

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10442/80 (Presse 138)

661st meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Luxembourg, 20 October 1980

President: Mr Jacques SANTER,
Minister for Finance
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER	Minister for Finance
Mr Ernest MÜHLEN	State Secretary for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE	Minister for Finance
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United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE	Chancellor of the Exchequer
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The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI	Vice-President
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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr F.W. RUTTEN	Chairman of the Economic Policy Committee
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Mr Jean-Yves HABERER	Chairman of the Monetary Committee
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COMMUNITY LOANS: SECOND TRANCHE OF THE NEW COMMUNITY INSTRUMENT

The Council reached agreement on the exceptional inclusion, under certain conditions and within certain limits, of advance factories and housing projects in the scope of loans to be granted under the second tranche of the NCI.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the details of this agreement.

ENERGY AND ECONOMIC POLICY

The Council heard the presentation by Mr ORTOLI of the Commission communication on energy and economic policy and conducted a policy debate on the problems tackled in the communication.

The debate allowed delegations to express their initial thinking on this complex subject. In conclusion the Council agreed that further thought would be given to the matter at one of its forthcoming meetings and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare the ground for these deliberations.

PROBLEMS OF RECYCLING

The Council heard an introductory statement by Mr Jean-Yves Haberer, Chairman of the Monetary Committee, who presented the Committee's report on recycling, the Annex to which contains an opinion on the use of the ECU as denominator for loans by the Community. The Council held a policy debate on these subjects.

Concluding its discussion, the Council thanked the Monetary Committee for its excellent report and broadly approved the considerations set out therein.

The Council noted that the Commission would, in the light of the Monetary Committee's report and of today's discussions, submit to it by its next meeting on economic and financial questions a proposal concerning the adjustment of the mechanism for Community loans.

As regards the other aspects of the problem of recycling, the Council requested the Monetary Committee to continue its study along the lines followed in its report.

EXPORT CREDITS

The Council continued its discussions with a view to arriving at a Community position for the negotiations now under way among the Participants in the Arrangement on Guidelines concerning the amendment of that Arrangement. Having restated its determination to work out a Community position in time for the next meeting of the Participants in the Arrangement, the Council agreed to return to this item at its next meeting on 17 November.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Social policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer.

Emergency aid

The Council signified its agreement to emergency aid amounting to 1 MEUA proposed by the Commission for the victims of the El Asnam earthquake (Article 950 of the budget). As part of this measure, the Commission has already sent an initial amount of 200,000 EUA through the World Council of Churches for the supply of immediate necessities.

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain catalysts falling within subheading ex 38.19 G of the Common Customs Tariff.

Relations with Cyprus

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for aubergines falling within subheading ex 07.01 T of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Cyprus (1980).

Relations with Canada

The Council gave its approval for the Commission to proceed with the conclusion of a Co-operation Agreement with Canada (AECL) in the field of nuclear waste management.

Budget

The Council signified its agreement to the letter of amendment to the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1981; this letter of amendment transposes into budgetary form the Council's agreement of 7 October 1980 on pre-accession aid to Portugal. It has been sent to the European Parliament under the budgetary procedure.

Appointments

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr A. BROWN, Chief Executive, Manpower Services Commission, Training Service Division, a Member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to replace Dr R.M. JOHNSON, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 14 January 1982.

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council also appointed Miss A. MACKIE, OBE, Unilever Limited, and Mr R.F. EBERLIE, Head of Safety and Health Department, Social Affairs Directorate, Confederation of British Industry, alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr John PETRIE and Mr John DEWSBURY, alternate members who have resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 22 November 1981.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the decision designating the representative organizations required to draw up the lists of candidates for the ECSC Consultative Committee.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent under the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty for the financing of investment projects to increase and stabilize pellet production and improve pellet quality at the iron ore mine and processing plant at Kirkenes (Northern Norway) by Aktieselskabet Sydvaranger, Oslo (Norway).

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NO.REF.: 129233 ME

BRUXELLES, LE 20.10.80

REF. NR. 129233 MEE

DE LUXEMBOURG :

NOTE B I O (80) 413 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

CONSEIL E C O / F I N , LUXEMBOURG, 20 OCTOBRE 1980

LA SESSION DU CONSEIL S'EST OUVERTE PAR UN HOMMAGE RENDU PAR LA
PRESIDENCE A MONSIEUR PANDOLFI AINSI QU'A MONSIEUR HATRY, TOUS DEUX
ABSENTS POUR RAISONS DE "VICISSITUDES GOUVERNEMENTALES",
A DIT MONSIEUR SANTER.

