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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

4381/84 (Presse 10)

903rd meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 23 January 1984

President: Mr Claude CHEYSSON  
Minister for External Relations  
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS	Minister for External Relations
Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark

Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Knut-Erik TYGESEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Hans-Werner LAUTENSCHLAGER	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS	State Secretary for EEC Affairs
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France

Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Minister for External Relations
Mr Roland DUMAS	Minister for European Affairs

Ireland

Mr Jim O'KEEFFE	Minister of State, Department of Foreign Affairs
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Italy

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Mario FIORET	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCHE

Vice-President of the Government  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr W.F. van EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs

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Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Mr Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN ATHENS

The Council heard the Presidency's suggestions regarding the timetable, procedures and method for discussions following on from the European Council meeting in Athens, in preparation for its meeting in Brussels on 19-20 March 1984.

In a discussion on the matter, all delegations supported the Presidency's suggestions and expressed their wish to contribute fully to the success of the enterprise.

PREPARATION FOR THE ACP-EEC MINISTERIAL MEETING

After hearing a report from Mr PISANI on progress in the negotiations for the renewal of the Lomé Convention, the Council discussed preparations for the first ministerial negotiating Conference, scheduled for 9 and 10 February 1984.

It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue with preparations in the light of discussions, taking into account any further developments in the negotiations.

The Council would finalize the Community's preparations at a meeting to be held on the morning of the conference's opening day.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council prepared for the 16th ministerial meeting of the Conference for the Accession of Portugal to the European Communities, which was held in the late afternoon of the same day. The Portuguese delegation was headed by Mr Ernâni Rodrigues Lopes, Minister for Finance and Planning, accompanied by Mr Soares Costa, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Food.

RELATIONS WITH THE EFTA COUNTRIES

The President told the Council that Sweden, currently in the EFTA Presidency, had expressed the wish of EFTA members for a ministerial meeting with the Community.

The Council agreed to such a ministerial meeting, which it would propose be held in April. It asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare for such a meeting in liaison with the Commission.

ENERGY PROBLEMS

After examining certain energy problems, particularly demonstration projects and a contribution to the ECSC from the General Budget (coal: social aspect), the Council noted that further examinations should be carried out, and accordingly requested the Energy Council to take up these matters again at its next meeting, together with the questions of coking coal and financial aid for solid fuels.

ESPRIT PROGRAMME

Having heard statements from the two delegations which had not previously been able to adopt a position on the financing of the ESPRIT programme, the Council took note that the Research Council would be discussing the matter at its meeting planned for 28 February, with a view to reaching a definitive conclusion.

REPORT ON EUROPEAN UNION

In the framework of political co-operation, the Council and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs confirmed that the members of the European Council had approved the report on European Union. This report will be forwarded to the European Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

OCT-ACP Relations

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the provisional application to St. Christopher and Nevis of the arrangements provided for in Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community (maintaining the OCT arrangements until the accession by that country, which became independent on 19 September 1983, to the ACP-EEC Convention).

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision extending indefinitely the Decision of 28 April 1981 on the application of the OECD Understanding on export credits for ships.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1418/76 on the common organization of the market in rice.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement for the implementation of a concerted action project on the effects of processing and distribution on the quality and nutritive value of food, between the Community and third States participating in European Co-operation in the field of scientific and technical research (COST).

Social policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Resolution, the substance of which was adopted on 8 December 1983, on the promotion of employment for young people.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent, pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, concerning

- Bank of Scotland, United Kingdom
- The Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., United Kingdom
- United Paper Mills/Shotton Paper Company Ltd., United Kingdom.

Appointments

The Council appointed

- on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr G.A. CREMERS, Sekretaris voor Onderwijs, vorming en Jeugdzaken van het C.N.V., as a member of the European Social Fund Committee to replace Mr B. PRONK, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 23 May 1985;
- on a proposal from the Belgian Government, Mr F. CASSIERS, Directeur général, Ministère de la Prévoyance Sociale, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers, to replace Mr J. DONIS, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984;



- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr R.C.H. THOMAS, Confederation of British Industry, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers, to replace Mr H.M.L. MORTON, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1984;
  
  - on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Drs. Th de KEULENAAR, Directeur van de Directie Onderwijs en Vorming Werkende jongeren, as a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, to replace Mr H.A.J.M. VRIJHOEF, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 19 April 1985;
  
  - on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr F.F. JARVIS, General Secretary, National Union of Teachers, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee, to replace Mr Geoffrey DRAIN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1986;
  
  - on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr E.A.B. HAMMOND, General Secretary, Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee, to replace Mr F.J. CHAPPLE, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's period of office, i.e. until 20 September 1986.
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Bruxelles, le 20 janvier 1984

NOTE BIO (84) 29 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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PREPARATION DU CONSEIL AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

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Le Conseil Affaires etrangeres se reunira a Bruxelles le  
lundi 23 a partir de 15 heures.

Les points suivants seront discutes :

ENERGIE (Willy HELIN)

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4 points concernant le secteur energetique figurent a  
nouveau a l'ordre du jour du Conseil Affaires etrangeres.

