

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: UNITED KINGDOM

JULY-DECEMBER 1981

Meetings and press releases July-October 1981

Meeting number	Subject	Date
719 th	Economics/Finance	6 July 1981
720 th	Foreign Affairs	13 July 1981
721 st	Agriculture	20-21 July 1981
722 nd	Budget	22-23 July 1981
723 rd	Fisheries	27 July 1981
724 th	Foreign Affairs	14 September 1981
725 th	Economics/Finance	17 September 1981
726 th	Fiscal Questions	22 September 1981
727 th	Agriculture	28 September 1981
728 th	Fisheries	29 September 1981
729 th	Agriculture	19 October 1981
730 th	Economics/Finance	19 October 1981
731 st	Fiscal Questions	21 October 1981
732 nd	Foreign Affairs	26-27 October 1981
733 rd	Fisheries	27 October 1981
734 th	Energy	27 October 1981

PRESS RELEASE

8020/81 (Presse 89)

719th meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Brussels, 6 July 1981

President: Sir Geoffrey HOWE,
Chancellor of the Exchequer
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Robert VANDEPUTTE Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Rolf BOHME Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Jean PALAIOKRASSAS Minister of State, Co-ordination

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS Minister for Economic Affairs and
Finance

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Nino ANDREATTA Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr F.W. RUTTEN

Chairman of the Economic Policy
Committee

Mr Gordon RICHARDSON

Chairman of the Committee of the
Governors of the Central Banks

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THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council carried out its second quarterly review of the economic situation within the Community, as provided for in Article 3 of the "convergence" Decision of 18 February 1974.

The Council then recorded its agreement on the following conclusions proposed by the Commission:

- (i) It may be that the recession has now passed its low point in Europe, and that the chances for a moderate recovery are fairly good. However, great risks surround this uncertain and fragile improvement. With the short-term easing of the oil market, the main risks at present lie in the management of economic policy within the Community and internationally. The Social Partners also have an important rôle.

- (ii) Within the Community, particular risks follow from the failure so far of several Member States to progress with urgently required public finance and income stabilisation measures. These failures weaken the cohesion of the European Monetary System. The Commission recommends to these countries accelerated programmes of economic adjustment. On the other hand, Germany, where a strong export recovery seems now assured, should not unduly precipitate the desirable medium-term reduction of its public deficits. In general, all Member States must aim at balance in the use of monetary and budgetary policies, and desist from discriminatory measures in either domain that threaten the basic economic principles of the Community; the prospects for export-led recovery can only be based on keeping open markets for trade.

- (iii) The large depreciation of the ECU against the dollar and yen over the past months means that the Community have a new opportunity to improve its share in world markets, and increase investment and employment. But the inflationary impact of the depreciation must be contained, and this is a further reason why adjustments must urgently be made in indexation practices in some Member States, and expectations for real income gains be still lowered more generally for the time being.

- (iv) Internationally, moreover, the volatility of interest and exchange rates is of major concern; indeed it represents a serious threat to Europe's incipient economic recovery, notably because of the great fluctuations in costs and in the continuing uncertainties that the enterprise sector has to face. The Community should pursue these issues in depth in discussions with the other major monetary powers. The Community, the United States and Japan basically share the same monetary policy objectives and there is much to be done, including in the Community (as mentioned with regard to budgets and incomes) to relieve the strain on monetary policies. However the United States should also bear in mind the significant international consequences of different choices that are open to it in the framing and execution of its budgetary and monetary policies. The main policy stance of the major industrial countries does affect the functioning of the world economy and should, therefore, be discussed in the forthcoming international meetings.
- (v) The medium-term outlook reinforces the need for the accentuation of adjustment policies in many Member States, and persistence throughout the Community in efforts to promote investment in energy saving and production and in new industrial capacity, and to moderate labour costs (including both incomes and social security levies).
- (vi) Unemployment and inflation are problems which should be tackled jointly, as generally agreed recently by the Joint Council of Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs and of Financial Affairs. An improvement in the overall economic situation, and hence in employment, implies persistent actions and efforts in a wide area of social and economic policies over several years and specific urgent actions to combat the high unemployment of young people. The efficiency of national policies can be strengthened by a stronger degree of coordination and cooperation between Member States and could also be assisted through reinforced actions at Community level.

MONETARY RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council held an exchange of views on problems arising in monetary relations between the Community and third countries.

It had before it for this purpose an opinion of the Monetary Committee and a report of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks.

It should be noted that the European Council had also examined this matter and that the President of the European Council had summed the matter up as follows:

"With regard to the forthcoming meeting of the Western Economic Summit the European Council stressed the need for a united approach to the problems presented by the level and volatility of interest and exchange rates, as these pose a serious threat to Europe's incipient economic recovery. These issues should be pursued in depth in discussions with the other major monetary powers. Important monetary policy objectives are shared with the United States, but the United States should be urged to take due account of the significant international consequences of its domestic policies. The Community itself should do its part to relieve the strain on monetary policy."

The Council concluded this point by inviting those who would be taking part in the Economic Summit in Ottawa to take into account the approach evolved by the European Council, the opinions of the two above-mentioned Committees and today's discussions.

NEW COMMUNITY INSTRUMENT - NCI II

Following an exchange of views on the proposal for a Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to examine this proposal in order to arrive at a common attitude at its ECO/FIN meeting in September.

EXPORT CREDITS

Concluding an exchange of views, the Council stated the need to:

- maintain the Arrangement on guidelines for export credits;
- arrive at a Community position with a view to the resumption of the negotiations for the adjustment of this Arrangement scheduled for 5 to 7 October 1981 in Paris.

The Council accordingly instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare draft terms of reference by the Council meeting in September.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Customs Union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation increasing the volume of the Community tariff quota opened, for 1981, by Regulation (EEC) No 3441/80 for newsprint falling within Common Customs Tariff subheading 48.01 A.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- Decisions

- = on the restructuring of the system of agricultural surveys in Italy
- = amending Decision 76/557/EEC regarding the inclusion of certain disaster-stricken communes in Italy among the mountain areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming in certain less-favoured areas
- the Regulation laying down the conditions for the transitional maintenance of certain national aids by the Hellenic Republic in the field of socio-structural Directives.

Appointments

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr J.R. BODDY, National Union of Agriculture and Allied Workers, and Mr T. JENKINS, Trades Union Congress, members of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr J. GORMLEY and Mr M. WALSH, respectively, both of whom have resigned, for the remainder of their terms of office, which run until 18 September 1982.

The Council also appointed:

- on a proposal from the Irish Government, Mr Anthony James MAHER, Managing Director, Coal Information Services Ltd., member of the ECSC Consultative Committee, in the place of Mr James J. HUSSEY, who has died, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 24 November 1982;
- on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr Erik OHRT, Underdirektør Jern- og Metalindustriens Sammenslutning, member of the ECSC Consultative Committee in the place of Mr Jørgen HARNE, who has resigned, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 24 November 1982.

The Council also appointed:

- on proposals from the Netherlands Government, Mr H. HOFSTEDE, Sekretaris van het Christelijk National Vakverbond, full member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement of Workers, in the place of Mr D.H. GRASMAN, who has died, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982;

- on a proposal from the Italian Government, Mr Gian Luca BERTINETTO, Consigliere di Legazione, Directorate-General for Emigration and Social Affairs at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, full member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers, in the place of Mr Giovanni MIGLIUOLO, who has resigned, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Italian Government, Mr Mario CAPPETTA, Primo Consigliere, Permanent Representation of Italy, full member of the European Social Fund Committee, in the place of Mr Giovanni MIGLIUOLO, who has resigned, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 9 November 1982.

Finally, on a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mrs Clare CARROLL, European Officer, Federated Union of Employers, alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work, in the place of Mr John DOHERTY, who has resigned, for the remainder of the term of office, which runs until 22 November 1981.

PRESS RELEASE

8220/81 (Presse 20)

720th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 13 July 1981

President: Lord CARRINGTON,
Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs of the
United Kingdom

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The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Robert URBAIN Minister for Foreign Trade

Denmark:

Mr Otto NØLLER State Secretary,
 Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign
 Affairs
Mr Dieter von WÜRZEN State Secretary,
 Federal Ministry of Economic
 Affairs

Greece:

Mr Constantin MITSOTAKIS Minister for Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Minister for External Relations
Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister responsible for
 European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Jim DOGGE Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jim O'KEEFE Minister of State,
 Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO Minister for Foreign Affairs

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Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCHE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr C.A. van der KLAUW Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr D.F. van der MEI State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr K.H. BEYEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

United Kingdom

Lord CARRINGTON Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Sir Ian GILMOUR Lord Privy Seal

Mr Cecil PARKINSON Minister of State,
Department of Trade

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Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI Vice-President

Mr Wilhelm HAFFERKAMP Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI Member

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SPANISH ACCESSION

The Council prepared the Community position with a view to the 8th meeting of the Conference at Ministerial level for Spanish accession.

This meeting was held late this morning. The Spanish delegation was headed by Mr José Pedro PEREZ LLORCA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain, who was accompanied by Mr Raimundo BASSOLS, State Secretary.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council finalized the position on customs union to be adopted by the Community in the accession negotiations with Portugal.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING ON 29 AND 30 JUNE 1981

The Council took stock of the further action to be taken regarding certain matters which had been discussed at the European Council meeting on 29 and 30 June and relating in particular to the preparations for the Ottawa Summit on 20 and 21 July 1981.

JAPAN

The Council held an exchange of views on relations between the Community and Japan and, with a view to the Ottawa Economic Summit, reconfirmed the approaches which it had previously adopted on this matter.

RENEWAL OF THE MULTIFIBRES ARRANGEMENT

The Council adopted the negotiating directives to enable the Commission to participate, on behalf of the Community, in the negotiations which opened today in Geneva with a view to the renewal of the Multifibres Arrangement.

MEDITERRANEAN FINANCIAL PROTOCOLS

The Council continued its discussions on the problems raised by the renewal of the Mediterranean Financial Protocols, which expire on 31 October 1981.

At the close of its discussions, it requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to resume its examination of this dossier at its next meeting in order to reach rapid conclusions on the matter.

COMMODITIES: COCOA - IMPLEMENTATION BY THE COMMUNITY OF THE
1980 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

1. The Council and the Member States have decided that the Community and its Member States will follow the decision taken in Geneva to implement on a provisional basis the 1980 International Cocoa Agreement in its entirety as from 1 August 1981 and have authorized the President to designate the person empowered to notify the United Nations General-Secretary of the Community's acceptance of this decision.
2. In adhering to the 1980 International Cocoa Agreement, the Community's main concern is that the Agreement should operate in the best interests of the cocoa industry. It attaches vital importance to full maintenance of the financial resources of the buffer stock accumulated under the previous agreements.
3. As the new Agreement is to be implemented on a provisional basis, the Community is taking as a starting point the idea that after one year of operation of the Agreement, the situation will be reviewed in the light of the results obtained in accordance with Article 66(3) of the Agreement.
4. In view of the concern expressed in points 2 and 3 above, the Community and its Member States reserve the right to reconsider their position with regard to the new Agreement.
5. At the forthcoming sessions of the International Cocoa Council under the 1975 Agreement and the 1980 Agreement, the Community and its Member States will adopt a position which is in conformity with the above provisions.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the Mediterranean countries and Portugal

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the negotiating directives for the conclusion of protocols of adjustment to the EEC-ECSC/Yugoslavia Agreements consequent on the accession of Greece to the European Communities.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3497/80 laying down the arrangements applicable to trade with the Republic of Cyprus beyond 31 December 1980.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - = sherry
 - = Malaga wines
 - = wines from Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepeñas falling within heading No ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Spain (1981/1982);

- the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for

- = port wines
- = Madeira wines
- = Setubal muscatel wines
- = Verde wines
- = Daô wines

falling within heading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Portugal (1981/1982).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 471/76 as regards the period of suspension of the application of the condition on prices governing the importation into the Community of fresh lemons originating in certain Mediterranean countries.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations

- = opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for apricot pulp falling within subheading ex 20.06 B II c) 1 aa) of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Turkey (1.7.1981 - 30.6.1982);
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 562/81 on the reduction of customs duties on imports into the Community of certain agricultural products originating in Turkey.

