

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: FRANCE

JANUARY-JUNE 1984

Meetings and press releases January-February 1984

<b>Meeting number</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
902 <sup>nd</sup>	Agriculture	9-10 January 1984
903 <sup>rd</sup>	Foreign Affairs	23 January 1984
904 <sup>th</sup>	Iron and Steel	26 January 1984
905 <sup>th</sup>	Fisheries	31 January 1984
906 <sup>th</sup>	Economics/Finance	6 February 1984
907 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture	6-7 February 1984
908 <sup>th</sup>	ACP-EEC ministerial preparations – no release available	9 February 1984
909 <sup>th</sup>	Foreign Affairs	20-21 February 1984
910 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture	27-28 February 1984
911 <sup>th</sup>	Research	28 February 1984

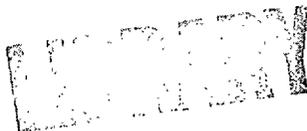
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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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## PRESS RELEASE

4088/84 (Presse 4)



902nd meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 9 and 10 January 1984

President: Mr Michel ROCARD,  
Minister for Agriculture  
of the French Republic

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 Niels Anker KOFOED  
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE  
Federal Minister for Food,  
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS  
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR  
State Secretary,  
Federal Ministry for Food,  
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD  
Minister for Agriculture

Mr René SOUCHON  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY  
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI  
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Giulio SANTARELLI  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture

Mrs Paola CAVIGLIASSO  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Viticulture, Water Control  
and Forestry

Netherlands:

Mr G. BRAKS  
Minister for Agriculture  
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MacGREGOR  
Minister of State,  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN  
President

Mr Poul DALSGER  
Member

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK ON AGRICULTURE, TAKING ACCOUNT, INTER ALIA,  
OF THE FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS AND OF SAVINGS ENVISAGED BY  
THE COMMISSION

The Council, convinced of the overriding need to arrive at a solution, on the basis of proposals from the Commission, regarding both the revision of the common agricultural policy and the fixing of agricultural prices and related measures for the 1984/1985 marketing year, agreed to make every effort to attain this objective and to devote most of its proceedings at its meetings on 6 and 7 and 27 and 28 February and on 12 and 13 March 1984 to this end.

The Council accordingly instructed the High-level Working Party forthwith to resume its technical examination of the proposals relating to the revision of the common agricultural policy, and the Special Committee on Agriculture to study the proposals relating to the fixing of prices and related measures for the 1984/1985 marketing year as soon as the latter had been submitted by the Commission, and to report back to the Council on these dossiers for the first time at its meeting on 6 and 7 February 1984.

AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on five proposals aimed, respectively, at:

- in the first case, extending the duration of the common measures provided for under the socio-structural Directives 72/159/EEC, 72/160/EEC and 72/161/EEC until 30 June 1984, on the understanding that:
  - = the Member States would be authorized to replace the development plan with a plan for improving holdings;
  - = the Federal Republic of Germany would be authorized not to apply the measures provided for by Directive 72/160/EEC;
- in the second case, suspending the grant of investment aids in the milk sector with derogations for mountain areas defined in Article 3(3) of Directive 75/268/EEC and for holdings in certain regions for which special measures concerning livestock farming are laid down;
- in the last three cases, extending until 31 December 1984, exclusively for Ireland, Italy and Greece, the special conditions for interest rate subsidies provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC and currently in force.

At the close of its discussions, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to expedite its technical examination of these proposals in the light of these discussions and to report back to the Council at its meeting on 6 and 7 February 1984.

Furthermore, as regards the dossier concerning the general revision of the agricultural structures policy, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine in depth the main problems arising in this area and to report back to it at its meeting on 6 and 7 February 1984.

VETERINARY SECTOR

The Council adopted by a qualified majority, in the official languages of the Communities, two Decisions concerning certain measures of protection against classical swine fever applicable in certain limited regions of the Community and which the Commission had been unable to adopt.

The first Decision, which involves a third amendment to the previous Decision on trade in live pigs, concerns the following regions:

Kingdom of the Netherlands: the parts of the provinces of Geuldre, of North Brabant and of Limbourg where vaccination has been carried out; for the rest of the territory a zone of 5 km radius around all outbreaks of classical swine fever.

Federal Republic of Germany : the "Regierungsbezirk" of Münster; in the other regions those "Kreise" in which classical swine fever has been found.

Kingdom of Belgium : a zone of 5 km radius around all outbreaks of classical swine fever.

Italian Republic : the province of Perugia; for the rest of the territory a zone of 5 km radius around all outbreaks of classical swine fever.

The second Decision, which concerns fresh pigmeat from Member States affected by this disease, concerns the "Regierunsbezirk" of Münster and, in the "Regierungsbezirk" of Weser-Ems, the "Kreis" of Emsland, in the Federal Republic of Germany.

COMMISSION REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN SHEEPMEAT AND GOATMEAT, AND

COUNCIL ESTIMATES CONCERNING

= BEEF AND VEAL INTENDED FOR THE PROCESSING INDUSTRY FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 1984

= YOUNG MALE BOVINE ANIMALS WEIGHING 300 KG OR LESS AND INTENDED FOR FATTENING FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 1984

The Council noted that the Commission intended to submit proposals to it on this subject by its meeting on 6 and 7 February 1984.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council heard statements relating to the following questions:

- Question relating to French exports of alcohol  
(United Kingdom delegation)
- Problems concerning the pigmeat market  
(Irish delegation)

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending until 31 January 1984 Regulation (EEC) No 2692/83 derogating from the application of certain provisions relating to the adjustment of free-at-frontier values of certain cheeses.

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

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

- on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and Barbados, Belize, the People's Republic of the Congo, Fiji, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, the Republic of Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, the Republic of Malawi, Mauritius, the Republic of Suriname, the Kingdom of Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Uganda and the Republic of Zimbabwe on the guaranteed prices for sugar cane for the 1983/1984 delivery period;
- fixing the guaranteed prices for sugar cane originating in the overseas countries and territories for the 1983/1984 delivery period.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mrs Dorte KNUDSEN, Ministry of the Interior, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives, to replace Mrs Ulla THORSTEINSSON, alternate member, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 7 March 1986.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Dokter Nestor DUFRANE, Bestuursdirecteur bij het bestuur geneeskundepraktijk, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training, to replace Mrs Yvonne ROMBOOTS, alternate member, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 8 November 1985.

Finally, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Dokter Nestor DUFRANE, Bestuursdirecteur bij het bestuur geneeskundepraktijk, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on the training of Dental Practitioners, to replace Mrs Yvonne ROMBOOTS, alternate member, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 10 October 1986.

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PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

4381/84 (Presse 10)

903rd meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 23 January 1984

President: Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Minister for External Relations  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS	Minister for External Relations
Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark

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

Germany

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Hans-Werner LAUTENSCHLAGER	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS	State Secretary for EEC Affairs
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France

Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Minister for External Relations
Mr Roland DUMAS	Minister for European Affairs

Ireland

Mr Jim O'KEEFFE	Minister of State, Department of Foreign Affairs
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Italy

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Mario FIORET	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH

Vice-President of the Government  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr W.F. van EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs

o

o

o

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Mr Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN ATHENS

The Council heard the Presidency's suggestions regarding the timetable, procedures and method for discussions following on from the European Council meeting in Athens, in preparation for its meeting in Brussels on 19-20 March 1984.

In a discussion on the matter, all delegations supported the Presidency's suggestions and expressed their wish to contribute fully to the success of the enterprise.

PREPARATION FOR THE ACP-EEC MINISTERIAL MEETING

After hearing a report from Mr PISANI on progress in the negotiations for the renewal of the Lomé Convention, the Council discussed preparations for the first ministerial negotiating Conference, scheduled for 9 and 10 February 1984.

It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue with preparations in the light of discussions, taking into account any further developments in the negotiations.

