

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

551st meeting of the Council

-- Budget --

Brussels, 5 and 6 December 1978

President: Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for Finance
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS State Secretary 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-REYMON State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Raymond McSHARRY Minister of State at the
Department of Public Service

Italy:

Mr Antonio Mario MAZZARINO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

The Netherlands:

Mr D.F. van der MEI

State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Joel BARNETT

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

The Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

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FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1979

Before meeting a delegation from the European Parliament, the Council held an exchange of views on certain budgetary matters connected with the draft general budget for 1979 which had been left unresolved at its meeting on 20 November, including the margin for manoeuvre open to the European Parliament at this stage.

The Council then met, for information purposes, the European Parliament delegation consisting of Mr SPENALE (Vice-President of the European Parliament), Mr LANGE (Chairman of the Committee on Budgets), Mr AIGNER, Mr BANGEMANN and Mr COINTAT (Vice-Chairmen of the Committee on Budgets), Mr RIPAMONTI (Rapporteur on Sections I, II, IV, V of the 1979 budget), Lord Bruce of DONNINGTON and Mr SHAW (Members of the Committee on Budgets).

In the course of the dialogue, the President of the Council explained to the European Parliament delegation those conclusions of the European Council held in Brussels the same day which had implications for budget questions which would be submitted to the Council and the European Parliament, and the European Parliament delegation expressed its initial reactions on the subject.

The two parties agreed to follow, in the next few days, the procedures laid down in Article 203 of the Treaty for the joint fixing of a new maximum rate for the Communities budget for 1979, and the Council chose 12 December as the date for its next meeting on budget questions.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Emergency aid

The Council approved emergency Community aid to the disaster victims in Thailand and Sri Lanka. Financial aid of 25,000 EUA will be granted to each of these countries for the purchase of essential supplies for the populations concerned. These amounts will be paid through Caritas Belgica for Thailand and the League of Red Cross Societies for Sri Lanka.

Agricultural policy

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

- amending Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 100/76 with regard to squid;
- fixing the guide prices for the fisheries products listed under A and C of Annex I to Regulation (EEC) No 100/76 for the 1979 fishing year;
- fixing the guide prices for the fisheries products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 100/76 for the 1979 fishing year;
- fixing the intervention prices for fresh or chilled sardines and anchovies for the 1979 fishing year;
- fixing the Community production price for tuna fish intended for the canning industry for the 1979 fishing year.

The Council also adopted in the official languages the Directive amending Directives 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC and 69/208/EEC on the marketing of fodder plant seed, cereal seed and seed of oil and fibre plants.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision amending the quotas for the importation into the United Kingdom of textile products originating in Hungary.

In addition, the Council adopted, in the official languages, the Regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic regarding prepared or preserved tomatoes falling within subheading 20.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages, the Regulations

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of tropical products;
- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on mechanically propelled aircraft of an unladen weight exceeding 15,000 kg falling within subheading ex 88.02 B II c);
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1978 by Regulation (EEC) 2608/77 for newsprint falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff.

Harmonization of laws

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning automatic checkweighing and weight grading machines.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Luxembourg Government, as member and alternate members respectively of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training

- Dr Henri KUNTZIGER, Directeur-Médecin du Centre hospitalier de Luxembourg, in place of Mr Fernand SCHWACHTGEN;
- Dr Mario DICATO, Médecin chef de service au Centre hospitalier de Luxembourg, in place of Mr Emile QUIRING;
- Dr Pierrette HUBERTY-KRAU, Médecin à l'Inspection sanitaire, in place of Mr Ferdy KASEL

for the remainder of the terms of office of the above, which run until 5 April 1979.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Mr G. SAUVAGE, Confédération des Syndicats chrétiens de Belgique, as a full member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training for the remainder of the Committee's mandate, which runs until 15 October 1980.

In addition, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr Jørgen HARNE, Jern og Metalindustrien Sammenslutning, as a member of the ECSC Consultative Committee in place of Mr Kaj LUND, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 15 October 1980.