Textiles

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation concerning the arrangements for importation into Italy of jute yarn originating in Thailand.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the conclusion of an agreement on trade in textile products.

Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- a Decision adjusting the amounts made available to the European Development Fund (1979) for the ACP States and for the overseas countries and territories (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Republic of Vanuatu);
- a Decision amending Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community.

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision concerning the conclusion of the Convention on Future Multilateral Co-operation in the North-East Atlantic Fisheries (NEAFC).

Social affairs

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Council Regulation concerning operations qualifying in Greece for a higher rate of intervention by the European Social Fund.

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Recommendation on the express carriage of low weight cargo by air.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- Regulations

- = fixing, for the period from 16 December 1981 to 15 December 1982, the guide prices for wine
- = determining, for the 1981/1982 wine-growing year, the prices to be paid under the compulsory distillation of the by-products of wine making and, in derogation from Regulation (EEC) No 349/79, the amount of the contribution from the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 343/79 laying down general rules governing certain distillation operations in the wine sector
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 345/79 laying down general rules for granting export refunds on wine and criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the production target price, the production aid and the intervention price for olive oil
- = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the monthly increases in the representative market price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil
- = fixing the guide price for soya beans for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the minimum price for soya beans for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the guide price for linseed for the 1981/1982 marketing year

- = fixing the guide price for castor seed for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the minimum price for castor seed for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the amounts of aid for fibre flax and hemp for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = on the financing of measures to encourage the use of flax fibres for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the amount of aid in respect of silkworms for the 1981/1982 rearing year
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 on the common organization of the market in cereals
- = fixing cereal prices for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = laying down technical requirements in respect of common wheat for bread-making
- = fixing the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour and wheat groats and meal for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing carry-over payment for common wheat, rye and maize remaining in stock at the end of the 1980/1981 marketing year
- = fixing for the 1981/1982 marketing year the list of those Community regions which qualify for aid for durum wheat and the amount of such aid
- = fixing rice prices for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = fixing the monthly price increases for paddy rice and husked rice for the 1981/1982 marketing year
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2742/75 on production refunds in the sector of cereals and rice
- a Directive amending Directives 66/402/EEC and 66/403/EEC on, respectively, the marketing of cereal seed and of seed potatoes.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Council Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 38,000 head of heifers and cows other than those intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff.

ECSC

The representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting with the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision on certain measures to be applied, in respect of State-trading countries, to trade in iron and steel products covered by the ECSC Treaty, including pig iron, cast iron and high-carbon ferro-manganese.

Appointment

Acting on a proposal from the Italian Government, the Council appointed Professor Francesco POLIZZI, Vice direttore generale ospedali, Ministero della Sanità, a member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Surgeons to replace Doctor Gianni CITTARELLA for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 25 March 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

8472/81 (Presse 95)

721st meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 20 and 21 July 1981

President: Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture
of the United Kingdom

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

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 Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Member

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MEASURES IN FAVOUR OF IRELAND

Pursuant to the undertaking which it gave when fixing agricultural prices for 1981/1982, to take a decision in July on special measures to support Irish agriculture, the Council recorded its substantive agreement on:

- a Regulation on a special programme concerning drainage operations in the less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland and
- a Decision on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for in Directive 72/159 on the modernization of farms, to be applied in Ireland.

The object of the first measure is arterial drainage and field drainage for a maximum area of 50,000 ha. The expenditure on arterial drainage may serve to complete operations already foreseen within the framework of a previous Directive providing for a programme to accelerate drainage operations in the same less-favoured areas in the West of Ireland.

The Community (EAGGF, Guidance Section) will repay 50% of Ireland's expenditure under this programme; however the Community's contribution to field drainage expenses may not exceed 425 ECU per hectare.

The second measure authorizes Ireland to increase the interest-rate subsidy provided for in Directive 72/159 on the modernization of farms to 12% in the less-favoured areas and to 10% in other regions, as regards the execution of development plans drawn up under this Directive.

As regards development plans already being put into operation, Ireland is authorized to grant a supplementary interest-rate subsidy of 5% for a period of not more than two years commencing on or after 1 January 1981 to be loans contracted for the financing of eligible expenditure which have not yet been repaid.

The expenditure incurred by Ireland is eligible for reimbursement by the EAGGF, Guidance Section, at a general rate of 25% with 50% for the less-favoured areas.

The estimated total cost of these measures payable by the EAGGF, Guidance Section, amounts to 30 MECU for drainage and 17 MECU for interest-rate subsidies.

COTTON

In accordance with Protocol No 4 to the Act of Greek Accession, the Council approved the general rules for the system of aid for cotton and, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the guide price for non-deseeded cotton, the quantity for which that aid would be granted totally and the minimum price.

These decisions will permit the entry into force of the new arrangements for cotton on 1 August as planned.

As regards prices in particular, it was decided that the guide price would be 76 ECU/100 kg. The aid intended to cover the difference between the guide price and the world market price would be granted for a total quantity of 430,000 tonnes. Finally, the minimum price to be paid at least to the producer would be 5% less than the guide price.

DRIED GRAPES AND DRIED FIGS

The Greek Act of Accession extended the scope of the common organization of the market in processed fruit and vegetables to dried grapes and dried figs. Under this principle, provisions defining the arrangements for these two products were incorporated into Regulation No 516/77 on processed fruit and vegetables.

In accordance with these provisions, the Council laid down the detailed rules to apply from 15 August 1981 for granting the production aid for these products.

The arrangements laid down by the Council provide in particular for:

- production aid to the processor who has purchased the basic product at no less than a minimum price from the producer;
- aid to storage agencies to compensate for storage and financing costs.

With particular reference to the fixing of the minimum price to be complied with by processors for 1981/1982, it was agreed that the price would be set at 72 Drs/kg for dried grapes and 45 Drs/kg for dried figs.

The Greek Government will furthermore be authorized to retain its national income subsidy during the next marketing year.

The Community arrangements are very largely based on the national arrangements in Greece, which have been in force for more than 50 years with some success. However, the Council considered that as there would be a general review of the aid arrangements for processed fruit and vegetables (pursuant to Regulation No 516/77) in the next two years, the arrangements for dried grapes and dried figs should be limited to the 1981/1982 and 1982/1983 marketing years in order to achieve uniformity in the medium term in the arrangements for all processed fruit and vegetables.

HORMONES AND VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

The Council agreed on a compromise submitted by the Presidency concerning the use of substances with a hormonal or thyrostatic action in animals.

This decision, which is based on the guidelines produced by the Council on 30 September 1980, confirms the principle of a general prohibition on the administration to animals of substances with a hormonal action the effect of which is to stimulate meat production.

The prohibition enters into effect immediately with regard to stilbenes and thyrostatic substances the dangers of which to human health are established. The prohibition covers administration to farm animals, the placing on the market or slaughtering of animals to which such substances have been administered, the placing on the market of their meat, the processing of such meat and the placing on the market of meat products prepared from such meat. The prohibition also covers the placing on the market of stilbenes and thyrostatic substances.

There is no provision for any derogation from the prohibition on the administration to animals of substances with an oestrogenic, androgenic or gestagenic action other than stilbenes except by way of therapeutic treatment.

As regards the administration to farm animals for purposes of fattening of the following five substances: Oestradiol 17/B, Progesterone, Testosterone, Trembolone and Zeranol, the Council will take a decision, acting unanimously on a proposal to be submitted by the Commission and after consulting the relevant scientific committees, nine months after the notification of the Directive.

In the meantime, the stricter national systems of legislation in force concerning these substances as well as the arrangements in respect of these substances concluded by the Member States, will remain applicable.

The Council agreed to defer its decision regarding the Commission proposals:

- laying down conditions for controlling the possession, distribution and administration to animals of certain substances with a hormonal action;
- concerning the control and examination of animals and meat in the Community for the presence of residues of substances having an oestrogenic, androgenic, gestagenic or thyrostatic effect.

The Council will in any case review the situation no later than 1 July 1984.

In this connection, the Council also held an exchange of views on the last remaining problems regarding the approximation of the laws of the Member States:

- relating to veterinary medicinal products;
- on analytical, pharmacological and clinical standards and protocols in respect of the testing of veterinary medicinal products.

These problems mainly concern the inclusion of pre-mixes of medicinal products within the scope of the Directive on veterinary medicinal products.

In closing the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the matter so as to enable the Council to take a decision at its next meeting.

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HEATED GREENHOUSES: PRICE OF NATURAL GAS

The Council held an exchange of views in the course of which a number of delegations expressed concern regarding the price of natural gas payable by producers using heated greenhouses in the Netherlands and the consequences for competition between the Member States; those delegations insisted that the price differences which still existed with respect to the industrial sector in general be eliminated as soon as possible. The Commission representative confirmed that the Commission was continuing its approaches to the Netherlands authorities and would keep the Council informed.

WINE MARKET

In response to a request by the French delegation for the implementation of the minimum wine price system (Article 15a of the basic Regulation), the Council held an exchange of views on the existing situation on the wine market and in particular on the development and the economic consequences of intra-Community trade.

The Council noted that the Commission intended to follow developments on this market with great attention and would take stock of the situation at the next meeting of the Management Committee which was planned for the beginning of August. In doing so it would take account both of the most recent prices recorded on representative Community markets and the results of the exceptional distillation in progress which had been decided on by the Council on 24 April 1981.

MANIOC AND FODDER GRAIN SUBSTITUTION PRODUCTS

At the request of the French delegation the Council held an exchange of views on the problems posed by imports of fodder grain substitution products and manioc in particular. In that connection the Commission informed the Council of the progress of its negotiations and the contacts which it had initiated with the non-member countries which supplied those products.

The Council agreed to hold a detailed discussion on this matter at its meeting in October, on the basis of a new report which the Commission would concentrate its efforts on submitting in good time.

EXPORT REFUNDS FOR "BUTTERMIX"

After a declaration by the Belgian delegation on the re-introduction of export refunds for certain milk products, the Council noted that the Commission was planning to deal with that matter in the Management Committee.

HEALTH PROBLEMS - FRESH POULTRYMEAT

The Council decided to extend until 15 August 1982 the derogation allowing Member States to authorize the placing on their market of poultry which have not been drawn.

The Council considered the following matters under "Other business":

- intensive breeding of battery hens (request by the German delegation);
- export policy on cereals, including barley (request by the Danish delegation);
- application of Regulation (EEC) No 1196/81 on aids for bee-keeping (request by the Belgian delegation);
- national aids in France (request by the United Kingdom delegation);
- communication by the United Kingdom delegation on trade in sheepmeat;
- trade in New Zealand butter (request by the Danish delegation).

OTHER DECISIONS

Agriculture

The Council adopted the following in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Directive concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Greece);
- Regulations
 - = fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the production aid for tinned pineapple and the minimum price to be paid to pineapple producers
 - = laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of aid to producers for the 1980 harvest
 - = laying down the general rules for applying the differential charge to raw preferential sugar
 - = adopting measures for the marketing of sugar produced in the French Overseas Departments.

Credit Insurance, credit guarantees and financial credits

The Council adopted the following in the official languages of the Communities:

- Decisions
 - = renewing the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially-supported export credits;
 - = extending the Decision of 28 April 1981 implementing the OECD Understanding on export credits for ships.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision adapting, consequent upon the accession of Greece to the European Communities, Decision 80/344/EEC adopting a second research programme in the field of medical and public health research, consisting of four multiannual concerted projects.

Technical barriers

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, Directives:

- amending Council Directive 77/541/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to safety belts and restraint systems for motor vehicles
- amending Council Directive 76/115/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to anchorages for motor vehicle safety belts
- amending Council Directive 74/408/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the interior fittings of motor vehicles (strength of seats and of their anchorages).

