

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: LUXEMBOURG

JANUARY-JUNE 1976

Meetings and press releases January-March 1976

Meeting number	Subject	Date
379 th	Agriculture	19-20 January 1976
380 th	Foreign Affairs	20 January 1976
381 st	Foreign Affairs	9 February 1976
382 nd	Economics/Finance	16 February 1976
383 rd	Agriculture	16-17 February 1976
384 th	Research	24 February 1976
385 th	Foreign Affairs	1-2 March 1976
386 th	Agriculture	2-3 March 1976
387 th	Economics/Finance	15 March 1976
388 th	Energy	25 March 1976

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

379th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 19 and 20 January 1976

President: Mr Jean HAMILIUS,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS
Mr Albert BERCHEM

Minister for Agriculture
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI
Mr P.J. LARDINOIS

President
Member

STRUCTURAL POLICY

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on a series of measures relating to the policy for agricultural structures, i.e. the proposals concerning

- forestry measures,
- special aid for young farmers who have been farming for less than five years and are implementing development plans,
- producers' groups and unions,
- joint action to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and sold.

The Council's discussions enabled the delegations to state their positions on both the general development of the Community structural policy and the various proposals under discussion. In this context also, the Council took note of the Commission's intention to submit a report to it shortly on the experience obtained in applying the existing socio-structural directives.

At the close of its discussion, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue its examination of the four abovementioned proposals in the light of the Commission's report and of the Council's discussions at the present meeting, and agreed to resume its discussions on the structural policy as a whole once the negotiations on the prices for the 1976/1977 marketing year were completed.

WINE

The President of the Commission of the European Community, Mr Francois-Xavier ORTOLI emphasized to the Council the political importance of a satisfactory solution being found to the questions still outstanding as regards the adaptation of the rules on wine. The Council requested Mr P.J. LARDINOIS, the Member of the Commission with special responsibility for Agriculture, to take all the necessary steps to enable a satisfactory solution to be reached at the earliest opportunity.

POTATOES

Following a poor harvest, the reduced supply has brought about an increase in the price of potatoes on the Community market. To redress the situation, the Council enacted the Regulation totally suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty on ware potatoes until 28 March 1976.

FIXING OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES FOR 1976/1977

The Council conducted a policy debate on the fixing of agricultural prices for the 1976/1977 marketing year and certain connected measures, which pointed up delegations' viewpoints on the aims and relevant measures to be put in hand as regards a number of particularly important products.

Firstly, the Council directed its attention to a number of general questions, one of which was the objective method adopted by the Commission in framing its price proposals and agri-monetary measures.

The delegations then went on to state how important it was that a satisfactory arrangement be found for a number of products including cereals, beef and veal, milk, wine and olive oil.

This discussion enabled the Council to evolve the groundlines for its subsequent proceedings on the matter, which will continue within the Special Committee on Agriculture with a view to preparing the next Council meeting scheduled to be held on 16/17 and (possibly) 18 February 1976.

FISHERIES

The Council discussed the problems of the fisheries sector and particularly the situation as regards fish quotas.

It adopted the principle of a temporary authorization by the Community for the quotas taken out by the Member States within the NEAFC for 1976 and asked the Commission to submit appropriate proposals to enable it to consider a Community management system for the relevant catch quotas during the current year.

DATE FOR 1975/76 AND 1976/77 MILK MARKETING YEAR

In view of the fact that the end of the current milk year was close to the date for fixing agricultural prices for the forthcoming year, the Council agreed to defer the closing date of the current year by 1 month, viz. until 29 February 1976, and adopted a Regulation to this end in the official languages of the Communities.

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The Council agreed to hold over the remaining items on the agenda until its next meeting on agricultural matters.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the estimate of beef and veal intended for the processing industry for the period 1 January to 31 December 1976.

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It also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations codifying the acts adopted in the fisheries sector. The aim of this codifying is to collate, in an updated compilation, all the acts adopted in the fisheries sector since the introduction of organization of the market.

