

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: IRELAND

JULY-DECEMBER 1984

Meetings and press releases December 1984

Meeting number	Subject	Date
971 st	Fisheries	4 December 1984
972 nd	Environment	6-7 December 1984
973 rd	Economics/Finance	10 December 1984
974 th	Agriculture	10-11 December 1984
975 th	Transport	11-12 December 1984
976 th	Cancelled	
977 th	Labour/Social Affairs	13 December 1984
978 th	Foreign Affairs	17-19 December 1984
979 th	Industry/Steel	17 December 1984
980 th	Internal Market/Consumer	18 December 1984
981 st	Research	19 December 1984
982 nd	Fisheries	19-20 December 1984

PRESS RELEASE

11069/84 (Presse 205)

LIBRARY

971st meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 4 December 1984

President: Mr Patrick O'TOOLE
Minister for Fisheries
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Léon VAN DEN MOORTEL
Secretary General,
Ministry of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Henning GROVE
Minister for Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN
Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Stathis YIOTAS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Guy LENGAGNE
State Secretary responsible
for the Sea, attached to the
Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Patrick O'TOOLE
Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI
Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr A. PLOEG
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John Mac GREGOR
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Lord GRAY
Minister of State at the
Scottish Office

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEOGIS
Member

MEDITERRANEAN SARDINES AND ANCHOVIES

The Council agreed to a Commission proposal to extend for one year from 1 January 1985 the derogation provided for in Regulation 2204/84, under the terms of which individual producers in Greece can benefit from the special carry-over premium in the absence of producer organizations.

HERRING

The Council took note of a report from the Commission concerning the current situation in the herring market, and in particular of the satisfactory growth in Community production. It invited the relevant Working Party to further examine the report and in particular measures which might prove necessary in a growing market.

At the same time the Council decided to replenish the existing tariff quota for herring and to extend its validity from 31 December 1984 to 14 February 1985.

GUIDE PRICES FOR 1985

The Council adopted two Regulations fixing guide prices for certain fishery products for 1985. The Council also fixed the Community producer price for tuna intended for the canning industry for the 1985 fishing year.

MODIFICATION OF 1984 TACs AND QUOTAS

The Council adopted the Regulation modifying Regulation EEC 320/84 (TACs and quotas 1984) by which the ban on fishing for mackerel in ICES division VI a is abolished between 1 and 31 December 1984.

1985 FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN

The Council adopted the Regulations concerning fisheries arrangements with Sweden. Under the terms of this arrangement from 1 January to 31 December 1985 Member States vessels will be able to make catches in Swedish waters within the following quota limits :

(tonnes)				
Species	ICES division	Quotas	Allocations	
Cod	III d	3 100	Denmark	2 270
			Germany	830
Herring	III d	1 300	Denmark	740
			Germany	560
Salmon	III d	20	Denmark	17
			Germany	3

The arrangement also provides for Swedish vessels to fish in Community waters as follows :

Species	Area within which fishing is authorized	Quantity (tonnes)
Cod	ICES III c,d	1 250
	ICES IV	150 ⁽²⁾
Haddock	ICES IV	400
Whiting	ICES IV	20 ⁽²⁾
Herring	ICES III c, d	1 600
	ICES IV a, b	1 350
Ling	ICES IV, VI a ⁽¹⁾	200

⁽¹⁾ North of latitude 56° 30'N.

⁽²⁾ These quotas may be interchanged.

EEC - FAROES RELATIONS (1985 AGREEMENT)

The Council took note of progress made during the first round of consultations between the Community and the Faroe Islands held on 5/6 November 1984. The Council, recognising the need for a speedy conclusion of these negotiations, invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to follow up work on this matter.

FRENCH GUYANA

The Council took note of a statement from the Commission with regards to its intention to submit in the near future a proposal concerning non-Community fishing in the waters of French Guyana after 1 January 1985. The Commission was asked to take into account the views expressed at this meeting when formulating its proposal.

CONCLUSION OF BALTIC FISHERIES AGREEMENT

The Council, recognizing the interest for Community fishermen of concluding fisheries agreements in Baltic waters, agreed to re-examine this question in January 1985 on the basis of a report from the Commission.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CATCHES TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES'
VESSELS IN THIRD COUNTRY WATERS

The Council took note of a statement by the Commission concerning the measures it intends to take to improve the exchange of information between certain third countries, and in particular Norway, and the Commission on quota utilization by vessels of member states in third country waters.

The Council instructed a Working Party to examine this question further in the light of comments made during the meeting and on the basis of either a working paper or a formal proposal, whichever the Commission feels it most appropriate to submit.

TECHNICAL CONSERVATION MEASURES

The Council agreed, in the absence of sufficient scientific advice to postpone until 1 July 1987 the decision concerning the increase in minimum mesh size applicable in the English channel. The Council also agreed to reexamine the other provisions proposed - in particular the question of beam-trawling - after further examination at the technical level.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Further Decisions on Fisheries

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

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products (1985).

These tariff quotas concern the following fishery products originating in Canada:

- = frozen cod, frozen redfish and frozen fillets of cod, and
- = herring flaps, prepared or preserved in vinegar, salted cod and salted cod fillets.

- allocating the 1985 Community catch quotas in Canadian waters among Member States as follows:

Species	NAFO division	EEC Quotas	Allocations (tonnes)
Cod	2 GH	6 500	Germany 6 000
			France 200
			United Kingdom 300
	2J3K1	9 500	Germany 7 125
			France 1 545
			United Kingdom 830
Squid (Illex)	3+4	7 000	Germany 2 600
			Italy 2 000
			France 2 400

- allocating between the Member States the 1985 Community catch quotas in the regulatory area defined in the NAFO Convention as follows:

Catch quotas for the period 1 January to 31 December 1985

			(tonnes)
Species	NAFO division	Quotas	
Cod	3 NO	EEC	250
		of which France	250
	3 M	EEC	2 405
		of which Germany	700
		France	300
		United Kingdom	1 405
American plaice	3 LNO	EEC	625 ⁽²⁾
		of which France	625 ⁽²⁾
	3 M	EEC	500 ⁽¹⁾
Yellowtail flounder	3 LNO	EEC	300
		of which France	300
Redfish	3 M	EEC	1 200
		of which Germany	200
		United Kingdom	1 000
	3 LN	EEC	150 ⁽¹⁾
Witch	3 NO	EEC	50 ⁽¹⁾
		of which France	50 ⁽¹⁾
Squid (<i>Illex</i>)	3 + 4	EEC	9 750 ⁽²⁾
		of which Germany	3 900 ⁽²⁾
		France	3 650 ⁽²⁾
		Italy	2 200 ⁽²⁾
Capelin	3 LNO	EEC	0

⁽¹⁾ This quota has not been allocated exclusively to Community vessels but to all Contracting Parties to NAFO having specific allocation, including the Community. Fishing by Community vessels shall thus be suspended once the Community has been informed that the total quota has been exhausted.

⁽²⁾ Less any quantity taken by Community vessels in the parts of NAFO sub-areas falling within areas of national fisheries jurisdiction.

Agricultural decision

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation fixing for the 1985/1986 milk year the guideline figure for the fat content of standardized whole milk imported into Ireland and the United Kingdom (Ireland: 3,60 %; United Kingdom: 3,90 %).

ACP-EEC relations

The Council approved the outcome of the negotiations between the Community and the ACP States regarding the provisions which will govern relations between them following expiry of the second Lomé Convention signed on 31 October 1979.

The President of the Council was authorized to designate the persons empowered to sign, in respect of the ECSC and EEC Treaty and subject to its final conclusion, the third ACP-EEC Convention and the Acts relating thereto.

Customs Union matters

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations opening, allocating and administering a Community tariff quota for:

- certain grades of ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff
- sweet, clear-fleshed cherries, marinated in alcohol and intended for the manufacture of chocolate products, falling within subheading ex 20.06 B I e) 2 bb) of the Common Customs Tariff.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Italian Government, Professor Luigi CARENZA, Ordinario di "clinica ostetrica e ginecologica" presso la facoltà di medicina e chirurgia Università La Sapienze di Roma, as member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives to replace Professor Silvio BETTOCCHI, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 7 March 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

11161/84 (Presse 206)

LIBRARY

972nd meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Brussels, 6/7 December 1984

President: Mr Liam KAVANAGH
Minister for the Environment
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Firmin AERTS
State Secretary for Public
Health and the Environment

Germany:

Mr Friedrich ZIMMERMANN
Federal Minister for the
Interior

Mr Carl-Dieter SPRANGER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of the Interior

France:

Mrs Huguette BOUCHARDEAU
Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology

Mr Bruno ORSINI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Netherlands:

Mr P. WINSEMIUS
Minister for Housing, Regional
Planning and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Christian CHRISTENSEN
Minister for the Environment
and for Nordic Affairs

Mr Mogens BUNDGAARD-NIELSEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Environment

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULOUMBIS
Minister for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr Liam KAVANAGH
Minister for the Environment

Mr Fergus O'BRIEN
Minister of State,
Department of the Environment

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert KRIEPS
Minister for the Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr William WALDEGRAVE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State
Department of the Environment

Mr John BUTCHER
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice President

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES
Member

LEAD IN PETROL

While awaiting the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council reached a common position on the proposed Directive on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States on the lead content of petrol.

This Directive, of great importance for the protection and improvement of public health and the environment, provides for the obligatory introduction of unleaded petrol as from October 1989, this corresponding with the delays necessary for the petroleum and automobile industries to effect the necessary investments.

The Directive does not preclude measures to be taken for the introduction of unleaded petrol from an earlier date.

The Directive also provides for Member States to reduce, as a parallel operation, the lead content of leaded petrol from 0.4 g/l to 0.15 g/l as soon as they consider it appropriate.

AIR POLLUTION BY GASES FROM ENGINES OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council discussed the proposal for a Directive on the harmonization of measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from engines of motor vehicles.

All the delegations were very concerned by environment problems, and acknowledged the need to pursue an energetic policy in this area; in particular they considered it necessary to tackle urgently the threats to the European environment.

Secondly all the delegations were keen to adopt a Community solution as regards pollutant emissions from motor vehicles.

The Council invited the relevant Working Party to further examine this proposal according to a specific mandate. The Working Party will report before the end of January 1985 in order to allow a decision at the next meeting of the Council, and thereby to meet the timetable set by the European Council.

AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR NITROGEN DIOXIDE

The Council confirmed the agreement reached at its meeting on 28/29 June 1984 ⁽¹⁾ on the proposal for a Directive laying down air-quality standards for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). The Council will formally adopt this Directive after legal and linguistic revision of the text.

⁽¹⁾ Cf. Press Release 8129/84 (Presse 114) p. 5 of 27.6.1984

INFORMATION SYSTEM ON THE STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE
NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council agreed on the adoption of a work programme of the Commission concerning an experimental project for gathering, co-ordinating and rendering consistent information on the state of the environment and natural resources in the Community for a period of four years starting on 1 January 1985.

The programme will provide results which will be of direct utility for implementing Community environment policy and make it possible to judge the advisability of proceeding to subsequent stages of the establishment of an information system on the state of the environment in the Community.

Priority application to problems of Community scale will be given to:

- Biotopes of major importance for nature conservation
- Acid deposition
- Protection of the Mediterranean environment.

TITANIUM DIOXIDE

The Council took up its discussion of the proposed Directive on procedures for harmonizing the programmes for the reduction and eventual elimination of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry.

The Council concentrated its discussion on the major outstanding items and in particular the question of the inclusion of environmental quality objectives ; the Council was unable however, to reach an agreement on this question, and accordingly referred the proposal back to the Permanent Representatives Committee for further preparatory work to be done at a technical level.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Council took up its discussion of the proposal for a Directive on the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects. The Danish delegation declared that its review of national policy on areas covered by the proposal was still continuing in Denmark, and that it would be unable to take a position before some months. The Council consequently invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to take up this matter with a view to deciding upon the most appropriate means of achieving unanimity on the proposal.

AIR POLLUTION FROM LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS

The Council held a further discussion on the proposal for a Directive on the limitation of the emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants. The Council's debate showed that there still exist differences of opinion concerning the main issues : global emission reductions ; emission limit values ; the scope of the Directive. Certain ideas for advancing work on this matter were put forward. The Permanent Representatives Committee was invited to continue its work in the light of the remarks made during this meeting, and on the basis of the revised proposal that the Commission intends to make following the Opinion of the European Parliament.

CONTAINERS OF LIQUIDS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Council examined outstanding problems arising on the proposal for a Directive on containers of liquids for human consumption. The Council was unable to take the final steps towards agreement on this matter and referred the proposal to the Permanent Representatives Committee for further preparatory work.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER IN BHOPAL (INDIA)

1. The Council of the European Communities meeting today in Brussels discussed the recent tragic industrial accident which occurred in Bhopal, India, where apparently over 2000 persons had lost their lives and many others were seriously injured. Events in Bhopal surpassed all previous occurrences of this kind in their scope and scale and in the severity of the impact they have had on local populations and the environment. The Council expressed its sense of shock and conveyed its deepest sympathy to the Government of India and above all to the people affected. It affirmed the Community's readiness to consider specific requests for assistance which the Government of India might make.

2. The Council stressed its view that it was most urgent to seek solutions to the problems posed by dangerous chemicals for health and the environment wherever they arise. In its Resolution of 3 October 1984 (84/C 272/01), the Council had requested the Commission "to examine the possibilities for achieving closer convergence of Community efforts to integrate the environmental dimension in development aid and to submit any appropriate proposals to the Council as soon as possible". When it met on 6 November, the Council reiterated the need for action in this field.

In the context of these Resolutions, the Council today reaffirmed that, where dangerous substances are involved, the Community and the Member States should continue to seek ways to promote the integration of the best techniques of prevention and protection and the best manufacturing processes in projects in which they or their industrial enterprises are involved.

3. As far as dangerous industrial activities within the Community are concerned, the Council had adopted in 1982 a Directive (82/501/EEC) which provided that Member States should take a series of measures intended to achieve greater security both for the workers involved and for the environment, including the general public. This Directive, which covers the processes and substances (including methyl isocyanate) apparently involved in the Bhopal accident, came into force on 8 January 1984.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Further Decision on Environment

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive on the supervision and control within the European Community of the trans-frontier shipment of hazardous waste. (Cf. Press Release 8129/84 (Presse 114) of 28/29.6.84, p. 3).

Law of the Sea

The Council decided to authorize the signature by the Community of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

It is recalled that the final date for the signing of this Convention, which began on 10 December 1982, is the 9 December next. The Convention allows the Community, as an international organization, to sign in its own right if a majority of Member States are signatories themselves. Five Member States have already signed in December 1982 and three others have already declared their intention to sign.

The Community's signature will be accompanied by two declarations, one concerning the competence of the Community in the fields covered by the Convention, and the other, of a political nature, giving a general evaluation of the Convention.

Appointments

On the proposal of the German Government, the Council appointed Mr U. BOEGE member of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency, to replace Mr G. SIEPMANN for the remainder of the latter's term of office, namely until 28 March 1985.

On the proposal of the French Government, the Council also appointed Mr P. FRIGOLA member of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency to replace Mr A. BALLAGNY for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 28 March 1985.

Finally, on the proposal of the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Jens Kristian GØTRIK alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training, to replace Mr Arne Scheel THOMSEN for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 8 November 1985.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

11207/84 (Presse 213)

LIBRARY

973rd meeting of the Council
- Economic and Financial Affairs -
Brussels, 10 December 1984

President:

Mr Alan DUKES
Minister for Finance
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy de CLERCQ
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Anders ANDERSEN
Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Gerassimos ARSENIS
Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr Otto SCHLECHT,
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of
Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Pierre BEREGOVOY
Minister for Economic Affairs,
Finance and the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA
Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS
Vice-President of the
Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. RUDING
Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON
Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT
Vice-President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP
Vice-President

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN
Member

FINANCING OF THE AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES POLICY

The Council took up its discussion of the future financing of the agricultural structures policy, with a view to assisting Agriculture Ministers in their consideration of the problem.

It was agreed that a report would be made to the Ministers of Agriculture meeting today on the results of the discussions by Finance Ministers. It was also agreed that Finance Ministers should come back to this matter at a later date.

EXPORT CREDITS

Sectoral agreement on aircrafts and on tied aid credits

The Council agreed on the mandate to be given to the Commission with a view to the negotiations with the other Participants of the Arrangement on guidelines for export credits, on a sectoral agreement on aircraft and on tied aid credits.

STRENGTHENING OF THE EMS

Following a wide-ranging exchange of views on the strengthening of the EMS, the President concluded as follows:

"The Commission has presented us a Draft Resolution on the strengthening of the EMS. In this context, we also heard progress reports from the Chairmen of the Committee of Governors and of the Monetary Committee on the work of those Committees in this area.

We welcomed the main orientations of the Commission's document and decided to transmit this Draft to the Committee of Central Bank Governors and to the Monetary Committee asking them to examine it from the point of view of their

respective competences. We expressed our wish to receive promptly their conclusions having due regard to the particular juridical situation in the Member States.

The Council considers that a further strengthening of the EMS is a matter of high priority. There is a unanimous will to make progress."

MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council agreed to extend the validity of the medium-term financial assistance mechanism until 31 December 1986, subject to a waiting reservation by the UK Delegation.

ANNUAL REPORT 1985

While awaiting the Opinion of the European Parliament and in the light of the conclusions of the European Council in Dublin, the Council agreed on the Annual Report for 1985.

TAX ALLOWANCES FOR TRAVELLERS, SMALL CONSIGNMENTS AND FUEL

The Council discussed a compromise proposal of the Presidency dealing with tax allowances for travellers within the Community, for small consignments sent inside the Community, and for fuel for commercial motor vehicles. The Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to pursue this discussion in view of the Internal Market Council on 18 December 1984.

DIRECT INSURANCE OTHER THAN LIFE ASSURANCE

The Council took up its examination of the proposed Directive on the harmonization of direct non-life insurance. The Council noted the progress achieved during the last few months and agreed that work should continue at an accelerated pace in order to allow an early decision in this matter.

UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT IN TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES (UCITS)

The Council took note of an interim report on the proposed Directive on the harmonization of provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities. This report showed that a solution is in view for a number of important questions raised by the Directive. The Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to give priority to the preparation of a possible overall compromise on the important issues on the basis of ideas set out in the interim report, and to report back to the Council at its meeting in March 1985.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Tourist Assistance

The Council adopted in the languages of the Community the Directive concerning the taking up and pursuit of the business of tourist assistance.

The enormous increase in recent years in the amount of travel undertaken both for business purposes and for tourism has been matched by an equally remarkable growth in the offers to the travelling public of contracts under which they will receive assistance of one kind or another should they experience difficulties while away from home. National governments have felt a need to exercise some control over the bodies which offer a more and more varied and extensive range of benefits. The public needs to be assured that an organization offering assistance contracts really has the necessary resources to fulfil its obligations under these contracts.

The Directive adopted today is aimed at harmonizing the conditions for the taking-up and pursuit of the activity of tourist assistance; these conditions will in fact be the same that apply to non-life insurance activity. For this reason the Directive is a modification of Directive 73/239/EEC on the co-ordination of insurance other than life assurance.

By submitting the pursuit of tourist assistance to the financial requirements and the supervision foreseen in the Directive, the financial stability of undertakings is ensured, and the level of protection of persons taking out assistance contracts is guaranteed and uniform throughout the Community. This harmonization will also have the effect of eliminating barriers to the right of establishment in this field.

Trade and Customs Union matters

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision authorizing the automatic renewal or continuance in force of certain friendship, trade and navigation treaties and similar agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for:

- silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) falling within subheading ex 03.01 B I t) of the Common Customs Tariff (1985)
- frozen cod (*Gadus morhua*) fillets falling within subheading ex 03.01 B II b) 1 of the Common Customs Tariff (1985)
- certain polyester films falling within subheading ex 39.01 C III a) of the Common Customs Tariff.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision on the conclusion of a Community-COST Concertation Agreement on five concerted action projects in the field of the environment.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

11208/84 (Presse 214)

974th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 10 and 11 December 1984

President: Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER
State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Niels Anker KOFOED
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KLECHLE
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walther FLORIAN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture
Mr Paddy HEGARTY
Minister of State,
Department of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture

Mrs Paola CAVIGLIASSO
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH
Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MacGREGOR
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER
Member

STRUCTURES POLICY

- A. The Council examined two proposals for Regulations concerning:
- the amount allocated to the Guidance Section of the EAGGF
 - estimates of the costs relating to Regulation No 355/77 on improving the conditions under which agricultural and fisheries products are processed and marketed,

and agreed to discuss the matter further at a forthcoming meeting.

