

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: BELGIUM

JANUARY-JUNE 1987

Meetings and press releases May 1987

Meeting number	Subject	Date
1158 th	Fisheries	5 May 1987
1159 th	Economics/Finance	11 May 1987
1160 th	Education	14 May 1987
1161 st	Development Co-operation	14 May 1987
1162 nd	Health	15 May 1987
1163 rd	Agriculture	18-20 May 1987
1163 rd continued	Agriculture	24-26 May 1987
1164 th	Development Co-operation	21 May 1987
1165 th	Environment	21-22 May 1987
1166 th	Civil Protection	25 May 1987
1167 th	Justice	25 May 1987
1168 th	General Affairs	25-26 May 1987
1169 th	Labour/Social Affairs	26 May 1987

PRESS RELEASE

6197/87 (Presse 63)

1158th Council meeting

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 5 May 1987

President: Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER

State Secretary
for European Affairs
and Agriculture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Lars P. GAMMELGAARD Minister for Fisheries
Mr Thomas LAURITSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Wolfgang von CELDERN Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Elias LYMBEROPOULOS Deputy Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Francisco Javier ELORZA Deputy Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Ambroise GUELLEC State Secretary for the Sea

Ireland:

Mr Brendan DALY Minister for Fisheries, Forestry
and Tourism

Italy:

Mr Antonio MURMURA State Secretary for Merchant
Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Jim CLOOS

Embassy Secretary

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Manuel OLIVEIRA GODINHO

State Secretary for Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MACKAY

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries, Scotland

Commission:

Mr António José Baptista CARDOS E CUNHA
Member

ALLOCATION OF CATCH POSSIBILITIES IN THE SPITZBERGEN AREA AND THE NAFO REGULATORY AREA

The Council agreed by a qualified majority to the allocation of catch possibilities for cod in 1987 in the Spitzbergen area and the NAFO Regulatory Area.

As regards the Spitzbergen area and NAFO area 3M the Council not only established the allocation for 1987 but also provided for the scales of allocation in the event of an increase, in the coming years, of the share available to the Community.

The allocation in the various areas is as follows:

Spitzbergen - Bear Island - ICES Division II b

	TAC	Share available for EEC	D	F	P	E	UK	Other Member States
(1)	600.000	21.000	3.200	1.800	2.300	10.900	2.700	100
(2)	650.000	21.450	3.280	1.850	2.310	10.990	2.770	250
	700.000	23.100	3.650	2.100	2.380	11.420	3.090	460
	800.000	26.400	4.410	2.620	2.510	12.320	3.750	790
	900.000	29.700	5.160	3.120	2.640	13.190	4.400	1.190
	1.000.000	33.000	5.880	3.610	2.770	14.050	5.040	1.650

(1) TAC level and its allocation for 1987.

(2) Allocation applicable in the event of an increase in the TAC in the coming years.

2 J 3 K L NAFO

Share available for EEC	TAC	D	F	P	E	UK
75.700	360.000	19.550 ⁽¹⁾	3.200 ⁽¹⁾	31.770	20.330	850 ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ Less any quantity taken by the vessels of the Member States in question in the parts of NAFO subareas falling within areas of national fisheries jurisdiction.

NAFO 3 M

	Share available for EEC	D	F	P	E	UK
⁽¹⁾	7.500	700	300	2.950	2.150	1.400
⁽²⁾	10.000	740	430	4.250	3.100	1.480
⁽²⁾	15.000	830	700	6.850	4.990	1.630

NAFO 3 NO

Share available	D	F	P	E	UK
26.400	50	350	4.120	21.860	20

⁽¹⁾ TAC level and its allocation for 1987.

⁽²⁾ Allocation applicable in the event of an increase in the TAC in the coming years.

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES CONTROL FACILITIES

Agreement was reached within the Council on the Decision aimed at improving and modernizing certain control facilities in the Member States as a whole by means of a Community financial contribution (10 MECU, i.e. 50% of eligible expenditure by the Member States) to specific projects on, for example, the recording of catch data and the transmission of such data to the Commission.

The Decision will be formally adopted after finalization of the texts.

FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION BY THE COMMUNITY IN MONITORING AND SUPERVISION OPERATIONS IN THE WATERS FALLING UNDER THE SOVEREIGNTY OR WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF PORTUGAL

The Council agreed to the Decision aimed at facilitating the modernization and improvement of monitoring and supervision facilities in the fisheries sector in Portugal by means of a Community financial contribution up to a maximum of 12 MECU, representing 50% of the expenses incurred by Portugal in the period 1 January 1988 to 31 December 1989.

The Decision will be formally adopted after finalization of the texts.

RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN THIRD COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Council noted an oral report from the Commission on fisheries relations with certain international organizations and certain third countries. It heard inter alia reports on relations with Mauritania, Cape Verde, Angola and Canada.



PRESS RELEASE

6307/87 (Presse 69)

1159th Council meeting
- Economic and Financial Affairs -
Brussels, 11 May 1987

President: Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Finance
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Anders ANDERSEN Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr Palle SIMONSEN Minister for Finance

Germany:

Mr Gerhard STOLTENBERG Minister for Finance

Mr Hans TIETMEYER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Constantin SIMITIS Minister for Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr Carlos SOLCHAGA CATALAN Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance

Mr Guillermo de la DEHESA ROMERO State Secretary for Economy and Planning

France:

Mr François SCHEER Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Ireland:

Mr Ray MAC SHARRY Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER Minister attached to the Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr O.C.R. RUDING Minister for Finance

Portugal:

Mr Miguel CADILHE Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter BROOKE Minister of State, Treasury

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN Vice-President

Lord COCKFIELD Vice-President

Mr Abel MATUTES Member

COMMISSION COMMUNICATION: "MAKING A SUCCESS OF THE SINGLE ACT - A NEW FRONTIER FOR EUROPE" - 1987 BUDGET SITUATION

Following the discussion in the General Affairs Council on 26 and 27 April, the Council held an exchange of views on this Commission communication and in particular on the Commission's proposals for future Community financing, as a contribution by the Ministers for Economic and Financial Affairs to the great debate which this communication had launched on the development of the Community over the next few years.

The Council also examined the 1987 budget situation in the light of the information the Commission gave in this connection and which it intends to incorporate in the very near future in a proposal for a supplementary and amending budget.

At the close of the general discussion the President noted that the Council would resume its deliberations on this matter at its next meeting on 15 June.

The Presidency would inform the General Affairs and Agriculture Councils of proceedings within the Economic and Financial Affairs Council in order to ensure that the discussions of the Council in its different compositions were co-ordinated.

On the subject of the 1987 budgetary problems, the Presidency said it intended to convene the Budget Council at the beginning of June to examine the draft supplementary and amending budget announced by the Commission.

BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE: 1988 REFERENCE FRAMEWORK

The Council worked out an approach to the 1988 reference framework.

It intends to fix the 1988 reference framework definitively at its meeting on 15 June after meeting a delegation from the European Parliament.

FINANCIAL ENGINEERING: FINANCING OF MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURES OF EUROPEAN INTEREST

After hearing a statement by Commissioner MATUTES introducing the Commission's proposals on this subject, the Council held an initial exchange of views on the proposal.

In conclusion, it called on the Economic Policy Committee and the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the proposal and to report to it as soon as possible.

CREDIT INSURANCE AND SURETYSHIP INSURANCE

The Council held a discussion on the problems still posed by the adoption of a Directive designed to supplement the 1973 First Directive on insurance other than life assurance. The aim of the Directive under examination is to abolish the specialization requirement still in force in the Federal Republic of Germany for credit and suretyship classes by imposing additional financial guarantees, in particular an equalization reserve, on undertakings pursuing the business of credit insurance.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to work out an overall compromise solution so that the Directive could be adopted at the meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council in June..

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BUTTER STOCK DISPOSAL PROGRAMME: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR SPAIN
AND PORTUGAL

The Council heard a statement by Vice-President Christophersen introducing the Commission's report on the financial impact for Spain and Portugal of the Council Regulation laying down arrangements for a butter stock disposal programme. It took note of the initial reactions of the Spanish and Portuguese Ministers.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission communication and to report to it so that the Council could take up this dossier again at a forthcoming meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Anti-dumping measures

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on certain imports of outboard motors originating in Japan.

The Regulation imposes a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of outboard motors of up to 26 kW (35 hp) falling within subheading ex 84.06 B of the Common Customs Tariff (corresponding to Nimexe codes 84.06-10 and ex 84.06-12) and originating in Japan. The amount of the duty is equal to 22% of the cif price of the product, duty unpaid.

The Regulation provides for exclusions from the scope of the anti-dumping duty for imports of certain manufacturers and brand names which have given undertakings to make price increases sufficient to eliminate the injury to the Community industry.

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

- The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities,
- the Regulation concerning the safeguard measures provided for by the Third ACP-EEC Convention;
 - the procedure for decisions concerning the (SYSMIN) special financing facility for mineral products;
 - the extension of Regulation (EEC).No 486/85 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP States) or in the overseas countries and territories.

EEC-EFTA Relations

The Council adopted the common position on draft Decisions No 1/87 of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committees altering the limits expressed in ECU in Article 8 of Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation.

Textiles

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision concerning the conclusion of the Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of China on trade in textile products consequent on the accession of the Kingdom of Spain and the Portuguese Republic to the Community.

Appointments

The Council appointed members of the Economic and Social Committee:

- on a proposal from the German Government, Mrs Susanne TIEMANN in place of Mrs Hedda HEUSER, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 20 September 1990;
- on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Mr JEAN GAYETOT in place of Mr Alfred DELOURME for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 20 September 1990.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr Klaus SINGER, member of the Scientific and Technical Committee in place of Mr I. RASMUSSEN, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 31 March 1988.

PRESS RELEASE

6502/87 (Presse 72)

1160th meeting of the Council
and the Ministers for Education
meeting within the Council

Brussels, 14 May 1987

President: Mr Antoine DUQUESNE

Minister for Education
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Antonine DUQUESNE	Minister for Education
Mr D. COENS	Minister for Education

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER	Minister for Education
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Germany:

Mr E. BOENING	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Education
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Greece:

Mr Antonis TRITSIS	Minister for Education and Religious Affairs
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Spain:

Mr Juan Manuel ROJO ALAMINO	State Secretary for the Universities and Research
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France:

Mr René MONORY	Minister for Education
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Ireland:

Mrs Mary O'ROURKE	Minister for Education
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Italy:

Mr Domenico AMALFITANO	State Secretary for Education
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Luxembourg:

Mr Fernand BODEN

Minister for Education

Netherlands:

Mr W.J. DEETMAN

Minister for Education and Science

Portugal:

Mr Joao de DEUS PINHEIRO

Minister for Education and Culture

United Kingdom:

Mr George WALDEN

Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Education and Science

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Commission:

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

ERASMUS PROGRAMME

The Council agreed to the Decision on the European Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students (ERASMUS), which will be adopted definitively after final linguistic editing.