PRESS RELEASE

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380th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 20 January 1976

President: Mr Gaston THORN,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

20.I.76

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

Belgium:

Mr Renaat VAN ELSLANDE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External Economic
Relations and Nordic Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI Minister of State,
Federal Foreign Office

France:

Mr Jean SAUVAGNARGUES Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Bernard DESTREMAU State Secretary,
Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Mariano RUMOR
Mr Adolfo BATTAGLIA

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max VAN DER STOEL
Mr Laurens Jan BRINKHORST

Minister for Foreign Affairs
State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr James CALLAGHAN

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI
Sir Christopher SOAMES
Mr Claude CHEYSSON
Mr Guido BRUNNER

President
Vice-President
Member
Member

SPAIN

The Council noted that the present situation no longer precluded the resumption of contacts with Spain regarding the negotiations which were interrupted in October 1975.

The Council exchanged information on the talks held recently with representatives of the new Spanish Government and noted that further conversations would be held in the near future. It will discuss the entire situation further at its meeting on 9 February 1976.

RELATIONS WITH CANADA

The Council noted that, since the necessary directives had now been drawn up, the Community was ready to begin negotiations with Canada with a view to the conclusion of a framework agreement on commercial and economic co-operation.

It expressed the particular hope that it would soon be possible to reach a satisfactory agreement with the Canadian authorities regarding the importance of the problem of non-discriminatory access to resources and of stability of supply.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Council heard a statement by its President on the programme of work for the first half of 1976, which appears to be dominated by three major political issues, namely:

- the Conference on International Economic Co-operation;
- the drafting of the Convention on the election of members to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage;
- the response to be given to the Tindemans report.

The statement also outlined the other areas in which the Council should deploy its main efforts, both in external relations and in the other sectors. The President here expressed uneasiness, particularly on the considerable difference between the vigour shown by the Community in its external relations and its slow progress domestically.

The Council also took note of a communication from the President taking stock of the work of the Council as variously constituted.

OVERALL MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH

The Council was informed orally by the Commission of the outcome of negotiations with the three Maghreb countries, which terminated respectively on 7.1.76 (Tunisia), 8.1.76 (Morocco) and 17.1.76 (Algeria). It welcomed this successful conclusion to an important stage in negotiations with Mediterranean countries and expressed the wish that, once formally approved by both parties, the Agreements could be signed in the near future.

The Council was further pleased to note the successful conclusion to negotiations with Malta. It approved the substance of the outcome of the negotiations on the understanding that the texts would be formally adopted immediately following their technical examination. The Agreement should therefore be signed in the very near future.

The Council formally adopted directives empowering the Commission to open negotiations with the Machrek countries (Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria). The Commission stated that the dates for the opening of negotiations with Egypt, Jordan and Syria had already been settled.

GREECE AND TURKEY

The Council called upon all delegations to expedite work on the finalization of the Community position as regards the current negotiations at EEC-Greece and EEC-Turkey Association Council level.

PORTUGAL

The Council decided to authorize the Commission to open negotiations with Portugal, pursuant to the future developments clause of the Free Trade Agreement concluded with Portugal on 22 July 1972, on the extension of that Agreement, thereby promoting a strengthening of the links between the Community and Portugal and giving tangible form to European solidarity with democratic developments in Portugal.

YUGOSLAVIA

On account of the political importance which it attaches to co-operation with Yugoslavia, the Council, for its part, agreed that Yugoslavia might approach the EIB to seek a contribution (up to a certain amount and subject to market conditions) to the financing of projects of common European interest, on the understanding that any decision on actual projects would be taken by the Board of Governors in accordance with the Statute of the Bank.

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

The Council and the Commission agreed to nominate as representatives of the European Economic Community Mr R. WELLENSTEIN, to act as joint Chairmen of the Commission on Development, and Mr A. DONDELINGER, to act as Joint Chairman of the Commission on Financial Affairs.

The Council also agreed on the internal procedural and organizational provisions to govern Community activity connected with this Conference.

The Council took note of the degree of preparation of the Community position for the meeting of Joint Chairmen on 26 January 1976, and of the meeting of the Commissions on 11 February 1976.

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

After discussing the question of Community participation in the IFAD, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to consider the matter further.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading No 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff;
- the Regulation fixing indicative ceilings and establishing Community supervision of imports of certain products originating in EFTA countries (1976);
- the Decision (of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community) establishing the supervision of imports of certain ECSC products originating in Sweden and Austria (1976);
- the Directives
 - on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making-up by weight or volume of certain prepackaged products;
 - relating to a derogation accorded to the Kingdom of Denmark relative to the rules governing turnover tax and excise duty applicable in international travel;
 - on reciprocal recognition of navigability licences for inland waterway vessels;
- the Decisions authorizing the Commission to
 - participate in the negotiations for the conclusion of a Convention on the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution;
 - open negotiations with India and Bangladesh for the conclusion of new agreements on trade in jute products.

