.

It endorses the Commission's view that the established basic principles, methods and mechanisms of this co-operation should be maintained and, if necessary, consolidated.

At the same time the EEC and ACP States must look together for fresh answers to problems which have arisen or become more acute since the Third Convention was concluded. This means that there must be further dynamic development of important areas covered by the Convention.

Environmental protection and demographic development should also be included in it as new areas of co-operation.

2. The Council discussed various individual aspects of the new Convention on the basis of the Commission's guidelines of 21 March 1988. While some questions still have to be considered in greater detail, a large measure of agreement emerged on some important points. This is particularly true as regards the need for greater support for the structural adjustment measures of the ACP States in which the Community must also participate in the future in close co-ordination with other donors, in particular the Bretton Woods organizations. At the same time the characteristics of Community aid must be maintained. This also takes account of the difficult indebtedness situation of many ACP States.

The Council referred in this connection to the recently adopted special Community programme to aid heavily indebted low-income countries in Africa which have taken structural adjustment measures, and to its basic attitude, as set out in the Resolution of 31 May 1988, towards such measures.

3. The Council is aware that trade and export possibilities are of particular importance for the economic development of the ACP States.

In view of the concern of the ACP States regarding the multilateral trade negotiations in the framework of GATT, it reaffirms its conviction that further liberalization of world trade also benefits the national economies of the ACP States. In the negotiations the Community will heed the legitimate interests of its privileged partners and make every effort to ensure that other markets are also opened up to them to a greater extent.

The Council points again to the opportunities which will arise also for the ACP States from the completion of the European Internal Market during the period of validity of the new Convention.

4. The Council welcomes the Commission's proposal for the private sector to be involved to a larger extent in this co-operation and also shares the view that regional co-operation must be improved in order to achieve greater regional economic integration.
5. Both the Council and the Commission are of the opinion that no appropriate decisions on the volume of financing and the detailed arrangements for future aid can be taken until a very late stage in the negotiations.
6. The Council would be prepared to consider a longer period of validity for these contractual relations if the ACP States so desire.
7. The Council has noted with satisfaction that the Commission intends, in view of the discussions hitherto with regard to the opening of the negotiations planned for the month of October 1988, to submit to it in good time a proposal for the negotiating directives for discussion.
8. The Council shares the Commission's view that the European Parliament should be closely associated with this process in an appropriate manner.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council completed the work of embodying in regulations the conclusions of the European Council meeting on 11 and 12 February in Brussels.

Pending receipt of the Opinions expected from the European Parliament, the Council reached overall substantive agreement at this meeting concerning:

- the system of the Community's own resources;
- budgetary discipline;
- the reform of the Structural Funds. ⁽¹⁾

The consensus also extended to the following texts:

- the draft Regulation amending Regulation No 1883/78 on the general rules for the financing of operations by the EAGGF Guarantee Section;
- the draft Regulation amending Regulation No 729/70 on the financing of the CAP;
- the draft Directive on the harmonization of the definitions of GNP at market prices;
- the draft Regulation amending Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977;
- the draft Regulation on financial support for Portugal for a specific industrial development programme (PEDIP);
- the draft Regulation on the granting of financial compensation to Spain and Portugal in view of the depreciation of certain stocks of agricultural products, on which the Council had already reached consensus at its meeting on 24 May 1988.

⁽¹⁾ One delegation gave its agreement subject to confirmation.

The Council has already received the European Parliament's Opinions regarding the last two texts.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to complete finalization of the texts in order to enable the Council to proceed with their formal adoption, once it has received the European Parliament's Opinions, as soon as possible and in any event before the European Council meeting on 27 and 28 June 1988.

The Council will also hold a conciliation meeting with the European Parliament on Monday 20 June 1988 in Luxembourg on those subjects for which the European Parliament has requested conciliation.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council adopted the Regulation confirming Commission Regulation (EEC) No 561/88 of 29 February 1988 instituting a system for the authorization of imports into Italy of footwear originating in South Korea and Taiwan (until 30 June 1999).

Commodities

The Council adopted a common position concerning participation in the negotiations within the framework of the Conference on the setting up of an International Copper Study Group.

Customs Union

The Council adopted the Regulations

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - = processing work in respect of certain textile products under Community outward processing traffic (for a volume of 1 870 000 ECU of added value);
 - = certain frozen fillets of hake (5 000 tonnes with a quota duty of 10% from 1 July to 31 December 1988);
- temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on a number of agricultural products.

Trade in iron and steel products with State-trading countries

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted the Decision on certain measures to be applied, in respect of State-trading countries, to trade in iron and steel products covered by the ECSC Treaty including pig iron, cast iron and high-carbon ferro-manganese.

PRESS RELEASE

6849/88 (Presse 84)

1250th Council meeting
- Agriculture -
Luxembourg, 13/14/15/16/17 June 1988

President:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Laurits TOERNAES Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Yiannis POTTAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Carlos ROMERO HERRERA Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

France:

Mr Henri NALLET Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Calogero MANNINO Minister for Agriculture

Mr Giovanni ZARRO State Secretary for Agriculture

Mr Felice CONTU State Secretary for Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN

State Secretary for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

Portugal:

Mr Alvaro BARRETO

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

State Secretary
for Agricultural Development

United Kingdom:

Mr John MacGREGOR

Minister for Agriculture

Mr John Selwyn GUMMER

Minister, Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN Vice-President

FIXING OF PRICES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES
FOR THE 1988/1989 MARKETING YEAR

After a meeting which lasted from Monday 13 to Friday 17 June 1988, the President of the Council noted that eleven delegations were agreed on an overall solution proposed by the Presidency and the Commission on the fixing of prices for agricultural products and related measures for the 1988/1989 marketing year. That solution is set out below and contains the amendments made to the Commission's original proposals.

One delegation said that its country had fundamental problems with an element of this overall solution concerning - in the agri-monetary chapter - the dismantling of negative monetary compensatory amounts.

The Council noted that the Commission and the delegation in question would make the necessary contacts to seek solutions to this problem; the Commission said it would report to the Council on the outcome of those contacts.

COMPROMISE

Changes in relation to proposal COM(88) 120

I. Cereals and rice

1. Cereals

(a) The monthly increases will be reduced by 25% for the 1988/1989 marketing year.

(b) Maximum moisture content for intervention of 14,5%.
The Council notes the Commission's undertaking to ensure that for the 1988/1989 marketing year intervention will be possible for a moisture level of 15% in all regions where the 14,5% limit value poses practical problems. In exceptional cases the level can be raised from 15% to 15,5%.

(c) Co-responsibility levy and direct aid for small producers

- The Council agrees to maintain, for the marketing year 1988/1989, the provisional arrangements introduced by Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1530/88 of 1 June 1988, as regards Greece, Spain and Italy.
- The Council agrees that for the other Member States, the arrangements for the 1987/1988 marketing year will continue unchanged for the 1988/1989 marketing year.
- The ceiling on the amount of aid for the Community as a whole will be set at 220 MECU for the 1988/1989 marketing year.
- The Council undertakes to define the concept of "small producers" and the arrangements applicable to them before 1 December 1988, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission.

(d) Increased use of cereals in feedingstuffs

The Council will decide before 31 October 1988 on the introduction of an incorporation premium from the 1989/1990 marketing year. It will be guided by the following criteria:

- agreement on the increased use of cereals;
- reference period: the most recent possible marketing year for which the requisite data is available;
- in calculating the subsidy, the size of the cereals component during the reference period will be taken into account;
- conformity with GATT rules;
- review after one year;
- a monitoring system to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements.

(e) The Commission proposal on new arrangements for the levy on buckwheat, millet and canary seed is withdrawn. The Commission will continue examination of this question in the light of developments on the market for these products.

- (f) The Council agrees that Spanish prices for maize and common wheat should be aligned on Community prices as from the 1988/1989 marketing year, in view of the changes in the acquis communautaire which have occurred since accession.

The Council also requests the Commission to examine the possibility of aligning Spanish prices for sorghum, rye and barley on Community prices.

- (g) The Commission undertakes to continue its work on the gluten test for durum wheat so that it can be operational as from the beginning of the 1989/1990 marketing year.
- (h) Production aid will be granted for high-quality flint maize for the manufacture of maize groats and meal (gritz) to encourage the launch of this crop in the most suitable regions of the Community.
- (i) The Commission will examine how to cope with the cereals storage problems being experienced in some regions of the Community.
- (j) Durum wheat: maintain the existing tolerance for 1988/1989.

2. Rice

- (a) The monthly increases will be reduced by 25% for the 1988/1989 marketing year.
- (b) The production aid for Indica rice will remain unchanged for the 1988/1989 marketing year.

The Commission is asked to examine whether this aid should become degressive.

II. Sugar

1. Aid for Community refiners of preferential sugar

The Community aid of 0,8 ECU/t will be granted for the marketing years 1987/1988 to 1990/1991 to all Community refineries (within the meaning of the 3rd subparagraph of Article 9(4) of the basic Regulation) for the quantities of preferential raw sugar (ACP and Indian cane sugar) and FOD sugar that they refine.

2. Regionalized price system

The regionalized price system in the sugar sector will be examined as part of the next review of the common organization of the market for sugar.

3. Declaration date for carry-overs

For Spain, the date for the declaration of the carry-over from one marketing year to the next is set at 15 April for beet sugar and 20 June for cane sugar.

4. National aid in Italy

It will still be possible for the aid available hitherto to be granted during the 1988/1989 marketing year.

5. National aid in France (FOD)

The existing arrangements will be extended for one year. These arrangements will be examined in connection with the report which the Commission will be submitting on FOD produce.

6. Review of the organization of the sugar market

By mutual agreement, the Council and the Commission emphasize the need to re-examine the levies on the sugar industry in the Member States as part of the next review of the organization of the sugar market.

III. Oils and fats

A. Oilseeds

1. Colza, rape and sunflower seeds

- (a) Maintenance of the increase for "double zero" colza at its present level. Measures will be taken to guarantee the same export opportunities for "double zero" colza as for other qualities of oil-seeds.
- (b) The Council agrees in principle to the Commission's declaration of intent to grant aid from 1991/1992 only for colza of "double zero" quality, but it must be ensured that industrial colza (colza containing erucic acid) remains eligible for aid. The Commission is prepared to take account of this position in its future proposals.
- (c) The monthly increases will be reduced by 20% for the 1988/1989 marketing year.
- (d) Advance-fixing certificates and calculation of monetary differential amounts
Agreement on the conclusions of the Special Committee on Agriculture contained in Annex I.
- (e) Opening of intervention for sunflower seeds in Spain and Portugal as from 1 August.

2. Soya beans

(a) Advance fixing of aid

The Council agrees that the amounts relating to the advance fixing of aid should be adjusted to take account of any reductions in institutional prices.

The Commission is requested to continue examining other questions and to submit a report soon.

(b) Tightening of controls

Agreement on the following solution, submitted to the Special Committee on Agriculture by the Presidency:

- the proposed adjustments will be made to the scheme from 1 September 1988, and transitional provisions will be laid down for contracts already concluded;
- the principle of paying aid to processors of beans will be retained with, however, a derogation from this principle until 31 December 1992, so that aid can be granted to approved middlemen where national legislation affords adequate control guarantees;

- the operation of the arrangements will be further examined with a view to ensuring that dealers are involved in the process of marketing soya beans.

(c) Soya in Portugal

The Council has decided to include Portuguese soya in the system of Community aid, with the level of aid being adjusted in the light of the market price for oil in Portugal. The guaranteed maximum quantity is maintained.

B. Olive oil

- (a) The Council requests the Commission to make use of the possibility of granting aid for private storage during the first three months of the marketing year if market conditions so require.
- (b) The Council decides to raise the threshold for small producers from 200 to 300 kilogrammes of olive oil per marketing year and to increase the aid for these small producers by 1%.
- (c) The Council also requests the Commission to examine whether there could be a more reasonable relationship between consumption aid and production aid.

IV. Protein products

1. Peas, field beans and sweet lupins

Agreement to continue examination of the Commission proposal for the amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 2036/82 laying down the basic rules for special measures in respect of these products.

2. Dried fodder

- (a) The current requirements for the minimum protein content (14%) will also apply in the 1988/1989 marketing year.
- (b) The Commission will submit a report to the Council and the European Parliament on the possible extension of the aid arrangements to crushed fodder.

IVa. Hemp

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council will adopt appropriate measures for granting hemp seed an aid similar to that for flax seed.

V. Wine

1. Prohibition of national aid for the planting of vines

- National aid for Category 3 areas (inferior table wine areas) will remain prohibited.
- National aid for Category 1 and 2 areas may only be granted in future:
 - if it is provided for in accordance with Community law (e.g. Integrated Mediterranean Programmes);
 - if it complies with Community rules (in particular with Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty) and also with restrictive requirements still to be laid down by the Commission in accordance with the Management Committee procedure on the basis of the above Articles (in particular reduction of production or improvement of quality without increasing production).
- Existing national aid may continue up to 1 September 1996, thereafter it may be granted only if the criteria in the second indent are met.

2. Distillation of the by-products of wine-making (Article 35)

- In the 1st and 2nd indents of the 3rd subparagraph of Article 35(2) of Regulation No 822/87, the following fixed percentages are adopted:
 - . 10% in the case of direct vinification from grapes (instead of 8%)
 - . 5% in other cases (instead of 3%).
- The distillation price will gradually be reduced to reach 26% of the guide price for table wine as from the 1990/1991 marketing year.

3. Distillation of wine from table grapes, raisins and wine for cognac production (Article 36)

The distillation price will gradually be reduced from 50% of the guide price in the 1987/1988 marketing year to reach 35% of the guide price for table wine as from the 1990/1991 marketing year.

4. Reduction in the buying-in prices for fortified wine

The buying-in prices for fortified wine will be reduced, for all distillation measures except that referred to in Article 35, by a flat-rate amount varying according to wine growing area, although, on application, the reduction will apply only to those amounts which have actually been fortified.

5. Technical points and oenological practices

Agreement on a number of technical questions, including:

- the amendment of the Community definition of "rectified concentrated grape must";
- the modification of existing oenological practices or the introduction of new ones.

6. Vinhos verdes

The Commission undertakes to adopt, on the basis of the procedure referred to in Article 257 of the Accession Treaty, a measure enabling "vinhos verdes" of less than 9% vol. to be marketed in the Community with a total minimum natural alcoholic strength by volume of 8,5% vol. during the remaining period of the first transitional phase.

7. In order to ensure that Community rules on wine are applied as harmoniously as possible, the Council undertakes to decide before 31 October 1988 on the Commission proposal on Community controls in the wine sector.

8. Aid for private storage

The Council has decided to authorize those Member States that so wish to grant, during the 1988/1989 marketing year, national aid for the short-term storage of table wines and musts.

VI. Fruit and vegetables

1. Fresh products

(a) Intervention thresholds: for peaches, oranges and lemons, degressive thresholds will be introduced for quantities put up for intervention.

The thresholds will be calculated on the basis of the following percentages of average market production over the last five marketing years:

	<u>Peaches</u>	<u>Oranges and lemons</u>
1988/1989	20%	15%
1989/1990	17%	13,5%
1990/1991	15%	12%
1991/1992	12%	10%

(b) The Commission will examine the specific problems relating to citrus fruit raised by various delegations in its report on the general situation regarding citrus fruit in the Community following enlargement. It will submit this report to the Council together with appropriate proposals as soon as possible.

(c) Nuts

Before 31 October 1988 the Commission will forward to the Council a report, with proposals concerning, in particular, the adaptation of production to current marketing conditions, via storage and processing measures; these measures could involve a Community contribution.

2. Processed products

(a) Processing aid for tomato products

The following quantities will be fixed for Greece and Italy:

	<u>Concentrate</u>	<u>Peeled tomatoes</u>	<u>Other products</u>
Greece	967 000 t	25 000 t	21 593 t
Italy	1 655 000 t	1 185 000 t	453 998 t

There will be scope for transfer between the various categories of processed product, as follows:

- 20% from peeled tomatoes to concentrates and other products;
- 5% from concentrates to other products;
- 5% from other products to concentrates.

Criteria for new undertakings to be allowed to receive aid

The Council and the Commission agree that only undertakings which have given certain guarantees that their activities are managed in an orderly way should be allowed to receive aid.

(b) Guarantee threshold for dried grapes of the Moscatel variety

The guarantee threshold for dried grapes of the Moscatel variety will be set at 4 000 t.

(c) Production aid scheme for pineapples

The existing arrangements will be extended for one year. The Commission proposal will be examined further in the light of the report the Commission will be submitting on FOD produce.

