

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: THE NETHERLANDS

JULY-DECEMBER 1976

Meetings and press releases November 1976

Meeting number	Subject	Date
415 th	Transport	4 November 1976
416 th	Economics/Finance	8 November 1976
417 th	Development Co-operation	8 November 1976
418 th	Foreign Affairs	15-16 November 1976
419 th	Research	18 November 1976
420 th	Economics/Finance	22 November 1976
421 st	Agriculture	22-23 November 1976
422 nd	Budget	23 November 1976
423 rd	Education	29 November 1976

PRESS RELEASE

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415th meeting of the Council

- Transport -

Brussels, 4 November 1976

President: Mr T.E. WESTERTEP,
Minister for Transport
of the Netherlands

The Netherlands:

Mr T.E. WESTERTERP

Minister for Transport

Mr M.H.M. VAN HULTEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Transport

United Kingdom:

Mr Stanley Clinton DAVIS

Parliamentary Under Secretary
of State for Companies,
Aviation and Shipping

The Commission:

Mr Carlo SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA Vice-President

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MARKET MONITORING

The Commission communication of October 1975 on the operation of the markets for the carriage of goods on land (by rail, road and inland waterways) within the Community visualized the gradual introduction of a common transport system such as to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Treaty of Rome, in particular the improvement of the quality of life, standard of living and conditions of employment and the smooth execution of transport operations at the least cost to the community.

In order to operate such a system, the interested circles should have access to adequate economic information if they are to make correct investment decisions. Such information should also facilitate the preparation of national and Community decisions in matters of market regulation.

With this in mind the Commission attached to its communication, inter alia, a proposal for the introduction of a system for monitoring the markets for the carriage of goods. In connection with this proposal, the Council took note of the Permanent Representatives Committee's interim report, and agreed to invite the Commission to collaborate with national experts in examining certain questions regarding the statistics necessary for the implementation of the market monitoring system and to report back as soon as possible.

It also instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the Commission proposal in the light of the above-mentioned report.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMON TRANSPORT POLICY

The Council took note of a Commission statement concerning the development of the common transport policy which takes stock of work done during the years 1974 to 1976.

On the basis of the Commission communication of 25 October 1973 on this policy and of Council discussions, the last of which was held on 15 October 1975, work in this field has centred on a series of practical individual actions rather than on a pre-determined overall and integral approach.

The Commission statement highlighted the series of actions originally planned, the tasks accomplished and the situation of the current work, and included the Commission's political assessment.

ROAD TRANSPORT TARIFFS

The Council discussed the proposal for a Council Regulation for a system of reference tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.

In order to allow sufficient time for the detailed examination of the implications and details of the planned system, the Council agreed, under the present circumstances, to continue the compulsory bracket tariff system for 1977.

In this connection, it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission's initial proposal bearing in mind the problem of monitoring capacities in the field of the carriage of goods.

ROADWORTHINESS TESTS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council agreed to act on the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers at its next meeting on transport questions, planned for 16 December 1976.

MINIMUM LEVEL OF TRAINING FOR ROAD TRANSPORT DRIVERS

The Council recorded its agreement in principle on the Directive laying down the minimum level of training for certain inexperienced drivers engaged in the carriage of goods and passengers by road.

The minimum level of training includes, insofar as these are not already required as part of the training necessary to obtain the driving licence, the following features:

- knowledge of the construction, operation and maintenance of a vehicle, the ability to locate and repair minor technical breakdowns and the economic use of the vehicle,
- the general ability to use road maps, a knowledge of the procedures to be allowed regarding motor vehicle insurance, a knowledge of the relevant national legislation, of a driver's responsibility and the documents required for transport purposes,
- practical experience of driving.

Achievement of the minimum training will be recognized either by means of an examination or by monitoring carried out by the appropriate authorities. It will also be necessary to obtain the appropriate driving licence.

The Directive will not apply to transport vehicle drivers who have legally acquired the right to drive before the entry into force of the national implementing provisions.

The purpose of this Directive is to make good a certain lack of maturity detected statistically in a large number of young or inexperienced drivers. It will thus contribute to greater road safety and help the drivers concerned to make more rapid progress in their professional careers.

The Directive could also pave the way for an eventual upgrading of the entire profession of transport vehicle driver.

NATIONAL TAXATION SYSTEMS FOR COMMERCIAL ROAD VEHICLES

The Council took note of the Permanent Representatives Committee's interim report on the proposal for a first Directive on the adjustment of national taxation systems for commercial road vehicles.

On the basis of this interim report, which dealt with the progress of work so far and with certain questions still outstanding, the Council held a discussion during which various delegations were able to express their concern in this field.

In conclusion, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work so that the Council might act on the Directive at the earliest opportunity, at its next meeting on transport questions if that were still possible.

CO-OPERATION BY THE NINE COMMUNITY RAILWAY COMPANIES

The Council agreed to continue its examination of co-operation by the nine Community railway companies at its next meeting.

MARITIME TRANSPORT

The Council discussed certain items relating to the maritime transport sector which appeared on its agenda. It should be remarked in this context that this was the first time that maritime transport had been systematically examined by the Council.

The Council first took note of the interim report of the discussions by the Permanent Representatives Committee on the proposal for a decision concerning the opening of negotiations in respect of the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences.

This Convention on a Code of Conduct, which was drawn up at an international conference held between 12 November 1973 and 6 April 1974, covers in particular cargo sharing between shipowners of countries between which a conference ensures transport, and between these shipowners and shipowners in non-Member countries (cross-traders). It also contains important provisions governing relations between shipowners and consignors and makes provision among other things for a procedure for increasing tariffs and for settling disputes between shipowners and consignors.

