

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10307/83 (Presse 183)

881st Council meeting

- Industry -

Brussels, 4 November 1983

President: Mr Constantinos VAITSOS,
State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs
of the Hellenic Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Dieter von WURZEN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

France:

Mr Laurent FABIUS
Minister for Industry, Research,
Energy, Post and Telecommunications

Italy:

Mr Renato ALTISSIMO
Minister for Industry

Netherlands:

Mr H.A.L. VIJVERBERG
Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Ib STETTER
Minister for Industry

Greece:

Mr Constantine VAITSOS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State,
Department of Industry
and Energy

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL
Minister for Energy

United Kingdom:

Mr Alexander FLETCHER
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State (Corporate and Consumer
Affairs)
Department of Trade and Industry

For the Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice-President

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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

10307/83 (Presse 183) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M

to Press Release
10307/83 (Presse 183)

- Industry -
of 4 November 1983

On page 5:

NEW COMMUNITY INDUSTRIAL POLICIES AND CONVERGENCE OF THE ECONOMIES
OF THE MEMBER STATES

Add a third paragraph reading as follows:

"The Council noted that this topic may also be discussed at the Special Council on 9 to 11 November."

INDUSTRIAL ASPECTS OF THE COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS ON
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

At the request of the "Special" Council in charge of preparations for the Athens European Council, the Council discussed in detail the industrial aspects of the Commission communications on telecommunications and biotechnology, focussing on both the political options and the specific suggestions by the Commission regarding the Community's role in these major areas.

All delegations emphasized that telecommunications particularly was a key sector as regards continuing and developing competitiveness of Community industry in the future. The Council noted the importance and urgency of determining options and priorities for Community action in this area.

Discussions also centred on the opening up of markets, problems of standardization and balanced industrial development in the sector.

In this connection the Commission was asked to establish contacts with officials working closely with Ministers for Industry with a view to determining - in conjunction with the industrial circles concerned and with the PTT authorities - the basis for an action programme to develop this sector, to be submitted by the end of December.

Discussions on the biotechnology sector - unanimously felt to constitute a prime sector for innovation, with major development prospects - centred fundamentally on the four themes stated by the Commission, viz. access to raw materials, the determination of standards for this new sector, training of future research workers and technicians and aspects of intellectual property and dissemination of knowledge in this area. The potential major role of the SMU was also cited in this context.

On the conclusion of the discussion, since the Research Council meeting the following day was due to examine the research aspects of this communication, the Presidency was asked to inform the Special Council, meeting on 9/11 November in its two specialist compositions, of the progress of discussions.

NEW COMMUNITY INDUSTRIAL POLICIES AND CONVERGENCE OF THE ECONOMIES OF
THE MEMBER STATES

Having heard an introduction by the Greek delegation concerning its memorandum on new industrial policies and the problem of intra-Community convergence, the Council held an exchange of views on the subject which enabled the other delegations to restate their thinking in this area.

The Commission stated that it was prepared to examine in detail the ideas contained in the Greek memorandum in the framework of meetings of member States' Directors-General for Industry, with a view to the Council's resumption of examination of the whole question.

COMMUNITY MEASURES LIKELY TO FOSTER CO-OPERATION AMONG BUSINESS
UNDERTAKINGS

The Council conducted a general discussion on the Commission's suggestions with a view to determining areas in which priority action might be considered at the technological, fiscal and legal level.