PRESS RELEASE

8495/81 (Presse 96)

722nd meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 22 and 23 July 1981

President:

Mr Nigel LAWSON,

Financial Secretary to the Treasury
United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Rolf BÖHME Parliamentary State Secretary
Federal Ministry of Finance

Mr Horst SCHULMANN State Secretary
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Miltiadis EVERT Minister for Finance

France:

Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister responsible for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr John SWIFT Deputy Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI State Secretary,
Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER

Minister for Finance

Mr Ernest MUHLEN

State Secretary, Finance

Netherlands:

Mr D.F. van der MEI

State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

Mr Peter REES

Minister of State to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice President

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY

Member

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MEETING BETWEEN A DELEGATION FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL

During the afternoon of 22 July a meeting took place between the Council and a delegation from the European Parliament headed by Mr VANDEWIELE, Vice-President of the European Parliament. The other members of the delegation were Mr LANGE, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr SPINELLI, second Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr ROSSI, third Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr ANSQUER, Rapporteur on Sections I, II, IV and V of the 1982 Budget, Mr ADONNINO, Rapporteur, amending Budget N° 1 - 1981, Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control, Mr DANKERT, Member of the Committee on Budgets and Vice-President of the European Parliament, Mr BALFOUR, Mr BONDE and Mr LANGES, Members of the Committee on Budgets.

This meeting afforded the opportunity for a wide-ranging and frank discussion on both preliminary draft amending budget n° 1 to the 1981 Budget and the preliminary draft Budget for 1982. Co-operation in general between the Council and the European Parliament on budgetary matters was also discussed.

On the subject of preliminary draft amending budget n° 1 for 1981, the Council briefed the Parliament delegation on the general approach being followed by the Council. Subsequent talks revealed a considerable consensus of opinion between the Council and the Parliament delegation on the substance of the amending Budget.

Discussions between the Parliament delegation and the Council on the preliminary draft Budget for 1982 gave members of Parliament an opportunity to underline the political options they wished to see reflected in the Budget. There should be a sustained effort to achieve a more rationally ordered Budget by developing or strengthening Community policies with an impact on the restructuring or re-casting of economic activities in the Community, or Community policies concerned with solidarity with developing countries.

Several members of the Council said that they appreciated the concern of members of Parliament but they felt it was necessary to underline the need to reconcile the development of Community policies with the constraints imposed by the economic situation in general, which dictated considerable restraint in public spending both nationally and at Community level.

Finally, on the subject of co-operation in general between the two branches of the Budgetary authority, Parliament and Council, the President of the Council informed the Parliament delegation of a number of practical measures designed to strengthen co-operation which the Council proposed to implement immediately. This was by way of an initial reaction on the part of the Council to the Parliament Resolution of 10 April 1981 concerning the inter-institutional dialogue on budgetary matters.

DRAFT AMENDING BUDGET No 1 FOR 1981

The Council established draft amending budget No 1 for 1981.

This draft provides for an overall reduction in expenditure of 197,658,000 ECU for 1981.

On the one hand, it entails an increase of 257,750,000 ECU in payment appropriations for non-compulsory expenditure, including, in particular, 200 MECU for the Regional Fund, 44 MECU for the non-associated developing countries and 11 MECU for control measures in the steel industry. In making these increases, the Council is proposing that the maximum rate for non-compulsory expenditure be set at 13.8% for payment appropriations for 1981.

On the other hand, payment appropriations for compulsory expenditure have been reduced by 455,408,000 ECU as the result of various reductions and increases, the most significant of which are: - reductions: 561 MECU - EAGGF, Guarantee Section, 27.082 MECU - measures in favour of the United Kingdom and compensation for Greece, 20 MECU - interest rate subsidies for the Mezzogiorno; - Increases: 50 MECU - EAGGF, Guidance Section, 100 MECU - food aid.

Draft amending budget No 1 for 1981 will be forwarded to the European Parliament, which will discuss it at its September part-session.

DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1982

After a detailed examination of the preliminary draft general budget for 1982 submitted by the Commission, the Council reached agreement on the contents of the draft budget.

The budget comprises a total of 21,770 million ECU (*) in payment appropriations and 22,850 million ECU in commitment appropriations; the percentage increases in relation to the amended 1981 budget are 13.79% for payment appropriations and 10.48% for commitment appropriations.

The Council centred its discussions on the operating appropriations to be retained for the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF and on those to be included for non-compulsory expenditure.

In the case of the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF, for which appropriations remain at the figure proposed by the Commission, the Council agreed to enter 433 million ECU operating appropriations in Chapter 100 by way of a reserve; this reserve breaks down as follows:

Article 100 (Refunds on cereals):	90
Item 1511 (Fruit and vegetables):	20
Chapter 17 (Tobacco):	30
Article 182 (Potatoes):	10
Article 200 (Refunds on milk and milk products):	110
Article 202 (Sales of surplus milk products):	35
Item 2033 (Other storage costs):	25
Item 2040 (Consumption aid):	113

The President stressed that in choosing this arrangement the Council had borne in mind, among other things, the initiative taken last year by the European Parliament (Adonnino reservation).

(*) subject to final calculation.

With regard to non-compulsory expenditure, the Council decided on an overall increase of 4.4% in commitment appropriations (which now stand at 4,345 MECU, comprising 1,600 MECU for the Regional Fund, 1,000 MECU for the Social Fund and 1,745 MECU for other non-compulsory expenditure). Payment appropriations were increased overall by 14.5% and now stand at 3,325 MECU, comprising 950 MECU for the Regional Fund, approximately 735 MECU for the Social Fund and approximately 1,640 MECU for other non-compulsory expenditure.

In this connection, the President made the point that in adopting a 14.5% increase the Council had fully applied the maximum rate for non-compulsory expenditure. He felt that, in view of the constraints which both the national and Community budget authorities were feeling from the economic situation, it was impossible to go beyond that rate.

After the various texts have been finalized the draft 1982 budget that has emerged from the Council's discussions will, be formally drawn up as soon as possible by the written procedure.

OTHER DECISIONS

Economic situation

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision supplementing Decision 80/1265/EEC adopting the annual report on the economic situation in the Community (1980) and laying down the economic policy guidelines for 1981 (guidelines to be followed by Greece in 1981).

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and third countries.

It also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on trade in textile products.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 316/77 on the application of an anti-dumping duty on chains for cycles and motorcycles, originating in Taiwan.

Consumer protection

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision introducing a Community system of information on accidents in which products are involved outside the spheres of occupational activities and road traffic.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation No 79/65/EEC setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Economic Community.

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Resolution extending the trial period for observing these markets for the carriage of goods by rail, road and inland waterways between the Member States.

ECSC

The council gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty in respect of the following:

- McCain Foods (GB) Ltd, United Kingdom
- Philips Electronic and Associated Industries Ltd/TMC Ltd, United Kingdom
- Titech Europe, S.A., Belgium.

Appointment

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council appointed Mr Kjeld HOLM, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, as a member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, in place of Mr Sven-Peter NYGAARD, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 March 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

8667/81 (Presse 99)

723rd Council meeting

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 27 July 1981

President:

Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food
of the United Kingdom

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean MISCHO

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr George YOUNGER

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr George CONTOGEOGRIS

Member

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Internal aspects

The Council noted that the Commission had just submitted to it amended proposals on TACs and new proposals on fishing quotas for 1981.

At this meeting, the Council focussed its discussions on the 1981 TACs, and quotas for herring. After a complete ban for three years in certain areas, the Commission proposed a prudent resumption of fishing for this species in the light of scientific opinion that there had been a degree of replenishment of stocks.

After detailed discussions, the Council found that it was unable to reach agreement for the time being.

It agreed to include the matter of TACs and quotas and that of an interim common measure for restructuring the inshore fishing industry and the common organization of the market in fishery products, which were also on the agenda, in the overall framework of discussions on the common fisheries policy at the next meeting scheduled for 29 September.

External aspect

The Council agreed on an exchange of letters with Norway laying down the definitive fishing arrangements for 1981 between Norway and the Community. These arrangements are the outcome of the consultations held by the Commission with Norway concerning certain common stocks in the light of the AFCM's recommendations. The Council at the same time adopted a Regulation provisionally implementing the obligations arising from this exchange of letters.

The Council also reviewed the current situation regarding:

- the laying down for 1981 of measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels registered in the Faroe Islands;
- the fishing arrangements for 1981 between the Community and the Kingdom of Sweden;
- the signing of the framework agreement and an exchange of letters between the Community and Canada.

It will return to these problems at its next meeting. In the meantime, the Council gave its approval to a one-month extension to the interim Regulation allowing Sweden to fish for ling.

Finally, the Council noted the information provided by the Commission on the progress of the negotiations or contacts on fisheries matters with a number of West African countries. It adopted the Decision concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the interim fishing arrangements between the Community and the Republic of Senegal (extension of the existing fishing arrangements with Senegal for three months).

OTHER DECISIONS

Fisheries

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation concerning the management and control of certain catch quotas for 1981 for vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention.

1982 Draft Budget

The Council established the 1982 draft budget which will be forwarded to the European Parliament.

Food aid

The Council adopted the following Decisions on the granting of food aid in the form of cereals, from the 1980/1981 reserves for emergency aid and other unforeseen situations:

- 10,000 t to the people of Kampuchea via the WFP;
- 6,000 t to Madagascar;
- 2,000 t to Mauritius;
- 7,500 t to Morocco;
- 5,000 t to Niger.

The Council also decided on the supply of the following products as emergency food aid for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan via the UNHCR, from the remaining reserves for 1980:

- 3,000 t of skimmed milk powder;
- 500 t of butteroil.

Finally, the Council recorded its agreement to the supply of 5 MECU worth of exceptional food aid to Nicaragua (commodities other than cereals, milk products or sugar), made up as follows:

- 3,000 t of vegetable oil (2.5 MECU);
- 2,600 t of red beans (2.5 MECU).

Agriculture

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Regulation amending Regulation No 79/65/EEC setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Economic Community;
- the Decision amending, as a result of Greek accession, Decision 78/902/EEC adopting joint research programme and programmes for co-ordinating agricultural research;
- the Regulation on a special programme concerning drainage operations in the less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland;
- the Decision on the level of the interest rate subsidy, provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms, to be applied in Ireland;
- the Regulations:
 - = fixing for the 1981/1982 marketing year the guide price for unginced cotton and the quantity of cotton for which aid may be granted without production;
 - = laying down the general rules for the system of aid for cotton;
 - = laying down the minimum price for unginced cotton for the 1981/1982 marketing year;
- the Regulation laying down the general rules for the system of production aid for dried grapes and dried figs;
- the Resolution on the veterinary work programme.

New Mediterranean financial Protocols

The Council approved the main elements in the negotiating directives for the new Financial Protocols with the Maghreb and Mashreq countries and Israel, since the existing Financial Protocols with these countries are due to expire on 31 October 1981. Although a number of details remain to be clarified, the Commission could begin talks with the countries concerned without delay.

Co-operation with the EFTA countries

The Council approved the report from the Permanent Representatives Committee on co-operation with EFTA countries.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Community, the Regulations on:

- the application of Decisions Nos 3/81 of the EEC/EFTA Joint Committees adding to and amending Lists A and B annexed to Protocols No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation;
- the application of Decisions No 1/81 of the EEC/EFTA Joint Committees, further amending Article 8 of Protocols No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation;
- the application of Decisions No 4/81 of the EEC/EFTA Joint Committees, amending, as regards products sent in small packages to private persons, Article 8 of Protocols No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation;
- the application of Decisions No 2/81 of the EEC/EFTA Joint Committees amending Protocols No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation to take account of the change in the international method of determining "customs value".

Relations with Portugal and the Maghreb countries

The Council recorded its agreement to the Community position concerning the implementation of the provisions on co-operation in the field of social security contained in the Co-operation Agreements concluded with the Maghreb countries and in the Additional Protocol to the Agreement concluded with the Republic of Portugal.

Research

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision adopting a 3rd plan of action (1981-1983) in the field of information and documentation.

