

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: UNITED KINGDOM

JANUARY-JUNE 1977

Meetings and press releases April-June 1977

Meeting number	Subject	Date
447 th	Economics/Finance	5 April 1977
448 th	Foreign Affairs	5 April 1977
449 th	ACP-EEC Council	1 April 1977
450 th	Economics/Finance	18 April 1977
451 st	Agriculture	25-26 April 1977
452 nd	Foreign Affairs	3 May 1977
453 rd	Agriculture	16-17 May 1977
454 th	Environment	14 June 1977
455 th	Energy	14 June 1977
456 th	Development Co-operation	16 June 1977
457 th	Economics/Finance	20 June 1977
458 th	Agriculture	20-21 June 1977
459 th	Foreign Affairs	21 June 1977
460 th	Fisheries	27 June 1977
461 st	Social Affairs	28 June 1977
462 nd	Transport	28-29 June 1977

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

447th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs - Economic and Financial Affairs -
Luxembourg, 5 April 1977

President:

Dr David OWEN

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs
of the United Kingdom

432/77 (Presse 52)

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

Denmark:

Mr K. B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

Federal Republic of Germany:

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

Mr Karl Otto POEHL State Secretary,
Ministry for Finance

France:

Mr Louis de GUIRINGAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Robert BOULIN Minister responsible for
Economic and Financial Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Antonio Mario MAZZARINO Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN
Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS
Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

Minister for Economic Affairs
State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN

Mr Frank JUDD

Mr Joel BARNETT
Mr John TOMLINSON

Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS
Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI
Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP
Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH
Mr Lorenzo NATALI
Mr Claude CHEYSSON
Mr Richard BURKE
Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Member
Member
Member
Member

The Council carried out an overall assessment of Community budgetary problems on the basis of a communication from the Commission.

The discussions enabled the Member States to indicate their views on priorities and on certain institutional aspects.

At the close of the discussions the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the institutional aspects and to report back to it around the middle of May.

5.IV.77

DANISH KRONER

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 557/76 as regards the exchange rate to be applied in agriculture for the Danish Kroner.

The effects of the new Regulation are as follows:

former rate	new rate	deval. in %	Impact	
			on prices in %	on MCAs in points
Dkr 1=0.126677UA	Dkr 1=0.122877UA	3	+3.093	0
1 UA=Dkr7.89407	1 UA=Dkr8.13822			

The new representative rate of the Danish kroner will apply from 6 April 1977.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

448th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 5 April 1977

President: Dr David OWEN,
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:

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Denmark:

Mr K.B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Louis de GUIRINGAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Patrick DONEGAN Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Vito ROGA Under-Secretary of State
for the Merchant Navy

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr L.J. BRINKHORST State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Mr Frank JUDD Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Mr John TOMLINSON Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS President
Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI Vice-President
Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP Vice-President
Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH Vice-President
Mr Lorenzo NATALI Vice-President
Mr Claude CHEYSSON Member
Mr Richard BURKE Member
Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON Member
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT Member

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ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREECE

The Council decided on the Community position for the second ministerial meeting on accession negotiations with Greece which was also held in Luxembourg on 5 April 1977 and which was aimed at examining progress in the matter so far.

RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL

The Council agreed to acknowledge receipt of the letters in which Mr Mario SOARES, Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic applied on 28 March 1977 for Portugal to become a member of the European Communities. The Council agreed at the same time to implement the procedure provided for in this connection by the Treaties.

5.IV.77

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES

The Council prepared for the second meeting of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers which is to be held in Suva, Fiji, on 13 and 14 April next. At that meeting the various fields of application of the Lomé Convention will be reviewed; the provisional agenda will include problems relating to the commercial and customs co-operation sectors, the system for stabilizing export earnings, sugar, industrial, financial and technical co-operation, relations with the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly and various specific items.

The Council agreed on the Community position on most of these items; its position on the other items will be adopted at an on-the-spot co-ordination meeting in the afternoon of 12 April.

FISHERIES POLICY

EXTERNAL ASPECTS

The Council adopted three Regulations unilaterally defining fishing by certain third countries.

The first Regulation extends for the period from 1 April to 31 May 1977 the provisions applicable to the quotas granted previously to Poland, the GDR and the USSR and the period of validity of the fishing licences granted to the vessels of those countries.

The second Regulation extends for the period from 1 April to 30 June the same fishing quotas for Spain, Finland and Portugal as those granted for the period from 1 January to 31 March. However, fishing by Spanish and Portuguese vessels is subject to the granting of a licence issued on behalf of the Community by the authorities of the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council.

The third Regulation extends for the period from 1 April to 30 June the same fishing quotas for Sweden as those granted for the period from 1 January to 31 March. A fishing quota of 5,000 tonnes of blue whiting has also been granted to Sweden for experimental purposes for the period from 1 to 30 April 1977.

Finally, the Council took formal note of a report by Mr GUNDELACH, Vice-President of the Commission, concerning relations with other third countries in the field of fisheries, with particular reference to the United States, Canada, the Faroe Islands, Norway, Iceland and Senegal.

INTERNAL ASPECTS

The Irish delegation made a declaration concerning the national conservation measures which the Irish government had decided to apply from 10 April 1977.

The Commission recalled the tasks entrusted to it by the Agreement reached at the Hague on 31 October 1976, and undertook to examine the measures in question in accordance with the conditions and with the procedures of adoption and consultation laid down in that Agreement.

RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA

The Council was informed by the Commission of the outcome of the EEC - Yugoslavia Joint Committee meeting held in Brussels on 29 March. It was pleased that the results had proved positive and stressed the importance it attached to the development of relations between the Community and Yugoslavia.

EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE

The Council decided on the Community's financial contribution to starting practical operations (pre-feasibility studies, etc.) in the context of the Euro-Arab Dialogue.

RELATIONS WITH SPAIN

The Council took note of the work carried out since its last meeting by the Permanent Representatives Committee relating to ways and means of regularizing relations between Spain and the Community from 1 July 1977 onwards. On the basis of this work it gave the Commission directives for the negotiation with Spain of an Additional Protocol to the 1970 Agreement.

RELATIONS WITH MALTA

Since the first stage of the EEC - Malta Association Agreement expires on 30 June next, the Council gave the Commission directives on entering into negotiations with Malta in order to define the trade arrangements between the Community and that country from 1 July 1977 onwards.

C.I.E.C. - COMMON FUND

The Council continued its deliberations with an eye to the resumption of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation. It evolved guidelines which would permit the Community to make a positive contribution to the forthcoming meetings of the Group of 8 and to the Conference when it resumes. It agreed to continue its discussions on the definition of the Community position for the final stage of the Conference at its meeting on 3 May 1977.

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF A NEW
INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT

The Council agreed to take part in this Conference and adopted negotiating directives to this end.

MULTIFIBRE AGREEMENT

After noting the progress made in preparing the Community position for the negotiations on the renewal of the Multifibre Arrangement, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to examine the outstanding questions in the light of the day's discussions to enable a decision to be taken as soon as possible.

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council held an exchange of views on questions pertaining to the future organization of the work of the European Council which confirmed the guidelines emerging from its recent meeting in Rome, particularly in connection with preparation for the next meeting in London on 29 and 30 June 1977.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

ACP/OCT

In the context of relations with the ACP/OCT, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- Decisions giving a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of EDF operations (1st, 2nd and 3rd EDF) for the financial years 1972, 1973 and 1974;
- the Regulation on the advance implementation of certain provisions of the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé relating to trade in respect of certain States which have signed Agreements of Accession to the Convention;
- the Decision on interim measures in the field of financial and technical co-operation in respect of certain States which have signed Agreements of Accession to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé.

Commercial Policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- the Decision on the signing of an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on trade in textiles;

- the Regulation concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters relating to Article 3 of Protocol No 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic (prepared or preserved tomatoes).

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Food Aid

With a view to alleviating the effects of the poor palm oil harvest in India in 1976, the Council agreed to supply India with 3,000 tonnes of butteroil FOB and decided on its advance charging against the 1977 programme for milk products; it laid down general rules governing this supply.

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The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measuring systems for liquids other than water.

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On a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Preben NIELSEN, cand. oecon. økonomisk medarbejder i LO Landsorganisationen i Danmark, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr Thomas NIELSEN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 September 1978.

On a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council also appointed Mr R.A. MORRIS as a member of the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community to replace Mr CHANDLER, who has died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 9 July 1978.

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The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States adopted the Decision on the provisional location of the Court of Auditors.

Under this Decision, the Court of Auditors will be located in Luxembourg, which will be its provisional place of work within the meaning of the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of 8 April 1965 on the provisional location of certain institutions and departments of the Communities.

This Decision will come into effect when the Treaty of 22 July 1975 amending certain financial provisions of the Treaties enters into force.

No text. This meeting devoted to the ACE-EEC Council

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

449th meeting — ACP
(Suva-Fiji, 12 April)

2.3.40. *President:* Mr Dell, United Kingdom
Secretary of State for Trade.

From the Commission: Mr Cheysson, Member.

This meeting was devoted to preparations for the
second meeting of the ACP-EEC Council of
Ministers.³

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 1 April 1977

418/77 (Presse 50)

Bulletin of the European Communities
No. 4-1977, p. 83

450th meeting covered the topics listed below.

LIBRARY

The Council of the European Communities will hold its
449th meeting on Monday 18 April 1977 (14.30) at the
Kirchberg European Centre in Luxembourg with
Mr Denis HEALEY, Chancellor of the Exchequer of the
United Kingdom in the Chair.

This meeting will be devoted to:

- the preparation for the forthcoming meeting of the
Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund
- economic and financial questions liable to be raised
at the Downing Street Summit
- matters arising from the European Council (Rome,
25 and 26 March 1977)
- Tripartite Conference

The President of the Council will hold a press
conference at the close of the discussions.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

450th Council Meeting

- Economic and Financial Affairs -

Luxembourg, 18 April 1977

President: Mr Denis HEALEY,
Chancellor of the Exchequer
of the United Kingdom

453/77 (Presse 54)

18.1V.77

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

Federal Republic of Germany

Mr Hans APEL

Federal Minister of Finance

Mr Karl Otto POEHL

State Secretary,
Ministry of Finance

France

Mr Robert BOULIN

Minister responsible for
Economic and Financial Affairs

Ireland

Mr Richie RYAN

Minister for Finance

Italy

Mr Gaetano STAMATI

Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg

Mr Jacques POOS

Minister for Finance

18.1V.77

Netherlands

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

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18.1V.77

PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY FUND INTERIM COMMITTEE

After noting an oral report from the Chairman of the Monetary Committee about the work it had carried out, the Council agreed on the statement to be made by the President of the Council on behalf of the Committee at the next meeting on the International Monetary Fund Interim Committee, on 28 and 29 April 1977 in Washington.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN ROME
- TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Council to make the necessary contacts so as to set a date for a Tripartite Conference during the second half of June.

The Council agreed that at its next meeting, possibly to take place in mid-June, it would begin preparations for this Tripartite Conference on the basis of a communication from the Commission.

COMMUNITY LOAN FOR ITALY

The Council approved the economic policy conditions which the Italian Government intends to observe in 1977 and confirmed the authorization for the Commission to conclude a loan of 500 million dollars for Italy.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ISSUES LIKELY TO BE RAISED AT THE
DOWNING STREET SUMMIT

The Council held an exchange of views on these issues.

CIEC/COMMON FUND

The Council took cognizance of a report from the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee on proceedings to date on this matter.

PRESS RELEASE

451st meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 25 and 26 April 1977

President: Mr John SILKIN,
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food of the United Kingdom

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 28 April 1977
514/77 (Presse 56) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M
to Press Release
No 514/77 (Presse 56)
of 25 and 26 April 1977

Page 20:

1. Prices - third line:

Read: "+ 4.5% for cauliflowers, tomatoes, peaches and lemons
+ 3.5% for apples, pears, oranges, mandarines
+ 2.5% for tables grapes"

Page 21:

4. Marketing period for oranges - second paragraph:

Read: "The marketing premium for oranges, mandarines and
clementines will be increased by 3.5%."

Page 29:

8. Inward processing traffic:

Insert the following paragraph after the title:

"The Council agreed to extend until 31 March 1980 the
suspension of inward processing arrangements for skimmed milk
powder and butter."

26.IV.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister of Agriculture

Mr Svend JACOBSEN Minister of Fisheries

Mr Hans-Jørgen KRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister of Agriculture

Mr Jacques BLANC State Secretary in the
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr Marcel CAVAILLE State Secretary in the
Ministry of Public Investment
and Regional Development
(Transport)

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister of Agriculture

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

26.1V.77

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS
Mr Albert BERCHEM

Minister of Agriculture
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Mr Bruce MILLAN
Mr Gavin STRANG

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Secretary of State for Scotland

Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President
Member

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26.IV.77

1977/1978 AGRICULTURAL PRICE REVIEW

Following discussion of the Commission's proposals on the fixing of agricultural prices and related measures for the 1977/1978 marketing year, the Council agreed on the following points:

Agri-monetary questions

The new representative rates to be applied in agriculture are as follows:

DM = 0.293033 UA
BF/LF = 0.0202640 UA (rate unchanged)
Fl.NL = 0.293884 UA (rate unchanged)
Ir.£ = 1.35190 UA
FF = 0.172995 UA
It.L = 0.0970874 UA
£ St. = 1.70463 UA
DKr = 0.122877 UA.