- B. The Council further discussed the issue of improving the efficiency of agricultural structures, and agreed to continue its examination of this dossier at its next meeting on 14 and 15 January 1985.

- C. The Council carried out a detailed examination of proposals aimed at contributing to the solution of specific problems in Greece; these proposals concerned:

- the introduction of aid for the transhumance of sheep, goats and cattle
- an increase in the staff of the departments responsible for the quality control of agricultural products
- the granting of national aid for the transport of means of production to certain islands.

At the end of its discussions, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to resume its examination of this dossier and to report back to it for its next meeting on 14 and 15 January 1985.

D. The Council carefully examined the proposals submitted for ensuring the continuity of measures approved by it in 1978 and 1979 and concerning in particular:

- the restructuring and conversion of vineyards in certain Mediterranean regions in France
- the improvement of public amenities in certain rural areas
- a common measure for forestry in certain Mediterranean zones of the Community.

At the end of its discussions, the Council:

- stated that it was favourably disposed towards the proposal concerning vineyards in France pending the Opinion of the European Parliament;
- agreed to resume discussion of the proposals concerning the improvement of public amenities in certain rural areas and the common measure for forestry at its next meeting in January.

E. Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council stated that it was favourably disposed to the extension of less-favoured areas in Greece.

IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN MONETARY SYSTEM ON THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The Council agreed in principle to extend until 31 March 1987 Regulation No 652/79 authorizing the use of the ECU as a unit for fixing amounts under the cap.

This extension will be formally adopted as soon as the Opinion of the European Parliament is received.

WINE

Following the decisions of the European Council in Dublin on the future wine arrangements, the Council invited the Commission to submit new proposals swiftly on compulsory distillation and on specific structural measures for Greek vineyards.

It was agreed to resume examination of this dossier, including the structural measures for Community vine-growing, at its next meeting on 14 and 15 January 1985.

SPARKLING WINES

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council was in favour of the package of measures relating to sparkling wines.

Specifically, it is proposed to reduce the minimum duration of the process of preparing sparkling wines produced in closed tanks from 9 to 6 months and to allow limited quantities of imported basic wines to be used in the preparation of sparkling wines.

SUGARING - WATERING

The Council had a wide-ranging discussion on the proposal extending authorization of sugaring/watering until 15 March 1985.

It agreed to resume its discussion on the matter as soon as the Opinion of the European Parliament had been received.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council examined two proposals:

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef and veal;
- opening a Community tariff quota for high-quality, fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal (Hilton beef).

It agreed to resume its examination of this matter at its next meeting.

It also instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine as soon as possible the Commission proposals concerning the balances for meat for processing and for young male bovine animals for fattening.

MILK SECTOR

The Council had another detailed exchange of views on the results of the application of the super-levy system in the milk sector.

Following the discussions, nine delegations supported the following statement:

"The Council,

- having noted the positive results at this juncture regarding the overall reduction of milk production resulting from the introduction of a super-levy system in the milk sector;
- reaffirming the need for all the Member States to continue the efforts begun in order to attain the objectives set as regards milk production;
- noting that technical and administrative difficulties are arising at this stage in certain Member States concerning the application of the new system, and particularly regarding the collection of the half-yearly advance on the super-levy;
- calls upon the Commission to take the necessary steps as a matter of urgency to enable the payment of the super-levy to be deferred to the end of the 1984/1985 milk year."

VETERINARY SECTOR

The Council examined the proposal for a Directive concerning the use of certain hormonal substances; it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to pursue its discussions in the light of its deliberations that day and to report back at a forthcoming meeting of the Agriculture Council.

Without prejudice to the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council stated that it was in favour of the Directive on the financing of health inspections and controls on fresh meat and poultry meat.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council took note of the Commission report on foreseeable trends in the planting and replanting of vineyards in the Community and on the balance of production and consumption in the wine sector.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision authorizing the Commission, within the context of the voluntary restraint agreements on trade in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector between the Community and twelve non-member States, to convert, for the purposes of the smooth operation of trade and within the quantities agreed, live animals into fresh or chilled meat or vice versa.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1603/83 laying down special measures for the disposal of dried grapes and dried figs held by storage agencies. Under this Regulation the arrangements for disposal of dried grapes and dried figs adopted by the Council for the 1981 harvest are extended to stocks from the 1982 harvest.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending for the sixth time Regulation (EEC) No 355/79 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts. This amendment concerns the renewal until 30 June 1985 of the temporary clause allowing Member States to require that the alcoholic strength be indicated on the labelling of still wines.

Lastly, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a series of Directives in the veterinary sector.

The aim of these Directives is to supplement and strengthen some of the provisions governing both trade and measures to control swine fever.

With regard to trade, the Council:

- amended Directive 71/118/EEC on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat.

The aim of this amendment is to authorize indefinitely the continuation of certain national types of production ("partially eviscerated poultrymeat", "New York dressed meat" and poultrymeat chilled by means of immersion).

The conditions of production for such meat will be re-examined by the Council before 15 August 1986 on the basis of the findings from the scientific studies being carried out at the Commission.

- amended Directives 64/432/EEC and 72/461/EEC on intra-Community trade in live bovine animals and swine and meat therefrom.

This amendment extends to Ireland and, as regards Northern Ireland, to the United Kingdom the arrangements adopted by the Council in 1976 on foot-and-mouth disease for trade between the original Community and the United Kingdom and Denmark, which did not carry out vaccination; the special arrangements applied to Ireland since accession are thus terminated.

The arrangements thus introduced become permanent, although remaining subject to a three-yearly review to monitor developments in the control of foot-and-mouth disease in the Community.

At the same time, to assist the introduction of these arrangements, the Council adopted a position in favour of extending to cases of classical foot-and-mouth disease the measures provided for under the Veterinary Emergency Fund, which provides for Community aid to national control measures in the event of outbreaks of certain epizootic diseases. The Council will adopt a position on the Commission's proposal after the European Parliament has delivered its Opinion.

- amended Directive 64/432/EEC as regards brucellosis in respect of the buffered brucella antigen test, the micro-agglutination test and the milk ring tests as applied to samples of milk.

The purpose of this measure is to update the relevant Community provisions in the light of the satisfactory developments regarding brucellosis in the Community.

Regarding the control of swine fever, the Council strengthened the measures laid down in Directive 80/271/EEC to control this epizootic disease, in particular by creating a "high health-risk area" for which specific measures may be recommended by the Commission; Community financing for this "high risk area" depends on the implementation of these measures by the Member State concerned.

Institutional matter

The Council decided that it was not necessary to replace Mr Edgar PISANI, who resigned as from 3 December 1984, for the remainder of his term of office.

PRESS RELEASE

11264/84 (Presse 215)

LIBRARY

975th meeting of the Council

- Transport -

Brussels, 11/12 December 1984

President: Mr Jim MITCHELL
Minister for Communications
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Herman de CROO
Minister for Transport,
Post and Telecommunications

Denmark:

Mr Arne MELCHIOR
Minister for Public Works
Mr J.L. HALCK
State Secretary,
Ministry of Public Works

Germany:

Mr Werner DOLLINGER
Federal Minister for Transport

Greece:

Mr Georges KATSIFARAS
Minister of the Merchant Navy
Mr Kostas ANTONIS
Secretary of State,
Ministry of Transport

France:

Mr Guy LENGAGNE
Secrétaire d'Etat auprès du
Ministre des Transports,
chargé de la Mer

Ireland:

Mr Jim MITCHELL
Minister for Communications

Mr Jean AUROUX
State Secretary attached to the
Minister for Town Planning,
Housing and Transport, responsible
for Transport

Italy:

Mr Claudio SIGNORILE
Minister for Transport

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel SCHLECHTER
Minister for Transport,
Public Works and Energy

Pour les Pays-Bas:

Mrs N. SMIT-KROES
Minister for Transport
and Public Works

Pour le Royaume-Uni:

Mr Nicholas RIDLEY
Secretary of State for Transport
Mr David MITCHELL
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
State for Transport

Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN
Member
Mr Georges CONTOGEOORGIS
Member

WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS

The Council finalised the texts relating to the agreement reached at its meetings of 10 May 1984 ⁽¹⁾ and 8 November 1984 ⁽²⁾. It was agreed that this Directive would be formally adopted by the Council on 19 December 1984, at which time the other Decisions taken in principle on 10 May 1984 will also be adopted.

MARITIME TRANSPORT - APPLICATION OF ARTICLES 85 AND 86 OF THE TREATY

The Council took note of an interim report by the Presidency on the Commission's proposal concerning the application of Articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty to maritime transport. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the Commission's proposal in order to allow the Regulation to be adopted in 1985.

The Council also heard an introductory statement by Mr CONTOGEOGRIS concerning the Memorandum on maritime transport policy adopted today by the Commission. The Permanent Representatives Committee was invited to examine this Memorandum as a matter of priority so as to enable the Council to discuss it fully at its next meeting.

⁽¹⁾ See Press Release 6993/84 (Presse 82) p. 6
⁽²⁾ " " " 10362/84 (Presse 182) p. 3

UNFAIR PRACTICES IN SHIPPING

The Council agreed the following conclusions:

"In connection with the discussions of the Memorandum from the French delegation on unfair commercial practices in shipping, the Council requests the Commission to study and present to the Council before 31 December 1984 concrete proposals dealing with this matter on the basis of which appropriate measures could be taken against such practices where they exist."

SOCIAL LEGISLATION AND THE INTRODUCTION OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT
IN ROAD TRANSPORT

The Council noted the interim report of the Permanent Representatives Committee showing the positions of delegations on the main points included in the Council's conclusions of 10 May 1984 and in particular the questions of increased flexibility in daily driving periods, reduction in the average weekly driving period, of an increase in the average weekly rest period, and of a re-arrangement of the daily rest period.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the preparation of a revised draft Regulation as a matter of urgency in order that a decision may be taken as soon as possible in 1985.