Appointments

On a proposal from the Italian Government, the Council appointed Mr Roberto de ANTONIS, Dirigente superiore in servizio presso la Divisione VI della Direzione generale per la istruzione universitaria, Ministero della pubblica istruzione, alternate Member of the Advisory Committee on Veterinary Training, in place of Mr Mario FRITTOLI, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 17 February 1983.

On a proposal from the Italian Government, the Council also appointed Director Luigi SENTINELLI, Direttore della Divisione IV, Direzione generale per la istruzione universitaria, Ministero della pubblica istruzione, alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training in place of Professor Vito DI LEO, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 5 April 1982.

PRESS RELEASE

9110/81 (Presse 107)

724th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 14 September 1981

President: Lord CARRINGTON,
Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs of the
United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Peter CORTERIER Minister of State,
Federal Foreign Office

Greece:

Mr Byron THEODOROPOULOS State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Minister for External Relations

Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister responsible for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Jim DOOGE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jim O'KEEFFE Minister of State,
Department of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max van der STOEL Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr H. van den BROEK State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Lord CARRINGTON Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Douglas HURD Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI Member

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SPANISH ACCESSION

With a view to the next ministerial session of the negotiations on Spanish accession, scheduled for the end of October, the Council evolved some guidelines for the preparation of the Community position on customs union and agriculture.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Council held an exchange of views in the course of which a number of comments and suggestions were made by various delegations.

Having confirmed the political importance it attaches to relations between the Community and Yugoslavia, the Council noted that these matters will come up for discussion again on the basis of the report to be made by the Commission on the negotiations which it will shortly be conducting with Yugoslavia with a view to concluding a Protocol of Adjustment to the Co-operation Agreement following Greece's accession to the Communities.

CYPRUS

Within the framework of the decision of 24 November 1980 of the EEC/CYPRUS Association Council on the process into the second stage of the Association Agreement ⁽¹⁾, the Council discussed the directives to be given to the Commission for the negotiations with Cyprus on the EEC/CYPRUS trade arrangements to be applied in 1982/1983. It agreed to resume the discussion at the next meeting.

⁽¹⁾ See joint press release CEE-CY 707/80 (Presse 175), 24.11.1980.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

The Council took stock of the current situation regarding the North-South dialogue with a view to the forthcoming "International Meeting on co-operation and development" to be held in Cancun on 22 and 23 October 1981.

In addition the Council gave a very favourable reception to the statement by Mr E. COLOMBO, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, on the initiative of the Italian Government, announced at the Ottawa Economic Summit, aimed at promoting a special, rapid international plan to give a fresh boost to efforts to combat hunger in the developing countries and the Italian Government's wish to see this initiative taken up by the Community. The Council asked the Commission, in contact with the Italian Government, to submit proposals to it in the near future for the implementation of this initiative and for the preparation of a Community position. The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to examine the proposals and to report back to the Council as quickly as possible in view of the urgent need for a solution to these problems.

CASSAVA

The Council heard a report by Vice-President HAFERKAMP on the progress made in the Commission's negotiations and contacts with the principal cassava-supplying countries other than Thailand, in the context of the negotiating directives approved by the Council in December 1980 for the co-operation agreement with Thailand.

Following an exchange of views - which enabled the delegations to state their views on current developments - the Council noted that a conclusion to the matter was urgently required and that the Commission would at the earliest opportunity be submitting a comprehensive report and asking the Council for a decision.

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

The Presidency addressed an appeal to the Council emphasizing the political importance of the Community's accession to the 1977 International Sugar Agreement.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to proceed with the examination of the Commission proposal, whilst also taking account of the comments made in the discussion and to submit a report for the Council's October meeting which would enable it to adopt its position on the opening of negotiations.

FOOD-AID: OUTLINE REGULATION

The Council worked out a common position on an outline Regulation on food aid policy and food aid management.

This common position will be submitted to the European Parliament, which has requested that the conciliation procedure be put into motion in this connection.

The draft Regulation contains Community rules for defining food aid objectives and general policy and the procedures for implementing the measures involved. It is designed to make food aid an instrument of the Community's general co-operation policy and to rationalize the management thereof.

TEXTILES

The Commission appealed to the Council to lose no time in taking the decisions needed for the negotiation of administrative co-operation agreements with preferential textile-supplier countries and the establishment of economic outward processing arrangements in the textile sector.

30 MAY MANDATE

The European Council of 29 and 30 June confirmed that the implementation of the 30 May mandate would be a major topic for the meeting in London on 26/27 November. It asked the General Affairs Council to prepare its discussions on this subject.

Today's discussions gave the Council the opportunity to hold a wide-ranging general policy discussion on the basis of the Commission's report of 25 June 1981 and to reflect on the work programme needed to enable the discussions on this complex and important matter to be satisfactorily concluded in good time.

Relations with Austria

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concluding the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the control and reciprocal protection of quality wines and certain wines bearing a geographical ascription.

Relations with Cyprus

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for aubergines falling within subheading ex 07.01 T of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Cyprus (1981).

Relations with the ACP States

The Council approved the Community proposal for a Decision of the ACP-BEC Council of Ministers amending the lists of the least-developed and island ACP States (to include the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Republic of Vanuatu).

Relations with non-associated developing countries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision adopting the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Aid to Non-Associated Developing Countries.

Relations with the United States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain textured polyester fabrics originating in the United States of America.

GATT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Economic Community and Sweden concerning certain processed fruit and vegetable products negotiated under Article XXVIII of the GATT.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent, pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, regarding

- Caisse nationale de Crédit professionnel, Belgium
- Société Nancéienne de Crédit industriel et Varin Bernier (SNVB) et Crédit industriel d'Alsace et de Lorraine (CIAL), France
- Crédit Lyonnais, France
- Dropsa S.P.A. United Kingdom
- Tetra Pak Rausing Co Ltd, United Kingdom
- Barclays Ltd, United Kingdom
- Welsh Development Agency, United Kingdom

Appointment

On a proposal from the Luxembourg government, the Council appointed Doctor Jean ECKER, dental surgeon, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners, to replace Doctor Joseph MERSCH for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 25 March 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

9158/81 (Presse 108)

725th meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Brussels, 17 September 1981

President: Sir Geoffrey HOWE
Chancellor of the Exchequer
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Willy CLAES Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Robert VANDEPUTTE Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for Economics

Germany:

Mr Horst SCHULMANN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Marcos ECONOMIDES Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS Minister for Economics and Finance

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Nino ANDREATTA Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister for Finance
Mr Ernest MÜHLEN State Secretary for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr A.H.E.M. WELLINK

Treasurer General

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE
Mr Nicholas RIDLEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer
Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President
Vice-President

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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr Jean-Yves HABERER

Chairman of the Monetary
Committee

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EXPORT CREDITS

The Council gave the Commission a brief for the continuation of negotiations within the OECD for the amendment of the Arrangement on export credits. The next negotiating meeting of partners to the Arrangement is due to start in Paris on 5 October.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

The Council established the Community position to be set out by its President at the annual meeting of the IMF.

MONETARY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council noted the statements made by the Presidency and the Commission on the discussions at the economic summit in Ottawa regarding monetary relations between the Community and third countries.

SAFEGUARD MEASURES TAKEN BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

The President of the Council made the following statement to the Press:

"After discussion in the Council and over lunch of the difficulties which would be created if immediate abolition of the compulsory deposit scheme took place, the Italian representative reported to the Council that he would recommend the Italian Government to proceed as follows:

1. the scheme should be phased out over the period 1 October 1981 to 28 February 1982, ending definitively on the latter date;
2. the level of the deposits on foreign exchange purchases should be degressive, 25% on 1 October, 20% on 1 January 1982 and 15% on 1 February 1982;
3. CAP products and non-ferrous metal products should be exempted from 1 October 1981.

On this basis the Commission would be able to give the necessary authorization under Article 108(3) of the Treaty of Rome."

NEW COMMUNITY INSTRUMENT - NCI II

The Council reached a common position on the Commission's proposal for a continuation of the New Community Instrument.

The draft Decision is subject to the Conciliation Procedure with the European Parliament, and this common position will be sent to the European Parliament as soon as it has been put into proper form in the official languages of the Community.

This common position envisages authorizing the Commission to contract further loans within a ceiling of 1 billion ECU with a view to re-lending for primarily long-term investments which should contribute to increased convergence and integration of the economic policies of the Member States.

COMMISSION COMMUNICATION ON THE PRINCIPLES OF INDEXATION
IN THE COMMUNITY

The Commission's recent communication was introduced by Mr ORTOLI, Vice President; it aims at stimulating discussion on the complex problem of the use of indexation in wage settlements.

The Commission will continue its work on the subject in the light of the comments made by Ministers today and the Council will resume its discussion of this matter at a later date.

DIRECT INSURANCE (OTHER THAN LIFE ASSURANCE)

The Council continued its discussions - started on 16 March - on the proposal for a Directive co-ordinating the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to direct insurance other than life assurance and laying down provisions to facilitate the effective exercise of the freedom to provide services.

After very thorough discussion of the checking and supervision procedure, on the basis of a compromise proposal from the Presidency, it proved possible for the Council to work out precise guidelines.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit a fresh report to it for its meeting in October on other fundamental problems posed by the Directive.

OIL PRICE SUBSIDIES

Following a brief discussion the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue work on this matter.

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Presentation of the Commission proposal for a fifth programme on medium-term economic policy was carried over to the next meeting of the Council.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Euratom

The Council approved the conclusion of the Agreement between the Government of Australia and the European Atomic Energy Community concerning transfers of nuclear materials from Australia to the Community. This Agreement will be signed on 21 September by the Representatives of Australia and the Commission on behalf of the Community.

Emergency aid

The Council signified its agreement on the following two emergency aid measures (Article 950 of the 1981 budget):

- 100,000 ECU for the victims of the earthquake disaster in the Kerman region of Iran through the League of Red Cross Societies for the supply of essentials (tents, blankets, provisions, clothing, etc.);
- 250,000 ECU for the flood victims in the Szechwan region of China for the supply of essentials (shelter, blankets, clothing, etc.).

Social policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community and Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 fixing the procedure for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 (amendment concerning sickness insurance, etc.).

Appointments

On a proposal from the German Government the Council appointed Mr Ernst BIRKER, Ministerialrat, Bundesministerium des Innern, full member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers in place of Dr Dieter HÖMIG, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982.

