



NIELS ERSBØLL
Secretary-General of the Council

Born on April 9, 1926, in Copenhagen. Married to Birgitte E., a journalist.

Received Master of Laws degree in 1955, and the same year entered the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1958 to 1960, served as Secretary of the Embassy, the Danish Representation to NATO, Paris. Between 1960 and 1963, seconded for service in the EFTA Secretariat, Geneva. From 1963 to 1964, was Secretary of the Embassy, the Danish Mission to EFTA and GATT, Geneva.

Head of Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in 1964 to 1967. From 1967 to 1973 served as Director, Secretariat for European Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the European Communities in Brussels from 1973 to 1977.

In 1977, was State Secretary for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Named Chairman of the Governing Board of the International Energy Agency in 1978.

Appointed Secretary-General of the Council of the European Communities as of October 8, 1980.