Following the exchange of views on this subject, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue studying the matter and to report to it in the near future.

The Council then held an exchange of views on an interim report by the Permanent Representatives Committee taking stock of work on the development in the Community of joint projects in the field of maritime transport.

This interim report was based primarily on a memorandum from the French Government and dealt in particular with the protection of sub-standard ships, the social conditions of seafarers, aid to merchant shipping and arrangements for granting nationality to ships.

Although of an interim nature, the report enabled the Council to note that a common maritime transport policy comprises many different problems, all of them with international repercussions. It proved impossible to define at a stroke a policy which systematically covered all aspects of maritime transport, and the Council noted that it would therefore be necessary to deal first with projects or groups of projects which could be carried to a successful conclusion, in the knowledge that at the final stage these projects could be grouped together to form an entity whose various elements would be inter-dependent.

As a first step, the Council deemed it advisable to establish an institutionalized consultation procedure pertaining to relations in the maritime transport sector between Member States and non-Member countries and to the related discussions in international organizations. To this end it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to draw up the details of such a procedure.

Secondly, the Council invited the Commission to make an exploratory study in the sphere of seafarers' diplomas and certificates, the qualifications required to obtain them, and the mutual recognition of such qualifications.

As regards the maritime policy of state-trading countries, the Council demonstrated its awareness of the serious nature of the problems created by this policy and agreed to keep a close watch on the situation. It also took note of the fact that work currently being carried out within the OECD in this connection could provide it with useful information for a detailed analysis of the problems arising.

In conclusion, the Council acknowledged that a common approach should be adopted as soon as possible with regard to the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. It also hoped that in the near future it would prove possible to define a common viewpoint as regards the development of joint projects in the field of maritime transport.

As for the continuation of proceedings in this sector, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to make a more thorough examination in the light of the day's discussions, of the possibility of establishing a common maritime transport policy, of outlining the guidelines for such a policy, and of reporting back to the Council on the matter in the near future.

SOCIAL REGULATIONS

The Council took note of the oral report by the Commission on its proposal, dated 9 March 1976, for a Regulation on the harmonization of certain social provisions in the field of road transport. The report dealt in particular with work by the European Parliament and the European Communities on the matter, and stressed the importance which the Commission attached to a satisfactory solution being found to this problem as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY QUOTA

At the end of a general debate on road haulage, the Council signified its agreement in principle to the amended proposal for a Regulation on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States.

This Regulation extends the number (2,363) and the distribution of authorizations for the current year to 1977, at the same time defining this Community quota system as permanent.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the text of the Regulation, so that the Council might act on it as soon as possible.

VARIOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements:

- on the agreement on the carriage of perishable foodstuffs (Commission);
- on the airline services between the Netherlands and the USSR (Netherlands delegation).

In the latter statement, the Netherlands delegation drew the Council's attention to some difficulties which had arisen in relations between KLM and Aéroflot, and to the measures envisaged by the Netherlands Government in this connection. It also wished to emphasize the importance it attached to the Council's discussing the possibility of adopting a joint position on airline services between Member States and the Soviet Union.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

-- the Regulations

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty on mushrooms, excluding cultivated mushrooms that have been dried, dehydrated or evaporated and imported whole, in slices or in identifiable pieces, which are intended for the processing industry and fall within sub-heading ex 07.04 B;
- concerning a special rate of wine products deliveries for white quality wines p.s.r. of the 1976 harvest;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1931/76 as regards certain distillation operations in the wine sector;

-- the Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to

- radio interference caused by electric household appliances;
- the suppression of radio interference with regard to fluorescent lighting luminaires fitted with starters;
- electrical energy meters.

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The Council adopted the Decision on the signing of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Korea on trade in textiles.

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On a proposal by the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Finn THORGRINSSON, Landsorganisation I Danmark, a full member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training (Workers' Representatives category), in place of Mr BAEHRING for the remainder of the latter's term of office which expires on 20 June 1978.

PRESS RELEASE

416th meeting of the Council
- Economy/Finance -
Brussels, 8 November 1976
President: Mr W.F. DUISENBERG
Netherlands Minister of Finance

PRESS RELEASE

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Brussels, 10 November 1976
1225/76 (Presse 129) Corr. (e)

C O R R I G E N D U M

to Press Release No. 1225/76 (Presse 129)
of 8 November 1976

Page 6, paragraph 4, first line :

Read : "As to intra-Community exchange relations, the
Council....."

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy DE CLERQ	Minister for Finance
Mr Fernand HERMAN	Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN	Minister for Fiscal Affairs
Mr Kurt HANSEN	Secretary of State, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Federal Republic of Germany:

Mr Karl Otto POEHL	Secretary of State, Ministry for Finance
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France:

Mr Michel DURAFOUR	Minister responsible for the Economy and Finance
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Ireland:

Mr Richie RYAN	Minister for Finance
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Italy:

Mr Gaetano STAMMATI	Minister for the Treasury
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Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER	Ambassador, Permanent Representative
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Netherlands

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

President

Mr Wilhelm HAERKAMP

Vice-President

EUROPEAN UNIT OF ACCOUNT IN AREAS COVERED BY THE ECSC TREATY

The Council gave its assent as requested on the revised draft Commission Decision on the use of the European unit of account (EUA) in Decision No 73/287/ECSC concerning coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry in the Community.

