

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

6317/86 (Presse 57)

1075th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 21 and 22 April 1986

President: Mr H. VAN DEN BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER                      State Secretary for European Affairs  
and Agriculture

Denmark:

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

Germany:

Mr Lutz STAVENTHAGEN                      Minister of State,  
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Théodoros PANGALOS                      Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES                      State Secretary for Relations with  
the European Communities

France:

Mr Jean-Bernard RAIMOND                      Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Mr Michel NOIR                      Minister attached to the Minister  
for Economic Affairs, Finance and  
Privatization, with responsibility  
for External Trade

Ireland:

Mr George BERMINGHAM                      Minister of State for Foreign  
Affairs

Italy:

Mr Mario FIORET

State Secretary,  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Robert GOEBBELS

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. VAN DEN BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr W.F. VAN EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Mr F. BOLKESTEIN

Minister for External Trade

Portugal:

Mr Pedro PIRES DE MIRANDA

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Vitor MARTINS

State Secretary for European  
Integration

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign and  
Commonwealth Affairs

Mrs Lynda CHALKER

Minister of State, Foreign and  
Commonwealth Office

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ

Member

Mr Carlo RIPA DI MEANA

Member

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RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES

The Council finalized the Community position for the 11th meeting of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers which is to take place in Bridgetown, Barbados, on 24 and 25 April 1986.

WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN TOKYO

The Council conducted an exchange of views on preparations for the forthcoming western economic summit in Tokyo.

RELATIONS WITH TURKEY

The Council continued its examination of relations between the Community and Turkey. It agreed to resume this examination at its meeting in May.

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EEC-UNITED STATES RELATIONS

The Council heard a report from the Commission on the latest discussions with the Americans relating to United States concerns on Community enlargement.

The Council reconfirmed the Community's willingness to resolve this dispute without confrontation and in accordance with the GATT rules. For its part the Community today approved the negotiating directives for the Commission in the context of Article XXIV.6. The Council urges the United States to enter into these negotiations as soon as possible.

The Council noted with regret that the United States authorities plan to introduce unilateral measures against trade with the Communities in response to certain provisions of the Treaty of Accession concluded with Spain and Portugal. It would point out that the United States will derive major benefits from this enlargement.

The Council considers that any such measures by the United States would be economically unjustified. Moreover, in taking such action, the United States would be proceeding illegally, on a unilateral basis outside GATT rules, and would oblige the Community to take equivalent action to defend its interests. To this effect, preparatory work should be actively pursued.

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COMMUNITY BUDGET AND THE COMMUNITY'S OWN RESOURCES

The Council held an exchange of views on the difficulties facing the Community in 1986 and 1987 as regards available own resources on the one hand and the financing of requirements, including in particular the structural funds and new Community policies, on the other.

It took note of the intention of the Council (ECOFIN) to lay down the terms of reference for 1987 at the meeting on 28 April 1986 and of the intention of the Commission to submit a preliminary draft supplementary and amending budget for 1986 during the month of May.

The Presidency intended to return to the budgetary questions within the framework of the Council (General Affairs).

ACCESSION OF THE COMMUNITIES TO THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The Council discussed whether the Community should accede to the European Convention on Human Rights as suggested by the Commission in its memorandum of May 1979. Following this exchange of views the Presidency agreed to reflect on the action to be taken on this dossier in the light of the various arguments put forward.

PEOPLE'S EUROPE

The Council took stock of progress on the dossiers relating to a People's Europe. It also took note of the intention of the Presidency to submit a document on the matter to the Council (General Affairs) at its meeting in June with a view to reporting to the European Council.

In the meantime the Council has instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to conclude the examination of all the dossiers relating to a People's Europe.

MEDITERRANEAN POLICY OF THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY

To enable the Commission to conclude negotiations with Mediterranean third countries on the trade aspects, the Presidency submitted a compromise suggestion to the Council.

The Council held a detailed debate on this basis during which it pointed out that the mandate it had entrusted to the Commission on 25 November 1985 had been a comprehensive one containing a chapter on financial and technical co-operation in respect of which the Commission had confirmed that it would submit appropriate proposals within the next few weeks.

