

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10955/79 (Presse 149)

610th meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 23 November 1979

President: Mr Ray MacSHARRY,  
Minister of State,  
Department of the Public Service  
of Ireland



23.XI.79

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

Belgium:

Mr G. SPITAEELS Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for the Budget

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary, Ministry  
for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN State Secretary, Federal  
Ministry for Finance

France:

Mr Jean BERNARD-REYMOND State Secretary, Ministry  
for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Ray MacSHARRY Minister of State, Department  
of the Public Service

Mr Martin O'DONOGHUE Minister for Economic Planning

Italy

Mr Giorgio FERRARI State Secretary, Ministry  
for the Treasury

23.XI.79

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN

State Secretary, Ministry  
for Finance

Netherlands

Mr D.F. van der MEI

State Secretary, Ministry  
for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Financial Secretary to the  
Treasury

Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

o

o

o

23.XI.79

At the beginning of the meeting between the Council and a Parliament delegation the President, on behalf of the Council, paid tribute to Mr Anne VONDELING, Vice-President of the European Parliament and former President of the 2nd Dutch Chamber, who died in a road accident on 22 November 1979.

In reply, both the President of the European Parliament and the Netherlands State Secretary stressed the valuable services which Mr VONDELING had rendered at both national and European level during the course of his long political career. They stated that they would pass on the expressions of regret to their Institutions.

DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1980

Before entering into a dialogue with a delegation from the European Parliament as part of the budgetary procedure, the Council held a preliminary discussion on certain questions relating to the budget with amendments and proposed modifications by the European Parliament, in order to prepare its position.

The Council subsequently met the European Parliament delegation, composed of Mme VEIL (President of the European Parliament), Mr LANGE (Chairman of the Committee on Budgets), Mr NOTENBOOM, Mr SPINELLI and Mr ROSSI (Vice-Chairmen of the Committee on Budgets), Mr DANKERT and Mr JACKSON (Rapporteurs for the 1980 budget) and Mr ANSQUER and Mr BONDE (members of the Committee on Budgets).

The meeting firstly enabled the European Parliament representatives to explain the European Parliament's amendments and proposed modifications to the draft budget. This was followed by a thorough-going dialogue during which Council members raised a variety of questions which enabled the European Parliament representatives to furnish more detailed explanations regarding the political grounds for the amendments and proposed modifications, thus helping the Council to arrive at a better understanding of the European Parliament's position.

In conclusion, both parties expressed satisfaction at the open nature of the dialogue.

o

o

o

After the meeting with the European Parliament delegation, the Council gave the draft budget a second reading examining item by item the amendments and modifications proposed by the European Parliament for the general budget of the European Communities for 1980.

With regard to compulsory expenditure, the Council did not adopt the European Parliament's proposed modifications in the agricultural field since it did not wish to prejudge through the budgetary procedure the substantive decisions to be taken in this sector.

With regard to non-compulsory expenditure, however, the Council adopted several of the amendments proposed by the European Parliament, and the draft budget provides for additional commitment appropriations for various items, in particular:

regional policy	+ 165,000,000 EUA
social policy	+ 50,000,000 EUA
energy policy	+ 5,200,000 EUA
research policy	+ 3,545,000 EUA
development aid policy	+ 21,250,000 EUA

and various other items.

Overall, the Council's decisions both as regards payment appropriations and commitment appropriations, abide by the maximum rate.

In conclusion, the Council agreed that the draft budget as amended should be forwarded to the European Parliament as soon as possible so as to comply with the budget timetable and allow the European Parliament to give its final decision at its plenary sitting in December.





OTHER DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council agreed on the opening of negotiations with India and Bangladesh for the conclusion of new agreements on trade in jute products, and approved the negotiating directives for this purpose.

Imports of jute products originating in India and Bangladesh are currently governed by agreements negotiated with these two countries in 1976. As these agreements are due to expire on 31 December 1979, the Council agreed to the opening of negotiations with these countries with a view to establishing the arrangements for the coming years in good time.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending to other products the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2532/78 on common rules for imports from the People's Republic of China. This measure, which covers 17 Common Customs Tariff headings, forms part of the gradual standardization of the import arrangements of the Member States.

### Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2051/74 on the customs arrangements applicable to certain products originating in and coming from the Faroe Islands;
- Regulations
  - = temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties in respect of a number of industrial products,
  - = increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1979 by Regulations (EEC) Nos 2470/78 and 1738/79 for certain plywoods of coniferous species falling within heading No ex 44.15 of the Common Customs Tariff.

### Mediterranean Policy

The Council agreed to the negotiation by the Commission of exchanges of letters between the European Economic Community and Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Turkey concerning untreated olive oil (aimed in particular at fixing the additional amount to be deducted from the levy applicable to imports of this product).

### Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation laying down certain measures for the conservation of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in international waters in the Northwest Atlantic.

Approximation of laws

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

Appointments

On a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed:

- Mr Serge DARMON, Administrateur Civil, Chef du Bureau des Conventions Internationales de Sécurité Sociale, full member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers, in place of Miss Rolande RUELLAN, full member who has resigned, for the remainder of her term of office, which runs until 14 October 1981.
  
  - Mr Pierre de LAMER, Délégué de la Région "Méditerranée" à la Commission Main d'oeuvre de la F.N.S.E.A., alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers for the remainder of the Committee's term of office, which runs until 14 October 1981.
-



366066

■\*\*\*

NOTE BIO (79) 392 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. BURGHARDT DG I ET A  
M. LECOMPTE DG VIII

■\*\*\*

RESULTATS CONSEIL BUDGET DU 23.11.79

LE CONSEIL A DEBUTE A 11.00 HEURES ET S'EST TERMINE A 1.00 H.  
DU MATIN DU 24.11.

LE CONSEIL A RECU UNE DELEGATION DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN SOUS LA  
PRESIDENCE DE MME VEIL.

LA MAJORITE DES DELEGATIONS DU CONSEIL A SOULIGNE LE TRAVAIL  
RAISONNABLE ET CONSTRUCTIF DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN EN PREMIERE  
LECTURE, NOTAMMENT EN CE QUI CONCERNE LA FORTE REDUCTION EN  
CREDITS DE PAIEMENT.

LE CONSEIL A ENSUITE, EN REUNION RESTREINTE, REDUIT L'ENSEMBLE  
DES AMENDEMENTS DU PARLEMENT DE PLUS DE 900 A 255 MUCE EN CREDITS  
D'ENGAGEMENT, C.A.D. EXACTEMENT AU PLAFOND DE LA MARGE DE  
MANOEUVRE ACTUELLE.

LE FEDER A ETE DOTE DE 1.015 MUCE (+ 6,6 0/0 PAR RAPPORT A 1977)  
LE FONDS SOCIAL DE 877 MUCE (+ 14 0/0).

EN CREDITS DE PAIEMENT LE CONSEIL A REDUIT LES AUGMENTATIONS  
MEME A 87 MUCE.

CONCERNANT LES MODIFICATIONS DANS LE DOMAINE LAITIER (DO)  
LE CONSEIL LES A TOUTES REJETES.

CETTE DECISION EST ACCOMPAGNEE D'UNE DECLARATION A L'ATTENTION  
DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN PAR LES SEPT DELEGATIONS AYANT VOTE CONTRE  
CES MODIFICATIONS (SAUF PAYS BAS, ITALIE).

EN RESUME, ON PEUT CONSTATER QUE LE CONSEIL A ATTEINT SON DOUBLE  
BUT CONSISTANT D'UNE PART DANS LA VOLONTE ABSOLUE DE RESTER  
DANS LES LIMITES DU TAUX MAXIMUM ET D'AUTRE PART DE RESERVER LES  
DEPENSES AGRICOLES COMME DOMAINE EXCLUSIF DU CONSEIL.

LA REACTION AU PE A LA DERNIERE LECTURE EN DECEMBRE SERA  
PROBABLEMENT VIVE.

AUX YEUX DE LA COMMISSION ELLE NE PEUT QUE REGRETTER CES  
REDUCTIONS TRES MARQUEES NOTAMMENT EN VUE DU FAIT QUE LE  
PARLEMENT AVAIT VOTE DES AMENDEMENTS TRES RESTRICTIFS EN  
PREMIERE LECTURE.

AMITIES,  
M. SANTARELLI COMEUR  
NNNN

NNNN

O.V.SCHWERIN GPP B. 2/1A 2559 26.11.79 X

M. SANTARELLI

