

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: IRELAND

JANUARY-JUNE 1990

Meetings and press releases January-February 1990

<b>Meeting number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
1383 <sup>rd</sup>	Agriculture	22-23 January 1990
1384 <sup>th</sup>	General Affairs	5 February 1990
1385 <sup>th</sup>	Economics/Finance	12 February 1990
1386 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture	12-13 February 1990
1387 <sup>th</sup>	Internal Market	22 February 1990
1388 <sup>th</sup>	Research	26 February 1990

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE  
4271/90 (Presse 3)

ien/MI/gg

1383rd Council meeting  
- Agriculture -  
Brussels, 22 and 23 January 1990

President: Mr Michael O'KENNEDY

Minister for Agriculture  
and Food of Ireland

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/gg

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs  
and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Laurits TOERNAES Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture  
and Forestry

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

Greece:

Mr Stavros DIMAS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Carlos ROMERO-HERRERA Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mr Henri NALLET Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Agriculture and  
Food

Mr Joe WALSH Minister of State at the Department  
of Agriculture and Food

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/gg

Italy:

Mr Calogero MANNINO

Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN

Minister for Agriculture and Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture, Nature  
Conservation and Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries  
and Food

United Kingdom:

Mr John Selwyn GUMMER

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries  
and Food

Mr David CURRY

Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture

o

o o

Commission:

Mr R. MACSHARRY

Member

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/gg

**FIXING OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES (1990/1991)**

The Council heard an introductory Commission statement on the proposals concerning the fixing of agricultural prices and certain related measures (1990/1991) in which the Commission presented the broad lines of its proposals.

The Council then held a preliminary exchange of views during which the delegations gave their initial assessment of the main points raised.

Following its examination, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to initiate the examination of these proposals, taking account of that day's discussions, and to submit a comprehensive report to it at its February meeting.

**SPECIAL SYSTEM OF AID FOR SMALL COTTON PRODUCERS**

Pending receipt of the European Parliament's Opinion, the Council had a preliminary exchange of views on the proposal for a Regulation instituting a special system of aid for small cotton producers, which is a follow-up to the commitment entered into by the Commission at the time of the adoption of the 1989/1990 prices package.

The proposal concerns the introduction for the 1989/1990, 1990/1991 and 1991/1992 marketing years of a system of direct flat-rate aid per hectare for small producers in order partly to offset the loss of income resulting from the reduction in aid when the maximum guaranteed quantity is exceeded.

The Council will resume its discussions on the question at a forthcoming meeting, after receipt of the European Parliament's Opinion.

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/gg

**PROOF OF ARRIVAL AT DESTINATION IN THE CASE OF DIFFERENTIATED REFUND**

The Council examined the Commission communication on a negative opinion of the Management Committee concerning the solution advocated by the Commission involving abolition of the alternative documents provided for in Regulation No 3665/87 as proof of arrival at destination in third countries of goods qualifying for differentiated export refunds.

Endorsing the Commission approach, the Council expressed the hope that a solution could be found which, by means of effective control, would enable irregularities which were detrimental to the Community budget to be prevented while at the same time not hindering trade with non-member countries.

In this connection, the Council took note of the Commission's intention of endeavouring to find an appropriate solution in close collaboration with the Management Committee.

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/gg

**BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY**

In accordance with the procedure applicable in the event of the absence of an opinion from the Standing Veterinary Committee, a Commission proposal was placed before the Council concerning certain measures for protecting live bovine animals against bovine spongiform encephalopathy, following the appearance of several cases on the territory of a Member State.

Following a thorough exchange of views on the proposal, the Council noted that the conditions referred to in Article 13(4) of Directive 64/432/EEC (animal-health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine) as regards the conditions for the adoption or rejection of a Commission proposal had not been met and that accordingly it was for the Commission to adopt the proposed protection measures.

22/23.I.1990  
ien/MI/gg

ROMANIA AND POLAND

The Council had before it a package of proposals relating to emergency aid for the supply of certain agricultural products to Romania and Poland.

The Council recorded its agreement on a first proposal aimed at the immediate sending to Romania of:

- 62.500 tonnes of maize
- 62.500 tonnes of rye
- 2.500 tonnes of butter
- 2.500 tonnes of olive oil
- 10.000 tonnes of beef and veal

amounting to a total of ECU 20,5 million.

A decision on the other proposals will be taken after the European Parliament has been consulted. With a view to accelerating the procedures, the Council agreed to request the European Parliament to deliver its Opinion by the urgent procedure.

## **MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS**

### Other decisions in the field of agriculture

The Council adopted Regulations:

- amending Regulation No 2112/87 introducing special measures for certain processed oil products in Spain
- amending Regulation No 475/86 laying down general rules for the system for controlling the prices and quantities of certain products in the oils and fats sector released for consumption in Spain.

The aim of these Regulations is to ensure for the processing industry in Spain - and in particular the margarine industry - a supply of sunflower oil and soya oil at prices permitting better use of these Community products.

- amending Regulation No 2262/84 laying down special measures in respect of olive oil.

This amendment extends the scope of the tasks assigned to the agencies set up in each olive-oil producer Member State and assigns to them, in addition to their existing duties in connection with the production-aid scheme, checks relating to the consumption-aid scheme and to the buying-in and storage of olive oil by intervention agencies.

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/joc

- amending Regulation No 2727/75 on the common organization of the market in cereals.

The aim of this amendment is to simplify the current system for the additional co-responsibility levy. (See Press Release of 20/22 November 1989 - 9939/89 Presse 213.)

- amending Regulation No 727/70 on the common organization of the market in raw tobacco.

The aim of this amendment is to specify (for the sake of legal certainty) certain aspects of the Regulation.

- on the application in Portugal of the aid scheme for the production of certain varieties of flint maize.