The Council would finalize the Community's preparations at a meeting to be held on the morning of the conference's opening day.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council prepared for the 16th ministerial meeting of the Conference for the Accession of Portugal to the European Communities, which was held in the late afternoon of the same day. The Portuguese delegation was headed by Mr Ernâni Rodrigues Lopes, Minister for Finance and Planning, accompanied by Mr Soares Costa, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Food.

RELATIONS WITH THE EFTA COUNTRIES

The President told the Council that Sweden, currently in the EFTA Presidency, had expressed the wish of EFTA members for a ministerial meeting with the Community.

The Council agreed to such a ministerial meeting, which it would propose be held in April. It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare for such a meeting in liaison with the Commission.

ENERGY PROBLEMS

After examining certain energy problems, particularly demonstration projects and a contribution to the ECSC from the General Budget (coal: social aspect), the Council noted that further examinations should be carried out, and accordingly requested the Energy Council to take up these matters again at its next meeting, together with the questions of coking coal and financial aid for solid fuels.

ESPRIT PROGRAMME

Having heard statements from the two delegations which had not previously been able to adopt a position on the financing of the ESPRIT programme, the Council took note that the Research Council would be discussing the matter at its meeting planned for 28 February, with a view to reaching a definitive conclusion.

REPORT ON EUROPEAN UNION

In the framework of political co-operation, the Council and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs confirmed that the members of the European Council had approved the report on European Union. This report will be forwarded to the European Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

OCT-ACP Relations

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the provisional application to St. Christopher and Nevis of the arrangements provided for in Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community (maintaining the OCT arrangements until the accession by that country, which became independent on 19 September 1983, to the ACP-EEC Convention).

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision extending indefinitely the Decision of 28 April 1981 on the application of the OECD Understanding on export credits for ships.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1418/76 on the common organization of the market in rice.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement for the implementation of a concerted action project on the effects of processing and distribution on the quality and nutritive value of food, between the Community and third States participating in European Co-operation in the field of scientific and technical research (COST).

Social policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Resolution, the substance of which was adopted on 8 December 1983, on the promotion of employment for young people.

ECSC

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

- Bank of Scotland, United Kingdom
- The Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., United Kingdom
- United Paper Mills/Shotton Paper Company Ltd., United Kingdom.

Appointments

The Council appointed

- on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr G.A. CREMERS, Sekretaris voor Onderwijs, vorming en Jeugdzaken van het C.N.V., as a member of the European Social Fund Committee to replace Mr B. PRONK, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 23 May 1985;
- on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Mr F. CASSIERS, Directeur général, Ministère de la Prévoyance Sociale, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers, to replace Mr J. DONIS, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984;

- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr R.C.H. THOMAS, Confederation of British Industry, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers, to replace Mr H.M.L. MORTON, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984;
  
- on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Drs. Th de KEULENAAR, Directeur van de Directie Onderwijs en Vorming Werkende jongeren, as a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, to replace Mr H.A.J.M. VRIJHOEF, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 19 April 1985;
  
- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr F.F. JARVIS, General Secretary, National Union of Teachers, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee, to replace Mr Geoffrey DRAIN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1986;
  
- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr E.A.B. HAMMOND, General Secretary, Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee, to replace Mr F.J. CHAPPLE, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

4462/84 (Presse 11)

904th meeting of the Council

- Iron and Steel -

Brussels, 26 January 1984

President: Mr Laurent FABIUS,

Minister for Industry  
and Research  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS  
Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ib STETTER  
Minister for Industry

Germany:

Otto Graf LAMBSDORFF  
Federal Minister for  
Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Tassos YANNITSIS  
Special Counsellor,  
Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Laurent FABIUS  
Minister for Industry  
and Research

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON  
Minister for Industry and Energy  
  
Mr Edward COLLINS  
Minister of State,  
Department of Industry and Energy

Italy:

Mr Renato ALTISSIMO  
Minister for Industry  
  
Mr Clelio DARIDA  
Minister for State Holdings  
  
Mr Francesco FORTE  
Minister for Co-ordination of  
Community Policies  
  
Mr Bruno ORSINI  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Industry

Luxembourg:

Mrs Colette FLESCH  
Vice-President of the Government,  
Minister for Economic Affairs,  
Small Firms and Traders

Netherlands:

Mr G. van AARDENNE,  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Norman TEBBIT  
Secretary of State for Trade  
and Industry  
  
Mr Norman LAMONT  
Minister of State,  
Department of Trade and Industry

For the Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON, Vice-President  
Mr F.J.J.J. ANDRIESEN, Member

PRODUCTION QUOTAS

Pursuant to its conclusions of 25 July 1983, the Council discussed the problems raised by extending the production quota system under Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty beyond 31 January 1984 and in particular the concern expressed by several delegations.

Following this discussion the Council gave its assent to an extension of the production quota system until 31 December 1985 as an accompaniment to the implementation of restructuring in the iron and steel sector as decided by the Commission on 29 June 1983.

STEEL INDUSTRY: SOCIAL ASPECTS

The Council stressed the need for social measures in the steel industry to accompany, at Community level, the restructuring undertaken in the iron and steel sector. The Council therefore instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite examination of the technical and financial aspects of these social measures so as to enable the Council to take a decision in February.

EXPORTS OF SCRAP

The Council examined the existing situation with regard to exports of scrap to non-member countries. It was agreed that these exports should be carefully monitored so as to keep abreast of trends on this market. At the same time the Council asked the Commission to carry out a study of the market to enable the Council to appraise the possible consequences.

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STEEL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES

The Council was informed by Vice-President DAVIGNON that an American firm (Bethlehem Steel) had filed a complaint with the I.T.C. with a view to restricting imports of ordinary steel into the United States.

The Council shared the Commission's concern over the matter and instructed the Commission to ask the American party to open formal consultations as laid down in the EEC/United States steel arrangement and state that these consultations were necessary as a result of the complaint lodged by Bethlehem Steel, which constitutes a development which might compromise this arrangement. These consultations would be conducted by the Commission with the aim of obtaining guarantees from the American side regarding compliance with the arrangement.

OTHER DECISION

Relations with Israel

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the application of Decision No 2/83 of the EEC-Israel Co-operation Council again amending Articles 6 and 17 of the Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation.

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PRESS RELEASE

4596/84 (Presse,16)

LIBRARY

905th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 31 January 1984

President: Mr Guy LENGAGNE,  
State Secretary  
responsible for the Sea,  
attached to the Minister for Transport  
of the French Republic

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 Henning GROVE  
Minister for Fisheries  
Mr Lars Emil JOHANSEN  
Minister in the Government of  
Greenland  
Mr Thomas LAURITSEN  
State Secretary,  
Ministry for Fisheries

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Panayiotis KATSAROS  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture

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

France:

Mr Guy LENGAGNE  
State Secretary responsible  
for the Sea, attached to the  
Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Patrick O'Toole  
Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI  
Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER  
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Aart DE ZEEUW  
Director-General  
Ministry of Agriculture and  
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING  
Minister of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food  
Lord GRAY  
Minister of State at the  
Scottish Office

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEOORGIS  
Member

1984 TACS AND QUOTAS

The Council approved (<sup>1</sup>) the Regulation fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks occurring in the Community's fishing zone, provisional total allowable catches for 1984, the provisional share of these catches available to the Community, the allocation of that share between the Member States and the conditions under which the total allowable catches may be fished.

It is the first time since the implementation of the common fisheries policy on 25 January 1983 that the Council has taken the necessary decisions on TACs and quotas in time for the beginning of the fishing year. Agreement on this Regulation was reached after the Council had discussed in particular three main problems, namely mackerel fishing possibilities, herring fishing in the North Sea and fishing for cod and redfish in Greenland waters. It achieved an overall compromise on the basis of a proposal from the Presidency and the Commission.

The purpose of fixing TACs and quotas is to ensure

- in the interests of both fishermen and consumers - protection of fishing areas and stocks of fish, and a balanced exploitation of fishery resources.