This gives the following reduction in MCA:

1.8 points for Germany
0 points for the Benelux
7 points for Ireland
3 points for France
8 points for Italy
4 points for the United Kingdom.

26.IV.77

These new representative rates will apply in principle from the beginning of each marketing year.

However, the new representative rates for the French franc, the Irish pound and the Italian lira have been in force for milk and milk products, beef and veal, pigmeat, dehydrated fodder, silkworms and cherries since 1 April 1977 on the basis of the decision taken by the Council at its last meeting.

The new representative rate for the pound sterling will also apply to pigmeat from 1 May 1977 in the United Kingdom.

As regards milk and milk products:

- in the Federal Republic of Germany, the new representative rate will apply with effect from 1 May 1977;
- in the United Kingdom, half of the adjustment will be made on 16 September 1977 and the remainder on 1 April 1978; the representative rate will therefore be £1 = 1.75560 UA until 15 September 1977 inclusive and £1 = 1.73013 UA from 16 September 1977 until 31 March 1978.

26.1V.77

Prices (sector by sector)

CEREALS

The Council agreed on the following prices:

UA/t

Commodity	1977/1978
<u>COMMON WHEAT</u>	
Common single intervention price:	
- in Denmark	118.10 (1)
- in Ireland	118.63 (1)
- in the United Kingdom	111.55 (1)
- in the other Member States	120.06
Reference Price bread wheat:	
- in Denmark	133.58 (1)
- in Ireland	132.07 (1)
- in the United Kingdom	125.44 (1)
- in the other Member States	135.59 (2)
Target Price	158.08
<u>RYE</u>	
Single intervention price	128.96 (3)
Target price	155.12

- (1) From 1 January 1978, the Community intervention price and the reference price for common wheat of bread-making quality valid in other Member States will apply in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom.
- (2) Common wheat of bread-making quality meeting only minimum requirements for bread-making.
- (3) A special bonus of 3.11 UA/t is proposed for rye of bread-making quality with an amylographic index of 200 or more.

26.IV.77

UA/t	
Commodity	1977/1978
<u>BARLEY</u>	
Common single intervention price	
- in Denmark	118.21 ⁽¹⁾
- in Ireland	116.88 ⁽¹⁾
- in the United Kingdom	111.01 ⁽¹⁾
- in the other Member States	120.06
Target price	144.97
<u>MAIZE</u>	
Single intervention price	118.03
Target price	144.97
<u>DURUM WHEAT</u>	
Single intervention price	203.01
Target price	224.27

⁽¹⁾ As from 1 January 1978, the Community intervention price and the reference price for common wheat of breadmaking quality valid in the other Member States will apply in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom.

26.IV.77

Reference price for common wheat of breadmaking quality

The Council took note of the following statement by the Commission on the defence of the reference price for common wheat of breadmaking quality:

"1977/78 will be the first marketing year in which the new rules on the organization of the market in cereals will be fully operational and therefore it will be a period during which experience of the system will have to be gained.

The Commission undertakes to take all measures necessary for the support of the bread wheat market at the reference price level during the whole of the marketing year.

Moreover, since there is concern about the market situation at the beginning and end of the marketing year, the Commission is already envisaging:

- applying special intervention measures for at least three months from 1 August 1977 (and if necessary for three months from 1 May 1978); these will take the form of purchase at the reference price of any common wheat offered to the intervention agencies and meeting the minimum requirements for breadmaking;
- submitting to the Management Committee, during the spring of 1978, measures which may be applied up to the end of the marketing year in order to support the price of common wheat of breadmaking quality;
- pursuing an active export policy aimed at supporting the market for common wheat of breadmaking quality.

26.IV.77

The Commission also proposes that the Council undertake to reserve up to 400,000 tonnes of common wheat of breadmaking quality for possible transfer to Italy, insofar as a sufficient quantity is available in intervention stocks."

Aid for durum wheat

The aid is 60 UA/ha; it will be limited to the Italian Zone "A" plus the Marches, Latium and Tuscany, plus all mountainous areas in Italy covered by Directive 268/75.

Transfer from intervention stocks

The Council agreed to transfer an additional 200,000 t. of wheat to Italy from German intervention stocks before the end of the current marketing year, if necessary.

Abatement for maize in Italy

An abatement of 3 UA/tonne in the levy on maize will apply in Italy during the 1977/1978 marketing year.

26.IV.77

RICE

The Council agreed on the following prices:

UA/t

	1977/1978
Intervention price at Vercelli (paddy rice)	171.55
Market component (including ACP/OCT preference of 1.5 UA/t)	18.87
Husking costs for paddy rice	25.96
Price of husked rice at Vercelli (coeff. 1.25)	270.48
Transport costs (Vercelli-Duisburg)	24.90
Target price for husked rice at Duisburg	295.38

26.IV.77

SUGAR AND ISOGLUCOSE

The Council agreed on the following prices:

UA

	1977/1978
Minimum price per ton of beet	25.43
a) Intervention price per 100 kg of white sugar	32.83
b) Storage costs levy	1.77
c) Total a + b	34.60
d) Target price per 100 kg of white sugar	34.56
e) Storage costs levy	1.77
f) Total d + e	36.33
g) Intervention price per 100 kg of raw sugar	27.25
h) Storage costs levy	1.63
i) Total g + h	28.88
Threshold price per 100 kg of white sugar	39.72
Refund of storage costs for white sugar (ql/month)	0.30
Coefficient for fixing the maximum quota	1.35

Quality premium:

The Commission will examine the possibility of a premium on the intervention price for raw sugar in areas where subsequent re-sale enables a quality premium to be secured from the market.

"B" quota

The Council agrees that, if the present prospects for the Community and world sugar market continue, there will be a reduction in the maximum sugar quota with effect from the 1978/79 sugar year.

This reduction will be taken into account when fixing the special maximum quota for the Member States applying the mixed price system.

National aid authorized in Italy (Article 38 of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74)

The amount of this aid is maintained for the 1977/78 marketing year at the level decided for the 1976/77 marketing year (9.9 UA/tonne) for "A" quota sugar increased by 170,000 tonnes. If total production exceeds 1.4 mio tonnes, the aid may be applied over the whole production within the total permitted limit of 106.62 mio UA.

26.IV.77

Isoglucose

The Commission proposes subjecting production of isoglucose in the Community to common provisions including in particular:

- the introduction, for a two-year period, together with the quota system applicable to sugar, of a levy on the production of isoglucose to cover part of the export refunds; this levy should be the same as that for sugar produced within the limits of the maximum quota;
- the setting up of an appropriate trading system with third countries which takes account of existing arrangements applicable in the sugar sector (import levies, export refunds, safeguard clause).

It also intends to submit proposals at a later date to abolish barriers to the use of the product and to harmonize tax arrangements in this sector.

For the 1977/1978 marketing year, the maximum amount of the production levy paid by isoglucose producers is to be 5 UA per 100 kg of dry matter.

Article 27 of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 (basic Regulation on sugar) has been amended to take account of income from the isoglucose levy before calculating the production levy for "B" sugar.

26.IV.77

OILS AND FATS OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN

The Council agreed on the following prices for oilseeds:

UA/100 kg

Product	1977/1978
<u>Colza and rape seeds</u>	
- Target price	28.53
- Intervention price	27.71
<u>Sunflower seed</u>	
- Target price	30.78
- Intervention price	29.89
<u>Soya seed</u>	
- Guide price	30.64
<u>Flax + seed</u>	
- Guide price	31.18

Colza and rape seeds

The Council took note of the Commission's intention to adopt the measures necessary to accept for intervention as from 1 July 1977 only those colza and rape seeds whose erucic acid content is lower than 10%.

26.IV.77

The Council and the Commission expressed their intention of limiting the granting of aid as regards colza and rape seeds harvested as from the 1978/1979 marketing year, to seeds with a low erucic acid content and to the quantities of other seeds used in the chemical industry.

The Commission will be embarking on discussions with the Italian Government in the very near future to give impetus to the use of oilseeds in Italy with the help of a programme based on Regulation No 355/77 or by other means.

Soya and castor beans

The Council took note of the Commission's undertaking:

- to examine the development of soya production in the Community and whether existing arrangements for market organization are sufficient to achieve the aims referred to in Regulation (EEC) No 1900/74;
- to examine the desirability of developing the production of rape seeds in the Community;
- to report on these topics before 1 July 1977, and if necessary to make suitable proposals.

26.IV.77

Linseed

The Council agreed in principle to maintain for one marketing year the arrangements involving a minimum aid level, fixed at 105 UA/ha, and to include the following statement in the Council minutes:

"The Council

- agrees to extend the minimum guaranteed aid for linseed beyond the 1977/1978 marketing year;
- takes note of the Commission's intention
 - = to follow trends in the cultivation of linseed in the Community's growing regions where this crop is of economic importance;
 - = to take account of these trends when submitting the proposals for the fixing of prices in the 1978/1979 marketing year."

Cotton seed

Agreement in principle on the Commission proposal (annual aid at 104 UA/ha).

Fibre flax

The Council agreed in principle to increase the aid to 194.74 UA/ha (in the United Kingdom 163.72 UA/ha).

26.IV.77

Hemp

The Council agreed in principle to annual aid of 176.87 UA/ha under the Commission proposal.

Dehydrated fodder

The Council agreed in principle to the Commission proposal (production aid = 9.55 UA/t).

Silkworms

The Council agreed in principle to

- the Commission proposal (annual aid = 40.20 UA per box of silkworm eggs used)
- the Commission proposal on the understanding that the additional aid be fixed at 14.07 UA.

Olive oil

The Council agreed to the following prices:

	<u>UA/100 kg</u>
	<u>1977/78</u>
Target production price	187.78
Target market price	141.91
Intervention price	134.62

26.IV.77

Seeds

The Council agreed to the following prices:

CCT heading No	Description of goods	Amount of aid UA/100 kg
ex 12.01 A	Linum usitatissimum L. partim (fibre flax)	13
	Linum usitatissimum L. partim (lin seed)	10
	Cannabis sativa (L. monoica)	9
	1. GRAMINEAE	
ex 12.03 C	Arrhenatherum elatius (L)J. and C. Presl.	31
	Dactylis glomerata L.	27
	Festuca arundinacea Schreb.	27
	Festuca ovina L.	19
	Festuca pratensis Huds.	21
	Festuca rubra L.	18
	Lolium multiflorum Lam.	11
	Lolium perenne L.	
	- of high persistence, late or medium late	17
	- new varieties and others	13
	- of low persistence, medium late, medium early or early	10
	Lolium x Lybridum Hausskn.	11
	Phleum pratense L.	33
	Poa nemoralis L.	19
	Poa pratensis L.	19
	Poa trivialis L.	19
	2. LEGUMINOSAE	
ex 07.05 A I	Pisum arvense L.	4
ex 07.05 A III	Vicia faba L. ssp. faba var. equina Pers.	4
	Vicia faba L. var. minor (Peterm.) bull	4
ex 12.03 C	Medicago sativa (ecotypes)	8
	Medicago sativa L. (varieties)	13
	Trifolium pratense L.	22
	Trifolium repens L.	24
	Trifolium repens L. var. giganteum	25
	Vicia sativa L.	14

26.IV.77

The Council noted that in view of the wide fluctuations on the Community seed market over the past three years the Commission intended to report to the Council on the reasons for these fluctuations by 1.7.1977 and, if appropriate, to propose adjustments to the basic Regulation.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

1. Prices

The prices currently paid to producers in the event of intervention are increased as follows:

- + 4% for cauliflowers, tomatoes, peaches and lemons
- + 3% for apples, pears, oranges, mandarines
- + 2% for table grapes.

2. Marketing premium for lemons

The marketing premium for lemons remains in force for the duration of the marketing year; to it is added the full percentage increase in the basic price and the buying-in price for this product, while the reference price remains unchanged.

3. Marketing premium for citrus fruit, sale of blood oranges to the processing industry and system of processing aids for lemons

(a) The Commission undertakes to examine

- the method of calculating the reference prices in the relevant Management Committee
- as regards citrus fruit, the link between the trend of basic and buying-in prices, reference prices and marketing premiums; following this examination an appropriate proposal could, if necessary, be submitted to the Council.

26.IV.77

- (b) Confining the period of validity of the marketing and processing premiums to
- a single marketing year (as regards extension of the marketing premium for lemons);
 - three years
- = for the measure providing for the sale to the processing industry of blood oranges withdrawn from the market;
- = for the system of processing aids to be introduced for lemons.

The minimum price for lemons for processing is determined on the basis of the price of lemons of quality grade III, plus 15% of the basic price.

4. Marketing period for oranges

The marketing period for oranges is extended until May 1978, the price for the month of April being applicable.

The marketing premium for oranges, mandarines and clementines will be increased by 3%.

The possibility of selling products withdrawn from the market to the processing industry will stand.

26.IV.77

TOBACCO

(a) Norm price

The Council agreed to the Commission proposal to increase the norm price by an amount of between 0% and 4% according to the variety.