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ACP/OCT

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulations
 - on the safeguard measures provided for in the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé;
 - on the system for guaranteeing the stabilization of export earnings from certain commodities to benefit the ACP States and the Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the Community;
- the Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community on the opening of tariff preferences for products within the province of that Community originating in the Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the Community.

The Council also signified its agreement to the arrangements applicable to imports of rum originating in the OCT as from 1 March 1976.

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Further to the Commission communication concerning the general application of the consultation procedure for co-operation agreements established by the Decision of 22 July 1974, the Council agreed that this consultation procedure should now extend to co-operation agreements between Member States and all third countries.

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The Council appointed as members of the ECSC Consultative Committee,

- on a proposal by the Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens de Belgique, Mr Emile VANDENDRIESSCHE, to replace the late Mr OOMS until the end of his period of office, i.e. 24 June 1976;
- on a proposal by the British Government, Mr L.F. TIDD, Director and Secretary, British Iron and Steel Consumer's Association, to replace the late Mr FRYE until the end of his period of office, i.e. 24 June 1976.

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The Council appointed Mr F.F. JARVIS, a member of the General Council and General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers, as a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, for the period ending on 13 October 1978.

PRESS RELEASE

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381st meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 9 February 1976

President: Mr Gaston THORN,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

169/76 (Presse 8)

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

Belgium:

Mr Renaat VAN ELSLANDE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External Economic
Relations and Nordic Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI Minister of State,
Federal Foreign Office

France:

Mr Jean SAUVAGNARGUES Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Justin KEATING Minister for Industry and
Commerce

Italy:

Mr Mariano RUMOR Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max VAN DER STOEL Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Laurens Jan BRINKHORST State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr James CALLAGHAN Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI	President
Sir Christopher SOAMES	Vice-President
Mr George THOMSON	Member
Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Member
Mr Guido BRUNNER	Member
Mr Albert BORSCHETTE	Member
Mr P.J. LARDINOIS	Member

ENERGY PROBLEMS

The Council took note of a statement by Mr ORTOLI, President of the Commission, in which he outlined the main points of the communication and reports on energy problems which the Commission submitted to the Council on 20 January.

The President of the Council stressed the importance and urgency of making progress in working out a Community energy policy and noted that a Council meeting on energy was scheduled to take place during the first fortnight in March.

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

The Council prepared the Community positions for the meetings of the four Commissions of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation which are due to begin in Paris on 11 February.

The Council approved the guidelines to be followed by the Community spokesmen in the talks on the work programme for each Commission.

DIRECT ELECTIONS

The Council noted that the Permanent Representatives Committee was to submit to it, at its meeting on 1 and 2 March, a general report on the question of direct elections to the European Parliament. This report should enable the Council to hold a fruitful discussion on this important matter in preparation for a decision at the meeting of the European Council on 1 and 2 April.

The Council again discussed the problem of the allocation of seats.

PROBLEMS FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY RAISED BY THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONES

The Council heard an interim oral report by the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee concerning the preparatory talks already held on the matter and noted that the Commission intended to submit concrete proposals on new Community arrangements in the near future.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to resume work on the matter without delay with a view to preparing for a thorough Council discussion of the matter later.

GATT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS: TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Noting that the necessary discussions with a view to preparing the Community offer for tropical products in the framework of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations were already under way, the Council reaffirmed its will to decide on this offer after the debate to be held on the matter at its meeting on 1 and 2 March.

CANADA

The Council adopted the decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with Canada with a view to concluding framework agreement for economic and commercial co-operation between the Community and Canada.

The agreement to be negotiated will not replace the already existing agreements between the Member States and Canada, but will give them an additional Community dimension. The competence of Member States to act bilaterally in economic co-operation will not be affected.

The agreement would allow for further development; no field of economic co-operation would be excluded a priori, and concrete opportunities for co-operation would be explored in the Joint Committee. To this end, the Community would base its position on common positions worked out beforehand in accordance with Community procedures.