The suggestion by the Presidency met with a broadly favourable reception. As particular problems had been raised during the debate the Council took note of the intention of the Commission to submit proposals thereon to the Council. It requested the Permanent Representatives Committee actively to continue its examination of the matter and agreed to re-enter the item on the agenda for its next meeting in May.

MANIOC

The Council conducted an exchange of views on the renewal of the co-operation agreement with Thailand.

Winding up this exchange of views the Presidency noted that there was a sufficient majority in favour of renewal of this agreement and stated its intention of entering the item on the agenda of a forthcoming Council meeting for formal approval.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations amending, as a result of the accession of Spain,

- Regulations (EEC) No 3130/85, No 3131/85 and No 3808/85 concerning Community tariff quotas for certain products falling within Chapter 27, heading No 55.09 and subheading 06.02 A II respectively of the Common Customs Tariff originating in Spain or the Canary Islands;
- Regulations (EEC) No 1520/85, No 1521/85 and No 1522/85 in respect of Community tariff quotas for certain wines originating in Spain.

Relations with Cyprus

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

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for fresh table grapes falling within subheading ex 08.04 A I of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Cyprus (1986);
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Cyprus (1986).

Relations with Pakistan

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Council Regulation on the conclusion of an agreement for commercial, economic and development co-operation between the European Economic Community and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

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Consumer protection

The Council adopted the Decision concerning a Community system of information on accidents involving consumer products.

This Decision is intended to set up a demonstration project for a five-year period beginning on 1 December 1985 as the basis for a proposed subsequent system.

Its chief objective is the collection of data, particularly from selected hospitals in the Member States, on accidents involving consumer products (apart from road traffic accidents and those occurring at the workplace) in order to help prevent such accidents, improve product safety and inform and educate the consumer. The project follows the pilot experiment in this sphere which was concluded on 30 June 1984.

The amount considered necessary for Community participation in the execution of the project for the first three years is 7 million ECU.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending, on account of the accession of Spain and Portugal, certain Directives concerning the marketing of seeds and plants.

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Appointments

The Council, acting upon a proposal from the Danish Government, appointed Mrs M. HURUP GROVE a member and Mr John SKONBERG an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace respectively Mr P. KRISTIANSEN, member who has resigned, and Mrs M. HURUP GROVE, alternate member who has resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, which runs until 14 July 1987.

The Council, acting on a proposal from the Luxembourg Government, also appointed Mr Léon WELTER a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr R. DAUBENFELD, who has died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 6 October 1987.

Lastly the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision appointing the following Portuguese members to the Economic and Social Committee for the period from the date of adoption of this Decision until 20 September 1986:

- Neto da Silva, António (Confederação da Indústria Portuguesa - CIP)
- Rolão Gonçalves, Rui Herlander (Confederação do Comércio Português  
- CCP)
- Sá Coutinho de Lencastre, Manuel Maria (Associação dos Hotéis de  
Portugal)
- Gomes Proença, João António ( União Geral de Trabalhadores - UGT)
- Araújo Santos, Manuel António (União Geral dos Trabalhadores - UGT)
- Bensabat Ferraz da Silva, Augusto Gil (Confederação Geral dos  
Trabalhadores Portugueses -  
- INTERSINDICAL - CGTP-IN)
- Lobo Brandão R. Cal, Vasco Manuel (Confederação Geral dos Trabalha-  
dores Portugueses - INTERSINDI-  
CAL - CGTP-IN)
- Rosado Fernandes, Raúl (Confederação da Agricultura Portuguesa -  
- CAP)
- Bento Gonçalves, José (Confederação Nacional das Cooperativas  
Agrícolas de Portugal CCRL - CONFAGRI)
- Costa, Carlos (Administração do Porto do Douro e Leixões e Perito  
em Transportes) / Transportes
- Alves Conde, Artur (Associação Portuguesa dos Economistas - APE)  
Prof. Liberais
- Estevão, Manuel Lucas (Consumidores - Instituto Nacional de Defesa  
do Consumidor)
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