This Regulation extends to Portugal the immediate application of a production-aid scheme enjoyed by the other Member States under Regulation No 2727/75.

- on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

The Council also adopted:

- the Directive amending Directive 79/373/EEC on the marketing of compound feedingstuffs.

This Directive aims at eliminating all the disparities, particularly in labelling, which still hinder the free movement of compound feedingstuffs and forms part of the measures to be adopted to complete the internal market.

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/joc

- the Corrigendum in Italian and Danish to Council Regulation No 1254/89 of 3 May 1989 fixing, for the 1989/1990 marketing year, inter alia, certain sugar prices and the standard quality of beet.

This Corrigendum corrects an error in the Danish and Italian versions of the Regulation.

- the Decision concerning adjustments to the Voluntary Restraint Agreement for sheepmeat and goatmeat concluded with Uruguay.

#### Fisheries

The Council adopted a Decision on a Protocol relating to the provisional application of the Fisheries Agreement between the EEC and Mozambique.

This Agreement fixes inter alia the fishing opportunities for 1990 at:

- 1.200 tonnes of deep-water shrimps,
- 1.000 tonnes of shallow-water shrimps,
- 200 tonnes of deep-water crabs.

It also provides for financial compensation for 1990 of ECU 4.300.000 and a contribution towards the financing of scientific and technical programmes of ECU 1.950.000.

#### Trade policy

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and non-member countries.

22/23.I.1990

ien/MI/joc

Relations with EFTA countries

The Council adopted its common position on the draft Decisions of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committees amending Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation following the suspension of customs duties applicable by the Community of Ten to imports from Spain.

Major Europe-wide networks

Following the political agreement at its meeting (Internal Market) on 21 and 22 December 1989, the Council adopted its Resolution concerning major Europe-wide networks. (See the text of this Resolution in Press Release 11045/89 Presse 255.)

Research

Following the political agreement reached at its meeting (Research) on 15 and 16 December 1989, the Council adopted its joint guideline on the framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1990-1994).

(See Press Release 10900/89 Presse 246.)

Atomic Questions

The Council adopted the Decision issuing the Commission with directives for the negotiation of a Safeguards Agreement between Euratom, the United Kingdom and the IAEA, pursuant to Additional Protocol No 1 to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

**Steel**

Following its discussions (Industry) on 14 November 1989, the Council gave its assent to modifications to the Commission Decision of 23 December 1988 on aid to the Italian public sector.

(See Press Release 9852/89 Presse 208.)

**Appointments**

The Council appointed, as members of the Economic and Social Committee:

- on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr K. de KNEGT, to replace Mr P.A.A. SPIJKERS, and

- on a proposal from the Spanish Government,  
Mr Juan TESORO OLIVER, to replace Mr Fernando PANIZOS ARCOS,

who have resigned, for the remainder of the resigning members' term of office, i.e. until 20 September 1990.

---

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4300/90 (Presse 9)

non/AM/er

1384th Council meeting

- General Affairs -

Brussels, 5 February 1990

President: Mr Gerard COLLINS,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Ireland

---

4300/90 (Presse 9 - G)

EN

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Jørgen ØRSTRØM MØLLER State Secretary,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

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

Greece:

Mr Ioannis POTTAKIS Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Spain:

Mr Francisco FERNANDEX ORDOÑEZ Minister for Foreign Affairs

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

Mr Apolonio RUIZ LIGERO State Secretary for Trade

France:

Mr Roland DUMAS Ministre d'Etat,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Gerard COLLINS Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ms Maire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN Minister of State at the  
Department of the Taoiseach with  
special responsibility for EEC  
matters

5.II.90  
non/AM/er

Italy:

Mr Gianni DE MICHELIS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Renato RUGGIERO	Minister for Foreign Trade
Mr Claudio VITALONE	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
--------------------	------------------------------

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Piet DANKERT	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr João de DEUS PINHEIRO	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Vitor MARTINS	State Secretary for European Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr Douglas HURD	Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Mr Francis MAUDE	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Lord TREFGARNE	Minister for Trade

◦

◦

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS	President
Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN	Vice-President
Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN	Vice-President
Mr Abel MATUTES	Member
Mrs Vasso PAPANDREOU	Member

5.II.90

non/AM/bf

PREPARATION OF THE CSCE BONN CONFERENCE - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council underlined the importance of the Bonn CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe. It was taking place at a time when the political and economic reforms begun in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe were giving a new impetus to economic co-operation and opening up new and encouraging prospects. It would provide a useful opportunity to take stock of the progress made by each country. The move by these countries towards market economics would make it possible to strengthen links with them and improve the conditions for closer co-operation.

The Community's approach would follow the general outline laid down by the Strasbourg European Council, which stated, inter alia, that the Community would take the necessary decisions to strengthen co-operation as appropriate in each case with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and would encourage economic reform in these countries.

2. In addition, the Conference should demonstrate, as did the recent CSCE meeting on the environment in Sofia, the increasing importance of Basket II in the Helsinki process and thus reaffirm the fundamental role of the CSCE in the future of Europe.
3. Active involvement by business circles and representatives of economic organizations - which will be a feature of the Bonn Conference - should lend a practical dimension to the proceedings.

5.II.90

non/AM/bf

4. The Council pointed to the Community's key role in co-ordinated assistance for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It noted the specific place of the Community in those countries' transition to a market economy. That greater Community role should be reflected in the Bonn Conference. The Council therefore considered that the Community should play a dynamic role in Bonn. With this in view, the Council noted with satisfaction the proceedings in hand for the preparation of a Community position.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize its proceedings quickly and to submit for the Council's adoption by mid-February the guidelines which would serve as a framework for the Community's action before and during the Bonn Conference on the four themes, which were: improvement of business conditions, industrial co-operation, co-operation in specific areas and monetary and financial matters.

#### EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOUNDATION AND TEMPUS SCHEME

The Council held a preliminary exchange of views on the Commission proposals concerning the creation of a European training foundation and the Trans-European Mobility Scheme for University Studies "Tempus".

At the close of the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the examination of this dossier to enable the Council to take a decision in May, when it will have received the Opinion of the European Parliament.

5.II.90

non/AM/bf

**PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

1. The Council has confirmed the objective of completing, during the first half of 1990, the negotiation of the trade and co-operation agreements with East Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Romania.
2. The Council has confirmed the Community's readiness to extend to the other countries of Central and Eastern Europe (East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia) the assistance measures co-ordinated within the Group of 24.

This co-ordinated assistance should be provided on the basis of commitments from the countries concerned to political and economic reform. In addition, the programme of assistance should be adapted to each country's own situation, specific requirements and absorption capacity. The ideas set out in the Commission communication concerning these two aspects had been favourably received and these matters would be followed up within the framework of the Group of 24.

3. The Council noted with interest the Commission's views and suggestions further to the European Council conclusions in Strasbourg and the discussions in Dublin regarding the possibility of association agreements, which should provide a flexible and constructive framework, allowing solutions appropriate to the circumstances of each country and which would succeed the present co-operation agreements. The Council has encouraged the Commission to expand on its ideas, which the Council would examine on the basis of the Commission's forthcoming communication.
4. The Commission has informed the Council of its intention of submitting a proposal concerning a revision of the financial perspective up to 1992. The subsequent discussion enabled the Commission to ascertain - with a view to submitting its proposal - the delegations' initial views on the subject.

5.II.90

non/AM/cmc

ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council noted with satisfaction the progress made with the preparatory work for the Intergovernmental Conference and the fact that an important new phase of this work, leading up to the Dublin meeting of the European Council, would begin as from the beginning of April, as soon as the overall report promised by the Commission was tabled.

The Council agreed that two of the major topics calling for thorough discussion by the General Affairs Council as part of the preparatory work were, on the one hand, the scope of the Conference itself, and, on the other hand the role of the European Parliament in that process. It agreed to discuss both these topics at its next meeting, and asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to ensure that its work was carefully prepared with this in mind.

Regarding the procedures required under the Treaty before an Intergovernmental Conference can be convened, it was agreed that the Irish Government should rapidly table a formal Treaty revision proposal, based on the relevant conclusions of the Strasbourg European Council, on the basis of which the opinions of the European Parliament and the Commission could be requested in good time. The Permanent Representatives Committee was asked to ensure that all these procedural steps be carefully followed up.

5.II.90

non/AM/cmc

**COMMISSION'S OPINION REGARDING TURKEY'S APPLICATION FOR ACCESSION TO THE  
COMMUNITY - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council examined the Commission's opinion further.

The Council noted that the various elements in the Commission's conclusions were closely interlinked. While these conclusions stated that the conditions required for the opening of accession negotiations with Turkey did not as yet obtain, they nevertheless contained proposals for strengthening co-operation with Turkey in the context of the Association Agreement.

The Council's discussions showed that there was a broad measure of support amongst Member States for the approach adopted by the Commission in its conclusions, which called for active implementation of the appropriate elements.

The Council noted the Commission's intention to submit to it quickly appropriate concrete proposals with a view to strengthening co-operation with Turkey in the context of the Association Agreement.

The Greek delegation reiterated its views on the matter.

5.II.90

non/AM/cmc

**A NEW DIRECTION IN MEDITTERANEAN POLICY - CONCLUSIONS**

In accordance with the conclusions of the European Council in Strasbourg, the Council held a policy debate on the courses of action suggested by the Commission with a view to redirecting the Community's Mediterranean policy.

The debate reaffirmed the Community's desire to strengthen the special co-operation with the Mediterranean countries and adjust it to new circumstances, taking into consideration the particular problems of each of them.

The Council called upon the Commission to submit to it, in the light of its debate, practical proposals which would be implemented quickly.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR CO-OPERATION WITH COLOMBIA IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ANDEAN PACT**

The Council noted a statement by Commissioner MATUTES on a special programme for co-operation with Colombia in the context of the Andean Pact.

The Council took the opportunity to express the Community and its Member States solidarity with and support for the Andean countries, especially Colombia, in the courageous battle they have initiated against drug trafficking.

The Council agreed to examine, as a matter of priority, the proposals the Commission will submit on the matter and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine them as soon as they were received.

5.II.90

non/AM/cmc

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

The Council noted that the soya dispute with the United States could be considered closed for the time being following acceptance by all the parties concerned of the GATT panel's conclusions, all the conditions laid down by the Council in December for acceptance by the Community having been met.

The Council noted that one delegation questioned the apparent contradiction between the declaration of Ambassador HILLS and the agreement reached in GATT.

As to the hormones question, the Commission has heard the views of Member States in the Council and will now have to reflect on the ideas put forward, and present the result of its reflections to the Permanent Representatives Committee.

A SINGLE COMMUNITY MOTOR VEHICLE MARKET

The Council held a policy debate on the Commission's communication entitled "A single Community motor vehicle market", concentrating at this stage on the transitional arrangements to be provided for imports with a view to achieving a single market in this sector.

At the close of the debate, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue with the examination of this communication as a whole and noted that the Commission would pursue its contacts with delegations on the subject, the aim being to arrive at a consensus on this dossier at the next meeting of the Council in March.

5.II.90

non/AM/wec

**MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS**

**Relations with the ACP States**

The Council adopted the Regulation on the application of Decision No 1/90 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 of Mauritius with regard to its production of canned tuna.

**Anti-dumping**

The Council adopted the regulations

- extending - for a maximum period of two months - the anti-dumping duty on imports of welded tubes, of iron or non-alloy steel, originating in Yugoslavia or Romania;
- imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of ferro-silicon originating in Iceland (7,8%), Norway (7,8%), Sweden (4,1%), Venezuela (27,1%), or Yugoslavia (33,2%), except those sold for export to the Community by companies whose undertakings have been accepted.