1. CHARBON A COKE :

Un nouveau regime de soutien a l'ecoulement du charbon a  
coke a l'interieur de la Communaute devait entrer en  
vigueur le 1er janvier 1984. La Commission avait presente  
une formule de compromis le 4 novembre dernier qui n'a  
toujours pas ete formellement approuvee (voir Memo 136  
du 2 decembre 1983).

2. PROJETS DE DEMONSTRATION DANS LE DOMAINE DE L'ENERGIE :

Il s'agira de se prononcer sur la proposition de  
compromis presentee par le Vice-President DAVIGNON, a  
savoir de doter ce programme de 300 millions d'Ecus  
pour la periode 83-85.

3. VOLET SOCIAL CHARBON :

La Commission vient de confirmer sa proposition de  
transferer du budget general vers le budget CECA pour 84  
un montant de 60 millions d'Ecus afin de cofinancer des  
operations de caractere social dans le secteur  
charbonnier.

4. LE COMBUSTIBLE SOLIDE :

(voir Memo 120 du 7 novembre 83)

Remarque : Sur l'ensemble de ces points nous vous  
indiquons, le cas echeant, des details complementaires  
a la lumiere des reunions de preparation qui auront  
encore lieu au cours de l'apres-midi de vendredi et de  
la matinee de lundi.

A C P (Albert DE PASS)

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M. PISANI fera le point de l'état des négociations pour le renouvellement de la Convention de Lomé II. La discussion sera principalement axée sur les deux thèmes suivants en vue de la préparation de la session ministérielle ACP-CEE les 9 et 10 février 1984 :

- le dialogue des politiques
- les droits de l'homme.

A SUIVRE

Amitiés,

Manuel SANTARELLI ~~DDMEUR~~ 12.35

Bruxelles, le 24 janvier 1984  
Note BIO(84)29(suite 1) aux Bureaux Nationaux  
cc. aux membres du Groupe du Porte-Parole  
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CONSEIL AFFAIRES ETRANGERES  
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Negociations CEE-Portugal (Parone)  
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En marge des travaux du Conseil, la XVIe reunion CEE-Portugal au niveau ministeriel s'est deroulee hier a partir de 20h30. Elle a permis aux deux parties de presenter des declarations concernant les chapitres de l'agriculture et des brevets.

La Communaute a presente une declaration sur les mesures qui devraient etre prises en vue d'aider au developpement de l'agriculture portugaise. Ces mesures seront chiffrees successivement dans leur volume financier.

La delegation portugaise a presente sa reponse a la declaration agricole communautaire du mois de novembre, en acceptant la methode - proposee par la Communaute - de la transition par etapes en agriculture.

Deux autres declarations ont ete presentees par les Portugais, l'une concernant les brevets, l'autre les produits agricoles transformes.

Cette derniere declaration portugaise - comme l'a souligne le vice-president Natali - permet d'ouvrir un nouveau et important dossier de la negociation. M. Natali a notamment indique que la Commission devrait presenter prochainement plusieurs propositions, et notamment une sur la peche a la fin du mois de fevrier afin de permettre le progres des negociations.

Negociations CEE-ACP: Rapport sur l'etat d'avancement des  
travaux (Te Pass)  
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M. Pisani a fait le point des negociations pour le renouvellement de la 2e Convention de Lome, dont l'ouverture a eu lieu les 6 et 7 octobre 1983 a Luxembourg, en vue de la preparation de la Conference ministerielle ACP-CEE les 9 et 10 fevrier prochain.

Cette conference ministerielle devrait arreter certaines orientations precises afin que les negociations puissent progresser de facon a ce qu'a la conference ministerielle, prevue fin avril/debut mai prochain a Fidji, seuls quelques problemes majeurs puissent faire l'objet de debats decisifs.

Après le rapport oral de M. Pisani sur les débats fructueux entre les Etats ACP et la Communauté qui ont permis de faire ressortir des convergences de vues sur des aspects essentiels de la coopération, un échange de vues a eu lieu sur certains thèmes qui posent des problèmes et notamment sur

- les droits de l'homme et
- le dialogue sur les politiques.

Etant donné qu'une coordination ministérielle de la Communauté est prévue dans la matinée du 9 février 1984, il a été convenu de ne préciser la position communautaire qu'à ce moment, compte tenu également des réunions de négociations prévues d'ici la conférence ministérielle.

Amitiés

M. Santarelli COMEUR///

Bruxelles, le 24 janvier 1984

NOTE BIO (84) 29 (SUITE 2 ET FIN) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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CONSEIL AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

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ENERGIE (Willy HELIN)

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Aucun accord n'a pu se dégager au Conseil de lundi sur les quatre points figurant à l'ordre du jour concernant le secteur de l'énergie. L'ensemble de ces points fera l'objet d'une discussion informelle entre les Ministres de l'énergie des Dix, avant la réunion du Conseil proprement dite prévue pour le 14 février.

ESPRIT (Willy HELIN)

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Le Vice-Président DAVIGNON a répété qu'il y avait urgence à décider définitivement du lancement du programme ESPRIT. Il y a une possibilité telle que cette décision tombe à l'occasion du Conseil de la recherche du 28 février prochain.

FIN

Amitiés,  
M. SANTARELLI COMEUR 13.00

