

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9912/91 (Presse 227)

1542nd Council meeting

- AGRICULTURE -

Brussels, 11 and 12 December 1991

President: Mr Piet BUKMAN,

Minister for Agriculture,
Nature Conservation and
Fisheries
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 Laurits TOERNAES Minister for Agriculture

Mr Nils BERNSTEIN State Secretary for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture
and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL State Secretary, Federal Ministry of
Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Sotirios HATZIGAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Pedro SOLBES MIRA Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mr Louis MERMAZ Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael WOODS Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Piet BUKMAN Minister for Agriculture,
Nature Conservation and
Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Arlindo CUNHA Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and
Food

Mr Alvaro AMARO State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

United Kingdom:

Mr John GUMMER Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Mr David CURRY Parliamentary Secretary, Agriculture

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Commission:

Mr Ray MAC SHARRY Member

DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE OF THE CAP

The Council continued its substantive discussion of the Commission proposals for the adaptation of the common agricultural policy.

It first concentrated on the sectors that had not yet been dealt with at Council level, viz.:

- beef and veal
- milk and milk products
- accompanying measures.

During the discussion, the Ministers paid particular attention to certain major problems, including:

- in the beef and veal sector:

- . the general thrust of the proposals and price reductions
- . intervention
- . the adjustment of premium schemes;

- in the milk sector:

- . the extension of the quota scheme and the reduction of quotas
- . price reductions
- . compulsory redistribution of liberated quotas
- . compensation
- . consolidation and simplification of legislation;

- on accompanying measures:

- . the nature and scope of the proposed arrangements
- . the financial aspects of Community funding of the proposed measures and certain specific questions.

The other areas (arable crops and cereals, tobacco, sheepmeat) which had already been examined at the November meeting, were also briefly touched upon.

Regarding the financial impact, the Council took note of a report from the Permanent Representatives Committee examining the data submitted by the Commission. The Council agreed to re-examine this question when it took the final decisions on reform.

At the end of its discussion, the Council, noting that certain points of the proposals required further detailed examination, decided to continue working on them in January.

SUCKLER COW PREMIUM

The Council adopted by a qualified majority the Regulation increasing the amount of the premium for maintaining suckler cows, in order to remedy the problems encountered in the beef and veal sector where the situation is very depressed.

The Regulation adopted provides, for the 1991/1992 marketing year only, for a derogation from the amount of the suckler cow premium as laid down in the rules currently in force, and for them to be raised to:

- ECU 50 per cow (Community premium);

- ECU 35 per cow (maximum amount of the additional national premium). This latter amount is co-financed up to a maximum of ECU 28 per cow in the case of

Greece, Ireland and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland only).

OILSEEDS

Having agreed on the political approach to the Commission proposal at its October meeting, the Council unanimously adopted the Regulation establishing a support system for producers of oilseeds (soya beans, rapeseed and colzaseed and sunflowerseed).

The purpose of the Regulation is to adapt the current provisions on support for oilseeds to bring them into conformity with the conclusions of the GATT Soya Panel.

It thus provides for a direct payment for producers taking account of the specific structural characteristics which influence yields. The Member States will draw up a regionalization plan based on objective criteria, consistent with the average yields of each region achieved in a given period.

The new scheme will enter into force with the 1992/1993 marketing year and will therefore already be applicable to seeds harvested in 1992.

URUGUAY ROUND - AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS

The Council was briefed by the Commission on the current state of the Uruguay Round negotiations. It confirmed its support for the Commission's efforts to achieve a balanced outcome of the negotiations, as had the European Council in Maastricht.

BOVINE SOMATOTROPIN (BST)

The Council noted the Commission's proposal to extend the existing ban on the administration of bovine somatotropin to dairy cows by a further two-year period.

Pending the adoption of the European Parliament's Opinion and a Council Decision on the proposal, the Member States and the Commission undertook to maintain the status quo as regards authorization for the marketing and use of bovine somatotropin.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural policy decisions

The Council adopted Decisions

- designating the Community reference laboratories for testing for residues of certain substances. The laboratories are the following:
 - = Rijksinstituut voor de Volkgezondheit en Milieuhygiene Antonie van Leeuwenhoeklaan, 9
NL-3720 BILTHOVEN
 - = Laboratoires des Médicaments vétérinaires (CNEVA-LMV)
La Haute Marche, Javené
F-35133 FOUGERES
 - = Bundesgesundheitsamt
Thielallee, 88-92
D-1000 BERLIN 33
 - = Istituto Superiore di Sanità
via Regina Elena, 299
I-00161 ROMA
 - establishing, in connection with the cessation of vaccination against foot-and-mouth disease, Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine in 4 institutes (Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright, United Kingdom; Laboratoire de pathologie bovine du centre national d'études vétérinaires et alimentaires de Lyon, France; Bayer A.G., Cologne, Germany; Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia, Italy) in order to cope with any re-appearance of foot-and-mouth disease.
- Under a contract concluded with the Commission, these institutes will have to undertake to:
- = supply the concentrated inactivated antigen as swiftly as possible;
 - = store a sufficient quantity of antigen;
 - = guarantee rapid formulation, bottling and distribution.

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- designating and laying down the functions of a Community Co-ordinating Institute for foot-and-mouth disease. This is the Central Diergeneeskundig Instituut, LELYSTAD, in the Netherlands.