INLAND TRANSPORT

After receiving the report of the High Level Group on Inland Transport, the Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on this matter.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA

After an exchange of views on the Commission's Second Report to the Council on negotiations with Austria on inland transport, the Council agreed on the following conclusions:

"THE COUNCIL,

Notes that the Permanent Representatives Committee is at present examining the report on the traffic balance between the Community and Austria, presented to the Council by the Commission on 16 November 1984, and requests the Committee to expedite this examination,

Considers that the Committee should take into account particularly the Commission's report on a programme of medium term infrastructure projects, which was requested by the Council at its session on 10 May 1984,

Instructs the Committee to examine, on the basis of the Commission's second report and taking account of suggestions made by various delegations, the scope for and the elements which might be included in a co-operation agreement with Austria, without excluding an appropriate means of meeting Austrian Transport infrastructure costs if this should prove to be justified,

Requests the Committee to report to the Council on these questions at its next meeting on transport with a view to making it possible to take decisions at that Council."

ROAD TAX MEASURES TAKEN BY SWITZERLAND

The Council, after hearing a report from the Commission on its recent contacts with the Swiss authorities:

- deplored the action taken by Switzerland;
- invited the Commission to present a report accompanied by proposals for possible further action as regards the Swiss road tax measures;
- instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission's report as rapidly as possible.

AIR TRANSPORT

After a discussion on the report from the High Level Group on Air Transport the President of the Council concluded as follows:

" THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT,

Having regard to the decision of the Council taken at its 927th session on 10 May 1984, to ask a working party of high level representatives of the Member States and the Commission to prepare a report on how the present intra-community air transport system should be adapted to ensure greater flexibility and so increased economic and social efficiency,

NOTES the Report of the High Level Group on Air Transport,

ENDORSES the guidelines accompanying the Report as a basis for further Community action in the air transport sector,

INSTRUCTS the Permanent Representatives Committee to arrange that the Transport Questions Working Party, specially constituted for the study of air transport questions, pursue a detailed study of the possibilities outlined in the guidelines for adapting the present air transport system, taking account in the course of its work of the views expressed in the Report of the High Level Group and also taking note of the Commission's Memorandum n° 2 and other relevant material,

NOTES that the question of access to the market could be considered in the context of the review by the Council before 1 July 1986 of the Directive on inter-regional air services,

CONSIDERS that attention should be paid inter alia to the areas of capacity, tariffs and competition,

ALSO DIRECTS that a progress report be submitted to the Council before the end of June 1985 and that the first proposals for Community action be brought forward for consideration by the Council before the end of 1985".

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other Transport Decisions

The Council agreed on the text of a note to be addressed to the Tanzanian Authorities concerning the allocation of shipping cargo by the Central Freight Bureau of Tanzania.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, summertime arrangements for 1986-1988. By the terms of the directive all Member States will ensure that the summertime period for these years will begin on the last Sunday in March. The summertime period for these years will end on the last Sunday in September for all Member States except Ireland and the United Kingdom where it will end on the fourth Sunday in October. The Council will adopt, on a proposal from the Commission, by 1 January 1988 the arrangements to apply from 1989 onwards.

United States rules on aircraft operating noise limits

The Council agreed on the text of a letter to be handed to the United States Department in reply to their letter concerning United States rules on aircraft operating noise limits.

The 976th meeting was cancelled.

PRESS RELEASE

11265/84 (Presse 216)

LIBRARY

977th Council meeting

- Labour and Social Affairs -

Brussels, 13 December 1984

President:

Mr Ruairi QUINN

Minister for Labour
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Michel HANSENNE
Minister for Labour
and Employment

Denmark:

Mr Henrik HASSENKAM
State Secretary,
Ministry of Labour

Germany:

Mr Wolfgang VOGT
Parliamentary State Secretary
to the Federal Minister for
Labour and Social Security

Greece:

Mr Evangelos YIANNOPOULOS
Minister for Labour

France:

Mr Michel DELEBARRE
Minister for Labour, Employment
and Vocational Training

Ireland:

Mr Ruairi QUINN
Minister for Labour
Mr George BIRMINGHAM
Minister of State at the
Department of Labour and at
the Department of Education
Mr Barry DESMOND
Minister for Health and for
Social Welfare

Italy:

Mr Gianni DE MICHELIS
Minister for Labour

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER
Minister for Labour

Netherlands:

Mr J. de KONING
Minister for Employment and
Social Security

United Kingdom:

Mr Tom KING
Secretary of State,
Ministry of Employment
Mr John PATTEN
Minister at the Department of
Health

Commission:

M. Ivor RICHARD
Member

EXCHANGE OF YOUNG WORKERS

The Council adopted the Decision establishing a 3rd joint programme to encourage the exchange of young workers within the Community.

This Decision involves the organization of training periods of long or short duration for young workers, in a Member State other than the Member State in which they reside, aimed at:

- developing their vocational knowledge and enriching their practical experience,
- promoting their awareness of the problems of the working world,
- bringing them into contact with the working environment of the host country,
- improving their knowledge of living conditions and social relations in the host country, and
- promoting adequate information on the Community's objectives and how it functions.

Young workers who are nationals of a Member State will be eligible for exchanges if they are between 18 and 28 years of age and are employed or are available on the labour market in accordance with national legislation and practice, and have received basic vocational training or have practical working experience.

To facilitate the development of exchanges, the Commission may, within the limits of the appropriations entered in the budget of the Communities, grant aid comprising:

- a contribution, not exceeding 75% of the expense incurred, towards the cost of the (outward and return) journey between the place of residence and the place of training, the amount of which may vary depending on the distance,
- a flat-rate weekly contribution per trainee or, exceptionally, in order to promote exchanges, a subsidy for each exchange project.

Supplementary aid per trainee and per week of language training may be granted.

This Decision will apply from 1 January 1985.

PROMOTION OF POSITIVE ACTION FOR WOMEN

The Council adopted the recommendations in Annex I.

PROTECTION OF WORKERS - NOISE

The Council discussed the draft Directive on the protection of workers from noise.

The Council concentrated its discussion on the major outstanding problems, in particular the limit value to be specified, the role of audiometry as a means of prevention, and the degree of further improvement to be made to the protection introduced by the Directive.

At the close of discussions, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on this proposal with a view to it being adopted at the June Council session.

ACTION TO COMBAT LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT

The Council reached general agreement on a Resolution on action against long-term unemployment.

The unrevised text of this Resolution is in Annex II.

COMMUNITY ACTION TO COMBAT POVERTY

The Community reached general agreement on a Decision on specific action to combat poverty.

This Decision allows the Community to implement an anti-poverty programme in order to combat poverty more effectively and carry out positive measures to help the underprivileged and identify the best means of attacking the causes of poverty and alleviating its effects in the Community. To this end, the Commission may promote or provide financial assistance for various types of action-research measures:

- designed to test and develop new methods of helping persons beset by or threatened with poverty in the Community ;
- drawn up and carried out as far as possible with the participation of the persons concerned ; and
- of particular interest to the Community in that they are addressed to problems common to several Member States ;

promote or provide financial assistance for the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, the co-ordination and assessment of anti-poverty measures, and the transfer of innovative approaches between Member States ;

promote or provide financial assistance for collection and dissemination on a regular basis of comparable data on poverty in the Community.

The programme will be for a four year period and the total amount estimated necessary for its implementation is 25 MECU.

Financial support may be granted, in the framework of the appropriations entered annually for this purpose in the general budget of the European Communities, for:

- action-research projects, up to 50% of actual expenditure within the limits of assistance requested and approved. However, in exceptional cases which will often include assistance to less favoured areas, this limit may be raised to 55%.
- other types of activity, if such activities are of exceptional interest for all or part of the Community, in excess of 50% of actual expenditure within the limits of assistance requested and approved.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the texts of this Decision to enable them to be favourably adopted as soon as possible.

PROCEDURES FOR INFORMING AND CONSULTING THE EMPLOYEES OF UNDERTAKINGS WITH COMPLEX STRUCTURES, IN PARTICULAR TRANSNATIONAL UNDERTAKINGS

The Council took up its discussion of the proposal for a Directive on procedures for informing and consulting the employees of undertakings with complex structures, in particular transnational undertakings, on the basis of work done by the ad hoc Working Party set up by the Presidency. The Council identified the questions on which it should concentrate further examination and, in particular, the new approach emerging from that work, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work in the light of the Council's discussion.

STATISTICAL MECHANISM TO ESTABLISH THE ORDER OF PRIORITY TO
APPLIED WHEN GRANTING EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND ASSISTANCE TO REGIONS

The Council had an initial discussion on a Commission communication on a statistical mechanism to establish the order of priority to be applied when granting European Social Fund Assistance to regions. The Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination.

EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF MIGRANT WORKERS

The Italian delegation made a statement on the education of the children of migrant workers in which it asked the Commission to submit proposals.

Under other business the Council heard a statement from its President on progress made on the draft recommendation on social security protection for voluntary development workers.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other social decision

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the organization of a labour force sample survey in the Spring of 1985.

E.F.T.A.

The Council adopted the common position on draft Decisions N° 2/84 of the EEC/Switzerland EEC-Austria Joint Committees - Community transit - amending the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation/Republic of Austria on the application of the rules on Community transit.

PROMOTION OF POSITIVE ACTION FOR WOMEN

THE COUNCIL HEREBY RECOMMENDS MEMBER STATES

- 1) To adopt a positive action policy designed to eliminate existing inequalities affecting women in working life and to promote a better balance between the sexes in employment, comprising appropriate general and specific measures, within the framework of national policies and practices, while fully respecting the spheres of competence of the two sides of industry, in order:
 - (a) to eliminate or counteract the prejudicial effects on women in employment or seeking employment which arise from existing attitudes, behaviour and structures based on the idea of a traditional division of roles in society between men and women;
 - (b) to encourage the participation of women in various occupations in those sectors of working life where they are at present under-represented, particularly in the sectors of the future, and at higher levels of responsibility in order to achieve better use of all human resources;
- 2) To establish a framework containing appropriate provisions designed to promote and facilitate the introduction and extension of such measures.
- 3) To take, continue or promote positive action measures in the public and private sectors.