To guarantee efficient administration of the TACs, the Regulation lays down specific conditions governing fishing operations and divides the TACs available to the Community in 1984 among the Member States in such a way as to ensure relative stability and efficient planning for the fishing industry.

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(<sup>1</sup>) The Danish delegation, which has given its agreement subject to confirmation will give its final reply at the beginning of next week.

However, as the negotiations with some third countries with which the Community has stocks in common are not yet completed, and scientific advice is not yet available on all the stocks, the level adopted for some TACs or for the Community share of them is provisional at this stage, and therefore subject to review. Particularly in the case of herring, the Council will examine the situation before 31 May 1984 on the basis of a Commission proposal, taking account of definitive scientific advice, and in the light of the consultations with Norway.

The Council also approved the distribution between the Member States of catch quotas allocated in 1984 to Community vessels in Canadian waters, in accordance with the Fisheries Agreement between the Community and Canada. The allocation of 16 000 t of cod and 7 000 t of squid is the same as for 1983.

The Council also approved the necessary measures for implementing the catch quotas applicable to certain fish stocks for 1984 established by the Fisheries Commission of the North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) in the regulated zone defined by the Convention on Future Multilateral Co-operation in the North-West Atlantic Fisheries. These quotas will be allocated among Member States in accordance with the scales adopted in previous years.

FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH SENEGAL

The Council was apprised by the Commission of the results of the negotiations on the conditions for continuing the Fisheries Agreement between the EEC and Senegal, signed on 15 June 1979, beyond 15 November 1983.

The amendments to the Agreement which were negotiated by the Commission relate to certain technical provisions. The new Protocol accompanying the Agreement lays down the financial compensation to be paid by the Community up to 15 January 1986.

At this meeting, the Council adopted the provisions relating to fishing off the Senegalese coast for the period up to 15 January 1984 and the arrangements provisionally applying the amended Agreement negotiated by the Commission as from that date.

The Council will finally adopt the amendment to the Agreement and the new Protocol on receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament.

FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH THE SEYCHELLES

The Commission placed before the Council a draft Agreement between the EEC and the Government of the Republic of the Seychelles concerning fishing off the Seychelles, initialled on 18 January 1984.

This Agreement is intended to allow Community fishermen to fish 6 000 t of tuna in return for the payment of certain dues. The Community must also pay a financial compensation to the Seychelles and take part in carrying out projects connected with the development of the fishing industry in the Seychelles.

The Council expressed satisfaction at the outcome of these negotiations and agreed to take the necessary steps, on a proposal from the Commission, to ensure provisional implementation of the Agreement. It will finally adopt the Agreement on the basis of the Commission's formal text following receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament.

AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN

The Council was informed by the Commission of the results of the recent consultations between the EEC and Sweden on the fisheries arrangement for 1984, and gave its agreement in principle to these results. It agreed to act on receipt of formal proposals from the Commission.

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Food aid

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

- amending Regulations (EEC) No 1311/80 and No 1400/81 on the supply of skimmed-milk powder to certain developing countries and specialized bodies under food aid programmes;
- amending Regulations (EEC) No 1313/80 and No 1402/81 on the supply of milk fats to certain developing countries and specialized bodies under food aid programmes.

The purpose of these two Regulations is to allow the reallocation of certain quantities of milk products which it has not been possible to use as provided for under the 1980 and 1981 food-aid programmes: 1 765 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder and 250 tonnes of butteroil to Ghana, and 3 500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder to Somalia.

Customs union and commercial policy

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

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain aqueous solutions of human alpha-2-interferon, intended for the manufacture of pharmaceutical specialities, falling within heading ex 35.04 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- extending the period of validity of Regulation (EEC) No 2692/83 derogating from the application of certain provisions relating to the adjustment of free-at-frontier values of certain cheeses;
- on the classification of goods under subheading 07.01 H of the Common Customs Tariff (Vegetables, fresh or chilled: Onions, shallots and garlic).
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2779/78 on the procedure for applying the ECU to legal acts adopted in the customs sphere.

Atomic questions

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision adopting a research programme concerning the decommissioning of nuclear installations.

The aim of this programme is the joint development of ways of managing decommissioned nuclear installations and the radio-active waste resulting from their dismantling, so as to ensure the best possible protection for mankind and the environment at the various stages.

The programme is for a period of five years, with an estimated necessary amount of 12,1 MECU and a staff of 3.

Social policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the organization of a labour force sample survey in the spring of 1984.

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PRESS RELEASE

4723/84 (Presse 19)

LIBRARY

906th meeting of the Council  
- Economics/Finance -  
Brussels, 6 February 1984

President: Mr Jacques DELORS,  
Minister for Economic Affairs,  
Finance and the Budget  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN  
Minister for Finance

Germany:

Mr Otto SCHLECHT  
State Secretary,  
Federal Ministry of  
Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Panayiotis ROUMELIOTIS  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Mr Günter OBERT  
State Secretary,  
Federal Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS  
Minister for Economic Affairs,  
Finance and the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Allan DUKES  
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA  
Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER  
Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr H. RUDING  
Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON  
Chancellor of the Exchequer

For the Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI, Vice-President  
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES, Member

Also present at this meeting:

Mr Michel CAMDESSUS  
Chairman of the Monetary Committee

Mr I. BYATT  
Chairman of the Economic Policy Committee

Mr Jérôme VIGNON  
Chairman of the Co-ordinating Group for Economic and Financial  
Policies

PROGRAMME OF WORK

At the start of this first meeting of the ECO/FIN Council under the French Presidency, the President gave some indications of the proposed programme of work as regards both the Community's internal proceedings and the timetable of international meetings.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION

On the basis of a report from the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Group for Economic and Financial Policies and of a statement by Vice-President ORTOLI, the Council held an exchange of views on the prospects for the international economic situation in 1984.

The discussion enabled the Ministers to express their views on the scope of the recovery under way, the factors which conditioned and stimulated it and the aspects which could consolidate its development in the medium term. In this connection, they also voiced their continuing concern about the employment situation, the development of international monetary relations and the level of interest rates.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OECD

On the basis of a report from the Chairman of the Economic Policy Committee, the Council held a detailed exchange of views on the proceedings which the OECD Ministers will devote to medium-term economic problems at the special meeting in Paris on 13 and 14 February 1984.

INTEREST SUBSIDIES FOR CERTAIN LOANS

The Council carried out a further examination of the problems arising with regard to the Commission proposal to extend for a two-year period the interest subsidy granted under the European Monetary System for certain loans. The Council agreed to return to this matter subsequently.

INNOVATION IN SMUS

The Council examined the Commission proposal for empowering the Commission to help, on an experimental basis, to finance innovation in SMUs under a special tranche of 100 MECU of NCI III on special terms (lowering of the interest burden, security for the operation).

The Council agreed to return to this matter in the light of the views expressed at this meeting, particularly on certain technical aspects which the Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to study.

VARIOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the ideas expressed by Minister DE CLERCQ, Chairman of the Interim Committee of the IMF, on that Committee's next meeting, and of a communication from the French delegation on the problems encountered in the replenishment of the capital of the IDA.

It agreed to examine these questions at one of its forthcoming meetings and in the light of a communication from the Monetary Committee.

PRESS RELEASE

4724/84 (Presse 20)

907th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 6 and 7 February 1984

President: Mr Michel ROCARD,  
Minister for Agriculture  
of the French Republic

6/7.II.84

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 Niels Anker KOFOED  
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE  
Federal Minister for Food,  
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS  
Minister for Agriculture

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

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD  
Minister for Agriculture

Mr René SOUCHON  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY  
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI  
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Giulio SANTARELLI  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MUHLEN  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Viticulture, Water Control  
and Forestry

Netherlands:

Mr G. BRAKS  
Minister for Agriculture  
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MacGREGOR  
Minister of State,  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER  
Member

- FIXING OF PRICES FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES FOR 1984/1985

- ADAPTING THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

In general terms, the Council stressed the link between the Commission proposals on the fixing of agricultural prices for 1984/1985 and related measures and the proposals for adapting the common agricultural policy. Taking account of these general considerations, it:

- = held a preliminary discussion on the proposals on the fixing of prices. This policy debate enabled delegations to give their initial reactions on both the political and technical aspects;
- = carried out, on the basis of a report from the High-Level Working Party, a detailed examination of the questions concerning the setting up of a system to enable the volume of milk production to be controlled.