The main points of the programme are as follows:

- ERASMUS will be implemented from 1 July 1987. The amount estimated as necessary for implementing the programme during the period 1 July 1987 to 30 June 1990 is 85 MECU;
- before 31 December 1989, the Commission will submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the experience acquired in the application of the programme, as well as, if appropriate, a proposal to adapt it. The Council will decide on this proposal by 30 June 1990 at the latest;
- the Community will introduce a European network for university co-operation composed of universities which have concluded agreements with universities in other Member States for the purpose of organizing student exchanges for periods of study fully recognized for the award of the final diploma. Universities participating in the scheme will be entitled to receive annual support from the Community. Support will also be provided to encourage greater mobility of university teaching staff;
- an ERASMUS grants scheme will be introduced for students carrying out a period of study under the ERASMUS programme in another Member State. These grants, awarded by the Community on the basis of an amount allocated to each Member State, will be administered through the appropriate authorities in the Member States;
- steps will also be taken to improve mobility through the academic recognition of diplomas and periods of study.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING OF TEACHERS

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council adopted the conclusions on in-service training for teachers contained in Annex I.

THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council took note of an interim report and asked the Education Committee and the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit a final report as soon as possible.

ENHANCED TREATMENT OF THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION IN EDUCATION

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council took note of an interim report from the Presidency on this question. They asked the Education Committee and the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue their discussions and to submit a final report to them during 1988.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Vice-President MARIN made a statement on the educational aspects of the programmes proposed by the Commission to combat drug abuse, AIDS and cancer.

INTEGRATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN INTO ORDINARY SCHOOLS

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council adopted the conclusions set out in Annex II.

THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLITERACY

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council adopted conclusions whereby they

- took note of the report from the Education Committee on action taken by Member States and by the Commission to combat illiteracy;
- confirmed their commitment to combat illiteracy expressed in their conclusions of 4 June 1984 which followed their Resolution of 9 February 1976 comprising an action programme in the field of education;
- agreed to the work programme, which would be implemented by the Commission within the limits of its financial resources.

WORK PROGRAMME

1. The Working Party on the Campaign against Illiteracy set up by the Commission will continue to meet twice a year in Brussels to guide Community action, advise the Commission and exchange information on the situation in the Member States.
2. A European colloquium on action to combat illiteracy in the Member States will be held in September 1987.
3. Study visits, intended mainly for teacher trainers, representatives of teachers' associations, inspectors and adult literacy training instructors, involving in particular visits to associations concerned with illiteracy, particularly illiteracy among young people; a special visit for the Working Party.
4. An action research project will be conducted at pilot schools in several Member States to test some of the measures proposed at nursery, primary and lower secondary school levels. Two or three schools will be chosen in particularly disadvantaged regions of several Member States and the scheme will be monitored by a literacy specialist.
5. Organization in 1987 of a summer school where educationalists and psychologists will be able to exchange views and take stock of the research on basic learning (reading, writing and arithmetic) and of pupils in difficulty. Teachers would also be invited to take part as would adult literacy training instructors. The summer school will tackle specific aspects of the problem (for example: failure in acquiring the basic skills, assessment, relations between school and family and the contribution of the new technologies) and will also provide an opportunity for participants to acquaint themselves with the newest teaching materials.
6. Launching of studies on the positive and negative contribution of the new information technologies and the media to basic learning (reading, writing and arithmetic), on identification of the most appropriate methods for quantifying the number of illiterates, on the stages and circumstances of the progressive loss of literacy and numeracy after school and on possible remedial action to enable these skills to be recovered.
7. Examination of the means for mounting publicity campaigns.
8. The Commission will endeavour to organize measures in conjunction with the departments responsible for vocational training and with the support of the European Social Fund.

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FAILURE AT SCHOOL IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council adopted conclusions whereby:

- they noted their common concern at the failure of a significant number of young people at school;
- they called upon the Commission to submit to them a communication on this problem, giving information on the situation in the Member States (covering questions such as the definition of failure, the indicators used to measure it, the social and economic cost of failure at school, current research, preventive arrangements set in place).
- they instructed the Education Committee to examine this communication and to report back for one of their forthcoming meetings.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S BLUE BOOK ON AN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EUROPE

The French delegation presented its government's Blue Book on an educational and cultural Europe.

The ministers proposed to discuss the Blue Book in depth at their informal meeting in Denmark in the autumn and asked the Education Committee to prepare the ground for their discussions.

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The Council also heard statements from:

- the Italian Minister on the European Schools;
- the Netherlands Minister on medium-term action in the field of education;
- the Greek Minister on the importance of the Greek language and Greek thought for present-day technological and scientific development and for basic education in the Community;
- the Greek Minister on the objectives and priorities which should shape Community action on education in the next decade.

OTHER DECISIONS

Cyprus

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for fresh table grapes, falling within subheading ex 08.04 A I of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Cyprus (1987).

1. The Council and the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council earlier responded favourably to a memorandum from the Presidency concerning medium-term activities in the field of education which deals, inter alia, with teacher training.
2. They attach special importance to in-service training for teachers, in view of the current social, technological, economic and demographic changes. The stepping-up of efforts in this field matches the growing interest in continuous training for staff in business and industry.
3. They have noted with interest the Commission's study on in-service training for teachers in the twelve Member States, which was also submitted to the Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education (secretariat: Council of Europe) in Helsinki from 5 to 7 May 1987. They have asked the Commission to circulate that study widely and to update it regularly with the aid of the EURYDICE network.
4. They consider that to promote in-service training for teachers it is necessary to:
 - clarify the objectives;
 - be able to offer a variety of consistent and flexible training programmes;
 - as far as possible link in-service training programmes to professional development projects devised by the participants themselves;
 - devote increased resources to in-service training;
 - improve the continuity between initial training and in-service training.

5. They invite the Commission, in order to enrich the developments in this field in the Member States to:

- encourage meetings between organizers (regional and national) performing the same tasks in the various Member States; the first of these meetings will be held on the occasion of a university summer school in July 1987 organized by the Spanish Minister of Education in collaboration with the Commission;
- co-ordinate case studies and analyses of training strategies prepared by officials or experts in the various Member States on key points for the effectiveness of in-service training;
- hold a further meeting of senior officials to examine the results of this work;
- examine, in close collaboration with the Education Committee, other initiatives regarded as necessary in the field of in-service training for teachers.

In all of this work account should continue to be taken of the activities of the OECD and the Council of Europe in the field of teacher training. Close links should also be established with the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) on teacher training.

6. They invite the Commission to submit a report on the results of the action undertaken, by 31 December 1989.

THE COUNCIL AND THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

note, on the basis of a report by the Education Committee, the progress made on the integration of handicapped children into ordinary schools since the adoption of their conclusions on this subject on 4 June 1984;

reaffirm the importance of achieving the maximum possible integration of handicapped children into ordinary schools, as well as the main measures mentioned in those conclusions concerning elimination of physical obstacles, training of teachers, development of school curricula and gaining understanding among families and the local community;

emphasize the need to continue working on the conclusions in the context of the Community programme for the general social integration of handicapped people;

agree that future work at the levels of the Member States and the European Community should also take into account the considerations concerning future work on the integration of handicapped children into ordinary schools submitted by the Education Committee;

approve in principle the four-year programme of European collaboration and exchange in support of Member State action (attached). This programme will be carried out by the Commission within the limits of its financial means, and with all necessary assistance from Member States;

agree to the Commission proposal to renew the mandate of the working party on the integration of handicapped children into ordinary schools, so that it can finalize the abovementioned programme and supervise its operation;

invite the Commission to ensure, during the implement of the programme:

- close co-ordination with the action programme in favour of the social and economic integration and independent living of handicapped people;
- particular attention to problems of transition from school to adult and working life in all the principal elements of the programme;

invite the Commission to submit at the end of the period concerned a report on progress in the Member States and on the programme of collaboration and exchange at Community level.

INTEGRATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN INTO
ORDINARY SCHOOLS

Four year programme
of European collaboration and exchange,
to be carried out by the Commission
in support of Member State action

- A. Examination of the following themes common to all school levels and to all disabilities :
1. Special systems and integrated situations ;
 2. Teachers and parents ;
 3. The classroom ;
 4. A full school life.

Details of the four themes were supplied by the Education Committee.

- B. Selection by the Commission, on the basis of proposals by Member States, of twenty existing local experiences/ situations illustrating significant integration and having features of particular relevance to one of more of the four themes. These themes could then be analysed more realistically in the light of material gathered, and solutions having wide applicability could be identified.
- The following networking services would be offered to collaborating schools :
- study visit programme (about 80 of the 100 additional places for special education provided for in the 1988 budget)
 - annual seminar for "project" leaders ;
 - participation for two or more "project" team members in annual theme - based conference ;
 - documentation, information and advisory services of the Commission's consultants, as well as regular newsletter.
- C. Appropriate use of EURYDICE and the already existing HANDYNET data base for the handicapped for specific points concerning the education of handicapped children.
- D. Continuing attention to optimising the contribution of new technology to the education of children with disabilities, especially in the context of integration.
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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

1161st meeting of the Council

- Development Co-operation -

Brussels, 14 May 1987

President: Mr. Etienne KNOOPS
State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Trade
Kingdom of Belgium

The official press release was unavailable. A summary of the related ACP meeting has been reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 5-1987

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
1161st Brussels 14 May	Development cooperation	Mr Knoops	Mr Natali	Preparation for ACP-EEC Council of Ministers meeting (14 and 15 May) ⁶

ACP-EEC

2.2.38. The 12th session of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers, held in Brussels on 14 and 15 May, was chaired by Mrs Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica and President of the Council of ACP Ministers.¹ The Community delegation was led by Mr Leo Tindemans, Belgian Foreign Minister and President of the Council of the European Communities, and Mr Paul de Keersmaeker, Belgian State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture; the Commission was represented by Mr Natali.

The most important item on the agenda concerned the negotiation of the Protocol of Accession of Spain and Portugal to Lomé III. Ministers concluded nearly 18 months of negotiations by reaching agreement on the conditions of accession.

During a seven-year transitional period Spain and Portugal will apply to imports of industrial products from the ACP States virtually the same transitional measures as they apply to imports from the Ten. The transitional measures applied to imports of agricultural products from the ACP States, particularly in the case of imports into Spain, will also be largely identical to those applied to imports from the Ten.

During the negotiations the Community made a number of significant improvements in the trade arrangements for imports from the ACP States during the transitional period, particularly in terms of improved access for ACP industrial and agricultural (especially tropical) products to the Spanish and Portuguese markets and to the wider Community market. It was agreed that the Protocol of Accession would be applied provisionally as soon as the existing transitional arrangements expire, i.e. from 1 July.² There are to be further talks on rice

and sugar in connection with the enlargement of the Community.