The Council also adopted Directives

- amending Directive 80/217/EEC introducing Community measures for the control of classical swine fever;
- amending Directives 64/432/EEC, 72/461/EEC and 80/215/EEC as regards certain measures relating to classical swine fever;
- amending Directive 72/462/EEC on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine animals and swine and fresh meat or meat products from third countries;
- and the Decision amending Directive 80/1095/EEC and Decision 80/1096/EEC as regards certain measures relating to classical swine fever.

These adapt certain existing Community measures following cessation of vaccination against swine fever and the satisfactory development of the situation regarding this disease.

The Council adopted Regulations

- laying down rules for the description and presentation of special wines.

They provide, in particular, for:

- = the inclusion on the labels of these wines of an indication of the alcohol strength by volume
- = a ban on the use of lead-based capsules in the closing devices on these wines.

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- laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1990 harvest.

This aid will be ECU 340/ha for all varieties (aromatic, bitter and others).

The Council adopted Regulations:

- opening a Community tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen meat of bovine animals falling within CN Codes 0201 and 0202 and products falling within CN Codes 0206 10 95 and 0206 29 91 (1992). This will involve 34 300 tonnes at 20% duty.
- opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for meat of bovine animals, frozen, falling within CN Code 0202 and products falling within CN Code 0206 29 91 (1992). This will involve a quota of 53 000 tonnes at 20% duty.
- opening a Community tariff quota for frozen buffalo meat falling within CN Code 0202 30 90 (1992). This will involve a quota of 2 250 tonnes at 20% duty.
- opening a Community tariff quota for frozen thin skirt of bovine animals falling within CN Code 0206 29 91 (1992). This will involve a quota of 1 500 tonnes at 4% duty.

OTHER DECISIONS

Relations with the ACP States

- Humanitarian aid to Somalia and Liberia

The Council adopted the draft conclusions of the ACP-EEC Committee of Ambassadors concerning humanitarian aid to Somalia and Liberia. This draft will, as an exceptional and temporary measure, permit the use of resources still available for these two countries under the indicative programmes of the

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second and third ACP-EEC Conventions for the financing of emergency aid and aid for refugees and returnees in the two countries concerned. The draft conclusions indicate how the resources taken from the indicative programmes will be replenished.

This decision was taken for reasons of force majeure. Somalia and Liberia are currently unable to ratify the fourth Lomé Convention and thus cannot receive humanitarian aid under the new Convention. It is also based on political and humanitarian considerations and is intended to meet the immediate needs of the populations concerned in the shortest time possible.

It complements the Council Decision of 18 November 1991 (see 9298/91 Presse 208) on the use of non-committed appropriations for emergency aid and aid to refugees and returnees under the third Lomé Convention for similar types of action for ACP countries for which the fourth Lomé Convention is not yet in force.

Relations with the Soviet Union

The Council adopted the Decision concluding a complementary agreement with the Soviet Union to include triangular operations in the credit guarantee of ECU 500 million granted to it for the export of Community agricultural and food products to the USSR.

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ISRAEL - good laboratory practice

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate with Israel an agreement in the field of good laboratory practice and defined the relevant negotiating directives.

Internal market: checks on goods

Following consultation of the European Parliament, the Council adopted a Regulation laying down the methods of using NATO form 302, in preparation for the completion of the internal market, and repealing Regulations Nos 3690/86 and 4283/88 concerning checks on goods crossing the Community's internal borders.

The approved text corresponds to the common position adopted on 14 October 1991 (see Press Release 8529/91 Presse 164).

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BRUXELLES, LE 10 DECEMBRE 1991

NOTE BIO (91) 399 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE PAROLE

CONSEIL AGRICULTURE (BRUXELLES, LES 11 ET 12 DECEMBRE 1991)
G KIELY

LE CONSEIL DES COMMUNAUTES EUROPEENNES TIENDRA SA 1542E SESSION -
AGRICULTURE - LE MERCREDI 11 DECEMBRE A PARTIR DE 16H ET LE JEUDI
12 DECEMBRE 1991 AU BATIMENT CHARLEMAGNE A BRUXELLES, SOUS LA
PRESIDENCE DE M PIET BUKMAN, MINISTRE DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DE LA
PECHE DES PAYS-BAS

L'ORDRE DU JOUR DU CONSEIL COMPORTERA LES POINTS SUIVANTS

- X APPROBATION DE LA LISTE DES POINTS 'A'
- X ADOPTION DU REGLEMENT DU CONSEIL DEROGANT POUR LA
PERIODE DE DEPOT DES DEMANDES 1991/1992 DU REGLEMENT
(CEE) NO 1357/80, INSTAURANT AU REGIME DE PRIME AU
MAINTIEN DU TROUPEAU DE VACHES ALLAITANTES (DOC
COM(91)392)

MALGRE DIVERSES MESURES POUR REEQUILIBRER LA SITUATION
ENTRE L'OFFRE ET LA DEMANDE - ACHATS MASSIFS DE VIANDE EN
INTERVENTION, RESTITUTIONS A L'EXPORTATION, SUSPENSION
DES DELIVRANCES DE CERTIFICATS D'IMPORTATION DE VEAUX -
LA SITUATION AU NIVEAU DES PRIX A LA PRODUCTION DEMEURE
PARTICULIEREMENT DEPRIMEE.