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NOTE BIO(78) 443 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. BURGHARDT DG I ET A
M. LECOMTE DG VIII

PREPARATION CONSEIL BUDGET DU 5 DECEMBRE 78 (O. VON SCHWERIN)

L'OBJET DU CONSEIL BUDGET EST, D'UNE PART DE
CONTINUER LES TRAVAUX DU CONSEIL DU 20 NOVEMBRE, DEUXIEME
LECTURE DU BUDGET 79, QUI NE S'ETAIENT PAS CLOTURES SUR UN
ACCORD ENTIER ET, D'AUTRE PART D'ENTERINER DES DECISIONS
EVENTUELLES DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN, NOTAMMENT AU SUJET DU FONDS
REGIONAL. EN EFFET, AU CONSEIL DU 20 NOVEMBRE, IL Y AVAIT UN
DESACCORD SUR L'AMENDEMENT IMPORTANT DU FONDS REGIONAL (PLUS
480 MUC EN CREDITS D'ENGAGEMENT), VOTE PAR LE PARLEMENT D'UNE
PART ET L'AUGMENTATION CORRESPONDANTE DU TAUX MAXIMUM POUR LA
MARGE DE MANOEUVRE DU PARLEMENT EN DERNIERE LECTURE, D'AUTRE
PART.

ETANT DONNE QUE FORMELLEMENT CET AMENDEMENT N'A PAS ETE
REJETE PAR LE CONSEIL, CELUI-CI DOIT MAINTENANT S'ENTREtenir
AVEC LE PARLEMENT EUROPEEN SUR UN NOUVEAU TAUX MAXIMUM,
ETANT ENTENDU QUE LA DECISION DEFINITIVE SUR CE VOLET DU
BUDGET EST A PRENDRE PAR LE PARLEMENT EUROPEEN LORS DE LA
SESSION A LUXEMBOURG A LA MI-DECEMBRE. (13.10 HEURES)

AMITIES,
M. SANTARELLI COMEUR
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O.v.SCHWERIN GPP B. 1/9 2559 4.12.78

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B. Schwerin

M. SANTARELLI

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NOTE BIO (78) 443 (SUITE 1) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. BURGHARDT DG I ET A
M. LECOMTE DG VIII

CONSEIL BUDGET DU 5 DECEMBRE 1978 (O. VON SCHWERIN)

A L'ISSUE DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN LE 5.12.78 A 20.12 HEURES LE
CONSEIL DE BUDGET S'EST REUNI POUR EXAMINER LES DECISIONS DU
CONSEIL EUROPEEN POUR LE BUDGET 1979 ET EN INFORMER UNE
DELEGATION DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN.

LE CONSEIL A CONSTATE QUE LE CONSEIL EUROPEEN N'AVAIT PAS
REVISE LE MONTANT PREVU POUR 1979 DANS LA FIXATION TRIENNALE
POUR LE FONDS REGIONAL LORS DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN DE DECEMBRE
1977. AU SUJET DE LA DECISION DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN DE PREVOIR
DES PRETS A CONCURRENCE DE 1.000 MUCE PAR AN AVEC BONIFICATION
D'INTERET EN FAVEUR DES ETATS MEMBRES MOINS PROSPERES QUI
PARTICIPENT EFFECTIVEMENT AU SME, LE CONSEIL A DEMANDE A LA
COMMISSION DE FAIRE DES PROPOSITIONS EGALEMENT SOUS L'OPTIQUE
BUDGETAIRE DES QUE LA QUESTION DE PARTICIPATION EFFECTIVE DES
PAYS CONCERNES SERA CLARIFIEE.

LE CONSEIL A ENSUITE DISCUTE LA QUESTION D'UNE AUGMENTATION
EVENTUELLE DE LA MARGE DE MANOEUVRE DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN EN
DERNIERE LECTURE DU BUDGET. IL A DECIDE DE SE REUNIR DE NOUVEAU
LE 12.12.1978 A 14.30 HEURES A LUXEMBOURG EN MARGE DE LA
DISCUSSION DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN.

ENFIN, LE CONSEIL A RECU UNE DELEGATION DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN
POUR L'INFORMER DES RESULTATS DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN (16.00 H.)
P.S. LE CONSEIL S'EST TERMINE PEU APRES MINUIT.

AMITIES,

M. SANTARELLI COMEUR

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O;v.SCHWERIN

GPP

B. 1/9

2559

6.12.78

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M. SANTARELLI