(b) Premiums

Having made certain changes to the rates of increase in premiums proposed for certain varieties under Nos 10-19, the Council agreed on the following rates of increase:

No	Variety	% premium increase
1	Badischer Geudertheimer	4.5
2	Badischer Burley	4.5
3	Virgin D	8
4	Paraguay	5
5	Nijkerk	3
6	Burley (B + B)	3
7	Misionero	5
8	Philippin	6
9	Semois	6
10	Bright	4
11a	Burley I	2.5
11b	Maryland	4
12	Kentucky	4
13	Nostrano	0
14	Beneventano	0
15	Xanti Yakà	1
16	Perustitza	2
17	Erzegovina	1
18	Round Tip	2
19	Brasile	8

26.IV.77

WINE

The Council agreed on the following:

Type of wine	1977/1978
R I (UA/°/hl)	2.03
R II (UA/°/hl)	2.03
R III (UA/°/hl)	31.65
A I (UA/°/hl)	1.90
A II (UA/°/hl)	42.18
A III (UA/°/hl)	48.16

The conversion premiums (Regulation No 1163/76) are extended to the 1977/1978 and 1978/1979 marketing years at the rates applicable for the 1976/1977 marketing year, i.e. a basic premium of 1,500 UA/hl.

26.IV.77

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council agreed to the following prices:

1977/1978		
Ireland and the United Kingdom	Other Member States and from 1 January 1978 all Member States	
Guide price for beef animals (liveweight)	118.27 UA/100 kg	122.90 UA/100 kg
Intervention price for beef animals (liveweight)	106.44 UA/100 kg	110/61 UA/100 kg

The amendments proposed to the intervention or premiums systems following the examination by and report from the Commission will be applicable as from the beginning of the 1978/79 marketing year.

The Council agreed in principle to maintaining existing arrangements concerning the slaughter premium for certain adult bovine animals for slaughter during the 1977/78 marketing year.

The system of calving premiums and the conditions for its application laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 620/76 is extended until the 1977/78 marketing year; the premium is 35 UA per calf.

26.IV.77

The Council notes that the Commission intends to propose reductions in some of the weightings applicable to the buying-in prices.

PIGMEAT

The Council agreed to the following price:

1977/1978
Basic price (pig carcasses) 120.20 UA/100 kg
(as from 1.11.1977)

MILK PRODUCTS

The Council agreed to the following price:

	1977/1978
	UA/100 kg on 1 May 1977
Target price for milk	17.35
Intervention price:	
Butter	
- in Ireland	226.96
- in the United Kingdom	205.45
- in the other Member States and from the 1 January 1978 in all Member States	230.95
Skimmed milk powder	94.09
Grana Padano cheeses	
- aged from 30 to 60 days	223.72
- aged over 6 months	269.34
Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese aged over 6 months	292.57

26.IV.77

The Council approved the Commission proposals for the action programme in the milk sector, subject to the following amendments:

1. Co-responsibility levy:

The amount of the co-responsibility levy is set at 1.5% from 16 September 1977 until the end of the 1977/1978 milk year. Before the levy is introduced on 16 September 1977 the Commission will study the administrative difficulties involved in applying the levy in Italy and will report to the Council.

2. Additional measures to boost butter consumption

The Council approved the Commission's intention of introducing additional measures to boost butter consumption on 16 September 1977, instead of the tax on oils and fats of vegetable origin. These measures will not be applicable in the United Kingdom. The Commission will accordingly make the necessary adjustments to a Section of its preliminary draft supplementary and rectifying budget concerning the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF.

The Council gave its agreement in principle on a general butter subsidy in respect of which the Community contribution will be as follows:

- (a) for subsidy levels up to 20 UA/100 kg, the Community contribution will be 25%, and
- (b) for subsidy levels between 20 and 56 UA/100 kg, the Community contribution will be 50%.

3. Consumer subsidy for butter in the United Kingdom

As regards the United Kingdom, the subsidy will be 33 UA per 100 kg with effect from 1 May 1977 until 31 March 1978 to be financed 100% by the EAGGF, in respect of Community butter only. This subsidy will be gradually reduced as from 1 April 1978 so as to cease completely on 31 December 1978.

4. Non-marketing subsidy and conversion premium

The EAGGF financial contribution will be 100% (60% from the "Guarantee" Section and 40% from the "Guidance" Section).

26.IV.77

The amounts of the non-marketing subsidy are as follows: up to 30,000 kg, 95%, from 30 to 50,000 kg, 90% and from 50 to 120,000 kg, 75%, of the target price. The conversion premium is to be 90% of the target price for up to 120,000 kg.

5. Premium for the cessation of dairy activities

The Council agreed to consider the Commission proposal on this matter as part of the revision of existing Directives on agricultural structures.

6. Amendments to Regulations (EEC) Nos 804/68 and 1014/68 (marketing of liquid skimmed milk)

The Council will examine the Commission proposal later.

7. General rules on the granting of aid for skimmed milk and skimmed milk powder intended for use as feedingstuffs

The Council agreed to

- grant supplementary aid for liquid skimmed milk used by pig farmers and for skimmed milk powder used in the manufacture of compound feedingstuffs for pigs or poultry (including fresh powder),
- set a maximum for the water content of skimmed milk powder in respect of which aid may be granted.

26.IV.77

To ensure smooth transition to the new system of aid for liquid skimmed milk the Council agreed to extend application of Regulation (EEC) No 1807/76 until 31 May 1977.

The Council noted that the Commission does not intend to introduce aid for fresh dried milk until 1 June 1977 at the earliest.

8. Inward processing traffic

The Council noted that the Commission intends to follow a policy of refunds for butteroil to permit competitive exports.

9. General rules concerning the marketing of milk products and Article 27a of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68

The Council will try to reach agreement on the Commission's proposals by 1 June 1977.

26.IV.77

10. State aid

The Council noted that the Commission intends to use the powers conferred upon it by Article 93 of the Treaty and to submit to the Member States proposals for any appropriate measures required by the functioning of the common market, taking into account special situations which could, in certain cases, justify derogations from these general rules where it is proved that the forms of aid in question are not incompatible with the common market within the meaning of Article 92 (1).

The Commission will also take account, where necessary, of certain special problems concerning Ireland which must be taken into consideration, as was acknowledged by the High Contracting Parties (see Protocol No 30 to the Act of Accession).

11. Investment aid

The Council noted that the Commission intends:

- (a) to grant aid under Regulations (EEC) Nos 17/64 and 355/77 from the Guidance Section of the EAGGF for investment projects contributing to the resale of liquid skimmed milk to farms by dairies and in particular collective investment projects to create storage facilities in pig farms;
- (b) to speed up the procedure for examining projects in this sector.

26.IV.77

12. Community actions for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leukosis in cattle

The Council adopted the Commission proposal, and fixed the date for adopting the criteria at 1.8.1977. The Council noted the Commission statement on the criteria for speeding up eradication.

13. School milk

The Council adopted the Commission proposal and decided it would be implemented in the near future. The scheme involves partial Community financing for at least five years of the Member States' programmes for supplying milk and certain milk products at reduced prices to pupils in educational establishments.

14. Intervention prices for Italian cheeses

The intervention prices for Grana and Parmesan cheese have been fixed so as to take account of a 10% increase in manufacturing margins.

26.IV.77

15. Temporary suspension of aid for the purchase of dairy cows

The Council approved this suspension which will remain in effect until 31 December 1979.

Products not listed in Annex II

The Council asked the Commission representative to inform the Commission that the representatives of the Member States on the Management Committees will vote in favour of introducing monetary compensatory amounts for a limited number of products not listed in Annex II.

Financial aspects

The Council noted the following statement by the Commission representative concerning the financial aspects:

"In submitting the 1977/1978 price proposals and in adjusting appropriations as a result of developments in the agricultural and monetary situation the Commission stated that additional appropriations of 475.8 MUA will be needed for the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF in the budgetary year 1977, 82.8 MUA of which will be for agricultural prices and connected measures. The Commission has adopted a preliminary draft supplementary and rectifying budget taking account of the consequences of this situation and it will be forwarded to the budget authority very shortly.

26.IV.77

This compromise would seem inevitably to involve further expenditure in the 1977 financial year of some 210 to 220 MUA. Consequently, a letter rectifying the preliminary draft supplementary and rectifying budget will be submitted by the Commission to the budget authority.

This assessment is subject to the usual unknown factors consequent on agricultural and monetary economic trends. This compromise will not affect EAGGF (Guidance) appropriations for the 1977 financial year.

26.IV.77

PRICE OF ACP SUGAR

The Council has adopted the Commission's brief for the annual negotiation of the guaranteed price for deliveries of sugar from the ACP States to be made during 1977/1978 pursuant to Protocol No 3 to the Lomé Convention; these negotiations will begin on Thursday 28 April in Brussels between the Commission and the Group of sugar-producing ACP States.

26.IV.77

WINE

After hearing statements by the Italian delegation on certain problems concerning the sale of Italian wines to France, and by the French delegation on the general state of the wine market, the Council noted the information provided by the Commission on the measures it intends either to introduce itself or to propose to the Council in its communication on Mediterranean agriculture.

The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine these proposals as soon as they are received, in preparation for Council decisions which could be implemented at the start of the next marketing year.

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN HOPS

The Council agreed to the broad lines of an amendment to the Regulation on the common organization of the market in hops.

The amendments have been made in response to the profound changes which have occurred in the hop market over the last few years both at world and at Community level. In order to redress the imbalance between supply and demand - and the resulting slump in prices - the Regulation provides for amendments to certain instruments set up by the Community rules of July 1971.

In order to help make the market more stable the Regulation is intended to promote a policy of quality by fixing minimum quality characteristics and by applying a certification system covering the place of production, the year of harvest, the variety of hops and the products derived therefrom. Products without a certificate will be banned from the market. Imported products must meet equivalent minimum quality requirements.

The Regulation assigns an important role to producer groups in the attempt to balance supply and demand and thus to stabilize prices and incomes; this role involves marketing their members' production and allocating the production aid.

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In order to make it easier to set up producer groups, the Member States may grant degressive aid for the running of such groups; over a three-year period.

The Regulation includes provisions ensuring that in cases where producer groups do not as yet exist, the producers benefit directly from the same advantages as those granted through producer groups.

Also, in order to remedy the acute current imbalance on the hop market, the Regulation forbids until 31 December 1978 any increase in the area of land planted with hops. Special aids are envisaged for switches to new varieties and the restructuring of hop gardens.

FISHERIES

The Council decided to extend the Regulation banning fishing for herring in the North Sea until 31 May.

At its meeting on 16 and 17 May the Council will make a general examination of the problem of conserving herring stocks in the various fishing zones.

Several delegations stressed that they regarded establishment of the internal fisheries arrangements as a matter of urgency and the Commission confirmed that it would shortly be forwarding to the Council suggestions which will enable progress to be made in examining this question.

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The other items on the agenda were deferred until the next meeting of the Council on 16 and 17 May.

26.IV.77

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation relating to the organization of surveys in 1977, 1978 and 1979 on the earnings of permanent agricultural workers.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision amending Decision 76/402/CEE on the level of interest rate subsidies provided for in Directive 72/159/CEE concerning the modernization of farms to be applied in Italy.

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VARIOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- Regulations

- concerning import arrangements for certain jute products originating in the Republic of India;
- maintaining in force the import arrangements in the Community for shirts and blouses originating in India;
- maintaining the arrangements for the authorization of imports into France and into the United Kingdom of certain knitted or crocheted undergarments originating in the Kingdom of Thailand or the Republic of the Philippines;

- the Decisions

- authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries;
- concerning the adjustment of the economic policy guidelines for 1977.

26.IV.77

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr S.J. LAWTON of the Food Manufacturers Federation, as a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Miss MACKIE who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office until 16 September 1978.

On a proposal from the German Government, the Council also appointed Dr. Hans-Friedrich WOLF, Stellvertretender Referent für Arbeitsmedizin im Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Sozialordnung, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Dr MILDE, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office until 4 May 1978.

Lastly, at the proposal of the Luxembourg Government, the Council appointed Dr. Ferdy KASEL, Médecin à l'inspection sanitaire, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training to replace Mr HASTERT, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, until 5 April 1979.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

452nd Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 3 May 1977

Chairman: Dr David OWEN,
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 Renaat VAN ELSLANDE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr K. B. ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

Federal Republic of Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for
Foreign Affairs

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Louis de GUIRINGAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Arnaldo FORLANI Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Vito ROSA Deputy State Secretary,
Merchant Navy

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Edmund DELL

Secretary of State for Trade

Mr Frank JUDD

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr John TOMLINSON

Parliamentary Under Secretary
of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Wilhelm HAERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

Mr Richard BURKE

Member

Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

C.I.E.C.

The Council defined the position to be adopted by the Community for the final phase of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation, the final ministerial meeting of which will be held on 29 and 30 May and 1 June 1977.

Further to the directives adopted on 5 April 1977, the Council adopted additional directives concerning in particular special action and the field of raw materials.