LA COMMISSION PROPOSE, POUR LA SEULE CAMPAGNE DE
COMMERCIALISATION 1991/92, LES MESURES SUIVANTES

- AUGMENTATION DE LA PRIME COMMUNAUTAIRE DE 40 A 50 ECUS
PAR VACHE ALLAITANTE
- AUGMENTATION DE LA PRIME NATIONALE DE 25 A 35 ECUS PAR
VACHE ELIGIBLE

LE CONSEIL METTIRA A DEBATE DANS LE CADRE DE LA REFORME PROPOSEE POUR LE COM VIANDE BOVINE,

- SOIT TROUVEE UNE SOLUTION EQUILIBREE TENANT COMPTE DES BESOINS DES ELEVEURS DE VACHES ALLAITANTES ET DES BOVINS MALES
 - LE NOMBRE DE BOVINS ELIGIBLE A LA PRIME NE SOIT PAS AUGMENTE PAR RAPPORT A L'ANNEE PRECEDENTE
- L'AUGMENTATION DU MONTANT DE LA PRIME DE 10 ECUS PAR VACHE ALLAITANTE DECIDEE PAR LE CONSEIL DE MANIERE RETROACTIVE POUR 1991 SERA ENTIEREMENT IMPUTEE SUR LES AUGMENTATIONS DES PRIMES ULTERIEURES
- X ADOPTION DU REGLEMENT DU CONSEIL INSTAURANT UN REGIME DE SOUTIEN POUR LES PRODUCTEURS DE GRAINES DE SOJA, DE COLZA ET DE TOURNESOL (DOC COM(91)318)

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CONFORMEMENT AUX CONCLUSIONS AUXQUELLES A ABOUTIE LE GROUPE SPECIAL DU GATT, COMMUNEMENT APPELE PANEL SOJA ET SUITE A L'AVIS FAVORABLE DONNE PAR LE PARLEMENT EUROPEEN EN DATE DU 9 DECEMBRE 1991. INSTAURATION D'UN NOUVEAU REGIME DE SOUTIEN EN FAVEUR DES PRODUCTEURS DE GRAINES DE SOJA, COLZA ET TOURNESOL RECOLTEES DANS LA COMMUNAUTE

- X EVOLUTION ET AVENIR DE LA POLITIQUE AGRICOLE COMMUNE (DOC COM(91)258)
- A SECTEURS A EXAMINER
- A) VIANDE BOVINE (COM(91)379)

LA COMMISSION A, EN VUE DE LA MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA REFORME DE LA PAC DANS LE SECTEUR DE LA VIANDE BOVINE, SOUMIS AU CONSEIL LES PROPOSITIONS MENTIONNEES EN OBJET ET QUI VISENT A

- ADAPTATION DES PRIX D'INTERVENTION DES GROS BOVINS (DIMINUTION DE 15 0/0) ECHELONNEE SUR 3 ANNEES A COMPTER DU 1ER JUILLET 1993 EN TENANT COMPTE DES CONDITIONS DE TRANSITION PROPOSEES POUR LES CEREALES
- REGIME COMPENSATOIRE DE PRIMES

LA COMMISSION PROPOSE

UNE NOUVELLE DEFINITION DE LA NOTION DE 'PRODUCTEUR', D'EXPLOITATION' ET DE 'VACHE ALLAITANTE'

L'OCTROI D'UNE PRIME AUX BOVINS MALES POUR UN MAXIMUM DE 90 ANIMAUX PAR AN ET PAR EXPLOITATION. CETTE PRIME SERA PAYABLE AU MAXIMUM POUR LES TROIS PREMIERES ANNEES DE LA

VIE DE CHAROLE BOVIN MALE (DE 40 ECUS EN 1993 A 60 ECUS EN 1995)

L'OCTROI D'UNE PRIME POUR LE MAINTIEN DU TROUPEAU DE VACHES ALLAITANTES UTILISEES POUR L'ELEVAGE DE VEaux POUR LA PRODUCTION DE VIANDES ET POUR UN MAXIMUM DE 90 VACHES PAR AN ET PAR EXPLOITATION (DE 55 ECUS EN 1993 A 75 ECUS EN 1995), LES ETATS MEMBRES ETANT EN OUTRE AUTORISES A ACCORDER UNE PRIME NATIONALE COMPLEMENTAIRE D'UN MONTANT MAXIMAL DE 25 ECUS PAR VACHE ELIGIBLE

L'INTRODUCTION D'UNE PRIME D'ABATTAGE DES JEUNES VEaux MALES DE RACE LAITIERE ABATTUS AVANT L'AGE DE 10 JOURS

LA COMMISSION PROPOSE DE SUBORDONNER L'OCTROI DES PRIMES EN RESPECT D'UN FACTEUR DE DENSITE DES ANIMAUX DETENUS SUR L'EXPLOITATION CE FACTEUR EST EXPRIME EN UGB (UNITES DE GROS BETAILS) PAR RAPPORT A LA SUPERFICIE FOURRAGERE (DANS LES ZONES AGRICOLES DEFAVORISEES 1,4 UGB/HA ET DANS LES AUTRES ZONES 2 UGB/HA).