**EEC-Hong Kong relations**

The Council recorded its agreement to the opening by Hong Kong of a Mission to the European Communities, to be known as the "Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office".

5.II.90

non/AM/wec

ECSC

The Council gave its assent

- in accordance with Article 54, second paragraph, of the ECSC Treaty, for the granting of a global loan to Consorzio di Credito per le Opere Pubbliche (CREDIOP) for financing investment programmes which contribute to facilitating the marketing of Community steel;
- under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty
  - = Banco de Crédito Industrial, Madrid (Spain)
  - = Midland Bank plc (United Kingdom)
  - = Westfalenbank, Bochum (FRG).

Open network provision

The Council adopted a common position on the Council Directive on the establishment of the internal market for telecommunications services through the implementation of open network provision (ONP) (for content, see Press Release 10479/89 Presse 235 from the Telecommunications Council meeting on 7 December 1989).

Fisheries

The Council adopted the Regulation laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources in the Regulatory Area defined by the International Convention on Future Multilateral Co-operation in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

Protection of workers against carcinogens

Further to the substantive agreement reached by the Labour and Social Affairs Council on 30 November 1989, the Council formally adopted its common position

5.II.90

non/AM/wec

with a view to the adoption of the Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens at work (see Press Release 10309/89 Presse 228 of 30 November 1989).

**Appointments**

The Council

- replaced a member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training;
  - appointed the members and alternates of the Advisory Committee on Nursing Training.
-

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4605/90 (Presse 12)

1385th Council meeting

- Economic and Financial Affairs -

Brussels, 12 February 1990

President: Mr Albert REYNOLDS

Minister for Finance  
of Ireland

12.II.90

ill/DJM/ep

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

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Niels HELVEG PETERSEN Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Theo WAIGEL Federal Minister for Finance

Mr Horst KOEHLER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Ionnis DRAGASSAKIS Minister of State, Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr Pedro PEREZ State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Pierre BEREGOVOY Ministre d'Etat, Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs and the Budget

12.II.90

III/DJM/ep

Ireland:

Mr Albert REYNOLDS  
Mrs Maire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN

Minister for Finance  
Minister of State,  
European Affairs

Italy:

Mr Guido CARLI

Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Thierry STOLL

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr W. KOK

Minister for Finance

Portugal:

Mr Miguel BELEZA

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Richard RYDER

Economic Secretary  
at the Treasury

◦ ◦ ◦

Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS  
Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN  
Mr Peter SCHMIDHUBER  
Mrs Christiane SCRIVENER

President  
Vice-President  
Member  
Member

12.II.90

ill/DJM/ep

OFFER FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO THE GDR

During the Ministers' lunch the Council heard an account from Mr WAIGEL of the offer of negotiations on the establishment of economic and monetary union between the two German States which Chancellor KOHL was to make to the GDR when he met Prime Minister MODROW the following day.

Mr WAIGEL undertook to inform the Presidency of the Council and the Commission of the outcome of the meeting.

Mr WAIGEL also confirmed that the development of relations between the two Germanys in no way affected his Government's commitment to the development of the Community and in particular to the attainment of economic and monetary union.

EMU: IMPLEMENTATION OF SURVEILLANCE PROCEDURES

The Council, on the basis of a note from the Presidency, held a preliminary discussion on the implementation of surveillance procedures during the first stage of EMU.

At the end of the discussion the Council invited the Monetary Committee, the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks and the Economic Policy Committee to examine the Presidency note in detail so that the Council could reach agreement at its March meeting.

The Council also noted information from Mr CHRISTOPHERSEN to the effect that the European Parliament was to deliver its Opinion on the two Decisions relating to the first stage of EMU at its part-session that week.

The Council called upon the Monetary Committee and the Governors of the Central Banks to examine the Opinion as soon as it was received.

12.II.90

ill/DJM/ep

AMENDMENT OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATION - CONCILIATION WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Council held a conciliation meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament led by Mr CRAVINHO, Vice-President, and composed of Mr PRICE, Rapporteur and Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control, Mr CORNELISSEN, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, and Mr LO GIUDICE, Member, on the subject of the common position adopted by the Council on 18 July 1989 on the amendment of the Financial Regulation applicable to the budget of the European Communities of 21 December 1977.

As the conciliation procedure resulted in agreement, the two Presidents were able to record that the procedure could be closed. The European Parliament delegation would be submitting a report to the European Parliament, which would adopt a final position within the next few days.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN UNDERTAKINGS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council took note of a statement by Mrs SCRIVENER appealing urgently to the Council to resolve the problems still outstanding as regards the three proposals on tax matters to facilitate co-operation between undertakings in the Community, viz. the proposals for Directives on mergers, divisions and contributions of assets and on parent companies and subsidiaries and the draft Convention on an arbitration procedure.

The Council will resume its discussions on the matter at a future meeting.

12.II.90

ill/DJM/ep

MEDIUM-TERM LOAN FOR HUNGARY - COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Community is granting Hungary a medium-term loan facility of an amount equivalent to one thousand million dollars for a maximum of 5 years in order to permit Hungary to overcome the difficulties in connection with its structural adjustment. This loan will be managed by the Commission, in full consultation with the Monetary Committee, in a manner consistent with any agreement reached between the IMF and Hungary.
2. The Council considers it appropriate to associate other G 24 countries with this facility. To this end, the Council invites the Commission to make immediate contact with the non-Community members of the G 24 countries.
3. The Council has decided to provide a first tranche of the equivalent in ECU of 400 million dollars which will be made available to Hungary as soon as a stand-by arrangement has been agreed with the IMF and the necessary borrowing operations have been concluded by the Commission. This first tranche will be covered by the Community budget in accordance with Article 16(3) of the Financial Regulation.
4. The Council has agreed to decide at a later stage and after consultation of the Monetary Committee on the detailed arrangement for the subsequent tranches.
5. The Permanent Representatives Committee has been instructed to establish as soon as possible, in co-operation with the Commission, the legal text necessary for the implementation of the first tranche, with a view to its adoption by the Council (without further discussion) as an "A" item.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Hungary/Poland

The Council adopted the Decisions:

- giving the European Investment Bank the Community's guarantee against losses under loans for projects in Hungary and Poland;
- on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters suspending the application of Article 12(1) of the Agreement between the EEC and Poland on trade and commercial and economic co-operation.