1. CREDITS A L'EXPORTATION

IL N'A PAS ETE DEGAGE DE POSITION COMMUNE DE NEGOCIATION LORS DE
CETTE SESSION. LES DISCUSSIONS AU SEIN DE L' O C D E DEVANT
REPRENDRE A PARTIR DU 19 NOVEMBRE A PARIS, M. SANTER APPUYE PAR
M. ORTOLI A FERMEMENT RAPPELE QU'UNE SOLUTION DEVAIT ETRE TROUVEE,
DERNIER DELAI AU CONSEIL ECO/FIN DE NOVEMBRE PROCHAIN. LES CONTACTS
ET LES TRAVAUX DES QUATRE PROCHAINES SEMAINES SERONT DONC MENES
DANS CE BUT.

2. N I C

LA DECISION A ETE LA SUIVANTE :

PRINCIPE : LE N I C NE PEUT ETRE UTILISE POUR LES USINES
----- CONSTRUITES EN VUE DE BESOIN FUTURS ET POUR LES
LOGEMENTS SOCIAUX.

EXCEPTION : CECI EST CEPENDANT ADMIS POUR CETTE TRANCHE-CI SANS
----- QUE CELA PUISSE CONSTITUER UN PRECEDENT.

MONTANT : CETTE AFFECTATION NE POURRA ETRE FAITE QUE DANS LA LIMITE
----- DE 20 0/0 DE LA DEUXIEME TRANCHE, SOIT 100 M U C E SANS
QUE CETTE SOMME PUISSE ETRE CONSIDEREE COMME UNE PART
RESERVATAIRE.

3. RAPPORT DU COMITE MONETAIRE SUR LE RECYCLAGE

LES CONCLUSIONS ONT ETE LES SUIVANTS :

- LE CONSEIL APPROUVE DANS UNE LARGE MESURE LES ORIENTATIONS
D'ENSEMBLE CONTENUES DANS LE RAPPORT DU COMITE MONETAIRE EN CE
QUI CONCERNE LA MODIFICATION DU MECANISME DES EMPRUNTS
COMMUNAUTAIRES, ET EN PARTICULIER IL APPROUVE L'IMPULSION
DONNEE A L'UTILISATION DE L'ECU EN TANT QUE NUMERAIRE DES EMPRUNTS
DANS LA COMMUNAUTE.
- LE CONSEIL PREND ACTE DE L'INTENTION DE LA COMMISSION DE PRESENTER
DES PROPOSITIONS.
- IL INVITE LE COMITE MONETAIRE A POURSUIVRE SES TRAVAUX SUR LES
AUTRES ASPECTS DU PROBLEME DU RECYCLAGE.

4.
COMMUNICATION DE LA COMMISSION CONCERNANT L'ENERGIE ET LA POLITIQUE

ECONOMIQUE (COM(80) 583 FINAL)

LE CONSEIL A EU SUR BASE DE CETTE COMMUNICATION UN PREMIER DEBAT D'ORIENTATION INTRODUIT PAR M. ORTOLI. L'ENSEMBLE DES DELEGATIONS ONT SALUE LE DOCUMENT COMME REPRESENTANT UNE CONTRIBUTION D'IMPORTANCE A LA SOLUTION DES PROBLEMES ECONOMIQUES ISSUS DE LA CRISE ENERGETIQUE. IL A ETE CONCLU QU'IL FALLAIT POURSUIVRE ET APPROFONDIR LES TRAVAUX DANS LE BUT DE PARVENIR DANS LE CADRE DEGAGE PAR LA COMMISSION DANS CETTE COMMUNICATION, A DES CONCLUSIONS CONCRETES. LE COREPER A ETE CHARGE DE PREPARER LES FUTURES DELIBERATIONS ET DE CE CONSEIL ET DES AUTRES ENCEINTES EGALEMENT CONCERNEES PAR LA QUESTION.

AMITIES,
CHRISTINE BOON

20.10.1980G

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