LA PROPOSITION PREVOIT UNE DEROGATION A CE FACTEUR DE DENSITE POUR LES PETITES EXPLOITATIONS NE DEPASSANT PAS 6 UGB ET UNE DIFFERENCIATION DU FACTEUR DE DENSITE ENTRE EXPLOITATIONS SITUEES

- ACTIONS DE PROMOTION ET DE COMMERCIALISATION EN FAVEUR DE LA VIANDE BOVINE DE QUALITE DANS LA COMMUNAUTE. (PRISE EN CHARGE PAR LE FEOGA DE 40 0/0 A 60 0/0 DES COUTS REELS DES ACTIONS SELON LE CAS)

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B) LAIT ET PRODUITS LAITIERS (DOC COM(91)409)

- LA COMMISSION, DANS LE CADRE DE LA MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA REFORME DE LA PAC A PRESENTE AU CONSEIL UNE SERIE DE PROPOSITIONS. CES PROPOSITIONS CONCERNENT NOTAMMENT:

LA PROLONGATION DU REGIME DES QUOTAS LAITIERS DE HUIT ANS

LE REMPLACEMENT DES FORMULES A ET B PAR UNE FORMULE D'APPLICATION UNIQUE AB

UNE REDUCTION DES QUOTAS DE 4 0/0 EN TROIS ETAPES, DONT 1 0/0 A REDISTRIBUER PENDANT LA PREMIERE ETAPE A CERTAINES CATEGORIES DE PRODUCTEURS, AVEC UNE COMPENSATION COMMUNAUTAIRE DE 5 ECUS/100KG PAR AN PENDANT 10 ANS. CETTE INDEMNISATION SERAIT PAYABLE SOUS FORME D'OBLIGATIONS CESSIBLES.

L'INSTAURATION D'UN REGIME DE RACHAT OBLIGATOIRE, AVEC INDEMNISATION, EGALEMENT SOUS FORME D'OBLIGATIONS CESSIBLES, D'UN MONTANT DE 17 ECUS/100 KG PAR AN, PENDANT TROIS ANS. LES QUANTITES AINSI LIBERES SERAIENT

REALLOUEES AUX PRODUCTEURS, TANT QUE LA QUANTITE DE REFERENCE DEMEURE INFERIEURE A 200 000 KG, AVEC REMBOURSEMENT POUR CEUX-CI DU MONTANT POUR L'INDEMNITE

CORRESPONDANT AUX QUANTITES REALLOUEES

LA DIMINUTION DES PRIX INSTITUTIONNELS, EN TROIS ETAPES, DE 10 0/0 (15 0/0 POUR LE BEURRE ET 5 0/0 POUR LA POUDRE DELAI ECREME)

EN COMPENSATION POUR LA REDUCTION DES PRIX INSTITUTIONNELS DANS LE SECTEUR LAITIER, UNE PRIME PAR VACHE LAITIERE POUR LES 40 PREMIERES VACHES PAR EXPLOITATION A CONDITIONS QUE LA DENSITE SOIT RESPECTEE 1,4 UGB/HA EN ZONES DEFAUCRISEES ET DE MONTAGNE ET 2 UGB/HA DANS LES AUTRES ZONES CES CONDITIONS NE S'APPLIQUENT PAS AUX PRODUCTEURS LIVRANT MOINS DE 25 000 KG

PROMOTION DANS LA COMMUNAUTE DE LA CONSOMMATION DE PRODUITS LAITIERS ET A L'ELARGISSEMENT DU MARCHÉ DE CES PRODUITS

C) MESURES D'ACCOMPAGNEMENT (DOC. COM(91)415)

- L'ACTION AGRI-ENVIRONNEMENTALE VISE A RECONNAITRE LE DOUBLE ROLE DES AGRICULTEURS EN TANT QUE PRODUCTEURS ET PROTECTEURS DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU PAYSAGE, EN LES INCITANT A DES PRATIQUES MOINS INTENSIVES ET PLUS RESPECTUEUSES DES CONTRAINTES NATURELLES.
- PROPOSITION DE REGLEMENT EN MATIERE DE MESURES FORESTIERES
LE BOISEMENT DES TERRES AGRICOLES, TOUT EN PROPOSANT UNE ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIQUE VALABLE A L'UTILISATION DES TERRES, CONTRIBUERA EGALEMENT A UNE MEILLEURE MAITRISE DE LA PRODUCTION ET A UN EFFET POSITIF SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
- PROPOSITION DE REGLEMENT EN MATIERE DE PRERETRAITE
LE DEPART ANTICIPE A LA RETRAITE, AXE SUR LA RESTRUCTURATION, PERMETTRA A LA FOIS DE RATIONALISER LES EXPLOITATIONS ET D'ALLEGER LE POIDS DE LA PRODUCTION SUR LES MARCHES

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B) SECTEURS DEJA EXAMINES

LE CONSEIL LORS DE SA PRECEDENTE SESSION A PROCEDE A UN DEBAT DE FOND SUR LES PROPOSITIONS DE LA COMMISSION RELATIVES AUX CULTURES ARABLES ET CEREALES, AU TABAC ET A LA VIANDE OVINE. AU COURS DES DELIBERATIONS, LES DELEGATIONS ONT PU FAIRE PART DE LEURS OBSERVATIONS ET DE LEURS PREOCCUPATIONS CONCERNANT L'ADAPTATION DE LA PAC TELLE QUE PRECONISEE PAR LA COMMISSION LES PROBLEMES