In addition the Council appointed, on a proposal from the German Government, Mr Rolf ASCHENBECK, Referent der Deutschen Angestellten-gewerkschaft, as alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers in place of Mrs Anne RENKEN, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision appointing the members of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training for the period from 17 September 1981 to 16 September 1983:

A. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

	(a) <u>members</u>		(b) <u>alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr J. DENYS	Mr R. MOONENS	Mr P. COLIN
Denmark	Mr N. HUMMELUHR	Mr M. JOHANSEN	Mr G.H. JESSEN
Germany	Mr H. LEMKE	Mrs K. SCHULTE-STEINBERG	Dr. F. PÜTTMANN
Greece	Mr P. CHATZIOANNOU	Mr I. YANNOPOULOS	Mrs E. GREKIOTOU
France	Mr G. DUCRAY	Mr R. ROBIN	Mr A. BRUYERE
Ireland	Mr J.A. AGNEW	Mr C. O'FEINNEADHA	Mr W. WHITE
Italy	Mr A. GALLO	Dr R. GIANNARELLI	Dr A. FREDELLA
Luxembourg	Mr P. LENERT	Mr G. GLÆSENER	Mr A. FRANK
Netherlands	Mr A.H. KOELINK	Mr T. KNOL	Dr. T. de KEULENAAR
United Kingdom	Mr A. WOOLLARD	Mr A. BROWN	Mr J.D. RIMINGTON

B. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

	(a) <u>members</u>		(b) <u>alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr G. DERIEUW	Mr G. SAUVAGE	Mr W. PEIRENS
Denmark	Mr N. ENEVOLDSEN	Mr J. HANSEN	Mr C.A. HANSEN
Germany	Mrs M. WEBER	Mr F. KEMPF	Mr W. HEMPEL
Greece	Mr O. ANAGNOSTIDIS	Mr I. IORDANIDIS	Mrs C. ROUSSOU
France	Mr D. SCHALCHLI	Mr C. LE HIR	Mr G. CABUROL
Ireland	Mr F. KENNEDY	Mr C. DEVINE	Mr R.P. RICE
Italy	Mr F. SALVATORI	Mr P. PADDEU	Mr C. DI NAPOLI
Luxembourg	Mr L. LUX	Mr J. BACKES	Mr R. SCHADECK
Netherlands	Mr J.W. BESTEMAN	Mr G.A. CREMERS	Mr P.H. HUGENHOLTZ
United Kingdom	Mr F. JARVIS	Sir J. BOYD	Mr L. WOOD

C. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

	(a) <u>members</u>		(b) <u>alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr D. DE NORRE	Mr R. DUSSENNE	Mr R VAN de CRUYCE
Denmark	Mr O. SCHANDORFF	Mr E. TØTTRUP	Mrs L. LIND
Germany	Mr R. RADDATZ	Mr K.-G. KRACHTEN	Mr H.-P. KUHFUHS
Greece	Mr E. BOUMIS	Mrs E. PAPADAKI
France	Mr O. de CAYEUX	Mr J.-P. MEINARD	Mr R. BOUDET
Ireland	Mr C. McHENRY	Mr W.J. FENELON	Mr A.F. RICE
Italy	Dr G. SATTA	Mr M. VITA	Dr B. PUSTERLA
Luxembourg	Mr E. MULLER	Mr C. KOEDINGER
Netherlands	Dr C.J.C.M. BOEREN	Mr J.R. WESTERHUIS	Mr J.J. KLEYHEEG
United Kingdom	Mr M.O. BURY	Mr T.P. LYONS	Mr P.J. CASEY

Lastly, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the Greek Government, additional members (full and alternate members) of the following Committees:

- Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers for the remainder of the Committee's term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr R. CHRISTODOULIS
Mr. A. KOUTRIS

(b) Alternate

Mrs V. STAVRIANOPOULOU

II. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr G. DASSIS
Mr P. PANOUSSIS

(b) Alternate

Mr G. MARKOPOULOS

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Members

Mrs E. TSOU MAKI
Mr E. GEORGIU

(b) Alternate

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- Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers for the remainder of the Committee's term of office, which runs until 14 October 1981:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr A. ZOGROMALIDIS

Mr P. ALATSATIANOS

Mr G. VAKALOPOULOS

II. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr P. THEOFANOPOULOS

Mr O. ANAGNOSTIDIS

Mr G. DASSIS

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr X. CHARAKAS

.....

Mr B. KRITIKOS

- Committee of the European Social Fund for the remainder of the Committee's term of office, which runs until 9 November 1982:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr D. MEIDANIS

Mr S. MILINGOS

Mr A. KOUTRIS

II. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr N. VITORIS

.....

Mr G. DASSIS

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Members

(b) Alternate

Mr L.-F. KOSKOS

.....

Mr C. CHARAKAS

- Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work for the remainder of the Committee's term of office, which runs until 22 November 1981:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr G. KANELLOPOULOS
Mrs T. STEFANOY

(b) Alternates

Mrs A. KAFETZOPOULOU
.....

II. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr P. IORDANIDIS
Mr I. BOSKAINOS

(b) Alternates

Mr G. DASSIS
Mrs A. IORDANIDOU

III. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Members

Mr I. TSAKOSSOPOULOS
Mr P. FALALIS

(b) Alternates

Mrs P. VAFIADOU
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PRESS RELEASE

9285/81 (Presse 110)

726th Council meeting

- Fiscal questions -

Brussels, 22 September 1981

President: Mr Jock BRUCE-GARDYNE,
Minister of State to the Treasury
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Robert VANDEPUTTE Minister for Finance

Denmark

Mr Mogens LYKKETOFT Minister for Fiscal Affairs

Germany

Mr Rolf BOHME Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Antoine EXARCHOS Deputy Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Laurent FABIUS Minister attached to the
Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Finance, with special
responsibility for the Budget

Mr André CELLARD State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Barry DESMOND Minister of State,
Department of Finance

Italy:

Mr Francesco COLUCCI State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. KOMBRINK

State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Jock BRUCE-GARDYNE

Minister of State to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

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HARMONISATION OF EXCISE DUTIES ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Council found that it needed further time to arrive at a decision because of certain new proposals which delegations need time to study. The Council therefore decided to adjourn its meeting to 21 October 1981.

TAX AND DUTY ALLOWANCES

On this occasion the Council will also discuss the question of increasing tax and duty allowances.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

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

- imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on o-xylene (ortho-xylene) originating in Puerto Rico and the United States of America;
 - concerning the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending certain zero-duty quotas opened by the United Kingdom for 1981 in accordance with Protocol No 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland.
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PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 28 September 1981
9447/81 (Presse 113)

727th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 28 September 1981

President: Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Léon VAN DE MOORTELE Secretary-General at the Ministry of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Bjoern WESTH Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Apostolos STAVROU Secretary-General, Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr André CELLARD State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES Minister for Agriculture

Mr Michael D'ARCY Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI Minister for Agriculture

Mr Mario CAMPAGNOLI State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Mr Bruno ORSINI State Secretary, Ministry of Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY

Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Water Control and
Forestry

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

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:

IMPORTS OF ITALIAN WINES TO FRANCE

The Council heard statements from the Italian Minister and the French State Secretary on the problems arising in the course of imports of Italian wines to France.

Commissioner DALSAGER, after mentioning the approaches already made by the Commission to the French Government, said that the Commission Departments would carry out, as soon as possible, in co-operation with the Administrations of the two countries concerned, a factual analysis of the difficulties which have arisen, in particular regarding the implementation of Community Regulations in force in the wine sector, so as to restore the free circulation of goods.

REFORM OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MARKET IN TABLE WINES

The Council heard a statement by the French State Secretary introducing his Government's memorandum concerning what it considers to be the essential factors in ensuring the effective functioning of the organization of the market in table wines. The Council also took note of a statement by Commissioner DALSAGER announcing that the Commission was about to put forward proposals for the adjustments made necessary by both Community enlargement and internal requirements.

STOCKS OF OLIVE OIL IN GREECE

The Council heard a statement by the Greek delegation on the stocks of olive oil in Greece at 1 January 1981 (referred to in Article 71 of the Act of Accession and governed by Article 5 of Regulation 9/81).

The Council noted that the Commission would examine this matter and present proposals at the next meeting of the appropriate management Committee.

PRICE OF NATURAL GAS FOR HEATED GREENHOUSES IN THE NETHERLANDS

The Council returned to the issue of doing away with the preferential rates for natural gas accorded to producers using heated greenhouses in the Netherlands. The President reported on his meeting with a Community delegation of farmers affected.

During the discussion, various delegations reiterated their concern at the consequent distortions of competition affecting their producers. This concern was felt particularly keenly by producers with the onset of the new heating season.

The Council took note of the Commission's representations to the Netherlands authorities, and of its intention to continue its efforts to speed up the elimination of differences in the price of gas which still existed in the Netherlands with regard to the industrial sector in general. It agreed to continue to follow this matter closely, and asked the Commission to submit a further report as soon as possible.

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS FOR THE MULTIANNUAL SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The Council heard a statement by Commissioner DALSAGER, who submitted the Commission communication on the negotiation of framework agreements for the multiannual supply of agricultural products. Delegations tabled their initial comments on this communication.

The Council agreed to examine the communication in greater detail at its meeting on 19 October and instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to prepare its discussions in this area.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE MEASURES TO RESTRICT EGG AND POULTRY IMPORTS

The Council examined the implications for intra-Community trade of certain measures to restrict imports of eggs and poultry, in particular the United Kingdom's recent decision to reintroduce compulsory slaughtering to prevent Newcastle disease in fowl and the resultant ban on the use of vaccine to treat this disease.

The Council noted that the Commission had already put arrangements in hand to eliminate barriers and intends to continue with the immediate implementation of the necessary measures, in order to prevent any disturbance of the free movement of Community goods.

VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

The Council adopted two Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States

- on veterinary medicinal products
- relating to analytical, pharmacological and clinical standards and protocols in respect of the testing of veterinary medicinal products.

The adoption of these Directives constitutes a step towards realizing the aim of free movement of veterinary medicinal products, in particular by helping to ensure that the checks carried out in one Member State are not repeated in another. It is also an important factor for the implementation of Community rules on hormones.

COMPENSATORY AMOUNTS ON WINE

The Council adopted in principle a Regulation abolishing the compensatory amounts for Greek accession in respect of certain products derived from wine.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1144/81 laying down general rules on the distillation of table wines as provided for in Article 15 of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79;
- derogating from Regulation (EEC) No 343/79 as regards certain detailed rules for the distillation of table wines decided upon pursuant to Article 12a of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3035/80 laying down general rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex II to the Treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds.

Common fund

The Council signified its agreement to the participation of the Community in the common fund along with the Member States, once the fund began operating, and therefore decided on the signing by the Community of the Agreement setting up the common fund, subject to its subsequent conclusion.

Customs union

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

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for wines of fresh grapes and grape must with fermentation arrested by the addition of alcohol, falling within heading No 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff and originating entirely in Greece (1982);
- temporarily and totally suspending the autonomous Common Customs duties on:
 - = certain catalysts falling within subheading ex 38.19 G
 - = certain colour cathode-ray tubes falling within sub-heading ex 85.21 A V.

Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Council Regulation applying in the Community revised amounts for the documentary requirements in Protocol No 1 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation, second ACP-EEC Convention.

ECSC

The Council gave the assents requested pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, in respect of:

- McCain Foods (GB) Ltd., United Kingdom
- Titech Europe, S.A., Belgium.

The Council also gave its assent, pursuant to Article 54, second paragraph, of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, to the financing of the erection of a 2 x 300 MW coal-fired nuclear power station at Moneypoint, County Clare, Ireland, by the Electricity Supply Board, Dublin.

Appointments

The Council renewed the term of office of four members of the Court of Auditors for the period 18 October 1981 to 17 October 1987 inclusive:

- Mr Aldo ANGIOLI,
- Mr Paul GAUDY,
- Mr Arne K. JOHANSEN,
- Mr Michael N. MURPHY.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision appointing the members of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency:

BELGIUM (3 posts)

Mr D. DEWEZ,
Directeur à la Société Générale des Minerais

Mr P. GOLDSCHMIDT,
Chef du Service "Approvisionnement combustibles" S.A. SYNATOM

Mr M. RENIERS,
Ingénieur en Chef, Directeur au Ministère des Affaires économiques

DENMARK (2 posts)

Mr Erik BASTRUP-BIRK,
Kontorchef, Energistyrelsen

Mr Terkel NIELSEN,
Fuldmægtig, Energiministeriet

GERMANY (6 posts)

Ministerialrat Dr GERLACH,
Bundswirtschaftsministerium

Ministerialrat G. von KLITZING,
Bundesministerium für Forschung und Technologie

Ministerialrat Dr H. SCHUG,
Bundesministerium für Forschung und Technologie

Dipl. Ing. Karl-Ernst KEGEL,
Uranerzbergbau GmbH

Dipl. Ing. Wolfgang SCHOBER,
Bayernwerk AG

Dr Manfred STEPHANY,
Geschäftsführer der NUKEM

GREECE (3 posts)

Mr PAPADATOS G.,
Greek Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC)

Mr J. BEIS,
Ministry of Industry and Energy

Mr Th. SBAROUNIS,
National Energy Council

FRANCE (6 posts)

Mr A. NOE,
Directeur à la Société MINATOME

Mr Pierre REYNAUD,
Compagnie française de MOKTA

Mr Armand FAUSSAT,
Chargé de Mission "Matières nucléaires", Direction Générale de
l'Energie et des Matières Premières, Ministère de l'Industrie

Mr François MINNARD,
Chef adjoint du Service des Combustibles à la Direction "Production
et Transport", E.d.F.

