

PRESS RELEASE
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JOINT PRESS RELEASE

On 19 October 1987, the European Community and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus signed the following documents in Luxembourg, in the presence of members of the Council of the European Communities:

- a Protocol on implementation of the second stage of the Agreement establishing an association between the EEC and the Republic of Cyprus;
- a Protocol to the Association Agreement between the EEC and the Republic of Cyprus following the accession of the Kingdom of Spain and of the Portuguese Republic to the Community;

These Protocols were signed:

- on behalf of the European Community by:
 - = Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark and President of the Council of the European Communities;

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- = Mr Claude CHEYSSON, member of the Commission of the European Communities ;
- on behalf of the Republic of Cyprus by :
 - = Mr George IACOVOU, Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by a large delegation (1).

The first Protocol provides for transition to the second stage of the Agreement, which should gradually lead to full completion of a customs union between the EEC and Cyprus after a period not exceeding 15 years.

The second stage consists of two phases, the first of which will last 10 years. The substance of the first phase is set out in the Protocol which has just been signed ; it provides that :

- in the industrial field :
 - = Cyprus will progressively abolish customs duties and quantitative restrictions on its imports from the Community and also progressively adopt the CCT ; nevertheless, for a number of sensitive industrial products, Cyprus will be entitled to considerable derogations of that general tariff-dismantling rule, particularly for its infant industries ;
 - = the Community, which already grants duty-free entry, will abolish certain annual ceilings to which some textile products were still subject ;

(1) The full list of the members of the Cypriot delegation is attached.

- in the agricultural field :

- = the Community will gradually eliminate its customs duties on Cyprus's main agricultural export products ; for some sensitive products, such as certain fruit and vegetable, new potatoes and wine, they will nevertheless be eliminated within tariff quotas increasing in volume each year and also, in some cases, under export timetables ;
- = Cyprus will grant tariff concessions on a number of agricultural products of major interest to the Community ; however, for sensitive products such as cereals, beef and vegetable oils, those concessions will be made within tariff quotas.

The second phase of the 2nd stage will come into force by decision of the Association Council, which will lay down the various measures required for the completion of the customs union, concerning in particular the rules governing the movement of goods, accompanying policies and free movement for certain agricultural products.

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The second of the above mentioned Protocols is aimed at making changes to the EEC-Cyprus Association Agreement signed at the end of 1972 which are required to extend the Association to the two new Member States of the Community, Spain and Portugal.

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The Association Agreement concluded in 1972 was designed from the start to lead to particularly close relations. The signing of the new Protocols constitutes a decisive stage in the Association. It confirms the solidarity linking Cyprus and the Community and their renewed confidence in the future of the Association.

The Protocols will enter into force on the first day of the month following notification by both parties of the completion of the procedures for ratification, acceptance or approval which are required according to their internal rules. As regards the Community, the Council is to conclude the Protocols after the European Parliament has given its assent, in accordance with Article 238 of the Treaty.

CYPRIOI DELEGATION

1. H.E.Mr. G. IACOVOU
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Head of the Delegation
2. H.E.Mr. M. MICHAELIDES
Minister of Commerce and
Industry
3. H.E.Mr. A. PAPASOLOMONTOS
Minister of Agriculture and
Natural Resources
4. H.E.Mr. A.M. ANGELIDES
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
to the EEC
5. Dr. I. ARISTIDOU
Director-General,
Planning Bureau
6. Mr. N. AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
7. Mr. L. ZACHARIADES
M.P., DYSY (Democratic Rally)
8. Mr. K. PANAYIDES
M.P., DYKO (Democratic Party)
9. Mr. A. AVRAAMIDES
President, Cyprus Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
10. Mr. M. ZIVANARIS
Acting President,
Federation of Entrepreneurs
and Industrialists
11. Mr. P. KARAVAS
Cyprus Workers Federation (SEK)
12. Mr. St. ORPHANOU
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation
to the EEC
13. Dr. P. IFESTOS
Commercial Counsellor,
Permanent Delegation to the EEC