When adopting its decision, the Council expressed satisfaction that the way was now open for an agreement which would facilitate closer links between the Community and Canada and would add a new dimension to those already existing between Canada and each of the Member States.

AID FOR THE DISASTER VICTIMS IN GUATEMALA

The Council devoted attention to the situation in Guatemala after the earthquakes which have devastated the country. It decided to set up a working party which would have the task of determining how to implement emergency Community aid measures and to co-ordinate as far as possible aid projects by individual Member States.

GREECE'S REQUEST FOR ACCESSION

After noting - in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties - the Commission's opinion with regard to Greece's request for accession, the Council stated that it was in favour of this request.

It agreed that the preparatory talks essential to the establishment of a common basis for negotiation should take place as soon as possible in a positive spirit.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare its discussions to this end, with the assistance of the Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- the Regulations
 - maintaining in effect interim protective measures adopted regarding imports of certain textile products originating in the Republic of Korea;
 - concluding the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters relating to Article 3 of Protocol No 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic (tomato preserves);
 - totally suspending until 28 March 1976 Common Customs Tariff duties on seed potatoes falling within sub-heading 07.01 A I and new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II (a);
- the Resolution of the Council and of the Ministers of Education, meeting within the Council, comprising an action programme in the field of education; ⁽¹⁾

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

- the Decision on import arrangements for products falling within subheading 22.09 C I of the Common Customs Tariff originating in the Overseas Countries and Territories associated with the European Economic Community;
- the Regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for these products.

⁽¹⁾ See press release 1491/75 (Presse 146) of 10 December 1975.

Social Policy

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

- the Regulations
 - amending the provisions on trade union rights of workers contained in Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community;
 - on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers;
- the Decision on intervention by the European Social Fund in favour of persons occupied in the textile and clothing industries;
- the Resolution on an action programme for migrant workers and members of their families
- the Directive on the implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women as regards access to employment, vocational training and advancement, and working conditions.

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The Council gave the assents requested by the Commission, pursuant to

- Article 56 (2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty (Vald. Birn Ltd., United Kingdom);
- Article 55 (2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty on the advisability of making over funds deriving from ECSC levies to coal research programmes;
- the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty to the financing of the construction of a coal-fired thermal power station (50 MW) in Münster by the Stadtwerke Münster GmbH;
- Article 55 (2)(c) of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community on the advisability of granting financial aid to 12 technical research projects in the iron and steel sector;
- the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, in respect of the financing of the erection of a bulk goods handling facility in the port of Hamburg by Hansaport GmbH;
- the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, to the partial financing of the British Steel Corporation's share in the costs of an investment project designed to extract and pelletize iron ore from a new mine at Fire Lake, Quebec (Canada).

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On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mrs D.M. KENT, Under-Secretary in the Department of Employment, a member, and Mr B. WINKETT, Assistant Secretary, Department of Employment, an alternate member, of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr LARSEN, full member, who has resigned, and Mr RIMINGTON, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, i.e. until 28 October 1977.

On a proposal from the Belgian Government, the Council appointed Mr Jean GAYETOT, Secrétaire National de la Fédération Générale du Travail de Belgique, a member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr GENOT, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 28 October 1977.

On a proposal from the German Government, the Council appointed Mr BARTH, Regierungsdirektor, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, an alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund, to replace Mr NEHRING, alternate member, for the period ending on 28 October 1977.

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On a proposal from the Italian Permanent Representation, the Council appointed Dott. Nicola FIORE, Inspettore Dirigente, Ministero del Lavoro e della Previdenza Sociale, a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, in the Government representatives category, to replace Mr ALBERIGO, who has taken up other duties, for the period ending 15 October 1978.