This draft is intended to modify the nominal values of maximum sales aids for coking coal and coke and the contributions towards Community financing of these aids. To prevent a decline in the value of the abovementioned aids and contributions in terms of national currencies, the Commission is proposing to increase the amounts expressed in units of account by 5.5% from 1 January 1976 so that their value in terms of national currencies will remain broadly unchanged.

EUROPEAN UNIT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE COMMUNITY BUDGET

The Council examined the draft resolution on the application of the European unit of account to the budget of the Communities.

The Council, as composed at this meeting, agreed to await the outcome of the discussions of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 15 and 16 November and indicated its intention of returning to this matter at its next meeting on economic and financial questions, planned for 22 November.

STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL
COHERENCE OF THE COMMUNITY

The Council noted the Opinions submitted by the Economic Policy Committee and the Monetary Committee on the Commission memorandum to the European Council of 1 and 2 April 1976 and the suggestions put forward by Minister Duisenberg.

The Council is convinced that both the development of the Community and the greater stability of intra-Community exchange relations require that the economic policies of the Member States should converge and their economic situations be brought into closer alignment.

It considers that the efforts currently being made in the Community to combat inflation and to ensure continued and balanced growth are to a great extent dictated by this need and should thus continue with all due resolve.

In order to provide a medium-term Community framework for the Member States' conjunctural and structural policies, the Council undertakes to adopt with the minimum possible delay the draft IVth Medium-Term Economic Policy Programme submitted by the Commission on 5 October 1976. It notes the Commission's intention of supplementing this general programme with detailed proposals.

The Member States and the Community Institutions will have to ensure that, as far as possible, medium and short term economic policies are framed in conformity with this programme.

The Council considers that it would be appropriate to make pragmatic use of the various opportunities for aligning monetary policy objectives without, however, encroaching upon national powers and areas of responsibility.

The Council agreed that internally established national monetary objectives which vary from one Member State to another should be discussed from time to time by the Monetary Committee, which should compare the outturn with the objectives, examine and account for any deviations and discuss possible remedies. The Committee should also continue the study of ways and means of gradually aligning intermediate objectives.

As to intra-Community trade relations, the Council considers that a greater degree of stability is highly desirable and that the Dutch proposals could make an important contribution to that end. The Council requested the Monetary Committee and the Committee of the Governors of the Central Banks to look at these ideas in greater detail, see how and under what circumstances they could be realized, and report back before the end of the year.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

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

- concluding the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending the English version of Table II of Protocol No 2 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation;
- on the application of Decisions Nos 2/76 and 3/76 of the EEC-Austria, EEC-Finland, EEC-Iceland, EEC-Norway, EEC-Portugal, EEC-Sweden and EEC-Switzerland Joint Committees amending Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff.

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Acting on a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Guy CABUROL, Secretary of the Commission Confédérale Emploi et Formation Professionnelle C.G.T. as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace Mr MICHEL, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 20 June 1978.

Acting on a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Bent NIELSEN, Landsorganisationen i Danmark, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr THORGRIMMSON, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 4 May 1978.

130-111
PRESS RELEASE

417th Meeting of the Council
- Development Co-operation -
Brussels, 8 November 1976

President: Mr J.P. PRONK
Netherlands
Minister for Development
Co-operation

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

Belgium :

Mr Renaat VAN ELSLANDE

Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Development Co-operation

Denmark :

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany :

Mr Egon BAHR

Federal Minister for Economic
Co-operation

France :

Mr Robert GALLEY

Minister for Co-operation

Ireland :

Mr John KELLY

Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy :

Mr Luciano RADI

Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND

Deputy Permanent Representative

The Netherlands :

Mr J.P. PRONK

Minister for Development
Co-operation

The United Kingdom:

Sir Donald MAITLAND

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

The Commission :

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

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CO-ORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION
POLICIES

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on the various aspects of the implementation of the resolution on co-operation and the harmonization of development co-operation policies within the Community.

In particular, the Council examined a draft resolution on the implementation of the resolution of 16 July 1974 on the co-ordination and harmonization of development co-operation policies within the Community. As a result of the discussions a broad measure of agreement was reached.

The Council therefore instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to conclude the work on this draft so that the Council could take its decision as soon as possible.

AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Council followed up the agreement it reached in principle at its 410th meeting on 18 and 19 October 1976, regarding the commitment in 1976 of the 20 MUA appropriation entered in the Community's 1976 budget under financial and technical aid by the Community, by agreeing on a favourable attitude towards the allocation of this appropriation along the lines suggested by the Commission. The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to finalize the matter.

As to the appropriations to be entered in the 1977 budget under aid to non-associated developing countries, the Council noted that it would receive a formal proposal from the Commission, which would enable it to take a decision on the allocation of this appropriation on the basis of an established policy of aid to non-associated developing countries.

FOOD AID - ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING THE WORLD FOOD
CONFERENCE

The Council held a general discussion on the Community's food aid policy on the basis of a Commission communication on the triennial planning of food aid and taking into account a memorandum from the United Kingdom delegation on the strategy for Community food aid. It also examined certain practical problems with a view to taking a decision in particular on food aid and an increase in the volume thereof.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its preparation of this dossier so that the Council could adopt a position on the matter as soon as possible.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

418th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 15 and 16 November 1976

President: Mr Max VAN DER STOEL
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Netherlands

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

Belgium:

Mr Renaat VAN ELSLANDE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External Economic
Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Mr Peter HERMES State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Louis de GUIRINGAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Justin KEATING Minister for Industry and
Commerce

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs

RELATIONS WITH THE CMEA

The Council discussed the Community's relations with the member countries of the CMEA and in particular the problem of relations with that organization.