(d) Production aid for cherries

, In connection with the discontinuation of the production aid , scheme for processed cherry products, given the application to date of the measures, the following conclusion has been adopted:

The granting of production aid for cherries in syrup is in particular conditional on the processor having paid the producer the minimum price for unprocessed cherries.

It is immaterial for assessment of this question whether the processor has bought further quantities of unprocessed cherries from the producer, in addition to those for which he has applied for aid, on the basis of contractual agreements, irrespective of when those agreements were made, and on what terms.

(e) Apricots

The Commission undertakes to examine every possibility of improving the situation by structural measures.

VII. Tobacco

The maximum guaranteed quantities for the 1988 harvest have been fixed as set out in Annex II.

The Commission and the Council will take account in market management and in proposals and decisions on maximum guaranteed quantities in future years of the need to ensure that the production of marketable varieties in certain sensitive regions is not unduly affected by the system.

VIII. Milk sector

1. Co-responsibility levy

- The existing co-responsibility levy system will be extended for two years. The present rate of the levy will be maintained for the 1988/1989 marketing year.

The Council requests the Commission to examine whether a reduction in the levy could be envisaged for the 1989/1990 marketing year.

- The Council calls upon the Commission to review the areas in which CRL resources are used. Provision could be made ensuring better drinking milk quality, and publicity campaigns could be stepped up.

2. Legal requirements for the production and marketing of milk products

The Council requests the Commission to examine the legal provisions concerning the manufacture and marketing of milk products in the Member States and submit to the Council the necessary proposals.

3. Inward processing traffic

The suspension of the IPT for milk products is waived for one year.

4. SLOM

The Council undertakes to settle the problem of the SLOM together with the problem of the system of compensation for oils and fats. The Commission will put forward suitable proposals without delay.

IX. Beef and veal

1. Extension of the classification grid to private storage

The Council agrees to the proposal submitted by the Commission, and notes the following Commission statement:

"The Commission declares that its only aim in introducing the classification grid for private storage is to extend so far as possible the use of the grid, in the interests of greater transparency of the market. It has no present intention of changing significantly the regulations governing private storage, and will not use the occasion of the introduction of the grid to make such changes.

2. Pending reform of the common organization of the market in beef and veal, the Council signifies its agreement to amending the two clauses included in the December 1985 Regulation to avoid a downward spiral so that these clauses may be suspended in certain market price conditions defined in particular on the basis of the gaps recorded between prices in the various Member States.

The procedures of application shall be defined, for the beginning of the 1988/1989 marketing year, on a proposal from the Commission.

3. The new method of calculating buying-in prices in the beef sector will apply to purchases as from the first day of the new marketing year.
4. The Council asks the Commission, in its proposals for changes in the market organization after 1 January 1989, to consider an increase in the special premium for male bovine animals and examine the possibility of an increase in the suckler-cow premium.
5. The Commission declares its intention of submitting to the Council at the very earliest opportunity a proposal for the application to Spain of the amount of the suckler-cow premium obtaining in the 10-Member Community.

X. Pigmeat

Bringing forward the date of entry into force of the basic price

The Council endorses the Commission's proposal to set the date of entry into force of the basic price for pig carcasses of standard quality at 1 July instead of 1 November.

XI. Financing of structural measures in Greece

1. Green rate applied to structural policy

Council agreement on a devaluation of the green rate for the drachma (in respect of measures covered by agricultural structures policy) down to the level of the market rate (190,827).

2. Regulation (EEC) No 1975/82

The Commission will propose to the Council as soon as possible a one-year extension of Regulation (EEC) No 1975/82; the estimated total cost of this measure will however remain unchanged. In the context of this extension, the rate of Community aid for the various measures will be as follows:

- 70% for:
 - . rural infrastructures
 - . forestry measures
 - . improving stockbreeding
- 60% for:
 - . land improvement
 - . improvement of equipment relating to agricultural training
 - . irrigation.

XIa - Problem of advances in the context of structures

In the case of measures for which there is no system of advances, the Commission is prepared to propose to the Council, as part of the reform of the structural fund, in justified cases, a system of advances:

- in respect of the payment of compensatory allowances (Art. 14 of Regulation (EEC) No 797/85) and
- in respect of action to improve the conditions of processing and marketing of agricultural products (Regulation (EEC) No 355/77).

XII. AGRI-MONETARY QUESTIONS

1. The Council and the Commission state their intention of dismantling the actual negative monetary gaps existing for those currencies which respect the EMS disciplines by adapting green rates in four stages between now and 1992. For other currencies, there is a similar problem in the case of actual monetary gap stocks which are not already covered by automatic dismantling systems. It has been agreed that it is necessary also to provide for appropriate dismantling measures in the case of stocks of this kind. The Commission will examine the most suitable way of introducing them.
2. The first stage of dismantling, which will amount to some 25%, will take place on 1 January 1989 as follows:
 - (a) 1 point for Denmark,
1 point for sheep in Spain,
1,5 points for France,
1,55 points for Ireland,
2,5 points for Italy (except sheepmeat for which the green rate will be aligned on that applicable to the other sectors),
3,2 points for the United Kingdom,
the entirety of gaps for the BLEU.

However, as regards beef and veal, the decisions on the green rates will be taken when the reform of the common market organization in that sector is finally adopted.

- (b) For Portugal, dismantling will apply to the entirety of existing monetary gaps with effect from the beginning of the 1988/1989 marketing year.
3. For Greece, there will be a 14,5 point dismantling:
 - 10 points with effect from the beginning of the 1988/1989 marketing year,
 - 4,5 points with effect from 1 January 1989 (except for beef and veal, which will follow the above arrangements).
4. For the Netherlands, the green rate for milk will be aligned on that for cereals at the beginning of the 1988/1989 marketing year.

ANNEX · I

COLZA, RAPE AND SUNFLOWER SEED

Advance-fixing certificates and calculation of differential amounts

- Amendment of the existing arrangements for the suspension of the issue of certificates for the advance fixing of aid on the following basis:
 - = adaptation of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 205/73 to increase the effectiveness of communications between the Member States and the Commission by setting a deadline for forwarding to the Commission all requests for advance fixing in excess of 25 000 tonnes;
 - = maximum time limit of 24 hours for the Commission to decide whether the issuing of certificates should be suspended; Member States would be notified immediately of any Decision regarding suspension. In accordance with Article 191 of the Treaty, the Decision would take effect upon such notification;
 - = examination within the Working Party of Experts/Management Committee of the details of this amendment (in particular the deadline, the possible allowance of time between the lodging of the last request and forwarding to the Commission departments and the quantities to be notified)
- Abolition of the MDA "de minimis" rule on the understanding that the following Commission statement would appear in the Council minutes:

"The Commission, in accordance with existing rules, will continue to fix the level of aid at least once a week. When fixing the level of aid, and when fixing the monetary differential amounts, the Commission will take full account of relevant monetary factors.

In the event of exceptional monetary developments occurring at a time when other elements used in determining the level of aid remain unchanged, the Commission would revise the level of the monetary differential amounts."

T O B A C C O

BREAKDOWN OF MGQs

GROUP I

5 Virgin D	8 300
7 Bright	38 000
31 Virgin E	11 000
33 Virgin P	3 200
17 Basmas	30 000
18 Katerini	23 000
26 Virgin G	3 500

TOTAL 117 000

GROUP II

2 Bad. Burley	10 000
8 Burley I	42 000
9 Maryland	3 000
25 Burley Gr	11 000
28 Burley fermenté)	28 000
32 Burley E)	
34 Burley P	1 750

TOTAL 95 750

GROUP III

1 Bad. Gauderth	12 000
4 Paraguay	28 000
5 Nijkerk)	
6 Misionero)	
27 Santa Fe)	2 000
29 Havana E)	
10 Kentucky	10 000
16 Round tip)	
30 Round Scafati)	250

TOTAL 52 250

GROUP IV

13 Xanti-Yaka)	
14 Perustitza)	27 000
15 Erzegovine)	
19 Klass kaba Koulak)	
20 Kaba kou'n. class)	40 000
21 Myrodata)	
22 Zychomyrodata)	

TOTAL 67 000

GROUP V

11 Forchh-Havanna)	
12 Beneventano)	20 000
23 Tsebelia)	
24 Mevra)	33 000

TOTAL 53 000

AID GRANTED TO FARMERS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

The Council agreed to a Decision on an aid granted to farmers in the Federal Republic of Germany.

This Decision provides for special national aid as from 1 January 1989 to compensate for the reduction in prices, in terms of national currency and consequently the fall in farmers' incomes which will result in Germany from the adjustment of agricultural conversion rates as from the 1988/1989 marketing year following the European Council's decision of 30 June 1987. The overall volume of this aid may not exceed that of the additional aid (2% VAT) which was authorized by the Council Decision of 30 June 1984 following the European Council meeting in Fontainebleau and which expires on 31 December 1988. The Council decided that the new aid could not be linked to production.

TRANSITIONAL AIDS TO AGRICULTURAL INCOME

The Council examined the amended proposal for a Regulation establishing a system for transitional aids to agricultural income.

This proposal - following on the recent decisions on early retirement and set-aside - is also aimed at helping farmers to adapt to the new situation resulting from the current reform of the common agricultural policy.

The Council acknowledged that this amended proposal represented progress over the Commission's original proposal and provided a valid basis for achieving agreement.

The Council drew up guidelines on a number of points in the proposal to enable the Special Committee on Agriculture usefully to continue its discussions on the subject. The Council accordingly instructed the Committee to report back so that it could bring the matter to a close at an early date.

HARMONIZATION OF VETERINARY AND ZOOTECHNICAL LEGISLATION

In the course of the meeting the Council continued its work on the full implementation of the health and veterinary inspection rules so that in the context of 1992 trade in products of animal origin can be liberalized. Four new acts (details of which are given below) are thus added to the seven already adopted since the beginning of the year.

The Council has adopted 165 acts - 122 of them permanent - in the veterinary sector. Of the 47 acts adopted since the submission in June 1985 of the White Paper on the completion of the internal market, 28 appear in the timetable set out in the White Paper.

A. Deep-frozen semen of animals of the bovine species

The Council adopted a Directive laying down the animal health rules to be observed as regards intra-Community trade in and Community imports of deep-frozen semen of animals of the bovine species. Among other things, these rules are aimed at preventing the spread of certain diseases transmissible to animals through semen and introducing Community rules for approving insemination centres.

This issue was included among the objectives of the White Paper.

B. Level of fees to be charged for health inspections and controls

The Council formally adopted a Decision determining the amounts of the fees to be charged by Member States in respect of health inspections and controls of fresh meat. The aim was to set the level of health inspection fees in such a way as to reduce a number of distortions which had occurred in competition between Community plants.

The fees were set at the following average standard levels:

- beef and veal

= adult bovine animals: 4,5 ECU/animal

= young bovine animals: 2,5 ECU/animal

- solipeds/equidae

4,4 ECU/animal

- pigs

1,30 ECU/animal

- sheepmeat and goatmeat: animals of an average carcase weight:

= of less than 12 kg : 0,175 ECU/animal

= of between 12 kg to 18 kg: 0,35 ECU/animal

= of more than 18 kg : 0,5 ECU/animal

- fresh poultrymeat

- = for broilers, other young poultry for fattening weighing less than 2 kg and for cast hens : 0,01 ECU/animal
- = other young poultry for fattening of a carcass weight of more than 2 kg : 0,02 ECU/animal
- = other heavy adult poultry weighing more than 5 kg : 0,04 ECU/animal.

The Member States have to implement the provisions of this Directive by 31 December 1990.

To allow for actual inspection costs in certain very high-performance slaughterhouses or for varying wage costs, the Member States are authorized to reduce the above amounts by applying:

- a reduction of 55% maximum up to 31 December 1992;
- a reduction of 50% maximum beyond that date.

C. Health rules applying to meat intended for the domestic market
and level of fees

The Council formally adopted a Directive laying down the health rules and the health inspection fees applying to meat intended for the domestic markets of the Member States. The Directive is aimed at providing consumers with a high, uniform level of health protection and to reduce distortions of competition between produce for the domestic market and produce for intra-Community trade.

The Directive extends to meat inspected for the domestic market the amounts of the fees laid down for meat inspected in accordance with the Directives governing intra-Community trade.

The Member States have to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 31 December 1990.

Because of its specific geographical problems, Greece has a further two years in which to comply with the Directive.

D. Arrangements in relation to enzootic bovine leukosis

The Council adopted by a qualified majority a Directive specifying the guarantees required in regard to bovine leukosis for intra-Community trade. The Directive extends until 30 June 1990 the regulations applied up to 31 December 1987 as regards the arrangements in relation to bovine leukosis (while at the same time relaxing certain requirements) and specifies the rules applicable as from 1 July 1990, i.e. the introduction of trade arrangements based on "leukosis-free herds".

ZOOTECNICAL STANDARDS - PIGS

After examining the Directive on the zootechnical standards applicable to breeding animals of the porcine species, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue studying the matter to enable it to take a final decision.

OTHER AGRICULTURAL DECISIONS

The Council formally adopted:

- Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota, for the period 1.7.1988 to 30.6.1989 at a 4% rate of duty:
 - = of 42 600 head of heifers and cows, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II of the Combined Nomenclature (1988);
 - = of 5 000 head of bulls, cows and heifers, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II of the Combined Nomenclature (1988);
- a Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the ACP States concerned on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar for the 1987/1988 delivery period;
- a Directive amending certain Directives on the marketing of seed and propagating material so as to provide for rules for the application of the provisions relating to seed and propagating material satisfying less stringent requirements;
- a Directive amending Directives 66/400/EEC, 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 66/403/EEC, 69/208/EEC, 70/458/EEC and 70/457/EEC on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, seed of oil and fibre plants and vegetable seed and on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species. The aim of the Directive is for the seeds of certain species to be included in the scope of the Directives mentioned above and for certain provisions of those Directives to be amended in the light of experience;

- a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States on extraction solvents used in the production of foodstuffs and food ingredients. The text takes account of the amendments proposed by the European Parliament following the application of the co-operation procedure (see press release No 9018/87 of 19/20 October 1987).
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PRESS RELEASE

7077/88 (Presse 98)

Special Council meeting
- General Affairs -

Luxembourg, 20 June 1988

President: Mrs Irmgard ADAM-SCHWAETZER,
Minister of State,
Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Jakob Esper LARSEN Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mrs Irmgard ADAM-SCHWAETZER Minister of State, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Constantinos LYBEROPOULOS Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES MIRO State Secretary for Relations with the European Communities

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Gianni MANZOLINI State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P.C. NIEMAN

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Portugal:

Mr Leonardo MATHIAS

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mrs Lynda CHALKER

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

Mr Grigoris VARFIS

Member

CONCILIATION WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The proceedings of this meeting were given over to a conciliation meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament headed by its President, Lord PLUMB, and comprising Mr DANKERT, rapporteur on budget discipline and the inter-institutional agreement, Mr LANGES, rapporteur on own resources, Mrs SCRIVENER, rapporteur on the financing of the common agricultural policy, Mr SCHON, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control, and Mrs ANDRE, member of the Committee on Regional Policy.

The European Parliament had requested this conciliation, a procedure which applies to acts of general scope and with considerable financial impact, on all the common positions reached by the Council at its meeting on 13 and 14 June 1988 with regard to the implementation of the conclusions of the European Council meeting on 11 and 12 February 1988, viz. the following acts:

- reform of the structural funds
- specific industrial development programme for Portugal
- new own resources system
- amendment of the financial Regulation
- budgetary discipline
- two Regulations on certain financial aspects of the common agricultural policy
- financial compensation to Spain and Portugal for their financial participation in the depreciation of certain agricultural stocks
- harmonized establishment of GNP at market prices.

The proceedings of the conciliation meeting, conducted by both sides in a spirit of understanding and compromise and with the active support of the Commission, were successfully concluded when complete consensus was reached on all the problems at issue.

The Council will thus be able to proceed with the final adoption of the abovementioned acts, after linguistic finalization, at its meeting (Industry) on 24 June 1988 and the Member States will then be able to initiate the ratification process in their national parliaments on the new system of own resources.