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On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr R.W. SEABOURN, International Relations Division, Department of Health and Social Security, a full member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers, to replace Mr PARROTT, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office i.e. until 28 April 1976.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

382nd meeting of the Council

- Economy/Finance -

Brussels, 16 February 1976

President: Mr Raymond VOUEL
Minister for Finance of
the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented by the following:

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Knud HEINESEN	Minister for Finance
Mr Per HAERKERUP	Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Kurt HANSEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans APEL	Federal Minister for Finance
Mr Karl Otto POEHL	State Secretary, Ministry of Finance
Mr Otto SCHLECHT	State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Jean-Pierre FOURCADE	Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance
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Ireland:

Mr Richie RYAN	Minister for Finance
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Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO	Minister for the Treasury
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Luxembourg:

Mr Raymond VOUEL

Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Altiero SPINELLI

Member

Mr Albert BORSCHETTE

Member

COMMUNITY LOANS

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, the Council today approved, on the basis of Regulation No 397/75 of 17 February 1975, a loan to Ireland of US \$300 million and laid down the economic policy conditions to be observed by Ireland. The Council will formally adopt the Decision as soon as all the conditions of the loan to be underwritten by the Community have been agreed upon between the Commission and the lender or lenders.

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, submitted verbally at the meeting by Mr HAFERKAMP, Vice-President of the Commission, the Council authorized the Commission, pursuant to Article 2 of Council Regulation No 397/75 of 17 February 1975 on Community loans, to open negotiations with a view to raising a loan of one thousand million US dollars for Italy on the international market and asked the Commission to take the necessary steps so that the decision on the conclusion of this transaction and the corresponding loan to Italy could be adopted at the Council meeting on 15 March 1976.

EXPORT CREDITS

The Council discussed the problems of official support for export credits.

It noted that the Commission proposed to submit proposals on this subject.

16.II.76

MINIMUM PRICES FOR STEEL PRODUCTS

The Council gave the consultation requested by the Commission pursuant to Article 61(6) of the ECSC Treaty on the advisability of applying a measure introducing minimum prices within the Common Market for steel products.

It was agreed that before taking a decision on the introduction of a minimum price system the Commission should consult the Council again on the level of such prices.

16.II.76

The other items on the agenda: "Economic situation in the Community" and "Budgetary unit of account" will be discussed at the next Council meeting on economic and financial questions, on 15 March.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with India for the conclusion of a new agreement on trade in coir products.

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The Council recorded its agreement to a Community delegation participating in the Conference in London, due to take place on 19 February 1976, with a view to drawing up the text of the Protocols on the third extension of the 1971 International Wheat Agreement.

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The Council gave the assent requested by the Commission under Article 95, first paragraph of the ECSC Treaty to enable the Commission to take a decision regarding the Community system of aid from the Member States for the coal mining industry.

PRESS RELEASE

383rd meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 16/17 February 1976

President:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Minister for Agriculture
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 18 February 1976
235/76 (Presse 13) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M
to Press Release
No 235/76 (Presse 13)
of 17 February 1976

LIBRARY

Page 6: last line:

Read: This tax amounts to 25 UA/100 kg.

17.II.76

Netherlands:

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

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr William ROSS

Secretary of State for
Scotland

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS

Member

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FIXING OF PRICES AND CONNECTED MEASURES

Continuing its discussions on the fixing of agricultural prices for 1976/77 and connected measures, the Council examined in detail the most important problems arising in the various specific sectors and the so-called "horizontal" - i.e. agri-monetary - measures.

The basic purpose of the discussion was to determine more accurately the key problems to be resolved if an overall solution was to be worked out at the next meeting on agricultural questions, the discussion thus involved in particular cereals (distinction between wheat of bread-making quality and fodder wheat, durum wheat, the prices of other cereals and rice), milk and milk products (absorbing of surpluses etc.) beef and veal (system of guarantees to be provided - the question of premiums) and oils and fats (price level and level of aid for olive oil production).

The Council noted that considerable thought and complicated technical preparations were needed before a solution to the various problems could be reached and agreed to postpone its next meeting, planned for 23/24 February, to 2/3 March.

In view of the fact that this meeting will take place after the close of the 1975/76 milk year as originally laid down, the Council extended the milk year by two weeks, up to 14 March 1976. For purchases made by the intervention agencies in the milk sector during the period 1 to 14 March 1976, these agencies will pay vendors, over and above the purchase price for the 1975/76 milk year, a sum equal to the difference between that purchase price and the purchase price for the beginning of the 1976/77 milk year.

The Council has also fixed 14 March as the end of the marketing year for beef and veal, and without prejudice to its final decisions in this field, it has authorized the grant to producers of adult bovine animals of a national premium of 77.06 UA from 1 March to that date. If the Council should adopt a new system of premiums for the 1976/77 marketing year similar to those provided for in Regulation No 464/75, the rules laid down for any financing of these premiums shall be applied in a similar fashion to the corresponding premiums applicable during the period from 1 to 14 March 1976. As regards the system of premiums for the birth of calves, the Council has agreed that this should be continued until the end of the marketing year as laid down initially, that is until 4 April next.