As regards southern Africa, the ACP States pressed the Community to isolate South Africa completely, notably by means of tougher sanctions, and called for a ministerial meeting to be held in November. The President of the Council and the Commission reiterated the position of the Twelve and referred to the measures taken against South Africa to help the SADCC countries and victims of apartheid in South Africa and Namibia.

The session also provided an opportunity for the Community and the ACP States to hold consultations on the Uruguay Round negotiations,³ and to have an informal exchange of views on Unctad VII⁴ and the follow-up to the United Nations special session on Africa held last year.⁵ The Council of Ministers also examined the scope for stabilizing the terms for importing Community cereals into the ACP States and called for a decision to be taken soon. The Community was ready to act on this question.

The ACP States expressed their concern about the Commission proposal for taxing oils and fats,⁶ the state of the coffee market and proposals concerning the sugar price, and were given detailed explanations concerning these items. The ACP States vigorously defended their interests in relation to the fixing of new coffee quotas: they received an assurance that their interests would be given serious consideration and that the quotas would be fixed on the basis of objective criteria.

Talks were also held on a number of topics bearing on trade cooperation, the Stabex system, investment, ACP indebtedness and

¹ Bull. EC 4-1986, point 2.2.57.

² OJ L 380, 31.12.1986; Bull. EC 12-1986, point 2.2.28; Bull. EC 4-1986, point 2.2.57; OJ L 63, 5.3.1986; Bull. EC 2-1986, point 2.2.26.

³ Bull. EC 9-1986, point 1.4.1 *et seq.*

⁴ Bull. EC 1-1987, point 2.2.25; Bull. EC 2-1987, point 2.2.23.

⁵ Bull. EC 5-1986, point 2.2.40.

⁶ Bull. EC 2-1987, point 1.2.14.

the treatment of ACP national in Member States. The ACP-EEC Council of Ministers also agreed to consult ACP-EEC business and workers' representatives. It adopted the report of the 'Lomé III Article 193 Committee' on financial cooperation, approved the conclusions of evaluation exercises carried out on EDF-financed projects and made progress on the examination of general conditions for EDF contracts.

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PRESS RELEASE

6503/87 (Presse 73)

1162nd meeting of the Council
and of the Ministers for Health
meeting within the Council

Brussels, 15 May 1987

President: Mrs W. DEMEESTER-DE MEYER
State Secretary
for Public Health
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mrs W. DEMEESTER-DE MEYER State Secretary for Public Health

Denmark:

Mr Knud ENNGAARD Minister for the Interior

Germany:

Mrs Rita SUESSMUTH Federal Minister for Youth,
Family Affairs and Health

Greece:

Mr Elias LYMBEROPOULOS Deputy Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Julian GARCIA VARGAS Minister for Health and Consumer
Affairs

France:

Mrs M. BARZACH Minister attached to the Minister
for Social Affairs, with
responsibility for Health

Ireland:

Mr Rory O'HANLON Minister for Health

Italy:

Mr Carlo DONAT CATTIN Minister for Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Benny BERG Minister for Health and Social
Security

Netherlands:

Mr D.J.D. DEES

State Secretary for Welfare,
Health and Cultural Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Antonio Luis BAPTISTA PEREIRA

State Secretary to the Minister
for Health

United Kingdom

Baroness TRUMPINGTON

Under-Secretary of State for
Health and Social Security

Commission:

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

FIGHT AGAINST AIDS

The Council and the Ministers for Health held a broad exchange of views on all of the problems raised by AIDS on the basis of a communication submitted by the Commission.

The exchange of views closed with the adoption by the Council and the Ministers for Health of the following conclusions:

"The Council and the Ministers for Health meeting within the Council:

- consider that, since AIDS is a public health problem, the fight against this disease must be based on considerations of that ilk and represents a priority "international cause" in the field of public health;
- reaffirm, in this context, that the Community has a specific role to play in ongoing co-operation with the Member States and in consultation with the WHO, while avoiding duplication of effort;
- confirm their particular commitment to full respect for the principles of freedom of movement of persons and equal treatment as laid down in the Treaties;
- consider it necessary, by means of reciprocal information and appropriate co-ordination, to prevent contradictory national policies from being developed in regard to third-country nationals;
- stress the ineffectiveness, in terms of prevention, of any policy of systematic and compulsory screening, in particular during health checks at frontiers;

- consider it necessary to prevent the development of contradictory national policies which might give rise to discrimination;
- authorize the convening of an ad hoc Working Party of public health officials concerned, within the Member States, with the fight against AIDS, with the participation of the Commission, in order to draw up as soon as possible a common strategy leading to a plan of action to be adopted at Community level by the Member States;
- consider it necessary to create within the Community a flexible and lightweight structure providing logistic support for the aforementioned ad hoc Working Party and following up the proposals adopted by the Ministers for Health;
- stress the need for a permanent link with the research programme;
- acknowledge the importance of systematic access to reliable epidemiological data for preparing the political decisions to be taken;
- stress the need to draw up common methods of assessment relating to the measures which are taken in the Community on proposals from the ad hoc Working Party;
- authorize the introduction of arrangements for systematically informing international travellers about AIDS.

On this basis, they instruct the abovementioned ad hoc Working Party to focus its initial discussions on the following aspects:

1. proposing a procedure for ensuring at Community level:
 - (a) a rapid exchange of epidemiological data;
 - (b) mutual information about the scientific initiatives and the technical, administrative and legal measures envisaged or adopted by the Member States;

2. proposing Community measures to combat AIDS;
 3. drawing up methods of assessment relating to the measures taken by the Community,
- and to report regularly to the Council on these proceedings."

FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

1. The Council discussed in detail the Commission communication entitled " 'Europe against cancer' programme - proposal for a plan of action 1987-1989".
2. Following this discussion and pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council and the Ministers for Health confirmed their agreement of principle to the proposal for a Decision contained in that communication and entitled: "Plan of action 1987-1989 for an information and public awareness campaign in the context of the 'Europe against cancer' programme".
3. They instructed the Permanent Representatives to continue examination of the amount considered necessary to implement the proposed measures.

The Council and the Ministers also called upon the Commission to submit to them the proposals needed to implement the other measures outlined in the Commission communication.

4. Finally, the Chair proposed a ban on smoking in public places in the Member States (from 1 January 1989) and in Community institution buildings (from 1 September 1987).

EUROPEAN EMERGENCY HEALTH CARD

The Council and the Ministers for Health reported on progress regarding the introduction into the Member States of the European emergency health card provided for in their Resolution of 29 May 1986.

They went on to discuss the prospects for and problems in connection with the computerization of the European emergency health card and other questions relating to the computerization of medical data.

MUTUAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT OF A NUCLEAR DISASTER

The Council and the Ministers for Health discussed the introduction of a system of mutual medical assistance among the Member States which would provide prompt assistance for victims of a nuclear disaster. They agreed to continue this discussion at their next meeting, in conjunction with an examination of the outcome of discussions on the proposal for a Decision on a Community early warning system in the event of abnormally high levels of radioactivity or a nuclear disaster.

OTHER DECISIONS IN THE HEALTH FIELD

Improvement in the use of proprietary medicinal products by the consumer

The Council adopted the conclusions on improvement of the use of proprietary medicinal products by consumers.

In these conclusions, the Commission and the Member States were asked to study the possibility of making more systematic the use, and more legible and intelligible the content, of the consumer information leaflets accompanying proprietary medicinal products placed on the market in the Community, the purpose being particularly to encourage the secure and appropriate use of such products and to satisfy the consumer's right to be properly informed.

The Commission was requested to submit a report containing the conclusions of studies, experience and consultations, accompanied, if appropriate, by suitable proposals concerning the information for doctors and patients, envisaged in its White Paper on the completion of the internal market.

Action in the health field to combat the use of illicit drugs

The Council and the Ministers for Health noted the Commission communication on the preparatory measures which the Commission proposes taking in 1988 and 1989.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

EEC-EFTA relations

The Council approved the signing of 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.

Appointment

On a proposal from the German Government, the Council appointed Mr Christian THIEME an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Education and Training in the field of Architecture in place of Mr Hubert KRAUS for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 22 March 1990.

PRESS RELEASE

6571/87 (Presse 76)

1163rd Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 18, 19 and 20 May 1987

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs
and Agriculture of the
Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Ms Britta SCHALL HOLBERG Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walther FLORIAN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of 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 François GUILLAUME Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN

State Secretary,
Minister of Agriculture and
Viticulture

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 Michael JOPLING

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John GUMMER

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

FIXING OF AGRICULTURE PRICES AND RELATED MEASURES FOR 1987/1988

On the basis of guidelines put forward by the Presidency, the Council continued its discussions on the fixing of agricultural prices and certain related measures for 1987/1988, concentrating in particular on the key questions of agri-monetary measures, vegetable oils and fats, cereals, and fruit and vegetables.

After three days of debate, it felt that further time for consideration was needed before it could embark on the final stage of the negotiations.

The Council accordingly agreed to resume its discussions at 15.00 on Sunday 24 May 1987.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- opening for 1987, as an autonomous measure, a special import tariff quota (8 000 tonnes at 20% duty) for high-quality, fresh, chilled or frozen beef falling within subheadings 02.01 A II a) and 02.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 on the common organization of the market in wine. The purpose of this amendment is to define the wine-growing areas of Spain following Spanish accession to the Community;
- concerning certain adjustments to the arrangements applied to the Canary Islands. This Regulation is designed to implement the Council's agreement concerning the future arrangements for imports from the Canary Islands agreed in the context of the decisions on relations with Mediterranean third countries.

Fisheries policy

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

- Community financial participation with regard to the facilities for the monitoring and supervision of fishing activities in waters falling under the sovereignty or within the jurisdiction of Portugal;

- a Community financial contribution to the development of the monitoring and supervision facilities necessary for implementing the Community arrangements for the conservation of fishery resources.

(See Press Release No 6197/87 Presse 63.)

The Council went on to adopt, in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Decision on the allocation of the catch possibilities for cod in the Spitzbergen and Bear Island area and in Division 3M as defined in the NAFO Convention;
- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4034/86 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches for 1987 and certain conditions under which they may be fished;
- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 500/87 fixing catch possibilities for 1987 for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the Regulatory Area as defined in the NAFO Convention.

(See Press Release No 6197/87 Presse 63.)

Atomic questions

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Decision approving amendment of the Statutes (articles of partnership) of the joint undertaking "Société d'énergie nucléaire franco-belge des Ardennes (SENA)".