PRESS RELEASE

6895/88 (Presse 90)

1251st meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Luxembourg, 16 and 17 June 1988

President: Mr Klaus TOEPFER,
Federal Minister for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and
Reactor Safety
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Marc LEPOIVRE Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mrs Lone DYBKJAER Minister for the Environment

Germany:

Mr Klaus TOEPFER Federal Minister for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Reactor
Safety

Mr Clemens STROETMANN State Secretary at the Federal
Ministry of the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Reactor
Safety

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULOUMBIS Minister of Public Works, Regional
Planning and the Environment

Spain:

Mr Javier SANEZ COSCULLUELA Minister for the Public Works and
Town Planning

France:

Mr Brice LAHONDE State Secretary for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr Padraig FLYNN Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Giorgio RUFFOLO Minister for the Environment
Mrs Elena MARINUCCI State Secretary for Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert KRIEPS

Minister for the Environment

Netherlands:

Mr E.H.T.M. NIJPELS

Minister for Housing,
Planning and the Environment

Portugal:

Mr Luis VALENTE DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and
Territorial Administration

Mr José MACARIO CORREIA

State Secretary for the Environment

United Kingdom:

The Earl of CAITHNESS

Minister of State,
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS

Member

OZONE: APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND
THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL

The Council reached a substantive agreement on:

- the Decision concluding and implementing the Vienna Convention for the protection of the ozone layer and the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer, and
- the Regulation laying down common rules applicable to certain products which deplete the ozone layer.

The Community signed the Vienna Convention in March 1985 and the Montreal Protocol in September 1987. Most Member States have also signed the two acts.

To enable the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol to enter into force on 1 January 1989, the Decision approved today requires Member States to take the necessary steps to ratify the Convention by 1 October and the Protocol by the end of the year. It is absolutely necessary for the Community and its Member States to meet these deadlines for ratification if the number of ratifications required for the acts to enter into force on time is to be reached.

The Regulation lays down specific rules for restricting the production, sale and import of CFCs and halons, in order to apply the Montreal Protocol in the Community. It will be remembered that the Protocol provides for:

- a freeze on the production and consumption of CFCs and halons at 1986 levels, to take effect one year after the Protocol enters into force (scheduled for 1 January 1989);
- reduction to 80% of 1986 levels from 1 July 1993, and to 50% from 1 July 1998.

Lastly, the Council reached agreement on a Resolution on the use of CFCs and halons in products. In this Resolution, the Council:

1. STRESSES that in addition to the Regulation implementing the Montreal Protocol in the Community urgent action should be taken in order to limit the use of CFCs and halons in products and equipment containing them or in processes using them, in particular by the measures mentioned below;
2. UNDERLINES the need for the Community and the Member States to encourage further research into climate change and the ozone layer and, in consultation with industry, into alternative, environmentally sound products, equipment or processes;
3. INVITES the Commission, in co-operation with the Member States, to initiate discussions on voluntary agreements at the Community level with all the industries concerned, wherever feasible to substitute CFCs and halons in products, such as aerosols, or in equipment or processes using them, or if such substitution is not feasible to reduce the use of these substances, so that the total amounts of these substances used will be reduced to the maximum possible extent. It further invites the Commission to report on progress made;
4. INVITES the Commission, in co-operation with the Member States, to initiate discussions with the industries concerned with a view to concluding a voluntary agreement on a common Community label for CFC-free products;

5. STRESSES the great importance of any reductions in the use of CFCs and halons in products, equipment and processes resulting from national or Community measures as mentioned above not being offset by increases in other uses of these substances or increases in other parts of the Community, but being safeguarded for the protection of human health and the environment and therefore REQUESTS the Commission to evaluate annually the impact of such reductions and to submit by 31 December 1990 at the latest, and at regular intervals thereafter, a report to the Council. When necessary, the Commission will submit appropriate proposals to the Council.

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The Council referred the three acts to the Permanent Representatives Committee for legal/linguistic finalization so that they could be formally adopted as soon as possible.

LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS

Agreement in principle was reached on the main aspects of the Directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants, with some delegations maintaining scrutiny reservations.

The aspects agreed on regard in particular:

- reductions in overall emissions of SO₂ from existing plants in three stages: 1993, 1998 and 2003. The reductions have been differentiated according to Member State to reflect the need for a balanced distribution of the effort required taking account of the specific situation obtaining in each Member State;
- reductions in overall NO_x emissions from existing plants in two stages. These reductions were determined using a similar approach to that adopted for SO₂ emissions;
- Community emission limit values for SO₂, NO_x and dust for new plants, subject to
 - = the adoption of specific provisions for certain types of fuel and plant, i.e. high sulphur fuel, lignite, peak load installations and refineries;
 - = Spain being granted a derogation for solid fuel to allow for its specific energy situation.

It was agreed that delegations would make known whether they could withdraw their reservations by 24 June 1988, so that the Council could adopt this Directive as soon as possible.

POLLUTANT EMISSION FROM PRIVATE VEHICLES FITTED WITH DIESEL ENGINES

The Council adopted the Directive amending Directive 70/220/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from diesel engines of private vehicles.

In addition to laying down limits for gaseous emissions, the amendment seeks to impose limits for particulate emissions from private vehicles fitted with diesel engines.

To that end, the Directive provides as follows:

- first stage: from 1.10.1989 for new models
from 1.10.1990 for all new vehicles
the limit value will be 1,1 g/test;
- second stage: the Council considered that a second stage in the reduction of particulate emissions must be implemented as quickly as possible and that a level of 0,8 g/test should be achieved, taking into account the technical and economic possibilities existing at that time.

Before the end of 1989 the Council will decide on the implementation of the second stage, on the basis of a Commission proposal.

MAJOR ACCIDENT HAZARDS

The Council adopted a common position, pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, on a proposal for a Directive amending for the second time Directive 82/501/EEC on the major-accident hazards of certain industrial activities.

The aim of the Directive is to extend the scope of Directive 82/501/EEC to include all storage of dangerous chemicals, packaged or loose, whatever the site.

The Directive would also strengthen the information provisions by specifying a minimum number of items of information that must be supplied to the public; these include: the nature of the hazards to which the population and the environment are exposed, measures to be taken in the event of an accident, whether emergency plans exist and details of how to obtain further information.

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

The Council heard a statement by Commissioner CLINTON-DAVIS who presented the Commission communication on the environment and agriculture and announced that, in furtherance of the fourth programme on the environment (1987-1992), the Commission would be submitted firm proposals before the end of the year in the following four specific areas: pollution from intensive farming, pollution from the overuse of fertilizers and pesticides, and the conservation of natural habitats.

The Commission communication will be examined by the Permanent Representatives Committee in preparation for a substantive discussion at the next meeting of the Environment Council.

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In this context the Council also heard two communications from the Spanish delegation, one relating to the protection of the soil against erosion and the other on the rehabilitation of coastal areas.

CROSS-BORDER SHIPMENT OF TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

At the request of the Netherlands and Belgian delegations and the Commission, the Council discussed exhaustively the issues connected with the cross-border shipment of toxic and hazardous waste to developing countries. The discussion showed that all delegations attached great importance to this problem.

Winding up the Council's discussion, the President noted a number of essential points that had emerged. It was agreed that the draft Conclusions submitted to the Council would undergo further examination by the Permanent Representatives Committee taking account of the Commission's suggestions so that the Council could express its views on all aspects of the problem.

RESUMPTION OF PROCEEDINGS

The Council suspended proceedings until 28 June (16.00), when it will resume discussions on the remaining items on the agenda:

- Pollution by gases from motor vehicles with a small engine capacity
- Pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry
- Action in the environmental field which can also contribute to employment creation.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decisions on environmental matters

The Council formally adopted the Regulation concerning export from and import into the Community of certain dangerous chemicals. This Regulation introduces a common notification and information system for the import from and export to third countries of certain chemicals which, because of their effects on human health and the environment, are banned or severely restricted.

The Community and the Member States took part in the work carried out in such international organizations as the OECD, UNEP and FAO on drawing up draft notification and information systems for international trade in dangerous chemicals. The Regulation takes account of that work and implements Community measures in this area in accordance with uniform Community procedures, which also cover the exchange of information, monitoring, packaging and labelling.

The Regulation applies initially to 21 products. The list will be reviewed periodically by the Commission, particularly in the light of practical experience, and may be amended by the Council acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission.

The Council also formally adopted a Resolution concerning export from and import into the Community of certain dangerous chemicals. In this Resolution, the Council noted that certain Member States already implement measures in their territory in addition to those provided for in the Regulation including, for one Member State, the system described as "prior informed consent" of the country importing the dangerous chemicals; it invited the Commission to examine this question in greater detail and to submit, where necessary, in the light of information supplied by the Member States and developments in relevant international practices, detailed proposals with a view to possible adjustment of the Community instrument.

The Council also formally adopted:

- the Decision amending Decision 86/85/EEC establishing a Community information system for the control and reduction of pollution caused by the spillage of hydrocarbons and other harmful substances at sea.

The purpose of the amendment is to extend the information system to apply to the resources for intervention available in the event of spillage of hydrocarbons and other harmful substances in large quantities in major inland waters and in international waterways in particular.

To this end, an inventory of the resources for intervention available to Member States' authorities in the event of such accidents will be compiled, with a view to making them available to another Member State in case of need. The inventory will contain data on the manpower resources (specialist staff, task forces) and material resources available.

- the Directive amending Annex II to Directive 86/280/EEC on limit values and quality objectives for discharges of certain dangerous substances included in list I of the Annex to Directive 76/464/EEC.

In line with the development of scientific knowledge on their toxicity, the amendment adds a number of substances to the list of products for which compliance with emission limit values and quality objectives for the aquatic environment are required; these products are:

- = aldrin, dieldrin, endrin and isodrin
- = hexachlorobenzene
- = hexachlorobutadiene
- = chloroform;

the amendment also lays down limit values and quality objectives for these products.

Youth for Europe

The Council formally adopted the Decision establishing the "Youth for Europe" action programme for the promotion of youth exchanges in the Community. Adoption of the Decision follows on from the substantive agreement reached by the Education Council at its meeting on 24 May 1988 (see Press Release 6371/88 Presse 66).

PRESS RELEASE

7216/88 (Presse 105)

1251st meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Luxembourg, 28 and 29 June 1988

(continuation of the meeting on 16 and 17 June 1988)

President: Mr Klaus TOEPFER,
Federal Minister for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and
Reactor Safety
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mme Miet SMET State Secretary for the Environment

Denmark:

Mrs Lone DYBKJAER Minister for the Environment

Germany:

Mr Klaus TOEPFER Federal Minister for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Reactor
Safety

Mr Clemens STROETMANN State Secretary at the Federal
Ministry of the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Reactor
Safety

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULOUMBIS Minister for Public Works,
Regional Planning and the
Environment

Spain:

Mr Javier SALAZ COSCULLUELA Minister for Public Works and
Town Planning

France:

Mr Brice LALONDE State Secretary for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr Pdraig FLYNN Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Vittorio SILANO Director-General at the
Ministry of the Environment

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert KRIEPS

Minister for the Environment

Netherlands:

Mr E.H.T.M. NIJPELS

Minister for Housing,
Planning and the Environment

Portugal:

Mr Luis VALENTE DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and
Territorial Administration

Mr José MARCARIO CORREIA

State Secretary for the Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr Colin MOYNIHAN

Under-Secretary for the Environment

Commission:

Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS

Member

LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS

The Council reached full agreement on the Directive on the limitation of emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants, one delegation having expressed its agreement subject to confirmation.

The Council had reached agreement in principle on the main aspects of the Directive at its meeting on 16 and 17 June 1988 (see press release No 6895/88 Presse 90).

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, once all reservations had been withdrawn, to carry out the technical and linguistic finalization of this Directive so that it could be adopted as soon as possible.

POLLUTION BY GASES FROM CARS WITH SMALL CUBIC CAPACITIES

Without prejudice to the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council's discussions made it possible to note that the initial reaction of the majority was favourable to the standards proposed by the Commission which were however viewed in the perspective of a third subsequent reduction of emission levels and accompanied by an undertaking to refrain from implementing national systems of incentives.

WASTE FROM THE TITANIUM DIOXIDE INDUSTRY

The Council approved guidelines on procedures for harmonizing the programmes for the reduction of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry.

The guidelines were drawn up to serve as a basis for further discussions within the Council bodies on the proposal for a Directive submitted by the Commission and take account of the outcome of the discussions held to date.

The Council agreed that this Directive is of great importance and should if possible be adopted at the Council meeting (Environment) on 24 November 1988.

ENVIRONMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION

The Council resumed its examination of the proposal for a Decision establishing a 5-year Community-wide programme of projects illustrating how actions in the environmental field can also contribute to employment creation.

No agreement having been reached, in particular with regard to financing the programme, the Council agreed to continue its discussions in this context with a view to reaching agreement at the earliest opportunity.

PROTECTION OF THE NORTH SEA AND OTHER WATERS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council adopted the following Resolution:

"THE COUNCIL:

NOTES with concern the extensive growth of algae in certain areas of the North Sea and the Baltic, including the Skagerrak and the Kattegat, in May and June 1988 which is a symptom of a serious ecological imbalance;

NOTES with concern the number of seal deaths in the North Sea and POINTS OUT the possible links between the pollution of the North Sea by dangerous substances and the susceptibility of seals to disease;

POINTS OUT that nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) introduced into the sea contribute to the excessive fertilization and eutrophication of parts of the North Sea as well as the Baltic and other waters;

NOTES that similar ecological problems exist in certain parts of the Mediterranean basin;

NOTES the responsibility of all, including the Community, for the protection and environmental quality of the North Sea and of other waters;

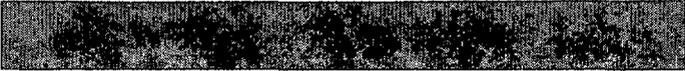
INVITES THE COMMISSION:

- to submit, as soon as possible, appropriate proposals in the framework of the Fourth Environment Action Programme on the reduction of nutrients from diffuse sources, particularly from agriculture;
- in the light of the knowledge acquired at the Community water policy seminar in Frankfurt am Main on 27 and 28 June 1988, and taking into account the specific problems of different regions, to submit proposals for any further measures required at Community level for the treatment of municipal sewage and as regards industrial waste waters;

CONSIDERS that these actions will contribute to the implementation of the conclusions of the second International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea."

TRANSFERS OF TOXIC AND DANGEROUS WASTE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

After a detailed discussion on transfers of toxic and dangerous waste to developing countries, the President of the Council emphasized the need to reduce such transfers considerably and asked the Commission to submit a proposal with a view to empowering it to take part in the current UNEP negotiations on the draft Convention, and also to take account of the need to supplement Community legislation in this field.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE
7005/88 (Presse 94)

1252nd Council meeting

- Transport -

Luxembourg, 20 and 21 June 1988

President: Mr Jürgen WARNKE
Federal Minister for Transport
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Jean-Luc DEHAENE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Institutional Reforms

Denmark:

Mr Hans-Peter CLAUSEN Minister for Transport and Communications

Germany:

Mr Jürgen WARNKE Federal Minister for Transport

Mr Wilhelm KNITTEL State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Transport

Greece:

Mr Costas BADOUVAS Minister for Transport and Communications

Spain:

Mr Abel Ramon CABALLERO ALVAREZ Minister for Transport, Tourism and Communications

France:

Mr Louis MERMAZ Minister for Transport

Mr Louis LE PENSEC Minister for the Sea

Mr Georges SARRE State Secretary attached to the Minister for Transport, with responsibility for Road Transport and Waterways

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Ireland:

Mr John WILSON Minister for Tourism and Transport
Mr Brendan DALY Minister for the Marine

Italy:

Mr Giorgio SANTUZ Minister for Transport

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel SCHLECHTER Minister for Transport, Minister for
Public Works and Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr N. SMIT-KROES Minister for Transport and Public Works

Portugal:

Mr OLIVEIRA MARTINS Minister for Public Works, Transport and
Communications

Mr Carlos COSTA State Secretary, Inland Transport

United Kingdom:

Mr Paul CHANNON Minister for Transport

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For the Commission:

Mr Stanley CLINTON DAVIS Member

SHIPPING

Following an introductory statement by Mr CLINTON DAVIS on the worrying situation of Member States' shipping, the Council held a detailed discussion on the measures required to maintain and develop a competitive and efficient shipping sector in the Community. In this connection it noted the Commission's intention of submitting a communication on the matter within the next few weeks and appropriate proposals by the end of the year.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to begin examining the Commission communication and proposals as soon as they were received.

The Council also instructed the Committee to resume at the same time its examination of the proposal on the application of the principles of freedom to provide services in shipping within the Member States (cabotage).

STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS IN INLAND WATERWAY TRANSPORT

Following an exposé by Mr CLINTON DAVIES introducing the Commission proposal for a Regulation forwarded to the Council on 19 May relating to structural improvements in inland waterway transport, the Council held a preliminary exchange of views on the proposal, during which it became clear that a number of directly concerned Member States considered it important and urgent that appropriate measures be adopted.

At the end of the discussion the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission proposal forthwith so as to enable the Council to take a final decision, if possible by the end of 1988.

LIBERALIZATION OF ROAD HAULAGE

The Council adopted an important Regulation on access to the market for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.

In this field the Council intends to achieve by 1 January 1993 a market free of all quantitative restrictions and to take the necessary implementing measures.

The new Regulation provides that:

- on 1 January 1993, Community quotas, bilateral quotas between Member States and quotas for transit traffic to and from non-member countries will be abolished for Community hauliers;
- from that date, access to the market for transfrontier carriage of goods by road within the Community will be governed by a system of Community licences issued on the basis of qualitative criteria.

In the meantime the Regulation provides inter alia that:

For 1988 the total number of Community authorizations allocated to the Member States as a whole in the context of the Community quota is set at 17 153.

The number of Community authorizations allocated to each Member State is set as follows:

Belgium	:	1 488
Denmark	:	1 444
Germany	:	2 374
Greece	:	658

Spain	:	1 543
France	:	2 018
Ireland	:	671
Italy	:	2 022
Luxembourg	:	693
Netherlands	:	2 104
Portugal	:	873
United Kingdom:		1 265

For 1989 the total number of authorizations allocated to the Member States as a whole in the context of the Community quota is set at 24 021.

The number of authorizations allocated to each Member State is set as follows:

Belgium	:	2 084
Denmark	:	2 022
Germany	:	3 324
Greece	:	922
Spain	:	2 161
France	:	2 826
Ireland	:	940
Italy	:	2 831
Luxembourg	:	971
Netherlands	:	2 946
Portugal	:	1 223
United Kingdom:		1 771

The Council will decide by 31 March 1990 at the latest, acting on a Commission proposal, to be submitted by 31 December 1989, on an increase in the Community quota from 1990 and on the measures to be taken in the event of a crisis. The proposal must be accompanied by a report on the effects of previous increases including the allocation of the Community quota.

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In addition, before 31 March 1990 the Council will decide, on a Commission proposal to be submitted before 31 December 1989, on the arrangements to apply to transport between Member States in transit through third countries, without discriminating between hauliers from the various Member States.

Should the growth in road haulage capacity between Member States subject to a Community or bilateral quota prove to be insufficient in relation to the growth in demand for haulage, the Commission will decide on an appropriate increase in the Community quota, over and above the annual increase.

The Commission's decision will become enforceable two months after its notification to the Member States unless any Member State has meanwhile referred the matter to the Council. In such a case the Council will take a decision by a qualified majority within three months. If the Council fails to take a decision, the Commission's decision will remain enforceable.

Moreover, the volume of the bilateral quotas which remain applicable during the transitional period must, from 1 July 1988 until their scheduled abolition, be adapted to the requirements of trade and traffic, including transit.

SOCIAL LEGISLATION IN THE FIELD OF ROAD TRANSPORT - HARMONIZATION OF CONTROLS

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council reached broad consensus on the proposal for a Directive on the introduction of standard checking procedures for the implementation of certain social legislation relating to road transport.

These procedures are directed towards organizing standard, efficient checks by Member States relating in particular to compliance with the provisions on driving time and rest time and overtime arrangements, etc.

ROADWORTHINESS TESTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council examined certain extensions proposed by the Commission to the 1977 provisions on the approximation of the Member States' laws relating to roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers.

The 1977 Directive introduced periodic roadworthiness tests for certain categories of vehicles, such as buses and coaches, heavy goods vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers weighing more than 3,5 tonnes, taxis and ambulances.

The Commission proposal was aimed at extending that Community legislation also to private cars and light goods vehicles and at harmonizing it where national tests already existed.

At this meeting the Council reached broad agreement on extending roadworthiness tests to light goods vehicles weighing less than 3,5 tonnes, with minimum inspection standards both as regards the frequency of testing - after 4 years for new cars and thereafter every two years - and the technical points to be covered.

Entry into force of the Community provisions is scheduled for 1 January 1993 for Member States which already apply roadworthiness tests for such vehicles, and 1 January 1995 for the others; these dates take into account the time required to set up the administrative and technical machinery for carrying out the tests in those Member States where such a system does not yet exist.

As regards the extension of Community roadworthiness tests to private cars, the Council agreed to continue its work with a view to reaching a decision as soon as possible.

WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS OF ROAD VEHICLES

The Council examined a number of additions and amendments proposed by the Commission to the Directive on the weights and dimensions and certain other characteristics of commercial road vehicles.

As regards the standards for weights and dimensions applicable to (rigid) 2 and 3-axle motor vehicles used for passenger transport (buses and coaches), the Council:

- agreed in principle on:

= the following maximum dimensions:

Height: 4m; width: 2,50m; length: 12m; external and internal radius of the turning circle: 12,50m and 5,30m respectively;

= the maximum weight per axle of twin-axles as a function of the wheelbase:

where the wheelbase is less than 1 metre: 11,5 tonnes, and where it is equal to or greater than 1 metre but less than 1,3m: 16 tonnes.

- reached a broad convergence of views on fixing the weight per driving axle at 11,5 tonnes.

Furthermore, the Council agreed to continue its work on the other aspects of the Commission proposal with a view to reaching agreement as soon as possible. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to press ahead with its examination of the problems still outstanding.

CHARGING OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

The Council held an exchange of views on the problems arising from the Directive on the charging of transport infrastructure costs to heavy goods vehicles.

This proposal is directed at the adoption of a first series of measures concerning the adjustment of national systems of taxes on the use of goods vehicles in order to facilitate the subsequent adoption of a definitive system.

The Council noted the Commission's intention of submitting to it by 30 September 1988 additional background information on its proposal and in particular on the application of the principle of territoriality as the basis for such charging.

At the end of the discussion the President recorded the Council's will to define by the end of 1988 the position of the Transport Ministers on the matter with a view to its submission to the ECOFIN Council, which has responsibility for tax harmonization.

COMMUNITY RAILWAY POLICY - CONCLUSIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY

1. Further to its conclusions of 15 and 16 December 1986, the Council continues to believe that railways should be put in a position to:
 - make full use of the advantages offered by their respective systems;
 - make an appropriate contribution towards the control of future transport developments in Europe;
 - avoid transport bottlenecks through market-based division of labour between carriers.

2. The Council further believes compliance with the following principles to be essential:
 - railways should step up mutual co-operation in all areas with a view to submitting uniform joint offers on the future Internal Market. In so doing, they will free themselves from any way of thinking or acting based on their own networks;

- Member States will encourage such co-operation. They will eliminate any obstacles still remaining at frontiers.

3. The Council requests that the Commission, if possible by the end of 1988:

- identify in a report those obstacles still standing in the way of a common internal market for the railways, in particular as regards cross-frontier co-operation between railways and length of stops at frontiers, and suggest ways of eliminating them. To this end, Member States and railways will provide any assistance required;
- further elaborate its 1984 proposals concerning financial relations between railways and states in the light of the Council's decision of 15 and 16 December 1986. This applies in particular to transparent cost accounting by the railways. Consideration will also be given to whether equality of opportunity between road and rail can be improved if Member States, by means of route accounts and network use charges, enable national railway undertakings and railway undertakings of neighbouring and third countries to carry out transport by rail against payment; to this end, railways should be required to keep route accounts broken down by section. Charges should be the same for all users.

ADMISSION TO THE OCCUPATION OF ROAD HAULAGE OPERATOR IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
TRANSPORT OPERATIONS - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

On 30 June 1986 the Council adopted conclusions whereby the organization of the free market would include a system of Community licences to be granted on the basis of exclusively qualitative criteria.

The Council notes with satisfaction that on 10 March 1988 the Commission submitted relevant proposals to amend Directives 74/561/EEC (admission to the occupation of road haulage operator) and 74/562/EEC (admission to the occupation of road passenger transport operator).

The Council notes that the basic principles of good repute, financial standing and professional competence should be complied with and uniformly applied in the Community.

The Council also notes that the criteria for admission to the occupation of road transport operator need to be further specified.

With a view to the completion of the common organization of the road transport market by the end of 1992, the Council instructs the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its discussions on the Commission proposals of 10 March 1988 amending Directives 74/561/EEC, 74/562/EEC and 77/796/EEC so that the planned regulations can be adopted in good time before the expiry of the transitional stage.

AIDS GRANTED FOR TRANSPORT BY RAIL, ROAD AND INLAND WATERWAY - COMBINED TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

After discussing the problems arising with regard to aids granted for transport by rail, road and inland waterway as regards combined transport operations, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its proceedings on the matter so as to enable the Council to reach a conclusion as soon as possible.

FIXING OF RATES FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY ROAD BETWEEN MEMBER STATES

The Council adopted a Regulation extending the arrangements in force since December 1983 for fixing the rates for the carriage of goods and deferring until 31 December 1988 the date on which the Council has to decide on the tariff arrangements to be introduced on expiry of the present arrangements.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND AND YUGOSLAVIA ON TRANSPORT - CONCLUSIONS
OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council recalls that the aims of the negotiations are
 - to solve the problems encountered by Community traffic passing through Austria, Switzerland and Yugoslavia with a view also to the attainment of the Internal Market and
 - hence to set up transit arrangements in accordance with the requirements of the Internal Market.

2. The exploratory phase of these negotiations has demonstrated that any agreement with Austria, Switzerland and Yugoslavia on transit traffic must include the following elements:
 - access on a reciprocal basis to each others' territories;
 - a better flow of intra-Community transit traffic so that, as far as possible, advantage may be taken of the shortest available transit routes;

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- the guarantee of a satisfactory solution for Community transit by road, taking into account not only the demands of international trade but also considerations of road safety and environmental protection;
 - the improvement of railway co-operation and of combined transport so that the user has as wide and as free a choice as possible.
3. The Council invites the three third countries concerned to negotiate on the obstacles to transit traffic and to co-operate with the Community in the interests of international trade.
 4. The Council undertakes to adopt, as soon as possible, negotiating directives for the continuance of the negotiations on the basis of proposals to be submitted by the Commission before 30 September 1988 and, in any event, to do so before 31 December 1988. It wants the Commission to complete the negotiations by 31 December 1989.
 5. In the interim and with a view to accelerating progress, the Council invites the Commission to continue the work already begun by virtue of the negotiating directives adopted for the first phase and, in doing so, to take account of its conclusions above.
 6. The Council invites all the Member States, and in particular those States bordering the transit countries, to co-operate in finding solutions to the intra-Community transit problem.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONSStatutes of a Joint Undertaking

The Council formally adopted the Decision approving amendments to the statutes (articles of association) of the "Kernkraftwerk RWE-Bayernwerk GmbH" (KRB).

Relations with the Mediterranean countries

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate agreements in the form of exchanges of letters with certain Mediterranean partner countries:

- preserved fruit salads: Israel, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia;
- tomato concentrate: Algeria;
- untreated olive oil: Algeria, Morocco, Turkey.

The fight against cancer

The Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, formally adopted the Decision adopting a 1988-1989 plan of action for an information and public awareness campaign in the context of the "Europe against cancer" programme (see press release 6520/88 Presse 74 of 31 May 1988).

Appointment

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Spanish Permanent Representation, Mr Fernando PANIZO ARCOS a member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of Mrs Isabel MARTIN CASTELLA, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 20 September 1990.

PRESS RELEASE

7006/88 (Presse 95)

1253rd Council meeting
- Internal Market -
Luxembourg, 22 June 1988

President:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Nils WILHJELM Minister for Industry

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN Federal Minister for Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Nicolaos AKRITIDIS Minister for Trade

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES MIRA State Secretary for Relations with the European Communities

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Seamus BRENNAN Minister of State at the Department of Industry and Commerce with special responsibility for Commerce and Marketing

Italy:

Mr Adolfo BATTAGLIA Minister for Industry, Trade and Craft Trades

Mr Antonio LA PERGOLA Minister with responsibility for Community Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs, Foreign Trade and
Co-operation

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Vitor A.M. da COSTA MARTINS

State Secretary for European
Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr Alan CLARK

Minister for Trade and Industry

Mr Francis MAUDE

Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Lord COCKFIELD

Vice-President

Mr Peter SUTHERLAND

Member

HIGHER-EDUCATION DIPLOMAS

The Council unanimously adopted a common position, subject to legal/linguistic finalization, on the amended proposal for a Directive on a general system for the recognition of higher-education diplomas awarded on completion of professional education and training of at least three years' duration. After finalization, the text will be sent to the European Parliament under the co-operation procedure provided for in Article 149 of the Treaty.

The Directive differs from previous "sectoral" Directives in several important respects.

Firstly, it is general in nature, as the new system is intended to apply to all regulated professions for which university-level training of at least three years is required, and which are not covered by a specific Directive.

Secondly, recognition is to be based on the principle of mutual trust, without prior co-ordination of the preparatory educational and training courses for the various professions in question. As a basic principle, a host Member State may not refuse access to a regulated profession to a national of a Member State who holds the qualifications necessary for exercise of that profession in another Member State.

Thirdly, recognition is granted to the "end product", i.e. to fully qualified professionals who have already received any professional training required in addition to their university diplomas. Throughout the Directive, the term "diploma" is used in the sense of "end product".

Fourthly, where there are major differences in education and training, or in the structure of a profession, the draft Directive provides for compensation mechanisms, viz., either an adaptation period or an aptitude test. In principle, it is left to the migrant to choose between the two mechanisms, but for professions whose practice requires precise knowledge of national law and in respect of which the provision of advice and/or assistance concerning national law is an essential and constant aspect of the exercise of the professional activity, the host Member State may stipulate either the adaptation period or the test. If a host Member State is planning not to grant applicants this choice in the case of other professions, it must follow a procedure whereby the measure concerned may only be adopted if the Commission has not decided to the contrary within three months. The host Member State may also require a period of professional experience as compensation for a shorter total length of training than in its country, but this requirement may not be combined with that for the adaptation period or aptitude test.

The fact that in principle, the Directive covers regulated professions meant that this concept had to be defined in such a way as to include types of professional organization equivalent to formal regulation, notably the systems in the United Kingdom and Ireland based on chartered bodies or other professional organizations or associations of an essentially private character.

In the same way, it was felt necessary to grant recognition to "alternative training routes", viz., training which does not contain any university element, but gives entitlement to the same professional qualification and the same professional title and is recognized in the Member State concerned as being fully equivalent to the university route.

Account was also taken of the situation, in particular in Greece and Luxembourg, where full professional qualification in the Member State concerned may be acquired on the basis of successful completion of a university course of at least three years' duration in a third country; these diplomas will be recognized by the Member States if the training was received preponderantly in the Community or if the holder can provide evidence of three years' professional experience in the country which recognized his diploma.

As in the case of the sectoral Directives, the Directive contains provisions concerning proof of good character and good repute and concerning conditions for holding a professional qualification.

A co-ordinating group is also being set up under the auspices of the Commission to facilitate the implementation and application of the Directive.

Member States will have a period of two years from notification of the Directive to implement its provisions.

CONTROL OF CONCENTRATIONS OF UNDERTAKINGS

At its meeting on 30 November 1987 the Council had noted a generally favourable attitude towards the updated Commission approach to this matter, which was then the subject of a formal amended proposal from the Commission. Over the last six months work has continued apace on this basis, enabling three questions of fundamental importance to be submitted to the Council in order to evolve guidelines for the further proceedings, namely the following questions:

1. Should the EC Regulation take precedence over national law on the control of concentrations, in other words, to what extent must the national authorities be prevented from taking conflicting decisions (question of precedence)?
2. Should the EC Regulation be so framed that a concentration must be notified before being carried out and could not be put into effect until the end of the control procedure (question of compulsory prior control)?
3. Can official proceedings be initiated only if there is a "substantial change in the competitive structure" and, to prohibit a concentration under the EC Regulation, is it sufficient to establish the existence of a "dominant position in the market", or must it also be proved that the undertakings involved in the concentration abuse that position (question of the criteria governing action)?

At the present meeting the Council held a detailed exchange of views on these matters which enabled the President to record a consensus ⁽¹⁾ on the following points at the close of the discussions:

- the principle of the introduction of a control of concentrations with a Community dimension, this being of particular importance for the completion of the large market in 1992;
- that as far as possible decisions by Community bodies must take precedence over national decisions; the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to consider to what extent the legitimate interests of the Member States may be safeguarded;
- that all the concentrations with a Community dimension must be notified prior to their taking place, on the understanding that the time between the notification and the decision must be as short as possible; the Permanent Representatives Committee is instructed to examine the question of the conditions under which a concentration could take place before the end of the examination procedure;
- that the decisive criterion for prohibiting a concentration with a Community dimension will be the creation of a position on the European market which impedes effective competition; a substantial change in the competitive structure should not be a criterion for an additional examination.