17.II.76

POTATOES

Owing to the problems in securing supplies of potatoes for the Community market, the Council adopted the Regulation introducing a tax on exports of ware potatoes and on non-certified seed potatoes to non-member countries. This tax amounts to 15 UA/100 kg.

EMERGENCY AID FOR LEBANON

The Council agreed on emergency aid for Lebanon. This aid totals 1 MUA and comprises a financial contribution of 100,000 UA to be paid to the International Red Cross for supplies of medicines and surgical equipment and food aid amounting to 3,589 tonnes of cereals, 200 tonnes of butteroil and 250 tonnes of skimmed milk powder.

The necessary practical arrangements will be made to ensure that this aid reaches Lebanon quickly.

This aid is in addition to that agreed bilaterally by the Member States for Lebanon in the last few months.

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

- fixing the Community producer price for tunny (whole, not weighing more than 10 kg per piece - 677 UA/tonne) intended for the canning industry for the 1976 fishing year (period from 1 March to 31 December 1976);
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2759/75 in respect of the reference period for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for pig carcasses;
- amending Regulations (EEC) No 2764/75 and No 2766/75 in respect of the reference period for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for pig carcasses;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2771/75 in respect of the reference period for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for eggs;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2777/75 in respect of the reference period for calculating the levy and the sluice-gate price for poultrymeat;
- amending Regulations (EEC) No 2773/75 and No 2778/75 in respect of the reference period for calculating the levies and sluice-gate prices for eggs and poultrymeat.

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

- temporarily and partially suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duty on foliage of asparagus plumosus falling within subheading ex 06.04 B I;
- temporarily and totally suspending the customs duty applicable in the Community as originally constituted on foliage of asparagus plumosus falling within subheading ex 06.04 B I imported from the new Member States.

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PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

384th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 24 February 1976

President: Mr Marcel MART
Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg

24.II.76

Netherlands:

Mr F.H.P. TRIP

Minister for Research

Mr Laurens Jan BRINKHORST

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Alexander MADIE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary,
Department of Energy

Mr Neil CARMICHAEL

Parliamentary Under-Secretary,
Department of Industry

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

BIOLOGY AND HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMME

The Council signified its agreement to a multi-annual Community research programme 1976-1980 in the field of biology health protection.

The aim of the programme is to supplement, extend and further scientific and technical know-how necessary for assessing and updating permissible human radiation levels and the contamination levels of the various environmental components and, secondly, to improve the practical organization of radio protection by Member States.

This objective will entail carrying out studies on the effects of radio-active contamination on man and the environment the effects of radiation on living matter, methods and dosimetry.

These projects will for the most part be carried out by means of association or cost-sharing contracts and in part by the Commission Biology Group at Ispra.

A total of 39 million units of account has been earmarked for this programme; the staff complement is set at 68.

The Council has not yet taken any decision as regards the programme on applications.

The Commission reserved the right to examine the possibility of including such action under general agricultural research.

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

The Council signified its agreement to the multi-annual environmental research and development programme of the European Economic Community covering a five-year period as from 1 January 1976. This involves indirect action, which signifies that the research work will be carried out by means of contract.

The main aim of such research work will be to acquire the scientific and technical know-how necessary for implementation of the environmental programme of the European Communities. It will cover the following four areas:

- research designed to establish criteria (exposure/effect ratios) for pollutants and potentially toxic chemicals;
- research and development on environmental information management, with particular reference to chemicals likely to contaminate the environment (ECDIN project);
- research and development on the reduction and prevention of pollutants and nuisances, including the application of "clean" technologies;
- research and development related to the protection and improvement of the natural environment.

Certain studies of a general nature may also be undertaken.

An amount of 16 million units of account has been earmarked for this programme; the staff complement is set at 10.

PROGRAMME FOR REFERENCE MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Council recorded its agreement to the EEC multi-annual research programme - 5 years as from 1 January 1976 - for reference materials and methods (Community Bureau of Reference). This is an indirect action and hence the necessary surveys and laboratory activities will be carried out under contract.