Mr Jean-Claude BERAULT,
Chef de service des Affaires économiques et des Programmes
Compagnie Générale des Matières Nucléaires (COGEMA)

Mr André PETIT,
Direction des Relations Internationales, Commissariat à l'Energie
Atomique (CEA)

IRELAND (1 post)

Mr Patrick J. MURPHY,
Electricity Supply Board

ITALY (6 posts)

Ing. Paolo VENDITTI,
C.N.E.N.

Dott. Umberto BELELLI,
Direttore ENEL

Ing. Raffaello DE FELICE,
ENEL

Ing. Marcello PALANDRI,
ENI

Ing. Giuseppe ARCELLI,
Finmeccanica

Ing. Giulio CESONI,
Direttore sezione energia nucleare FIAT

NETHERLANDS (3 posts)

Dr. Ir H. HOOG,
Voorzitter van de Stichting Energieonderzoek Centrum Nederland

Ir R. van ERPERS ROYAARDS,
Directeur van de N.V. Gemeenschappelijke Kernenergiecentrale Nederland

Mr J.J. de JONG,
Directeur adjoint du service "Electricité et énergie nucléaire",
Ministerie van Economische Zaken

UNITED KINGDOM (6 posts)

Mr G.H. STEVENS,
Atomic Energy Division, Department of Energy

Dr J.K. WRIGHT,
Central Electricity Generating Board

Mr W.A. ROOKE,
URENCO Ltd.

Mr H.G. STURMAN,
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.

Mr P.C.F. CROWSON,
Rio-Tinto Zinc Ltd (RTZ)

Mr M. TOWNSEND,
Central Electricity Generating Board

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Greek Government, the Greek alternate members of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, for the remainder of the Board's term of office, i.e. until 14 January 1982:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mr Panayotis CHATZIOANNOU

II. REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Mr Georges DASSIS

III. REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Mrs Elisabeth PAPADAKI

Finally, the Council appointed:

- on a proposal from the German Government, Dr Gerhart GERWECK as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Veterinary Training to replace Dr Horst SCHREITER for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 17 February 1983;
 - on a proposal from the German Government, Mr Hermann KURTENBACH, Regierungsdirektor im Bundesministerium für Jugend, Familie und Gesundheit, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Nursing Training to replace Dr H. PABEL for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 14 January 1982;
 - on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mrs Lis BANKOV, Head of Department at the Dansk Sygeplejeråd, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Nursing Training to replace Mrs Anny Elisabeth HANSEN for the remainder of her term of office, i.e. until 14 January 1982;
 - on a proposal from the Irish Government, Dr L.O. MAOLCHATHA, Príomh Chigire, Department of Education, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace Mr W. WHITE, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 16 September 1983.
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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

728th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 29 September 1981

President: Mr. Peter Walker
United Kingdom Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food

The official press release was not available. A summary of the meeting has been reproduced from the Bulletin of the European Communities, No. 9-1981.

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
728th Brussels 29 September	Fisheries	Mr Peter Walker, United Kingdom Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	Mr Contogeorgis	<p><i>Common organization of market for fisheries products. Agreement reached.¹⁰</i></p> <p><i>Provisional joint programme for restructuring of inshore fishing. Agreement reached.¹⁰</i></p> <p><i>Fisheries agreements with Canada, Sweden and Faroe Islands. Approved by Council.¹⁰</i></p> <p><i>Instructions to Commission for negotiation of fisheries agreements with African countries. Adopted by Council.¹⁰</i></p>

Fisheries

Council: considerable progress

2.1.91. After a year during which negotiations made no progress, a Council meeting on fisheries held on 29 September reached agreement on a first package of measures concerning the common fisheries policy:

- review of the common organization of the market in fishery products;¹
- approval of fisheries agreements with Canada, Sweden and the Faroe Islands;²
- adoption for the current year of an interim measure for the restructuring of the inshore fishing industry and the development of aquaculture (25 million ECU);³
- adoption of negotiating directives for the Commission for fisheries agreements with the African countries.⁴

The Council also extended *sine die* application of the Regulation of 30 September 1980 laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources.⁵

Agreement on the review of the common organization of the market on the basis of a compromise proposal from the Commission enabled the United Kingdom delegation to withdraw its reservation with regard to the fisheries agreement with Canada, the Faroe Islands and Sweden. The Community will therefore benefit, once the agreements have been ratified, from fishing opportunities in Canadian waters during 1981 which are of great importance to the German deep-sea fishing fleet.

This Council meeting is particularly important, however, mainly because it was on this occasion that, after repeated failures at previous meetings, the ministers were able to reach general political agreement to settle outstanding issues.

Four main questions still have to be dealt with: the provisions regarding access to fishing zones, the TACs and quotas, rules on fisheries controls, and long-term structural policy.

The Commission will have bilateral contacts with the Member States to seek an overall solution which can be discussed and adopted by the Council at its October and November meetings.

Resources

Internal aspects

2.1.92. The Council meeting on fisheries finalized the application of the Regulation of 30 September 1980 laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (mesh sizes of nets, etc.);⁵ until now the Regulation had been extended every three months, and it was agreed that its application should become final as soon as agreement was reached on other aspects of the common fisheries policy.⁶

⁵ OJ L 258, 1.10.1980.

2.1.96. On 29 September the Council gave its agreement to the signing of the EEC-Canada framework agreement. This agreement will bind the Community and Canada for a period of six years: it gives fishing rights to Community fishermen in Canadian waters in exchange for tariff concessions on Canadian fishery products.

2.1.97. The Council also agreed to conclude the EEC-Sweden fisheries agreement, which gives both parties reciprocal fishing rights. Before this decision Community fishermen could not fish Swedish waters for more than 20 tonnes of salmon, and Swedish fishermen could not fish Community waters for more than 20 tonnes of ling.¹

2.1.98. The Council also adopted a Regulation concerning fishing by vessels from the Faroe Islands in Community waters.

2.1.99. Finally, the Council gave the Commission directives to negotiate fisheries agreements with certain West African countries, including Angola, São Tomé, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal and Guinea.

Structures

2.1.104. On 29 September the Council decided to extend until 31 December the interim common measure for the restructuring of the inshore fishing industry and the development of aquaculture, which has been

operated since 1978.¹ For 1981 a budget of 25 million ECU has been provided, to take account of Greece's accession, among other things.

PRESS RELEASE

9912/81 (Presse 123)

729th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 19 October 1981

President: Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Bjoern WESTH Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Marcos ECONOMIDES Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for Agriculture

Mr André CELLARD State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Water Control and
Forestry

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

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 Paul DALSAGER

Member

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POLICY DEBATE ON THE MANDATE OF 30 MAY

The Council heard an introductory statement by Mr DALSAGER on the agricultural aspects of the Commission's report on the mandate of 30 May 1980. The ensuing debate enabled delegations to state their approach to the problems raised and to identify the major questions arising.

The Council placed on record the fact that, while the stocktaking of 20 years of the common agricultural policy was on the whole positive, it would itself be required to examine the measures whereby the general guidelines outlined in the Commission report could be given tangible shape in the form of Community decisions. It noted that the Commission had just submitted a number of proposals for Regulations and communications relating to the fruit and vegetables, wine and olive-oil sectors. Further proposals and communications would be submitted to it shortly.

The Council agreed that all these proposals and communications would be examined at its next meeting (16-17 November), on the understanding that initial preparatory work would be undertaken within the Special Committee on Agriculture.

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE MULTI-ANNUAL SUPPLY OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

The Council discussed the Commission communication on the negotiation of framework agreements relating to the multi-annual supply of agricultural products. Discussions centred particularly on certain economic and political aspects of such agreements.

The Commission stated that it was continuing its study of the mechanisms and procedures for the implementation of the agreements and would be submitting formal proposals in this area shortly.

The Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine in greater depth the technical and economic aspects of the mechanisms proposed by the Commission, in preparation for its forthcoming discussions on the subject.

PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE "ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE"
FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS

Mr DALSAGER submitted to the Council a series of proposed measures which aimed, in the light of experience gained and with an eye to forthcoming enlargement, at amending the common organizations of the market in wine and in fruit and vegetables. He also submitted a Commission communication on olive oil.

The Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the documents submitted by the Commission and to report back to it at the earliest opportunity.

HOTHOUSE HORTICULTURE

In accordance with the instructions given him at the last meeting, Mr DALSAGER delivered an oral report on the Commission's most recent approaches to the Dutch authorities in connection with speeding up the process of abolishing the differences between the price of natural gas in the horticultural sector and that prevailing in the industrial sector in the Netherlands. Mr DALSAGER stated his intention of submitting a proposal on the heating season - now commencing - at the next Council meeting.

KEEPING OF LAYING HENS IN CAGES

The Council held a policy debate on the minimum standards for the protection of laying hens kept in battery cages (¹). Delegations stated their positions on the following three points in particular:

- the date of entry into force of the final stage
- minimum cage area per hen
- the principle of on-the-spot inspections and checks by Community experts from the Commission to ensure that the Directive was uniformly implemented by the various Member States.

The Council concluded by agreeing to act on the Commission proposal once the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee were known and on the strength of a report from the Permanent Representatives Committee.

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES - GUARANTEED PRICES FOR PREFERENTIAL SUGAR FOR THE 1981/1982 DELIVERY PERIOD

In the context of negotiations with the ACP States concerned regarding guaranteed prices for preferential sugar for the 1981/1982 delivery period, the Council noted the progress achieved to date and called upon the Commission to continue its contacts with the ACP States and, if necessary, to seek further possible solutions.

(¹) See Resolution of 22 July 1980, OJ No C 196, 2.8.1980, page 1.

REPRESENTATIVE MARKET PRICE AND THRESHOLD PRICE FOR OLIVE OIL

After examining problems arising in connection with the fixing of these prices, the Council agreed to:

- ask the Special Committee on Agriculture to complete the study of outstanding technical questions with a view to arriving at an overall agreement;
- adopt the Regulation in question before 1 November 1981, in accordance with the most appropriate procedure.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Council also cited the following questions:

- problem concerning the MCAs for pigmeat (request by the French delegation)
- proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal (Article 14 - former linked sale system) (request by the German delegation)
- progress of proceedings concerning measures to restrict imports of eggs and poultry into the United Kingdom (request by the Netherlands and French delegations)
- Commission proposal concerning the accelerated programme for the eradication of certain animal diseases (request by the Irish delegation).

Other agricultural decisions

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

- amending, as regards the 1981 harvest, Regulation (EEC) No 1724/80 adopting general rules concerning special measures for soya beans harvested in 1980;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1196/81 establishing a system of aid for bee-keeping in respect of the 1981/1982, 1982/1983 and 1983/1984 marketing years;
- laying down special measures in respect of olive-oil producer organizations for the 1981/1982 marketing year;
- laying down general rules in respect of production aid for olive oil for the 1981/1982 marketing year;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 458/80 on collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the designation and operation of a liaison laboratory for classical swine fever.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concluding the Agreement, in the form of an exchange of letters, amending the Agreement on an interim extension of the Protocol annexed to the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Senegal and the European Economic Community concerning fishing off the coast of Senegal.

It likewise adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1852/78 on an interim common measure for restructuring inshore fishing.

Emergency aid - Angola

The Council approved an emergency aid measure prepared by the Commission for the people of Angola. The measure provides for the granting of 400,000 ECU for the supply of medicines, food and clothing through international organizations giving emergency assistance to injured and displaced persons in Angola.

Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 435/80 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the ACP States or the OCT.

Commercial questions and customs union

The Council approved for the Community the draft Decisions of the EEC-EFTA countries Joint Committees adding to and modifying Lists A and B annexed to Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation implementing in the Community revised amounts for the documentary requirements in Protocol No 2 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation to the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on trade and trade co-operation.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations concluding Agreements between the European Economic Community and:

- Malaysia on trade in textile products;
- the Hungarian People's Republic on trade in textile products and the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement resulting from the negotiations and consultations between Austria and the European Economic Community concerning trade in various agricultural products.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending Directive 79/695/EEC on the harmonization of procedures for the release of goods for free circulation.