RELATIONS WITH THE CMEA

The Council took note of the letter which the CMEA Executive Committee recently sent to the President of the Council of Ministers. The Community will be examining the CMEA communication carefully and a reply will be delivered, when this process of examination has been completed.

FISHERIES

External aspects

The Council reviewed progress as regards relations with various third countries on fisheries matters.

Internal aspects

Following a brief discussion of the incidents of the last few days with regard to fishing by Netherlands vessels off Irish coasts and the current legal developments, the Council emphasized the urgency of adopting definitive internal arrangements for fishing in Community waters and took note of the Commission's intention of submitting further suggestions in the very near future to facilitate the working out of satisfactory solutions.

STEEL

The Council was consulted, as requested by the Commission, on the introduction of minimum prices for concrete reinforcing bars within the common market pursuant to Article 61(b) of the ECSC Treaty.

3.V.77

SUGAR

United Nations Conference on Sugar (18 April to 27 May 1977)

The Council took note of a Commission report on progress in the Geneva sugar negotiations. It confirmed the Commission's negotiating Directives and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to follow developments at the negotiations.

Negotiations with the ACP States

The Council also took note of a Commission report on the negotiations on 28 and 29 April with the ACP States to fix the guaranteed price for ACP sugar for the forthcoming marketing year. These negotiations are due to recommence on 12 May 1977.

MULTIFIBRE ARRANGEMENT

The Council further examined the problems arising from the negotiations for renewal of the Multifibre Arrangement. Its examination enabled a clearer idea to be gained of the last points outstanding and it appeared from these discussions that agreement could be reached shortly on the whole of the negotiating directives.

3.V.77

RELATIONS WITH CYPRUS

As the first stage of the EEC-Cyprus Association Agreement comes to an end on 30 June 1977, the Council gave the Commission directives to enable it to enter into negotiations with Cyprus to determine trade arrangements between the Community and Cyprus as from 1 July and also the substance of the economic and financial co-operation to be added to the areas covered by the original Agreement.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending the provisional anti-dumping duty on ball bearings, tapered roller bearings and parts thereof originating in Japan.

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The Council agreed that humanitarian aid amounting to 100,000 units of account should be granted to the victims of the earthquake which took place in Romania on 4 March 1977.

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The Council gave the assent requested by the Commission under Article 55(2)(c) of the EURATOM Treaty to enable it to obtain financial aid for the implementation and realization of a technical research programme for the iron and steel industry.

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On a proposal from the Netherlands Government the Council appointed:

- Mr W. WEGGELAAR, Arbeidsmedewerker van de Federatie Nederlandse Wakbeweging, Member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace Mr W. BAARS, Member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 20 June 1978;

 - Mr A.H. KOELINK, Directeur van de directie onderwijs voor volwassenen, Ministerie van Onderwijs en Wetenschappen, Member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to replace Mr J. Th. SCHELFHOUT, Member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 15 October 1978.
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PRESS RELEASE

453rd meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 16 and 17 May 1977

President: Mr John SILKIN
Minister of 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 of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSAGER Minister of Agriculture

Mr Svend JACOBSEN Minister of Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT Secretary of State
Ministry of Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister for Agriculture

Mr Patrick DONEGAN Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister of Agriculture

17.V.77

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS	Minister of Agriculture
Mr Albert BERCHEM	State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE	Minister of Agriculture
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United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN	Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Mr Bruce MILLAN	Secretary of State for Scotland
Mr Gavin STRANG	Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Mr Hugh BROWN	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Scotland

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH	Vice-President
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17.V.77

HERRING FISHERIES

The Council held an in depth discussion on problems arising in connection with herring fishing, and in particular developments in herring stocks in the North Sea, and the conservation measures necessary for the conservation and reconstitution of such stocks.

With a view to a Council meeting on 27 June devoted exclusively to drawing up definitive arrangements, the Council agreed to extend the ban on herring fishing in the North Sea for the month of June, but with the exception of a special quota of 1,500 tonnes for the Netherlands. The ban on herring fishing would also apply during June to waters off the west of Scotland.

As for the fishing of herring from 1 July onwards, the Council instructed the relevant subordinate bodies to continue examination of these problems on the basis of the Commission proposals which might themselves be amended in the light of the Council's discussions so that it could act as part of an overall settlement of fisheries arrangements.

17.V.1977

SALES ON BOARD SHIP

The Council examined the last outstanding questions regarding the proposal for a Regulation on certain measures to prevent abuses resulting from the sale of agricultural products on board ship.

Following the discussion the Council took note of the Commission's intention of contacting the delegations concerned to resolve these difficulties so that the Regulation could be adopted at a forthcoming meeting.

17.V.1977

PURE-BRED BREEDING ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES/STANDING
COMMITTEE ON ZOOTECHNICS

The Council recorded agreement in principle ⁽¹⁾ on the Directive on pure-bred animals of the bovine species and on the Decision setting up a Standing Committee on Zootechnics.

The purpose of the Directive is to facilitate intra-Community trade in pure-bred breeding animals of the bovine species by bringing about in specific conditions the mutual recognition of herd books and of the associations which keep them.

Among the tasks of the Standing Committee on Zootechnics will be the supervision of the detailed rules of application of that Directive.

⁽¹⁾ With one delegation reserving its position.

17.V.1977

ACP SUGAR

After taking note of the Commission report, the Council recorded agreement in substance on the result of the negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States on the guaranteed prices for sugar for the 1977/1978 supply period (1 July 1977 - 30 June 1978).

The main features of the Agreement are as follows:

- guaranteed price for ACP unrefined sugar: 27.25 EUA per 100 kilos

Guaranteed price for ACP white sugar: 33.83 EUA per 100 kilos (cif European ports in the Community)

- these prices will apply retroactively from 1 May 1977
- ACP sugar will be subject to special arrangements for self-balancing of contributions and refunding of storage costs.

17.V.1977

WINE MARKET

The Council held an extensive discussion on the situation on the wine market and in particular on the recent amendments proposed by the Commission to the additional provisions for the common organization of the wine market.

Following this discussion the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to pave the way for its discussions so that it could if possible adopt the new provisions at its meeting on 20 and 21 June 1977. Its discussions might also cover other Regulations either under examination or announced by the Commission in connection with its communication on Mediterranean agriculture or in the second annual report on trends in planting and use in the wine sector. These new provisions should apply as from the new wine-growing year (1 September 1977).

STORAGE AND MARKETING OF INTERVENTION PRODUCE

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation laying down the conditions under which produce bought in by an intervention agency in one Member State may be stored and marketed outside its territory.

The Regulation provides in particular for:

- the introduction of a Community authorization for storage in a Member State other than that in which intervention measures were taken and as an exception after consulting with Member States concerning storage possibilities within the Community, also for storage in third countries;
- waiving at the frontier when produce is transported of customs duties and other amounts to be levied or granted under the common agricultural policy;
- measures to see that produce is marketed at the prices and conditions obtaining at the place of storage.

BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The Council held an exchange of views with Mr TUGENDHAT, Commissioner, on the statements he made recently in his speech in Brussels on 2 May concerning the budgetary aspects of the recent agricultural price fixing.

In the face of criticisms voiced by the members of the Council regarding some parts of his speech, Mr TUGENDHAT had the opportunity to make clear the scope of his remarks and to explain the reasons underlying them.

AGRI-MONETARY QUESTIONS

On the basis of a Commission proposal regarding the price level to be taken in calculating monetary compensatory amounts the Council held an initial discussion on some factors which might lessen the distortions of competition arising from the particularly high level of monetary compensatory amounts in some sectors.

In this discussion, the Council also touched on some more general aspects of agri-monetary problems and took note of the Commission's intention of making certain adjustments by 1 October 1977 to its proposal for a Regulation for the gradual reduction of monetary compensatory amounts submitted in November 1976. The Council also took note of a memorandum submitted by the Danish delegation as an addition to those already submitted by other delegations.

Work on the various problems will be continued, in the case of certain problems of adjustment by the Commission under the Management Committee procedure and as regards preparation for subsequent Council proceedings in the Special Committee on Agriculture.

FEED GRAIN

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2749/75 on the reduction applicable to certain imports of feed grain into the Italian Republic as from the 1973/1974 marketing year.

The reduction of 3 UA which should have been abolished at the end of the 1976/1977 marketing year will continue for the 1977/1978 marketing year. The date from which common arrangements are to be applied in full is therefore postponed.

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

- Regulations

- introducing a system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy cow herds;
- on the supply of milk and certain milk products at reduced prices to schoolchildren;
- on a co-responsibility levy and measures for expanding the markets in milk and milk products;
- on the temporary suspension of aids for the purchase of dairy cows and of heifers intended for milk production;
- fixing the basic price and the standard quality for slaughtered pigs for the period from 1 November 1977 to 31 October 1978;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 on the common organization of the market in sugar;
- laying down common provisions for isoglucose;
- fixing, for the 1977/1978 sugar marketing year
 - the sugar prices, the standard quality of beet and the coefficient for calculating the maximum quota;
 - the derived intervention prices, the intervention price for raw beet sugar, the minimum prices for beet, the threshold prices, the maximum amount of the production levy and the amount of the reimbursement to offset storage costs;

- fixing, for the 1977 harvest, the norm and intervention prices and the premium granted to purchasers of leaf tobacco, as well as the derived intervention prices for baled tobacco;
- amending the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2358/71 on the common organization of the market in seeds;
- fixing the amounts of aid granted for seeds for the 1977/1978 marketing year;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 on the common organization of the market in cereals;
- concerning the list of Community regions which qualify for aid in respect of durum wheat and fixing the amount of such aid;
- fixing for the 1977/1978 marketing year, the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour and wheat groats and meal;
- laying down the minimum requirements as regards breadmaking with common wheat;
- supplementing Regulation (EEC) No 2731/75 fixing standard qualities for common wheat, rye, barley, maize and durum wheat;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1418/76 on the common organization of the market in rice;
- fixing, for the 1977/1978 marketing year,
 - cereal prices;
 - rice prices;
 - the monthly price increases for paddy rice and husked rice;
 - the protective amount to be included in the threshold price for wholly milled rice;

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables and Regulation (EEC) No 2511/69 laying down special measures for improving the production and marketing of Community citrus fruit;
- laying down special measures to encourage the marketing of products processed from lemons;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 878/77 on the exchange rates applicable in respect of tomato concentrates;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 on the common organization of the market in hops;
- fixing the guide prices for wine for the period 16 December 1977 to 15 December 1978;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1163/76 on the granting of a conversion premium in the wine sector;
- fixing, for the 1977/1978 marketing year
 - the market target price and the intervention price for olive oil;
 - the production target price for olive oil;
 - the monthly increases in the market target price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil;
 - the target prices and basic intervention prices for oil seeds;

- the monthly increase in the target and intervention prices for oil seeds;
- the guide price for soya beans;
- the amount of aid for cotton seeds;
- the amounts of aid for fibre flax and hemp;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 569/76, laying down special measures for linseed, and fixing for the 1977/1978 marketing year the guide price for linseed;

- Directives

- introducing Community measures for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle;
- amending Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of terms.

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Sixth VAT Directive

The Council adopted the sixth VAT Directive, which will be implemented in the Member States by 1 January 1978 at the latest.

This Directive supplements the VAT arrangements laid down in the first two VAT Directives of 11 April 1967. It not only marks progress in tax harmonization but is vital for application of the own resources system.

In accordance with the Council Decision of 21 April 1970, the Communities' own resources are made up from customs duties, agricultural levies and revenue from VAT. This revenue is obtained by applying a rate of no more than 1% on an assessment basis determined in a uniform manner for all the Member States. The sixth Directive contains Community rules defining this uniform assessment basis.

The Directive defines the basic concepts relating to VAT, i.e. taxable person, taxable transactions, chargeable event, chargeability of tax, taxable amount etc...

In addition to these definitions, it contains provisions concerning special arrangements for small undertakings, farmers exemptions and supply of services.

On the subject of small undertakings, the Directive lays down that Member States may apply simplified procedures for charging and collecting tax. It authorizes:

- tax exemptions of up to 5,000 EUA;
- the increase up to 5,000 EUA of any existing exemption which is less than that amount;
- the maintaining of existing exemptions of more than 5,000 EUA.

Each Member State may also adjust exemptions to the extent needed for them to maintain their value in real terms.

Provision is also made for the Commission to report to the Council every four years on the application of the provisions on the matter.

As regards farmers, the Directive grants the Member States the right to apply a flat-rate scheme to offset the tax deductible on their purchases and services supplied to them. The Directive lays down a common method of calculation for granting compensation for such tax. Before the end of the fifth year following the entry into force of the Directive, the

Commission will submit to the Council new proposals concerning the application of VAT to transactions in respect of agricultural products and services.

This Directive provides for a comprehensive exemptions system both for transactions within the country and for transactions linked with imports, with exports and with the international transport of goods.

The internal system exempts, in particular, certain services supplied by public postal services, hospital and medical care, social security, protection of children and young persons, children's or young people's education, school or university education, insurance and re-insurance and some banking and financial transactions.

In view, however, of the problems which might have arisen in various Member States all the exemptions provided for had to be implemented immediately, the Directive lays down provisional arrangements whereby, for an initial period of five years, Member States will be able either to tax certain exempted transactions or to continue to exempt certain transactions.