ECSC

The Council gave its assent:

- pursuant to Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty to the implementation and carrying out of a coal research programme (financial year 1987);
- to a draft Commission Decision granting financial aid for steel research projects pursuant to Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty.

Appointments

The Council appointed:

- on a proposal from the French Government, Mr Rémy GATTI, member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers, in place of Mrs M.-L. CESARI-WALCH, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 27 November 1987;
- on a proposal from the Italian Government, Mr Giuseppe MARTINEZ, member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training, in place of Mr R. CIANNARELLI, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 14 July 1987.

PRESS RELEASE

6732/87 (Presse 81)

1163rd Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 24, 25 and 26 May 1987
(continuing the meeting on 18, 19 and 20 May 1987)

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs
and Agriculture of the
Kingdom of Belgium

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

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 Michael JOPLING

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN

Vice-President

FIXING OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND RELATED MEASURES (1987/1988)

After long negotiations on the fixing of agricultural prices and related measures for 1987/1988, the Council noted that, while some progress had been made, a political agreement was not yet possible at this stage in the discussion and that further work was necessary.

It therefore agreed to resume its discussions on the subject on 15 June 1987 in Luxembourg.

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The Council decided in the meantime to extend the current marketing years for:

- milk and milk products: up to and including 30 June 1987;
- beef and veal: up to and including 5 July 1987.

It also agreed to extend by one month - up to and including 30 June 1987 - the suspension of part of the monetary compensatory amounts concerning the United Kingdom and France in the eggs and poultry sector.

With regard to dried fodder, cauliflowers, tomatoes, lemons, peaches and apricots, the Commission announced its intention of taking the necessary precautionary measures to ensure continuity in the operation of the market organization.

OTHER AGRICULTURAL DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas (1987):

- for tomatoes, cucumbers and aubergines falling within heading ex 07.01 of the CCT and originating in the Canary Islands;
- for beans of the species Phaseolus, onions and sweet peppers falling within heading ex 07.01 of the CCT and originating in the Canary Islands;
- for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II of the CCT and originating in the Canary islands;
- for certain live plants falling within subheadings ex 06.01 A, 06.02 A II and ex 06.02 D of the CCT and originating in the Canary Islands;
- for fresh flowers falling within subheading 06.03 A of the CCT and originating in the Canary Islands;
- for fresh table grapes falling within subheading ex 08.04 A I a) 2 of the CCT and originating in the Canary islands.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation establishing Community supervision of imports of certain agricultural products originating in the Canary Islands.

PRESS RELEASE

6574/87 (Presse 79)

1164th meeting of the Council

- Development Co-operation -

Brussels, 21 May 1987

President: Mr Etienne KNOOPS
State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Trade
of the Kingdom of Belgium

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS

State Secretary,
Foreign Affairs and Co-operation

Netherlands:

Mr P. BUKMAN

Minister for Development Co-operation

Portugal:

Mr Eduardo E. CASTRO
AZEVEDO SOARES

State Secretary,
Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mr Robert AINSCOW

Deputy Undersecretary,
Overseas Development Administration

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Commission:

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY OF DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

- Council conclusions

The Council examined with interest a Commission paper on this subject presented by Vice-President NATALI. As a result of this examination, it adopted the following conclusions:

The importance of increasing public awareness

1. The Council recognizes that increasing public awareness of co-operation and development issues is an essential basis for the efforts made by the industrialized countries to support economic and social progress in the developing countries; that official aid programmes and other specific action to help these countries require the public's support; that the Community and the Member States must take responsibility for fostering such support by improving understanding of the programmes and of the international co-operation framework within which they are implemented.

The Council has also noted that certain international organizations are concerned to inform the public and increase its awareness, an important instance of this being the European publicity campaign to be organized in the Spring of 1988 by the Council of Europe.

2. While public support can be counted on for emergency or short-term humanitarian actions, the same does not always apply, because of their complexity, to longer-term development issues and efforts based on the relationship of inter-dependence between North and South.

Moreover, public opinion in the European Community countries has difficulty in grasping the overall magnitude of the European effort as a whole in the area of development co-operation as well as of the individual action taken by the other Member States or by the Community. The same is true of the achievements of the developing countries themselves.

Although the problem is not equally acute in all the Member States, the Council feels that efforts should be made in future to remedy the situation.

Priority aims and topics

3. The Council feels that efforts to inform the public and increase its awareness should focus mainly on the following aims and topics.

- (a) to explain to the public what is at stake in North/South co-operation;
- (b) to present and bring home to the public the realities of the situation in Third World countries, the diversity of their situations, the difficulties which impede their development, the efforts they have made to overcome their difficulties and the progress achieved. Cultural exchanges can play a useful role here;
- (c) to provide details of action and initiatives undertaken as part of bilateral or Community co-operation policies, with regard both to aims and results;
- (d) to explain the broader implications of European co-operation in the Third World.

The need for increased collaboration at European level

4. Although they often have limited financial backing, the means which must be brought into play for this purpose are many and varied. They exist at government and official level in all the Member States and in the Community institutions, particularly the Commission. They also exist at the more decentralized level of education systems, the NGOs, regional or local authority bodies and of certain professional groups. Finally, they exist in the media themselves, which can have a considerable day-to-day impact on opinion.

5. While taking note of the action to date at these various levels and underlining the importance of continued and improved action concentrating on the priority aims and topics set out above, the Council considers that there are also many areas in which a multiplier effect might be obtained at European level by encouraging the various agents concerned to collaborate more closely by introducing a simple and non-compulsory process of exchanging experience and information which would enable existing potential to be tapped to the fullest extent.

6. In this connection, the Council notes with interest the possible areas mentioned in the Commission communication by way of illustration for national action and for collaboration between equivalent national and Community departments, namely exchanges of views, of experience and of material, the joint production of material, activities co-ordinated with other European or international organizations, efforts to inform and increase awareness of development issues (for example, action in schools, action with the possible involvement of NGOs, local authorities, professional groups and youth associations).

7. The Council considers that these possibilities and, where appropriate, others not yet identified at this stage are worthy of closer and more systematic examination by national and Community experts, and therefore asks the Commission to convene and hold the meetings necessary for this purpose.

The Council agrees to study and evaluate at a future meeting the outcome of such an examination and any specific proposals for action which may be submitted to it as necessary.

ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on this subject at the close of which it adopted the following conclusions:

1. The Council recognizes the importance of the role of a healthy and prosperous private sector for the balanced, successful development of the economy generally. It notes with satisfaction that many developing countries themselves have for a number of years shown increasingly clear and explicit recognition of the importance of that role.

2. The Community and its Member States have not been inactive in this area. Among the instruments created to promote and support investment and development of the private sector are certain forms of financial and technical co-operation, the European Investment Bank, the Centre for the Development of Industry (ACP-EEC) and instruments set up by Member States.

The Council nevertheless recognizes that, in view moreover of developments in current thinking in this area, there is a need to re-examine the policies pursued and the instruments used from the standpoint of stepping up and improving the effectiveness of the efforts and measures undertaken, in consultation with those of its partners wishing to embark upon this course of action.

3. The Council emphasizes that efforts to encourage the domestic and/or foreign private sector must be designed to complement and not to replace existing efforts and in no way imply any withdrawal by the Community and its Member States from their responsibilities in the field of official development assistance. The Council also considers that an efficient public sector provides a favourable framework for a growing private sector role in the development process.

4. The Council is mindful of the differences in situation between developing countries and of the variety of obstacles in the way of the domestic and foreign private sector's contribution towards development. The most serious of those obstacles is a discouraging economic environment. The Council considers that the progress to be made in this respect is of decisive importance.

5. With regard to existing potential for action and co-operation, the Council believes that efforts by the Community and the Member States will have to cover the following sectors:
 - (i) first of all, agriculture and the rural world:
the agricultural production sector as such, together with related sectors upstream (production and distribution of agricultural inputs) or downstream (processing of products, storage and distribution of agricultural produce), or the development of the rural world in the broad sense (production and marketing of everyday consumer goods);

(ii) industry, where - in view of the small scale of the market in many developing countries - the priority call should be for action in respect of small and medium-sized undertakings, concentrating primarily on covering the abovementioned agricultural and rural needs and rehabilitating existing industrial units. Such action should also take into account the possibilities afforded by the development of South-South trade and regional co-operation;

(iii) services, particularly in the sphere of tourism, the marketing of agricultural products and inputs, transport, financial services (collection of savings, decentralized credit networks, insurance, information, training and technical assistance for SMUs, etc.), and in other areas in which private sector services may prove worthwhile and be encouraged to a greater extent than in the past (urban transport, water and energy supply, construction and maintenance of economic and social infrastructure).

6. The Council also confirms the importance of the role of co-operation between undertakings from the EEC and developing countries and of foreign investment and the advantages which they can have for the development of countries wishing to seek recourse to them as a privileged tool for the transfer of know-how (in the organization of production, technology adaptation, management, marketing, training of executive and skilled staff, etc.) and as a possible catalyst for further inflows of resources. The Council considers that medium and even small-sized European undertakings should constitute an instrument especially suited to this form of co-operation.

7. The Council calls upon its subordinate bodies, the Member States and the Commission to intensify their thinking on the contribution which the private sector can make towards development. Discussion, in which greater participation on the part of private operators in the Community would be desirable, should focus in particular on:

- support for the structural reforms mentioned above, with the aim of creating a more stimulating economic environment;
- intervention in the framework of technical and financial assistance;
- encouragement of co-operation between undertakings from the EEC and developing countries, principally in the case of European small and medium-sized undertakings;
- promotion and protection of investments and intellectual property.

The Council requests the Commission to submit at a later date both the outcome of this examination and any more specific proposals.

COMBATING AIDS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - Council conclusions

1. The Council, having taken note of a statement by the Vice-President of the Commission, Mr NATALI, stresses that the problem of AIDS is a major public health concern in every continent in the world, both in the developed and in the developing countries.

The situation in the developing countries is all the more alarming in that they largely lack the technical and financial resources to undertake the necessary preventive measures.

2. In order to help combat this scourge in those countries which ask for such help, the Vice-President of the Commission has proposed the implementation of a "Community programme to combat AIDS in the developing countries", the main aspects of which are as follows:

- the main objective, given that it is not yet possible to cure the disease or contain it by vaccination, will be to protect those not infected by the virus;
- action will be directed at responding swiftly to the proposals made by the WHO in its "Special Programme on AIDS" which is based in particular on the implementation of national programmes aimed essentially at strengthening the health care schemes through which AIDS must be combatted;

- this programme will be kept very flexible so that it can be adapted very rapidly to the realities of a constantly changing situation: technical advances, social attitudes to the disease, features peculiar to various countries and the need to integrate into international co-ordination;
- action could for instance be taken to
 - = reduce transmission through blood (blood-bank screening, etc.), through sexual contact (information and education campaigns) and through injections (professional hygiene measures, provision of sterilizing equipment, etc.)
 - = assess the impact of the programme and study the evolution of the disease, conduct operational research into the incidence of AIDS and the dangers and methods of transmission
- this programme will be able to mobilize technical support in particular via NGOs and European hospitals and research centres, preferably in the context of inter-institutional co-operation with their opposite numbers in the developing countries.