MAJEURS RENCONTRES DANS CHACUN DE* SECTEURS SONT LES SUIVANTS

A) POUR LES CULTURES ARABLES ET CEREALES

REDUCTION DES PRIX ACOMPAIGNE DE COMPENSATIONS

GEL DES TERRES

REGIONALISATION POUR LES PAIEMENTS COMPENSATOIRES

BLE DUR

SUPERFICIE DE BASE

PETITS PRODUCTEURS

PROTEAGINEUX ET LEGUMINEUSES

HIERARCHIE DES PRIX ET PREFERENCE COMMUNAUTAIRE

PRELEVEMENT DE CORESPONSABILITE

B) POUR LE TABAC

NIVEAU FUTUR DE LA QUANTITE MAXIMALE GARANTIE (OMG) ET
REPARTITION

DES QUOTAS

REGROUPEMENT DES VARIETES

UNICITE DE LA PRIME PAR GROUPE

AGENCE DE CONTROLE

ORGANISATION INTERPROFESSIONNELLE

C) POUR LA VIANDE OVINE

OPPORTUNITE D'UN AMENAGEMENT DU REGIME

REGIME DE QUOTA (PRINCIPE ET MODALITES) ET GEL DU
MECANISME DE

STABILISATION AU NIVEAU 1990

ETABLISSEMENT D'UN LIEN ENTRE LE DROIT A LA PRIME ET LE
SOLNOMBRE DE BREBIS ELIGIBLS DONNANT DROIT A LA PRIME A
TAUX PLEIN

C INCIDENCES FINANCIERES

X URUGUAY ROUND - VOLET AGRICOLE

M MAC SHARRY INFORMERA LE CONSEIL SUR L'ETAT ACTUEL DES
NEGOCIATIONS DANS LE CADRE DE L'URUGUAY ROUND, AINSI QUE DES
POURPARLERS QU'IL A EU AVEC SON HOMOLOGUE AMERICAIN M MADIGAN
LORS DU WEEKEND DERNIER A WASHINGTON

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X PROPOSITIONS DE REGLEMENTS DU CONSEIL

- DEFINISSANT LES CONDITIONS DE POLICE SANITAIRE REGISSANT
LA MISE SUR LE MARCHE DANS LA COMMUNAUTE D'ANIMAUX ET DE
PRODUITS D'ORIGINE ANIMALE NON SOUMIS EN CE QUI CONCERNE
CES CONDITIONS A DES REGLEMENTATIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES
SPECIFIQUES (DOC COM (89) 500)

- RELATIF AUX CONDITIONS DE POLICE SANITAIRE REGISSANT LA

Distel fax autocall-3222350138

MISE SUR LE MARCHÉ DES RONGEURS DANS LA COMMUNAUTÉ (DOC COM(89)658)

IL S'AGIT DES ASPECTS DE POLICE SANITAIRE (SANTÉ ANIMALE) A RESPECTER LORS DE LA MISE SUR LE MARCHÉ DES ANIMAUX DES ESPÈCES ET DES PRODUITS D'ORIGINE ANIMALE NON ENCORE VISÉS PAR LA RÉGLEMENTATION VÉTÉRINAIRE COMMUNAUTAIRE

X PROPOSITION DE RÈGLEMENT DU CONSEIL CONCERNANT LA COMMERCIALISATION DE MATÉRIELS DE MULTIPLICATION DE PLANTES ORNEMENTALES ET DE PLANTES ORNEMENTALES (DOC COM(91)418)

S'INSCRIVANT DANS LE CADRE DE LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DU 'LIVRE BLANC', CE RÈGLEMENT VISE À HARMONISER AU NIVEAU COMMUNAUTAIRE LES NORMES QUALITATIVES ET PHYTOSANITAIRES AUXQUELLES DOIVENT SATISFAIRE LES MATÉRIELS DE MULTIPLICATION (Y COMPRIS LES SEMENCES) DES PLANTES ORNEMENTALES, AINSI QUE LES PLANTES ORNEMENTALES ELLES MÊMES

LA PRÉSENTE PROPOSITION MODIFIÉE TIEN COMPTE DES MODIFICATIONS SUGGÉRÉES PAR LE PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN

X PROPOSITION DE DIRECTIVE DU CONSEIL MODIFIANT LA DIRECTIVE 77/93/CEE CONCERNANT LES MESURES DE PROTECTION CONTRE L'INTRODUCTION DANS LES ÉTATS MEMBRES D'ORGANISMES NUISIBLES AUX VÉGÉTAUX OU PRODUITS VÉGÉTAUX (DOC. COM(89)646 ET COM(91)225)

ANNONCÉE DANS LE 'LIVRE BLANC' LA PRÉSENTE PROPOSITION A POUR OBJET DE MODIFIER LA DIRECTIVE 77/93/CEE EN VUE DE LA RENDRE COMPATIBLE AVEC LES EXIGENCES DU MARCHÉ INTÉRIEUR DE 1993, QUI SERA CARACTÉRISÉ PAR L'ÉLIMINATION DE TOUTES LES BARRIÈRES PHYSIQUES AUX ÉCHANGES

CETTE PROPOSITION TEND À CONCILIER L'EXIGENCE DE LA LIBRE CIRCULATION DES PRODUITS CONCERNÉES AVEC LA NÉCESSITÉ DE GARANTIR UNE PROTECTION PHYTOSANITAIRE ADEQUATE DU TERRITOIRE DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ

AMITIÉS.