The Directive defines the provision of services and determines the places where the services provided should be taxed. As a general rule, the place in which the services are provided is the place where the provider of the services sets up the registered office for his economic activities, or a stable establishment from which the services are provided. However, in order to avoid dual taxation or non-taxation, the Directive provides for numerous exceptions to this general rule, such as the exceptions for operations relating to transport, the leasing of personal movable property, the sale and concession of copyrights and patents, etc.

Provision has been made for setting up an Advisory Committee on VAT in order to guarantee that the Directive is implemented in a co-ordinated manner.

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Community loan for Italy

The Council adopted a Decision enabling a Community loan amounting to 500 million US dollars to be floated for the Italian Republic. An agreement in principle was reached on this operation on 18 April last, when the Council authorized the Commission to open the necessary negotiations.

The loan will take the form of a public issue of bonds expressed in US dollars underwritten by a banking syndicate. It will amount to 500 million dollars in two instalments: one of 200 millions for 5 years and the other of 300 millions for 7 years.

The product of the loan will be lent to the Italian Republic in the same currency and on the same financial terms. The Council also adopted the economic policy conditions to be met by that country.

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Trade policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations on the conclusion of Interim Agreements with the Arab Republic of Egypt, Jordan and Syria, and a number of implementing Regulations concerning the Interim Agreements with the Mashreq countries.

There are plans for the adoption shortly of similar provisions concerning Lebanon, so as to ensure the entry into force of the Interim Agreements with all four Mashreq countries as from 1 July 1977.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation further extending the periods of validity of Regulations (EEC) No 1509/76 and 1522/76 on imports into the Community of prepared and preserved sardines originating in Tunisia and Morocco respectively.

In connection with the EEC-Turkey Association and under the second agricultural review, the Council gave the Community's approval to draft Decision No 1/77 of the EEC-Turkey Association Council on new concessions for imports of Turkish agricultural products into the Community and to the implementing Regulations concerning the above draft Decisions, namely:

- on imports into the Community of certain agricultural products originating in Turkey;
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for apricot pulp (ex 20.05 B II c) 1 aa)) originating in Turkey;
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for hazelnuts (ex 08.05 G) originating in Turkey.

As regards relations with the EFTA countries, the Council adopted the Regulation concluding the Agreements on the Derogation from Article 1 of Protocol No 3 to the Agreements with the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland, the Republic of Iceland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Portuguese Republic, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Swiss Confederation, making Article 23 of that Protocol applicable to products included in list C attached thereto.

The Council also adopted the Regulation on the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Economic Community, the Republic of Austria and the Swiss Confederation on the extension of the application of the rules on Community transit.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive on the approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to motor-vehicle towing devices.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for processing work in relation to certain textile products under the outward processing arrangements of the Community.

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The Council adopted the Regulation (ECSC, EEC, EURATOM) amending the Financial Regulation of 25 April 1973 applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.

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The Council and the Republics of the Governments of the Member States adopted the Resolution on the continuation and implementation of a European Community policy and action programme on the environment ⁽¹⁾.

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(1) See Press release No 1424/76 (Presse 158) dated 9 December 1976.

On a proposal from the Netherlands Government, the Council appointed Mr L. GORIS a Member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Dr SCHRIJVERS, who had died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 September 1978.

The Council also, on a proposal from the Irish Government, appointed Mr Tadhg O'CARROLL a Member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions to replace Mr GREENE, who had resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 14 March 1979.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

454th Council meeting

- Environment -

Luxembourg, 14 June 1977

Chairman: Mr Peter SHORE,
Secretary of State for
the Environment
of the United Kingdom

14.VI.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Luc DHOORE Minister of Health and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN Minister of Fisheries
Mr Holger LAVESSEN State Secretary,
Ministry for the Environment

Germany:

Mr Werner MAIHOFFER Federal Minister of the Interior
Mr Gerhart Rudolf BAUM Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for the Interior

France:

Mr François SCHEER Deputy Permanent Representative

Ireland:

Mr Edward SHEEHY Deputy Secretary,
Department for Local Government

Italy:

Mr Mario PEDINI Minister of the Environment
Mr Giorgio POSTAL Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for Scientific Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Emil KRIEPS

Minister of Health and
the Environment

Netherlands:

Mrs I. VORRINK

Minister for Health and
the Environment

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter SHORE

Secretary of State for the
Environment

Mr Denis HOWELL

Minister of State at the
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

TOXIC AND DANGEROUS WASTES

After an extensive debate the Council reached consensus on the main aspects of the Directive on toxic and dangerous wastes.

The aim of this Directive, which forms part of the Programme of Action of the Communities on the Environment of 22 November 1973 ⁽¹⁾, is the implementation by the Member States of a number of inspection and precautionary measures to ensure that the disposal of toxic and dangerous waste does not endanger public health or the environment.

This range of measures is aimed notably at:

- encouraging the prevention, recycling and processing of such waste and the extraction of raw materials and energy therefrom;
- prohibiting the abandonment and uncontrolled discharge, tipping or transport of such waste;
- the authorization of establishments responsible for storing, treatment and/or disposal of such waste.

In accordance with the "polluter pays" principle, the cost of disposing of toxic and dangerous wastes, less any proceeds from treating the waste, shall be borne by the holder who has waste handled by a waste collector or by an authorized undertaking and/or the previous holders or the producer of the product from which the waste came.

⁽¹⁾ See OJ No C 112, 20.12.1973

14.VI.77

Each authorized establishment must keep a record of the quantity, nature, physical and chemical characteristics, origin, methods and sites of disposal, the dates of takeover and disposal and/or make this information available to the competent authorities. It shall also be subject to the control and supervision of the competent authorities.

The competent authorities shall draw up and keep up to date plans for the disposal of toxic and dangerous waste. The plans shall cover in particular:

- the types and quantity of waste to be disposed of;
- the methods of disposal;
- the specialized treatment centres;
- suitable disposal sites.

The Commission, together with the Member States, shall arrange for regular comparisons of the plans in order to ensure that implementation of this Directive is sufficiently co-ordinated.

Every three years, and for the first time three years following notification of this Directive, Member States shall draw up a situation report on the disposal of toxic and dangerous wastes in their respective countries and shall forward it to the Commission, which shall circulate it to the other Member States.

The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to examine the Directive as a whole, with particular reference to whether provision should be made for a "Committee for adaptation to technical progress" procedure, at the earliest opportunity, so as to enable the Council to formally adopt the Directive at a forthcoming meeting.

14.VI.77

QUALITY OF WATER FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Council conducted a detailed examination of the proposal for a Directive relating to the quality of water for human consumption.

The discussion, which enabled delegations to voice their preoccupations, dealt in particular with the importance for public health of the parameters to be laid down, especially in the case of the maximum admissible concentration values for sodium, chlorides and conductivity.

In conclusion, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the proposal at a later date in the light of today's discussion, with a view to seeking an equitable solution for adoption at a forthcoming Council meeting.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON THE QUALITY OF SURFACE FRESH WATER

The Council approved, as regards the substance, the Decision establishing a common procedure for the exchange of information on the quality of surface fresh water in the Community.

This Decision is based on the principles outlined as part of the programme of action on the environment of 22 November 1973.

It provides for the regular forwarding by the Member States to the Commission of information on certain data concerning the quality of the waters sampled by the measuring stations appointed by the Member States and in accordance with certain uniformly fixed parameters. On the basis of this information, the Commission will send an annual summary report to all the Member States.

WOOD PULP INDUSTRY

The Council held an exchange of views on the proposal for a Directive on the reduction of water pollution caused by wood pulp mills in the Member States.

This exchange of views enabled the Council to identify the last problems still outstanding, i.e. the power of derogation, the desirability of providing for a transitional period, the basic principles of the envisaged system, the distinction between fresh water and sea water and that between current and new investments. As these questions need to be studied in greater detail, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to hold a fresh examination of this proposal in the light of today's debate and to pay particular attention in this context to the relationship between the so-called "emmission standards" approach and the "quality objectives" approach.

On the basis of the Permanent Representatives Committee's proceedings, the Council intended to place this question again on its agenda for a forthcoming meeting.

TITANIUM DIOXIDE INDUSTRY

The Council reached a wide consensus on the broad lines of the Directive on waste from the titanium dioxide industry.

The main principles of this Directive provide for

- the introduction of a system of prior authorization for the discharge of such waste into water or for its storage on land;
- regular ecological monitoring of the waters into which waste is discharged;
- a programme to reduce by stages the amount of waste discharged into water; this programme should be fully achieved within ten years.

These principles will have to be interpreted in the light of the distinction between existing and new plants:

- for existing plants by means of the programmes for the progressive reduction in pollution,
- for new plants by means of authorizations subject to conditions which take account of techniques and processes allowing the disadvantages for the environment to be kept to a minimum.

14.VI.77

In the light of the detailed discussion on this text, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to hold an extensive examination of these aspects and to report back to it at its next meeting on the environment to enable it to act on this matter on that date.

HELSINKI CONVENTION

The Council agreed to the principle of opening negotiations for the accession of the EEC to the Helsinki Convention of 22 March 1974 on the protection of the marine environment of the Baltic Sea area.

14.VI.77

ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGES OF HYDROCARBONS INTO THE SEA

Vice-President NATALI, Member of the Commission responsible for the environment, informed the Council of a Commission communication on measures for the prevention, control and reduction of pollution caused by accidental discharges of hydrocarbons into the sea.

This communication stresses that the recent Ekofisk field accident in the North Sea underlines the need for a more effective policy to combat pollution of the seas both by hydrocarbons and by a series of discharges from land based sources and increasing fall-out of particles from the atmosphere. Apart from the legislative measures in preparation at Community level, a number of practical provisions are needed to deal with this pollution. The Community should therefore have powers and means allowing it to take effective action in such situations, so as to express the solidarity of the Member States among themselves and towards non-member countries hit by a disaster of this type.

The Commission accordingly submitted to the Council a proposal for a Resolution which will be examined in the subordinate Council bodies so that the Council can act on the matter at its next meeting on the environment.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

455th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 14 June 1977

President: Mr Tony BENN,
Secretary of State for Energy
of the United Kingdom

14.VI.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Marcel FREROTTE

Director-General for Energy
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSBØLL

Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Hans FRIDERICHS

Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs

France:

Mr René MONORY

Minister for Industry and Trade

Ireland:

Mr Brendan DILLON

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Carlo DONAT CATTIN

Minister for Industry, Trade
and Craft Trades

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel MART

Minister for Economic Affairs
and Energy

Netherlands:

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Tony BENN

Secretary of State for Energy

Mr Dickson MABON

Minister of State,
Department of Energy

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

14.VI.77

WORK PROGRAMME

The Council took stock of current progress on the various matters on the work programme of the "Energy" Council for the first half of 1977 and emphasized the advisability of drawing up such a programme for subsequent work.

In this connection, the Council noted a statement by the Netherlands Minister who, referring to his memorandum which had been submitted previously, stressed the need for progress in the study of energy costs in view of their implications for energy policy.

The Council also agreed to hold a general debate, at each meeting on energy, on the situation in the field of energy at both world-wide and Community levels.

NUCLEAR PROBLEMS

The Council conducted an initial and general policy debate on the various problems arising in connection with the development of nuclear energy.

The debate centred on specific problems facing the Community, problems relating to the supply and demand of uranium, the reprocessing of nuclear fuel and waste management, including the implications for the environment and in particular problems relating to safety and supervision.

During the debate, the Council expressed its appreciation of the Economic and Social Committee's Study on a Community Nuclear Safety Code, which was welcomed as an important contribution to the discussion of these problems.

In its discussions, the Council gave special attention to the measures to be taken with a view to reassuring public opinion in regard to the development of nuclear techniques and emphasizing the necessity of having recourse to nuclear energy in order to avoid an increase in oil imports.

COAL SECTOR

Within the framework of its discussions on the situation on the common market in coal, the Council took note of the Commission's intention to submit to it in the near future a proposal for a decision - in accordance with the Council's agreement in principle of 29 March - aimed at the establishment of a Community system for monitoring coal imports from third countries; on this basis, the Commission could then submit a full report on imports to the Council as early as the autumn.

The Council furthermore examined the problems posed by the Commission proposal for the adoption of arrangements for Community financial aid to promote the use of coal for electricity generation. It invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare its subsequent discussions on the matter.

The Council also held an initial exchange of views - pending delivery of the European Parliament's Opinion - on the proposal concerning Community aid for financing cyclical stocks of hard coal, coke and patent fuel. It agreed to continue its examination of this question once it had received the European Parliament's Opinion.

REFINING PROBLEMS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council held a far-reaching discussion to work out a Community approach to refining problems in the Community, in particular the establishment of general monitoring of developments in the refining sector, a procedure for prior consultation on the construction of new refinery capacity and a procedure for imports of refined products from third countries. The Council agreed to continue its deliberations on the subject at its next meeting on energy.

14.VI.77

PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF ENERGY INVESTMENTS

The Council noted the Commission communications on the development and protection of energy investments, the minimum guaranteed price for energy produced in the Community and on the granting of financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources. It called upon the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining these documents and to submit its findings to it as soon as possible so that the Council could act on the matter.

RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY

The Council noted the second series of legislative proposals submitted by the Commission in the context of the Community action programme on the rational use of energy. It emphasized the importance and urgency which should be attached to the examination of these proposals so as to enable it to act on the matter at its next meeting on energy.

14.VI.77

REDUCTION OF ENERGY

The Council evolved a common guideline for the setting of a Community target for a reduction in the consumption of primary forms of energy in the event of difficulties in the supply of crude oil and petroleum products.

However, one delegation, which asked for some time to reflect on this guideline, will make its position known at an early date.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- the Regulations:

- on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for certain steels falling within subheading No ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff (1 July 1977 - 30 June 1978);
- maintaining in force the arrangements making the importation into the Benelux countries of jute yarn, originating in the Kingdom of Thailand, subject to authorization;

- the Decisions:

- concerning the acceptance of the Customs Co-operation Council Recommendation of 18 June 1976 to amend the Nomenclature for the Classification of Goods in Customs Tariffs;
- on the import arrangements to be applied in respect of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

- the Regulations:

- suspending the application of indicative ceilings established by Regulations (EEC) Nos 3230/76, 3231/76, 3233/76, 3234/76 and 3235/76 for imports of certain products originating in certain EFTA countries;
- on the conclusion of the Agreements for the amendment of the Agreements between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation, on the one hand, and the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria, on the other hand, on the application of the rules on Community transit and on the entry into force of Decision No 1/77 of each of the Joint Committees set up under the said Agreements.

The Council also adopted the decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate agreements for the amendment of certain agreements between the EEC and certain non-member countries in order to adapt the tariff specifications.

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ECSC

The Council gave its assent in accordance with the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty for the financing of a pelletization plant with a capacity of 3 million tonnes of pellets a year, to be built by ITABRASCO (Brazil).

The Council granted the consultation requested by the Commission under Article 6(1) of Commission Decision No 528/76/ECSC on the financial aid awarded by the Member States to the coal industry in 1976.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning the changing of a tranche of a Community loan from variable to fixed rates of interest.

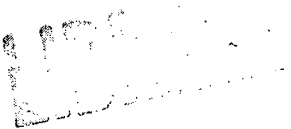
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On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr C. BOOTH, Department of Education and Science, a full member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training in replacement of Mr D.G. LIBBY, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 20 June 1978.

PRESS RELEASE

Luxembourg, 16 June 1977



456th meeting of the Council

- Development Co-operation -

Luxembourg, 16 June 1977

President: Mrs Judith HART,
Minister for Overseas Development
of the United Kingdom

16.VI.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Lucien OUTERS

Minister for Development
Co-operation

Denmark:

Mrs Lise OESTERGAARD

Minister without Portfolio

Federal Republic of Germany:

Mr Helmut SIGRIST

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Pierre-Christian TAITTINGER

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Brendan DILLON

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Eugenio PLAJA

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

16.VI.77

Netherlands:

Mr J.P. PRONK

Minister for Development
Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mrs Judith HART

Minister for Overseas Development

Mr John TOMLINSON

Parliamentary Under Secretary
of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council held a general discussion on an important topic in the field of development co-operation, namely: "Rural development, agriculture and food production in the developing world".

This debate was the first application of the Council's Decision of 22 March last to hold a general discussion once or twice a year on certain fundamental problems in the field of relations with developing countries with a view to achieving greater coherence in the development co-operation policy of the Community and of the Member States.

The debate took place on the basis of views submitted by the Commission, and it enabled the delegations to reveal their respective national experiences in this field. The need for intensive rural development was mentioned as one of the major challenges facing the developing countries today, to the urgent nature of which the international Community is growing increasingly sensitive.

15.VI.77

Broad agreement emerged regarding both the analysis of the problems to be faced and the need for an integrated approach in implementing measures to resolve them.

In conclusion, the Council called upon the Commission to consider, in the light of today's debate and in consultation with the senior officials responsible for the Member States' co-operation policy, practical proposals which it could subsequently submit to the Council as regards Community and national measures and methods of intervention.

16.VI.77

AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

After studying the Opinion delivered by the European Parliament, the Council agreed to continue its discussions, at its next meeting, on the Commission proposal for an outline Regulation for the implementation of the principle of financial aid and technical aid to non-associated developing countries.

Furthermore, the Council felt it necessary that the procedure be set in motion for the use of the estimated appropriation of 45 MUA entered in the 1977 budget. It accordingly held a detailed exchange of views on the general guidelines for the use of that appropriation. The Commission is to submit concrete financing proposals on the basis of the said exchange of views.

The Council will contact the European Parliament for the unfreezing of the estimated appropriation for 1977.

16.VI.77

FOOD AID

The Council held an exchange of views on the current and future food situation in the developing countries.

At this juncture, it was unable to reach any joint conclusions on the consequences to be adduced from this situation with regard to the volume of the Community's food aid. It nevertheless noted that discussions were still in progress within the Member States and that the outcome would be brought to the attention of the Community bodies.

In its discussions on improving Community food aid strategy the Council had to study two distinct questions, concerning the diversification of products likely to be supplied as food aid on the one hand, and the contribution to the constitution of stocks of food reserves in countries threatened by famine on the other.

The Council noted the need for more detailed study of these issues in the Permanent Representatives Committee at a later date.

Food aid

Under the 1977 aid programme for milk products, the Council agreed to the granting of 3,200 tonnes of butteroil (delivered to the place of destination) to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and decided that this supply be set off in advance against the 1977 programme for milk products.

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Regulation amending certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Portugal.

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The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the prolongation of **the** Decision of 14 March 1977 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of export credits.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

457th Council meeting
- Economic and Financial Affairs -
Luxembourg, 20 June 1977
President: Mr Denis HEALEY,
Chancellor of the Exchequer of the
United Kingdom

707/77 (Presse 74)

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

Belgium:

Mr Gaston GEENS	Minister for Finance
Mr Roger de WULF	State Secretary, Economic Affairs and Flemish Social Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Jens KAMPMANN	Minister for Fiscal Affairs
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Germany:

Mr Otto SCHLECHT	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economics
Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Robert BOULIN	Minister with responsibility for 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 Jacques POOS	Minister for Finance
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Netherlands:

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

Mr Richard BURKE

Member

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE

In preparation for the Tripartite Conference which will take place in Luxembourg on 27 June 1977, the Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the topics to be discussed at the Conference, namely: growth, stability and employment : present situation and prospects.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT

During a discussion on this subject, the Council heard a statement by Mr ORTOLI, Vice-President of the Commission, on the problem of investment and borrowing in the Community, which is the subject of a communication which the Commission has submitted to the European Council for its meeting on 29 and 30 June 1977.

20.VI.77

EXCISE DUTIES ON TOBACCO

The Council took stock of the problems still unresolved in connection with the proposal concerning a second stage in the harmonization of excise duties on manufactured tobacco.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining these problems in the light of its discussion.

20.VI.77

CREDIT INSTITUTIONS

The Council discussed the main points still outstanding in connection with the co-ordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of credit institutions.

At the end of an instructive exchange of views, it evolved guidelines which should enable the Permanent Representatives Committee to devise practical solutions to these problems which could be submitted to the Council at its Autumn meeting.

The next meeting of the Council on Economic and Financial Affairs will take place on 18 July 1977.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

458th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 20 and 21 June 1977

President:

Mr John SILKIN,
Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food of
the United Kingdom

748/77 (Presse 75)

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

Belgium:

Mr Antoine HUMBLET Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Agriculture
Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister for Agriculture
Mr Jacques BLANC State Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Agriculture
Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS Minister for Agriculture
Mr Albert BERCHEM State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Gavin STRANG

Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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21.VI.77

MONETARY COMPENSATORY AMOUNTS

The Council conducted a general discussion on agri-monetary matters. In the course of the discussion delegations referred to the Commission's recent proposal to reduce monetary compensatory amounts in respect of certain products by calculating them on the basis of a lower price level than that used currently, and to the October 1976 proposal on the progressive and automatic adjustment of monetary compensatory amounts. With reference to the latter point the Council took note of the Commission's intention of presenting, by next October, certain amendments taking into account earlier discussions on this matter.

The Council also conducted an exchange of views on the guidelines followed by the Commission - within the framework of its powers and in accordance with the Management Committee procedure - in particular as regards the monetary compensatory amounts to be applied to certain processed milk products.

21.VI.77

CEREALS

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation applying the provisions governing the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF to the FOD in respect of cereals.

In so doing, the Council also took note of a statement by the French delegation that the subsidies granted at present in respect of shipments of cereals to these Departments will be cancelled where the cereals are intended for export or for processing with a view to exporting the products obtained.

21.VI.77

MARKETING OF MILK PRODUCTS

The Council made a detailed examination of the proposal for a Regulation laying down the general rules for the marketing of milk products, and isolated the last problems outstanding in connection with the proposal, namely the scope of the Regulation, designations and any derogations to be granted.

At the end of the debate, the Council agreed to instruct the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue examining the proposal in the light of the day's discussions with a view to preparing the text for adoption by the next Council meeting.

MARKET IN WINE

The Council took note of the Commission report on foreseeable developments in the planting and replanting of vineyards in the Community and on the ratio between production and utilization in the wine sector.

This report, which was submitted pursuant to Article 17 of the basic Regulation on wine, directed the Council's attention to economic and structural trends in this sector.

The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to study the Commission's analysis of guidelines for the future in order to enable the Council to act at the appropriate moment on any proposal resulting from this study.

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The Council conducted a discussion on the substance of certain proposed amendments to the basic Regulation on wine. It closed by agreeing to the amendments to the

- criteria for applying the aid arrangements for private storage of grape musts and concentrated grape musts;
- criteria for embarking on preventive distillation;

21.VI.77

- criteria concerning the distillation of wines suitable for producing certain potable spirits obtained from wine with a registered designation of origin

as well as to several textual amendments dictated by experience acquired in this field.

As regards the calculation of weighted average prices, acidification and partial deacidification of grape musts or wines, the administrative simplification of the import arrangements for certain products, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to find a satisfactory solution which the Council could confirm at its next meeting.

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During this discussion, the Council took note of the Commission's intention to implement the relevant provisions of the basic Regulation on wine as soon as possible, through the Management Committee, so as to alleviate the problems currently obtaining on the wine market, with a view to reorganizing the market as far as possible before the next marketing year.

21.VI.77

OIL SEEDS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation fixing the main intervention centres for oilseeds for the 1977/1978 marketing year and the derived intervention prices applicable at these centres.

This proposal is a follow-up to the Council's decision to increase, for the 1977/1978 marketing year, the target price and the basic intervention price by 3.5% for colza and rape seed and by 7.5% for sunflower seed ⁽¹⁾.

The proposed derived intervention prices have been adapted to take account of changes in transport costs and to facilitate the supply of these seeds to the Italian market.

The Council adopted this Regulation on the understanding that the Commission would submit a number of proposals to ease the position of the Italian processing industries.

The French and German delegations stated that the above did not prejudice the positions they might adopt within the Council when it was called upon to examine the proposals the Commission would be making in this area.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation No 1070/77 - OJ No L 129, 25.5.1977

21.VI.77

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following statements and held brief exchanges of views with the Commission as necessary:

- on the problems concerning aid for skimmed milk intended for feeding bovine animals other than young calves (Irish delegation);
- on the conditions for applying the co-responsibility levy on milk (French delegation);
- on the appellation "Claret" (French delegation);
- on the proposal for a Regulation on certain measures to prevent abuses resulting from the sale of agricultural products on board ship (Danish delegation);
- on a question concerning frozen meat intended for industrial purposes (Italian delegation).

20.VI.77

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- fixing for the 1977/1978 sugar marketing year the differential charge to be levied on raw preferential sugar and the differential amount to be granted in respect of raw cane sugar from the French overseas departments;
- laying down for the 1977/1978 sugar marketing year measures to facilitate the disposal of sugar produced in the French overseas departments;
- laying down general rules for offsetting storage costs for sugar and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 750/68;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 447/68 laying down general rules for intervention buying of sugar.

In addition, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations

- amending for the third time Regulation (EEC) No 2133/74 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts;
- on compensatory amounts for colza and rape seed;
- amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No 2453/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of frozen beef and veal held by the intervention agencies of other Member States;

- fixing the minimum price (660 UA/t) and the special minimum price (570 UA/t) for tomato concentrates for the 1977/1978 marketing year;
- fixing for the 1977/1978 marketing year the amount of production aid for tinned pineapple (312 UA/t) and the minimum price to be paid to pineapple producers (158.5 UA/t);
- on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota
 - = of 30,000 head of heifers and cows, not intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within sub-heading ex 01.02 A II (b) of the Common Customs Tariff;
 - = of 5,000 head of bulls, cows and heifers, not intended for slaughter, of certain Alpine breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II (b) of the Common Customs Tariff.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation fixing the threshold prices for cereals for the 1977/1978 marketing year as follows:

	<u>Units of account per 1,000 kg</u>
Common wheat and meslin	155.15
Rye	152.15
Barley	142.00
Maize	142.00
Durum wheat	221.30
Oats	136.60
Buckwheat	139.80
Sorghum	139.80
Millet	139.80
Canary seed	139.80

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation laying down in respect of hops the amount of aid to producers for the 1976 harvest:

<u>Varieties</u>	<u>Amounts UA/ha</u>
Hallertauer	400
Northern Brewer	300
Brewers Gold	200
Record	550
Hersbrucker Spät	300
Hüller Bitterer	300
Spalter	300
Tettnanger	300
Bramling Cross	400
Progress	300
Target	200
Keyworth's Midseason	200
Fuggles	550
W.G.V.	300
Tutsham	550
Saaz	550
Strisselspalt	550
Star	550
Saxon	550
Tardif de Bourgogne	550

Aid granted in respect of each variety is limited to an amount corresponding to the area which was under the variety concerned in 1975.

