

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10062/83 (Presse 175)

877th meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Luxembourg, 24 October 1983

President: Mr Gerasimos ARSENIS,  
Minister for 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 Paul NOTERDAEME  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Gunnar RIBERHOLDT  
Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER  
State Secretary,  
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Gerasimos ARSENIS  
Minister for Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS  
Minister for Economic Affairs  
and Finance

Ireland:

Mr Allan DUKES  
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA  
Minister of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER  
Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr H. RUDING  
Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON  
Chancellor of the Exchequer

For the Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI  
Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT  
Vice-President

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The following also attended the meeting:

Mr Georges ZIGOYANNIS  
Chairman of the Economic and Financial  
Policy Co-ordinating Group

Mr Michael CAMDESSUS  
Chairman of the Monetary Committee

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ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council heard a report from Mr ORTOLI, Vice-President, introducing the proposed annual economic report and economic policy guidelines for 1984. The Council held an initial exchange of views on the matter.

It decided to forward the Commission proposal to the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee for their Opinions.

The Council will discuss this proposal again at its December meeting in the light of the Opinions it receives.

INTEREST SUBSIDIES FOR CERTAIN LOANS GRANTED UNDER THE EMS

The Council held a preliminary exchange of views on the Commission proposal to extend for two years the interest subsidies granted to Italy and Ireland for loans under the EMS.

Following its discussion the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the Commission proposal in the light of that day's discussion and to report in due course once it had received the Opinion of the European Parliament.

ITEMS LIKELY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN ATHENS

As part of its preparations for the European Council in Athens, the Council examined

- the dossier on insurance other than life assurance,
- other economic and monetary items likely to be submitted to the European Council in Athens, viz. inter alia the following items put forward by the Commission: promotion of the role of the ECU, strengthening of the EMS, creation of a Community financial market. It heard a report from the Chairman of the Monetary Committee on these questions.

The Council agreed to report on its discussions to the Special Council on 9 to 12 November and to continue examining these dossiers at its meeting on 14 November.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IMF

The Council heard a report from the Chairman of the Monetary Committee on the work carried out by that Committee as regards the follow-up to the annual meeting of the IMF with respect to improving world monetary co-operation and the schedule for work in this connection.

The Council noted the impact the position adopted by the Community Ten had made both in the Interim Committee and in the plenary meeting of the IMF and asked the Monetary Committee to press on with its work in this area and to report back to it regularly.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations again amending Articles 6 and 17 of the Protocols on the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation to the Agreements between the European Economic Community and:

- the Arab Republic of Egypt,
- the Lebanese Republic,
- Cyprus.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a first series of Regulations on Community tariff quotas for products originating in various Mediterranean countries (1984):

- Israel: apricot pulp
- Morocco, Tunisia: apricot pulp
- Tunisia: certain wines having a registered designation of origin (entry into force: 1 November 1983)
- Yugoslavia: "Slivovica" plum spirit, "Prilep" tobacco
- Cyprus: dried grapes, sweet peppers, salad beet roots, wine of fresh grapes, liqueur wines
- Spain: dried figs, dried grapes.

Finally the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 191/80 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of lithium hydroxide originating in the United States of America and the Soviet Union.