

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

7873/81 (Presse 87)

718th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 30 June 1981

President: Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Netherlands

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

United Kingdom

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

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SHEEPMEAT

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on the problems which have arisen with regard to the application of the clawback system in the sheepmeat sector.

At the end of its proceedings the Council noted that the Commission would consider this problem at its meeting tomorrow, Wednesday 1 July, in the light of its discussions.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- = on the common organization of the market in sugar
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the sugar prices and the standard quality of beet
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the derived intervention prices for white sugar, the intervention price for raw sugar, the minimum prices for A and B beet, the threshold prices and the amount of compensation for storage costs
- = laying down the general rules governing the minimum stock arrangements in the sugar sector
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the target prices and basic intervention prices for colza and rape seed and sunflower seed
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the monthly increases in target and intervention prices for colza and rape seed and sunflower seed
- = amending Regulation No 115/67/EEC with regard to the criteria for determining the world market price for oil seeds
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the main intervention centres for colza and rape seed and sunflower seed and the derived intervention prices applicable in these centres
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 1724/80 adopting general rules concerning special measures for soya beans harvested in 1980
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 1117/78 on the common organization of the market in dried fodder

- = on a common measure to improve public amenities in certain less-favoured agricultural areas of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - = on an integrated development programme for the Western Isles of Scotland (Outer Hebrides)
 - = on an integrated development programme for the Department of Lozère
 - = on an integrated development programme for the less-favoured areas of Belgium
 - = for the stimulation of agricultural development in the less-favoured areas of Northern Ireland
 - = on a common measure to improve conditions under which agricultural products in the animal feedingstuffs sector in Northern Ireland are processed and marketed
 - = establishing a common measure for adopting and modernizing the structure of production of beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat in Italy
 - = restricting investment aids in the pig production sector
 - = restricting investment aids in the milk production sector
 - = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the activating price for aid for peas and field beans and the minimum price for these products
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2744/75 on the import and export system for products processed from cereals and rice
 - = on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 5,000 head of bulls, cows and heifers, other than those intended for slaughter, of certain alpine breeds, falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff
 - = on measures applicable to imports of preserved mushrooms
- the Directives
- = on the development of agriculture in the French Overseas Departments
 - = amending Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms

- = amending Directive 72/161/EEC concerning the provision of socio-economic guidance for and the acquisition of occupational skills by persons engaged in agriculture
- = amending certain provisions of Directives 73/132/EEC and 78/53/EEC relating to the statistical surveys to be carried out by the Member States on bovine livestock
- = amending for the second time Directive 75/726/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning fruit juices and certain similar products

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3438/80 with respect to exports of lead waste and scrap.

Commodities

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision on the notification of the provisional application by the European Economic Community of the 1980 International Cocoa Agreement.

Appointments

Acting on proposals by the Netherlands, Italy and the United Kingdom Governments respectively, the Council appointed Mr B. PRONK, Beleidsmedewerker Internationale Zaken van het Christelijk Nationaal Vakverbond, Mr Alberto BONIFAZI, Federazione Unitaria CGIL, CISL, UIL, and Mr Robert NIVEN, Department of Employment, as full members of the European Social Fund Committee to replace the late Mr D.H. GRASMAN, full member, and Mr Piero CRAVEPI and Mr Ian FAIR, full members who have resigned, for the remainder of the latter's terms of office, which run until 9 November 1982.

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NOTE BIO (81)265 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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CONSEIL AGRICOLE DU 30 JUIN 1981 (M. VASEY)

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LE CONSEIL AGRICOLE, TENU DANS LA FOULEE DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN EN VUE DE TROUVER UNE SOLUTION AU PROBLEME DU "CLAWBACK", DANS LE CADRE DU NOUVEAU REGIME POUR LA VIANDE OVINE, S'EST SOLDE PAR UN ECHEC DU ESSENTIELLEMENT A L'INCAPACITE DES DELEGATIONS BRITANNIQUE ET FRANCAISE DE SE METTRE D'ACCORD SUR UNE SOLUTION DE COMPROMIS. DEVANT L'ECHEC DU CONSEIL IL APPARTIENT A LA COMMISSION DE PRENDRE SES RESPONSABILITES A SON NIVEAU, COMME LE PRESIDENT THORN EN A PRIS L'ENGAGEMENT. ELLE EN DELIBERERA CE MERCREDI.