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council then authorized the Commission to begin negotiations with Hungary and Poland with a view to concluding, in respect of products covered by the ECSC Treaty, Agreements supplementary to those concluded on 21 November 1988 with Hungary and on 30 October 1989 with Poland on trade and commercial and economic co-operation, to be based on the same rules and principles.

Anti-dumping

The Council adopted the Regulations:

- extending for a maximum of three months from 28 February 1990 the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of small-screen colour television receivers originating in the Republic of Korea;
- imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of potassium permanganate originating in Czechoslovakia and definitively collecting the provisional anti-dumping duty imposed on those imports. The amount of this duty is

12.II.90

ill/DJM/ptm

equal to the amount by which the price, per kilogram net, free-at-Community frontier, not cleared through customs, is less than ECU 2,20.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing the automatic renewal or maintenance in force of provisions governing matters covered by the common commercial policy contained in the friendship, trade and navigation treaties and similar agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

EEC-EFTA co-operation on the "SCIENCE" programme

The Council adopted the Decisions concerning the conclusion of five Co-operation Agreements between the EEC and Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland on a programme plan to stimulate the international co-operation and interchange needed by European research scientists (SCIENCE).

These Agreements associate the five countries concerned with the implementation of the Stimulation Plan by stipulating that for their research and development bodies and research scientists the terms and conditions for the submission and evaluation of research proposals and the terms and conditions for the granting and conclusion of contracts under the Stimulation Plan shall be the same as those applicable to research and development bodies and research scientists in the Community.

The financial contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Stimulation Plan shall be determined by a proportionality factor based on GDP. Thus the contributions of the five countries concerned to the total of ECU 167 million estimated necessary for implementation of the SCIENCE programme will be:  
Austria: ECU 3 271 800, Finland: ECU 2 460 000, Norway: ECU 2 394 810,  
Sweden: ECU 4 514 000 and Switzerland: ECU 4 600 200 respectively.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE  
4606/90 (Presse 13)

ain/HM/mbm

1386th Council meeting  
- Agriculture -  
Brussels, 12 and 13 February 1990

President: Mr Joe WALSH

Minister of State at the Department of  
Agriculture and Food of Ireland

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/mbm

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

### Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER

State Secretary for European Affairs  
and Agriculture

### **Denmark:**

Mr Laurits TOERNAES

**Minister for Agriculture**

**Germany:**

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE

Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture  
and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL

State Secretary, Federal Ministry of  
Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece;

Mr Stavros DIMITRIS

**Minister for Agriculture**

Spain;

Mr. Carlos ROMERO-HERREIRA

**Minister for Agriculture**

France;

Mr Henri NALLET

**Minister for Agriculture**

Ireland:

Mr. Joe WALSH

Minister of State at the Department of  
Agriculture and Food

Mr. Seamus KIRK

Minister of State at the Department  
of Agriculture and Food

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/mbm

Italy:

Mr Romeo RICCIUTI

State Secretary for  
Agriculture and Forestry

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN

Minister for Agriculture and Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture, Nature  
Conservation and Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries  
and Food

United Kingdom:

Mr John Selwyn GUMMER

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries  
and Food

Mr David CURRY

Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture

◦

◦ ◦

Commission:

Mr R. MACSHARRY

Member

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/mbm

AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES (1990/1991)

The Council continued its discussions on agricultural prices and certain related measures for the marketing year 1990/1991. It discussed the following sectors in detail:

- cereals and rice
- sugar
- oilseeds and olive oil
- milk and milk products
- fresh and processed fruit and vegetables
- beef

At this stage the Council concentrated its discussions on the essential problems which had emerged when the Special Committee on Agriculture examined these various products.

The technical aspects of some of these sectors will require further study.

At the end of its discussions, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue examining the proposals for the other products and to submit to it for its next meeting on 5 and 6 March a full report on all the sectors covered by the Commission proposals.

o

o o

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/pk

Agri-monetary measures

The Council held an exchange of views on the Commission's proposal relating to agri-monetary measures. Delegations stated their reactions.

◦  
◦ ◦

Financial implications

The Council took note of the report from the Permanent Representatives Committee on the financial implications of the Commission proposals on prices and of the various comments made by delegations.

It agreed to consider the report as a necessary background for the decisions it was required to take on prices and related measures.

12/13.II.1990  
ain/HM/pk

SUSPENSION OF THE IMPORT LEVY ON SHEEPMEAT AND GOATMEAT

The Council examined the proposal on suspension of the levy on imports of sheepmeat and goatmeat from certain third countries.

Since agreement could not be reached at this stage, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to study the matter further.

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/pk

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decisions in the field of agriculture

The Council adopted Regulations:

- amending Regulation No 475/86 laying down general rules for the system for controlling the prices and quantities of certain products in the oils and fats sector released for consumption in Spain.

The purpose of this amendment is to create in Spain aid conditions similar to those in force in the other Member States for sunflower seeds directly incorporated into feedingstuffs.

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 on the common organization of the market in wine.

The purpose of this amendment is to extend until the end of the 1989/1990 wine year the derogation allowing compulsory distillation to be implemented in Greece in accordance with special provisions.