The aim of the programme will be to strengthen, co-ordinate, harmonize and supplement national efforts in the field of reference materials and methods of measurement.

The aim is to include:

- characterization of materials;
- inventory and definition of requirements for new certified reference materials (CRM);
- technical specifications of CRM;
- perfecting and preparation of CRM;
- organization of inter-laboratory comparisons;
- European certification of the technical characteristics of CRM;
- approval of laboratories and the activities of a Secretariat.

A maximum of 2.7 million units of account and a staff of 7 will be allocated to this objective.

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The three indirect programmes on which the Council has recorded its agreement include a review clause for their harmonization, if necessary, with the new programme for direct actions, from the beginning of 1977 at the latest.

THERMONUCLEAR FUSION PROGRAMME

The Council conducted a detailed examination of the various aspects of the multi-annual Community programme for 1976 to 1980 in the field of controlled thermo-nuclear and plasma physics. At the conclusion of its discussions the Council reached agreement on the basic features of the programme, including the budget of 124 MUA, leaving aside the section concerning the JET project. It was agreed that this programme would be implemented within the limit of the 1976 tranche of 20.8 MUA.

As regards the JET project, which is of particular importance as regards controlled thermo-nuclear fusion, the Council, despite a measure of progress as regards the budget involved, was unable to reach a final decision on the location of the project.

It was therefore agreed that discussions on the matter would be continued at the next meeting on research questions on 18 June.

The Council agreed to set up an Advisory Committee on the fusion programme.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

The Council adopted the substance of the Regulation concluding the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Hong Kong on trade in textiles.

The Council authorized the Commission to open negotiations on textiles with the Arab Republic of Egypt and Thailand and adopted negotiating directives to that end.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decisions authorizing Ireland to adopt safeguard measures in respect of shoes having natural leather uppers imported from Finland, Iceland, Austria, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden.

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

- extending to other products the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 109/70 establishing common rules for imports from State-trading countries;
- adding new products to Column 2 of the list contained in Annex I to Regulation (EEC) No 1439/74 on common rules for imports.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation suspending application of the condition on prices governing the importation into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, the Arab Republic of Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey in accordance with agreements between the European Economic Community and each of these countries.

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Acting on a proposal by the French Government the Council appointed Mr COURSAULT-DURAND, Deputy Director, Sub-Directorate for Industrial Accidents, Special Schemes and **Mutual Insurance, Ministry of Labour**, as full member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mrs NETTER, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, viz. until 4 May 1978.

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Acting on a proposal by the French Government the Council appointed Mr P. LEONARDI a member of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency in place of Mr Y. GIRARD, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, viz. until 31 December 1976.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

385th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 1 and 2 March 1976

President: Mr Gaston THORN,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

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

Belgium:

Mr Renaat VAN ELSLANDE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External Economic Affairs

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI Minister of State,
Federal Foreign Office

France:

Mr Jean SAUVAGNARGUES Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Bernard DESTREMAU State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Justin KEATING Minister for Industry and
Commerce

Italy:

Mr Mariano RUMOR Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr James CALLAGHAN

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Peter SHORE

Secretary of State for Trade

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

President

Sir Christopher SOAMES

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

MOROCCO

TUNISIA

The Council heard a statement by Mr Cheysson, who informed it that the texts of the draft agreements with Morocco and Tunisia, the negotiations on which were completed on 7 and 9 January 1976, were initialled on 1 March.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the outcome of the negotiations and report back as soon as possible.

ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY DIRECT
UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

In the light of the conclusions reached by the European Council of 1 and 2 December 1975, the Council made a full examination of the problems outstanding regarding election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage. The Council considered that some of these problems, in particular the distribution of seats, should be referred to the European Council.

Following this examination, it met a delegation from the European Parliament composed of Mr SPENALE, President of the European Parliament, Mr RADOUX and Lord GLADWYN, Vice-Presidents of the Political Affairs Committee, Mr BERTRAND, Member of the Political Affairs Committee and Mr PATIJN, Rapporteur on the Convention on Elections by Direct Universal Suffrage.

At the meeting the Council and the European Parliament delegation reviewed the various Articles of the draft Convention and noted that on a large number of questions there was broad agreement between the two Institutions.

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

The Council noted that the first session of the Commissions had been held in Paris from 11 to 20 February 1976.