In conclusion, the Council confirmed its political agreement to making the climate more conducive to the strengthening of co-operation among business undertakings, on the understanding that it would pursue examination of the Commission's suggestions.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

Commercial questions and Customs Union

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

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for:
 - = silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) falling within subheading ex 03.01 B I t) of the Common Customs Tariff (1984)
 - = frozen cod (*Gadusmorhua*) fillets falling within subheading ex 03.01 B II b) I of the Common Customs Tariff (1984)
 - = certain qualities of ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff (1984) and
- increasing the volumes of the autonomous Community tariff quotas opened for certain qualities of ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff (1983)
- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff
- derogating from Regulation (EEC) No 2915/79 in respect of the annual tariff quotas for certain types of cheese from Finland
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - = yarn of poly (p-phenylene terephthalamide), for use in the manufacture of tyres, or of products used in the manufacture of tyres, falling within subheading ex 51.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff
 - = sweet cherries, marinated in alcohol and intended for the manufacture of chocolate products, falling within subheading ex 20.06 B I e) 2 bb) of the Common Customs Tariff
- temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on a number of agricultural and fishery products.

In addition, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations concerning tariff quotas, ceilings and import arrangements for Mediterranean countries (1984), viz.:

Yugoslavia: - wines with a registered designation of origin (1983)

- ceilings for and surveillance of certain industrial products
- ECSC products (decision by the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council)

Malta : - certain textile products

Spain : - petroleum products
- other cotton fabrics.

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation and the Decision revising the amounts for the documentary requirements in:

- Protocol No 1 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation to the Second ACP-EEC Convention;
- Annex II concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation to Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community.

Agricultural Decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 482/82 providing for special aid for raw tobacco following the earthquake in Italy in November 1980 and derogating from Article 12a of Regulation (EEC) No 727/70.

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending the conditions for mackerel fishing (carry-forward from 30 November 1983 to 1 December 1983 of the start of the mackerel fishing ban in the section of ICES VI a) division north of 58°N).

Social Affairs

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation relating to the organization of surveys of labour costs in industry, wholesale and retail distribution, banking and insurance.

Appointments

On a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr Patrick HAYDEN, Social Affairs Attaché at the Irish Permanent Representation, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers in place of Mr T. WALSH, alternate member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr F.H.A.M. KRUSE, Directeur-Generaal, Arbeidsvoorziening, a full member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers in place of Mr W.A. RENARDEL DE LAVALETTE, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984.

Finally, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Miss A.M. MACKIE, Unilever PLC, and Mr R.H. AMIS, Chairman, Alfred Booth & Co Ltd., respectively member and alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr R.H. AMIS and Miss A.M. MACKIE, respectively member and alternate member, who have resigned, for the remainder of the latter's terms of office, i.e. until 1 April 1985.



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NOTE BIO (83) 453 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C/C/ AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

AVANT LE CONSEIL INDUSTRIE (WILLY HELIN)

LES MINISTRES RESPONSABLES DE L'INDUSTRIE COMMENCERONT QUANT A EUX LEUR REUNION A 15 HEURES. IL S'AGIRA PRINCIPALEMENT DE PREPARER LA SESSION SPECIALE D'ATHENES DES 9 - 12 NOVEMBRE. ON S'ATTEND A UN DEBAT GENERAL SUR LES POSSIBILITES D'AMELIORER CONCRETEMENT LA COMPETITIVITE DES INDUSTRIES EUROPEENNES. L'IDEE CENTRALE EST QUE L'INDUSTRIE EUROPEENNE RETROUVE UNE EFFICACITE COMPARABLE A CELLE DE SES CONCURRENTS, AUX USA ET AU JAPON. POUR Y PARVENIR LA PRIORITE CONSISTE A METTRE A SA DISPOSITION UN MARCHE AU MOINS DE LA DIMENSION DE LA COMMUNAUTE ET EN LUI DONNANT LA POSSIBILITE D'ORGANISER, AUSSI FACILEMENT QU'AU SEIN D'UN MARCHE NATIONAL, LES ACTIVITES DE FINANCEMENT, DE RECHERCHE, DE PRODUCTION ET DE DISTRIBUTION.