- on the monitoring of the payment of refunds or other amounts granted on export of agricultural products.

This Regulation sets down certain procedures for monitoring whether operations conferring entitlement to the payment of refunds or any other amounts in respect of export transactions have actually been carried out and executed correctly.

Its aim is to make export monitoring more effective and it provides for physical spot checks on goods at the time of export and scrutiny of payment application files.

12/13.II.1990

ain/HM/pk

The Council also adopted a Decision amending, for the fourth time, Decision 88/303/EEC recognizing certain parts of the territory of the Community as being either officially swine-fever free (East Flanders) or swine-fever free (Toscana region and Sicilia region).

Draft supplementary and amending budget No 1

Following the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council on 12 February 1990 concerning a medium-term loan for Hungary, the Council agreed to the establishment of draft supplementary and amending budget No 1/90, comprising the Community budget guarantee both for the first tranche of that loan and for the European Investment Bank loans to Poland and Hungary (in accordance with the decision also taken by the ECOFIN Council as an "A" item).

\_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4827/90 (Presse 19)

1387th Council meeting

- INTERNAL MARKET -

Brussels, 22 February 1990

President: Mr Desmond J. O'MALLEY  
Minister for Industry and  
Commerce, Ireland

22.II.90

ton/PT/mm<sup>2</sup>

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:

Mrs Anne-Birgitte LUNDHOLT

## Minister for Industry

### Germany:

Mr Otto SCHLECHT

State Secretary, Federal Ministry  
of Economic Affairs

### Greece:

Mr G. THEOPHANOUS

Secretary-General, Ministry of  
Trade

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES

State Secretary for Relations with  
the European Communities

### France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON

## Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Desmond J. O'MALLEY

Minister for Industry and Commerce

Mr Terry LEYDEN

Minister of State at the Department  
of Industry and Commerce with  
special responsibility for Trade  
and Marketing

22.II.90

ton/PT/mmk

Italy:

Mr Pierluigi ROMITA

Minister for Community Policies

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBELS

Minister for Economic Affairs,  
Minister for Transport,  
Minister for Public Works

Netherlands:

Mr Piet DANKERT

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Vitor MARTINS

State Secretary for European  
Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr John REDWOOD

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

o

o o

Commission:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN  
Sir Leon BRITTAN

Vice-President  
Vice-President

22.II.90

ton/PT/mmk

PUBLIC CONTRACTS

1. Procurement procedures of entities operating in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors

The Council reached agreement in principle on a common position on the proposal for a Directive on public contracts - excluded sectors. The purpose of the Directive is to open up genuine competition at Community level for contracts in the water, energy, transport and telecommunication sectors which were previously exempt from Community rules. Two general Directives on public supply contracts and public works contracts were also adopted recently.

The main points in the common position are as follows:

- The Directive will apply not only to public entities but also to private entities which operate in the areas listed on the basis of special or exclusive rights granted by a competent authority of a Member State.
- In the water sector only drinking water is covered. In the energy sector certain purchases of energy will not be subject to the Directive pending progress in Community energy policy. In the field of transport, air and sea transport are excluded from the scope of the Directive in view of the level of competition which already exists in these areas.

22.II.90

ton/PT/mmk

- Only contracts below certain thresholds will be covered. The thresholds are as follows:

= ECU 500 000 for works contracts;

= ECU 400 000 for general supplies;

= ECU 600 000 for telecommunications supplies.

- The agreed procurement procedures are very flexible and transparent and are designed to eliminate excess bureaucracy.

- Special provisions govern the award of supply contracts where the tender involves products originating in third countries with which the Community has not concluded, multilaterally or bilaterally, an agreement ensuring comparable and effective access for Community undertakings to the markets of those third countries.

These provisions allow, inter alia, for the possibility of rejecting a tender where the proportion of the products manufactured outside the Community in the total value of the manufactured products constituting the tender exceeds 50%. Preference will also be given to the Community tender if the conditions are equivalent and the price difference does not exceed 3%.

The Council and the Commission took this opportunity to reaffirm the European Community's commitment to a general and reciprocal opening-up of contracts at international level in the water, energy, telecommunications and transport sectors.

22.II.90

ton/PT/mmk

They also underlined the importance of the negotiations which will shortly be taking place to this end, within GATT or elsewhere, and the Community's willingness to contribute actively to their success.

The common position will be formally adopted at a forthcoming Council meeting and will then be submitted to the European Parliament for a second reading under the co-operation procedure.

2. Public service contracts

The Council heard a report from Vice-President BANGEMANN on progress in the Commission on a new proposal for a Directive on public service contracts.

So far Directives on public contracts (including the Directive for previously excluded sectors) cover only supplies and works and not services.

3. Monitoring and appeals procedures for "excluded" sector contracts

The Council took note of Vice-President BANGEMANN's announcement that the proposal for a Directive on the monitoring and appeals procedures applicable to public contracts in the water, energy, transport and telecommunications sectors would be submitted by 31 March 1990.

22.II.90

ton/PT/mmk

### INSURANCE

The Council took note of a statement from Vice-President BRITTAN on the progress of proceedings on the achievement of the internal market in insurance.

The Vice-President stressed the need to expedite proceedings in order to meet the deadlines laid down in the White Paper and to bring progress on the internal market in insurance up to the level of progress on other financial services.

The Presidency stated its programme for the first half of 1990 which is to achieve rapid progress on the insurance proposals currently under discussion.

### ACCOUNTS DIRECTIVES

The Council held a policy discussion on the two proposals for Directives:

- one to extend the scope of Directives 78/660/EEC (4th Directive) on annual accounts and 83/349/EEC (7th Directive) on consolidated accounts;
- and one amending Directive 78/660/EEC (4th Directive) on annual accounts and Directive 83/349/EEC (7th Directive) on consolidated accounts with respect to exemptions for small and medium-sized companies and the drawing up and publication of accounts in Ecus.