⁽¹⁾ One delegation said, however, that it would adopt a definitive stance once the broad outlines of the mechanism emerged from the technical discussions.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to proceed with discussions on this important proposal in the light of the guidelines worked out at the meeting.

TRADE MARK LAW

The Council adopted by a qualified majority a common position on the proposal for a first Directive to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks. The common position will be notified to the European Parliament under the conciliation procedure.

The aim of the Directive is to harmonize the essential points of the trade mark laws of the Member States. Such harmonization is deemed necessary with a view to the attainment of the single market.

It applies to all registered national trade marks, whether for products or services and whether individual, collective or guarantee marks.

The Directive contains a uniform definition of the signs likely to constitute a trade mark. It draws up an exhaustive list of grounds for refusal or invalidity, some of these amendments being optional for the Member States. The latter are completely free to determine procedural arrangements in this connection. Among such grounds is the case where a trade mark contains an indication of geographical origin. However, as regards collective or guarantee marks, the Member States may lay down that these marks are to be used provided that such use is in accordance with fair commercial practices and in particular that the marks cannot be enforced against third parties entitled to use the geographical name.

The Directive uniformly defines the rights conferred by a trade mark on its holder and the limitations on such rights and the conditions under which these rights are exhausted. These provisions are of particular importance for the free movement of products and services.

With the same aim in mind and in order to reduce the number of registered trade marks as much as possible, and hence the risk of conflict, the Directive introduces an obligation to use the trade mark. Failure to put a trade mark to genuine use in the Member State concerned for five years entails the revocation of the trade mark and its non-enforcement against a subsequent right.

The Member States will have three years to transpose the Directive into their laws as from the day when it is formally adopted. A special procedural mechanism may, however, enable the Council to adapt this time limit to make it coincide with the date of opening of the Community Trade Mark Office.

The Council also had an exchange of views on the proposal for a Regulation on the Community trade mark and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the outstanding problems.

COMMUNITY PATENT

The Council noted that, given the progress made with the outstanding problems in relation to the content of the Agreement relating to Community patents, a Conference of the Governments of the Member States, in which the Twelve Member States were prepared to participate, would be convened in Luxembourg at the beginning of the second half of 1988. The purpose of this conference would be:

- to resolve the problems raised by the conclusion of the Agreement relating to Community patents for Spain and Portugal in view of the obligations which resulted for these two countries from their accession to the Communities;
- if appropriate, to finalize the text of the Agreement so that it could enter into force on 31 December 1992.

CUSTOMS UNION

The Council approved the substance of two Regulations one of which related to customs warehouses and the other to free zones and free warehouses.

These Regulations, which together with the Regulation on customs treatment (see below), constitute a set of measures governing the conditions for the storage of goods, convert Directives from 1968 and 1969 into Regulations, acts which are directly applicable in the Member States and which consequently, through greater uniformity of the provisions applicable to this sector, offer greater legal security for individuals too.

These Regulations form part of the move towards the creation of a European code on customs legislation, this being one of the prime objects of an on-going policy of strengthening the Customs Union.

The Council also adopted a common position on a series of Regulations in the customs sphere which will be forwarded to the European Parliament within the framework of co-operation between the Institutions.

The Regulations in question are those:

- laying down the provisions applicable to goods brought into the territory of the Community ("customs treatment") (see above);
- amending Council Regulation No 2144/87 of 31 July 1987 on customs debt (implications of the Regulation for free zones);

- on the abolition of exit formalities at internal Community frontiers.

This latter Regulation, the purpose of which is to simplify the formalities for certain goods crossing the frontiers between Member States, is a response to the wishes expressed by the European Council at Fontainebleau on the introduction of common frontier posts, and falls within the context of the measures advocated by the Commission in its White Paper on completing the internal market.

PRICING OF MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

The Council adopted a common position on a draft Directive relating to the transparency of measures regulating the pricing of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion within the scope of national health systems; this common position will be forwarded to the European Parliament within the framework of the co-operation procedure.

The aim of this Directive is to ensure equity and transparency in the operation of the national systems for control of the prices of medicinal products by means of the introduction into Community legislation of a set of provisions regarding the time limits for, justification and publication of administrative decisions as well as the information to be provided by the economic agents with a view to facilitating the detection of abuses and improving the operation of the internal market in this sector.

HARMONIZATION OF LEGISLATION ON TRACTORS

The Council reached a common position on a proposal for a Directive including provisions covering the remaining features and characteristics needed to complete the procedure for full EEC type-approval of new tractor types. This common position will be forwarded to the European Parliament within the framework of the co-operation procedure.

This Directive rounds off the work begun in the Sixties which has produced 22 Directives in this sector and 6 amendments to a number of them. By making it possible to remove all the technical barriers to trade in new tractors in the Community, it makes a significant contribution to the completion of the internal market.

CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

The Council adopted a common position on the Directive on construction products which will be forwarded to the European Parliament within the framework of the co-operation procedure.

Following the Directives on pressure vessels and toys, this Directive is the third to be drawn up under the Resolution of May 1985 on the new approach to the harmonization of technical rules. It is without doubt the most significant from the economic point of view, since it is designed to facilitate the placing on the market and movement within the Community of a vast range of products accounting for a turnover of some 300 000 million ECU per year.

Unlike the previous two Directives, the requirements which this Directive lays down with respect to safety and health protection apply to construction works (buildings) into which construction products are intended to be incorporated rather than to the products themselves. It makes provision for the drawing up of documents (known as "interpretative documents") which will bridge the gap between the requirements regarding construction works and the various standards for products which will have to be prepared on a "mandate" from the Commission within the CEN (European Committee for Standardization).

PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS

The Council had before it an interim report from the Permanent Representatives Committee dealing with the discussions on a substantial revision of the Directive (71/305/EEC) concerning the co-ordination of procedures for the award of public works contracts, which highlighted certain political questions relating to

- the clause on operational programmes to combat unemployment
- the clause on conditions of employment
- regional preference.

The Council held an exchange of views on the matter, after which it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the proposal in more detail.

RIGHT OF RESIDENCE

The Council again raised the remaining problems with regard to the proposal for a Directive on the right of residence, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its examination of these problems.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Foodstuffs

The Council adopted an initial series of common positions regarding foodstuffs, in accordance with the new arrangements in this connection.

These common positions will be communicated to the European Parliament under the co-operation procedure.

They relate to endeavours to approximate the laws of the Member States in the following areas:

- materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. The aim of the Directive is to determine the sectors in which specific Directives are required and to define the procedures to be followed to this end;
- food additives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption. The aim of this Directive is to provide a basis on which to establish lists of authorized additives and the conditions for their use;
- quick-frozen foodstuffs for human consumption. The aim of this Directive is to establish Community rules in this area which cover all the various stages of the cold chain, namely manufacture, storage, transport, distribution, and retail sale.

With the procedure for co-operation with the European Parliament now concluded, the Council formally adopted:

- the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to flavourings for use in foodstuffs and to source materials for their production
- the Decision on the establishment by the Commission of an inventory of the source materials and substances used in the preparation of flavourings

(see Press Release No 9019/87 of 19/20.X.1987).

Customs Union

The Council formally adopted the Regulations:

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of products for use in construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft;
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for quality wines produced in the period 1 July 1988 to 30 June 1989 in the specified regions of

= Jerez:

. 358 120 hectolitres for tariff headings ex 2204 21 41
and ex 2204 21 51

. 435 000 hectolitres for tariff headings ex 2204 29 41
and ex 2204 29 51

= Malaga: 15 000 hectolitres

= Jumilla, Priorato Rioja and Valdepeñas: 22 008 hectolitres;

- opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for polyvinyl butyral (2 000 tonnes at a zero rate of duty until 31 December 1988).

Approximation of laws

The Council adopted a common position for communication to the European Parliament, under the co-operation procedure, with regard to the Directive amending several Directives concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States where there is provision in those Directives for publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities of attestations and certificates.

Insurance other than life assurance

The Council formally adopted the Second Council Directive on the co-ordination of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to direct insurance other than life assurance and laying down provisions to facilitate the effective exercise of freedom to provide services and amending Directive 73/239/EEC.

The Council adopted a common position on the proposal on 9 February 1988; since the European Parliament did not request any changes thereto under the co-operation procedure, the Council adopted the Directive as approved on 9 February 1988.

It will be recalled that this Directive provides, inter alia, for more flexible arrangements with regard to provision of services in connection with large risks. These comprise transport risks, credit and suretyship risks subject to a qualitative criterion for the policyholder, and other risks where the policyholder meets certain quantitative criteria which will be eased as from 1 January 1993.

The more flexible arrangements for large risks comprise a simple notification procedure in the case of access to the provision of services, and the principle that financial supervision is exercised by the home country, this being a principle to which the Commission attaches great importance with the completion of the internal market in prospect. Subsequent harmonization of technical reserves should enable this principle to be extended to supervision of all the activities of an insurance company.

In the interests of avoiding any distortion of competition, the Council decided that all insurance contracts concluded by way of provision of services will be subject exclusively to the taxation provisions of the Member State in which the risk is situated.

PRESS RELEASE

7007/88 (Presse 96)

1254th Council meeting

- Fisheries -

Luxembourg, 23 and 24 June 1988

Presidents:

Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN,
Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Mr Walter KITTEL,
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Italy:

Mr Giovanni PRANDINI

Minister for Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs, Foreign Trade and
Co-operation

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Alvaro BARRETO

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Manuel OLIVEIRA GODINHO

State Secretary for Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John GUMMER

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Antonio José Baptista
CARDOSO E CUNHA

Member

REVISION OF THE COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN FISHERY
PRODUCTS

The Council adopted a common position on the revision of Regulation No 3796/81 of 19 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products.

Under this revision:

- (a) a regionalized system of specific assistance will be set up for a number of new species of particular economic importance to individual Member States or to certain regions within a Member State (including pollack, pout, blue whiting, bogue, picarel, conger, big-eye tuna).

The system will be applicable for five years from the date on which it comes into force. One year before the end of this period the Commission will send the Council a report on the development of the system, with particular reference to price trends regarding these products. Before the five-year period expires, the Council acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission will decide on any measures that may be appropriate;

- (b) the system of aid for private storage will be revised and expanded, the aim being primarily to involve producer organizations in administering the Community assistance system and to make the system applicable to tuna;

(c) the system of Community assistance for tuna will be reformed so as to provide support for the development of Community production in the light of the present situation in the tuna market;

(d) herring and mackerel will qualify for the carry-over premium provided for in Article 14 of Regulation No 3796/81.

As the European Parliament has asked for the conciliation procedure to be initiated, this revision of the common organization of the market will be finally adopted by the Council after conciliation has taken place and in the light of its results.

TECHNICAL CONSERVATION MEASURES

The Council adopted a third amendment to Regulation No 3094/86 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources; this amendment sets the minimum landing size for Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in certain parts of Region 2 (Irish Sea and regions west of Scotland).

Landing sizes in these regions have been set as follows:

- carapace: 20 mm.
- total length: 70 mm.
- tail: 37 mm.

The Commission promised to carry out a study on Norway lobster fishing with the aim of establishing the minimum landing size and minimum mesh size that were appropriate for zone CIEM IV and to submit new proposals in the light of its findings as soon as possible.

With regard to Region 3 (Bay of Biscay), the Council emphasized the need to reduce catches of small hake, stocks of which were exploited in close association with Norway lobster fishing. It noted the scientific and technical experiments which the French authorities - in co-operation with the fishermen's organizations - had carried out in this connection with the aim of assessing the potential effects of the various types of selective gears which might be added to the equipment of trawls used for Norway lobster fishing.

The Council undertook to adopt by 30 June 1989 the minimum mesh standards to apply in Region 3 from 1 April 1990; it will do this in the light of the final report on the current experiments, which will be sent to the Commission before 31 December 1988.

FISH AND SEAL DEATHS IN THE NORTH SEA AND THE BALTIC SEA

The Council discussed recent developments in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea as regards fish and seal deaths. During the discussions, delegations from the countries directly affected expressed their concern at the level of pollution which had been reached in these waters and the resulting dangers to the existence of the very basis of fishing.

After the discussion, the President drew the following conclusions:

"The Fisheries Ministers formally support the work of the Environment Council and call upon it to give the Commission specific suggestions for the submission of proposals at the earliest opportunity; they call upon the Commission to submit to them, between now and their next meeting, a report on the links between fishing and pollution in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. At the same time, the Commission should indicate to them suitable measures to ensure the long-term existence of fishing in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea."

MIGRATION OF FISH STOCKS

The Council noted a report from the Commission on the detailed arrangements for implementing solutions to the problems caused by changes in the migratory patterns of fish stocks, in particular western mackerel.

FISHING OPERATIONS IN THE NAFO AREA

The Council held an exchange of views on the basis of a Commission report on the activities of Community vessels in the NAFO Regulatory Area and in the light of comments by a number of Member States in this connection. The Council stressed the need for strict observance of the fishing regulations in this area and asked the Commission to keep it informed of the outcome of the controls carried out and the action taken in cases where the regulations were infringed.

CONTROL MEASURES FOR FISHING ACTIVITIES

The Council made a detailed examination of the problems arising in connection with an amendment to Regulation No 2241/87 establishing certain control measures for fishing activities.

Under the proposed Regulation the existing control provisions would be supplemented by improved information procedures and the introduction of a monitoring and penalty system for the application of national measures which the Member States would be required to take in implementation of the Community arrangements for conserving and administering fishery resources. These provisions concern cases where infringements of the rules on conserving and exploiting stocks occur during landings and transshipments carried out by vessels in a Member State other than that of registration.

After the discussions, the Council noted the urgent need to improve the system of control. However, a number of points still had to be clarified before the Council could take a decision, and the Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to prepare that decision as soon as possible.

FISHING IN GREENLAND WATERS

The Council noted that the Commission had withdrawn its proposal concerning the Community's acceptance of additional catch quotas for redfish and Greenland halibut which Greenland had offered for 1988. The proposal was no longer relevant because Greenland itself had withdrawn its offer.

In this context, the Council discussed the principle of "relative stability" in regard to fishing possibilities under the fisheries agreement with Greenland.

WHITE ZONE IN THE BALTIC SEA

The Council noted a communication from the Commission on its talks with Sweden regarding catch possibilities in the Swedish part of the Baltic Sea known hitherto as the "white zone". After the talks, the Commission had obtained the following fishing possibilities for the rest of 1988:

- 2 000 tonnes of hake (20 licences)
- 170 tonnes of salmon (30 licences).

This meant that for 1988 the level of fishing by Community vessels would be maintained as far as possible. It was also planned that, immediately the proceedings of the Baltic Sea Fishery Commission had ended, consultations should be continued on reciprocal access to the two sides' respective fishing areas of the Baltic Sea after 1988.

HEALTH CONDITIONS CONCERNING NEMATODES

The Council referred to the work begun in the Agriculture Council on the proposal for a Regulation laying down health conditions for the marketing of fish and fish products concerning nematodes. It hoped that the Council would reach an early decision on the Commission's proposal and noted inter alia the concern expressed by a number of delegations at the possibility of national safeguard measures being taken in this connection pending the Community decision.

IMPORTS OF REDFISH FROM ICELAND

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine with all due speed a proposal for a Commission Regulation extending until 31 December 1988 the tariff preference - 2% customs duty - applicable to imports of redfish (*Sebastes* spp.), fresh, chilled or frozen, originating in Iceland. A majority of delegations in the Council had already said they were favourably inclined towards the substance of this measure.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR

The Council noted a statement by the Commissioner, Mr CARDOSO E CUNHA, on recent developments concerning the Community's relations and negotiations concerning fisheries with third countries and international organizations, and comments on this statement by a number of delegations.

SITUATION ON THE SARDINE MARKET

The Council had an exchange of views on the situation on the Community sardine market, including the difficulties encountered by the canning industry in certain Member States.

The Council paid particular attention to the requests from the Portuguese and Spanish delegations for the introduction of a number of measures to restore balance within the sardine sector in their countries.

After the discussions, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine with all due speed the Commission's recent proposal concerning a reduction of the customs duties for exports of Portuguese and Spanish preserved sardines to the Community of Ten so that it could take a decision as soon as possible.