4) To take steps to ensure that positive action includes as far as possible actions having a bearing on the following aspects:

- informing and increasing the awareness of both the general public and the working world of the need to promote equality of opportunity for working women;
- respect for the dignity of women at the workplace;
- qualitative and quantitative studies and analyses of the position of women on the labour market;
- diversification of vocational choice, and more relevant vocational skills, particularly through appropriate vocational training, including the implementation of supporting measures and suitable teaching methods;
- measures necessary to ensure that placement, guidance and counselling services have sufficient skilled personnel to provide a service based on the necessary expertise in the special problems of unemployed women;
- encouraging women candidates and the recruitment and promotion of women in sectors and professions and at levels where they are under-represented, particularly as regards positions of responsibility;
- adapting working conditions; adjusting the organization of work and working time;
- encouraging supporting measures such as those designed to foster greater sharing of occupational and social responsibilities;
- active participation by women in decision-making bodies, including those representing workers, employers and the self-employed.

- 5) to ensure that the actions and measures described in points 1 to 4 are made known to the public and to the working world, especially to potential beneficiaries, by all appropriate means and as extensively as possible;
- 6) to enable national equal opportunities committees and organizations to make a significant contribution to the promotion of such measures, which presupposes that these committees and organizations are provided with appropriate means of action;
- 7) to encourage both sides of industry wherever possible to promote positive action within their own organizations and at the work place, for example by suggesting guidelines, principles, codes of good conduct or good practice or any other appropriate formula for the implementation of such action.
- 8) to make efforts also in the public sector to promote equal opportunities which might serve as an example, particularly in those fields where new information technologies are being used or developed;
- 9) to make appropriate arrangements to gather information on measures taken by public and private bodies, and to follow up and evaluate such measures;

and to this end REQUESTS the Commission:

- 1) to promote and organize in liaison with the Member States the systematic exchange and assessment of information and experience on positive action within the Community;
- 2) to submit a report to the Council, within three years of the adoption of this Recommendation, on progress achieved in its implementation, on the basis of information supplied to it by Member States.

ACTION TO COMBAT LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENTGeneral Guidelines

The Council is seriously concerned about the problem of long-term unemployment. It recognizes that it cannot be resolved without a general policy designed to achieve economic recovery and employment growth.

At the same time, it considers that an effective Community policy to combat unemployment must employ specific measures to take account of the serious problem of long-term unemployment. This requires both individual and joint action by governments on both sides of industry at local, regional and national levels, which should be supported at Community level.

The specific measures to be adopted should seek, in the case of long-term unemployment, to increase the efficiency of existing social and employment policies by:

- improving the dissemination and comparability of information and analysis regarding long-term unemployment;
- making greater efforts to create new jobs and to increase flexibility on the labour market;
- considering the possibilities and the problems of adaptation and adjustment of working time and patterns;
- reinforcing initial and ongoing training systems and programmes so as to permit workers, and especially the long-term unemployed, to adapt and further develop their skills;

- improving the organization of the employment and social-security services so that they can better effect required policy responses and so prevent the development of long-term unemployment;
- providing adequate support for those who remain unemployed for long periods.

National measures

To deal with the problem, Member States are requested, in the framework of their own policies and practices and in the light of the responsibilities and autonomy of both sides of industry, to take the following steps:

- undertake and/or pursue co-ordinated analyses designed to provide comprehensive data on long-term unemployment in order to gain an increased awareness of the characteristics of the situation of the long-term unemployed;
- in the case of redundancy help to ensure, in co-operation with employment services and both sides of industry, that workers threatened with unemployment are informed in good time and that appropriate measures (in particular, counselling, training) are expeditiously made available to them in order to allow them to become qualified for other activities or, where appropriate, to choose early retirement;
- ensure that the various services concerned, including employment services, are so structured, organized and equipped that they can identify as rapidly as possible and follow-up those who are likely to become long-term unemployed. These services should also offer them the necessary personal assistance in good time, in particular in the form of in-depth guidance or training;

- identify persons who have become long-term unemployed so that suitable measures - including continuing guidance, training and specific work programmes or measures - may be taken;
- review the functioning of labour markets, notably the application of certain regulations, and, if necessary, existing practices for recruiting, selecting and laying off workers which may aggravate long-term unemployment;
- overcome possible obstacles to the introduction of new forms of adjustment of working hours which could help the long-term unemployed to find employment; taking into account the fact that a reorganization and a reduction of working hours can only have positive employment effects if the competitive position of firms is not impaired, if there is sufficient flexibility in the labour market to prevent bottlenecks, and if appropriate account is taken of specific and sectoral characteristics, notably the size of the firms;
- ensure that specific work programmes or measures to help unemployed persons, individually or in groups, including co-operatives, are prepared, assessed and improved, in conjunction with the various parties concerned. The scale of such programmes or measures should reflect the scale of the long-term unemployment problem at local and regional levels. Their structure and content should also be determined by local needs but should, where appropriate, incorporate an element linked with mainstream education and training provision;
- where it is not already the case, review the rules for payment of social security and/or unemployment benefits with a view to permitting unemployed people to undertake, without losing their entitlement to benefits, certain voluntary activities on a temporary basis, provided that this does not affect the normal operation of the labour market;

- encourage and assist unemployed persons wishing to set up their own enterprises, for example by providing for continued income support or equivalent payments in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Resolution of 7 June 1984 on the contribution of local employment initiatives to combating unemployment;

- encourage both sides of industry to:
 - (a) promote the recruitment of the long-term unemployed including through the use of government incentive schemes;
 - (b) support actively, wherever possible, voluntary and community job-creation efforts by, for example, seconding staff, allowing use of vacant premises or assisting with product identification and development;

- seek to avoid the long-term unemployed becoming discouraged and isolated by strengthening possibilities for their re-integration into the employment market by providing equal opportunities for access through public or private initiatives to activities of a professional or non-professional kind, which offer both social contact and vocational help and guidance;

- more generally, encourage greater awareness of the activities and schemes open to the long-term unemployed through various means, including the media, where appropriate.

Action at Community level

Taking into account the role played by the Community financial instruments and existing Community action programmes in combating long-term unemployment, the Commission is requested to undertake the following supplementary action and, where appropriate, present proposals to that effect to the Council:

- in collaboration with the Member States, obtain a better understanding of the nature and scale of long-term unemployment,

(a) by improving the collection of adequate statistics on an agreed Community basis;

(b) by ensuring that the Commission has the necessary information so that long-term unemployment can be explicitly taken into account as a criterion for allocating financial support, where it is foreseen, notably from the European Social Fund;

- encourage and support Member States' policy efforts, co-operate with both sides of industry in the development of their actions and provide, in accordance with the rules governing it, appropriate aid from the European Social Fund to combat long-term unemployment;

(a) with particular regard to the organization of the employment and related services as well as of specific work programmes or measures;

(b) with particular emphasis on actions to assist the recruitment and social support of the long-term unemployed.

- consider the possibility of developing positive measures aimed at giving, for example, training, retraining or work experience after a certain period of unemployment ;

- undertake further research with the assistance of MISEP into those measures and practices, whether taken by Governments or the two sides of industry, which are successful in combating long-term unemployment, with a view to extending their use to other areas of the Community.

The Council notes the Commission's intention to initiate a broad policy appraisal at Community level in order to develop a more incisive medium-term employment and social policy which is better suited to addressing the problem of long-term unemployment. Particular issues to be studied in this context will be job creation and labour market flexibility, possibilities for improving competitiveness of enterprises so as to provide more jobs, social support schemes, retirement, education and training and future patterns of life and work.

The Commission is requested to inform the Council every two years of progress made in the implementation of these actions.

Community financing for the actions set out in this section will be decided on in the framework of the budgetary procedure and in accordance with the legal commitments entered or to be entered into by the Council.

PRESS RELEASE

11459/84 (Presse 222)

11459/84

978th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 17/18/19 December 1984

President:

M. Peter BARRY

Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS Minister for External Relations

Denmark:

Mr Knut-Erik TYGESEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Jürgen RUHFUS State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Théodoros PANGALOS State Secretary for European
Economic Community Affairs

France:

Mr Roland DUMAS Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ms Catherine LALUMIERE State Secretary attached to the
Ministry for Foreign Affairs,
responsible for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jim O'KEEFFE Minister of State at the Department
of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr GIULIO ANDREOTTI Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Mario FIORET State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS

Vice-President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr W.F. van EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Malcolm RIFKIND

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr Paul CHANNON

Minister of State for Trade

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

Mr Richard BURKE

vice-President

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council discussed in detail the Community position for the 26th negotiating meeting at ministerial level with Spain and the 24th meeting at ministerial level with Portugal and the exploratory talks which the Commission had been instructed to hold with both countries on a number of sectors such as agriculture, industry and steel in the case of Spain and agriculture in the case of Portugal.

At these ministerial meetings the Spanish delegation was led by Mr Fernando MORAN, Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Portuguese delegation by Mr Ernani RODRIGUES LOPES, Minister for Finance and Planning.

At the meeting with Spain, agreement was reached on industrial customs union and the ECSC, thereby completing an essential section of the negotiations.

Agreement was also reached on the chapter on the institutions.

Detailed discussions took place on agriculture, in the course of which the Community also submitted its position on wine; the exploratory talks on the whole of this sector between the Commission and Spain will continue.

The parties also stated their positions on the continuation of the negotiations on fisheries. It was agreed that the exploratory talks on this sector between the Commission and Spain would continue.

Both parties noted that they had now entered the final stage of the negotiations.

Finally, both parties agreed to set up a working party to draft the Accession Treaty.

In the case of Portugal, detailed discussions took place on the problems outstanding in the agriculture chapter and the Community submitted its position on wine. The discussions resulted in progress and the identification of the few problems which remain to be settled. The exploratory talks with the Commission will continue.

Both parties also submitted detailed positions for the continuation of the negotiations on fisheries. The Commission will also continue its exploratory negotiations on this chapter.

As in the case of Spain, the parties noted that they had now entered the final stage of the negotiations.

For Portugal too, the Community proposed to set up a working party to draft the Accession Treaty.

The Community also took this opportunity to inform the Portuguese delegation that the Council had just approved the pre-accession Protocol and the Protocol on motor vehicles with Portugal and had decided to sign both Protocols subject to conclusion thereof.