Following its discussions, the Council agreed to continue its examination of these two issues at its meeting on 27 and 28 February, having in the meantime

- = instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to carry out a detailed examination of the specific questions raised by the various sectors concerned by the proposals on the fixing of prices for 1984/1985 and related measures;
- = asked the High-Level Working Party to continue in greater detail its examination, in particular, of the various systems envisaged for controlling the volume of milk production, the problems raised by certain other products such as beef and veal and sheepmeat, fruit and vegetables, tobacco, oilseeds, olive oil and wine, and the questions relating to the general level of prices and the monetary compensatory amounts, and to submit to the Council a report indicating all the factors which would open up possible approaches to solving the problems outstanding.

AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

The Council had a further discussion on the Commission proposals concerning agricultural structures.

Firstly, the Council examined in greater detail the proposals for Regulations concerning the review of the agricultural structures policy and in particular the replacement of development plans by improvement plans, the link between the structures policy and the market policy and the modulation of structural policy instruments at regional level. The Council also discussed the financial implications of the Commission proposals.

At the end of the discussion on the revision of structural policy, the Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue its work in the light of the discussions held and to report back to it before its next meeting.

Subsequently, pending a decision on the revision of the structural policy, the Council turned its attention to the extension of the Directives concerning agricultural structures. In view, inter alia, of the absence of the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council agreed to postpone this question until its next meeting.

COMMISSION REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN SHEEPMEAT AND GOATMEAT

After taking note of a statement by the Commission representative reviewing the current position regarding the preliminary talks with third countries on the renegotiation of voluntary restraint agreements, and pending additional proposals from the Commission, the Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue its examination of this issue and to report back to it at its meeting on 27 and 28 February, in order that a decision could be reached.

CONTINUATION OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM  
ON SPECIAL TERMS

The Council took note of the Commission proposal on the continuation of New Zealand butter imports into the United Kingdom on special terms and agreed to resume its discussion of this at its meeting on 27 and 28 February 1984 with a view to reaching a decision.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council recorded its agreement by a qualified majority to the Commission proposals recommending for 1984:

= an estimate of 50 000 tonnes of beef and veal for the processing industry

= an estimate of 190 000 head of young male bovine animals weighing 300 kilogrammes or less intended for fattening,

on the understanding that the texts of these proposals would be finalized in the official languages of the Communities.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending for the nineteenth time Directive 64/54/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption. Until the Council is able to take a decision on the whole Commission proposal of 3 December 1981 involving authorization for certain other products as well, this Directive is intended to extend from 16 February 1984 to 15 April 1984 the authorization of the use of thiabendazole as a holding measure to avoid any break in traditional trade flows of citrus fruit and bananas.

Taxation

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Italian Republic to derogate until 31 December 1983 from the value added tax arrangements in the context of aid to earthquake victims in Southern Italy.

.../...

Customs union and commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation suspending tariff concessions and raising duties under the Common Customs Tariff in regard to certain products originating in the United States of America, and establishing quantitative restrictions in regard to other products originating in that country.

This Regulation implements the Council's decision of principle of 29 November 1983 to introduce compensatory measures vis-à-vis the United States, in the absence of any agreement following consultations with that country pursuant to Article XIX of the GATT, subsequent to the United States decision of July 1983 to apply increases in customs duties and quantitative restrictions on imports of special steels into the Community.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain spiced and salted herring falling within subheading ex 16.04 C II of the Common Customs Tariff;
- the Decision authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and third countries.

Appointment

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Miss E.A. BENT, Professional Officer (Midwifery), The United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives, to replace Miss A.S. GRANT for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which expires on 7 March 1986.

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**COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

908th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 9 February 1984

The official press release was not available. A summary of the ACP-EEC meeting has been reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 2-1984.

## Negotiations for a new ACP-EEC convention

2.2.32. The second<sup>5</sup> ministerial session of the ACP-EEC conference negotiating the renewal of the Lomé Convention took place in Brussels on 9 and 10 February, jointly chaired by Mr Claude Cheysson, President of the Council of the European Communities, and Mr Hugh Shearer (Jamaica), President of the ACP Council. The Commission was represented by Mr Edgard Pisani, Member with special responsibility for development.

The conference was an important milestone in the negotiations. The mood was constructive, and the Community was well satisfied with the outcome. There was a broad measure of consensus between the two sides regarding both the aims of cooperation — including the importance of rural development and food security — and its underlying

<sup>1</sup> Seventh meeting: Bull. EC 4-1983, point 2.2.31.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 168, 28.6.1976; Tenth General Report, point 349.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 298, 26.11.1979.

<sup>4</sup> COM(84) 91 final.

<sup>5</sup> Bull. EC 10-1983, point 1.2.1 *et seq.*

ing principles: respect for each party's sovereignty and policy decisions; equal partnership; interdependence — much stressed by the ACP; and the need to have regard to mutual interests.

One major step forward concerned policy dialogue, the approach being advocated by the Community to maximize the effectiveness of ACP-EEC cooperation. The ACP Group's initial reaction was one of suspicion, but the ACP ministers at the conference heard the Community's explanations with interest and will be examining them further.

On human rights, the parties were in agreement about the importance of respect for the dignity of man and the relevance of development in this connection. The ACP went further, however, in asserting the existence of a 'right to development' which should be embodied in the next convention, and the need to link the human rights issue with the situation in southern Africa. The two sides are little nearer substantive agreement, therefore, but the issue remains open.

The ACP raised the question of the amount of money to be made available under the new convention. They do not want to see this point left out of the negotiations until the 11th hour, attaching considerable importance to the actual volume of aid as well as the possible adjustments needed to heighten its efficiency.

2.2.33. The conference heard reports by two ministerial working parties on progress in specific areas of ACP-EEC cooperation. It called on the negotiators to continue the work and lose no time in beginning discussions on points not yet raised, including commodities, Stabex, fisheries and tourism. The reports identified some of the trickier issues, such as the ACP request for preferential access to available Community food surpluses, and the question of ACP students and migrant workers in the Community.

The ACP Group made statements on southern Africa, the International Cocoa Agreement and the sugar protocol, and appealed to the Community for a coordinated

policy to tackle the twin scourges of drought and desertification in Africa.

The conference hoped to see further substantial progress made before its third session, to be held in Fiji from 2 to 4 May.

PRESS RELEASE

5017/84 (Presse 26)

909th meeting of the Council  
- Foreign Affairs -  
Brussels, 20 and 21 February 1984  
President: Mr Claude CHEYSSON  
Minister for External Relations  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS	Minister for External Relations
Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jonathan MOTZFELDT	Prime Minister of Greenland
Mr Moses OLSEN	Minister for Economic Affairs of Greenland
Mr Lars Emil JOHANSEN	Minister for Fisheries, Trade and Industry of Greenland
Mr Knut-Erik TYGESEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Hans-Werner LAUTENSCHLAGER	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Wolfgang van GELDERN	Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS	State Secretary for EEC Affairs
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France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Minister for External Relations
Mr Roland DUMAS	Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr P. BARRY	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Italy:

Mr Mario FIORET

State Secretary,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Giovanni PRANDINI

State Secretary,  
Ministry of Foreign Trade

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH

Vice-President of the Government,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr F. BOLKESTEIN

Minister for Foreign Trade

Mr W.F. van BEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Paul CHANNON

Minister of State for Trade

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Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice President

Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice President

Mr Richard BURKE

Member

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Member

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EEC-ISRAEL

The Council made preparations for the 3rd meeting of the EEC-ISRAEL Co-operation Council which was held on the evening of Monday 20 February (see press release CEE-ISR 2903/84 (Presse 27) of 20.2.1984).

