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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

553rd Council meeting

- Budget -

Luxembourg, 12 December 1978

President: Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN

State Secretary  
Federal Ministry of Finance  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

1421/78 (Presse 164)



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

Belgium:

Mr Hervé ROBINET Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Jakob Esper LARSEN Deputy Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Finance

France:

Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND 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 Joseph WEYLAND Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr D.F. van der MEI

State Secretary, Ministry for  
Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr William NICOLL

Deputy Permanent Representative

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

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CONTINUATION OF THE BUDGETARY DISCUSSIONS

The Council conducted a searching discussion of certain budgetary questions which were still outstanding at this juncture, particularly in the light of the European Parliament's recent discussions, at the close of which it adopted its position concerning the general budget of the Communities for 1979.

It agreed that its President would shortly submit the Council's conclusions to the European Parliament so that once the budgetary procedure was concluded, the latter could discuss the matter in full knowledge of the facts at its plenary sitting on 14 December 1978.



MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade policy

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

- on the opening, allocation and administration of Community tariff quotas (1979)
  - = for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for processing work in respect of certain textile products under Community outward processing arrangements
  - = for ferro-silicon falling within subheading 73.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for ferro-silico-manganese falling within subheading 73.02 D of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for ferro-chromium containing not more than 0.10% by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not more than 90% by weight of chromium (super-refined ferro-chromium) falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for raw silk (not thrown) falling within heading 50.02 of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for yarn entirely of silk, other than yarn of noil or other waste silk, not put up for retail sale, falling within heading ex 50.04 of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for yarn spun entirely from silk waste other than noil, not put up for retail sale, falling within subheading subheading 50.05 A of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = for certain handwoven fabrics, pile fabrics and chenille fabrics falling within headings ex 50.09, ex 55.07, ex 55.09 and ex 58.04 of the Common Customs Tariff
  - = concerning certain hand-made products
  - = for wines from fresh grapes and grape must with fermentation arrested by the addition of alcohol falling within heading 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating entirely in Greece (430,000 hectolitres);

- suspending for 1979 application of the condition to which importation into the Community of certain types of citrus fruit originating in Spain is subject by virtue of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and that country;
- maintaining until 31 December 1978 the arrangements making the importation into the United Kingdom of trousers originating in India subject to authorization.

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Other decisions

The Council gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty concerning Girling Midland Ross Air Actuation Ltd., United Kingdom and Compagnie électro-mécanique, France.

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Appointment

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr F.J. CHAPPLE, General Secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, a member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of Mr Lionel MURRAY, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. up until 18 September 1982.

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CONNEXION AVEC ORDINATEUR, NE PAS COUPER S.V.P.  
NOTRE REFERENCE:  
145729

BRUXELLES LE 13.12.78

REF NO 145729 / DAG

NOTE BIO (78) 463 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. BURGHARDT DG I ET A M. LE COMTE  
DG VIII

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PRIERE DE FAIRE DIFFUSION HABITUELLE A PARTIR DE BRUXELLES

CONSEIL BUDGET DU 12 DECEMBRE 1978 A LUXEMBOURG

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LE CONSEIL BUDGET S'EST RAUNI ENTRE 16 HEURES ET 20H 15 POUR  
PREPARER LA CONCERTATION AVEC LE PARLEMENT SUR LE PLAN FINAL DE LA  
PROCEDURE BUDGETAIRE 1979. LE PRESIDENT LAHNSTEIN A INFORME LE  
CONSEIL DE SES EFFORTS DE CONCILIATION AVEC LE P.E. EN RESUMANT LA  
SITUATION AINSI:

- PERSISTANCE DU DESACCORD ENTRE LE CONSEIL ET LE PARLEMENT SUR  
L'INTERPRETATION DE L'ARTICLE 203, 5 ET 9 CE QUI CONDUIT AU  
DIFFEREND ENTRE LES DEUX INSTITUTIONS SUR LA QUESTION DE SAVOIR  
SI L'AUGMENTATION DU FONDS REGIONAL DE 480 MUCE AU-DELA DU MONTATN  
FIXE PAR LES CHEFS D'ETAT (620) EST DEFINITIVEMENT ACCEPTE (THESE  
P.E.) OU NON (CONSEIL).