3. The Council welcomes the Commission's initiative, as expressed in Vice-President NATALI's oral communication. It notes the Commission's intention to make appropriate financial provision from funds at the Community's disposal. Consequently, it requests the Commission to make proposals rapidly in this respect, according to the usual Community procedures.

4. The Council emphasizes the need for close co-ordination of the Community programme, including the programmes on Medical and Health Research and Science and Technology for Development, with the measures taken by organizations and donors active in this field and with those taken by the Member States.

It calls in particular upon the Commission to co-ordinate its action closely with that of the WHO so that it dovetails with the special Programme on AIDS drawn up by the WHO.

The Council also welcomes the Commission's stated intention of holding regular meetings with Member States' experts in order to take stock of the implementation of the Community programme and to co-ordinate it with the bilateral action which the Member States are undertaking for their part. In this context the Commission will ensure that a working link is established with the other working parties of experts concerned and in particular the one which was set up following the Health Council meeting on 15 May 1987.

PREPARATIONS FOR UNCTAD VII

The Ministers for Development Co-operation held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the preparations for UNCTAD VII which will be held in July in Geneva with a view to the General Affairs Council defining the Community guidelines for the Conference at its June meeting.

Following the discussions the President noted in particular

- the importance of the forthcoming UNCTAD Conference which is an important instrument in the dialogue between developed and developing countries;
- the willingness of all delegations to approach the Conference in an open, pragmatic and realistic frame of mind;
- the wish that the Conference be an occasion for a new type of dialogue which could contribute to the strengthening of international economic co-operation;
- the need during the Conference debates to devote particular attention to the poorest developing countries, whose development prospects are severely affected by debt-servicing problems and their excessive dependence on exports of raw materials.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LOME III

The Council heard a statement by Vice-President NATALI taking stock of the programming of Community aid under Lomé III and its implementation.

THIRD EEC-CENTRAL AMERICA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The Council heard a report by the Commission on the outcome of the third EEC-Central America Ministerial conference which was held on 9 and 10 February 1987 in Guatemala City; it also took note of the comments made by various delegations on the subject.

EVALUATION OF AID

The Council took note of a report by Vice-President NATALI on the progress of proceedings in this sphere. In view of the importance it attached to improving the effectiveness of aid evaluation, it agreed to hold a substantive discussion at its next meeting.

ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

After taking note of an introductory statement by Mr NATALI, the Council agreed on the following conclusions:

The Council - recalling its conclusions of 6 November 1984 on the environmental dimension in the Community's development policy, and of 17 April 1986 on a European plan for the protection of natural resources and the fight against desertification in Africa - invites the Commission to report on progress made in integrating environmental issues in the Community's development policy, including proposed policy guidelines for the future and any desirable changes in project appraisal, in time for substantive discussion of the report at the next Development Council.

SITUATION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

The Council heard a statement by Minister AURILLAC on the serious financial and economic situation of sub-Saharan Africa.

The Commission said it would submit a report to the Council on this matter.

CO-ORDINATION OF AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Council heard a statement by Minister BUKMAN on the importance of harmonizing procedures for the granting of aid by the various donors in order, in particular, to simplify the task of the authorities of the recipient countries.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Food aid

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation laying down implementing rules for Regulation (EEC) No 3972/86 on food aid policy and food aid management.

This Regulation indicates in particular the countries and organizations eligible for food aid as well as the criteria for meeting transport costs.

Aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision on the conclusion of the Convention between the European Economic Community and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) concerning aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East.

The Convention confirms the Community's commitment to continue its aid to Palestinian refugees under the UNRWA aid programme. Such aid will take the form of contributions in kind or in cash extending over a three-year period for use under the UNRWA education and food programmes.

The Community will pay to UNRWA annually an amount of 20 million ECU for 1987, 1988 and 1989 as a contribution to the financing of the education programme.

The amount and form of the Community contribution to the UNRWA food programmes (programme for the distribution of rations to special hardship cases, food programme in training centres and supplementary food programme) are defined by the Community each year as part of its food aid programmes in keeping with the requests submitted by UNRWA.

Relations with ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the application of Decision No 1/87 of the ACP-EEC Customs Co-operation Committee derogating from the definition of the concept of originating products to take account of the special situation in Fiji with regard to its production of canned tuna.

Textiles

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4134/86 on import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Taiwan.

PRESS RELEASE

... 6572/87 (Presse 77)

1165th meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Brussels, 21/22 May 1987

President:

Mrs Miet SMET

State Secretary for the Environment
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mrs Miet SMET State Secretary for the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Christian CHRISTENSEN Minister for the Environment and
Minister for Nordic Affairs

Mr BUNGAARD-NIELSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of the Environment

Germany:

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

Greece :

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

Spain :

Mr Javier SAENZ COSCULLUELA Minister for Public Works and
Town Planning

France :

Mr Jean CADET Deputy Permanent Representative

Ireland:

Mr Padraig FLYNN Minister for the Environment

Italy :

Mr Georgio POSTAL State Secretary for 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 VALENTE de OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and
Territorial Environment
Administration

United Kingdom:

Mr William WALDEGRAVE

Minister for Environment,
Countryside and Planning

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o

Commission:

Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS

Member

DISCHARGES OF ALDRIN, DIELDRIN AND ENDRIN INTO THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT

As part of the measures to combat the pollution of water by dangerous substances, and pending the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, the Council reached a common position on the amended proposal for a Directive concerning limit values for discharges of aldrin, dieldrin and endrin into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for these products in the aquatic environment.

WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR CHROMIUM

The Council held an initial discussion on the basis of a progress report on the proposal for a Directive, which is aimed at harmonizing national programmes to reduce water pollution by chromium. This proposal provides, in particular, for Community quality objectives for this substance, and a common reference method for measurement. It is in fact the first proposal for a Directive submitted for List II of the basic Directive (76/464/EEC) on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment.

At the close of this discussion, the Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on this proposal in order to find solutions to the questions still outstanding.

ACTION BY THE COMMUNITY RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT (ACE)

The Council agreed to the Regulation, the aim of which is to extend the existing Regulation, No 1872/84, which provides for Community financing of certain measures on the environment.

The main features of this agreement are as follows:

1. The Regulation will be of four years' duration.
2. The Regulation will provide that the amount considered necessary for this period will be 24 MECU. That amount could be reviewed after one year on a Commission proposal and on the basis of a report on the experience gained.

The appropriations will be entered in the general budget of the European Communities.

3. In the third year, the Council, acting unanimously on a Commission proposal, will decide whether to extend and adapt the Regulation.
4. The scope of the Regulation will cover:
 - (a) demonstration projects aimed at developing new clean technologies, i.e. technologies which cause little or no pollution and which may also be more economical in the use of natural resources;
 - (b) demonstration projects aimed at developing techniques for recycling and re-using waste, including waste water;

- (c) demonstration projects aimed at developing techniques for locating and restoring sites contaminated by hazardous wastes or hazardous substances;
- (d) demonstration projects aimed at developing new techniques and methods for measuring and monitoring the quality of the natural environment;
- (e) projects providing an incentive and aimed at contributing towards the maintenance of re-establishment of seriously threatened biotopes which are the habitat of endangered species and are of particular importance to the Community, under Directive 79/409/EEC;
- (f) projects providing an incentive and aimed at contributing towards the protection or re-establishment of land threatened or damaged by fire, erosion and desertification.

5. The rate of the Community's contribution to the measures financed under this Regulation will not exceed:

- 30% for projects covered by Article 1(1)(a), (b) and (c) (clean technologies, waste recycling/re-use techniques, locating and restoring contaminated sites);
- 50% for other projects;
- 75%, exceptionally, in the case of projects covered by Article 1(1)(e) provided they are related to species in danger of extinction in the Community.

6. The management arrangements will be in accordance with those provided for in the existing Regulation.

LEAD IN PETROL

Pending receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament, and in order to reduce the harm caused to the environment and public health by lead, the Council confirmed its common position with regard to the Directive which lays down the conditions under which a Member State may prohibit the marketing of regular leaded petrol.

The Council undertook to take a final decision on this Directive once the Opinion of the European Parliament is delivered.

LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS

The Council resumed its discussions on the proposal for a Directive on the limitation of pollutant emissions into the air from large combustion plants.

It noted with satisfaction that significant progress had been made in the area of checks to be made on new installations and that all delegations had acknowledged the reduction levels of SO₂ emissions to be achieved by each one with regard to existing installations, although the dates to be set for the various reduction stages had still to be agreed on. It invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue work on this dossier, on the assumption that there would be a Directive covering these two aspects.

PARTICULATE EMISSIONS FROM DIESEL ENGINES FITTED TO PRIVATE CARS

The Council again discussed in detail the main problems arising in connection with the proposed Directive, in particular the problem of the standards to be established for the first stage.

This examination indicated that testing methods and their manner of application could differ somewhat from one Member State to another; this would explain the divergent assessments of the level of particulate emissions from cars currently available on the market - these being the emission levels which constitute for each Member State the point of reference for standards to be envisaged for the future.

In these circumstances it was thought desirable that, before continuing the political discussion on this problem, precise information should be obtained on the testing methods applied in the different Member States and the degree to which these methods were comparable; to this end it was agreed that the Commission would call a meeting of the heads of the laboratories directly involved in this type of testing.

CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS

The Council considered the various issues outstanding in connection with the negotiations for a Protocol on Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Environment.

At the close of the discussion, the President:

- noted the Council's satisfaction at the progress of negotiations in Geneva and confirmed that the ensuing texts constituted a sound basis for further discussion;
- noted that the position expressed by the Community in Geneva continued to provide a good starting point, but that certain aspects could be reconsidered in the light of the positions adopted by the partners in the negotiations; here the Community should in particular give further thought to the problem of the scope and the third control measure;
- invited the Commission to continue negotiations in close consultation with the Member States and to report back to the Council on results in order for the Council to take a final decision.

EXPORT FROM AND IMPORT INTO THE COMMUNITY OF CERTAIN DANGEROUS CHEMICALS

The Council held a constructive discussion on the proposal concerning Community exports and imports of certain dangerous chemicals, during which considerable progress was made.

At the close of discussion, the Council requested the Permanent Representatives Committee actively to pursue its proceedings in this area in order that the Council might reach final agreement at its next meeting.

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Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

"The Council notes that the World Commission on Environment and Development presented its report to the Member States and the Commission and to the member countries of EFTA on 5 May 1987.