OTHER FISHERIES DECISIONS

The Council formally adopted a Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco on relations in the sea fisheries sector and laying down provisions for its implementation.

The Agreement was signed on 26 May last in Rabat (see Press Release 6517/88 Presse 71); pending completion of the procedures necessary for its formal conclusion it was the subject of a provisional implementing Decision with effect from 1 March 1988.

The Council also adopted a Regulation amending Regulation No 2245/85 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fish stocks in the Antarctic. The Regulation implements in respect of Community fishermen the conservation measures adopted in 1987 by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Fixing of 1988/1989 agricultural prices and related measures

The Council adopted a corrigendum to the overall compromise of 16 June 1988 concerning the fixing of the agricultural prices for 1988/1989 and related measures; the text reads as follows:

"XII. AGRI-MONETARY QUESTIONS

Paragraph 3 is amended as follows:

"3. With respect to Greece, a readjustment of

15 points for animal products

20 points for vegetable products

will take place with effect from the beginning of the 1988/1989 marketing years."

The Council thus completed, with unanimous agreement, the discussions of the Agriculture Council on the package of prices and related measures for the 1988/1989 marketing year.

Relations with the EFTA countries

The Council formally adopted a Regulation concerning the application of Decision 1/88 of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committee "common transit" amending Appendices I, II and III to the Convention between the European Economic Community, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Republic of Iceland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Swiss Confederation on a common transit procedure.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

7215/88 (Presse 104)

1255th Council meeting
- Industry -
Luxembourg, 24 June 1988

President:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Luxembourg:

Mr Johny LAHURE

State Secretary for Economic
Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr R.W. DE KORTE

Minister for Economic Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Antonio José FERNANDES DE SOUSA

Secretary of State for Industry

United Kingdom:

Mr Kenneth CLARKE

Secretary of State for Trade and
Industry

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Vice-President

Mr Peter SUTHERLAND

Member

IRON AND STEEL POLICY - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

1. At its meeting today the Council took note of the Commission's comments on the improvement of the market situation, particularly with regard to flat-rolled products.
2. It was informed by the Commission that the reduction of capacity requested on 22 December 1987 had not been achieved in any category and that in various cases no adequate guarantees of closures had been given.
3. The Council in consequence took note that the Commission wants the quota system for all products to expire on 30 June 1988. There was no possibility of a unanimous decision of the Council to change that position of the Commission.
4. The Council assumes from what the Commission has said that the Commission, to make it easier for undertakings to adjust to possible changes in demand and to be in a position if necessary to accompany the adaptation process with additional measures under the ECSC Treaty, will continue
 - to establish the monthly statistics on production and deliveries on the basis of Article 47,
 - regularly to monitor the development of the market in the products subject to statistics in the context of the advance estimate programmes based on Article 46 and

- regularly to discuss the current situation with those concerned, especially the smaller companies, in order to analyse the market situation and ascertain market trends.

However, the Council underlines that nobody may use the monitoring system to contravene Article 65 of the ECSC Treaty.

The Commission will keep the Council informed about significant changes in the market.

5. The Council again expresses its concern that the problems of the Italian state steel industry have not yet been resolved. It has nonetheless taken note that the Commission received the restructuring plan of the Italian Government a few days ago. It accordingly requests the Commission to give its opinion of it as soon as possible.
6. It welcomes the fact that the Commission will be making a proposal for the extension of the aids code which expires on 31 December 1988 (Decision No 3484/85/ECSC).
7. The Council again stresses the need for the restructuring process to continue to be accompanied by social measures. It hereby refers this part of the Commission communication to the Permanent Representatives Committee for further urgent discussion and states that it is willing, subject to the Opinions of the Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee and in accordance with its conclusions of 22 December 1987, to embark on an examination of the Commission proposal for a Council act on the payment of a contribution from the general budget of the European Communities to the European Coal and Steel Community for the financing of the social measures connected with the restructuring of the iron and steel industry.

8. The Council agrees with the Commission in attributing special importance to the accompanying measures. It accordingly endorses the principles defended by the Commission in connection with foreign trade policy and research policy. The Council also welcomes the speedy processing of the RESIDER programmes by the Commission.

The Council will deal with these problems at its next meeting.

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

Following the consensus reached in the General Affairs Council on the series of texts submitted to it in connection with implementation of the conclusions of the Brussels European Council on 11 and 12 February 1988, and after completion of all the preliminary procedures for the formal adoption of those texts - in particular the conducting and concluding of a conciliation procedure with the European Parliament on 20 June 1988 concerning the dossier as a whole - the Council formally adopted the following measures:

Own resources

- a Decision on the system of the Communities' own resources;
- implementing arrangements concerning the calculation, financing, payment and entry in the budget of the correction of budgetary imbalances;
- a draft supplementary and amending budget for 1988;
- an Intergovernmental Agreement providing for the payment of sums required to balance the general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1988 - confirmation of the revised figures.

Budgetary discipline

- a Decision concerning budgetary discipline
and
- a Decision to publish the text of the inter-institutional agreement on budgetary discipline and improvement of the budgetary procedure already approved by the European Parliament and the Council.

Financial Regulation

- a Regulation amending the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities;

Financial measures relating to agriculture

- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 on the financing of the Common Agricultural Policy;
- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1883/78 laying down general rules for the financing of interventions by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section;
- a Regulation on the grant of financial compensation to the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic following the depreciation of certain stocks of agricultural products;

Structural measures

- a Regulation on the tasks of the Structural Funds and their effectiveness and on co-ordination of their activities between themselves and with the operations of the EIB and the other existing financial instruments;
- a Regulation on financial support for Portugal for a specific industrial development programme (PEDIP);

At the same time the Council agreed to the draft Directive on the harmonization of the compilation of GNP at market prices. The formal adoption of this draft will take place as soon as the Decision on own resources enters into force.

II. MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Liberalization of capital movements

The Council adopted:

- a Directive for the implementation of Article 67 of the Treaty (liberalization of capital movements);
- a Regulation establishing a single facility providing for medium-term financial support for Member States' balances of payments.

(see ECO/FIN Council press release No 6848/88 Presse 83 of 13 June 1988).

Environment

The Council adopted the Decisions concerning a supplement to Annex IV to the Convention for the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution in respect of

- mercury originating in sectors other than the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry;
- carbon tetrachloride.

Tariff quotas

The Council adopted a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain wines having a registered designation of origin and originating in Morocco (1988/1989).

The Council also adopted:

- a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP)(1988/1989);
- a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia originating in the Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the European Community (OCT) (1988/1989).

Agricultural policy

The Council adopted a Directive amending Directive 66/403/EEC on the marketing of seed potatoes.

The purpose of the amendment is to extend the derogations allowing Greece, Italy and Portugal to import seed potatoes from Canada and Poland.

PRESS RELEASE

7217/88 (Presse 106)

1256th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Luxembourg, 29 June 1988

President: Mr Heinz RIESENHUBER

Federal Minister for Research
and Technology
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Luxembourg:

Mr Fernand BODEN

Minister for Education

Netherlands:

Mr P.C. NIEMAN

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Portugal:

Mr Luis VALENTE DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and
Territorial Administration

Mr José SUCENA PAIVA

State Secretary for Science
and Technology

United Kingdom:

Mr Kenneth CLARKE

Minister for Trade and Industry

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Vice-President

FORMAL ADOPTION OF FIVE COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

The Council formally adopted the following five programmes:

- DRIVE, Community programme in the field of information technology and telecommunications applied to road transport (Dedicated Road Infrastructure for Vehicle Safety in Europe);
- DELTA, Community action in the field of learning technologies - development of European learning through technological advance, exploratory action;
- BCR, research and development programme for the European Economic Community in the field of applied metrology and chemical analysis (1988-1992);
- SCIENCE, adopting a programme plan to stimulate the international co-operation and interchange needed by European research scientists (1988-1992);
- BIOTECHNOLOGY, revising the multiannual research programme for the European Economic Community in the field of biotechnology.

These were formally adopted pursuant to the agreement reached on 11 April 1988 on common positions on the five programmes and after the Council had examined the amendments proposed by the European Parliament for these programmes under the co-operation procedure. This enabled the Council to take account of the European Parliament's proposals that the co-operation procedure rather than the conciliation procedure should be applied in the case of the BCR and SCIENCE programmes in order to associate the European Parliament with the decision-making process concerning agreements with third countries.

The main features of the programmes are as follows:

DRIVE

This programme covers an initial period of 36 months beginning on 1 June 1988; the funds estimated as necessary for the Community contribution amount to 60 MECU, including expenditure on staff whose costs will not exceed 4,5% of the Community's contribution.

The programme is designed, in concertation with public and private actions in the field of road transport informatics undertaken at national and international level, to promote the competitiveness of the Community's industries, operators and service providers in order to make available to the final users, at minimum cost and with minimum delay, the improvements in road transport efficiency and safety as well as minimizing the negative environmental impact of road transport, while contributing to social as well as economic objectives.

The programme includes Community activity relevant to EUREKA actions, and in particular PROMETHEUS, EUROPOLIS and CARMINET, in this field with respect to standardization and common functional specifications relating to the development of advanced infrastructure systems.

The aim of the programme is the development of a common conceptual framework for co-operation, prenormative work and technology exploration and the investigation of the non-technological factors as required for the objective of concerting European efforts in improving road transport efficiency, road safety and reducing negative environmental impact. The work includes the following elements:

- I. RTI Technologies
- II. Evaluation of Strategic Options
- III. Specifications, protocols and standardization proposals.

Projects relating to the programme will be executed by means of shared cost contracts. Contractors will be expected to bear a substantial proportion of the costs, which should normally be at least 50% of the total expenditure; in the case of universities and research institutes, the Community may bear up to 100% of the additional expenditure involved in implementing the action.

Participation by partners established in other European countries - in particular the EFTA countries - will be possible when framework agreements on scientific and technical co-operation have been concluded with such countries.

DELTA

This exploratory Community action covers a period of 24 months commencing on 1 June 1988. The funds estimated as necessary for the Community contribution to the execution of this action amount to 20 MECU, including expenditure on staff (staff of 12).

The action is designed to stimulate incremental research and development which will enable new technologies to be incorporated in the tools and infrastructure supporting advanced learning, in particular open and distance learning, in the Community. The action will be based on concertation with the corresponding activities of the Member States of the Community, in order to make available to the final users, at minimum cost and with minimum delay, the learning equipment and systems which will enable an increased demand for education, training and retraining to be met in the most economical way.

The programme identifies five main areas of action:

- concertation between the authorities, academics, the users and the industrial companies, including publishers and information providers, to establish present and future learning support requirements;

- co-operative development of technology appropriate to the progression through the three main stages envisaged for DELTA;
- ongoing testing and validation of the concepts on the basis of a shared resource ("test-bed") and selected experimental implementations;
- determined efforts to achieve a considerable degree of harmonization of the many standards and practices which would otherwise constitute a continuing obstacle to development and use, by means of reinforcement of ongoing work in this connection;
- the promotion of favourable conditions for the development of Learning Technology and its use in Open Learning. Measures which are proposed for further consideration include the reduction of the "cost of entry" for teachers and companies, and of an appropriate regulatory regime facilitating the introduction of new learning support techniques (Open Learning).

The action will consist of prenormative and precompetitive technology exploration with the aim of concerting European efforts in the field of learning technology.

Projects relating to the programme will be executed by means of shared cost contracts. Contractors will be expected to bear a substantial proportion of the costs, which should normally be at least 50% of the total expenditure; in the case of universities and research institutes, the Community may bear up to 100% of the additional expenditure involved in implementing the action.

Participation by partners established in other European countries - in particular the EFTA countries - will be possible when framework agreements on scientific and technical co-operation have been concluded with such countries.

BCR (Community Bureau of References)

This programme covers a period of 5 years commencing on 1 January 1988 with the funds estimated as necessary amounting to 59,2 MECU, including expenditure on a staff of 32.

Its objective is to improve the reliability of chemical analyses⁽¹⁾ and physical measurements (applied metrology)⁽²⁾ so as to obtain agreement of results in all Member States.

Experimental work will be carried out under contract. The participants may be industrial organizations, research centres, laboratories and universities established in the Community.

(1) In particular in the biomedical, food and agriculture, metals and environment fields.

(2) With particular emphasis on the measurement and calibration of the most important parameters for test laboratories and industrial laboratories, in particular for quality control.

SCIENCE

The funds estimated as necessary for the execution of the Stimulation Plan, which covers a 5-year period commencing on 1 January 1988, amount to 167 MECU, including expenditure on a staff of 18.

The Community financial support awarded in this field will be 100% of the cost of the actions.

The overall objective of the Stimulation Plan is to improve the efficacy of scientific and technological research in all the Member States and to contribute thereby to the reduction of scientific and technical development disparities between the different Member States of the European Community. It covers all fields of science and technology (the exact and natural sciences).

Its specific objectives are to:

- promote training through research and, by means of co-operation, the better use of high-level researchers in the Community;
- improve the mobility of research scientists of the Member States of the Community;
- develop and support intra-European scientific and technical co-operation on high-quality projects;
- promote the setting-up of intra-European co-operation and interchange networks with a view to reinforcing the overall scientific and technical competitiveness of the Community and thereby strengthening its economic and social cohesion.

The Commission will ensure implementation of the Stimulation Plan by means of research bursaries, research grants, grants for high-level courses, contracts encouraging the twinning of laboratories and operations contracts including equipment and accompanying measures where appropriate. It will be assisted by the Committee for the European Development of Science and Technology (CODEST) and by consultants.

The Commission is authorized to negotiate in accordance with Article 130n of the EEC Treaty, agreements with international organizations, with those countries participating in European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technological Research (COST) and with those European countries having concluded framework agreements on S/T co-operation with the Community with a view to associating them wholly or partly with the programme.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

This revision has the following objectives:

- Extension to Spain and Portugal of the activities envisaged by the programme.
- Intensification of the current research effort in the sector of the programme that concerns the assessment of risks associated with modern biotechnology, and particularly with the deliberate release of genetically engineered organisms.
- Intensification of the current research effort in the area of information technology with emphasis upon processing data related to culture collections, genome sequences and protein modelling.

- Increase in the volume of current activities (visits, publications, electronic networks, meetings, summer workshops, ...) aiming at a timely dissemination of information on the programme and of research results to all appropriate groups, involvement of Community industry in the research activities and in the utilization of the data, materials and methods stemming from the research work under contract.

- Studies and feasibility pilot projects for the preparation of future Community R & D activities in biotechnology during the period 1990-1994.

- Increase in training activities in all parts of the current programme.

In order to finance this intensification and extension of research in the field of biotechnology, the funds estimated as necessary will be increased from 55 MECU to 75 MECU, including expenditure on an additional staff of 5.

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

The Council evolved a series of positions on restructuring the activities of the Joint Research Centre for the period 1988 to 1991 in both the nuclear and the non-nuclear research fields, namely:

- a common position on the research programme in the non-nuclear field;
- common positions on the research programme in the nuclear field and a supplementary programme concerning the High Flux Reactor - HFR;
- a Resolution on new JRC activities.

The common position on non-nuclear research will be forwarded to the European Parliament as part of the co-operation procedure provided for by the Single Act. The common positions on nuclear research and the HFR will be forwarded to the European Parliament by way of information so that the Parliament has an overall view of the Council's intentions concerning future JRC activities.

The main features of the common position on non-nuclear research and of the common positions on nuclear research and the HFR are set out below together with the text of the Resolution on new JRC activities.

Non-nuclear field

The research activities of the Joint Research Centre in the non-nuclear field for the period 1988 to 1991 cover implementation of the Community Framework Programme in research and technological development by means of specific research programmes and preparatory research.

These specific programmes are concentrated on two main lines of action of the Framework Programme, namely:

- Quality of Life (Environment);
- Modernisation of industrial sectors (science and technology of advanced materials, technical standards, measurement methods and reference materials).