ENLARGEMENT: PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS

On the basis of a communication from the Commission, the Council took stock of the progress of the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal and of the discussions to be held as regards the chapters still to be negotiated.

In order to give a decisive impetus to the enlargement negotiations, the Council agreed to adopt a detailed timetable at its next meeting, both for the internal discussions and for the negotiations with the two applicant countries, with the aim of completing the negotiations by the end of September.

SPANISH ACCESSION

To enable the Conference for the accession of Spain to the European Communities to begin effective negotiations on the very important agriculture chapter, the Council worked out the position which the Community put to the Spanish delegation led by Mr Fernando MORAN, Minister of Foreign Affairs at the 19th Ministerial meeting of the Conference held on the morning of Tuesday, 21 February.

PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council agreed on the organization of Community proceedings for its meeting on 12 and 13 March at which it would prepare the deliberations of the European Council on 19 and 20 March.

SPECIAL MEASURES OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

The Council examined the three proposals for Regulations establishing special measures of Community interest in the fields of employment, transport and energy in favour of the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany. It noted that it did not yet have the European Parliament's Opinion. It accordingly agreed to ask the latter to deliver its Opinion using the emergency procedure in time for the next meeting of the Council on 12 and 13 March, if necessary at an extraordinary session.

Furthermore, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the problems outstanding so that it could discuss these Regulations at its next meeting.

FUTURE RELATIONS WITH GREENLAND

After two years of negotiations, the Council reached agreement on the substance <sup>(1)</sup> of a body of texts governing future relations between Greenland and the Community.

In 1982 Greenland expressed a wish to change its status with regard to the European Communities, and the Government of Denmark submitted a draft to the Council for revision of the Treaties establishing the European Communities so that they would no longer apply to the territory of Greenland and for establishing a new relationship between the Communities and Greenland, which would have the status of an OCT.

The texts approved at the present meeting therefore concern:

- an amendment of the ECSC, EAEC and EEC Treaties whereby Greenland will withdraw from the Communities on 1 January 1985;
- a Protocol on special arrangements for Greenland;
- an agreement on fisheries and a Protocol on the conditions relating to them, together with a regulation laying down certain specific measures in connection with the special arrangement on fisheries applicable to Greenland.

The special arrangement applicable from 1 January 1985 will involve the inclusion of Greenland among the overseas countries and territories associated with the Community, a relationship governed by the Decision of 16 December 1980.

With regard to imports into the Community of fishery products originating in Greenland, the Protocol stipulates that such imports will, while complying with the mechanisms of the common market organization, involve exemption from customs duties and charges having equivalent effect and the absence of quantitative restrictions or measures having equivalent effect if the possibilities for access to Greenland fishing zones granted to the Community pursuant to an agreement to be concluded between the Community and the authority responsible for Greenland are satisfactory to the Community.

(1) the German delegation's agreement was subject to confirmation.

.../...

The Agreement on fisheries establishes the principles and rules which will govern the fishing activities of Member States' vessels in Greenland waters.

It takes account of the fact that fishing is an essential economic activity of vital importance to Greenland and of the fact that the maintenance of Community fishing activities in Greenland waters plays an essential part in the proper functioning of the common fisheries policy. It emphasizes the two parties' mutual interest in the conservation and rational management of fish stocks in the waters located off the coast of Greenland.

The Agreement will enable the Community to maintain its fishing activities in Greenland waters and, under certain conditions and with the agreement of Greenland, to develop them.

The Protocol, which covers fishing activities until 31 December 1989, grants the following annual quotas:

	<u>Western stock</u> (NAFO O/1)	<u>Eastern stock</u> (ICES: XIV/V)
Cod	12 000 tonnes	11 500 tonnes
Redfish	5 500 tonnes	57 820 tonnes
Greenland halibut	1 850 tonnes	3 750 tonnes
Halibut	200 tonnes	-
Shrimps	1 300 tonnes	3 050 tonnes
Catfish	2 000 tonnes	-
Bluewhiting	-	30 000 tonnes

In addition to the annual quotas, Greenland will each year contribute the following catches of the following species towards establishing a balance between the reciprocal fishing possibilities of the Community and the Faroe Islands, as provided for in the EEC-Faroes Fisheries Agreement:

	<u>Western stock</u> (NAFO: O/1)	<u>Eastern stock</u> (ICES: XIV/V)
Shrimps	475 tonnes	675 tonnes
Greenland halibut	150 tonnes	150 tonnes
Redfish	-	500 tonnes
Capelin	-	10 000 tonnes

In return for fishing possibilities, the Community will grant Greenland financial compensation which is fixed during the period of validity of the Protocol on fishing at 26,5 MECU a year.

If the catch possibilities exceed the quotas laid down in the Protocol and the catch capacities of the Greenland fleet, Greenland will give the Community special priority for these additional quantities, against appropriate payment. These quantities will correspond to at least 20% of an increase in the TAC above 75 000 tonnes for Western stock cod.

On the other hand, if biological circumstances do not enable Greenland to comply with the annual quotas agreed with the Community and at the same time to maintain its fishing activities at a level corresponding to certain pre-established minimum quantities, the corresponding quotas agreed with the Community will be reduced accordingly.

UNITED STATES MEASURES RESTRICTING IMPORTS: COUNCIL STATEMENT

The Council took note with disquiet of the rising tide of protectionist pressures in the United States.

Escape clause petitions have been filed on a range of important products including steel and footwear. Recently anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations have been opened against imports of wine from the European Community. Shortly the US Administration will be deciding on a petition by the US machine tool industry to limit imports. These and other actions cover \$4.7 billion worth of European Community exports to the United States.

The Council recognized that on a number of issues the US Administration had taken a firm stand against protectionist pressures. They had opposed Domestic Content legislation, proposals for a global 15 percent limitation of steel imports and the Wine Equity Bill.

Nevertheless the picture is still alarming. The Council's view is that the present difficulties in certain sectors of the US economy cannot be resolved by protectionist measures. This is even more striking given the relatively more favourable economic situation in the US than in Europe. Such measures could lead to a dangerous increase in trade restrictions and to a rapid erosion of the open multilateral trading system, which has had the support of the US and Europe for the past four decades and on which the basis of world prosperity has depended.

The Council therefore stresses the crucial importance it attaches to a strict adherence to the commitments entered into at Williamsburg and other meetings "to halt protectionism and as a recovery proceeds to reverse it by dismantling trade barriers". Here the Community has already given a lead and hopes it will be followed.

#### IMPORTS OF CEREAL SUBSTITUTES

The Council discussed in detail the recent Commission proposal aimed at stabilizing imports of cereal substitutes.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its work on finalizing the technical aspects of this matter and invited the Commission at the same time to hold talks with the countries concerned in GATT, particularly the United States.

#### NEW COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENT

Following an exchange of views which confirmed the importance it attaches to this subject, the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite examination of the problems arising in this connection.

STEEL: GREEK EXPORTS

The Council noted the Greek requests concerning possibilities for exporting steel from Greece to the United States. It agreed to return to these requests when the Commission had the information necessary for the adoption of a position.

STEEL: EXTERNAL ASPECTS

The Council examined the problems arising in the negotiation of the 1984 arrangements with Sweden and other countries, particularly EFTA countries.

INTERNATIONAL COCOA AGREEMENT

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to accelerate its internal discussions so that it would be possible at its meeting on 12 and 13 March 1984 to adopt a common position enabling the Community to participate actively in the forthcoming negotiation of a 4th International Cocoa Agreement.

NEW COUNCIL BUILDING

Aware of the fact that in the event of enlargement of the Community a new building would be necessary to house the Council, the latter adopted, on the basis of the proposals submitted by the Belgian Government in July 1983, the scheme of measures which would, with further accession in mind, permit the construction of such a building.