It recalled the steps taken by both parties towards the establishment of appropriate relations, the latest ones being the talks held between the Commission's delegation and a delegation from the CMEA Secretariat in Moscow in February 1975 and the message sent to the President of the Council in February 1976 by President WEISS on behalf of the CMEA.

It stressed the importance which it attached to the development of the Community's relations not only with the CMEA but also with each of its member countries.

With this in mind, the Council drew up a draft agreement defining the forms of and procedures for the relations to be established between the Community and the CMEA. In a letter accompanying the draft agreement sent to the President in office of the CMEA Executive Committee, the Community stated its readiness to open negotiations on this basis forthwith. In addition, the Council recalled that as regards trade relations the Community affirmed its willingness in its offer made in November 1974 - which still holds good - to enter into trade negotiations with each of the member countries of the CMEA.

OVERALL MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH

The Council gave the Commission the final directives enabling negotiations with the Arab Republic of Egypt, Jordan and Syria and with Israel to be closed and the Agreements thus negotiated to be signed by the end of the year in each of these countries, following completion of the requisite procedures.

In so doing the Council welcomed the fact that, **save** only for Lebanon, with which negotiations will be undertaken as soon as the **situation** permits, it would now be possible to terminate the work begun in 1972 with the aim of concluding a series of Agreements, reflecting the Community's impartial and balanced policy, with all the countries covered by the overall Mediterranean approach, and in particular with the Middle East countries.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Council took the necessary steps to enable its spokesmen to gain the agreement of the Yugoslav authorities in expressing the great importance which the Community and Yugoslavia attach to their mutual relations and their common desire to foster such relations.

RELATIONS WITH IRAN

After discussing relations with Iran - to which the Community attaches great importance - at a number of meetings, the Council agreed to invite Iran to open negotiations with a view to the conclusion of a general agreement on commercial and economic co-operation negotiations are expected to begin shortly.

GENERALIZED PREFERENCES

The Council held a policy debate on the application in 1977 of the generalized preferences for developing countries.

At the end of the debate it drew up guidelines concerning

- the broad outlines of the Commission proposals, particularly with regard to the improvement of the preferential tariffs applicable to manufactured and agricultural products,
- special measures relating to the administration of the GSP to assist the 28 least advanced developing countries.

Certain outstanding questions have been referred to the Permanent Representatives Committee.

The Council will take a final Decision when the procedures involved in consulting and informing the associated countries and ACP States have been completed.

FISHING

The Council heard an interim report from the Commission on the negotiations and exploratory talks held with a number of non-member countries with a view to concluding framework agreements on the general conditions governing access to resources from 1 January 1977 onwards following the creation within the Community of a 200-mile fishing zone.

The Council agreed to continue its examination of all the aspects of the arrangements applicable in the fishing sector from 1 January 1977 at its next meeting on 13 and 14 December and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to undertake in co-operation with the Commission the preparation and co-ordination of all the measures necessary for this purpose.

EEC-GREECE ASSOCIATION - 2nd FINANCIAL PROTOCOL

After reaching complete agreement on the basic issues regarding the negotiation of a 2nd Financial Protocol, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to see that the negotiating Directives were finalized at the Commission so that they could be formally adopted as soon as possible.

16.XI.76

COUNCIL PROGRESS REPORT

On presentation of the customary report on progress in the work of the Council (Ministers with portfolios other than Foreign Affairs) a number of important issues were reviewed, having particular regard to their general implications for Community activities. These included harmonization of the basis for the assessment of VAT, the budgetary application of the European unit of account, the problem of monetary compensatory amounts and the prospectus for the next Council meetings on research, energy etc.

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP

The Council took note of a statement by the President of the Council on relations with the ACP States, particularly in the context of his recent meeting with the President of the Council of ACP Ministers.

This meeting, prepared at the meeting of the Council of the European Communities on 18 and 19 October, took place in Brussels on 20 October 1976 when the President of the Council of the European Communities promised the ACP to inform his colleagues of the substance of these talks.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of great understanding, the ACP having appreciated the Community's efforts to find solutions to the difficulties they were encountering, particularly as regards beef and veal and sugar.

The Council also took note of a statement by the Danish delegation concerning the situation of an undertaking in Ghana.

The Commission reported on its talks with the Ghanaian authorities on this matter. The Council agreed, without prejudice to the continuation of bilateral talks on this subject, to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to make a detailed examination of this matter in the light of the new factors which the Commission will be putting forward shortly.

16.XI.76

CIEC

The Council defined the Community position in preparation for the November session of the Paris dialogue.

EXTERNAL COMMITMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY

After a brief discussion of the remaining internal problems connected with the implementation of the Community's external commitments, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to actively pursue its work on the matter on the basis of a Commission suggestion, so that national procedures for ratification of the various financial protocols concerned might be begun at the earliest possible moment.

16.XI.76

HUMAN RIGHTS

The Council drew up common guidelines for a possible joint declaration on human rights by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

The draft of this declaration has still to be examined by the other institutions concerned.

PASSPORT UNION

The Council agreed to postpone consideration of the passport union question until its next meeting.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Regulation on the conclusion of the Commercial Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of Bangladesh. This agreement will enter into force in the near future following completion of the customary procedures.

