

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

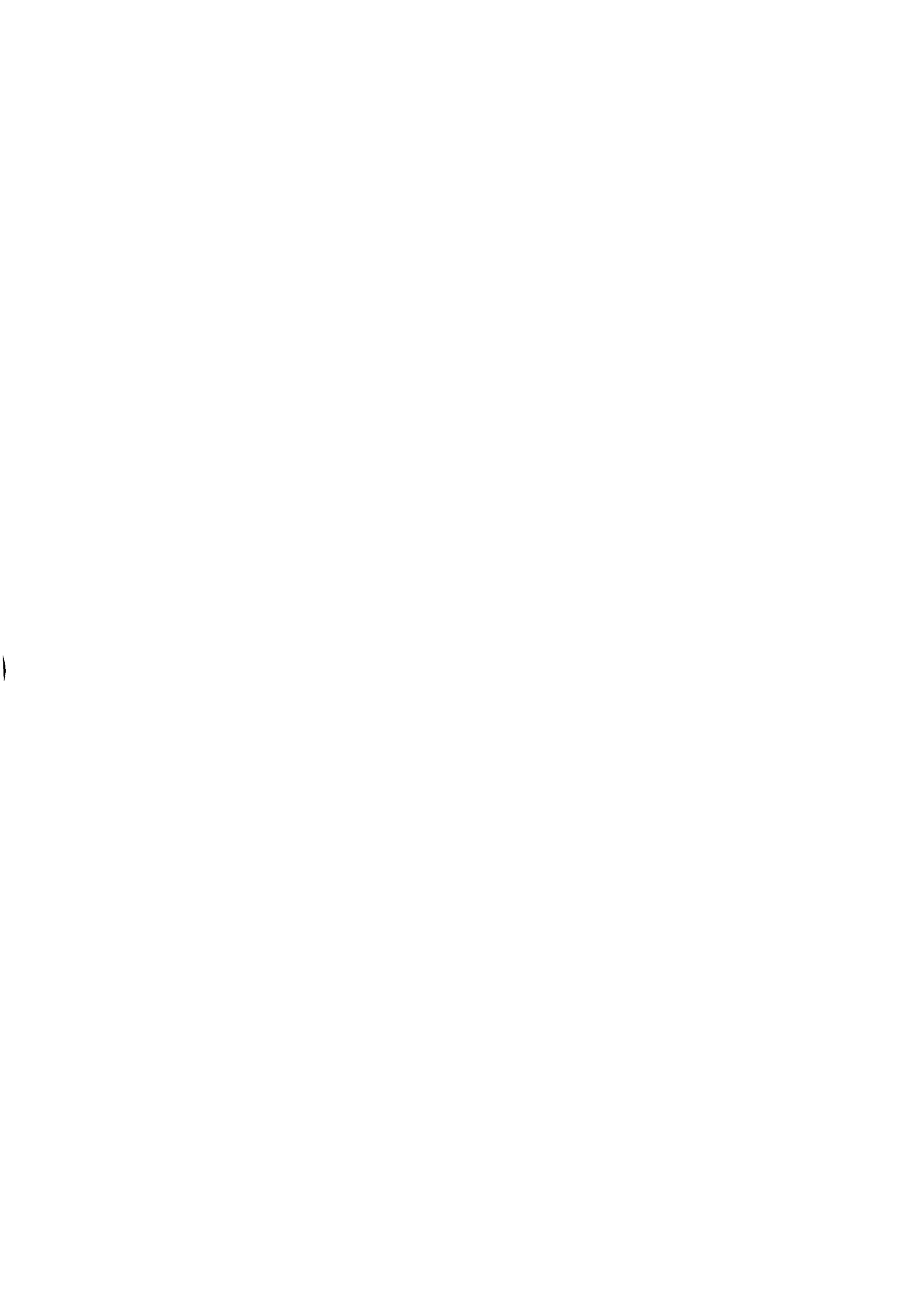
9737/80 (Presse 125)

656th Council meeting

- Budget -

Brussels, 23/24 September 1980

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



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

Belgium:

Mr G. GEENS Minister for the Budget

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSBØLL State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Maurice PAPON Minister for the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Sean CALLEARY Minister of State in the
Department of the Public
Service

Italy:

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI State Secretary,
Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister for Finance
Mr Ernest MUHLEN State Secretary at the
Ministry of 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

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Also attending as observer:

Greece:

Mr George CONTOGEOORGIS

Minister for relations with
the European Communities

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PRELIMINARY DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET 1981

During a meeting of the Interim Committee at ministerial level prior to the Council's proceedings, the Greek delegation made comments on a number of points relating to the 1981 budget, and in particular to the Greek staff complement in the various Community institutions, additional measures to assist the United Kingdom, the break-down of the Regional Fund and expenditure relating to the marketing and processing of agricultural products.

The Community delegation took note of these comments and proposed to come back to them at a later stage in its deliberations if necessary.

It should also be noted that the Greek delegation took part in the Council's subsequent discussions as an observer.