CYPRUS

The Council prepared for the 10th meeting of the EEC-Cyprus Association Council at ministerial level held early on Monday afternoon, 17 December 1984 ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ See joint press release, CEE-CY 702/84 (Presse 227)

FAMINE IN AFRICA

The Council took stock of the implementation of the conclusions of the European Council in Dublin which stressed the urgency of taking concerted international action against famine in Africa. It was repeated that the total amount needed for the countries most affected to bridge the gap until the next harvest was estimated at 2 million tonnes (cereals or equivalent), of which the Community and its Member States had undertaken to provide 1,2 million tonnes.

The necessary procedures for implementing this action were initiated immediately. Aid from the Community and its Member States breaks down as follows: Community aid programmed for 1985 (300 000 t), aid from Member States (400 000 t) and additional Community aid (500 000 t).

With regard to the additional aid, the Council noted with satisfaction that the necessary decisions to provide 175 MECU in finance were about to be adopted.

The Council thanked all the parties concerned, particularly the European Parliament and the Commission for their speedy and effective implementation of the European Council's conclusions.

GENERALIZED PREFERENCES

Following the agreement reached at the meeting on 26 November 1984 (¹) on the substance of the general scheme of preferences for 1985, the Council adopted three Regulations on the implementation of the 1985 scheme for industrial products, textile products and agricultural products, and a decision on steel products.

OWN RESOURCES

Given the rejection of the 1985 draft budget by the European Parliament and the urgent need to find a solution to the problem of the 1985 budgetary shortfall, the Council examined various possible solutions.

The Council concluded by instructing the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the matter with a view to enabling the Council to take a decision at its meeting in January 1985.

INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES

The Council discussed in detail the problems arising in connection with the implementation of the integrated Mediterranean programmes.

The Council concluded by asking the Commission to examine the situation in the light of its discussions and submit the outcome of its consideration of the matter for the meeting in January.

(¹) See press release 10855/84 (Presse 197), 26.11.1984, pp. 7 to 9.

GREENLAND

Having noted that the procedures for ratifying the Treaty on Greenland's change in status would not be completed in all the Member States before the end of the year, the Council discussed the implementation of interim measures designed to put Greenland, from 1 January 1985, in a position as close as possible to the position defined in the Treaty and the acts relating thereto as regards trade and fishery arrangements.

Some points, particularly the Community's fishing possibilities in Greenland waters for 1985, will have to be clarified by the Fisheries Council on 19 December.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the texts on the interim measures for Greenland from 1 January 1985 and have them approved by the Council before 31 December 1984.

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States appointed Mr Richard BURKE a Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities for the period up to and including 5 January 1985 to replace Mr Edgard PISANI, whose resignation took effect on 3 December 1984.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade questions and Customs Union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Decision on import quotas to be opened by Member States in respect of State-trading countries in 1985,
- the Regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Republic of Romania amending Annex II to the Protocol annexed to the Agreement on trade in industrial products,
- a third series of Regulations on Community tariff quotas and import arrangements for products originating in various countries in the Mediterranean basin: Morocco (sardines), Turkey (hazelnuts), certain agricultural products (GSP), agricultural products (3rd tariff dismantling - 1.1.1985 to 31.12.1986) following Decision No 1/80 of the EEC-Turkey Association Council, apricot pulp (amendment of the duty applicable within the tariff quota); Malta (certain agricultural products (GSP)),
- the Regulations:
 - = opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain spiced and salted herrings falling within subheading ex 16.04 C II of the Common Customs Tariff,
 - = totally and temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on krill intended for processing, falling within subheading ex 03.03 A V b) of the Common Customs Tariff,
- the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for boysenberries,

GATT

The Council authorized the Commission to open tariff negotiations or consultations with the Contracting Parties having rights under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement with a view to amending the concession on the Community tariff quota for newsprint (subheading 48.01 A).

Israel

The Council decided to sign and conclude the Third Additional Protocol to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel.

Portugal

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic concerning the implementation of specific financial aid (50 MECU in non-refundable aid) for improving agricultural and fisheries structures in Portugal.

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision extending the collection of information concerning the activities of carriers participating in cargo liner traffic in certain areas of operation.

International Sugar Agreement

Having noted the Commission report on the outcome of the negotiations for a new International Sugar Agreement which resulted in the conclusion in July 1984 that the conditions for an agreement with economic provisions did not exist, and in the consequent preparation of a purely administrative agreement, the Council adopted the Decision on the signing and approval of that Agreement for 1984 by the Community.

Culture

The Council and the Ministers responsible for Cultural Affairs, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Resolution on greater recourse to the European Social Fund in respect of cultural workers. See press release 10736/84 (Presse 194) of 22 November 1984, pp. 3 and 4.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent:

- under Article 54, second paragraph, of the ECSC Treaty to the granting of a global loan to
 - . Finance for Danish Industry A/S
 - . Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A.
 - . Den Danske Bank af 1871 A/S
- pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty for the grant of a global loan to Südwestdeutsche Genossenschafts-Zentralbank A.G. (SGZ-Bank), Frankfurt-am-Main, Federal Republic of Germany.

Appointment

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr J.G. COLLIER, Director-General of the United Kingdom Central Electricity Generating Board, a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee in place of Mr D.R. LOMER, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which expires on 31 March 1988.

PRESS RELEASE

11460/84 (Presse 223)

SECRET

979th Council meeting

- Industry/Steel -

Brussels, 17 December 1984

President: Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ib STEJTER
Minister for Industry

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN
Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs
Mr Dieter von WÜRZEN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Constantine VAITSOS
Minister for Economic Affairs

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Industrial Redeployment
and Foreign Trade

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State at the Department
of Energy and at the Department
of Industry, Trade, Commerce
and Tourism

Italy:

Mr Renato ALTISSIMO
Minister for Industry
Mr Clelio DARIDA
Minister for State Holdings

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS
Vice-President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
External Commerce and Co-operation
Mr Johny LAHURE
State Secretary for Economy

Netherlands:

Mr G.M.V. van AARDENNE
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Norman LAMONT
Minister of State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN - President
Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON - Vice-President
Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP - Vice-President
Mr Frans ANDRIESEN - Member
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES - Member

IRON AND STEEL

Restructuring and amending the aids code

The Council had further detailed discussions concerning the restructuring of the Community Steel industry and the proposal to amend the aids code in order to extend the payment of aids to continued operation until 31 December 1985, and to fix new deadlines for the giving of notice and the authorization of projects for additional aids.

At the close of discussions, the President drew the following conclusions:

"No request with a view to prolonging the aids code beyond 31.12.1985, date which the Commission considers unchangeable, has been received.

Before the end of July 1985 at latest, the Commission will put forward a communication setting out, for the period after the termination of the aids code (31.12.1985), the guidelines regarding the general state aids schemes likely to also be of application in the steel sector.

The Council has underlined the importance which it attaches to the good operation of the steel market with a view to creating the necessary conditions for the restructuring to be brought to a successful conclusion within the agreed timescale.

The Commission will put forward, at latest before the end of July 1985, a communication setting out its analysis of the problems likely to arise on the steel market during 1986 and will, if need be, put forward its suggestions in this respect.

During the discussion, progress has been made concerning the amendment of the timetable for granting operating aids authorized by the Commission on 29.6.1983. Moreover, the Commission has restated that the facility it requests enabling it to authorise supplementary aids, if need be, should be subordinated to precise conditions relating to the industrial efficiency and financial viability of the undertakings concerned, by the end of 1985. Agreement was, however, not found on all aspects. In consequence, the Council will return to these subjects in January 1985 with a view to take the decisions which the situation requires".

Modifications of Article 14 b

The Council held a wide ranging exchange of views on the Commission's proposal and agreed to come back to this matter at its next meeting, the Commission having declared its intention of re-examining certain elements of its proposal.

Adjustment of coated sheet arrangements

The Council noted the intention of the Commission to decide on the adjustment of the arrangements for coated sheets, the implementation of which will, however, be preceded by contacts with the industry to ascertain whether this would give rise to major problems. The Commission will report back to the Council on this matter at its next meeting.

Coated sheet investment projects

The Council took note of a report from Vice-President DAVIGNON on the Commission's decision on investment projects.

Situation on the scrap market

The Council heard statements from certain delegations on the disturbing situation regarding scrap supplies. The Council noted that the Commission was continuing to give its close attention to this problem on the basis of guidelines already submitted to delegations and that it would report to the next Council meeting.

Communication from the Italian delegation

The Council took note of a communication from the Italian delegation relating to its concern at any significant change in traditional trade patterns, in particular for coils for welded pipes and tubes.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Council welcomed a communication from the Commission giving an account of the results obtained in the area of Telecommunications and suggesting directions for future work.

The Council agreed that the following principal objectives should form the basis of the continuation of work in this area:

- (a) the creation of a Community market for telecommunication equipment and terminals via:
 - a standardization policy aimed at the effective implementation in the Community of common standards derived from international standards.,
 - the progressive application of procedures for the mutual recognition of conformance in terminals.
- (b) improving the development of advanced telecommunication services and networks:
 - (i) by opening discussions, based on the available studies, on:
 - the implementation of infrastructure projects of common interest.,
 - launching a development programme for the technology required in the long term for the implementation of future wide-band networks.
 - (ii) by defining and progressively setting up a video-communications system to link the various political authorities in the Community.

- (c) improved access for less favoured regions of the Community through the appropriate use of Community financial instruments, to the benefits of the development of advanced services and networks.
- (d) co-ordination of negotiating positions within the international organizations dealing with telecommunications, based on discussions carried out jointly with the senior officials group telecommunications.

EXPLORATION PROGRAMME FOR NON-ENERGY RAW MATERIALS

The Council reached general agreement on the content and the implementing rules of the Regulation on exploration programmes for non-energy raw materials within the territories of the Member States. It was agreed that this matter would be taken up again as soon as the budgetary aspects had been clarified in order to enable a formal decision to be taken rapidly thereafter.