This scheme envisages progress by several stages of study and execution, with the Council being required to adopt a position on each of them before its commencement.

Under this scheme Belgium would make the site available in a state ready for building on, would adapt the road infrastructure surrounding it and would have the responsibility and task of supervising the construction work. The cost of constructing the building itself would be financed from the Communities' budget, the Council becoming the owner of the site and building on completion of the work.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade questions

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3419/83 by way of extending the list of products originating in Romania which have been liberalized at Community level;
- on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Republic of Romania amending Annex II to the Protocol to the Agreement on trade in industrial products;
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened by Regulation (EEC) No 1162/83 for certain eels falling within subheading ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff.

Fisheries agreement

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe on fishing off the coast of Sao Tomé and Principe (see Press Release 4656/84 (Presse 18) of 1 February 1984).

Agriculture

The Council adopted

- the estimates
  - = concerning young male bovine animals weighing 300 kilograms or less and intended for fattening for the period 1 January to 31 December 1984
  - = concerning beef and veal intended for the processing industry for the period 1 January to 31 December 1984
- the Decision amending Decision 81/956/EEC on the equivalence of seed potatoes produced in third countries.

Research and atomic questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement for the implementation of a concerted-action project on the use of lignocellulose-containing by-products and other plant residues for animal feed between the Community and the third States participating in European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST).

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

- approving an amendment to the Statutes of the Joint Undertaking Hochtemperatur-Kernkraftwerk GmbH (HKG);
- amending Decision 74/296/Euratom on the conferring of advantages on the Joint Undertaking Hochtemperatur-Kernkraftwerk GmbH (HKG).

ECSC

The Council gave the following assents:

- pursuant to Article 54, second paragraph, of the ECSC Treaty,
  - = to the granting of a global loan to the Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale (West Lb);
  - = to the financing of the building of a coal-fired heating station at Clichy (Hauts-de-Seine) and the construction of the link to the existing network;
- under Articles 54, second paragraph, and 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty for Warwick International Ltd, United Kingdom
- under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty for
  - = Finansieringstinstituttet for Industrie og Handvaerk A/s Copenhagen (Denmark)
  - = Deutsche Bank A.G., Zentrale Düsseldorf (Federal Republic of Germany)
  - = Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale (Federal Republic of Germany)
  - = Mediocredito Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Udine (Italy)
  - = Istituto Mobiliare Italiano (Italy)
  - = Mediocredito Ligure (Italy)

Appointments

The Council appointed

- on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr M.E. VAN RIJN-VAN DER TAS, as a member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Dr J.M. BRONNEMAN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 23 May 1985;
- on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Mr André VEN DER HAEGEN, as an alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr A. COLLE, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 23 May 1985;
- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr E.J. PLEASANCE, Department of Employment, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr Geoff HEDGER, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 20 September 1984;
- on a proposal from the Greek Government, Mrs Eugenia TSOUMANI, Federation of Greek Industries, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mrs P. VAFIADOU, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 1 April 1985;
- on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mrs Dorte KNUDSEN, Indenrigsministeriet, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dentists to replace Mr Poul TOFTEGAARD, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 10 October 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

**LIBRARY**

5227/84 (Presse 33)

910th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 27 and 28 February 1984

President:

Mr Michel ROCARD,  
Minister for Agriculture  
of the French Republic

Die Regierungen der Mitgliedstaaten und die Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften waren wie folgt vertreten:

Belgien

Herr Paul de KEERSMAEKER  
Staatssekretär für Europäische  
Angelegenheiten und Landwirtschaft

Deutschland

Herr Ignaz KIECHLE  
Bundesminister für Ernährung,  
Landwirtschaft und Forsten

Herr Hans-Jürgen ROHR  
Staatssekretär,  
Bundesministerium für Ernährung,  
Landwirtschaft und Forsten

Frankreich

Herr Michel ROCARD  
Minister für Landwirtschaft

Herr René SOUCHON  
Staatssekretär,  
Ministerium für Landwirtschaft

Italien

Herr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI  
Minister für Landwirtschaft

Niederlande

Herr G. BRAKS  
Minister für Landwirtschaft  
und Fischerei

Dänemark

Herr Niels Anker KOFOED  
Minister für Landwirtschaft

Griechenland

Herr Constantinos SIMITIS  
Minister für Landwirtschaft

Irland

Herr Austin DEASY  
Minister für Landwirtschaft

Luxemburg

Herr Ernest MÜHLEN  
Minister für Landwirtschaft,  
Weinbau sowie für Wasser-  
und Forstwirtschaft

Vereinigtes Königreich

Herr Michael JOPLING  
Minister für Landwirtschaft,  
Fischerei und Ernährung

Herr John MacGREGOR  
Staatssekretär,  
Ministerium für Landwirtschaft,  
Fischerei und Ernährung

Kommission

Herr Poul DALSGER  
Kommissionsmitglied

FIXING OF PRICES FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES  
INCLUDING PROPOSALS ON THE REFORM OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The Council held a detailed examination of all the proposals and communications it had received on the fixing of prices and related measures for the 1984/1985 marketing year, and proposals for the reform of the common agricultural policy. It had at its disposal reports on this subject drawn up by the Special Committee on Agriculture, the Permanent Representatives Committee and the High Level Working Party. The Council concentrated on the main outstanding problems, particularly the dismantling of monetary compensatory amounts (on which constructive suggestions were put forward), the milk sector and the financial implications of the price proposals.

The Council then had an exchange of views on the numerous questions raised by the product by product proposals, chiefly milk products, cereals, beef and veal and sheepmeat, wine and fresh and processed fruit and vegetables.

At the close of its very thoroughgoing discussions, the Council found that progress had been made, giving it a better grasp of the various problems. It agreed to resume its discussions on the whole issue at its next two meetings on 5 and 6 and 12 and 13 March with the intention of ascertaining all the factors likely to bring about a convergence of views and lead to a general compromise on the various basic questions which remain, while keeping within the set timetable.

SHEEPMEAT

- TRADE IN "SEASONED" SHEEP CARCASES

Working on a report from the Special Committee on Agriculture, the Council held a short exchange of views on the Commission proposal which advocates including certain preparations of superficially "seasoned" sheepmeat in tariff heading 16.02 of the CCT, in order to enable the "clawback" to be charged on the said preparations when they leave the region concerned.

Following discussions which showed that most delegations were favourably inclined towards this proposal, the Council agreed to decide on the matter as soon as it received the Opinion of the European Parliament.

- COMMISSION REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN SHEEPMEAT AND GOATMEAT (EXTERNAL ASPECT)

Following a brief exchange of views on the renegotiation of the voluntary restraint agreements with non-member countries, the Council requested the Commission to submit a recommendation for a decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate and a draft decision on the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters, in time to allow the Council to take a decision before 1 April 1984.

STRUCTURAL POLICY

The Council agreed by a qualified majority to:

- extend Council Directives 72/159, 72/160, 72/161 and 75/268 until 30 June 1984 and also special interest rate subsidy measures for all the Member States on the basis of a new Commission proposal and pending a decision on the revision of the structural policy.

At the same time the Council agreed to suspend aids for investment in the milk sector as from 1 March 1984 until an agreement was reached on controlling milk production.

The development plans, including those involving milk investments submitted to the Member States between 1 January 1984 and 29 February 1984, would be financed retroactively by the EAGGF.

Moreover, the "farm improvement plans" authorized by some Member States between 1 January 1984 and 29 February 1984 would be granted the same eligibility and retroactive financing conditions as the development plans.

The farm improvement plans authorized by some Member States after 1 March 1984 could be retroactively financed by the EAGGF provided their characteristics and criteria for acceptance conformed with (or were identical to) those to be adopted for the "material improvement plans" in the forthcoming socio-structural Regulation. Until there was an agreement on the control of milk production, they should not include milk investments.