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During the work devoted to preparing the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1981, the Council held a meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament led by Mrs VEIL, President of the European Parliament, and composed as follows: Mr LANGE, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr NOTENBOOM, Mr SPINELLI and Mr ROSSI, Vice-Chairmen of the Committee on Budgets, Mr ADONNINO, Rapporteur for the 1981 Budget (Commission), Mr ANSQUER, Rapporteur for the 1981 Budget (Other Institutions), Mr TAYLOR and Mr BONDE, Members of the Committee on Budgets and Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

The meeting enabled the Parliamentary delegation to give its initial reactions to the preliminary draft budget, with regard both to certain general questions and to specific problems relating to the 1981 budget, and enabled members of the Council to enter into a useful dialogue with the European Parliament representatives on the matter.

After this exchange of views, the President of the Council said that the Council would bear in mind the approval followed by the Parliamentary delegation and the conclusions of the discussions during the forthcoming deliberations on the preliminary draft budget.

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The Council then proceeded to examine the preliminary draft budget item by item, bearing in mind the observations of the Parliamentary delegation.

At the close of the debate, the Council prepared a draft general budget of the European Communities for 1981, comprising 20,915 MEUA in commitment appropriations and 19,250 MEUA in payment appropriations.

This draft budget will be forwarded to the European Parliament at the earliest opportunity.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision on the notification of provisional application by the European Economic Community of the International Natural Rubber Agreement 1979.

The Council gave the consultation requested under Article 6(1) of Decision 528/76/ECSC on the financial aid awarded by the Member States to the coal industry in 1979 and on the additional financial aid awarded by the Member States to the coal industry in 1978.

The Council gave its assent to a set of eleven applications under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty.

Appointments

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr Peter DIXON of the Confederation of British Industry as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr Vincent CHAMPION, who had resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 March 1982.

Finally, on a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Preben KARLSEN, Økonom, Landsorganisationen i Danmark, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr Holger JENSEN, who had resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 March 1982.

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NOTE BIO 363 (SUITE 1 ET FIN) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC/ AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

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OBJET : CONSEIL BUDGET DU 23.9.1980 (O. VON SCHWERIN)

LE CONSEIL BUDGET A DURE DE 10.00 HEURES LE 23/9 JUSQU'AU
LENDEMAIN MATIN 6.00 HEURES ET A FINALÈMENT REUSSI A ETABLIR
LE PROJET DE BUDGET 1981, APRES DE LONGUES NEGOCIATIONS,
PARTIELLEMENT EN RESTREINT.

LES SECTEURS QUI ONT ETE REDUITS LE PLUS SONT L'ENERGIE,
L'INDUSTRIE, L'INFRASTRUCTURE DES TRANSPORTS ET L'AIDE AUX PVD
NON ASSOCIES. EN EFFET, LES DEMANDES EN ENGAGEMENTS POUR LE
CHAPITRE ENERGIE ONT ETE REDUITES DE 139 MUCE A 44 MUCE (100 MUCE
EN 1980), LES DEMANDES POUR LES PVD NON ASSOCIES DE 200 MUCE A
100 MUCE. POUR LE FEDER, QUI OCCUPE TRADITIONNELLEMENT LE CENTRE
DU DEBAT, ON A TROUVE UN RESULTAT MOYEN ENTRE LES POSITIONS
EXTREMES, C.A.D. 1.400 MUCE (DEMANDE 1.600 MUCE), POUR LE FONDS
SOCIAL 923 MUCE (DEMANDE 1 MRD UGE).


LE TOTAL DU PROJET SE SITUE DONC A 20,9 MRD UCE EN CREDITS
D'ENGAGEMENT ET DE 19,2 MRD UCE EN CREDITS DE PAIEMENT, APRES
DES REDUCTIONS D'ENVIRON 800 MUCE PAR RAPPORT A L'AVANT-PROJET
DE LA COMMISSION DANS LES DEUX CATEGORIES.
C'EST AINSI QUE LE CONSEIL A REUSSI DE CONTENIR LE TAUX D'AUG-
MENTATION DE CE PROJET DANS LE DOMAINE DES DNO EN DEANS DU
TAUX MAXIMUM FORMEL POUR LES CREDITS EN PAIEMENT (EN DESSOUS
DE 12,2 0/0) ET MEME EN DESSOUS DE LA MOITIE DE CE TAUX POUR
LES CREDITS EN ENGAGEMENT.

LE VOTE SUR L'ENSEMBLE EST INTERVENU A LA MAJORITE QUALIFIEE,
LA DELEGATION ITALIENNE AYANT VOTE CONTRE EN DONNANT ACTE A UNE
DECLARATION CONDAMNANT LA PROCEDURE MECANIQUE DE L'APPLICATION
DU TAUX D'AUGMENTATION, QUI NE POURRAIT QUE COMPROMETTRE LES
POLITIQUES ESSENTIELLES DE LA COMMUNAUTE.

UN TABLEAU AVEC QUELQUES CHIFFRES DES RESULTATS SIGNIFICATIFS
VOUS PARVIENDRA PAR EXPRESS.

AMITIES,

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O.V.SCHWERIN GPP

BERL. 2/1A 2559

24.9.80

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M. SANTARELLI