The Council congratulates the World Commission for its comprehensive and in-depth study of sustainable development, and notes with appreciation the attention given to the mutual interdependence of economic development and environmental protection.

The Council refers to the Single European Act, which stipulates that action by the Community relating to the environment shall be based on the principles that preventive action should be taken, environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source, and the polluter should pay, and that environmental protection requirements shall be a component of the Community's other policies.

The Council also refers to the commitments made, inter alia, in the framework of the Third Lomé Convention "to protect the environment and restore natural balances" and to the results obtained in this field and recalls its resolution of 17 April 1986 on a European plan for the protection of natural resources - fight against desertification in Africa.

The Council calls on the Commission and the Member States to think constructively about the conclusions of the Report by the World Commission, in the light of the results obtained in the United Nations, taking account of the multisector approach in the Report."

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The Council also heard the following statements:

- Proposal concerning the long-term minimum quality of Community waters
= oral progress report by the Commission

- Nuclear safety: environmental aspects
= oral report by the Commission on the action taken in response to the conclusions of the Council meeting (Environment) on 19 November 1986

- Proposal for the extension of the Council Directive amending Directive 82/501/EEC on the major-accident hazards of certain industrial activities
= oral progress report by the Commission

- Possible informal meeting of EEC/EFTA Ministers
= oral communication from the Presidency

- National plan of action as part of the campaign to combat pollution of the aquatic environment
= memorandum from the Danish delegation

- Elimination of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry
= memorandum from the Belgian delegation

- Road and rail transport
= statement by the Luxembourg delegation on a new national draft law

- 4th action programme on the environment
= statement by the Presidency

- Environmental consequences of the disaster which overtook
the Herald of Free Enterprise
= statement by the Belgian delegation

- Speed limits
= Commission statement

- European Year of the Environment
= Commission statement

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decision on the environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3626/82 on the implementation in the Community of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

PRESS RELEASE

6733/87 (Presse 82)

1166th Council meeting

- Civil Protection -

Brussels, 25 May 1987

President: Mr Joseph MICHEL

Minister for the Interior, the Civil Service
and Decentralization of
the Kingdom of Belgium

Italy:

Mr Guiseppe ZAMBERLETTI

Minister without portfolio, with
responsibility for Civil Defence

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean SPAUTZ

Minister for the Interior;
Minister for Family Affairs,
Housing and Social Solidarity

Netherlands:

Mrs D.I.J.W. de GRAAFF-NAUTA

State Secretary for the Interior

Portugal:

Mr Pedro José RIBEIRO DE MENESES

Deputy Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mr David ELLIOTT

Deputy Permanent Representative

Commission:

Mr RIPA di MEANA

Member

The Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council ⁽¹⁾ approved the following Resolution on the introduction of Community co-operation on civil protection:

THE COUNCIL AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL:

- BELIEVING that an initiative in the civil protection field would be of direct benefit in protecting the European citizen and would help to establish a People's Europe;
- WHEREAS all the Member States have arrangements for taking action to deal with any disasters which might occur in their territory; whereas these arrangements vary in organization, extent and resources available for mobilization;
- WHEREAS there is no need for Community intervention in the Member States' management of disasters or finalization of emergency plans;

⁽¹⁾ One delegation agreed subject to confirmation.

- BELIEVING that co-operation between the Member States in the civil protection field would increase the ability of all Member States to respond according to circumstances and requirements; whereas such co-operation could improve the efficiency of individual disaster management operations; whereas practical steps are therefore called for at Community level, such as the drawing up of a Guide to Civil Protection in the European Community;

 - WHEREAS exchanges should be organized or stepped up between Member States as part of staff training, particularly in the course of simulation exercises;

 - WHEREAS it is advisable to see that better use is made of the data banks which exist in the civil protection field;

 - WHEREAS a number of risks, including nuclear risks, will continue to be covered by their own special procedures;
1. HEREBY DECIDE to introduce a Guide to Civil Protection at Community level. The Commission
- is requested to finalize this Guide within six months with the help of a Committee of Experts from the Member States;

 - will regularly update the Guide.

2. HEREBY DECIDE that the abovementioned Guide will include a list of liaison offices from the Member States and the Commission in the civil protection field so that the information collected will help to produce a clearer picture of the assistance available in each Member State in the event of a disaster, enabling such assistance to be better and more swiftly used.
 3. HEREBY AGREE that regular meetings of Ministers and senior civil servants responsible for civil protection in the Member States may be held to ensure that the Member States are implementing the various initiatives which they will be responsible for deciding.
 4. HEREBY DECIDE to encourage, in co-operation with the Commission, exchanges of persons responsible for civil protection as part of training programmes undertaken by the Member States, in particular in the course of regular simulation exercises which might receive Community support in a form or forms to be determined and be co-ordinated at Community level. The lessons learned from such exercises will be made available to the Member States.
 5. HEREBY AGREE to work towards better use of the data banks which exist in the civil protection field in order to promote detailed exchanges of information by all the Member States on the structures and resources available to deal with disasters; they therefore undertake to prepare together with the Commission, an inventory of the existing data banks with a view to improving their effectiveness.
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PRESS RELEASE

6735/87 (Presse 84)

1167th Council meeting

- Justice -

Brussels, 25 May 1987

President: Mr Jean GOL

Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Justice and
Institutional Reforms
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Jean GOL Deputy Prime Minister and Minister
for Justice and Institutional
Reforms

Denmark:

Mr Erik NINN-HANSEN Minister for Justice

Germany:

Mr Hans Arnold ENGELHARD Federal Minister for Justice

Greece:

Mr Alexandros VAYENAS Ambassador, Director at the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Spain:

Mr Fernando LEDESMA BARTRET Minister for Justice

France:

Mr Albin CHALANDON Keeper of the Seals, Minister
for Justice

Ireland:

Mr Gerry COLLINS Minister for Justice

Italy:

Mr Virginio ROGNONI Minister for Justice

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean SPAUTZ Minister for the Interior,
Minister for Family Affairs,
Housing and Social Solidarity

Netherlands:

Mrs V.N.M. KORTE-van HEMEL State Secretary for Justice

Portugal:

Mr LENCASTRE DA VEIGA Ambassador

United Kingdom:

Mr Kevin CHAMBERLAIN Counsellor
(Legal Affairs)

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Commission:

Mr Peter SUTHERLAND Member

Part 1: Conference of Ministers

A. Signing ceremony:

The Conference proper was preceded by the opening for signature of three international instruments to encourage the creation of a European legal area.

These are:

- the Agreement on application between the Member States of the European Communities of the Council of Europe Convention on the transfer of sentenced persons;
- the Convention between the Member States of the European Communities on double jeopardy;
- the Convention abolishing the legalization of documents in the Member States of the European Communities.

These three instruments, which are more clearly defined below, are the result of initiatives taken by the Italian Presidency during the first half of 1985.

Finalization of the instruments was completed under the Belgian Presidency.

These three instruments were very favourably received.

The Agreement on transfer has been signed by 10 partners, while the Convention on double jeopardy has been signed by 7 partners; the Convention on the abolition of legalization has been signed by 8 partners.

B. Conference

In the presence of Mr P. SUTHERLAND, Member of the Commission of the European Communities, the Ministers for Justice of the Twelve Member States of the European Communities reiterated the need to increase international legal co-operation in criminal and civil matters so as to encourage the creation of a European legal area, a fundamental aim in the process of achieving free movement within the Community as laid down in the Single Act.

1. Co-operation in criminal matters

a. Transfer of sentenced persons

The Ministers are aware of the myriad problems posed by imprisonment of foreign nationals and the need to encourage their transfer to their countries of origin to serve their sentences there; they therefore welcomed the signing of the Agreement on application between the Member States of the European Communities of the Council of Europe Convention on the transfer of sentenced persons.

The Agreement has the advantage of enabling those States which do not intend to become Parties to the European Convention to apply the provisions thereof together with the other Member States of the Communities.

It also extends the scope of the Council of Europe Convention by enabling a Member State to place on the same footing as its own nationals the nationals of another Member State who habitually and regularly reside on its territory.

b. Double jeopardy

Here too, the Ministers welcomed the signing between the Member States of the European Communities of the Convention on double jeopardy.

In order to remove a major obstacle to the free movement of persons within the territory of the community, this Convention is aimed at ensuring that a person finally judged in one Member State may not be prosecuted and sentenced in another Member State for the same actions.

In addition to confirming the principle, contained in most national legal systems, that a person shall not be placed in double jeopardy, the Convention has the advantage of setting up between the partners an exchange of information ensuring greater observance of that principle.

c. Extension to all the Member States of the European Communities of the Dublin Agreement concerning the implementation of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism

After considering the usefulness of the Dublin Agreement, which may provide an appropriate framework for close judicial co-operation in combating terrorism, the Ministers examined the possibility of extending this Agreement to all the Member States of the Communities.

In its present form, this instrument is open for signature only by those States that were Members of the Communities on the date it was opened for signature, i.e. 4 December 1979.

The Ministers considered it essential that the possibility of satisfying its legitimate desire to accede to the Agreement should be offered to each State that had become a Member of the Communities after that date.

They felt that the draft Additional Protocol to the Dublin Agreement, drawn up on the initiative of the Belgian Presidency, was in its broad outlines an appropriate solution to the desired extension.

In addition, in order to strengthen co-operation in combating terrorism, the Ministers decided to ask experts to examine the possibility, in relations between the Twelve, of withdrawing the reservations entered with respect to the European Convention and the Dublin Agreement.

d. Simplification and modernization of means of forwarding requests for extradition

Considering it necessary to eliminate as far as possible the risk of failure to meet absolute deadlines for the communication of extradition documents, which is sufficient grounds in itself for extradition to be refused, the Ministers examined the scope for simplifying and modernizing extradition procedures.

They took note of a draft agreement on the subject drawn up on the initiative of the Belgian Presidency, which will be studied in detail under the Danish Presidency.

The draft aims to speed up extradition procedures, inter alia by the use of modern communication techniques (such as facsimile machines).

2. Co-operation in civil matters

(a) Abolition of the legalization of documents in the Member States of the Communities

The Ministers welcomed the signature of the Convention abolishing the legalization of documents in the Member States of the Communities.

Under that Convention, each Member State will treat public documents issued by the authorities of another State in the same way as the same documents drawn up by its own authorities.

This instrument is part of progress towards the free movement of persons and goods.

(b) Custody of children

The Ministers exchanged information on the situation with respect to ratification of the Luxembourg Convention of 20 May 1980 and the Convention of The Hague of 25 October 1980 on the civil aspects of the international abduction of children.

They noted that no partner had any fundamental objection to ratifying these two instruments in the fairly near future. France also stated that it was considering withdrawing the most significant reservation it had entered regarding the Luxembourg Convention.