Lastly, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations:

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3237/76 on the advance implementation of the technical annexes and the advance use of the specimen TIR carnet of the Customs Convention on the international transport of goods under cover of TIR carnets (TIR Convention) of 14 November 1975 (Geneva).

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation adapting, as a result of the accession of Greece, Regulation (EEC) No 1108/70 introducing an accounting system for expenditure on infrastructure in respect of transport by rail, road and inland waterway.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities four Directives and one Decision in the field of environmental protection adapting the Council acts listed below to the situation resulting from the accession of Greece:

- Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds;
- Directive 79/869/EEC concerning the methods of measurement and frequencies of sampling and analysis of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water in the Member States;
- Decision 77/795/EEC establishing a common procedure for the exchange of information on the quality of surface fresh water in the Community;
- Directive 80/779/EEC on air-quality limit values and guide values for sulphur dioxide and suspended particulates;
- Directive 80/778/EEC relating to the quality of water intended for human consumption.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent pursuant to the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty to the partial financing of a project to supply natural gas to the Irish Steel plant at Haulbowline, Cork, Ireland.

The Council also gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty concerning:

- Co-operative Bank Ltd., United Kingdom
- Compagnie des Produits industriels de l'Ouest, France;
- BICC Ltd., Londond and Corning Canada Inc., Toronto, which will set up an association called "Optical Fibres", United Kingdom;
- Philips Electronic and Associated Industries Ltd/TMC Ltd., United Kingdom;
- INMOS Ltd., United kingdom.

Appointments

The Council appointed on a proposal from the British Government Mr R.F. EBERLIE, Confederation of British Industry, as a member and Miss B. SWIADKOWSKA, Confederation of British Industry, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr COBB, member, who has resigned, and Mr R.F. EBERLIE, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of their terms of office, which run until 22 November 1981.

The Council also appointed on a proposal from the Irish Government Mr Joseph CONROY, Assistant Principal Officer, Department of Labour, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr Patrick HAYDEN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 22 November 1981.

Lastly, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the Italian Government, Mr Nestore DI MEOLA, Ufficio Internazionale UIL, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers, to replace Mr Giuseppe FABRETTI, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982.

PRESS RELEASE

9913/81 (Presse 124)

730th meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Luxembourg, 19 October 1981

President: Sir Geoffrey HOWE
Chancellor of the Exchequer
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Robert VANDEPUTTE Minister of Finance

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary, Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs

Mr Horst SCHULMANN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Marcos ECONOMIDES Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS Minister for Economic Affairs and
Finance

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Nino ANDREATTA Minister of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister of Finance

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN State Secretary, Ministry of Finance

Netherlands:

Mr M.H.J.Ch. RUTTEN

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Mr Nicholas RIDLEY

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr F.W. RUTTEN

Chairman of the Economic Policy
Committee

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BUDGETARY MATTERS

The Council drew up draft supplementary and amending budget No 2 to the general budget of the European Communities for 1981. This draft will be forwarded immediately to the European Parliament under the budgetary procedure.

Compared with the original 1981 budget, the changes in this draft include in particular a reduction of 724 MECU in EAGGF appropriations. This reduction in estimated agricultural expenditure was made possible by continuing favourable trends of agricultural budgetary expenditure. The draft also provides for an appropriation of 40 MECU to cover the cost of a special food aid programme for the least-developed countries (LLDCs). Further to the Paris Conference on the least-developed countries, the Commission had proposed such action in its recent communication on the fight against world hunger. It was agreed that these appropriations would be used once the Council, on a proposal from the Commission, had taken the necessary steps to allow this programme to be implemented.

The Council also adopted a letter of amendment to the preliminary draft general budget for 1982. This letter of amendment concerns EAGGF expenditure and provides, as proposed by the Commission for a reduction by way of economies of 378.7 MECU in the various agricultural expenditures and for the entry of an appropriation of 365 MECU to take account of the effects of recent monetary adjustments in the agricultural sector.

FIFTH MEDIUM-TERM ECONOMIC POLICY PROGRAMME

After having heard an introductory speech by Mr ORTOLI, the Council held a policy debate on the draft fifth medium-term policy programme and on the foreword.

It agreed to continue its discussions on this matter after having received the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

MANDATE OF 30 MAY

The Council held a wide-ranging policy debate on the problems posed by the mandate of 30 May 1980. This debate enabled members of the Council - with the proceedings of the Council in its composition of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 26 and 27 October and the European Council on 26 and 27 November in mind - to outline their views on all problems relating to the development of Community non-agricultural policies, to the adjustment of agricultural policy and to budgetary problems. Particular stress was laid in this debate on aspects of specific interest to Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance.

It was agreed that the members of the Council would report back to their Foreign Affairs colleagues on today's debate.

DIRECT INSURANCE OTHER THAN LIFE ASSURANCE

The Council continued its discussions on the proposal for a Directive on the co-ordination of the provisions relating to direct insurance other than life assurance and laying down provisions to facilitate the effective exercise of freedom to provide services.

The Council made a thorough examination of the problems relating to the role of agencies and branches, the treatment of large risks, checking and supervision procedures and the question of the tax system to be applied to insurance contracts.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee actively to continue its discussions on the matter in the light of today's deliberations. The Council will resume its examination of the proposed Directive at its next meeting on 9 November 1981.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9914/81 (Presse 125)

731st Council meeting

- Fiscal questions -

Luxembourg, 21 October 1981

President: Mr Jock BRUCE-GARDYNE,
Minister of State to the Treasury
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Marc LEPOIVRE Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Mogens LYKKETOFT Minister for Fiscal Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans HUTTER Director General,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Antoine EXARCHOS Deputy Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Laurent FABIUS Minister attached to the
Ministry of Economic Affairs
and Finance, with special
responsibility for the Budget

Mr André CELLARD State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Barry DESMOND Minister of State,
Department of Finance

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. KOMBRINK

State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Jock BRUCE-GARDYNE

Minister of State to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

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HARMONIZATION OF EXCISE DUTIES ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

After a detailed discussion, the Council failed to reach agreement.

TAX AND CUSTOMS DUTY RELIEF

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue discussing this matter.

PRESS RELEASE

10241/81 (Presse 131)

732nd meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 26 and 27 October 1981

President: Lord CARRINGTON,
Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Peter CORTERIER Minister of State,
Federal Foreign Office

Greece:

Mr Asimakis FOTILAS State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Minister for External Relations

Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister responsible for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Jim DOOGE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Industry

Mr Raffaele COSTA State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max van der STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr H. van den BROEK

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Lord CARRINGTON

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Humphrey ATKINS

Lord Privy Seal

Mr Douglas HURD

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr Peter REES

Minister of State,
Department of Trade

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Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Member

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NORTH/SOUTH

Cancún

The Council heard a report by Lord CARRINGTON on the outcome of the Cancún Summit.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, with the assistance of the High-Level North/South Working Party, to work out at the earliest opportunity the Community position on the questions shortly to be examined by the United Nations on the basis of the outcome of the Cancún Summit.

Plan of action to combat world hunger

The Council examined the Commission proposals for a plan of action to combat world hunger, submitted further to an Italian Government initiative.

Without prejudice to consultation of the European Parliament, it expressed a favourable opinion on the general approach and overall balance of these proposals, and also on the principle of granting exceptional food aid of up to 40 million ECU.

It asked the Development Council, at its meeting on 3 November 1981, to examine in detail the procedures for implementing this plan of action.

Finally, the Council noted with satisfaction the Italian Government's intention of shortly convening in Rome a meeting of donor countries and relevant international organizations in order to secure better coordination among the donor countries themselves and between these countries and aid recipients.

SPANISH ACCESSION

The Council discussed preparations for the 9th meeting of the Conference at Ministerial level on the accession of Spain to the European Communities, which was held on 26 October.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council discussed preparations for the 5th meeting of the Conference at Ministerial level on the accession of Portugal to the European Communities, which was held on 27 October.

CYPRUS

The Council adopted the common position to be taken by the Community delegation at the 7th meeting of the EEC-Cyprus Association Council at Ministerial level, which was held on 27 October.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES ON THE GUARANTEED PRICE FOR SUGAR
FOR 1981 - 1982

The Council held an exchange of views on this question, following which it took formal note that, as agreed at the last meeting of the Agriculture Council, the Commission would very soon be resuming negotiations with the ACP States.

It was agreed that the Commission would report back on the outcome of these negotiations at the forthcoming meetings of the Agriculture and Foreign Affairs Councils.

MANDATE OF 30 MAY 1980

In the light of the preparatory work carried out by the Working Party on the Mandate since 15 September, the Council continued its policy debate on the whole range of problems covered by the Mandate of 30 May, namely the development of Community policies other than the agricultural policy, the adaptation of the common agricultural policy and budget problems.

In this connection it also heard a statement by Mr THORN, President of the Commission, who introduced the latest documents supplementing his communication of 24 June which the Commission had just submitted to the Council and which set out a number of guidelines for European agriculture, programmes for the Mediterranean countries, Community industrial strategy and the priorities for Community action on job creation.

Following this debate, the Council asked the Working Party on the Mandate to intensify and expedite its discussions in order to present to it draft conclusions for submission to the European Council on 26 and 27 November.

TEXTILES - MULTIFIÈRE ARRANGEMENT

The Council held an in-depth discussion on the position to be adopted by the Community with a view to the resumption of the MFA negotiations in Geneva on 18 November 1981. It agreed to resume and conclude its discussion at a Council meeting scheduled for 10 November 1981.

YUGOSLAVIA

Taking into consideration the particular difficulties which have arisen in trade in beef and veal between Yugoslavia and the Community, the Council agreed to a substantial autonomous reduction in the levy currently applicable to imports of Yugoslav baby-beef into the Community. This decision, which will be formally adopted shortly, will apply for 12 months with the possibility of a review.

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

In the light of the discussions currently under way within the International Sugar Organization on renewing or renegotiating the 1977 Agreement, the Council confirmed the Community's intention of associating itself with any effort made by ISO members to improve significantly the stability of the world sugar market.

With this in mind, the Council instructed the Commission, in conjunction with the International Sugar Council, to seek the means of establishing the bases for such co-operation with a view to possible Community accession to an International Agreement improved along these lines and compatible with Community rules.

In its talks with the International Sugar Council the Commission will base itself on the above Council guidelines.

The Commission will report to the Council on the outcome of these talks.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with India

Having received the European Parliament's favourable Opinion on 16 October 1981, the Council adopted the Regulation concluding the Agreement for Commercial and Economic Co-operation signed in Luxembourg on 23 June 1981 ⁽¹⁾.

It is envisaged that very rapid notification will be given of completion of the respective internal procedures for the entry into force of the Agreement, which should therefore take place before the end of the year.

EEC-Japan relations - Promotion of Community exports to Japan

The Council noted the conclusions of the Article 113 Committee on a range of Commission proposals concerning the details of action to promote greater access to the Japanese market for Community exports.

The Council approved the principles underlying the Commission proposals. It recommended that the proposed general programme be initiated by the Commission, in its capacity as the executive authority, within the agreed financial limits and in co-operation with the Article 113 Committee.

⁽¹⁾ See Press release 7677/81 (Presse 85).

Emergency aid for the people of El Salvador

The Council signified its agreement to the emergency aid proposed by the Commission for the people of El Salvador who are victims of current events. This action, for a total of 500,000 ECU, is in the form of a contribution to a programme of 3,200,000 ECU carried out by two non-governmental organizations - 300,000 ECU for "CEBEMO" and 200,000 ECU for "Médicins du monde" - for the supply of local food products, medicines, building materials and tents for the victims in question.

Relations with the OCT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the application in the Community of revised amounts for the documentary requirements in Annex II concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation to Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the OCT with the EEC.

Relations with Morocco

The Council signified its agreement to a draft Decision of the EEC-Morocco Co-operation Council derogating from the rules of origin in the Co-operation Agreement with Morocco as regards certain textile products.

Follow-up to Greek accession

The Council decided to sign Protocols to the EEC-Portugal and ECSC-Portugal Agreements consequent on the accession of Greece to the European Communities.