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The Council approved in substance the Draft Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters relating to Article 2 of Protocol No 8 of the EEC-Portugal Agreement: preserved sardines.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Directive amending Directive 75/432/EEC on aids for shipbuilding.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2682/72 as regards the quantity of eggs to be taken into consideration in calculating the export refund on certain goods not covered by Annex II to the Treaty.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

419th Council Meeting

- Research -

Brussels, 18 November 1976

President : Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for
Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands

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

Belgium:

Mr Gaston GEENS

State Secretary for the Budget
and for Scientific Policy

Denmark:

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans Hilger HAUNSCHILD

State Secretary
Ministry of Research

France:

Mr Bernard GREGORY

General delegate responsible
for Scientific and Technical
Research

Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY

Minister for Transport and
Power

Italy:

Mr Mario PEDINI

Minister for Research

Mr Giorgio POSTAL

Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr L. J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Alexander EADIE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary,
Department of Energy

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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18.XI.76

MULTIANNUAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME FOR 1977-1980

On the occasion of its examination of the proposal for a multiannual JRC research programme for 1977-1980, the Council reaffirmed its willingness to give the JRC new impetus and to this end to accord it the necessary means, both in the 1977-1980 programme and in subsequent programmes, which will enable it to make an important contribution in Community research.

The Council worked out guidelines as to the content, financial appropriations and staff requirements for the forthcoming 1977-1980 JRC Research Programme (346 MUA; retention of most JRC staff).

This programme can only be formally adopted when a solution is found for the JET Project, since the two programmes are, in the view of certain delegations, linked.

18.XI.76

JET PROGRAMME

The Council again turned its attention to the problems arising with regard to the choice of the site for the JET project. All the delegations expressed their desire to reach a final decision on the matter before 1 January 1977. To this end, the Council instructed its President and the Commission to make the enquiries necessary to prepare such a decision.

In addition, the Council released the 1977/1980 budget appropriation of 124 MUA for the fusion programme decided on 24 February 1976.

PRESS RELEASE

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LIBRARY

420th meeting of the Council
- Economic and Financial Affairs -
Brussels, 22 November 1976
President: Mr W.F. DUISENBERG,
Minister for Finance
of the Netherlands

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Per HAEKKERUP Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans APEL Federal Minister of Finance
Mr Hans FRIEDERICHS Federal Minister of Economics
Mr Karl Otto POEHL State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Michel DURAFOUR Minister responsible for the
Economy and Finance

Ireland:

Mr Richie RYAN Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Gaetano STAMMATI Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Sir Donald MAITLAND

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Member

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

The Council adopted the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and economic policy guidelines for 1977.

The report, which was drawn up pursuant to the Council Decision on the attainment of a high degree of convergence of the economic policies of the Member States of the Community, contains - after a descriptive section on developments in the economic situation and policies in 1976 and the outlook for 1977 - guidelines for economic policy, both generally for the Community as a whole and specifically for each Member State. The guidelines concern all economic aspects: cyclical and structural, budgetary and monetary.

The Decision will be published shortly in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

FOURTH MEDIUM-TERM ECONOMIC POLICY PROGRAMME

Pending receipt of the opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, the Council discussed its general approach to the draft 4th medium-term economic policy programme.

In this discussion delegations were able to give their assessment of the draft programme comment on it and indicate how work on it should continue.

COMMUNITY LOAN TO ITALY

Acting on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the Monetary Committee, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations to float a Community loan for a sum which will go to the Italian Republic in order to balance the withdrawal by the United Kingdom of its short-term contribution to the medium-term financial assistance granted by the Community to Italy.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

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421st meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 22 and 23 November 1976

President: Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE,

Minister for Agriculture
of the Netherlands

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 Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Christian BONNET Minister for Agriculture

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Agriculture

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Albert BERCHEM State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE Minister for Agriculture

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MORRIS Secretary of State for Wales

Mr Robert MACLENNAN Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Prices and
Consumer Protection

Mr Gavin STRANG Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS Member

MILK PRODUCTS

The Council held a discussion on a series of measures proposed by the Commission in connection with the 1977/1980 action programme for the gradual stabilization of the milk market. The Council, has yet to receive the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee and confined itself to working out guidelines for some of the proposed measures, agreeing to resume examination of the measures at its next meeting.

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In addition, the Council agreed on the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1530/76 as regards the final date of application of a particular procedure for the payment of aid for skimmed milk powder denatured or processed into compound feedingstuffs within the territory of another Member State.

WINE SECTOR

The Council agreed to a Regulation amending the Regulation laying down the target yield per hectare of quality wines psr.

It also discussed the examination of market prospects following the decisions taken on 29 April 1976 concerning the application of the new representative rate for the green lira (6% devaluation) in this sector as from 16 December next.

Upon completion of its discussions, the Council agreed to instruct the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine further the problems outstanding in this connection in order to prepare the necessary decisions before the beginning of the new wine year on 16 December 1976.

FISHERIES

The Council took note of the progress made by the Special Committee on Agriculture in its work on a Community system for the conservation and administration of fish stocks.

It also noted that the Commission will, before 1 December 1976, be submitting proposals concerning the interim measures to be adopted for 1977.

The Council will resume its examination of these matters at a meeting on fisheries on 14 December next.

POTATOES

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation temporarily and totally suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty for potatoes falling within subheadings 07.01 A I, A II a) and A III b) (seed and new potatoes for consumption) from 1 January 1977 to 28 February 1977.

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The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine further matters outstanding in connection with the Regulation on the common organization of the market in potatoes and to report back to it at one of its forthcoming meetings.

HARMONIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD LEGISLATION

The Council examined a batch of proposals concerned with the harmonization of veterinary legislation.

It agreed in principle to four of the proposals under discussion, namely:

- the amendment of Directives Nos 64/432/EEC, 72/461/EEC and 72/462/EEC in the context of the re-examination of the derogations provided for in the Act of Accession;
- the list of third countries from which imports could be authorized by the Community;
- the Decision on the Emergency Fund;
- the programme for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis (1).

The Council agreed to examine two items of the proposal for a Directive on metal-based products (veterinary aspects) at its next meeting.

These measures mark a decisive step forward in the elimination of trade barriers and towards the harmonization of rules on a Community basis in this sector.

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(1) This item will be adopted in the context of the Commission's 1977-1980 action programme for the gradual establishment of a proper balance in the milk market.

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

- a Directive setting up a Standing Committee on plant health,
- a Directive on maximum levels for pesticide residues in and on fruit and vegetables,
- a Directive on straight feedingstuffs.

The plant health measure is a first step towards protecting public health from the use of pesticides. The Council set up at the same time a Standing Committee to adopt subsequent implementing measures by means of a Community procedure.

The Council adopted animal feedingstuffs rules which are immediately applicable to the trade in straight feedingstuffs as regards the description, composition, packaging and labelling of products.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council discussed the Commission communication on the beef and veal trade with non-member countries, in particular the level of protection to be applied in the event of a drop in prices and the special "autonomous" arrangements for calves for fattening and for corned beef.

The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the document further in the light of certain guidelines agreed, with a view to preparing a decision by the Council at its meeting scheduled for 20 and 21 December 1976.

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Also concerning beef and veal, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation amending Regulation No 1466/76 extending until 31 December 1977 the arrangements laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 3328/75 for imports of beef and veal originating in certain African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements:

- on agriculture (Commission)
- on the transfer of meat from intervention stocks in favour of Italy (German delegation)
- on the EAGGF, Guidance Section, in the context of the Social and Regional Funds (Italian delegation)
- on certain technical matters concerning the Commission's method of calculating agricultural prices (Danish delegation).

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

- Regulations

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2824/72 relating to the general rules for the financing of interventions by the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund;
 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine, and Regulation (EEC) No 1160/76 which amends it, and Regulation (EEC) No 1164/76 amending Regulation (EEC) No 865/68 on the common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables and Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff;
 - amending Annex IV to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine and the Common Customs Tariff as regards the rate of exchange applicable to customs duties on certain wines;
 - laying down special measures, in particular, for the determination of offers of olive oil on the world market;
 - laying down special measures, in particular, for the determination of offers of olive oil on the Greek market;
 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 1863/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of food grain held by intervention agencies of other Member States;
- a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation laying down common standards for the water content of fowl carcasses. This measure has been discussed on various occasions within the Council and will make a major contribution to increasing intra-Community trade in these products.

The Council took note of the Commission communication on the measures taken to simplify agricultural legislation and adopted the following Resolution:

"The Council of the European Communities,

Having regard to the draft Resolution submitted by the Commission,

Aware of the difficulties facing both Community and national authorities in connection with the management and implementation of the common agricultural policy, particularly in view of the need to react with increasing rapidity to developments in market conditions;

Desiring to improve the situation as far as possible,

Has adopted this Resolution:

The Council stresses the need to ensure that agricultural legislation can be implemented without excessive difficulty both by the national administrations and by the interested parties.

The Council takes note of the work undertaken by the Commission with a view to simplifying Community legislation on agriculture and requests the Commission to continue its efforts in this direction, and to report back by 31 December 1977.

The Council asks the Commission and the Member States to improve co-ordination between all the bodies concerned with the preparation and implementation of the agricultural legislation.

The Council

1. notes that acts to be adopted under the common agricultural policy, in many cases relate to measures justified by compelling economic reasons within the meaning of the Council Resolution of 27 June 1974 concerning measures to be taken with a view to simplifying the task of the customs administrations; it notes that this is mainly due to the essential economic requirements of the common agricultural policy; it further notes that, as regards the agricultural legislation, the six-week period laid down in the aforementioned Resolution for the publication of acts cannot always be observed, owing to the urgency with which such measures have to be implemented;

2. considers therefore that when this period cannot be observed a reasonable time-limit should in any event be provided for to enable account to be taken in each case of the practical requirements of administrative application of these acts; this time-limit should not in principle be less than one week;

3. will accordingly ensure that, when adopting its acts, it leaves the Commission and the Member States adequate time for the preparation, under normal conditions, of the implementing measures arising therefrom and requests the Commission to submit its proposals in good time."

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Commercial policy

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

- on the tariff treatment applicable in the Community as originally constituted to certain products imported from the new Member States;

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty on mechanically propelled aircraft of an unladen weight exceeding 15,000 kg falling within subheading ex 88.02 B II c);

- temporarily suspending the Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of tropical products;

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain industrial products;
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1976 by Regulation (EEC) No 2886/75 for newsprint falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff;
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1976 by Regulation (EEC) No 2883/75 for raw silk (not thrown) falling within heading 50.02 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- on the opening, allocation and administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for 1976
 - for ferro-silicon falling within subheading 73.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff
 - for ferro-silico-manganese falling within subheading 73.02 D of the Common Customs Tariff
 - for super-refined ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the organization of a sample survey of manpower.

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On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Dr Roderick Guy NEILD, Employment Medical Adviser, Health and Safety Executive, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Dr OWEN, resigning member, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, namely until 4 May 1978.