- amend the Community lists of less-favoured farming areas for the Netherlands, Italy and the United Kingdom;
- extend the common measure on the acceleration of agricultural development in certain regions of Greece.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council agreed to extend the Regulation authorizing the United Kingdom to import New Zealand butter under special conditions until 31 March 1984.

The quantity of butter that the United Kingdom was authorized to import during the first quarter of 1984 was therefore fixed at 20 750 tonnes.

OTHER STATEMENTS

In answer to a question put by the French delegation, the Commission stated that it was currently preparing a proposal to implement the amended Regulation on fruit and vegetables pursuant to the reform of the *acquis communautaire*.

The Council heard a question from the Danish delegation concerning problems with frontier crossings in the southern part of the Community involving the transport of agricultural products and took note of the indications given by the Italian delegation regarding an anticipated return to normal.

Following a statement by the Italian delegation on the possibility of supplying lemons that had been the subject of intervention to NGOs for Poland, the Council noted that the Commission would examine the matter sympathetically.

## OTHER DECISIONS

### Trade questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Council Regulation imposing for 1984 quantitative restrictions on imports into France of certain categories of wood (quota of 1 750 000 m<sup>3</sup>).

Moreover, Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision opening tariff preferences in Greece for products covered by that Community and originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

### Fisheries

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

- allocating catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in Swedish waters
- laying down for 1984 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Sweden.

### Social policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Council Resolution on a second programme of action of the European Communities on safety and health at work.

Appointment

On the basis of a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Philippe DIDIER-COURBIN, Head of the Bureau de l'exercice des Professions Para-médicales in the Directorate General for Health, State Secretariat for Health, as alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Nursing Training to replace Mr François PETIT for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 7 October 1985.

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PRESS RELEASE

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5287/84 (Presse 34)

911th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 28 February 1984

President: Mr Laurent FABIUS  
Minister for Industry  
and Research  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT  
Minister for Science Policy

Denmark:

Mr Flemming VOLDBY  
State Secretary,  
Ministry of Education

Germany:

Mr Heinz RIESENHUBER  
Federal Minister for Research  
and Technology

Greece:

Mr Georgios LIANIS  
Minister for Research and  
Technology

France:

Mr Laurent FABIUS  
Minister for Industry  
and Research

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON  
Minister for Industry  
and Energy

Mr Edward COLLINS  
Minister of State,  
Department of Industry  
and Energy

Italy:

Mr Luigi GRANELLI  
Minister for the Co-ordination of  
Scientific and Technological  
Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr G. VAN AARDENNE  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Kenneth BAKER  
Minister of State for Industry  
and Information Technology

For the Commission:

Mr Etienne DAVIGNON  
Vice-President

ADOPTION OF THE ESPRIT PROGRAMME

The Council adopted the Decision concerning a European programme for research and development in information technologies for the period 1984-1989 (ESPRIT). It also adopted the 1984 ESPRIT work programme thus allowing an immediate start to be made on the implementation of this programme.

This Decision represents the successful outcome of the efforts undertaken by the Commission, the successive Presidencies and all the Member States since 1982 with the launching of a series of pilot projects the aim of which was to provide the Community in this area of vital importance for future scientific, technological and industrial development with a Community research instrument enabling it to tackle the problems arising in the sphere of data processing in collaboration with the relevant undertakings, universities and research centres in the Community. The Council expressed its very great satisfaction at this achievement.

In adopting this Decision for a programme, the Council took note of the Commission's commitment in view of the high priority given to the ESPRIT programme, to ensure adequate financing of the latter throughout its duration and to manage the 1984 and 1985 payment appropriations in such a manner that the implementation of the ESPRIT programme did not lead to an increase in the total volume of appropriations.

For its part, the Council undertook to start a debate, on the basis of Commission proposals, on the priorities of Community research. As soon as priorities amongst the various Community projects had been determined and the decisions relating to the funds at the Community's disposal were down, it would be possible to fix an overall amount for the Community's research activities up to 1988.

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The programme has been adopted for a period of 5 years, starting on 1 January 1984.

The programme will comprise pre-competitive research and development projects carried out by means of contracts, to be concluded with companies, including small and medium-sized undertakings, universities and other bodies established in the Community, and the co-ordination of research and development activities carried out under the programmes of the Member States and of the Community.

The projects will as a rule be submitted in reply to an open invitation published in the Official Journal of the European Communities and involve the participation of at least two independent industrial partners, not all established in the same Member State. Each contractor will be expected to bring a significant contribution to the project.

The contractors will be expected to bear a substantial proportion of the costs, 50% of which may normally be borne by the Community.

The Community will contribute to the performance of the programme within the limits of the appropriations entered to this end in the budget of the European Communities.

Out of the overall amount of 1 500 million ECU, the appropriations necessary for the Community's contribution to the performance of the programme will be 750 million ECU over five years, including expenditure on staff whose cost must not exceed 4,5% of the Community contribution.

Up to a maximum of 25% of the Community's total contribution to new projects launched under this programme may for the first year be allocated to new projects for which the Community contribution does not exceed 5 million ECU.

The Commission will see that the programme is properly performed and establish the appropriate implementation measures and infrastructures. In particular, it will establish each year, and update as required, a draft work programme defining the detailed objectives, the type of projects to be undertaken and the corresponding financial plans. This programme will be adopted by decision of the Council acting by a qualified majority.

The Decision also contains provisions relating to the setting up and operation of the ESPRIT Committee, and particularly the cases where the Commission may or must consult the Committee. In addition it provides for exchanges of information between the Member States and the Community and lays down the procedures for such exchanges.

Finally, the Decision specifies that the programme will be reviewed, either after 30 months or as soon as 60% of the amount has been committed, so that any necessary amendments can be made. Provision is made for an assessment of the performance and results of the programme at the end of the five-year period.

A description of the ESPRIT programme follows:

## AREAS OF ACTIVITY

The programme contains areas of research and development activity and infrastructure actions.

The envisaged areas of research and development activity include:

### 1. ADVANCED MICROELECTRONICS CAPABILITY

The main objective is to provide the technological capability to design, manufacture and test the very high-speed and very large-scale integrated circuits (VLSICs) that will be needed in the next two decades.

A concurrent objective is to stimulate research and development on novel materials and devices for special applications. The activities to be pursued include:

- computer-aided design, manufacture and test for very large-scale integrated circuits (VLSICs);
- process steps for submicron feature sizes in silicon and other semiconductor materials, and their integration into complete technologies;
- computer controlled VLSIC fabrication and equipment for design, manufacture and test of VLSICs;
- techniques for interfacing ICs to their environment, including high-speed, high-density interconnect between chips;

- research into optical information processing and transmission, notably integrated opto-electronics, optical switching and storage;
- novel information and image display technologies;
- novel organic and inorganic materials for electronics and optical technologies;
- educational activities related to industrial research.

## 2. SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES

Software technology aims at providing the basic engineering, the methods and tools that are needed in the software development process, the management principles for information technology as well as the scientific knowledge underlying them, and aims to integrate them into a consistent technology. It is founded on traditional mathematics, economics and engineering practices.

Three complimentary research approaches will have to be combined.

- (A) The first approach stresses the scientific foundations and covers such areas as formal mathematical techniques, taxonomy and metrics, including empirical techniques and modelling. This would entail essentially theoretical research work aimed at a better scientific understanding of the field with a view to establishing effective theories and methods for software development.
- (B) The second approach focusses on the software production process.

Work in this area would have to relate to all parts of the software life cycle and may address activities such as requirements analysis, specification, design, implementation,

verification and validation, maintenance and enhancement. The full integration of methods and tools and phase-to-phase continuity will be of particular importance. Research and development activity in this area would mainly concentrate on methods and tools in software engineering and on their integration into complete systems for software production. The aim is the mastery of the technical production process of software goods.