C STATHOPOULOS

SENT BY SPP AT TUE DEC 10 18 38 25 MET 1991

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TO: DELEGATION OF EUROPEAN COMM.-
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TO : C.E. WASHINGTON - WASHINGTON
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BRUSSELS, 12 DECEMBER 1991

NOTE BIO (91) 399 (SUITE 1) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC.: AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE PAROLE

COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS, 11 DECEMBER 1991
(G. KIELY)

THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS STARTED WITH A DISCUSSION ON THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL FOR A ONCE OFF INCREASE IN THE SUCKLER COW PREMIUM FOR 1991. THERE WAS POLITICAL AGREEMENT ON THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE COMMISSION CONTRIBUTION BY 10 ECU/HEAD TO 50 ECU AND THE FACILITY TO INCREASE THE NATIONAL TOP-UP BY 10 ECU/HEAD TO 35 ECU, ALLOWING A TOTAL PAYMENT OF 85 ECU/HEAD.

DUE TO RESERVATIONS BY SOME DELEGATIONS IT WAS NECESSARY TO VOTE THE MEASURE THROUGH WITH UK, DK AND NL VOTING AGAINST.

MR MAC SHARRY ARGUED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS IMPORTANT FOR SPECIALIST PRODUCERS, GIVEN THE DIFFICULT SITUATION PREVAILING IN THE BEEF SECTOR DESPITE THE MANY ACTIONS ON THE PART OF THE COMMISSION DURING THE YEAR. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE MEASURE WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASED PRODUCTION AS IT WAS RETROACTIVE AND ONCE-OFF I.E. FOR 1991 ONLY.

OVER 7 M ANIMALS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE INCREASE, 390/0 OF THEM IN FRANCE, 200/0 IN UK, 160/0 IN SPAIN, 90/0 IN IRELAND AND 70/0 IN ITA

THE DISCUSSION ON THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS TO REFORM THE BEEF REGIME INDICATED THAT THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE NEED TO REDUCE PRODUCTION BY A COMBINATION OF MEASURES, BUT THERE WERE MIXED VIEWS ON THE MEASURES PROPOSED.

MOST MINISTERS COULD ACCEPT A PRICE REDUCTION, ALTHOUGH ONLY SOME WERE PREPARED TO BE SPECIFIC ON THE LEVEL OF REDUCTION.

MOST MINISTERS AGREE THAT THE BEEF PREMIA (INCLUDING THE SUCKLER COW PREMIUM) SHOULD BE INCREASED BUT MANY HAVE DIFFERENT IDEAS ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THESE PREMIA.

FOR EXAMPLE A NUMBER OF MINISTERS OBJECT TO THE 90 HEAD CEILING ON ELIGIBILITY, WHILE OTHERS CAN SUPPORT THIS CEILING. ALTERNATELY SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE REGARDING CEILINGS ON THE BASIS OF NUMBERS ELIGIBLE IN FOR EXAMPLE 1990 I.E. EFFECTIVELY A QUOTA ON PREMIA.

SOME MINISTERS ALSO HAVE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE STOCKING RATE DENSITY/HA, ESPECIALLY THAT PROPOSED FOR LESS-FAVOURLED AREAS (1.4 UNIT/HA). BUT MOST COULD PROBABLY ACCEPT A CERTAIN LIMIT PROVIDED THAT A STOCKING RATE HIGHER THAN THE ELIGIBLE LEVEL DID NOT EXCLUDE PRODUCERS COMPLETELY FROM THE PREMIUM I.E. POSSIBLY A PHASED REDUCTION FOR THOSE PRODUCERS WITH A HIGHER STOCKING RATE.

- 2 -

MANY MINISTERS ARGUED IN FAVOUR OF THE PAYMENT OF THE BEEF PREMIUM ONCE IN THE LIFETIME OF THE ANIMAL, RATHER THAN EACH YEAR OVER THREE YEARS. MOST MINISTERS ALSO SUGGESTED A MORE RESTRICTIVE INTERVENTION SYSTEM ON THE BASIS OF FOR EXAMPLE, MAXIMUM AMOUNTS PER YEAR, A RESTRUCTURING OF THE PRICE HIERARCHY OR THE OPENING OF INTERVENTION ONLY ON A SEASONAL BASIS OR IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. WHILE MANY MINISTERS APPRECIATE THE MERIT OF THE CALF SLAUGHTER PREMIUM, MANY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PUBLIC REACTION AND OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL FOR THAT REASON.

THE RESTRICTION ON IMPORTS SHOULD ACCORDING TO MOST MINISTERS CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE. RESPONDING TO THE DISCUSSION MR MAC SHARRY INSISTED THAT MINISTERS SHOULD BE MORE REALISTIC GIVEN THE SERIOUS MARKET SITUATION, DESPITE A DOUBLING OF EXPENDITURE SUPPORTING THE BEEF REGIME BEEF STOCKS OF OVER 900,000 TONNES AND

AN INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF 250/0.

IT WAS CONTRADICTIONARY HE SAID THAT ON THE ONE HAND MINISTERS SUPPORTED A REDUCTION IN PRODUCTION AND AT THE SAME TIME HAD RESERVATIONS ON THE MEASURES WHICH WOULD REDUCE PRODUCTION. WITH REGARD TO THE EXTENSIFICATION CRITERIA, HE POINTED OUT THAT THESE LIMITS (1.4 HD/HA AND 2 HD/HA) ALREADY EXIST UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION.

ON INTERVENTION ADJUSTMENT HE FELT THAT THE TYPE OF ADJUSTMENTS SOME MINISTERS WERE SUGGESTING ALREADY EXIST IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER UNDER THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PROCEDURE.