- - CELA SUPPOSE UN EFFORT DE NORMALISATION AU NIVEAU EUROPEEN (VOIR LES DISCUSSIONS DU RECENT CONSEIL MARCHE INTERIEUR DU 26/10/83).
- - UNE AMELIORATION DES CONDITIONS DE COOPERATION ENTRE ENTREPRISES A TRAVERS LES FRONTIERES EUROPEENNES PAR UNE ACTION A LA FOIS, SOUS L'ANGLE JURIDIQUE, SOUS L'ANGLE FISCAL ET SOUS L'ANGLE DE LA POLITIQUE DE CONCURRENCE.

LES MINISTRES EVOQUERONT EGALEMENT LES DEUX DOSSIERS INDUSTRIELS PRIORITAIRES QUE SONT LES TELECOMMUNICATIONS (CF. COM(83)573 FINAL) ET LES BIOTECHNOLOGIES (CF. COM(83)672 FINAL).

A SUIVRE

AMITIES,
MANUEL SANTARELLI COMEUR
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W. HELIN

GPP

B 1/6 52658 3/11/83

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M. SANTARELLI

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NOTE BIO (83) 454 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

AVANT LE CONSEIL RECHERCHE (WILLY HELIN)

DECISION ATTENDUE SUR ESPRIT

NOTE BENE : NOUS VOUS RENVOYONS A LA NOTE P-40 DU MOIS DE MAI83.

ON S'ATTEND APRES L'ECHEC DU 27 OCTOBRE DERNIER A LUXEMBOURG A CE QU'UNE DECISION INTERVIENNE SAMEDI A L'OCCASION DE LA NOUVELLE REUNION DES MINISTRES DE LA RECHERCHE DES DIX. LA PROPOSITION INITIALE DE LA COMMISSION EST MAINTENUE ET LA DELEGATION FRANCAISE DEVRAIT REJOINDRE NORMALEMENT SES PARTENAIRES AFIN QUE LE FEU VERT ~~DEBEILLE~~ SOIT DONNE A CE PROGRAMME JUGE PRIORITAIRE. L'ENVELOPPE PREVUE RESTE DONC DE 750 MILLIONS D'ECUS A INSCRIRE AU BUDGET DE LA COMMUNAUTE AU COURS DES 5 PREMIERES ANNEES DU PROGRAMME QUI DEBUTERA EN 84. IL N'EST PAS EXCLU CEPENDANT QUE TOUT EN MARQUANT SON ACCORD SUR CE PROGRAMME, LE CONSEIL NE SOIT AMENE A ~~DEBEILLE~~ INDICHER QU'EN CE QUI CONCERNE L'ENVELOPPE FINANCIERE DU PROGRAMME ESPRIT, IL FAUDRA ATTENDRE L'ISSUE DU DEBAT SUR LE FINANCEMENT FUTUR DE LA COMMUNAUTE. CELA ETANT, LE VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON A DEJA DECLARE AU DERNIER CONSEIL QUE, S'IL Y AVAIT DES PROBLEMES QUANT AU FINANCEMENT DE CERTAINS ELEMENTS DE "POLITIQUES NOUVELLES", LA COMMISSION N'HESITERA PAS A FAIRE UN ARBITRAGE. UN TEL ARBITRAGE A-T-IL INDIQUE SE FERAIT EN FAVEUR DU PROGRAMME ESPRIT.

L'AUTRE POINT CENTRAL DE LA DISCUSSION DU CONSEIL TOUCHE AU PROGRAMME DE RECHERCHE DU CCR (84-87) (IP-53) QUI DEVRAIT ETRE DOTE D'UNE ENVELOPPE ~~DEBEILLE~~ FINANCIERE DE 700 MILLIONS D'ECUS ET CONTRIBUER AINSI A 5 PROGRAMMES D'ACTIONS DE RECHERCHE :

- - TECHNOLOGIES INDUSTRIELLES
- - FUSION (~~DEBEILLE~~ VOIR IP(83))
- - FISSION
- - ENERGIE NON-NUCLEAIRE (VOIR P-51)
- - ENVIRONNEMENT.