- (C) The third approach is concerned with the software development process as an economic activity in its own right. It focusses on software as a product, investigating the mutual dependencies between the commercial goals of an enterprise and the technical characteristics and performance requirements of the software product. It also addresses the problem of producing application-specific software, and the way in which the knowledge about the field of application may influence the tools and methods for software development.

This would entail research and development in the economics of industrial software production.

The aim of this approach is to provide the techniques and criteria for organizing, managing and optimizing all elements of software application technology and the software industrial production process.

### 3. ADVANCED INFORMATION PROCESSING (AIP)

The objective is to create an industrial exploitation basis for the transition from data processing to knowledge processing systems that is the key to the next computer generation.

Objectives include the provision of more user-friendly interfaces to non-expert users, intelligent sensors and utilization of VLSICS.

The main thrust of research and development will be in the following topics:

- information and knowledge engineering involving considerable basic research on expert systems, knowledge representation, inference and learning techniques;
- external interfaces, including signal analysis, signal synthesis, pattern recognition, signal understanding, human factors and human perception;
- information and knowledge storage, novel hardware technologies, advanced software techniques;
- computer architectures for AIP. Some of these will be radically different from the classic von-Neumann, and some will seek to exploit parallelism;
- design and system aspects, covering conventions, standards, specification, verification, design methods and general system methodology.

#### 4. OFFICE SYSTEMS

The objective is to carry out research on the information systems that will support the wide range of non-routine tasks performed by humans in the office environment. The research and development activities to be pursued include:

- office system science, as prerequisite and support to the structural and functional analysis and description of office procedures, definition of standards and the design of office products and systems adapted to a variety of needs;
- office work-stations, document description languages, document creation and distribution, man/machine interfaces;
- office communication systems, including local area networks and their interconnection, integrated text-voice-image communication and value-added functions;
- office filing and retrieval systems that provide easy and reliable access to mixed-mode data files, supporting the high-level functions performed in the office, e.g. retrieval of "Knowledge", content-addressable and structure-addressable data bases, office document languages;
- human factors, encompassing all aspects of the interactions between man and information handling systems and aspects of information handling systems as media of communication between people.

## 5. COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURE (CIM)

The objective is to establish the technology base for progressive introduction of I.T. (Information Technologies) to all phases of the manufacturing cycle leading ultimately to fully integrated production systems.

The main emphasis is placed on manufacturing elements as they are needed for discrete batch manufacturing, as this is technologically the most demanding problem.

The main thrust of the research and development will concentrate on:

- system architectures for CIM systems and the infrastructure required to support them;
- computer-aided design and engineering (CAD and CAE) systems;
- computer-aided manufacture, test and repair systems;
- real-time control of machines and systems, including automated assembly, robots, numerically-controlled machine tools, and entire FMSs (Flexible Manufacturing Systems);
- sub-systems and components, including real-time imaging and control systems, micro-electronic sub-systems, sensor systems;
- demonstration models of CIM sub-systems leading to complete CIM demonstrators for experiments in real-life situations.

In all areas, AIP concepts and developments will be exploited where appropriate.

## 6. INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIONS

The infrastructure actions consist of a number of specific measures aimed at establishing the conditions required for successful execution of co-operative research and development on a Community level and for drawing the maximum benefit from ESPRIT as a whole.

These infrastructure activities include in particular:

- co-ordination of Community and Member States' research and development programmes, acquisition of information, both within the ESPRIT programme and from the world at large, and its appropriate dissemination;
- co-ordination and documentation of standards within the ESPRIT programme and their relationship with national and international standards;
- an Information Exchange System (IES) to ensure ease of communication to serve the good technical execution of research and development projects as well as their management and the appropriate dissemination of their results. Progressive implementation and upgrading would have to enable direct computer communication and distributed software development.

FIRST PLAN FOR STIMULATING EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AND INTERCHANGE (1985-1988) - CONCLUSIONS  
OF THE COUNCIL

After a very constructive discussion on encouraging exchanges and mobility of researchers in Europe, the Council welcomed the Commission's initiative aimed at stimulating European scientific and technical potential.

The Council expressed its satisfaction at the way in which the experimental stage of the programme, decided upon on 28 June 1983 and still under way, is being implemented.

As regards the new stage, the Council agreed on the main points in the Commission communication and requests the Commission to put forward proposals in accordance with the following guidelines:

- stimulation measures should, without from the outset excluding any particular scientific and technological field, relate to subject selected on the basis of precise criteria where there is a most obvious need for the development of exchanges;
- the industrial scientific community will be involved in this programme in accordance with arrangements to be determined;
- the stimulation plan should be implemented very flexibly and efficiently by means of research grants, contracts twinning teams or laboratories and measures to encourage the professional integration of young researchers into industry;
- in addition to the above steps, proposals should be drawn up on horizontal support measures to encourage mobility;

- co-operation with partners in non-EEC European countries should be envisaged in line with Council of Europe initiatives in this area with such new partners then sharing in the costs of any such expanded operation. The Commission should define the arrangements, which could be progressive, for such expansion;
  
- the Council considers that these stimulation measures should cover a significant number of researchers in the Community and requests the Commission to draw up the relevant financial estimates on the basis of a precise programme.

The Council wishes to be able to take a decision on the Commission proposals at its meeting on research on 29 May 1984.

BIOTECHNOLOGY - CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

After a detailed and positive exchange of views on the development of biotechnological activities in Europe, the Council recognized the paramount importance for the Community's scientific, industrial and agricultural development of a European programme in this field of the future.

The discussion, on the basis of the work done by the Commission in particular, led to the following conclusions:

- horizontal projects should be put in hand as a matter of priority in the field of research with regard to training, information, basic research and the setting up of networks of teams and laboratories; the establishment of a European network of biological resources banks and biotechnological data banks;
- in the second place, steps should be taken to improve the regulations framework, including the system of intellectual property rights, with a view to facilitating the production marketing and utilization of biotechnology products;
- the role played by the conditions of access to raw materials of agricultural origin in this field is very important. In this regard the Commission is requested to formulate proposals aimed at securing competitive conditions for European industry;
- the close association of laboratories and undertakings in devising and executing such a programme must form the subject of a supplementary evaluation. The Commission will study the possible details.

It is essential, from the standpoint of effectiveness, for proper concertation to be established between the national policies pursued by each Member State and for any unnecessary duplication to be avoided in the Community programme.

The Council requests the Commission to continue its work in close liaison with the Member States on the basis of the above guidelines, with a view to submitting suitable proposals to it for the development of biotechnological activities in Europe and the relevant financial estimates. These proposals will have to be drawn up by the Commission so as to enable the Council to take a decision at its meeting on 29 May 1984.

REVISION OF THE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

The Council approved the Decision on the revision of the sectoral research programme in the field of environment (environmental protection and climatology)(1981-1985).

This Decision is directed towards intensifying research work within the framework of the programme adopted in 1981, notably as regards acid rain and the management of toxic and dangerous waste, and accordingly increases the appropriations deemed necessary for such work from 42 MECU to 49,3 MECU.

EXTENSION OF THE DATA PROCESSING PROGRAMME

The Council gave its agreement to the extension of the second part of the multiannual programme in the field of data processing adopted in 1979.

The aim of this extension is to strengthen, by means of projects for the application of data processing, the competitiveness of the Community's software industry.

The Council agreed to examine this programme by the end of the year, with a view to co-ordinating this programme's activities with those of the ESPRIT programme.

OTHER RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

The Council once again examined the problems outstanding - notably the question of funding - as regards the research programme concerning:

- non-nuclear energy (1983-1987);
- the field of radiation protection (1985-1989);
- basic technologies.

It agreed to return to the matter at its next meeting, scheduled for 29 May, in the context of the discussion which it intends to hold on Community research priorities as a whole (see last paragraph on p. 3 above).

REACTOR SAFETY

The Council discussed the problems arising with regard to the research programme on reactor safety. At the end of its discussion it called upon the Commission to give the matter further consideration in conjunction with the Member States.

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