

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

P R E S S R E L E A S E

535th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 25 September 1978

President: Mr Joseph ERTL,
 Federal Minister of Agriculture
 of the Federal Republic of Germany



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

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister for Agriculture and Small Firms and Traders

Denmark:

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN Minister of Fisheries
Mr Jørgen HERTOFT State Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Joseph ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture
Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Joël LE THEULE Minister of Transport

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Vito ROSA State Secretary, Ministry of Shipping

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Luxembourg:

Mr Albert BERCHEM

State Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food

Mr Bruce MILLAN

Secretary of State for Scotland

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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EXTERNAL ASPECTS

The Council noted a Commission report on the conclusion of negotiations for a framework agreement on fisheries between the Community and Spain. It agreed to return at a forthcoming meeting to the question of the signing of this agreement, which will meanwhile be initialled by the Commission.

The Council also agreed to the substance of the results of the Commission's consultations on the allocation of fishing rights between Spain and the Community for the remainder of 1978. It was agreed in particular that the Commission would very shortly submit to the Council a proposal for a Regulation granting Spanish fishermen a maximum quantity of 4,500 tonnes of hake, for which they would receive 240 fishing licences for standard 700 h.p. trawlers.

The fisheries arrangements currently applicable to fishing vessels of the Member States of the Community in Spanish waters were to remain unchanged.

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The Council noted a Commission report on relations regarding fisheries with a number of third countries, viz. Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Canada, Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea Bissau, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Principe, Guinea (Conakry) and Angola, and on the Community's action in the regional Commissions for Fisheries.

The President concluded that the question of the signing of the framework agreement with Norway would shortly be raised on the basis of a report on this subject to be prepared by the Presidency.

INTERNAL ASPECTS

The Council held an exchange of views on certain internal aspects of the common fisheries policy, on the basis of a series of proposals from the Commission regarding technical measures for the conservation and management of resources.

The Council's discussions did not enable it to arrive at a decision on these proposals and, after emphasizing the need to make progress as soon as possible, the President said he would examine the implications of today's discussions in order to provide the necessary impetus for preparing this policy.

The Council also held an exchange of views on the possibilities for herring fishing, particularly in the light of national measures adopted in this specific sector. In a general context, the Council noted the Commission's intention of taking such measures as it deemed appropriate once it had thoroughly studied all the national measures decided hitherto.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Agreements on the accession of the Republic of Cape Verde, Papua New Guinea and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe to the Lomé Convention, which were signed in Brussels on 28 March 1977 (see Press Release ACP/N/557/77, ACP-CEE/53/77).

The said Agreements will enter into force on 1 November 1978, i.e. the first day of the second month following the date on which the instruments of ratification and the act of notification of conclusion by the Community were deposited.

The accession of these countries raises to 53 the number of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries which are party to the Lomé Convention. Among them are the 46 original signatories with Seychelles, Comoro State and Surinam, which acceded to the Convention in 1976, and the Republic of Djibouti, which acceded in February 1978.

Furthermore, the Act of Accession to the Convention of the Solomon Islands is expected to be deposited in the near future, as the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers formally approved the accession of that State by decision dated 24 July 1978.

Lastly, the Government of Tuvalu has stated its intention of acceding to the Convention once Tuvalu becomes independent on 1 October 1978.

Appointments

The Council appointed:

- on a proposal from the German Government, Mr Hans-Heinrich RUBBERT, Bundesvorstand der Deutschen Angestellten-Gewerkschaft Ressort Sozialpolitik, as alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr Eckhard SCHUPETA, alternate member, who has resigned,
- on a proposal from the Irish Government, Mrs Clare CARROLL, Federated Union of Employers, as alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr Sean DOYLE, alternate member, who has resigned,

for the remainder of the former members' terms of office, which are due to expire on 16 April 1980.