22.II.90  
ton/PT/mmk

The discussion identified points of convergence between delegations which should make it possible to discuss both proposals in parallel with a view to working out the overall compromise which the Presidency would like to reach before the end of its period of office.

The purpose of the proposal on scope is to apply the same accounting requirements which already exist for companies with share capital to a category of companies with unlimited liability all the members of which are limited companies. This means that such partnerships would have to draw up annual accounts in accordance with the 4th Directive. They would also be obliged to draw up consolidated accounts where the partnership is a parent undertaking.

The second proposal is intended, in the first part, to reduce the accounting obligations on small and medium-sized undertakings and, in the second part, to require accounts to be drawn up and published in Ecus.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Nutrition labelling

The Council adopted its common position on a proposal for a Directive on nutrition labelling for foodstuffs for the ultimate consumer.

This proposal follows the Commission "Communication on the completion of the Internal Market: Community legislation on foodstuffs" and is intended to improve consumer information and prevent barriers to trade caused by differences in nutrition labelling in the different Member States.

It introduces specific rules that must be applied by manufacturers when they employ nutrition labelling and which would have the effect of:

- providing a uniform and stable framework for national education and information programmes, following the line of the European Programme against Cancer which has been adopted by the Council;
- contributing, through general compatibility with the Codex, to a reduction in the costs borne by manufacturers exporting to non-member countries.

Consumer credit

The Council adopted the Directive making an addition to Directive 87/102 for the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions concerning consumer credit.

The addition involves introducing a Community method of calculating the annual percentage rate of charge in order to provide better information for the consumer. The annual percentage rate of charge is the rate which, over the year, equalises the present values of the prospective or actual commitments (loans, reimbursement and charges) of the lender and borrower. The rate will be calculated on the basis of a mathematical formula which appears in the Annex to the Directive.

As a transitional measure, Member States which, before notification of the Directive, use a formula other than the one in the Annex to the Directive may continue to do so until 31 December 1995. Six months before that date, the Council, acting on a report and a proposal from the Commission, will take a decision on the introduction of a single Community mathematical formula.

The Directive also establishes the principle whereby the items in the cost of the credit are included in the calculation of the annual percentage rate of charge. Only certain items specifically provided for in the Directive may be excluded.

The basic Directive and this amendment both apply to credits of between ECU 200 and ECU 2 000.

The Directive is justified both by the need to protect consumers and by the need to ensure transparency of offers with the achievement of the internal market in 1992.

Package travel

The Council adopted its common position on the amended proposal for a Directive on package travel, including package holidays and package tours.

This proposal harmonizes national provisions on essential points in order to encourage free movement of travel packages and avoid distortions of competition between operators in different countries and thereby improve consumer protection; the main provisions are that:

- the descriptive matter in the brochure provided by the organizer or the retailer understandably and accurately specify the price and other key information. Such information is binding on the organizer or the retailer.
- the contract must contain all the essential terms appropriate to the particular package; the Annex to the Directive contains a list of such terms which are to be communicated to the consumer before the contract is entered into. The prices laid down in the contract may not be revised except under conditions set out in the Directive and, in any event, no change may take place within less than 20 days of departure.
- the organizer and/or retailer party to the contract are responsible to the consumer for proper fulfilment of the obligations arising out of the contract, either by themselves or by third parties.

- the organizer and/or retailer party to the contract must provide proof of sufficient guarantees to ensure that, in the event of insolvency, payments made are reimbursed and consumers are repatriated.

The Member States are required to comply with the provisions of the Directive by 31 December 1992 at the latest.

Approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable electromedical devices

The Council adopted its common position on a first proposal in the field of medical devices which is designed to ensure free movement of such devices within the Community.

The proposal relates to medical devices introduced into the human body which depend for their functioning on a source of power, the best-known example being a pacemaker.

Community transit - abolishing lodgement of the transit advice note

The Council adopted the Regulation amending, with a view to abolishing lodgement of the transit advice note on crossing an internal frontier of the Community, Regulation No. 222/77 on Community transit.

This Regulation is in line with the approach outlined in the Commission communication of June 1989 to the Council and the European Parliament on the completion of the internal market, the object being to set up a transitional phase accompanied by measures to simplify controls in preparation for the elimination of all formalities relating to intra-Community trade and particularly the abolition of fiscal frontiers.

The Regulation is to enter into force on 1 July 1990.

Aid to Romania and Poland

The Council has adopted Regulations:

- on a second emergency measure for the supply of certain agricultural products to Romania.

The products are:  
= 62 500 tonnes of maize  
= 62 500 tonnes of rye  
= 2 500 tonnes of butter  
= 2 500 tonnes of olive oil  
= 10 000 tonnes of beef and veal,  
the value being ECU 20,5 million.

- an emergency action for the supply of certain agricultural products to Poland, viz. 300 000 tonnes of common wheat of bread-making quality of a total value of ECU 30 million.

Medium-term financial assistance for Hungary

Following the conclusions of the ECO/FIN Council on 12 February, the Council formally adopted the Decision providing medium-term financial assistance for Hungary (for the content, see the ECO/FIN Council's conclusions in press release 4605/90 (Presse 12)).

Relations with the ACP States - transitional measures up to the entry into force  
of the 4th ACP-EEC Convention

The Council agreed to the texts to be proposed to the ACP States regarding the transitional measures to be applied between the expiry of the third ACP-EEC Convention (28 February 1990) and the entry into force of the 4th Convention.

The ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors, powers having been delegated to it by the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers, will take a decision on the above transitional measures at its next meeting on 27 February 1990.