On the subject of the operation of these two Conventions, it was judged necessary to exchange precise information on the difficulties encountered by the partners in enforcing the Conventions, and means of overcoming them. To this end, the Ministers considered it useful for the Presidency to ask the Secretariat to prepare a questionnaire with the help of the partners that had already ratified the instruments in question.

In the Community context, it was noted that the system of appointing national correspondents in each country was a step forward, although improvements were possible, and this item could be included in the questionnaire mentioned above.

(c) Maintenance obligations

The Ministers discussed the problems raised by the fulfilment of international maintenance obligations, with a view to helping those in receipt of maintenance.

It was also agreed that each Member State would provide a report from its central authority on its relations with other Member States regarding application of the New York Convention on the matter, taking account of the implications of other Conventions dealing with the recognition and enforcement of decisions on maintenance obligations.

3. General discussion

(a) Measures against drug addiction

The Ministers for Justice examined the follow-up to the European Council held in London on 6 December 1986, which had expressed its deep concern at the drug problem, and decided that the Community and the Member States should continue to participate in measures to combat drug addiction.

They confirmed the absolute need, in the context of achieving the internal market and free movement of persons as propounded by the Single Act, to establish at Community level a multifaceted strategy to combat production, trafficking and consumption of drugs.

The Ministers are aware of the dangers of adopting divergent attitudes in this respect and confirmed the need to harmonize national anti-drug legislation.

Having taken note of a reservation entered by one delegation, they decided that the working party on mutual assistance in criminal matters would be the appropriate framework for achieving the necessary harmonization while avoiding overlapping with the proceedings of other bodies (Trevi Group, Pompidou Group, etc....)

(b) Frequency of meetings

The Ministers agreed to meet in future at least once a year to ensure that their decisions were followed up and to provide the necessary impetus to proceedings in the political co-operation context.

They confirmed their determination in future to implement this decision which, although it had already been adopted in Luxembourg in 1982, had not previously been followed through.

Part 2: Council of Ministers

BRUSSELS CONVENTION OF 27 SEPTEMBER 1968 ON JURISDICTION AND THE
ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGEMENTS IN CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS

- Stage reached in ratification of Conventions of Accession

The Brussels Convention, based on Article 220 of the EEC Treaty and concluded between the original Member States of the EEC on 27 September 1968, has been in force between these States since 1 February 1973.

The same is true for the Protocol on the interpretation of the above Convention by the Court of Justice, which was signed in Luxembourg on 3 June 1971 and which entered into force on 1 September 1975.

On 9 October 1978, the six original Member States and the three acceding States (Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom) concluded in Luxembourg a Convention of Accession to the Brussels Convention of 1968 and to the 1971 Protocol.

The Council and the Ministers for Justice welcomed the entry into force of this Convention on 1 November 1986 following the deposit of the instruments of ratification by the six original Member States of the Community and Denmark, and the entry into force of the Convention of Accession on 1 January 1987 between the seven abovementioned Member States and the United Kingdom. The Council and the Ministers for Justice, also noted with satisfaction that Ireland, which has yet to complete the ratification procedures, hopes to do so by the end of this year.

Following the accession of Greece to the European Communities, the ten Member States concluded in Luxembourg on 25 October 1982 a Convention on the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Brussels Convention of 1968 and to the Protocol of 1971, as amended by the Convention of Accession of 1978.

Six States (Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands) have already ratified this Convention. Having noted the stage reached in ratification by the countries which have yet to complete their ratification procedures, the Council and the Ministers for Justice invited these States to take all useful steps to expedite completion of national ratification procedures.

- Opening of negotiations with a view to the accession of Spain and Portugal

The Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal to the European Communities lays down that the new Member States shall undertake to accede to the Conventions provided for in Article 220 of the EEC Treaty and to the Protocols on the interpretation of those Conventions by the Court of Justice.

The Council and the Ministers for Justice noted the need to open the negotiations provided for in the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal with a view to the rapid conclusion of a Convention by both these Member States. These negotiations will take place on the basis of a memorandum which will be provided by Spain and Portugal.

Progress report from the Chairman of the Joint EEC-EFTA Working Party on the negotiations with the EFTA countries for the conclusion of a Convention parallel to the Brussels Convention

The negotiations between the countries of the EEC and EFTA for the conclusion of a Convention parallel to the Brussels Convention are currently in progress. These negotiations have been going on for two years and should enable the text of a preliminary draft parallel Convention enjoying broad agreement and intended to serve as a basic document for a diplomatic conference to be finalized in the next few months. After taking note of the report by Mr SAGGIO (Italy), co-Chairman for the Twelve, together with Mr VOYAME (Switzerland), of the EEC-EFTA Working Party (Exequatur), on these negotiations, the Ministers for Justice noted with satisfaction the progress made in the negotiations with the EFTA countries and voiced the hope that the forthcoming meetings with the EFTA countries in the framework of these negotiations would enable the necessary progress to be achieved on the points still under discussion, so that a decision could be taken to convene a diplomatic conference for the conclusion of the parallel Convention.

After the discussions, the following Resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION

I.

The Council and the Ministers for Justice meeting within the Council:

- welcome the entry into force on 1 November 1986, following the deposit of instruments of ratification by the six original Member States of the Community and Denmark, of the Convention of Accession of 9 October 1978 of the Kingdom of Denmark, of Ireland and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Brussels Convention of 27 September 1968 on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters and to the Protocol of 3 June 1971 on its interpretation by the Court of Justice and the entry into force of that Convention of Accession on 1 January 1987 as between the aforementioned seven Member States and the United Kingdom;
- aware that it is important, in particular from the point of view of completion of the internal market, for application of the Brussels Convention of 27 September 1968 and the Protocol of 3 June 1971 to be extended rapidly to the whole of the Community;
- invite the Member States concerned to take every step necessary to expedite completion of the national procedures for ratification of the said Convention of Accession of 9 October 1978 and the Convention of 25 October 1982 on the Accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Brussels Convention of 27 September 1968 and to the Protocol of 3 June 1971;

- note the need to open the negotiations provided for in Article 3(2) of the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal to the European Communities with a view to the rapid conclusion of a Convention of Accession of both these Member States to the Brussels Convention of 27 September 1968 and to the Protocol of 3 June 1971, as amended by the Conventions of Accession of 9 October 1978 and 25 October 1982; these negotiations will take place on the basis of a memorandum on the necessary adjustments which will be provided by Spain and Portugal.

II.

The Ministers for Justice meeting within the Council:

- aware of the importance of the existence, alongside the Brussels Convention, of a parallel Convention, based on the same principles and intended to govern relations between the Member States of the EEC and those of EFTA, concerning the legal protection of persons established in all these States and the simplification of formalities for the mutual recognition and enforcement of judgments;
- note with satisfaction the progress achieved in negotiations for the conclusion with the EFTA countries of such a parallel Convention and express the hope that the forthcoming meetings within the framework of the joint EEC-EFTA Working Party (Exequatur) will make it possible to achieve the additional progress necessary for a decision to be taken, in agreement with the EFTA partners, to convene a diplomatic conference for the conclusion of the parallel Convention.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

6734/87 (Presse 83)

1168th meeting of the Council

- General Affairs -

Brussels, 25 and 26 May 1987

President: Mr Leo TINDEMANS,
Minister for Foreign Relations
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS Minister for Foreign Relations

Denmark:

Mr Knud-Erik TYGESEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES State Secretary for Relations with
the European Communities

France:

Mr Bernard BOSSON Minister with responsibility for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI

Minister for European Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. VAN DEN BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

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

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Victor MARTINS

State Secretary for European
Integration

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr Frans ANDRIESEN

Vice-President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ

Member

Mr Stanley CLINTON DAVIS

Member

MAKING A SUCCESS OF THE SINGLE ACT - A NEW FRONTIER FOR EUROPE

After being informed of the discussions within the ECOFIN Council, the Council asked each delegation for its views on the whole issue, on the basis of an interim report from the Permanent Representatives Committee and following an introductory statement by Mr DELORS, President of the Commission, stressing the gravity of the Community's financial situation. The discussion enabled delegations to express an opinion on the present state of the issue and to emphasize points which they considered important for subsequent proceedings.

At the end of the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite proceedings on the matter in accordance with the guidelines contained in the interim report in order to submit to the Council for its meeting on 22 and 23 June a report on the whole matter, highlighting the issues to be settled and the options open. On the same occasion, the Council will be informed of the outcome of the Agriculture Council and the Budget Council with regard to 1987.

On the basis of all these factors the Council will, at its next meeting and at the conclave scheduled for 27 and 28 June, prepare for the European Council's discussions on the subject.

RELATIONS WITH TUNISIA

The Council prepared for the third meeting of the EEC-Tunisia Co-operation Council, which was held on the morning of Tuesday 26 May, in conjunction with this meeting.

(see press release CEE-TU 2603/87 Presse 91)

PROTOCOLS OF ADAPTATION TO THE MEDITERRANEAN AGREEMENTS

The Council decided to sign the Protocols providing for economic and technical adaptation to the Co-operation Agreements - and the ECSC Agreements - between the Community and Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia consequent upon enlargement of the Community.

The Protocols enable Spain and Portugal to participate fully in these Co-operation Agreements, and they make certain economic adjustments in the context of the overall Mediterranean policy of the enlarged Community.

The Protocol of adaptation to the Co-operation Agreement with Tunisia was signed on the occasion of the third meeting of the EEC-Tunisia Co-operation Council on Tuesday 26 May (see press release CEE-TU 2603/87 Presse 91).

With regard to the Protocols of adaptation to the Association Agreement with Turkey, the Council will continue its discussions at a forthcoming meeting, the Permanent Representatives Committee having been instructed to examine the matter in greater depth in the meantime.

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN

- Negotiations under GATT Article XXIV.6

In its negotiations with Japan under Article XXIV.6, the Commission's objective will be to ensure that the tariff changes resulting from enlargement of the Community do not accentuate the current absence of any real balance of mutual advantages.

The volume of trade in respect of which the Commission will propose binding the duties in the Common Customs Tariff will depend upon that objective. The Article 113 Committee will be consulted on the finalization of the CCT binding list, which will be adopted by the Council on the basis of the Commission proposal and taking into account the suggestions made by the Spanish delegation.

