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RECOMMENDATIONS

of the

EEC-GREECE

Joint Parliamentary Committee

adopted in Aghios Nikolaos (Crete)

on 21 May 1976

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EEC-GREECE
JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

DG/EM/gl

Aghios Nicolaos, 26 May 1976

Mr Georges SPENALE
President of the European Parliament
Robert Schumann Building
European Centre
Kirchberg
LUXEMBOURG

Dear Mr President,

Please find attached the recommendations adopted by the EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee at the end of its XIth meeting which was held in Aghios Nicolaos from 18 - 21 May 1976.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd) Paul DE CLERCQ
Co-chairman

(sgd) Jean PESMAZOGLOU
Chairman

XIth Meeting

Crete, 18 - 21 May 1976

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee met at Aghios Nikolaos from 18 to 21 May 1976 under the chairmanship of Mr PESMAZOGLOU, Chairman of the Greek Parliament Delegation and Mr DE CLERCQ, Chairman of the European Parliament Delegation.

Also present at this meeting of the parliamentary organ of the EEC-Greece Association were:

for the Greek Government:

- Mr Panayotis PAPALIGOURAS, Minister for Economic Coordination and Planning of the Hellenic Republic, President-in-Office of the Association Council.
- Mr Georges CONTOGEORGIS, Secretary of State for Coordination and Planning;

for the Council of Ministers of the European Communities:

- Mr Raymond VOUEL, Vice-President of the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, President-in-Office of the Council of the European Communities;

for the Commission of the European Communities:

- Sir Christopher SOAMES, Vice-President of the Commission of the Communities.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee held a broad exchange of views on the international situation and on several political questions of common interest, including south-eastern Europe and the eastern Mediterranean.

The principles underlying the European Community were reaffirmed, notably respect for the law in international relations, the rejection of all arbitrary actions, faits accomplis, and the threat or the use of force.

It then considered the main points arising from Greece's application for membership of the Community, including both the political and institutional aspects and those of an economic and social nature.

The Joint Committee looks forward to the opening of negotiations on those matters in the coming months.

The Joint Committee also discussed matters relating to the Association between the Community and Greece and stressed that developments here should pave the way for the negotiations for Greece's accession. With this in mind, the Committee considered the various problems arising in the commercial, economic and social sectors as well as the issues involved in the current negotiations on the harmonization of agricultural policies.

A further topic considered was the conclusion of a second financial Protocol between the Community and Greece. The members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee hoped that this Protocol would be implemented as soon as it was signed and that it would take account of the special status of Greece.

At the close of its proceedings, the Joint Parliamentary Committee adopted the following recommendations which were addressed to the Association Council and forwarded to the Greek Parliament, the European Parliament, the Government of the Greek Republic and the Commission of the European Communities.

RECOMMENDATION No. 1

on

international political problems

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee,

- reaffirming the commitment of the peoples of the Community and Greece to the fundamental principles of the Treaties establishing the European Communities,
 - stressing the unanimous resolve of its members to work for the enlargement and consolidation of a Europe politically and economically united in democracy, freedom and social progress,
 - expressing its wholehearted support for measures leading to the creation of a European Union within which a directly elected Parliament will, for all the peoples concerned, ensure the preservation of democracy and liberty and the promotion of peace,
 - firmly convinced that the solution of the present economic and social problems, as well as the balanced development of the countries concerned, can only be achieved by common efforts in the European Community,
 - after a broad exchange of views on a number of international political problems,
1. Reaffirms that Greece's application for membership makes it even more imperative to establish closer political cooperation between Greece and the Member States of the Community, especially in areas of common interest;
 2. Notes with great interest the initiatives with regard to cooperation by the Community and Greece with third countries, especially with other European countries of the Balkans and the Mediterranean;
 3. Will continue to keep a close watch over developments in the policies of the Community and Greece towards all the countries of the Mediterranean basin as part of a process of cooperation designed to forge closer links with those countries;

4. Recalling its previous resolutions and stressing the importance of implementing, within a fixed period, all the points of Resolution No. 3384/75 of the General Assembly of the United Nations approved by the nine members of the Community, profoundly regrets that no progress has been made towards a peaceful and just solution of the problem of Cyprus and insists on the urgent need for a resumption of negotiations between the Cypriot communities to ensure the security, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and the return of the refugees to their homes;

5. Appreciates Greece's initiative to secure the early conclusion of a non-aggression pact to help establish the climate of confidence which should mark relations between countries associated with the Community.