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The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted the Decision on exports of ferrous scrap to third countries.

PRESS RELEASE

422nd meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 23 November 1976

President:

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State-Secretary
for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Netherlands:

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Joel BARNETT

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1977

Before commencing its discussion on the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1977, together with the amendments and proposed modifications of the European Parliament, the Council had its usual meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament, led by Mr SPENALE, President, and comprising Mr Lange, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr Aigner, Mr Durand, Mr Maigaard, Vice-Chairmen of the Committee, Lord Bruce, rapporteur for the 1977 budget, Mr Shaw, rapporteur on the amendments to the Financial Regulation and Mr Cointat, Chairman of the Working Party on the tripartite discussions on certain budgetary questions.

This meeting enabled members of the Parliamentary delegation to explain the Parliament's views on a number of basic procedural and budgetary policy problems affecting the Community, and to give the reasons behind the amendments and proposed modifications which the European Parliament had made to the Council's draft budget.

It was apparent from the views expressed by the members of the Parliament delegation that there was concern to bring about greater clarity in the Community budget and to establish it fully as the instrument for dealing with ~~all~~ contingencies and medium for overall financial management, so as to reduce as far as possible the need for supplementary budgets.

Following statements by members of the European Parliament delegation, a far-reaching and constructive exchange of views was held on the questions raised in the statements, enabling the Council to take them into account in the discussions which followed.

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At the end of these discussions the Council gave its views on the various amendments and proposed modifications put forward by the European Parliament for the draft general budget of the Communities for 1977.

The Council adopted one series of the amendments put forward by the European Parliament, as formulated - these therefore become final - and a second series, to which it added its own modifications - these therefore will have to be the subject of fresh discussions by the European Parliament. One particular amendment which was adopted finally was the 38 MUA commitment appropriation for the Social Fund.

It should also be noted that, in writing in a token entry line in the budget for 1977 for Community undertakings entered into with regard to various non-member countries, the Council has demonstrated its willingness to include these commitment appropriations in the budget so that they will come into effect as soon as the European unit of account (EUA) becomes applicable to the Community budget (scheduled for 1 January 1978).

Of the proposed modifications submitted by the European Parliament, the Council adopted, in particular, an increase of 14 MUA for food aid to be added to the 178 MUA entered by the Council in the draft budget during the first reading; since this item falls under compulsory expenditure, this increase is adopted permanently.

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The European Parliament will now have to act on the modifications made by the Council to its amendments and then to adopt the general budget of the Communities for 1977 in accordance with Article 203 of the EEC Treaty.

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423rd Council meeting

- Education -

Brussels, 29 November 1976

President: Mr J.A. VAN KEMENADE,
Minister for Education of
the Netherlands

1348/76 (Presse 150)

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

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET	Minister for Education (French language)
Mr Herman DE CROO	Minister for Education (Dutch language)

Denmark:

Mrs Ritt BJERREGAARD	Minister for Education
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Germany:

Mr Helmut ROHDE	Federal Minister of Education and Science
Mr Reimut JOCHIMSEN	State Secretary for Education
Mr Wilhelm HAHN	Minister (Baden-Württemberg), Chairman of the Standing Conference of Education Ministers of the Länder

France

M. René HABY	Minister for Education
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Ireland:

Mr Richard BURKE	Minister for Education
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Italy:

Mr Franco-Maria MALFATTI	Minister for Education
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Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr S.A. VAN KEVENADE

Minister for Education and
Science

Mr K. DE JONG

State Secretary,
Ministry for Education and Science

United Kingdom:

Mrs Shirley WILLIAMS

Secretary of State for
Education and Science

Mr Alec JONES

Parliamentary Under-Secretary,
Welsh Office

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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PREPARATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WORKING LIFE AND THE
TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION TO WORK

The Council and the Ministers for Education, meeting within the Council, held a general discussion on this matter, with particular reference to the report submitted to them by the Education Committee in accordance with paragraph 22 of the Resolution of 9 February 1976 comprising an action programme in the field of education.

The discussions gave all the delegations the opportunity to stress the prime importance they attached to strong action in this field, in particular to combat unemployment among young people.

Following the discussion, the Council and the Ministers for Education, meeting within the Council, recorded their agreement, in the form of a Resolution ⁽¹⁾, to a series of measures to be undertaken:

- by the Member States, in particular:

- = to take into account, in developing their national policies, a number of conclusions and measures concerning a wide variety of measures to make young people better prepared for working life;
- = to periodically exchange and compare experience in the Education Committee.

⁽¹⁾ the draft text of which is appended.

- and at Community level, in addition to the national initiatives taken during the period to 31 December 1980, in particular:
 - = to implement pilot projects and studies to assist in the evaluation and development of national policies to prepare young people for working life and the transition from education to work;
 - = to organize study visits relating to vocational training and guidance and workshops for teachers and trainers of teachers;
 - = to extend existing Community arrangements to provide regular information on trends and developments relating to vocational guidance and preparation for working life.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the text of the Resolution with a view to having the final version published in the Official Journal as soon as possible.

THE WORK OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council held a wide-ranging discussion on the progress of the Education Committee's work as regards all the measures envisaged in the Resolution of 9 February 1976 and gave guidance to the Committee as to the direction its work should take and the aspects on which emphasis should be placed in 1977.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

In the framework of its association policy the Council adopted the Directives concerning the negotiation of the 2nd EEC-Greece Financial Protocol and the 3rd EEC-Turkey Financial Protocol.