On a proposal from the French Government the Council appointed:

- Mr RAPIN as member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training to replace Mr MEYNIEL, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which expires on 5 April 1979,
 - Mr BORDE, Professor at the University of Rouen, as alternate member of the above-mentioned Committee to replace Mr RAPIN, who has been appointed member of the Committee for the same period.
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NOTE BIO (78) 331 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M. BURGHARDT, ASSISTANT DG I,
ET A M. LECOMTE, DG VIII

CONSEIL PECHE (K. VAN DER PAS)

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IL EST PEU PROBABLE QUE LES MINISTRES DE LA PECHE, QUI SE REUNIRONT A BRUXELLES CET APRES-MIDI A PARTIR DE 15 HEURES, PUISSENT PROGRESSER VERS LE REGIME COMMUNAUTAIRE DEFINITIF. SUR LE PLAN DU REGIME INTERNE, LA COMMISSION A MAINTENU TOUTES SES PROPOSITIONS (QUOTAS, MESURES DE CONSERVATION, MESURES TECHNIQUES, ETC.) MAIS LE CONSEIL N'EN TRAITERA QU'UNE PARTIE: IL S'AGIT DE LA REDUCTION DES PRISES ACCESSOIRES A 10 %, LA DEFINITION DES MAILLAGES DES FILETS, NOTAMMANT POUR LA PECHE A LA LANGOUSTINE, ET L'INTERDICTION DE LA PECHE AU TACAUD NORVEGIEN AU NORD-EST DE L'ECOSSE. LA COMMISSION EST D'AVIS QUE LES DEUX PREMIERES MESURES POURRAIENT ETRE COMMUNAUTARISEES PUISQUE HUIT ETATS MEMBRES LES APPLIQUENT DEJA SUR LA BASE DE L'ACCORD DES "HUIT" DU DEBUT DE CETTE ANNEE TANDIS QUE LE NEUVIEME A ANNONCE SON INTENTION D'INTRODUIRE DES MESURES NATIONALES AYANT LE MEME EFFET. LA GRANDE BRETAGNE CONTINUERA SANS DOUTE A S'OPPOSER A L'ADOPTION DE TOUTE MESURE ISOLEE SANS QU'IL Y AIT D'ACCORD SUR LE REGIME COMMUNAUTAIRE DEFINITIF. LA FRANCE ET LE DANEMARK FORMULENT EGALLEMENT DES RESERVES. LA FRANCE ESTIME QU'UNE MESURE COMMUNAUTAIRE ISOLEE NE PEUT PAS ALLER AU-DELA DE 1978 TANDIS QUE LE DANEMARK SOUHAITE UNE DECISION CONCERNANT L'INTERDICTION DE LA PECHE AU TACAUD NORVEGIEN. IL ESTIME QUE L'INTENTION BRITANNIQUE D'ETENDRE CETTE INTERDICTION A UNE ZONE PLUS LARGE N'EST PAS ACCEPTABLE.

EN CE QUI CONCERNE LE VOLET EXTERNE, LE CONSEIL DEVRA PRENDRE UNE DECISION AU SUJET DES DROITS DE PECHE DE L'ESPAGNE DANS LES EAUX COMMUNAUTAIRES. UNE DELEGATION COMMUNAUTAIRE, DIRIGEE PAR M. SIMONNET, DIRECTEUR A LA COMMISSION, A PU ARRIVER A UN ACCORD AVEC L'ESPAGNE SAMEDI DERNIER. LES DEUX PARTIES ONT CEPENDANT MAINTENU UNE RESERVE AD REFERENDUM. LES QUANTITES OFFERTES PAR LA COMMUNAUTE DANS CET ACCORD CONSTITUENT UNE AMELIORATION IMPORTANTE PAR RAPPORT A LA SITUATION EXISTANTE. LE FAIT QUE L'ESPAGNE EST UN PAYS CANDIDAT A L'ADHESION A CERTAINEMENT CONTRIBUE A CETTE ATTITUDE COMMUNAUTAIRE. LES PECHEURS ESPAGNOLS POURRONT, AU TOTAL, PECHER PENDANT LE DERNIER TRIMESTRE DE 1978 ■ 4.500 TONNES DE MERLU AVEC DES CAPTURES ACCESSOIRES DE 9.000 T. CES CAPTURES POURRONT ETRE REALISEES SUIVANT UN SYSTEME DE LICENCES DONT LE NOMBRE A ETE DOUBLE (DE 121 A 240). CE SYSTEME SERA APPLIQUE DE TELLE FACON QUE PLUSIEURS PETITS BATEAUX POURRONT SE SERVIR D'UNE SEULE LICENCE. ENFIN, LE CONSEIL TRAITERA DES ACCORDS CADRE AVEC NORVEGE, SUEDE ET ILES FEROE DONT LA RATIFICATION EST TOUJOURS LIEE PAR LA GB A UN ACCORD GLOBAL COMMUNAUTAIRE. (A SUIVRE), AMITIES, E. PERLOT COMEUR

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VAN DER PAS GPP B. 1/4 2205 25.9.78 X X
E. PERLOT