IN CONCLUSION HE BELIEVED THAT IN VIEW OF THE DIVERGING VIEWS OF MINISTERS ON THE ACTION NECESSARY TO RESTORE BALANCE THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS WERE IN THE CENTRE.

MILK:-

ON THE QUESTION OF A 30/0 CUT IN QUOTA, WHILE MOST MINISTERS ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER A REDUCTION, THEY FEEL 30/0 IS TOO MUCH, OR IT IS PREMATURE AND ONE SHOULD WAIT TO SEE HOW THE QUOTA CUT DECIDED IN 1991 IMPACTS ON THE MARKET OR A QUOTA CUT SHOULD ONLY BE APPLIED IN CONJUNCTION WITH COMMITMENTS BY THE COMMUNITY'S TRADING PARTNERS TO CONTROL PRODUCTION.

WHILE SOME MINISTERS FAVOUR A PRICE CUT, A MINORITY FAVOUR THAT PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION. MOST COULD SUPPORT A SUBSTANTIAL PRICE CUT FOR BUTTER, TO IMPROVE ITS COMPETITIVENESS WITH A SMALLER OR NO REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF SMP.

IF THERE IS TO BE A PRICE REDUCTION MANY MINISTERS WOULD WANT A DAIRY COW PREMIUM, BUT WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS ACCEPTING A LIMIT OF 40 COWS PER FARM OR THE CRITERIA OF A LIMIT OF 2 HD/HA (1.4HD/HA IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS). ON QUOTA TRANSFER MANY MINISTERS WOULD WELCOME A GENERALISED LEASING ARRANGEMENT BUT BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE MEMBER STATES TO DECIDE ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES.

THE DISCUSSION ON THE MILK REGIME WILL CONTINUE ON TUESDAY AND BE FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION ON THE ACCOMPANYING MEASURES.

- 3 -

GATT WILL BE DISCUSSED OVER LUNCH BUT MAY ALSO BE DEALT WITH FORMALLY DURING THE SESSION.

THE TRANSITION OILSEED REGIME MUST ALSO BE DECIDED UPON.

A.O.B. ITEMS INCLUDE, BST, BEEF INTERVENTION AND PROBLEMS IN THE OLIVE OIL SECTOR.

REGARDS,

RCV BY:EEC/WAS/1

:12-12-91 :10:44PM ;

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EEC/WAS/ .

B. DETHOMAS

SENT BY SPP AT : THU DEC 12 15:26:38 MET 1991

+++ END OF TEXT +++

TO: • DELEGATION OF EUROPEAN COMM.-
2024291766

MESSAGE ID: WRUE0321

INBOUND MESSAGE RECEIVED ON DEC 12 AT 13:17 [ASSIGNED// WRUE0321]
21877H COMEU B
COMPUTER MESSAGE :

FROM : C.E.C. - G.P.P.
TO : C.E. WASHINGTON - WASHINGTON
REF : 1346069669 - 12-12-1991 19:08

038446

DG GPP BERL 1/10

CCE M210 ED
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BRUSSELS, 12 DECEMBER 1991

NOTE BIO (91)399 (SUITE 2) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC.: AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS, 12 DECEMBER 1991
G. KIELY

THE COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS COMPLETED THE TABLE ROUND
ON THE REFORM OF THE MILK REGIME.

ON DRAWING HIS CONCLUSIONS THE PRESIDENCY INDICATED THAT:

- A MAJORITY ARE IN FAVOUR OF EXTENDING THE QUOTA REGIME
- WHILE QUOTAS MAY BE REDUCED, DECISIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN ANNUALLY ON THE LEVEL OF REDUCTION NECESSARY DEPENDING ON THE MARKET SITUATION
- THE 1 0/0 QUOTA REDISTRIBUTION SHOULD BE OPTIONAL
- THERE IS NO MAJOR RESISTANCE TO A PRICE REDUCTION, ESPECIALLY FOR BUTTER
- THE PERMANENT QUOTA BUY-UP SCHEME SHOULD BE OPTIONAL

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- THERE ARE MIXED VIEWS ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DAIRY COW PREMIUM.

RESPONDING TO THE DISCUSSION MR MAC SHARRY INSISTED THAT THERE IS STILL A MAJOR MARKET IMBALANCE WITH SURPLUS SUPPLIES OF THE ORDER OF 15 0/0 AND POINTED OUT THAT IF THE 6 B ECU SPENT ON MARKET DISPOSAL MEASURES WAS REDUCED THEN THE DEGREE OF MARKET IMBALANCE WOULD BE VERY OBVIOUS.

HE ALSO BELIEVED THAT MINISTERS WERE IGNORING THE BENEFIT FROM CEREAL PRICE CUTS IN THEIR COMMENTS ON MILK PRICE CUTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO COMPENSATE EXTENSIVE PRODUCERS THROUGH A PREMIUM. HE ALSO QUESTIONED MINISTERS' RESISTANCE TO THE CREATION OF A MILK POOL THROUGH A BUY-UP SCHEME

- IT IS IMPORTANT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF RESTRUCTURING AND HELPING FARMERS IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS IN LESS FAVOURED AREAS, YOUNG FARMERS ETC.