It also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concluding the Protocol of adaptation to the EEC-Spain Agreement, consequent on the accession of Greece to the European Communities.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the import system applicable to certain non-member countries in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector in 1981 regarding the quantity for Chile.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty to conversion loans for:

- SONY UK Ltd., United Kingdom
- Mitel TELECOM Ltd., United Kingdom

Appointment

The Council appointed on a proposal from the French Government Mr Bernard BOYER, Administrateur Civil à la Direction des Relations de Travail, Section de la Politique Générale du Travail, Ministère du Travail, a member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions in place of Mr F. BRUN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 16 March 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

10242/81 (Presse 132)

733rd Council meeting

- fisheries -

Luxembourg, 27 October 1981

President: Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food
of the United Kingdom

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium :

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark :

Mr Karl HJORTNAES Minister for Fisheries

Mr Lars Emil JOHANSEN Minister for Fisheries of the Home Government of Greenland

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany :

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece :

Mr Antoine EXARCHOS Deputy Permanent Representative

France :

Mr Louis LE PENSEC Minister for the Sea

Ireland :

Mr Tom FITZPATRICK Minister for Fisheries and Forestry

Italy :

Mr Giovanni NONNE State Secretary,
Ministry of Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean MISCHO Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr George YOUNGER

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEOGIS

Member

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FISHERIES POLICY

Internal aspects

The Council heard a statement by Mr CONTOGEOORGIS, Member of the Commission, on the outcome of the various meetings which he had held in the Member States' capitals since the previous Council meeting in September. The ensuing discussion enabled the delegations to state the order of priority of the different aspects of the proposals made by the Commission as regards total allowable catches (TACs), their distribution amongst the Member States (quotas), access, structural policy and certain supervision measures.

The Council agreed to return to these issues as a whole, with a view to reaching a decision, at the next Council meeting, planned for 30 November and 1 December.

External aspects

The Council took note of a verbal report from Mr CONTOGEOORGIS on the talks held by the Commission with certain third countries, in particular Sweden, Canada and Senegal.

The Danish delegation emphasized the importance it attached to the arrangement negotiated with Sweden for 1981 being brought into force.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured agricultural areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands);
 - the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1360/78 on producer groups and associations thereof following the accession of Greece to the European Communities;
 - the Regulation fixing, for the 1981/1982 marketing year, the representative market price and the threshold price for olive oil and the percentages for the amount of consumer aid to be adopted in accordance with Article 11(5) and (6) of Regulation 136/66/EEC.
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PRESS RELEASE

10243/81 (Presse 133)

734th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 27 October 1981

President: Mr Nigel LAWSON,
Secretary of State for Energy
of the United Kingdom

PRESS RELEASE

10243/81 (Presse 133) ADD 1

A D D E N D U M
TO PRESSE RELEASE
10243/81 (Presse 133)

Page 10, add the following footnote :

CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNING MEASURES TO LIMIT
THE EFFECTS OF A LIMITED SHORTFALL IN OIL SUPPLIES (1)

(1) The greek agreement being given ad referendum.

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Willy CLAES

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Poul NIELSEN

Minister for Energy

Germany:

Mr Dieter von WURZEN

State Secretary
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

Greece:

Mr Marcos ECONOMIDES

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Edmond HERVE

Minister delegate to the Ministry
of Industry with responsibility for
Energy

Ireland:

Mr Edward COLLINS

Minister of State,
Ministry of Energy

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA

Minister for Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL

Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. TERLOUW

Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Secretary of State for Energy

Mr David MELLOR

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State,
Department of Energy

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Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

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COKING COAL AND COKE FOR THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

The Council approved ⁽¹⁾ a Decision amending the 1973 aid arrangements for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry of the Community.

This Decision extends the validity of the act in question until the end of 1983 by making some amendments thereto, these being that Community financing will cover a maximum of 14 million tonnes and will total a maximum of 47 MECU per year, by laying down that the sales aid applying to deliveries made to areas remote from the coalfield may not exceed 4.70 ECU per tonne in the event of delivery by sea or 2.80 ECU per tonne in other cases.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE HYDROCARBON SECTOR

The Council adopted the Decision on the granting of support for Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector (1981).

This Decision provides for the granting of Community support in the form of subsidies - repayable if the results are exploited commercially - up to a total of approximately 25.9 MECU from 1981 to 1983, to some forty technological development projects in fields such as, in particular, production systems, the recovery and transport of hydrocarbons, and environmental influence, etc.

⁽¹⁾ The French delegation having confirmed its provisional reservation.

ELECTRICITY TARIFF STRUCTURES

The Council agreed ⁽¹⁾ to a Recommendation on electricity tariff structures in the Community.

This text recommends to the Member States:

"That they take appropriate steps, if they have not already done so, to ensure that electricity tariff structures are based on the following common principles:

1. Electricity tariff structures should be drawn up and adopted so as to allow the application of a rational price policy and to reflect the costs incurred in supplying the various categories of consumer; tariff structures should be designed with the rational use of energy in mind, should avoid encouraging unjustifiable consumption and should be as clear and simple as possible.
2. The two-part tariff system which, of the various tariff options available, best reflects the cost structure of providing electricity, should be generally used. ⁽²⁾
3. Promotional tariff structures which encourage unnecessary consumption and in which the price of electricity is artificially lowered as increasing amounts of electricity are used should be discontinued.

⁽¹⁾ With the Greek delegation confirming its provisional reservation.

⁽²⁾ "The term "two-part tariff" covers tariff structures consisting of a fixed component and a component which varies with the amount of electricity used."

4. As a general rule, tariffs based on the use to which electricity is put should be avoided. However such tariffs could be applied if they do not infringe the principles stated in paragraph 1.
5. With the aim of transferring demand to off-peak periods or to allow load-shedding, provision should be made for multiple tariffs with differential rates and/or for the possibility of interruptible supplies.
6. Tariffs should not be kept artificially low, for example on social grounds or for anti-inflationary policy reasons; in such cases, separate action, where warranted, should be taken.
7. Tariffs should be formulated in such a way that it is possible to up-date prices at regular intervals;

That research be pursued and developed, in close co-operation at Community level, into the characteristics of electricity demand for different categories of consumers and their evolution in the long term, with the objective of further improving tariff structures;

That electricity prices on the market be characterized by the greatest possible degree of transparency, and that these prices and the cost to the consumer be made known to the public as far as possible."

ENERGY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The Council conducted a detailed exchange of views on the Commission proposals concerning the increase of financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources and for demonstration projects in the field of energy saving. Following this exchange of views the Council accepted the Commission suggestion that it submit to the Council as soon as possible a compromise proposal on the use of an increase of 105 MECU in the financial ceilings.

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENERGY STRATEGY FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Council held a wide-ranging policy debate on the Commission communication of 1 October 1981 concerning the development of an energy strategy for the Community.

The Presidency concluded that the Council had given a favourable reception to the Commission communication. The Council noted the priority areas which the Commission had identified in its paper and stated that these were issues which would also be discussed when the European Council debated Community energy matters under the Mandate of 30 May 1980.

The Energy Council agreed to keep these problems under careful review and will resume its discussions of them at its subsequent meetings.

PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE OIL REFINING INDUSTRY IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council took note (1) of the Commission's analysis of the problems affecting the oil refining industry and of the developments to be expected, notably the trend towards fewer, more complex, refineries and a consequent increase in the movement of finished products between Member States;

It recognizes that the contraction and restructuring of the industry is necessary and should be carried out by the industry itself, provided that the security of supply of the regions concerned is not put at risk. Governments should provide the appropriate fiscal, social and administrative environment for their actions.

Lastly, it noted that the Commission:

- would keep that situation under continual review with industry and governments;
- would prepare forecasts of refining capacity and of the short and medium-term balance of petroleum products;
- would report to the Council without delay of specific Community intervention in this sector should appear necessary.

(1) The Greek delegation maintained a provisional reservation on this conclusion.

NATURAL GAS

The Council commended the study on natural gas prepared by the Commission and took note of their analysis of the Community growing dependence on external supplies. In this context the Council recognised the value of exchanges of views and information.

The Council invited the Commission to make a more detailed study of the issues involved and to arrange informal exchanges of views with Member States as appropriate.

The matter will return to the Council in the light of this study after examination in the High Level Energy Group.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNING MEASURES TO LIMIT THE EFFECTS OF A LIMITED SHORTFALL IN OIL SUPPLIES

1. The Council has considered the Commission communication concerning measures to limit the effects of a limited shortfall in oil supplies.
2. The Council endorses the Commission's view that further preparation in close consultation with the other industrialized countries is necessary in order to ensure that any future limited shortfalls in oil supplies do not lead to unrealistic pressure on world prices which would seriously affect the world economy.
3. The Council is of the opinion that, although the precise nature of any future shortfall in supplies cannot be foreseen and consequently it is impossible to agree on the appropriate measures to be taken until the problem arises, it is necessary to agree on the procedures to be followed and to identify a range of measures from which a selection may be made in the light of the prevailing circumstances, with a view to ensuring Community solidarity.
4. The Council agrees in principle on the following guidelines as a basis for consultations with other industrialized countries with a view to the establishment, on a wider international basis, of procedures similar to those envisaged for the Community.

The Council will review the procedure and the range of measures to be taken in the light of the results achieved on a wider international basis.

Procedure

In the event of a limited shortfall in oil supplies likely to create serious problems for the economy of the Community or one or more of its Member States:

- the Commission, on its own initiative or at the request of a Member State, shall consult the "Oil Supply Group";

- after such consultation, the Commission may ask the Council to meet;
- the Council shall meet promptly following the Commission's request; ⁽¹⁾
- if the Commission does not act, a Member State may also ask the Council to meet;
- in the light of the circumstances the Council, acting immediately, shall decide:
 - . whether the situation is likely to create serious problems for the economy of the Community or of one or more of the Member States,
 - . what measures, if any, are to be taken.

When examining such measures, the Council shall ensure co-ordination with the other industrialized countries;

- if circumstances change, the Commission shall, on its own initiative or at the request of a Member State, propose that the measures introduced be amended or repealed;
- the application of any agreed measures shall be monitored by the Commission, in consultation with the "Oil Supply Group", which shall report to the Council;
- the Commission shall make a continuing examination of Member States' policies with regard to demand, supply and security; it shall report to the Council and, if necessary, make recommendations.

⁽¹⁾ The Council will normally meet within 5 working days.

Range of possible measures

- (a) Speeding up of information systems and in particular introduction of the questionnaire on the supply situation (Commission Decision 79/639/EEC) by country and, if necessary by company;
- (b) - taking all the necessary measures, in conjunction with the oil companies, to prevent import prices varying from normal prices
- or asking the oil companies to refrain from making abnormal purchases.
- (c) measures encouraging the adjustment of supplies in such a way as to correct imbalances which pose special problems for some Member States, and measures to encourage the oil companies to remedy specific imbalances which may occur between them;
- (d) measures to encourage economies in the use of oil;
- (e) replacement of oil by other forms of energy in the public and private sectors in order to reduce consumption;
- (f) support for a high level of domestic production;
- (g) measures aimed at the use of commercial stocks in preference to additional purchases

The Council invites the Commission to present a further report on the benefits and costs of a change in the level of obligatory stocks and on the possibilities of using obligatory stocks to ease a difficult supply situation, including the question of the real transfer of quantities between Member States.

LABELLING

After hearing a progress report by the President of the Council on the proceedings of the Working Party on Energy concerning the proposals for Council Directives on the labelling of household electrical appliances, the Council agreed to expedite its work on this subject so that it can decide on the proposals in question before the end of the year.

ENERGY PRICING - POLICY AND TRANSPARENCY

The Council conducted a detailed exchange of views on the Commission communication entitled "Energy pricing - policy and transparency" and at the close of its discussions on this item agreed to continue them at the next meeting of the Energy Council.

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Owing to lack of time, the Council agreed to defer the item "Frontier power stations" to its next meeting on energy questions.