EN ATTENDANT, LA DELEGATION BRITANNIQUE A LEVE SA RESERVE SUR L'ADOPTION DES REGLEMENTS SUR LES PRIX ET MESURES CONNEXES DEVANT ENTRER EN VIGUEUR AU 1 JUILLET, C'EST-A-DIRE CEUX RELATIFS AU SUCRE (Y COMPRIS LA NOUVELLE ORGANISATION DU MARCHÉ), LES GRAINES OLEAGINEUSES, LES PLANTES TEXTILES, LES FOURRAGES SECHES, ETC.. AINSI QUE SUR LES MESURES STRUCTURELLES NE FAISANT PAS PARTIE DU PAQUET PRIX (VOIR BIO(81) 70). ELLE MAINTIENT TOUTEFOIS SA RESERVE SUR L'ADOPTION DU REGLEMENT SUR LES PRIX ET MESURES CONNEXES RELATIF AUX CEREALES, VIN, HUILE D'OLIVE, POIS ET FEVES, EN ATTENDANT QUE SOIT HONORE L'ENGAGEMENT PRIS, SELON ELLE, DANS LE CADRE DU PAQUET PRIX RELATIF AU PROBLEME DU CLAWBACK.

LE PRESIDENT THORN A EXPRIME DES LE DEBUT DE LA REUNION SON ETONNEMENT DEVANT LE TEMPS ET L'ENERGIE CONSACRES A LA DISCUSSION DE CE PROBLEME QUI RESTE D'UNE IMPORTANCE TRES LIMITEE. PERSONNE NE NIE QU'A PART LE PROBLEME DES EXPORTATIONS BRITANNIQUES DE VIANDE OVINE VERS LES AUTRES ETATS MEMBRES, LE NOUVEAU REGIME POUR LA VIANDE OVINE FONCTIONNE D'UNE MANIERE TRES SATISFAISANTE NOTAMMENT AU ROYAUME-UNI, OU LES PRODUCTEURS OBTIENNENT DES PRIX REMUNERATEURS TANDIS QUE LES CONSOMMATEURS CONTINUENT DE BENE-

FICIER DE PRIX FAVORABLES GRACE AU SYSTEME DE PRIMES A L'ABAT-TAGE. SI LA COMMISSION S'EST EMPLOYEE A TROUVER UNE SOLUTION AU PROBLEME SOULEVE PAR LES BRITANNIQUES ET DONT ELLE RECONNAIT L'EXISTENCE, LE PRESIDENT THORN A NEANMOINS RAPPELE A LA FIN DE LA REUNION QUE LES MOYENS MIS EN OEUVRE PAR LA DELEGATION BRITANNIQUE POUR OBTENIR SATISFACTION, A SAVOIR LE BLOCAGE DES POINTS A, SEMBLENT DISPROPORTIONNES PAR RAPPORT A L'ENJEU. CE SENTIMENT, EXPRIME NOTAMMENT PAR LA DELEGATION ALLEMANDE, ETAIT LARGEMENT PARTAGE.

SUR LE FOND, LE POINT QUI SEPRE LES DELAGATIONS BRITANNIQUE ET FRANCAISE EST RELATIVEMENT SECONDAIRE, MAIS LES DEUX DELEGATIONS EN ONT FAIT UNE AFFAIRE DE PRINCIPE, CE QUI A EMPECHE TOUT ACCORD. LA DISCUSSION S'EST DEROULEE SUR LA BASE D'UN PAQUET DE MESURES POUR LEQUEL LA COMMISSION ESPERAIT DEGAGER UN "CONSENSUS POLITIQUE" QUI AUURAIT PERMIS LE DEBLOCAGE DES POINTS A.

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M. SANTARELLI

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CONSISTANT A MODIFIER, D'UNE MANIERE OU D'UNE AUTRE, LE CLAWBACK SANS PORTER ATTEINTE A LA PRIME A L'ABATTAGE, EST IRRECEVABLE POUR DES RAISONS DE PRINCIPE (NECESSITE DE MAINTENIR L'EQUIVALENCE ENTRE LE MONTANT DU CLAWBACK ET CELUI DE LA PRIME).

- LA COMMISSION A FAIT SON DEVOIR EN PROPOSANT DES MESURES SUSCEPTIBLES DE DONNER LES RESULTATS SOUHAITES, AINSI QUE LES BRITANNIQUES L'ONT ENFIN RECONNU.

EN CAS D'EVENTUELLES CRITIQUES FRANCAISES, IL Y A LIEU DE REMARQUER QUE :

- LA COMMISSION EXERCE LES POUVOIRS QUI LUI SONT CONFERES DANS LE CADRE DES COMITES DE GESTION, SANS AVOIR BESOIN DE L'ACCORD POLITIQUE PREALABLE DU CONSEIL

- TOUT EN RECHERCHANT DES COMPROMIS POLITIQUES AU NIVEAU DU CONSEIL, ELLE N'A JAMAIS ACCEPTE QU'UNE DELEGATION OU LE CONSEIL PUISSE BLOQUER UNE DECISION PRISE DANS LE CADRE DE SES COMPETENCES PROPRES. EN CAS DE CONTESTATION, IL APPARTIENT A LA COUR DE TRANCHER.

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AMITIES

M. SANTARELLI - COMEUR

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