STRUCTURE OF CUSTOMS TARIFFS ON CONSUMER ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

The Council had an exchange of views on a paper from the Commission concerning the structure of customs tariffs on consumer electronic products. It was agreed that the Council would come back to this question at its next meeting.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

11462/84 (Presse 225)

LIBRARY

980th Council meeting

- Internal Market/Consumer Protection -

Brussels, 18 December 1984

President : Mr John BRUTON

Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
of Ireland

18.XII.84

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER
State Secretary,
European Affairs and Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN
Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs

France:

Mrs Catherine LALUMIERE
State Secretary attached to the
Minister for Economic Affairs,
Finance and the Budget,
responsible for Consumer Affairs

Italy:

Mr Mario FIORET
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. van EEKELLEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ib STETTER
Minister for Industry

Greece:

Mr Andréas KAZAZIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Trade

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade
Commerce and Tourism
Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State at the
Department of Energy and the
Department of Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS
State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs, External Commerce and
Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mr Paul CHANNON
Minister for Trade

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT
Vice-President

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES
Member

SINGLE ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENT

Following the decision of principle taken at the Fontainebleau Summit in the framework of the strengthening of the Community internal market, the Council approved the basic texts concerning the introduction of a single document for complying with formalities in trade in goods between Member States.

Thus, for the first time, declarations for despatch, transit and the arrival of goods will be made on the same form in all the Member States.

Over and above the harmonization aspect, the importance of this reform is made even more clear due to the simplification which it entails since the single document

- will include a far lower number of data than is the case at present. The document contains 48 boxes which is the maximum amount of information required although traders will never have to fill in all 48 boxes at the same time
- will replace a large number of national documents
- will be perfectly adapted to computerization
- will also, with the addition of certain data, be able to be used in trade with third countries

Given the importance of this reform, the Council has provided for the effective application of the single document on 1 January 1988 not only to allow economic operators and administrations the necessary adaptation period, but also to enable the European institutions to make the necessary amendments to existing Community law, to draw up the implementing provisions and to perfect the system on the basis of practical tests.

It should also be pointed out that the period after 1987 will also probably see the introduction of other important reforms such as

- the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System which will be the first worldwide customs and statistical nomenclature
- the co-ordinated development of computerized administrative procedures in the Community

In the same spirit of the strengthening of the internal market, the Council approved a new set of rules on the simplification and standardization of statistics in intra-Community trade. However, the Commission still has to clarify certain technical questions with one delegation.

STANDARDIZATION

The Council took note of a communication from Mr NARJES concerning the strengthening of the internal market through a standardization policy.

The Council stressed the importance of work in this area and welcomed the substantial progress made to date. It considered that work undertaken at the Commission was progressing in a promising way and expressed the hope that concrete proposals would be submitted to the Commission to allow decisions to be taken by the Council.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC INTEREST GROUPING (EEIG)

The Council took note of a progress report on the proposal for a Regulation on the EEIG, which is intended to encourage cross-frontier co-operation between undertakings. In the light of progress already made, the Council expressed the hope that the Regulation might be adopted at an early date.

PHARMACY

The Council took up its examination of the proposals for Directives concerning the right of establishment in the field of pharmacy.

Discussion was concentrated on the outstanding problems, and in particular the effects of mutual recognition, the time limit for treating the taking over of a dispensary in the same way as the setting up of a new pharmacy, and the deadline for implementing the Directives.

The Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of this question in the light of today's discussions.

STOCKTAKING

Situation in the veterinary and plant health sectors

The Council heard a declaration from Commissioner NARJES concerning work in the field of the harmonization of veterinary, plant health and animal feedingstuffs legislation.

Having noted the major progress achieved in recent months, the Council expressed the hope that harmonization will actively continue along the lines of the Council Resolution of 10 May 1984 in the veterinary and plant health fields, which are of considerable interest for the smooth functioning of the internal market and of the Common Agricultural Policy, as well as for the protection of consumers and the environment.

Tax allowances for travellers, small consignments and fuel

Following discussion in the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of 10 December 1984, the Council returned to its examination of the compromise proposal from the Presidency on tax allowances for travellers, small consignments and fuel. The Council concluded that the situation was not yet ripe for a solution. It therefore invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on this matter in the light of today's discussions.

CONSUMER POLICY

The Council heard a statement from the Commission on progress achieved in the field of consumer policy.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other Internal Market decisions

The Council, in the spirit of strengthening the internal market and removing barriers to trade, adopted in the languages of the Communities the Directives

- amending Directive 80/181/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member states relating to units of measurement
- amending Directive 75/106/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids.

Shipbuilding

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive amending Directive 81/363/EEC on aid to shipbuilding.

Fisheries

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

- amending for the fifth time Regulation (EEC) N° 171/73 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources
- amending Regulation (EEC) N° 2204/82 laying down general rules for the granting of a special carry-over premium for Mediterranean sardines and anchovies.

PRESS RELEASE

11462/84 (Presse 225)

LIBRARY

980th Council meeting

- Internal Market/Consumer Protection -
Brussels, 18 December 1984
President : Mr John BRUTON

Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
of Ireland

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PRESS RELEASE

11556/84 (Presse 228)

LIBRARY

981st meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 19 December 1984

President: Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Phillippe MAYSTADT
Minister for Science Policy

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER
Minister for Education

Germany:

Mr H-H. HAUNSCHILD
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Research
and Technology

Greece:

Mr Georgios LIANIS
Minister for Research and
Technology

France:

Mr Hubert CURIEN
Minister for Research and
Technology

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism

Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State at the Department
of Energy and at the Department of
Industry, Trade, Commerce and
Tourism

Italy:

Mr Luigi GRANELLI
Minister for the Co-ordination
of Scientific and Technological
Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. van EEKELEN
State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Geoffrey PATTIE
Minister of State for Industry
and Information Technology

Commission:

Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice-President

DECISION ON THE COMMUNITY'S MULTIANNUAL RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

It should be noted that at the beginning of 1984 the Council decided to adopt

- the JRC's 1984-1987 multiannual programme for an amount of 700 million ECU
- the 1984-1987 ESPRIT programme for an amount of 750 million ECU

in the context of the implementation of the 1984-1987 framework programme of Community scientific and technical activities.

In the same context, subject to the Opinions of the European Parliament which were still awaited in the case of certain programmes, the Council approved at this meeting the amounts considered necessary to be entered in programme decisions in the following areas:

	Total duration	Amount considered necessary
- Fusion	5 years	690 MECU
- Radiation protection and radioactive waste	5 years	120 MECU
- Biotechnology	5 years	55 MECU
- Stimulation	4 years	60 MECU
- BRITE	4 years	125 MECU
- Non-nuclear energy	4 years	175 MECU
Total:		1 225 MECU

It was agreed that the JCR was to implement the reactor safety programme.

The Council also agreed that, for all these research programmes falling within the framework programme, the Commission would submit to the Council before the end of July 1986 an appraisal covering:

- their operation
- their scientific value
- their Community interest.

If necessary, the Commission will also submit proposals to the Council on the continuation or development of these programmes.

The Council undertook to re-examine and, if necessary, to revise the programmes, having regard to its previous undertaking regarding the gradual increase of expenditure on Community R & D activities.

1985 WORK PROGRAMME FOR ESPRIT

The Council approved the Decision adopting the 1985 work programme for ESPRIT, as proposed by the Commission. Like the 1984 programme, this programme covers the following five areas: advanced micro-electronics, software technology, advanced information processing, office systems and computer-integrated manufacture.

The Council agreed to deal at its next research meeting with the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), which item was still on its agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Economic situation: annual report

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision adopting the annual report on the economic situation in the Community.

Trade questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2925/78 (further extension to 31 December 1985 of the period of suspension of application of the price condition to which imports into the Community of certain types of citrus fruit originating in Spain are subject).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on export arrangements for certain types of non-ferrous metal waste and scrap.

Malta

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the autonomous extension of the arrangements applicable to trade with Malta until 30 June 1985.

Cyprus

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the autonomous extension of the arrangements applicable to trade with Cyprus until 30 June 1985.

Transport

Following the general agreement on 10 May 1984 which was confirmed at subsequent Transport Council meetings, the Council proceeded with the formal adoption of a package of measures in the transport sector, viz.:

- the Directive on the weights, dimensions and certain other technical characteristics of certain road vehicles
- the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States
- the Regulation on a specific measure in the field of transport infrastructure
- the Recommendation on strengthening the co-operation of the national railway companies of the Member States in international passenger and goods transport
- the Directive on the use of vehicles hired without drivers for the carriage of goods by road
- the Regulation amending Regulation No 11 concerning the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions, in implementation of Article 79(3) of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council also adopted the Resolution on road safety in the official languages of the Communities.

All of these Decisions have already been the subject of earlier press releases (Nos 6993/84 (Presse 82) of 10 May 1984, 10362/84 (Presse 182) of 8 November 1984 and 11264/84 (Presse 215) of 11/12 December 1984).

It should be noted, however, that the Directive on weights and dimensions provides that Member States may not reject or prohibit the use within their territories in international traffic of vehicles registered or put into circulation in any Member State for reasons relating to their weights and dimensions, provided that such vehicles comply with certain limit values in terms of weight, dimensions, noise and emissions.

Values for the driving axles or for the tandem or tri-axes of tractor vehicles will, however, continue to be fixed by the Member State in which the vehicle is in circulation, pending the fixing of limit values by the Council. Moreover, the application of certain provisions in Ireland and the United Kingdom is postponed, in the context of arrangements to be adopted by the Council by the end of February 1987 at the latest.

Among the limit values fixed by the Directive are, in particular:

<u>Maximum length</u>	
- motor vehicle	12,00 m
- trailer	12,00 m
- articulated vehicle	15,50 m
- road train	18,00 m
<u>Maximum width</u> (any vehicle)	2,50 m
<u>Maximum height</u> (any vehicle)	4,00 m
Maximum authorized weight for combined vehicles with 5 or 6 axles	40 t
Maximum authorized weight for a 3-axle motor vehicle with 2 or 3-axle semi-trailer transporting a 40-foot ISO container in a combined transport operation	44 t
Maximum authorized weight per single non-driving axle	10 t

The Directive on the hiring of road vehicles is aimed at authorizing the use of vehicles hired without drivers for the carriage of goods by road for both own and others' account, whether in traffic between Member States or national traffic. Transport pursuant to a Community liberalization measure or under cover of an authorized Community or bilateral quota will, therefore, be possible using vehicles hired without drivers.