The transitional measures will involve either continuing to apply certain provisions of the 3rd Convention (mainly those on financial and technical co-operation, Stabex, Sysmin, etc.) or applying the provisions of the 4th Convention in advance (those on the accession of Namibia, trade and rules of origin, sectoral protocols, etc.).

It is also intended that, during the transitional period, the ACP States, the Community and its Member States will, as a mark of their determination to move rapidly from one stage of co-operation to another, take all the practical and legal measures necessary to ensure that the provisions of the new Convention will be implemented as soon as it enters into force.

Appointments

The Council replaced:

- three full members of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers;
  - one full member and one alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training;
  - one full member of the European Social Fund Committee;
  - one alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Education and Training in the field of Architecture.
-

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE'

4828/90 (Presse 20)

1388th meeting of the Council

- RESEARCH -

Brussels, 26 February 1990

President:

Mr Michael SMITH

Minister for Science  
and Technology  
of Ireland

26.11.90  
fel/HM/pj

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

Belgium:

Mr Eric DERYCKE State Secretary, attached to the Minister for Science Policy

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER Minister for Education and Research

Germany:

Mr Heinz RIESENHUBER Federal Minister for Research and Technology

Greece:

Mr Constantinos LYBEROPOULOS Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Juan Manuel ROJO ALAMINOS State Secretary for the Universities and Research

France:

Mr Hubert CURIEN Minister for Research and Technology

Ireland:

Mr Michael SMITH Minister of State at the Department of Industry and Commerce with special responsibility for Science and Technology

Mr Terry LEYDEN Minister of State at the Department of Industry and Commerce, with special responsibility for Trade and Marketing

Italy:

Mr Antonio RUBERTI Minister for the Universities, Scientific Research and Technology

26.II.90  
fel/HM/pj

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN

Minister responsible for Scientific  
Research

Netherlands:

Mr Koos ANDRIESSEN

Minister for Economic Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Luis VALENTE DE OLIVEIRA

Minister for Planning and  
Territorial Administration

Mr José SUCENA PAIVA

State Secretary for Science and  
Technology

United Kingdom:

Mr Douglas HOGG

Minister for Industry and Enterprise

o

o

Commission:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI

Vice-President

26.II.90

fel/HM/pj

FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF RESEARCH  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT (1990-1994) - CONCILIATION WITH  
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Council held a conciliation meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament led by Mr von der VRING, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, and comprising Mr LA PERGOLA, Chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research and technology, Mr CHIABRANDO, Rapporteur for the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, Mr ADAM, Mr REGGE and Mr ROBLES PIQUER, Members of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, and Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN, Mr LO GIUDICE and Mr PAPOUTSIS, Members of the Committee on Budgets, to discuss the framework programme for research and technological development (1990-1994).

The meeting enabled the European Parliament delegation to explain in detail the position adopted by the Parliament in its Resolution of 14 December 1989 on the joint guideline concerning the new framework programme, adopted by the Council on 15-16 December 1989.

The two parties then held a detailed discussion, in which the Commission took an active part, which enabled certain points in their respective positions to be clarified.

The European Parliament delegation felt that consultations were needed on the explanations given by the Council during the discussion. The two institutions agreed to continue technical discussions over the next two or three weeks in order to try to bring their points of view closer together.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decisions in the research field

The Council adopted Decisions

- adopting a specific Community research and technological development programme in the field of competitiveness of agriculture and management of agricultural resources (1989-1993).

The programme, with an estimated budget of ECU 55 million for its implementation, aims in particular to help farmers adapt to the new situation created by over-production and a restrictive policy on prices and markets.

The Community's financial contribution will normally be 50% of expenditure. However, for projects carried out by research institutes or universities, the Community may bear 100% of the additional costs.

- concerning the conclusion of five Co-operation Agreements between the EEC and Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland in the field of medical and health research.

These Agreements will associate the five countries with the Community R&D programme in the field of medical and health research (1987-1991) (see Press Release 8589/87 Presse 157 of 28.9.1987).

Under the Agreements, the parties will co-operate for the period from 1988 to 1991 in the research targets and areas of the Community programme, by co-ordinating those activities which form part of the research programmes of the five countries in question and of the Community. The financial contributions of the contracting parties will be calculated using a proportionality factor based on GDP.

26.II.90  
fel/HM/mmk

Third EEC-Cyprus Financial Protocol

The Council adopted the Decision concluding the Third EEC-Cyprus Financial Protocol signed in Brussels on 30 November 1989.

The Protocol falls within the ambit of the financial and technical co-operation provided for by the Association Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Cyprus, and provides for participation by the Community, on the terms set out in the Protocol, in the financing of projects intended to contribute to the economic and social development of Cyprus.

The Protocol provides for an aggregate amount of ECU 62 million over a further five-year period (1989-1993), allocated as follows:

- ECU 44 million of loans from the own resources of the European Investment Bank, at normal market conditions, with an interest rate subsidy of 1,5% per annum;
- ECU 18 million from the Community's budgetary resources, comprising ECU 13 million in the form of grants (including the abovementioned interest rate subsidies) and ECU 5 million for risk capital formation.

Agreement between the EEC and the USSR

The Council adopted Decisions

- approving the conclusion by the Commission, on behalf of the European Atomic Energy Community, of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on trade and commercial and economic co-operation
- on the conclusion by the European Economic Community of an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on trade and commercial and economic co-operation.

Anti-dumping

The Council adopted the Regulation repealing Regulations No 1826/84 and No 1282/81 imposing definitive anti-dumping duties on imports of vinyl acetate monomer originating in Canada or the United States of America.

Agriculture

The Council adopted a Regulation amending Regulation No 2967/89 relating to the continued import of New Zealand butter into the United Kingdom on special terms. The purpose of the amendment is to reduce the special levy on imports of New Zealand butter following the change in the intervention price of butter on 1 March 1990, as decided by the Council at its meeting on 11-12 December 1989.

---