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

- on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for newsprint falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff (1977) and extending this same quota to some other types of paper;
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1976 for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff;
- on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff (1977);
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 947/70 laying down general rules for fixing the reference price and levying the countervailing charge for wine.

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The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted Decisions:

- concerning certain tariff measures for the first half of 1977;
 - 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.
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RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL AND OF
THE MINISTERS OF EDUCATION MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL
of 29 November 1976

comprising measures to improve the preparation
of young people for working life and to facilitate
their transition from education to working life

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND THE MINISTERS OF
EDUCATION, MEETING WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Treaties establishing the European
Communities,

Referring to the Resolution of the Council and of the Ministers
of Education meeting within the Council of 9 February 1976
comprising an action programme in the field of education, and
in particular points II, III and IV(22) thereof;

Referring to previous measures and activities of the European
Communities, notably concerning vocational guidance, vocational
training, equal treatment for men and women and action by the
European Social Fund to assist those affected by employment
difficulties;

Taking account of the interest of the European Parliament and of the Economic and Social Committee in the relationship between the education and employment of young people and of the importance attached to this question by both sides of industry;

Conscious of the grave problems facing so many young people in the transition from education to adult working life;

Having regard to the continuing special responsibility of educational systems in preparing young people for working life during the period of compulsory schooling and in subsequent general education and vocational training and to the importance of the opportunities which education offers all young people for the realization of their own potential;

Taking note of the initial report submitted by the Education Committee on the preparation of young people for working life and the transition from education to work,

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

1. This resolution and the report of the Education Committee shall be transmitted to the European Parliament and to the Economic and Social Committee. The report, including its annexes, shall subsequently be published.

II. Member States will:

1. take account, in developing their national policies, of the conclusions and measures suggested in the Education Committee's report concerning, in particular:

- (a) the development of curricula and teaching methods providing appropriate preparation for working life in all stages of general education and vocational training and promoting closer links between these two types of education;
- (b) the promotion of a system of continuing educational and vocational guidance, involving the participation of parents, teachers and counsellors;
- (c) the provision of continuing education and training opportunities for all young people, particularly those who, at the end of their full-time education, leave school without achieving adequate scholastic results or without formal qualifications;
- (d) the particular needs of, and compensatory educational strategies for, those young people who for social or economic reasons, or because of personal handicaps, are most vulnerable in changing employment conditions;
- (e) the initial and continuing training of teachers, so that they may prepare young people more effectively for working life and counsel them in their choice between alternative opportunities in employment, further education and training;
- (f) the improvement of presentation and collation and more rapid dissemination of information on education, the employment of young people and their aspirations and motivation;
- (g) the strengthening of consultation and co-ordination between education and vocational guidance, training and placement services to facilitate the preparation of young people for, and their entry into, working life.

2. periodically exchange and compare experience in the Education Committee.

III. At Community level:

1. The actions set out below shall be implemented to complement national initiatives taken during the period to 31 December 1980.
2. The implementation of pilot projects and studies to assist in the evaluation and development of national policies in respect of the following priority themes:
 - (a) the educational and training requirements of those leaving the educational system who encounter problems in securing and retaining employment in which they can find satisfaction and opportunities for personal development, and appropriate measures to resolve these problems;
 - (b) the problems of low motivation towards education and work prevalent among many young people and the measures which might be adopted to stimulate their interest and participation;
 - (c) the design and development of specific actions to:
 - ensure equal educational opportunities for girls,
 - to assist young migrants
 - to promote adequate measures for target groups with special problems, such as physically and mentally handicapped young people;

29.XI.76

- (d) the development of a continuing process of guidance and counselling, peaking at the crucial periods of choice and spanning the final years of compulsory schooling and the post-compulsory period, with particular regard to collaboration between those responsible for education, guidance, training and placement;
- (e) the improvement of vocational preparation in the final years of compulsory schooling and in the post-compulsory period, particularly by the promotion of co-operation between the education and employment sectors;
- (f) the promotion of measures to improve the initial and inservice training of teachers so that they may more effectively prepare young people for the world of work.

3. Preparation of a report analysing:

- (a) the experience of Member States in strengthening the co-ordinated planning of education and other sectoral policies in relation to the less-favoured regions of the Community;
- (b) existing and planned provisions and measures under which young persons may return as part of their continuing education to further study during the period immediately following the end of compulsory schooling.

4. Organization of

- (a) study visits relating to vocational education and guidance intended for specialists in these fields; and
- (b) workshops for teachers and trainers of teachers concerning the transition from education to working life. As appropriate, interested employers' and workers' representatives could also be invited to participate.

5. The preparation by the Statistical Office of the Community of guidelines for the comparison of relevant existing statistical information regarding the transition from education to working life, taking account of distinctive national needs, so as to facilitate the work of policy makers in the education, employment and other interested sectors. The production also by the Statistical Office of a regular analysis of the situation in the Member States, which could include available information on the following aspects: the flow of pupils and students into different sectors of employment and the different types of post-compulsory education and training, the social and educational characteristics of school-leavers and of those who are unemployed, and the participation of young people in part-time vocational education and industrial training.

6. The extension of existing Community arrangements to provide regular information on trends and developments relating to vocational guidance and preparation for active life, within both general and vocational education, designed in particular for local and regional policy makers and for staff of teacher training establishments.

IV. A report will be established by the Education Committee on the measures taken at Community level and within Member States and on the results achieved.

V. The resources required for the implementation of the measures to be taken at Community level will be determined in accordance with the Communities' existing budgetary rules and procedures.