- Prevention of deflections of trade in the field of semi-conductors

With regard to the prevention of deflections of trade following the measures taken by the United States against Japan in the field of semi-conductors, the Council adopted the following Decision:

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Whereas the Government of the United States of America decided unilaterally on 17 April 1987 to impose a 100% customs duty on imports of certain products originating in Japan;

Whereas these measures may cause a deflection of trade in Japanese exports of the products concerned from the United States market to the Community;

Whereas, should this hypothesis prove correct, it is advisable to take measures regarding imports into the Community of these products originating in Japan, in order to safeguard the Community's interests, while complying with the General Agreement;

Whereas it is nevertheless necessary to safeguard the normal flow of imports from Japan into the Community, also taking into account market trends;

Whereas the Commission (¹) has introduced surveillance measures with a view to monitoring the trend in imports of the products in question,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

- should deflections of trade cause or threaten to cause serious prejudice to Community producers, to ask the Commission to submit, as a matter of urgency, in compliance with the provisions of the GATT, a proposal for a Regulation introducing 100% duties on such deflected imports,
- to take a decision on any such proposal within two weeks.

(¹) Regulation (EEC) No 1245/87 of 4 May 1987.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES - TRADE BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS

The Council expressed concern at developments with regard to the current proposed trade legislation in the United States, which it intends to follow closely. In this context it gave a reminder of the conclusions it adopted in March, expressing the hope that the outcome of the legislative process would not oblige the Community to respond in accordance with its rights under the GATT.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

The Council reviewed the preparations for the Western Economic Summit.

RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA

The Council agreed to return to this important issue at its next meeting, during which it would be discussed as a matter of priority.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION WITH CERTAIN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN LATIN MAERICA, ASIA, THE GULF AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Council agreed to return to this issue also at its next meeting.

RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA

The Council adopted the amended negotiating directives for the second Financial Protocol in the context of the EEC-Yugoslavia Co-operation Agreement, agreeing to the Commission proposal that EIB loans be increased.

LIMITS FOR THE RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The Council noted the state of the proceedings on a permanent system for establishing limits for the radioactive contamination of drinking water and agricultural products, and the statement by Mr CLINTON-DAVIS, Member of the Commission, that the Council would in fact receive a formal proposal on the matter by 20 June at the latest.

After an exchange of views, the Council reiterated the importance it attached to the matter, noted that an initial discussion would be held at its meeting on 22 June on the Commission proposal, and emphasized that intensive work would be required to enable it to act before the agreed date of 31 October 1987.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Generalized system of preferences

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation applying supplementary generalized tariff preferences in respect of certain industrial products originating in developing countries and sold at the Berlin "Partners in Progress" Fair.

GATT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision amending the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Community and the Kingdom of Norway concerning mutual trade in cheese.

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of agricultural and fisheries products;
- a Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota:
 - = for herring falling within subheading 03.01 B I a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (duty-free tariff quota of 34 000 t from 15 June 1987 to 14 February 1988: Benelux 1 419 t; Denmark 20 508 t; Germany 6 612 t; France 858 t; United Kingdom 603 t; reserve 4 000 t);

- = for ferro-phosphorus falling within subheading ex 28.55 A of the Common Customs Tariff (duty-free quota of 13 000 t from 1 July to 31 December 1987: Benelux 4 935 t; Germany 2 565 t; Spain 200 t; France 1 280 t; Portugal 170 t; United Kingdom 1 280 t; reserve 2 570 t);

 - = for certain polyethylene terephthalate films falling within subheading ex 39.01 C III a) of the Common Customs Tariff (duty-free quota of 850 t from 1 July to 31 December 1987).
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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE
6736/87 (Presse 85)

1169th Council meeting

- Labour and Social Affairs -

Brussels, 26 May 1987

President: Mr Michel HANSENNE,
Minister for Labour and Employment
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Michel HANSENNE Minister for Labour and Employment

Denmark:

Mr Henning DYREMOSE Minister for Labour
Mr Henrik HASSENKAM State Secretary, Ministry of Labour

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Evangelos YANNOPOULOS Minister for Labour

Spain:

Mr Manuel CHAVEZ GONZALEZ Minister for Labour and Social
Security

France:

Mrs Michèle BARZACH Minister attached to the Minister
for Social Affairs and Employment,
with responsibility for Health and
the Family

Ireland:

Mr Michael KEEGAN Secretary, Department of Labour

Italy:

Mr Ermanno GORRIERI Minister for Employment and Social
Security

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER

Minister for Labour

Netherlands:

Mr J. DE KONING

Minister for Employment and
Social Security

Portugal:

Mr MIRA AMARAL

Minister for Labour and Social
Security

United Kingdom:

Mr David ELLIOTT

Deputy Permanent Representative

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Commission;

Mr Manuel MARIN

Vice-President

VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR PREPARATION FOR ADULT AND WORKING LIFE

Pending receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council held an exchange of views on the draft Decision concerning an action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life.

At the end of the exchange of views, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the draft Decision with a view to reaching agreement at the earliest opportunity in the light of today's discussion and the Opinion awaited from the European Parliament.

CONTINUING VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR ADULT EMPLOYEES IN UNDERTAKINGS

The Council adopted conclusions on the development of continuing vocational training for adult employees in undertakings.

It pointed out that the completion of the internal market and the achievement of technological progress required a significant effort in the area of training for employers and employees with a view to more efficient management of human resources, and hoped that continuing vocational training measures would be encouraged by the social partners and the public authorities.

It noted that the Commission would shortly be proposing a Community action programme for the development of continuing vocational training which would cover a series of points listed in the conclusions.

Finally, it noted that difficulties remained in the implementation of continuing vocational training, particularly as regards the adjustment of working hours, and that Community work must continue in order to ease such difficulties.

SOCIAL SECURITY

On the basis of a communication from the Commission entitled "Problems of Social Security - Areas of Common Interest", the Council held a detailed exchange of views on:

- the financing of social security
- demographic trends and the consequences for social security
- the situation of persons who are not - or are inadequately - covered by social protection schemes ("new poor").

In conclusion, the Council asked the Commission to continue its work in the light of the discussions.

ADAPTABILITY

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the problems relating to adaptability, on the basis of a communication from the Commission and a note from the Presidency including a draft Council statement (see Annex).

At the end of the exchange of views, the President noted that there was a broad consensus on the approach adopted in the draft text.

The President will now submit the draft to the social partners for the meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment scheduled to take place on 25 June 1987.

COMMISSION REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF 22 DECEMBER 1986 ON AN ACTION PROGRAMME ON EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

Pending receipt of the written summary report provided for in the Resolution of 22 December 1986, the Council heard a statement by Vice-President MARIN.

LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr MARIN, Vice-President of the Commission, presented his memorandum on combating long-term unemployment. Following a brief exchange of views, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the memorandum in preparation for a detailed discussion at the next Council meeting.

OTHER SOCIAL POLICY DECISIONS

General population censuses in 1991

The Council adopted the Directive on the synchronization of general population censuses in 1991.

Like the Council Directive of 22 November 1973 on the synchronization of general population censuses in 1981, the purpose of this Directive is to provide the Commission with sufficiently reliable, detailed and comparable data on population, employment and households in the Member States (spring 1991 situation).

Vocational training for women

Following a communication from the Commission, the Council adopted conclusions on vocational training for women.

The Council pointed out the particular difficulties experienced by women on the labour market, in particular because of vocational training handicaps, and called for the supply of continuous training to be adapted to meet the needs of women, including those seeking work.

It stressed the need for close co-operation between training bodies and the employment market in order to ensure the vocational training of women, and the importance of women seeking vocational training, and instructors and the social partners, taking cognizance of the principle of equality of opportunity between men and women so that vocational training may lead to actual employment.

Finally, with a view to a draft Council Recommendation announced by the Commission, the Council stressed its interest here and now in a set of guidelines for specific action.

Protective legislation for women

The Council adopted conclusions on protective legislation for women in the Member States of the Community, after examining a Commission communication on that subject provided for in the Community medium-term programme on equal opportunities for women (1986-1990).

The Council acknowledged that protective legislation for women must be revised where it seemed detrimental to the promotion of equal opportunities for women or ineffective in terms of the protection policy itself.

It requested the Member States and the social partners to review the protective legislation for women, with the aim of promoting desegregation and more adaptable patterns of work.

It invited the Commission to update its communication on protective legislation for women in conjunction with the schedule for the Community medium-term programme on equal opportunities for women (1986-1990).

Local employment initiatives

The Council took note of a communication from the Commission on the application of the Council Resolution of 7 June 1984 on the contribution of local employment initiatives of combating unemployment.

The communication is an interim report on the implementation of the Resolution of 7 June 1984 and identifies certain fields in which improvements seem desirable.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Pharmaceutical products

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision authorizing the Commission to conduct negotiations with a view to accession of the European Community to the European Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty concerning

- la Caisse centrale des Banques Populaires et des Banques du Groupe des Banques Populaires (France)
 - el Banco de Credito Industrial, S.A., Madrid (Spain)
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(DRAFT) STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL ON THE ADAPTABILITY
OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY

1. The Council has noted the information supplied by the Commission and the trends in professional agreements with regard to the desired flexibility of the European economy.
2. The Council notes that both the fight against unemployment and the need to find practical solutions to the new technological and industrial challenges require adjustments to be made to the organization of work and production.
3. The Council feels in this connection that the improvement of the labour market is a subject of common interest. To adapt that market to structural changes it is necessary to plan measures and arrangements reconciling economic efficiency with the retention or improvement of fundamental social guarantees.
4. No flexibility is possible without real professional relations and without negotiations. The social partners are primarily responsible for the desired adaptation of undertakings and of the labour market. Flexibility calls for joint efforts by employers and workers.
5. The Council supports the social dialogue instigated at the meetings of representatives of employers' and workers' organizations at European level at Val Duchesse.

The Council suggests that the Commission inform it in the near future of the arrangements and agreements concluded with the social partners in the Member States as a follow-up to the opinions and conclusions of the Val Duchesse meetings.

6. The social partners must seek at the appropriate level to deal with the problems posed by the need for flexibility. Otherwise, the operation of the labour market and the prospects for a true internal market, which are improved by the Single Act, would maintain such pressure on the Governments that they will be dealing only with crisis situations. In this context it is in the common interest of the Governments of the European Community:

(a) as regards industrial changes:

- on the one hand, to encourage prior information for the competent authorities and workers and the consultation of the latter, within the framework of national regulations and existing practices, in the case of major changes to undertakings and industrial structures;
- on the other hand, to improve partnerships which may be useful in increasing organization and the level of professional training of both employers and workers;

(b) as regards fundamental social guarantees:

- to examine, with the Commission and the social partners, the fundamental rights of workers which cannot be called into question by pressures of competition and the search for competitiveness. In identifying these fundamental guarantees, account will be taken in particular of relevant international conventions and recommendations in force (both of the ILO and the Council of Europe).
- to encourage a situation in which all workers, whatever their working regime, will be able to benefit under professional agreements within sectors of professional activity and where they are employed in SMUs.

7. On the basis of the report requested from the Commission in paragraph 5, the Council will be careful in future to improve relations between the Community Institutions and the social partners by examining ways of strengthening those Institutions' capacity for analysis and initiative.