

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

482nd Council meeting  
- Foreign Affairs/Finance -  
Brussels, 21 November 1977  
President: Mr Henri SIMONET  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Kingdom of Belgium

21.XI.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Gaston GEENS	Minister for Finance
Mr Mark EYSKENS	State Secretary, Budget

Denmark:

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

Germany:

Mr Klaus VON DOHNANYI	Minister of State Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Joachim HIEHLE	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Robert BOULIN	Deputy Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance
Mr Jean-François DENIAU	State Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

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

Italy:

Mr Gaetano STAMMATI	Minister for the Treasury
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Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Finance

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Frank JUDE

Minister of State,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr Joel BARNETT

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

Mr Richard BURKE

Member

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APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 131 OF THE ACT OF ACCESSION

The Council carried out a thorough study of the problems raised by the application of Article 131 of the Act of Accession. In concluding its discussion it ascertained that it could not take a decision at this stage, and thus agreed to submit the matter to the European Council on 5 and 6 December 1977.

REGULATION ON VAT OWN RESOURCES

The Council worked out a joint position regarding the Regulation on VAT own resources.

This Regulation contains specific arrangements for determining the basis or assessment of VAT own resources, and provisions concerning accounts, the making available of own resources and measures of control.

Together with the new Regulation implementing the decision of 21 April 1970 on the replacement of financial contributions from Member States by the Community's own resources, this Regulation should enable the own resources system to be fully implemented.

This joint position will now be communicated to the European Parliament, in accordance with the conciliation procedure.

NEW REGULATION No 2/71

The Council reached a joint position on a new Regulation No 2/71, except for the provisions of that Regulation concerning the application of Article 131 of the Act of Accession.

This Regulation is aimed at ensuring, as from 1 January 1978, the integral application of the own resources arrangements. It lays down provisions for accounts and the making available of own resources (customs duties, agricultural levy and VAT) and those relating to measures of control. It also lays down detailed rules for the functioning of Commission cash resources as from 1 January 1978.

The text of this joint position will be forwarded to the European Parliament in accordance with the conciliation procedure.

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NOTE BIO(77) 393 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL DG I  
ET A M. OPITZ DG VIII

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CONSEIL CONJOINT (AFFAIRES ETRANGERES ET FINANCES) DU 21.11.1977

■- INTERPRETATION DE L'ARTICLE 131 DE L'ACTE D'ADHESION.  
VOIR LES PROBLEMES Y LIES DANS LA BIO (77) 349 DU 14.10.1977 POUR  
PREPARATION DU CONSEIL CONJOINT DU 17.10.1977. LA COMMISSION N'A  
PAS CHANGE SA POSITION. ELLE EST D'AVIS QUE SON INTERPRETATION  
DE L'ARTICLE 131 EST CORRECTE.

DIS: ON NE PEUT PAS S'ATTENDRE A UNE SOLUTION MAINTENANT. LA  
QUESTION SERA ■■■■■ PROBABLEMENT TRAITEE PAR LE CONSEIL EUROPEEN  
DE DECEMBRE. FIN DIS.

■- RESSOURCES PROPRES TVA  
IL Y A LA DEUX REGLEMENTS A ADOPTER, ■ QUI SONT PLUTOT TECHNIQUES  
ET QUI REGLENT LES ASPECTS TECHNIQUES DE LA MISE A FIN DU SYSTEME  
DES CONTRIBUTIONS FINANCIERES DES ETATS MEMBRES ET DE LA  
PERCEPTION ■■■■■ D'UNE PARTIE DE LA TVA COMME RESSOURCE PROPRE  
DE LA COMMUNAUTE.

AMITIES,

M. SANTARELLI

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COMEUR

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L. KLEIN    GPP    BERL.1/2 1741    18.11.77    x    x

M. SANTARELLI

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NOTE BIO (77) 393 (SUITE 1 ET FIN) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL DG I  
ET A M. OPITZ DG VIII

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CONSEIL CONJOINT

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LE CONSEIL A DURE DE 17.30 A 23.30 HEURES (INTERROMPU QUE PAR UN  
BUFFET RAPIDE). 99,9 o/o ██████████ ETAIENT CONSACRE A L'INTER-  
PRETATION DE L'ARTICLE 131 ET L'UCE. RESULTAT: LE TOUT EST  
RENVOYE AU CONSEIL EUROPEEN DE DECEMBRE. POURTANT, LA DISCUSSION  
N'ETAIT PAS TOUT A FAIT INUTILE. CERTAINES SOLUTIONS ONT PU ETRE  
EXAMINEES, COMME PAR EXEMPLE: ON INTRODUIT EN TOUT ETAT DE CAUSE  
L'UCE, EN CE QUI CONCERNE L'ARTICLE 131, CHACUN PAYE EN 1978  
D'APRES L'INTERPRETATION DE L'ARTICLE 131 LA PLUS FAVORABLE POUR  
LUI, ET ON REFLECHIT AU COURS DE L'ANNEE COMMENT FINANCER LE  
"TROU" QUI EN RESULTE ET QUI REPRESENTE 3,4 o/o DU BUDGET.

POUR LES DEUX REGLEMENTS CONCERNANT LES RESSOURCES PROPRES, UNE  
POSITION COMMUNE DU CONSEIL A ETE ADOPTEE. LA COMMISSION POURTANT,  
AYANT QUELQUES RESERVES, A DEMANDE D'ATTENDRE LA CONCERTATION AVEC  
LE PARLEMENT AVANT L'ADOPTION FINALE.

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PREMIER PARA., DEUXIEME LIGNE VEUILLEZ LIRE: 99,9 o/o DU TEMPS ...

AMITIES,

M. SANTARELLI  
COMEUR  
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L. KLEIN

GPP

BERL 1/2 1741 22.11.77

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M. SANTARELLI