RECOMMENDATION No. 2

on

the main issues involved in Greece's application
for membership of the Community

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee,

1. Welcomes the decision of the Council of the Communities of 9 February 1976 to give a favourable reply to Greece's application for membership of the European Communities and to open constructive negotiations to that end;
2. Reaffirms that Greece's membership, far from impeding the process of integration of the European democracies now in train, will give fresh impetus to the Community and strengthen its cohesion and its capacity for action;
3. Trusts that Greece's accession will be accompanied by a substantial improvement in the effectiveness of the decision-making process in the Community and a strengthening of its institutions; declares its support, therefore, for the steps now being taken to achieve European Union, especially the move to secure the election of Members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage.
4. Notes with satisfaction the readiness displayed by the democratic representatives of the Greek people to accept the provisions of the Community Treaties, together with the decisions relating thereto;
5. Takes the view that with the present structure of the Greek economy - considered overall and allowing for such special measures as might prove necessary over a given period - Greece can become a member of the Community in the fairly near future;
6. Stresses that the development of the Association has already made it possible to establish a customs union between the Community and Greece and that this will make accession easier;
7. Calls upon the Council of the Communities and the Greek Government, therefore, to expedite the procedures for opening the negotiations, and to conduct them in the constructive spirit called for in the decision of the Council of the Communities of 9 February 1976;
8. Trusts that the Association Council will direct its activities towards this end and asks to be kept regularly informed of the progress made.

RECOMMENDATION No. 3

on

questions relating to the Association and its development

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee,

- having heard the statements by the President-in-Office of the Association Council, the President of the Council and the Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities,
- 1. Urges that the Association be developed in all sectors in such a way as to smooth the negotiations for Greece's early accession to the Community;
- 2. Notes that since 1 November 1974, with a few exceptions, all Greece's exports to the Community and approximately two-thirds of the Community's exports to Greece have been allowed duty-free entry under the terms of the Association Agreement, and that the remaining third of the Community's exports to Greece is subject to a timetable, leading in successive stages to a complete customs union in 1984;
- 3. Notes with satisfaction that Greece has so far shown great restraint in exercising its option to reintroduce up to 1980 and even beyond to 1984, customs duties on a specified scale for the purpose of protecting emerging industries;
- 4. Calls for more rapid progress in the negotiations which should achieve an immediate harmonization of the Community's and Greece's agricultural policies, stressing that such harmonization is expressly provided for in the Association Agreement;
- 5. Expresses its grave concern that no progress can be discerned towards the conclusion of a second financial Protocol and asks that the relevant negotiations be speeded up and account taken of prospective membership and, more specifically, of the urgent need to allocate adequate funds, once the protocol is signed, for the restructuring and reorientation of Greek agriculture.
- 6. Requests in particular that, in drafting this new financial Protocol, due regard also be paid to the following considerations:
 - (a) that when the Athens Agreement was concluded in 1961, the sum specified in the first Financial Protocol, introduced pursuant to Annex 19 of the Agreement, amounted to 125 million units of account;

- (b) that the amount of the first Financial Protocol had been agreed between Greece and a Community which at the time consisted of only six members;
- (c) that during the seven years of the dictatorial regime suffered by the Greek people, the freezing of the Association ruled out the possibility of negotiating a second Financial Protocol;

7. Further requests the Association Council to plan joint measures for the development of Greek industry, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, in order to promote diversification and encourage efforts to reduce the disparities between the various industries and the various regions.