These specific research programmes will contribute to:

- the generation of scientific knowledge in the fields of environmental protection and industrial safety as necessary for the implementation of the Community environment policy and of the Community consumer protection policy and for their further development. This will be implemented through research on environmental protection, on industrial hazards and on the application of remote sensing techniques. This research will be conducted through joint elaboration of reference measurement methods and analysis techniques, the collection and dissemination of data, the conduct of several collaborative Community-wide projects and the operation of both existing and new experimental facilities of Community interest;
- ensure that the manufacturing industries of the Community have a better access to a range of advanced materials and that these materials are produced by cost-effective means and incorporated in high-performance components and in particular by establishing improved methods for the characterisation of advanced materials, by performance assessment techniques, by data collection and dissemination, including a databank to be made publicly available, and through the operations of experimental facilities of Community-wide interest;

- the scientific and technical knowledge necessary for further harmonisation and standardisation, notably in the industrial and energy fields by research on reference methods, reliability of structures and reference methods in non-nuclear energies. This will include the construction of a new facility for examining the reliability of structures and the operation of this and existing experimental facilities of Community-wide interest, establishment of common methods and codes for testing, and common models for describing the behaviour of structures, mechanical systems and common methods for assessing the performance of non-nuclear energy systems;
- the enhancement of the economic and social cohesion of the Community. This will be achieved through the exchange schemes for scientific and technical personnel from the public and private sectors in all Member States to the JRC and vice-versa for at least 120 persons, and through a scheme of associated laboratories fostering a close and permanent collaboration between these laboratories and the JRC, in particular with laboratories in EC countries and regions most interested in this scheme;
- the enhancement of the relevance of the JRC scientific venture in ensuring specific users to its expected results.
- increase the scientific consensus on environmental and safety issues, in associating national laboratories, universities and industry to the JRC specific research programmes through technical meetings, exchange of personnel and, when possible, through the elaboration of common studies and common projects;
- increase industrial competitiveness in accelerating technology transfer from JRC specific research programmes to industry, notably in implementing these programmes, when possible, in the framework of industrial co-operation, where exchange of personnel will be a vital component of the association.

The funds estimated as necessary for the execution of these activities amount to 251,7 MECU, including expenditure on a staff of 690, reducing to 663 in 1991.

The breakdown of the amount deemed necessary of 251,7 MECU is as follows:

	<u>in MECU</u>
1. QUALITY OF LIFE	
1.3. Environment	146,0 (1)
- Environmental protection	77,0
= environmental chemicals (ECDIN)	
= genetically engineered substances	
= air pollution	
= quality of water	
= chemical wastes	
= environmental studies for the Mediterranean basin	
= European monitoring network	
= food and drug analysis	
- Application of remote-sensing techniques	36,5
= monitoring of land resources and their use	
= monitoring the marine environment	
= advanced techniques	
- Industrial hazards	32,5
= safety and reliability assessment	
= risk management	
= human factors in high risk prevention and management	
= uncontrolled reactions	
= risk of transportation of dangerous products at European scale	

(1) These amounts, which relate to activities and subdivisions of activities contained in the Framework Programme of Community R&TD (1987-1991) are considered to be the "amounts deemed necessary" for the relevant specific research programmes to be implemented by the JRC during the period 1988-1991. An amount equivalent to 5% of these amounts deemed necessary may be used for preparatory research.

3. MODERNISATION OF INDUSTRIAL SECTORS		
3.2. Science and technology of advanced materials		60,5 (1)
- Advanced materials		60,5
= properties, performance, determining characteristics and improving structural materials		
= properties, performance, determining characteristics and innovation of functional materials		
= modulation of surface properties; introduction of surface treatment for improved performance		
= data and information management for advanced materials		
3.4. Technical standards, measurement methods and reference materials		45,2 (1)
- Reference methods, reliability of structures		34,6
= reaction wall		
= reliability modelling of structures		
- Reference methods for non-nuclear energies		10,6
= photovoltaic systems		
= solar systems and energy savings		
TOTAL		<u>251,7</u>

(1) These amounts, which relate to activities and subdivisions of activities contained in the Framework Programme of Community R&D (1987-1991) are considered to be the "amounts deemed necessary" for the relevant specific research programmes to be implemented by the JRC during the period 1988-1991. An amount equivalent to 5% of these amounts deemed necessary may be used for preparatory research.

Nuclear field

The research activities of the Joint Research Centre in the nuclear field for the period 1988 to 1991 cover implementation of the Community Framework Programme in research and development by means of specific research programmes and preparatory research.

These specific programmes are concentrated on three main lines of action of the Framework Programme, namely:

- Quality of Life (Radiation Protection);
- Modernisation of industrial sectors (technical standards, measurement methods and reference materials);
- Energy (Fission: Nuclear Safety, Controlled Thermonuclear Fusion).

These specific research programmes will contribute to:

- provide data and methods needed for the prevention of harmful effects of ionizing radiation and radioactivity through research on radiation, evaluation and monitoring with emphasis on a Community-wide databank with a public service from early 1989;
- enhance the scientific and technical knowledge related to nuclear fission safety by the conduct of several large-scale experiments, by joint studies of the observed behaviour of operating plants, by the set up of common models of hypothetical accident situations and of common models for the safe management and control of nuclear materials and waste as well as by research on special nuclear elements;

- the Community efforts in the area of research on controlled thermonuclear fusion with emphasis on safety-oriented technological aspects focussing on work planned for NET (Next European Torus) as required by that project as well as fusion safety assessments, including the accomplishment of the construction and operation of the tritium handling laboratory;
- the establishment of reference methods and reference measurements in the nuclear area by the determination of nuclear data for standardisation in the field of fission and fusion technology, by research on nuclear metrology, and by the provision of reference materials to calibrate analytical equipment and assess analytical methods through work in the Treaty-based Bureau for Nuclear Measurements and the organisation of interlaboratory comparisons;
- the enhancement of the economic and social cohesion of the Community; this will be achieved through exchange schemes for scientific and technical personnel from the public and private sectors in all Member States to the JRC and vice-versa for at least 120 persons, and through a scheme of associated laboratories fostering a close and permanent collaboration between these laboratories and the JRC, in particular with laboratories in EC countries and regions most interested in this scheme;
- increase the scientific consensus on safety issues, in associating national laboratories, universities and industry with the JRC specific research programmes through technical meetings, exchange of personnel and, when possible, through the elaboration of common studies and common projects;
- increase industrial competitiveness in accelerating technology transfer from JRC specific research programmes to industry, notably in implementing these programmes, when possible, in the framework of industrial co-operation, where exchange of personnel will be a vital component of the association.

The funds estimated as necessary for the execution of these activities amount to 448,3 MECU, including expenditure on a staff of 1.162, reducing to 905 in 1991.

The breakdown of the amount of 448,3 MECU between the various specific programmes is as follows:

	(in MECU)
1. QUALITY OF LIFE	
1.2. Radiation protection	2,8 (1)
- evaluation and monitoring of radioactivity	2,8
3. MODERNISATION OF INDUSTRIAL SECTORS	
3.4. Technical standards, measurement methods and reference materials	75,6 (1)
- nuclear measurements and reference materials	75.6
5. ENERGY	
5.1. Fission: nuclear safety	309,9 (1)
- reactor safety	147,9
= reliability and risk evaluation	
= project for inspection of steel components (PISC)	
= abnormal behaviour of reactor cooling systems and accident modelling	
= source term	
= post accident heat removal (PAHR)	

(1) These amounts, which relate to activities and subdivisions of activities contained in the Framework Programme of Community R&TD (1987-1991) are considered to be the "amounts deemed necessary" for the relevant specific research programmes to be implemented by the JRC during the period 1988-1991. An amount equivalent to 5% of these amounts deemed necessary may be used for preparatory research.

- management of radioactive waste	48,5
= Operation of the PETRA facility	
= actinides monitoring	
= waste characterisation	
= safety of final storage in geological formations	
- safeguarding and management of fissile materials	44,5
= development and performance assessment of measurement systems for nuclear materials	
= development and performance assessment of containment and surveillance techniques	
= integration of safeguards techniques	
- nuclear fuels and actinides research	69,0
= safety studies for nuclear fuels	
= safety of the fuel cycle and its effect on the environment	
= actinides research	
= actinides information centre	
5.2. Controlled thermonuclear fusion	60,0 (1)
- fusion technology and safety	60,0
= reactor studies	
= materials integrity	
= risk assessment and safety studies	
= laboratory for tritium handling	
TOTAL	<u>448,3</u>

(1) These amounts, which relate to activities and subdivisions of activities contained in the Framework Programme of Community R&TD (1987-1991) are considered to be "the amounts deemed necessary" for the relevant specific research programmes to be implemented by the JRC during the period 1988-1991. An amount equivalent to 5% of these amounts deemed necessary may be used for preparatory research.

Management and evaluation

The Commission, assisted by the Board of Governors of the Joint Research Centre (JRC), will be responsible for carrying out the programme decisions in both the nuclear and non-nuclear fields and, to this end, will call upon the services of the JRC.

The Commission will decide on the terms of reference of the Board of Governors whose role will be strengthened to enable the Board to play a more effective part in the future organization of the Centre, its staff and financial management, and in the implementation of its research programmes.

The research work implemented by the JRC will be evaluated by a Panel of independent external experts set up by the Commission after consulting the Board of Governors. The evaluation will cover the scientific, technical and economic results of research undertaken, its user-relevance, and its contribution to the overall objectives of Community research and development policy. The evaluation will also cover the impact of the administrative and financial restructuring of the JRC and of the new system for monitoring the special and general costs of the institutes.

The results of the evaluation will be notified to the Council and the European Parliament at the end of 1989 and at the end of the programme.

The Commission will each year before 31 March transmit to the Council and the European Parliament a report on the implementation of the JRC programmes.

HFR Reactor

The supplementary programme on the operation of the HFR (High Flux) research reactor covers a period of four years, starting on 1 January 1988.

The funds estimated as necessary for the execution of the programme amount to 71,5 MECU, including expenditure on a staff of 86. An indicative breakdown of this amount is as follows:

Federal Republic of Germany	50%
Netherlands	50%

Other resources are provided for, in addition to the supplementary programme, either under the heading of work carried out as part of the JRC specific programmes or under the heading of work for third parties.

The indicative breakdown is as follows:

- Supplementary programme

(a) Exploitation of reactor.

- Federal Republic of Germany	32,5 MECU
- Netherlands	32,5 MECU

(b) Preparation of experiments (studies, rigs, etc.)

- Federal Republic of Germany	6,5 MECU
- Netherlands	p.m. (x)

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS 71,5 MECU + p.m.

- JRC specific programmes and third parties (estimated resources) 12 MECU

(x) Work to be rendered directly by Netherlands, the equivalent of such work valued by the Commission at 6,5 MECU.

Resolution concerning the activities to be undertaken by the
Joint Research Centre

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Commission's communication entitled "A new outlook for the Joint Research Centre" submitted to the Council on 29 October 1987,

Having regard to the modified proposals submitted to the Council by the Commission on 29 March 1988 containing specific research programmes to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community,

1. REAFFIRMS the Community character of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and considers it vital for the JRC's future success that it should attain internationally acknowledged scientific excellence and become more competitive, in order to play as full a part as possible in achieving the Community's aim of strengthening the scientific and technological basis of European industry and encouraging it to become more competitive, and urges the Commission to take all necessary measures to achieve this end;

2. CONSIDERS that, with a view to contributing to the objective of the economic and social cohesion of the Community, the JRC should also develop practical and significant initiatives to reinforce collaboration with the research centres and laboratories of all Member States, thereby assuming the role of catalyst of European scientific integration;
3. RECALLS its conclusions of 11 April 1988 in respect of the strengthening of the role of the Board of Governors of the JRC and therefore welcomes the Commission decision on the revised Terms of Reference of the Board;
4. URGES the Commission to introduce all necessary measures to improve the scientific excellence, age profile and mobility of staff in and out of the JRC, with the aim of enhancing the competitiveness of the JRC and reducing overall staff costs;
5. CONSIDERS further that the JRC should, in addition to its predominant task, for the period 1988-1991, of executing specific programmes including preparatory research, nevertheless utilize the facilities and manpower at its disposal to strengthen and develop its work for other Commission services and for third parties in those areas in which it is competent so to do;

6. BELIEVES it essential that work for third parties should be developed, under the control of the Director-General of the JRC and in co-operation with the Board of Governors, on the basis of clearly defined contractual arrangements with the Commission's services and third parties involved;
7. URGES that, during the period 1988-1991, an increasingly important share of the overall financial turnover of the JRC should be devoted to such work, so as to enable the financial targets set out at Point B of the Annex to be reached;
8. CONSIDERS it appropriate that, on the basis of the aforementioned financial targets, the necessary budgetary provision should be included by the budgetary authority in the general budget of the European Communities on an annual basis by taking into account, inter alia, the anticipated contractual work for third parties in the year in question and performance in this area in previous years;
9. INVITES the Commission to include appropriate information on all the aforementioned categories of activity in the annual implementation report which it is called upon to submit to the European Parliament and the Council;
10. INTENDS, during the course of 1990, on the basis of an examination of progress achieved towards a reorientation of the JRC and the work it undertakes, to consider possible adjustments or additional measures required.

ANNEX TO THE RESOLUTION

ESTIMATE OF THE OVERALL
FINANCIAL TURNOVER OF THE JRC
(1988-1991)

in million ECU

A. Implementation of the Framework Programme by means of specific research programmes and preparatory research:

- EEC research programmes	251,7
- EAEC research programmes	448,3

Sub-total A	700
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B. Work for third parties:

- Scientific and technological support for the Commission	120
- Work for external private or public bodies	130

Sub-total B	250
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TOTAL	950
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29.IV.88

CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR FUSION.

The Council adopted a common position on a multiannual research and training programme in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion.

The programme covers the period from 1 January 1988 to 31 March 1992.

i. The main objectives of the programme are:

- to establish the physics and technology basis necessary for the detailed design of NET; in the field of physics and plasma engineering, this implies the full exploitation of JET and of several medium-sized specialised tokamaks in existence or in construction, and in the field of technology the strengthening of the current Fusion technology programme;
- to embark on the detailed design of NET before the end of the programme period, but not before the next programme revision, if the necessary data base exists at that time;
- to explore the reactor potential of some alternative lines.

The programme to be executed will cover:

- (a) plasma physics in the sector concerned, in particular studies of a basic character relating to confinement with suitable devices and to methods for producing and heating plasma;
- (b) research into the confinement, in closed configurations, of hydrogen, deuterium and tritium plasmas of widely varying density and temperature;

- (c) research into light-matter interactions and transport phenomena and the development of high-power lasers;
- (d) the development and application to confinement devices of sufficiently powerful plasma heating methods;
- (e) improvement of diagnostic methods;
- (f) predesign and, pending the next programme revision, possible commencement - taking into account the results of both NET and ITER conceptual design activities - of the detailed engineering design of the next step and technological developments required for its design and construction as well as those needed in the longer term for the fusion reactor;
- (g) extension of the JET device to full performance, operation and exploitation of JET;
- (h) a fusion feasibility study covering environmental impact, safety and economic viability.

The work referred to in (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (h) will be carried out by means of associations or limited duration contracts which are designed to yield the results necessary for the implementation of the programme and which will take into account any future research programme at the JRC in the field of NET and Fusion technology.

The implementation of the JET project referred to in (g) has been entrusted to the "Joint European Torus (JET), Joint Undertaking", established by Decision 78/471/Euratom.

2. The programme set out in paragraph 1 forms part of a long-term co-operative project embracing all activities undertaken in the Member States in the field of controlled magnetic thermonuclear fusion. It is designed to lead in due course to the joint construction of prototypes with a view to their industrial production and marketing.
3. The amount of 406 MECU estimated as being necessary for the execution of the programme exclusive of JET is intended to finance:
 - (a) priority projects at a uniform rate of approximately 45%, as specified in paragraph 4;
 - (b) running expenditure of the associations at a uniform rate of approximately 25%;
 - (c) certain industrial contracts in the fields of "NET/Fusion technology" and the development of advanced plasma heating methods at a rate of 100%, as defined in paragraph 4;
 - (d) administration costs and expenditure intended to ensure the mobility of staff to enable them to work in organizations co-operating in the implementation of the programme and in the NET Team, and to support a fellowship scheme specific to the Fusion programme;
 - (e) operational costs of the NET Team at a rate of approximately 75%;
 - (f) an independent evaluation of the programme and an appraisal of the environmental, safety-related and economic potential of Fusion;
 - (g) after consultation of the Consultative Committee for the Fusion Programme, shared-cost contracts with groups in Member States that do not possess an Association, to cover specific items of research at a rate of about 25% for running expenditure and of about 45% for capital expenditure specific to the research.

Any positive balance from the contributions of associated third countries (Sweden and Switzerland) under the programme exclusive of JET shall be devoted to the financial participation by the Community in the expenditure referred to in paragraph 3.

4. After consulting the Consultative Committee of the Fusion Programme the Commission may finance at a uniform rate of about 45% as specified in paragraph 3(a) projects belonging to one of the following areas:

- (a) Tokamak system and support for JET;
- (b) other toroidal machines;
- (c) heating and injection;
- (d) NET and Fusion technology.