PRESS RELEASE

459th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 21 June 1977

President:

Dr David OWEN

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs
of the United Kingdom

LIBRARY

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST, State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Dr David OWEN, Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Frank JUDD, Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS, President

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI, Vice-President

Mr Guido BRUNNER, Member

FISHERIES : EXTERNAL ASPECTS

On the basis of a report by Mr GUNDELACH, Vice-President of the Commission, the Council took stock of problems regarding, firstly, the negotiations under way with a number of non-member countries for the conclusion of framework agreements and, secondly the establishment of autonomous Community fisheries arrangements to apply to the vessels of certain third countries as from 1 July 1977. It also agreed to extend by three months the current system for granting fishing licences to the vessels of certain third countries.

In the light of the groundlines evolved during the current meeting the Council directed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining these matters with an eye to the Council meeting scheduled for 27 June.

21.VI.77

NUCLEAR QUESTIONS

The Council held a general discussion on certain questions arising for the Community in the nuclear sector, taking into account the political factors involved and the increasing importance of nuclear questions for the external relations of the Community and the Member States, and bearing in mind that the Community, unlike certain industrialized countries, does not have any other energy resources of its own.

The discussions, which were aimed at evolving guidelines which would facilitate the future work of the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee, centred mainly on the following problems:

- the Community and the international nuclear environment;
- Euratom - Canada relations;
- Euratom - IAEA relations.

21.VI.77

COUNCIL STATEMENT ON UGANDA

The Council deplores the consistent denial of basic human rights to the people of Uganda.

The Council agrees to take steps within the framework of its relationship with Uganda under the Lomé Convention to ensure that any assistance given by the Community to Uganda does not in any way have as its effect a reinforcement or prolongation of the denial of basic human rights to its people.

MEDITERRANEAN POLICY

Having been apprised of progress made in discussions at Permanent Representatives Committee level on the "stocktaking of the Mediterranean policy", the Council took note of the statements reiterating certain delegations' misgivings on this point. It was also informed by the Commission of the timetable which the latter intends to follow for submitting concrete and detailed proposals to the Council to supplement its preliminary communication on Mediterranean agricultural problems.

The Council further took note of the Commission's intention of supplementing its initial analysis of the effects of the Mediterranean policy on agriculture with an analysis of its implications for the regional, social and industrial sectors and of submitting its findings in the autumn.

In addition, the Council signified its agreement to the content of a statement to Greece on the agricultural section of the accession negotiations at present under way.

Finally, the Council noted that the Commission hoped to round off the ongoing negotiations with Spain, Malta and Cyprus by the end of the current month.

RELATIONS WITH THE CMEA

Having completed its study of the letter sent on 18 April to the President of the Council by the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CMEA, the Council today agreed on the terms of the Community's reply. This reply will be conveyed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the CMEA in the course of the next few days.

RELATIONS WITH THE ASEAN COUNTRIES

The Council considered the possibility of strengthening the links between the Community and the ASEAN group of countries.

The Council felt that such a strengthening of ties would be very welcome and could be sought by means of a dialogue between the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Commission on the one hand, and the five ASEAN Ambassadors on the other. Such a dialogue would make it possible to hold exchanges of views within the Council on subjects of mutual interest.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia falling within subheading 22.09 C I of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in the ACP States (1977/1978).

For the period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978, the Community tariff quota is 173,009 hectolitres of pure alcohol, allocated as follows:

	(in hl of pure alcohol)
<u>First tranche:</u> United Kingdom	126,030
<u>Second tranche:</u> Other Member States	46,979
Benelux	5,926
Denmark	4,000
Germany	24,000
France	11,395
Ireland	1,000
Italy	658

21.VI.77

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia falling within subheading 22.09 C I of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in the overseas countries and territories associated with the European Economic Community (1977/1978).

For the period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978, the Community tariff quota is 71,571 hectolitres of pure alcohol allocated among the Member States as follows:

	(in hectolitres of pure alcohol)
Benelux	4,151
Denemark	164
Germany	57,132
France	8
Ireland	8
Italy	8
United Kingdom	100

21.VI.77

Relations with the Mediterranean countries

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

- a Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of agreements extending the period of application of the interim agreements between the European Economic Community and the Maghreb countries;

- Regulations
 - = derogating, for 1977 and 1978, from certain provisions concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" contained in the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco and the Agreement on Co-operation between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco;
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 471/76 in respect of the period of suspension of the application of the condition on prices governing the importation in the Community of fresh lemons originating in certain Mediterranean countries;
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 471/76 suspending application of the condition on prices governing the importation in the Community of fresh lemons originating in various Mediterranean countries;
 - = opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Algeria (1977/1978).

21.VI.77

Commercial policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on

- certain industrial products;
- a number of agricultural products.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages, of the Communities, the Regulation extending the validity of Regulation (EEC) No 1267/69 laying down special provisions applicable to imports into the Community from Greece of goods coming under Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 (processed agricultural products).

The Council decided to authorize the Commission to embark upon negotiations for renewing the Multifibre Arrangement within the limits of directives which it adopted to that end.

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The Council established draft rectifying and supplementary budget No 1/77.

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21.VI.77

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with the non-member states bordering the Baltic Sea with a view to the accession of the European Economic Community to the Helsinki Convention of 22 March 1974 on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area.

PRESS RELEASE

460th

460th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Luxembourg, 27 June 1977

President:

Mr John SILKIN,
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Minister for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.N. VAN DER STEE

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John SILKIN

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Bruce MILLAN

Secretary of State for Scotland

The Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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FISHERIES POLICY

The Council held a broad exchange of views on the general outlines of the development of the Community fisheries policy. The discussions covered both internal and external aspects of the policy.

Internal aspects

The debate on the shaping of the internal fisheries arrangements enabled the delegations to state their opinions on the Commission's original proposals, the amendments and additions made thereto in its May communication, and the options evolved during the work undertaken in the meantime on this subject, covering in particular the criteria for the allotment of quotas, the idea of preferential access to certain stocks or to certain fishing zones, the coastal strip and the possibilities of national conservation measures.

After pinpointing these key questions the Council noted that some progress had been made as regards the definition of these elements as a whole. It thus instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to undertake further study of the elements in question without delay, in the light of today's discussions and of any suggestions which the Commission might make, with a view to arriving at a possible solution which could satisfy the requirements of all the delegations, and to prepare in this way for a fresh discussion at its meeting planned for 18 or 19 July 1977.

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27.VI.77

The Council held a general discussion of all the problems posed by the determination of the arrangements to apply to herring fishing until the end of 1977. It agreed to continue its discussions at its next meeting on fisheries.

For the time being, the Council agreed to extend the ban on direct herring fishing in the West Scotland region until 20 July 1977.

27.VI.77

External aspects

Since the catch quotas made available to the Community by Norway to the north of 62° have been used up, the Council agreed to come back to the question of the allocation of fishing quotas granted by non-member countries at a subsequent meeting in a more general framework.

With regard to the difficulties encountered by Community fishermen off the coasts of certain West African States, the Council decided to authorize the Commission to open negotiations with Guinea Bissau, Senegal and Mauritania with a view to the conclusion of framework agreements on fisheries with those countries.

As regards the autonomous arrangements applicable to certain non-member countries, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities four Regulations, three of which extend for a period of three months, as from 1 July 1977, the autonomous arrangements applicable to vessels flying the flag of Finland and Portugal; of Sweden; of Poland, the GDR and the USSR. The fourth extends for one month, as from the same date, the autonomous arrangements applicable to vessels flying the flag of Spain.

27.VI.77

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation on the fishing possibilities, for a period of three months, as from 1 July 1977, of certain non-member countries in the fishing zones situated off the coasts of the French department of Guyana.

Finally, the Council agreed to extend for a period of three months, as from the same date, the arrangements introduced in connection with Norway and Iceland, and for one month, as from the same date, the arrangements introduced with regard to the Faroe Islands.

As regards relations with ICNAF, the Council agreed to continue its examination of the Community position in relation to the ICNAF Convention at a subsequent meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Establishment and services

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Directives

- = concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of the formal qualifications of nurses responsible for general care, including measures to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services;
- = concerning the co-ordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of the activities of nurses responsible for general care;

- the Decisions

- = setting up an Advisory Committee on Training in Nursing;
- = amending Decision 75/365/EEC setting up a Committee of Senior Officials on Public Health.

This group of acts is intended to facilitate the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services for nurses responsible for general care, both employed and self-employed, in the Community as a whole. In the field of the medical professions this is the second case, after that of doctors, for which Community rules governing the effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services have been introduced.

The enacting terms provide for the co-ordination of conditions of training and the recognition of diplomas; and lay down the conditions of acceptance for those concerned, requirements regarding proof of good character and good repute, professional supervision and discipline and the conditions for the use of the title.

Agriculture

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

- the Resolution

= following up the Council Resolution of 16 December 1975 relating to the reinforcement of the measures to prevent and suppress irregularities in the sphere of the common agricultural policy, particularly in the beef and veal sector;

- the Directives

= on scrutiny by Member States of transactions forming part of the system of financing by the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund;

= on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to coffee extracts and chicory extracts;

- the Regulation

= amending Regulation (EEC) No 2452/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of butter held by the intervention agencies of other Member States (extension of the deadline to 31 December 1977).

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- the Regulations

= amending Regulation (EEC) No 459/68 on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Economic Community;

= concerning import arrangements for certain jute products originating in the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

27.VI.77

Food aid

The Council recorded the Community's agreement on the aid in the form of 365 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder to help Indo-Chinese refugees in Thailand, to be supplied through the medium of the ICRC (1974 and 1976 programmes).

ACP

In the context of relations with the ACP States, the Council adopted a Regulation on the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Community and the sugar-exporting ACP States, on the restoration of the agreed quantities for the sugar exports of 4 ACP States (the Congo, Kenya, Uganda and Surinam) which had not been able to supply the quantities provided for under their quotas during the 1975/1976 delivery period. By this agreement the Community has honoured the undertaking it gave in this connection on 14 April 1977 at the second session of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers in Fiji.

This new agreement gives the 4 ACP States in question a further period of 6 months in which to supply the quantities relating to the year 1976/1977. This agreement will be signed in the next few days.

ECSC

The Council granted the consultation requested by the Commission on a draft ECSC Decision altering the due date for collection of the levy on the production of coal and steel.

On a proposal by the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Sir Richard MARSH, Chairman of the British Iron and Steel Consumers Council, a member of the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community in place of Mr L.F. TIDD, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which expires on 9 July 1978.

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision in respect of exports of alloy steel scrap to third countries.

PRESS RELEASE

461st meeting of the Council

- Social Affairs -

Luxembourg, 28 June 1977

President: Mr John MORRIS,
Secretary of State for Wales,
United Kingdom

28.VI.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Guy SPITAEELS Minister for Labour and
Employment

Denmark:

Mr Erling JENSEN Minister of Labour

Germany:

Mr Herbert EHRENBERG Federal Minister of Labour and
Social Affairs

Mr Reinhard STREHLKE State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Labour and
Social Affairs

France:

Mr Lionel STOLERU State Secretary at the
Ministry for Labour

Ireland:

Mr Frank CLUSKEY Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Health and
Social Welfare

Italy:

Mrs Tina ANSEMI Minister for Labour and
Social Security

Mr Baldassarro ARMATO Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

Mr Franco FOSCHI Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Benny BERG Minister for Labour and
Social Security

Mr Maurice THOSS State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

Netherlands:

Mr J. BOERSMA

Minister for Social Security

United Kingdom:

Mr John MORRIS

Secretary of State for Wales

Lord DONALDSON

Minister of State,
Department of Education
and Science

Mr John GRANT

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Employment

The Commission:

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF MIGRANTS

The Council approved the enacting terms of the Directive on the education of children of migrants.

The purpose of the Directive is to offer children of workers who are nationals of another Member State free tuition for the purposes of facilitating their initial reception, including in particular the teaching, adapted to the specific needs of such children, of the language of the host country; the Directive also makes provision for the training of the teachers who are to provide this tuition.

It also provides that the Member States shall in co-operation with countries of origin, take appropriate measures to promote the teaching of the mother tongue and culture of the country of origin.

The Member States have four years within which to take the measures required by the Directive.