PRESS RELEASE

11463/84 (Presse 226)

LIBRARY

982nd meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 19/20 December 1984

President: Mr Patrick O'TOOLE
Minister for Fisheries
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER
State Secretary,
European Affairs and
Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Henning GROVE
Minister for Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN
Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Andreas KORAKAS
Agricultural Counsellor

France:

Mr Guy LENGAGNE
State Secretary responsible
for the Sea, attached to the
Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Patrick O'TOOLE
Minister for Fisheries
Mr Michael D'ARCY
Minister of State at the
Department of Fisheries and
Forestry

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI
Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr A. PLOEG
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael Jopling
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr John MacGREGOR
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Lord GRAY
Minister of State at the Scottish
Office

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEOGRIS - Member

1985 TACs AND QUOTAS

The Council approved in principle the Regulation fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks occurring in the Community's fishing zone, provisional total allowable catches for 1985, the provisional share of these catches available to the Community, the allocation of that share between the Member States and the conditions under which the total allowable catches may be fished. The fisheries possibilities for 1985 are set out in Annex I.

By reaching agreement at this stage, the Council was able to meet the objectives which it had set itself at its meeting of 24/25 May 1984, namely to fix Tacs and Quotas for 1985 during December 1984 at the latest in order to ensure the proper management of all fishing activities and, at the same time, the satisfactory application of the policy for the conservation and management of fish stocks.

Today's agreement will ensure the protection of fishing grounds and fish stocks and the balanced exploitation of the resources of the sea, in the interests of both fishermen and consumers. The agreement also takes into account the Community's commitments to a number of third countries, in particular Norway, and the provisional implementation of certain measures reflecting the provisions in the Greenland Treaty (See Annex II).

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES APPLICABLE
TO VESSELS FLYING THE FLAG OF SPAIN

In the prospect of Spain joining the Community on 1 January 1986, the Council reached agreement on the Regulation which extends for 1985 the catch possibilities for Spanish vessels in Community waters laid down in the 1984 Regulation.

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES APPLICABLE
TO VESSELS FLYING THE FLAG OF CERTAIN NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES
IN THE 200-NAUTICAL-MILE ZONE OFF THE COAST OF THE FRENCH
DEPARTMENT OF GUYANA

The Council agreed on the Regulation concerning the fishing arrangements to be laid down for vessels flying the flag of certain non-member countries in the 200-nautical-mile zone off the coast of the French Department of Guyana for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1985.

Pending the completion of internal procedures in one Member State, the Council adopted the above Regulations for the period 1 - 20 January 1985.

COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN FISHERY PRODUCTS

The Council adopted a Regulation designed to end as from 1 July 1985 the total suspension of customs duty on whole cod and fillets of cod, dried, salted or in brine.

REGULATION OPENING, ALLOCATING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY TARIFF QUOTAS FOR HERRINGS, FRESH OR CHILLED

The Council, following the agreement in principle reached at its meeting on 4 December 1984, adopted the Regulation opening until 14 February 1985, a Community tariff quota for 10 000 tonnes of herrings and herring flaps, fresh or chilled, meeting certain characteristics which make these products suitable for certain culinary preparations.

RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council heard a report from Commissioner CONTOGEOGRIS concerning fishery relations between the Community and certain third countries.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Customs Union

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of the Community tariff quota for newsprint, falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff (1985) and extending the benefit of that quota to certain other papers.

The quota for newsprint (1985) of 650 000 tonnes will be allocated as follows:

	<u>From Canada</u>	<u>From other third countries</u>
Benelux	40 400	8 150
Denmark	600	76
Germany	88 000	15 822
Greece	1 000	10 818
France	5 500	1 395
Ireland	7 000	9
Italy	5 000	1 723
United Kingdom	402 500	6 647
	<u>550 000</u>	<u>45 000</u>
Reserve	50 000	5 000
Total	<u>600 000</u>	<u>50 000</u>

Agricultural decisions

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

- the Directive extending until 30 September 1985 Directive 74/329/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners and gelling agents for use in foodstuffs
- the Regulation extending Regulation (EEC) N° 3310/75 on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
- the Directive amending a first series of Directives on the approximation of the laws of the Member States in the foodstuffs sector as regards extending for two years the involvement of the Standing Committee for Foodstuffs
- the Decisions concerning
 - = the equivalence of field inspections carried out in third countries on seed-producing crops
 - = the equivalence of seed produced in third countries
- the Regulation extending until 31 March 1987 the Regulation (EEC) N° 652/79 on the impact of the European Monetary System on the Common Agricultural Policy
- the Regulations amending
 - = Regulation (EEC) N° 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine
 - = Regulation (EEC) 358/79 on sparkling wines produced in the Community.
 - = Regulation (EEC) N° 338/79 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions
- the Regulation concerning the import system applicable to certain non-member countries in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector in 1985
- the Regulation opening a Community tariff quota of 2 250 t for frozen buffalo meat

- the Regulation prolonging for one year Regulation (EEC) N° 351/79 concerning the addition of alcohol to products in the wine sector
- the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) N° 2915/79 as regards the implementation of the arrangements applicable to imports of certain cheeses originating in Finland

GATT

The Council adopted the Decision concerning the conclusion of the agreement for a concerted discipline between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland concerning reciprocal trade in cheese.

Social policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Council Decision to combat poverty ⁽¹⁾.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Resolution on action to combat long-term unemployment ⁽¹⁾.

EFTA

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision of the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, concerning the opening of tariff preferences in Greece for products within the competence of this Community and originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

⁽¹⁾ See Press release 11265/84 (Presse 216) of 13 December 1984.

STOCK	TAC	EEC share	D	DK	DE	F	IRL	NL	UK
COD IIa(EC zone) IV	250.000	228.850 ⁽¹⁾	8.160	46.880 ⁽¹⁾	29.720	10.080		26.480	107.530
HADDOCK IIa(EC zone)IV	207.000	166.000	1.770	12.170	7.740	13.490		1.330	129.500
HADDOCK Vb(EC zone)VI	36.000	36.000	80		100	3.970	2.830		29.020
PLAICE VIIa	5.000	5.000	260			110	2.000	80	2.550
PLAICE VIII d, e	6.500*	6.500	1.060			3.550			1.890
PLAICE VIII f, g	1.400*	1.400	345			625	100		330
SOLE VIIa	1.250	1.250	620			10	150	195	275
SOLE VIIe	1.400*	1.400	50			525			825
SOLE VIII f, g	1.200	1.200	750			70	30		350
MACKEREL IIa(EC zone)	37.000	10.000	330	8.350	330	330		330	330
IIIa, IIIb, c, d (EC zone) IV									
MACKEREL II(exc. EC zone)	409.500	375.000			24.000	16.000	80.000	35.000	220.000
Vb (EC zone) VI, VII									
VIII (EC zone), XII									
SPRAT IIa(EC zone)IV	153.000	130.000	1.300	89.700	3.250	1.300		1.250	32.500
SPRAT VIII e	20.000	20.000	100	6.500	100	1.700		1.700	10.500
HORSE MACKEREL IIa (EC zone) IV (EC zone)	18.500*	17.500							
HORSE MACKEREL Vb(EC zone)VI, VII	145.000*	140.000							
HORSE MACKEREL VIII (EC zone)	17.500*	17.500							

(1) Plus 2.000 tonnes allocated to Denmark outside the Community share of the TAC

* Precautionary TAC

- Moreover the TAC for sole in Area VIII has been increased; consequently France will be able to fish for an additional 200 t of sole.

STOCK	TAC	EEC share	D	DK	D.	F	IRL	NI	UK
Hake IIIa, IIIb,c,d (EC zone)	1.500*	1.500		1.500					
Hake IIa (EC zone) IV	2.200*	2.200	40	840	100	600		100	520
Hake Vb (EC zone) VI, VII	20.000*	15.920	200			10.420	1.500	90	3.910
Hake VII (EC zone)	15.300*	10.480	10			10.460		10	
Blue whiting IIa (EC zone), IV	65.000	60.000							
Anglerfish Vb (EC zone) VI	7.800*	7.500			300	3.050	10	210	3.950
Anglerfish VII	25.870*	24.920	2.780		270	15.580	2.270	560	5.160
Anglerfish VIII (EC zone)	8.530*	7.650				7.650			
Hegrim Vb (EC zone) VI	4.400*	3.900				1.950	310		1.640
Hegrim VII	11.980*	9.880	390			5.260	2.580		1.650
Hegrim VIII (EC zone)	1.120*	670				670			
Herring IIa (EC zone) IVa (EC zone) IVb (EC zone)		228.650		72.770	45.520	4.500		47.570	58.490
Herring IVc, VIId	90.000	90.000	9.120	4.810	3.070	30.650		32.650	9.200
Herring Vb (EC zone) VIa, North (8) VIb	56.500	50.400			5.640	1.070	2.610	5.650	30.450

* Precautionary TAC

Allocation of Community catch quotas in Greenland waters
for the year 1985

Species	Area	Community quotas (1) (tonnes)	Member State shares (tonnes)		Unallocated (tonnes) (2)	Faroe Islands (3)	
						Catch quotas (tonnes)	No of licences
1	2	3	4		5	6	7
Cod	NAFO 1	(*)					
	ICES XIV/V	11.500	Germany 10.000 United Kingdom 1.500		-	-	-
Redfish	NAFO 1	5.500	Germany 5.395 United Kingdom 105		-	-	-
	ICES XIV/V	57.820	Germany 57.140 France 410 United Kingdom 270		-	500	3
Greenland halibut	NAFO 1	1.850	Germany 1.290 United Kingdom 60		- 500	150	3
	ICES XIV/V	3.750	Germany 3.090 United Kingdom 160		500	150	3
Halibut	NAFO 1	200			200	-	-
Shrimps	NAFO 1	1.300	France 425 Denmark 425		450	475 (4)	5
	ICES XIV/V	3.050	France 500 Denmark 500		2.050	675 (5)	9
Catfish	NAFO 1	2.000	Germany 2.000		-	-	-
Blue Whiting	ICES XIV/V	30.000		30.000	-	-	-
Capelin	ICES XIV	-		-	-	10.000	10

(1) except for quantities envisaged for Greenland fishermen.

(2) may be allocated in whole or in part to third countries.

(3) allocation additional to the catch quotas specified in column 3, allocated to the Faroe Islands under the EEC/Faroe Islands Fisheries Agreement.

(4) South of 68°N; may only be fished after 1 July 1985.

(5) Maximum of 405 t may be fished until 30 June 1985.

(*) Fishing by Germany and the United Kingdom on the quotas fixed by Regulation (EEC) No 320/84 may continue until 31 January 1985