If such projects belong to areas (c) and (d) and if they are carried out by industry, the Commission may finance them at a rate of 100% as specified in paragraph 3(c).

In return, all associations shall have the right to take part in the experiments carried out with the equipment thus constructed.

5. The total contributions of the Members of the JET Joint Undertaking required to finance JET's payments during the programme period are estimated at 440 MECU. They are intended to cover the extension of the JET device to full performance and its operation and exploitation. According to the Statutes of JET, 80% of this amount, equal to 352 MECU, is financed through the Community budget. It has been estimated that this amount will be financed as follows:

- 329 MECU from the programme allocation for JET;
- 23 MECU as the participation to JET of Sweden and Switzerland paid via the Community budget.

The total funds estimated as being necessary for the Community contribution to the fusion programme amount to 735 MECU.

The funds estimated as being necessary for the execution of the programme exclusive of JET amount to 406 MECU, including expenditure on a work force of 105 staff. The funds estimated as being necessary for JET during the duration of the programme amount to 329 MECU including expenditure on a work force of 191 temporary employees.

On the basis of an evaluation to be made during the course of the third year to appraise the environmental, safety-related and economic potential of fusion, the Commission may submit a proposal to the Council in 1990 for a revision of the present programme which may lead to its replacement by a new programme with effect from 1 January 1991.

The Council also agreed in principle to a Decision amending the Statutes of the Joint European Torus (JET), Joint Undertaking, extending this Joint Undertaking until 31 December 1992.

EUREKA

After hearing a statement by Vice-President NARJES introducing the Commission communication dated 22 June 1988 on ways of increasing co-operation between the Community and EUREKA, the Council held a policy debate on this important subject.

Following the debate, the President noted that the Commission communication formed a very sound basis for further discussions on this matter and that the opinions expressed by the delegations had provided useful information for this purpose.

The President also noted that the debate confirmed the complementary nature of the two types of research and referred to the Commission statement to the effect that EUREKA projects were also eligible in principle to support from Community R & D programmes on the understanding that such projects then had to satisfy specific Community selection criteria.

In conclusion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare its discussions on this subject with all due diligence to enable the Council to reach a conclusion as soon as possible.

DISSEMINATION AND UTILIZATION OF RESULTS FROM SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH

The Council took note of a statement by Vice-President NARJES introducing the Commission communication on the dissemination and utilization of the results of joint research work as an essential step to increasing the efficiency of such work. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission communication as soon as possible together with other specific programmes proposed in connection with the implementation of the framework programme.

NORMS AND STANDARDS

The Council took note of a first communication on development-related standardization which the Commission had recently forwarded to it and which was presented by Vice-President NARJES.

The Council held an initial exchange of views on this subject, following which the President stressed the paramount importance of European standardization activities for the completion of the internal market and for increasing the competitiveness of Community undertakings, as well as the need for development-related standardization in rapidly developing technological sectors. It noted that CEN and CENELEC provided structures and procedures appropriate to this type of standardization in Europe.

The Council called on the Commission to set out its recommendations in the detailed communication already announced as regards certain aspects such as the supporting role of Community R & D programmes concerning standardization activities, the specific needs of the SMU, the rapid information of the parties concerned and information on the activities of Member States in this connection.

AERONAUTICAL RESEARCH

The Council heard a statement by Vice-President NARJES introducing the recent Commission communication "Toward a programme of strategic measures in aeronautical research and technology for Europe", which also announced the Commission's intention of submitting a proposal for a two-year pilot programme in the very near future.

The Council took note of the communication and held a preliminary exchange of views on this subject.

Following the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the communication.

EUROPEAN BIOTECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency and the Commission regarding current work and that planned in the near future both in the field of bioethics and safety regarding biotechnological research. The Commission said in particular that an inter-disciplinary conference would be organized in Mainz in the Federal Republic in November to discuss the question of whether and to what extent human dignity could be affected by certain research projects, concerning for example embryos. Another conference would be organized in Berlin before the end of the year concerning general safety problems connected with genetic engineering and the release of organisms modified by these techniques.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

The Council formally adopted the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia originating in

- the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) (1988/1989);
- the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) associated with the European Economic Community (1988/1989).

Fisheries

The Council formally adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3978/87 allocating, for 1988, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone and the fishing zone around Jan Mayen.

The allocation of 200 000 tonnes of possible catches of sand eel for the Community in Norwegian waters (ICES division IV) for 1988 comprises 190 000 tonnes for Denmark and 10 000 tonnes for the United Kingdom, on the understanding that within the limits of a total quota allocated for Norway pout and sand eel, both the latter may replace each other by up to 10% of the figures indicated above.

Agriculture

The Council formally adopted the Regulations:

- laying down an exception in respect of storage contracts for olive oil in Greece. This Regulation is designed to enable olive oil producer organizations in Greece to undertake the private storage of olive oil during the 1987/1988 and 1988/1989 marketing years;
- amending Regulation No 475/86 laying down general rules for the system for controlling the prices and the quantities of certain products in the oils and fats sector released for consumption in Spain. As regards sunflower oil produced in Spain, the forecast supply balance will in future be drawn up for each marketing year, before a date to be determined, and not before the start of the calendar year as previously;
- amending Regulation No 775/87 temporarily withdrawing a proportion of the reference quantities mentioned in Article 5c(1) of Regulation No 804/68 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products. The aim is to authorize the Hellenic Republic to invest, in programmes for the improvement of the quality of milk, the funds intended, but not used, for the payment of individual compensation for the reduction of milk production when a certain reference quantity was reached.

PRESS RELEASE

7218/88 (Presse 107)

1257th Council meeting

- Telecommunications -

Luxembourg, 30 June 1988

President: Mr Christian SCHWARZ-SCHILLING

Federal Minister
for Posts and Telecommunications
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER

President of the Government,
Minister for Posts,
Telecommunications and Informatics

Netherlands:

Mrs N. SMIT KROES

Minister for Transport and Public
Works

Portugal:

Mr OLIVEIRA MARTINS

Minister for Public Works, Transport
and Communications

Mr Eduardo CORREIA MATOS

State Secretary for Transport
and Communications

United Kingdom:

Mr John BUTCHER

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Vice-President

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON MARKET FOR
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT UP TO 1992 - COUNCIL RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Single Act,

Having regard to the Green Paper on the Development of the Common Market for Telecommunications Services and Equipment (COM(87) 290) dated 30 June 1987 and the communication on the Implementation of the Green Paper up to 1992 (COM(88) 48), dated 9 February 1988,

Having regard to the Opinions of the Economic and Social Committee on COM(87) 290 and COM(88) 48,

Having regard to the draft from the Commission,

Whereas the strengthening of European telecommunications has become one of the major conditions for achieving the Community-wide market for goods and services in 1992;

Whereas, as set out in the Green Paper, the current wave of technical innovation resulting from the convergence of telecommunications and computer technology has led to reviews in all Member States, and at world level, of the future organization of the telecommunications sector and its necessary regulatory adjustment;

Whereas the administrations or private operating agencies recognized in the Community and providing public telecommunications services, are hereinafter referred to as the "Telecommunications Administrations",

Whereas the creation of an open common market in telecommunications services and equipment is compatible with continued exclusive provision or special rights of telecommunications administrations as regards the supply and the operation of the network infrastructure and the provision of a limited number of basic services where such exclusive provision is justified by the public service role;

Whereas the justification of continued exclusive provision or special rights where they exist, must be weighed carefully against the obligations of the Telecommunications Administrations which will be retained but also against the restrictions which this may impose on those connected to the network concerning present and future application for their own use, shared use, or provision to third parties; whereas this should take account of the fact that the development of trade must not be affected to such an extent as would be contrary to the interests of the Community;

Whereas the substantial progress made with the Community's 1984 Action Programme for implementing a common telecommunications policy has laid a solid base for the implementation of a common approach in telecommunications;

Whereas the social, regional, industrial and trade aspects must be kept carefully in mind during the progressive implementation of such an approach;

Whereas the Community shall adopt measures with the aim of progressively establishing the internal market, over a period expiring on 31 December 1992, and to this end, communication CDM(88) 48 has indicated an Action Plan for the progressive achievement of a competition-oriented Community-wide telecommunications market and the strengthening of European competitiveness;

Whereas the overriding objective must be to develop the conditions for the market to provide European users with a greater variety of telecommunications services, of better quality and at lower cost, affording Europe the full internal and external benefits of a strong telecommunications sector; and the development in the Community of a strong telecommunications infrastructure, industry and efficient services;

CONSIDERS THE FOLLOWING POINTS AS MAJOR POLICY GOALS :

1. creating or ensuring Community-wide network integrity as one of the essential elements for a common market in telecommunications services and equipment, working on the principle of full interconnectivity between all public networks concerned in the Community ;
2. creating progressively an open, Community-wide market for telecommunications services, particularly for value-added services. Due account must be taken of the competition rules of the Treaty. Rapid definition, by directives of the Council, of technical conditions, usage conditions and tariff principles for Open Network Provision, starting with harmonised conditions for the use of leased lines, is of crucial importance, and closely linked with the creation in the first instance of an open market for non-reserved telecommunications services ;
3. promoting the creation of Europe-wide services according to market requirements and appropriate social needs, to enable European users to benefit from a wider range of better and cheaper telecommunication services, so that Europe can reap the internal and external benefits of a strong telecommunications sector.

In addition to appropriate measures in the area of standardization, this should include definition of common tariff principles and the encouragement of co-operation between network operators and others, as far as compatible with Community competition rules; one of the aims in this should include definition of efficient pricing principles throughout the Community while ensuring general service for all;

4. developing further an open, Community-wide market for terminal equipment. For this purpose, quickly reaching agreement on full mutual recognition of type-approval for terminal equipment, on the basis of the rapid development of common European conformity specifications ;
5. developing a Community market on which Telecommunications Administrations and other suppliers can compete on an equal basis ; in particular :

clear separation of regulatory and operational duties, with due regard for the situation in each individual Member State ;

- application of the relevant rules of the Treaty, notably competition rules, to Telecommunications Administrations and private providers ;
 - a transparent fiscal environment ;
 - achievement of full opening of the markets for telecommunication; supplies and works as part of the completion of the internal market.
6. continuing Community measures regarding common standards in the telecommunications sector. The establishment of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) is warmly welcomed in this context. However, further efforts are needed to ensure conformity with the general principles of Community standardization policy, taking into account the achievements of European co-operation in the field of telecommunications and the special characteristics of the telecommunications sector ;
 7. stimulating European co-operation at all levels, as far as compatible with Community competition rules, and particularly in the field of research and development, in order to secure a strong European presence on the telecommunications markets and to ensure the full participation of all Member States ;
 8. creating a social environment for the future development of telecommunications, in line with the Community's overall aim of improving the economic and social situation by extending common policies.

Sustaining the dialogue between the social partners and undertaking in-depth analysis is particularly important in this context, to secure the conditions for developing social consensus concerning the transformation of working conditions and lifestyles resulting from the new telecommunications technologies.

In addition, given the changing requirements, steps must be taken to see that workers have the right skills, to protect personal data and to provide for the individual's access, through the communications media, to an environment significantly richer in information than before ;

9. integrating the less-favored areas of the Community fully into the emerging Community-wide market making full use of existing funds. This is one of the aims of the STAR programme, which is designed to provide these areas with high technology telecommunication networks and equipment as well as developing the endogenous potential, especially in the field of services linked to this sector, thus making the best use of the growth potential of telecommunications.

This should include examination, in particular taking into account the experience of the STAR programme, and within the context of overall Community priorities, of the case for further extension of funds available for this purpose, with a view to narrowing the gap in economic development which still separates these regions from the more prosperous areas of the Community.

10. working out a common position on satellite communications, so that this medium can develop in a favourable environment, taking account of the general rules of operation and exploitation of the network environment, as well as the competition rules of the Treaty and international commitments of Member States.
11. fully taking into account the external aspects of Community measures on telecommunication, and working out as appropriate common positions on international telecommunication problems.

There should be prior Community coordination, according to procedures agreed, on key negotiating positions of concern to the Community in the international organizations dealing with telecommunications, in particular the various conferences of the International Telecommunication Union, as well as a common position on those aspects of the Uruguay Round which cover telecommunications.

NOTES WITH SATISFACTION :

that substantial progress has been made with the Community's 1984 action programme approved at the Council's meeting of 17 December 1984 for implementing a common telecommunications policy, and applying Community law with the aim of creating a Community-wide telecommunications market, particularly in the following areas:

- establishment of standards, and steps towards the mutual recognition of type approval for terminal equipment ;
- development of advanced telecommunications technologies, with the start of the RACE programme ;
- access to modern telecommunications for the less-favoured areas of the Community, with the launching of the STAR programme ;
- co-ordination of technical plans and strategies for the introduction of new services, in particular the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN), and pan-European digital public mobile communications ;

GIVES ITS GENERAL SUPPORT

to the objectives of the action programme set out in COM(88) 48, which relates to the progressive achievement of a competition-oriented Community-wide telecommunications market up to 1992, having regard also to Articles 8a and 8c of the Single Act, and the strengthening of European competitiveness, while safeguarding the public service goals of telecommunications.

In this context and in the spirit of the conclusions of the Council of 17 December 1984, under which it was established, importance is accorded to the role played by the Senior Officials Group on Telecommunications (SOG-T).

INVITES THE COMMISSION

to propose, where required, the measures necessary for pursuing the achievement of these goals, to be taken in priority areas on the basis of the appropriate Community procedures, in particular for the creation of the common market for telecommunications services and equipment and taking appropriate account also of the external dimension of these measures.

INTENDS

to meet, in the future, periodically on telecommunications issues, in order to pursue, together with the Commission, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, the rapid completion of the internal market for telecommunications services and equipment up to 1992, according to the goals set out.

WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CONFERENCE

The Council arrived at a common position by Member States for the forthcoming ITU World Administrative Telephone and Telegraph Conference, WATTC 88, in Melbourne.

GUIDELINES ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

The Council set out some guidelines for future work in the following areas:

- opening-up of public telecommunications contracts by 1992;
- creation of a standard Europe-wide emergency call number;
- high-definition television (HDTV);
- development of broad-band links - electronic highways.

LIMITING OF ELECTROMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE

The Council took note with satisfaction of progress to date in drawing up a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to electromagnetic compatibility.

This Directive is designed to harmonize national provisions limiting electromagnetic disturbance caused by electrical or electromagnetic appliances. It covers radio and TV receivers, mobile radios, medical apparatus, domestic appliances, marine radio and aeronautical apparatus, fluorescent lamps, etc.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue with discussions in order for it to arrive at a conclusion as soon as possible after receiving the European Parliament's Opinion.

EEC-Morocco relations

The Council formally adopted the Decisions on the conclusion of the Additional Protocols and the Protocol on financial and technical co-operation to the EEC-Morocco Co-operation Agreement.

Food aid

The Council formally adopted the Regulation extending Regulation (EEC) No 3972/86 on food-aid policy and food-aid management until 30 June 1989.

Own resources

The Council formally adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC, Euratom, ECSC) No 2891/77 implementing the Decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Communities' own resources.

Technical barriers

The Council adopted the Directive amending for the fourth time Directive 76/768/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products (technical adaptation and labelling amendments).

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Customs union - Commercial policy

The Council formally adopted the:

- Regulation concerning triangular traffic under the outward processing relief arrangements and the standard exchange system;
- Decision authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

Relations with the EFTA countries

The Council adopted a common position on draft Decisions No 2/88 of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committees supplementing and amending Annex III of Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation (sodium perborate).

Relations with Austria - GATT

The Council adopted the Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of Agreed Minutes relating to certain agricultural products negotiated between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria under Article XXVIII of the GATT.

Small and medium-sized enterprises

The Council formally adopted the Resolution on improving the environment of undertakings and on promoting the development on small and medium-sized enterprises in the Community (see press release - Internal Market/Consumer Protection - 7 June 1988, in 6635/88 (Presse 78)).

Transport

The Council formally adopted the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3568/83 on the fixing of rates for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (see press release - Transport - 20 and 21 June 1988, in 7005/88 (Presse 94)).

Appointments

On a proposal from the Portuguese Government, the Council appointed Dr José TELLES member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of Dr Manuel Sá Coutinho DE LENCASTRE, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 20 September 1990.

On a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council also appointed Mr Ray TUMULTY alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr M. CASSIDY, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 16 December 1988.