A SUIVRE
AMITIES,
M. SANTARELLI COMEUR
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W. HELIN GPP B 1/6 52658 3/11/83 X X

M. SANTARELLI

Bruxelles, le 7 novembre 1983
Note BIO(83)454(suite 1 et fin) aux Bureaux Nationaux
cc. aux membres du Groupe du Porte-Parole

CONSEIL RECHERCHE (W. Hulin)

ESPRIT: le feu vert est donne

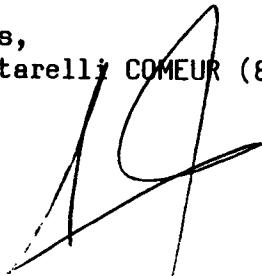
Comme l'on s'y attendait, les Dix ont donne samedi a Bruxelles, le feu vert au programme ESPRIT (voir BIO precedentes et P-40) qui doit permettre aux industriels europeens du secteur des technologies de l'information de rattraper en 10 ans leurs concurrents americains et japonais.

Le programme portera comme prevu sur une premiere phase de 5 ans et disposera d'une dotation financiere de 700 millions d'ecus au budget de la Communaute, les industriels mettant eggalement dans l'enveloppe un meme montant.

C'est une "premiere" pour l'Europe qui repond ainsi a un veritable cri d'alarme de l'industrie, qui, comme la Commission, a averti des dangers a long terme d'actions de recherche menees au niveau national sans grande coherence. La dimension du defi des technologies de l'information est telle qu'elle impose une strategie deploee au niveau de la Communaute.

Les autres points figurant a l'ordre du jour du Conseil de samedi, qui s'est deroule quasi exclusivement en session super-restreinte) ont ete renvoyes a une session prochaine (mi-decembre).

Amities,
M. Santarelli COMEUR (8h40)////



Bruxelles, le 4 novembre 1983

NOTE BIO (83) 456 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

RENDEZ-VOUS DE MIDI DU 4 NOVEMBRE 1983 (Robinson)

Informations donnees

**Reunion informelle des Ministres des Affaires Sociales
(Athenes)**

Cette reunion aura lieu a Athenes le 7 novembre, sous la presidence de M. Verivakis, Ministre grec responsable des Affaires Sociales. Cette reunion est la premiere dans l'histoire de la Communaute a etre consacree exclusivement au theme de la Securite Sociale.

Les discussions se baseront essentiellement sur le document approuve par la Commission au mois de novembre 1982 qui porte le titre "Problemes de Securite Sociale - elements de reflexion". (Pour toute information supplementaire, voir Note P-69 de novembre 1982). La Commission, qui sera representee par M. Ivor Richard, cherche d'abord un premier echange de vues sur les problemes auxquels doivent faire face tous les pays membres dans le domaine du financement et des depenses de la Securite Sociale, et ensuite a identifier les themes qui pourraient eventuellement etre traites dans un cadre communautaire, ainsi qu'a apprecier l'opportunité d'une telle action communautaire.

En outre, la question des allocations familiales des travailleurs migrants sera probablement soulevee a la demande de certaines delegations. Il s'agit plus precisemment des allocations familiales des travailleurs migrants dont la famille se trouve dans un autre Etat membre.

Question: Quel devrait etre le taux d'allocation a payer ? Le taux prevu dans le pays ou le travailleur migrant est employe, ou le taux du pays de residence de la famille?

Je vous rappelle que la Commission a porte sa propre reponse a cette question dans une proposition de Directive qui date de 1977, en proposant l'utilisation generalisee du taux prevu dans le pays d'emploi. Depuis lors, les discussions sur cette proposition n'ont pas abouties, et la Commission subi actuellement des pressions de certains pays membres pour que cette proposition soit modifiee. La Commission reste fermement attachee a la proposition de 1977.

Materiel diffuse

IP (83) 377 Aide d'urgence a la Turquie
Telegramme du President Thorn au President de la Republique
Turque suite au tremblement de terre.

Calendrier

Amities,

J. ROBINSON COMEUR 16.00

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