GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE SPRECHERGRUPPE GRUPPO DEL PORTAVOCE BUREAU VAN DE WOORDVOERDER SPOKESMAN'S GROUP

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Opening of negotiations between Norway and the European Communities

Negotiations between Norway and the European Communities aimed at the conclusion of an industrial free trade treaty between the two parties were begun in Brussels on February 16, 1973.

The Norwegian delegation was led by H.E. Jens Evensen, Director General of the Law Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Community delegation was led by Mr. Roland De Kergorlay, Director in the Commission delegation to the Negotiations on the enlargement of the European Communities.

During the opening session the Community delegation and the Norwegian delegation outlined their positions. It was decided to establish working groups, which began deliberations immediately. Both delegations expressed the desire that the negotiations be concluded as rapidly as possible and foresaw the possibility of their second meeting in the week of February 26.

Both delegations expressed appreciation for the frank and friendly atmosphere which characterized the talks.

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