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES:-

THIS PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS, INCLUDING AGRI-ENVIRONMENT, AFFORESTATION AND EARLY RETIREMENT MEASURES RECEIVED A GENERALLY FAVOURABLE RECEPTION FROM MINISTERS. ALL MINISTERS BELIEVE THAT THEY FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF CAP REFORM AND MUST BE DECIDED UPON IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REFORM PROPOSALS.,

VIEW POINTS DIFFER SOMEWHAT ON THE OBLIGATORY NATURE OF THE MEASURES ALTHOUGH THOSE WHO ARGUE THAT THEY BE OPTIONAL, COULD ACCEPT THEIR OBLIGATORY NATURE IF THEY WERE FULLY FINANCED BY THE COMMUNITY.

- 2 -

THERE ARE ALSO VARYING VIEWS ON THE SOURCE OF FINANCING I.E. WHETHER IT SHOULD BE FROM GUIDANCE OR GUARANTEE EXPENDITURE (COMMISSION PROPOSED GUARANTEE). MANY MINISTERS WHILE GIVING STRONG SUPPORT TO THE PROPOSED MEASURES URGED THAT MEMBER STATES SHOULD HAVE FLEXIBILITY IN THEIR APPLICATION TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE DIVERSITY OF THE SITUATION PREVAILING THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

REPLYING TO THE DISCUSSION MR MAC SHARRY INSISTED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MEASURES AND SAID THAT IF MORE FINANCE WAS REQUIRED THEN THE MEASURES REQUIRE ITS PROVISION. HE LAID PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE RETIREMENT SCHEME GIVEN THE AGE STRUCTURE OF FARMERS AND THE NEED TO IMPROVE FARM STRUCTURES AND HENCE THEIR VIABILITY.

HE FELT THAT THE LEVEL OF COMMISSION FINANCING OF 750/0 IN OBJECTIVE 1 REGIONS AND 50 0/0 IN OTHER AREAS IS GENEROUS AND COULD NOT ENVISAGE 100 0/0 FINANCING.
REGARDS,

RCV BY:EEC/WAS/1

:12-13-91 : 2:13PM :

EEC/WAS/1:# 3

B. DETHOMAS

SENT BY SPP AT : THU DEC 12 18:05:59 MET 1991

+++ END OF TEXT +++

Brussels, 13 December 1991

NOTE BIO (91) 399 (suite 3 et fin) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC.: AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE PAROLE

COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS, 12 December 1991
G. KIELY

GATT

The Ministers of Agriculture had a three-hour detailed exchange of views on the GATT negotiations, where Mr Mac Sharry updated Ministers on developments, both in Geneva and in regard to his discussions with the US. A number of Ministers raised the matter again in the Council, for the record.

The Ministers' main concern was that the negotiations could move out of the Agricultural Council's hands.

They were also emphatic that there must be equivalent commitments by all the trading partners, that the Community must maintain a common front, that European agriculture is not penalised unduly.

Ministers also laid particular emphasis on not taking commitments on export limitation on a volume basis and that the Commission's willingness to consider tariffication is directly linked to an agreement on rebalancing.

On the question of whether the Council should be available to meet on GATT, as raised by a number of Ministers, the Presidency did not think it necessary, since national positions should be the same irrespective of what Minister was representing a government at any particular Council.

OILSEEDS:

The transitional regime for oilseeds was adapted unanimously.

BOVINE SOMATO-TROPHIN:

Mr Mac Sharry informed the Council of the Commission's proposal to extend the moratorium on the placing on the market of BST to 31.12.1993 and the fact that the Commission would make a proposal for a definitive decision by June 1993. Those Ministers who intervened welcome this proposal which was accepted unanimously on the basis of a "gentleman's agreement", pending the opinion of the European Parliament.

BEEF MARKET SITUATION:

This point was raised by Belgium who complained about the continuing difficult market situation and asked that the intervention system be reviewed.

In response Mr Mac Sharry said that the beef sector had come through one of the most difficult periods ever, but through the active participation of the Commission in the market, a crisis had been avoided and market prices are now strengthening (all countries are above the intervention safety net level this week).

The reform proposals he said offered the best possibilities for the beef market in the future.

OLIVE OIL:

The Italian Minister, supported by Greece and Spain requested that action be taken to strengthen support for the olive oil market, for example through export refunds and aids to private storage.

Mr Mac Sharry indicated that the situation was being examined and if necessary action would be taken through the management committee procedure.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:

The French Minister questioned whether the mandate for these negotiations were being adhered to, particularly in regard to the opening of an additional wheat quota for Hungary (17.000 tonnes).

Mr Mac Sharry pointed out that while reciprocity was an objective in the negotiations it was not possible to get this on every item. The various offers he said were known to Member States since July and no objections had been raised.

FUTURE WORK:

The Council discussed in restricted session whether or not to continue the discussion on CAP reform next week.

While Ministers were prepared to have another meeting both the President and Mr Mac Sharry felt that in view of the limited time available (Council couldn't meet before Thursday 19th) it was not advisable to attempt to find an agreement even though the willingness to do so existed.

All agreed that a decision on reform is urgent and that it should be finalised in weeks rather than months.

Mr Mac Sharry said that Ministers had a responsibility to their farmers to decide on the reform soon to allow farmers to plan for the future. If it seems that the debate is likely to drag on for months, he said, he will have no alternative but to put forward a price package involving price and milk quota cuts in the context of the 1992/93 price proposals.

The meeting then concluded with Mr Mac Sharry and Ministers complimenting the Presidency for the efficient and constructive way in which it handled all the negotiations during the last six months.

Regards,



B. Dethomas