Regarding the education of the children of migrants who are not nationals of a Member State, the Council took the opportunity to confirm its political resolve to ensure that the action programme for migrant workers and members of their families, laid down in the Council Resolution of 9 February 1976, and that on education, laid down in the Resolution of the same day of the Council and of the Ministers of Education meeting within the Council, are implemented, with regard to those measures intended to offer nationals of other Member States of the Communities and of non-member countries who are not covered by this Directive better facilities for their education and training.

PROVISIONS OF SAFETY SIGNS AT PLACES OF WORK

The Council agreed on the content of the Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States on the provision of safety signs at places of work.

The Directive includes definitions and technical specifications of uniform signs in a detailed Annex. It commits the Member States to taking the necessary measures to ensure that

- safety signs conform to the principles laid down in the Directive
- only those signs defined in the Annex thereto are used
- road traffic signs are used for internal works traffic.

Member States must comply with the provisions of the Directive by 1 January 1981 at the latest.

28.VI.77

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION INSTITUTE

The Council, which took note of a Commission progress report on the creation of the European Trade Union Institute, confirmed its interest in the setting up of the Institute and stressed the importance it attached to trade unions organized at European level being able to contribute towards European development.

It expressed its intention of taking a decision as quickly as possible on relations between the Community and the Institute once certain aspects had been further clarified.

SOCIAL POLICY FOR THE FUTURE

The Council took note of a Commission communication on the general guidelines for future social policy.

REFORM OF THE SOCIAL FUND

The Council, pursuant to Article 11 of the Decision of 1 February 1971, reviewed the enacting terms relating to the Social Fund to take account of experience gained and, above all, to adapt the terms to changes in economic circumstances and in particular in conditions of employment.

In its discussions the Council concentrated on defining the scope respectively of the types of intervention provided for in Articles 4 and 5 of the basic Decision, matters relating to the allocation of appropriations between the two types of operation, and possible differentiation in the extent to which the Fund was to participate in financing the projects.

At the end of the discussions the President noted that the opinion to have emerged concerning the review of the rules on missions and on the operation of the European Social Fund was favourable ⁽¹⁾ and concerned the following aspects in particular:

- retention of Article 4, which laid down what joint operations were to be decided by the Council with regard to vocational training, e.g. the training of young people;

⁽¹⁾ Two delegations, however, made their agreement subject to confirmation and one reserved its position.

- a request that the Commission should submit to the Council a proposal for extending assistance from the Fund under Article 4 to include women, so as to take account of the resolve expressed by the European Council;
- the restructuring of Article 5 to provide for the taking into consideration of operations which the Member States carry out in connection with their labour market policies and which
 - = are aimed at solving the problems which arise in areas which, because they are less developed or there is a decline in the main activities, suffer a serious and prolonged imbalance in employment, or
 - = are aimed at facilitating adaptation to the requirements of technical progress of certain branches of economic activity, or
 - = are undertaken because of substantial changes in conditions of production or disposal of products in certain groups of undertakings, or
 - = concern the integration or reintegration of handicapped persons into employment

on the understanding that assistance from the Fund shall be granted with due regard to the extent of the employment problems and the economic capacity of the areas in which the operations are carried out.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to implement the guidelines it had just set out and to clarify, in contact with the Commission, a number of other points relating to the implementing rules still outstanding. This would enable the Council to take a formal decision in the near future subject, nonetheless, to the possible instigation of the conciliation procedure with the European Parliament.

PRESS RELEASE

462nd meeting of the Council

- Transport -

Luxembourg, 28 and 29 June 1977

President: Mr William RODGERS,
Minister for Transport of
the United Kingdom

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

Belgium:

Mr Josef CHABERT

Minister for Transport

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN

Minister of Public Works
and Communications

Germany:

Mr Heinz RÜHLIU

State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Transport

France:

Mr Marcel CAVILLON

State Secretary at the
Ministry for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Noël DONOHON

General Secretary,
Ministry of Transport and Energy

Italy:

Mr Costante DEGANI

Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for Transport

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel MART

Minister for Transport

Netherlands:

Mr T.E. WESTERTERP Minister of Transport and
Waterstaat

United Kingdom:

Mr William RODGERS Minister of Transport

Mr John HORAM Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Transport

Mr Stanley CLINTON DAVIS Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Trade

The Commission:

Mr Richard BURKE Member

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MARITIME TRANSPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION

In the course of general discussion on this subject the Council took note of the interim report on the progress made in the field of maritime transport.

This report contained a survey of activities following the deliberations of the Transport Council of 4 November 1976, in particular as regards

- the examination by the Commission of the question of the mutual recognition of seafarers' diplomas and certificates;
- proposed solutions as regards the Community position vis-à-vis the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences;
- the examination of relations with third countries in shipping matters, including State-trading countries;
- relations between Member States' fleets;
- the examination of the various requirements for granting the flag;
- the work concerning shipping statistics in the general context of the work concerning Community transport statistics.

Following the discussion the Council noted that the Commission intended to send a communication to the Council in the forthcoming months, indicating the order of priorities and the measures to be taken in these fields.

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After settling the last minor questions arising, the Council also confirmed the agreement reached on 4 November 1976 as regards the setting up of a consultation procedure concerning relations in the field of shipping between the Member States and third countries and concerning discussions on the subject in international organizations.

This consultation procedure represents the first formal step in the maritime transport sector, since it is the first Community measure undertaken pursuant to Article 84(2) of the Treaty.

The Council also held an exchange of views on the French memorandum on the development of a Community project in the field of safety in maritime transport, and on the statement by the French Minister who presented it. In conclusion, the Council asked the Commission to send the Council proposals on minimum safety standards in this sector.

The Council agreed, on a proposal from the Presidency, to examine certain matters falling within the civil aviation sector and, to this end, it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare its subsequent discussions in this connection.

COMMON TRANSPORT POLICY

The Council held an in-depth debate on the aims and priorities of the common transport policy.

The discussion was based on a memorandum from the Chair which referred to a letter from the Federal Minister of Transport of the Federal Republic of Germany on the problems of the railways in the Community, and to a reply from the Minister of Transport of the Italian Republic. The memorandum drew the Council's attention to certain key questions, including railways, the harmonization of conditions of competition, social progress, abolition of barriers to freedom to provide services in this sector, and infrastructure problems.

The President also drew the Council's attention to the Commission communication of 1973 on transport policy and to the Opinions of the European Parliament ⁽¹⁾ and of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽²⁾ on the same subject.

The debate gave the delegations the opportunity to express their satisfaction or concern at developments in the common transport policy.

(1) OJ No C 127, 18.10.1974
(2) OJ No C 126, 17.10.1974

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Closing this discussion, the Council

- took note of the Commission's intention to submit a proposal for a Working Programme for 1978 and subsequent years. This programme will contain a list of priorities for action in the different fields of the Common Transport Policy and take account of the Commission communication of 1973;
- invited the Commission to take into account, when formulating this programme, the limited progress achieved by the Community since then, the draft Resolutions placed before the Council, and the views expressed in the course of the discussions at this Council meeting; and
- invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit a report on the Working Programme for adoption at the next Council meeting on transport matters, taking account of the discussions at this meeting and based on the forthcoming Commission proposal.

Without awaiting the Commission proposal, the Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work during the second half of 1977, taking particular account of the list of priorities submitted by the Belgian delegation which will hold the office of President of the Council during the second half of this year.

COMMON RULES FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS BY ROAD

The Council continued its examination of the proposal for a Directive on the establishment of common rules for certain types of transport of goods by road between the Member States, which is intended to liberalize the rules governing various types of transport. It agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the examination of the proposal in order to define more specific options for submission to the Council at a future meeting.

REFERENCE TARIFFS

The Council discussed the proposal for a Regulation for a system of reference tariffs for the carriage of goods by road between Member States, after which it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the examination of this proposal in the light of today's discussions with a view to enabling the Council to act on this matter at its next meeting on transport.

HARMONIZATION OF SOCIAL PROVISIONS

The Council held a broad exchange of views on the proposal for the harmonization of certain social provisions in the road transport sector, and on the related proposals concerning the introduction of tachographs and the implementation of the AETR.

During the discussion broad agreement emerged, in particular as regards:

- the abolition, in respect of vehicles fitted with a tachograph, of the "two-man crew" rule applicable to certain vehicles covering distances of more than 450 km per day;
- the increase of 5 hours in the weekly rest period to bring it up to 29 hours;
- the possibility of reducing the period of 29 hours to a period of not less than 24 hours, subject to equivalent compensation being granted during the same week;
- the definition of a week;
- the ban on certain types of remuneration which could jeopardize road safety;
- the maintenance, as regards the daily driving period, of the distinction between drivers of heavy goods vehicles and those of other vehicles;
- special arrangements to be applied to rest taken on a ferry-boat or train;

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- the definition of breaks from work;
- national and international exemptions;
- the amendment of the tachograph Regulation;
- the ratification of the AETR.

Closing the discussion, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue the examination of the last outstanding questions, in particular the inclusion of a safeguard clause in the social Regulation, in the light of today's discussions, with a view to bringing positions closer together and thereby facilitating a decision at a future Council meeting on transport.

MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council adopted a new series of Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to motor vehicles.

These Directives concern

- rear fog lamps;
- reversing lamps;
- parking lamps;

These Directives supplement the body of rules governing the construction and installation of all motor vehicle lamps.

- the field of vision of motor-vehicle drivers;
- safety belts;

This last Directive marks an important new step towards greater passive safety in motor vehicles by laying down strict rules governing not only the construction of safety belts and their installation in motor vehicles, but also the production controls to be carried out to ensure consistent quality in manufacture.

When adopting these Directives, the Council took note of the positive record of activities in the field of the harmonization of the laws of the Member States relating to motor vehicles:

35 Directives have been adopted or approved since 1970, seven of them during the last half-year;

8 proposals for separate Directives are still being examined by Council bodies, as is a proposal for the amendment of the 1970 framework Directive.

The purpose of this series of measures, arising out of the 1970 framework Directive, is the elaboration of a system of EEC whole vehicle type-approval aimed at ensuring the effective elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade in vehicles.

Having noted these results the Council confirmed, by adopting the following Resolution, its intention of actively pursuing and concluding the action undertaken since 1969 with the aim of creating a real common market in this field.

"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Council Resolution of 28 May 1969 on the elimination of technical barriers to trade and to that of 17 December 1973 on industrial policy,

Having regard to the proposals for Directives, currently under examination, on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to motor vehicle type-approval,

RECOGNIZING the progress already made in this field by the adoption of over thirty Directives, and anxious to bring to a successful conclusion the action initiated by the adoption of the framework Directive 70/156/EEC of 6 February 1970;

REAFFIRMS its determination to put EEC whole vehicle type-approval for passenger cars into operation as soon as practicable;

INSTRUCTS the Permanent Representatives Committee, to this end, to press on with its examination of the proposals for Directives still to be adopted and invites it in particular to intensify its study of all the technical, administrative, commercial, industrial and road safety implications of the implementation of EEC whole vehicle type-approval in order to guarantee its maximum effectiveness;

INVITES the Commission to give its opinion on these various aspects, to supplement if necessary its proposal for amending the framework Directive 70/156/EEC and to convene at an early date a meeting of the representatives of the Member States and the sectors of industry concerned to examine how the EEC whole vehicle type-approval system for passenger cars might best operate."

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AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS

The Council adopted two further Directives on agricultural tractors. These Directives, like the ten Directives already adopted previously, form part of the Community type-approval procedure for this type of tractor.

The first Directive concerns roll-over protection structures of agricultural tractors: safety cab or frame. Such structures will in future be compulsory as regards the Community type-approval of new models. This Directive is aimed primarily at preventing industrial accidents -- which have been growing more numerous every year -- and is directed essentially towards avoiding or limiting the risks incurred by drivers in the event of the tractors accidentally overturning while in use.

The second Directive introduces measures against the emission of pollutants from the compression-ignition engines (Diesel engines) of agricultural tractors. These measures have proved necessary in view of the increasing number of these tractors in operation in rural regions of the Community.

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REPORT ON COMPETITION IN TRANSPORT BY RAIL, ROAD AND INLAND WATERWAY

The Council took note of the proposal for a Decision deleting Article 15 of Decision 65/271/EEC which obliges the Commission to submit a two-yearly report to the Council on the implementation of the Decision on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in this sector.

It noted that this was not an appropriate time to follow up the proposal.

VARIOUS STATEMENTS

At the end of the meeting, the Council took note of the following statements, where appropriate with replies by the Commission, concerning:

- the Agreement on the Establishment of a European Laying-up Fund for Inland Waterway Vessels (Netherlands and German delegations);
- the draft Additional Protocol to the Mannheim Convention for the Navigation of the Rhine (Netherlands and German delegations);
- the meeting on 9 and 10 June between Commissioner BURKE and the representatives of the authorities of the major European ports (Commission);
- the meeting on 6 June between Commissioner BURKE and the directors of the railways of the Member States of the Community (Commission).

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- extending, as regards Spain, Regulation (EEC) No 373/77 laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flags of certain non-member countries;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 350/77 laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations on the conclusion of the Agreements extending the Interim Agreements between the European Economic Community and Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia respectively.

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities Decisions prolonging or opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in the Maghreb and Mashriq countries and Israel.