- IMPOSSIBILITE JUSQU'ICI D'UNE NEGOCIATION SUR UNE AUGMENTATION  
MODEREE DE LA MARGE DE MANOEUVRE EN RAISON DE CE DESACCORD DE  
PRINCIPE,

- RISQUE DE L'IMPOSSIBILITE D'ARRETER LE BUDGET LE 14 DECEMBRE,  
AVEC LA CONSEQUENCE D'UN REGIME DE "DOUZIEMES PROVISOIRES".

UNE PROPOSITION DE LA PRESIDENCE SOUTENUE PAR LA COMMISSION  
(M. TUGENDHAT) D'OFFRIR AU PARLEMENT L'INSCRIPTION DES 200 MUCE  
DECIDES PAR LE CONSEIL EUROPEEN POUR DES PRETS AVEC BONIFICATION  
D'INTERETS DES MAINTENANT DANS LE BUDGET 1979 S'EST HEURTE A  
L'OPPOSITION DE LA PLUPART DES DELEGATIONS.

ETANT DONNE QUE LA QUESTION DU FONDS REGIONAL SE POSE POUR LES  
DEUX PARTIES, ESSENTIELLEMENT SUR LE PLAN DES PRINCIPES, IL N'Y  
AVAIT PAS D'ACCORD NON PLUS SUR LA PROPOSITION DE LA COMMISSION  
D'ENVISAGER L'INCLUSION DU FONDS REGIONAL - NE FUT-CE QUE DE  
FACON SYMBOLIQUE - DANS LA NEGOCIATION EVENTUELLE SUR L'AUGMENTATION  
DU TAUX MAXIMUM.

UN TOUR DE TABLE SUR LE NIVEAU D'UNE EVENTUELLE AUGMENTATION DU TAUX  
MAXIMUM EN DEHORS DU FONDS REGIONAL N'A PAS DONNE DES OUVERTURES  
MAJEURES PAR RAPPORT AU CONSEIL DU 5 DECEMBRE A L'EXCEPTION DE TROIS  
DELEGATIONS. IL PARAIT NEANMOINS QU'UN ACCORD POURRAIT ETRE TROUVE  
SI L'ON REUSSISSAIT A RESOUDRE LE PROBLEME DU FONDS REGIONAL.

LA DERNIERE PARTIE DU CONSEIL S'EST DEROULEE EN REUNION RESTREINTE, MAIS IL APPARAIT QUE LES CHANCES DE SUCCES DANS LA CONCERTATION RESTENT TRES REDUITES.

D'APRES LES INFORMATIONS DONNEES PAR LE RAPPORTEUR DE LA COMMISSION DES BUDGETS, M. BANGEMANN, IL FAUDRAIT DONC S'ATTENDRE A L'ADOPTION DU BUDGET PAR LE LPARLEMENT LE 14 DECEMBRE DANS SA FORME ACTUELLE SELON LA THESE DU P.E. C'EST - A - DIRE AVEC L'AMENDEMENT DE 480 MÛCE DU FONDS REGIONAL.

LA CONSEQUENCE EN SERAIT EVIDEMMENT UN DIFFEREND INSTITUTIONNEL PUISQUE LE CONSEIL NE CONSIDERE PAS QUE LE DUBGET PUISSE ETRE ADOPTE DANS CES CONDITIONS. LE CONSEIL A D'AILLEURS ADOPTE A CE SU-? JET, SUR PROPOSITION DE LA PRESIDENCE, UNE DECLARATION SOULIGNANT LES CONSEQUENCES SERIEUSES D'UNE TELLÉ SITUATION, CETTE DECLARATION POURRAIT ETRE UTILISEE LE CAS ECHEANT AVANT LE VOTE DEFINITIF JEUDI PROCHAIN.

AMITIES,

M. VON SCHWERIN

13.12.1973

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