It expressed its satisfaction that the proceedings had opened in a good atmosphere and agreed on a number of arrangements with a view to continuing preparation of a constructive joint Community position in the context of the Paris dialogue.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

On the basis of Commission proposals and in the light of the outcome of the consultations with the ACP States, Greece and Turkey, the Council made a detailed examination of the offers which the Community might make for tropical products in the context of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations. The Council's discussions showed that some progress had been made on specific problems but that further discussion was necessary before an overall offer could be defined. The Council agreed to take a final decision at its next meeting at the latest.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- concerning import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Hong Kong;
- retaining the authorization arrangements for imports into Italy of malleable cast-iron tube and pipe fittings originating in Taiwan.

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Acting on a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr Kevin BONNER, First Secretary, Irish Permanent Representation, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr CORCORAN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 17 March 1977.

PRESS RELEASE

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386th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 2 and 3 March 1976

President: Mr Jean HAMILLIUS,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

276/76 (Presse 25)

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 11 March 1976
276/76 (Presse 25) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M
to Press Release
No 276/76 (Presse 25)
of 2 and 3 March 1976

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Page 4:

- the third line of point I should read as follows:
"2.5 points for Germany i.e. 1 DM: 0.287287 UA"
- point (b) should be deleted.

Page 9: the fifth line of point 12 should read as follows:
....." 1 May 1976."

Page 16: the last line of point 1 should read:
....."Commission will submit before 1 November 1976."

Page 21: Point 4 should read as follows:

"The coefficient applicable to plum tomatoes of the
"San Marzano" variety is set at 1.2."

Page 24: I. GRAMINAE - the following words should be deleted:
"Lolium perenne L. (à haute persistance tardif ou mi-tardif) 18"

Page 27: in line 7 and line 16, "1980" should be replaced by
"1979".

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

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

France:

Mr Christian BONNET Minister for Agriculture
Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE State Secretary, Ministry
of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

Italy:

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

Luxembourg:

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

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE	Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries
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United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART	Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Mr John MORRIS	Secretary of State for Wales

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS	Member
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PROVISIONAL VERSION

After discussing the Commission proposals on the fixing of agricultural prices for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the Council agreed in principle to the following measures:

I. Exchange rate to be applied in agriculture

The Council adopted the Commission proposals fixing the monetary compensatory amounts as follows:

2.5 points for Germany	i.e.	1 DM	:	0.288839 UA
0.6 points for Benelux	i.e.	1 Hfl	:	0.293884 UA
		1 Fb/Flux	:	0.020264 UA
6 points for Italy	i.e.	100 Lire	:	0.110497 UA
2 points for Ireland	i.e.	£1 Irish	:	1.69653 UA

These new representative rates will be applied as from:

- (a) 1 August 1976 for eggs, poultry, egg albumin and milk albumin,
- (b) 16 September 1976 for milk and milk products, subject to the provisions of paragraph 2,
- (c) 16 December 1976 for wine,
- (d) 1 January 1977 for fishery products,
- (e) the beginning of the 1976/1977 marketing year for the other products for which, on the day on which this Regulation enters into force, the marketing year has not yet begun

- (f) for milk, application in full as from the beginning of the 1976/1977 marketing year,
- (g) 15 March 1976 in all other cases.

II. Directive on mountain and hill farming and farming in less-favoured areas

Refund rate for the compensatory amount from the EAGGF, Guidance Section: 35% for Italy and Ireland.

III. 1976/77 prices and related measures

The Council agreed to the Commission proposals for the various sectors, with the following amendments:

1. Milk

- 1. The target price for milk is increased
 - (a) by 4.5% as from the beginning of the 1976/77 marketing year
 - by 3% as from 16 September 1976

The intervention prices for butter, skimmed milk powder and fresh Grana are amended in line with these increases.

- (b) The Council invited the Commission to submit to it proposals for the introduction of a system of financial contributions by milk producers and agreed to decide on this matter before 1 September 1976, with a view to applying the system as from the beginning of the 1977/78 marketing year.

The Commission will consult the Community-level producers' organization when drafting its proposals.

- (c) The Commission proposal for the introduction of a guide price for skimmed milk powder is withdrawn. However, in view of the situation obtaining on the market in this product, the intervention price for skimmed milk powder resulting from point (a) above is reduced by 2% and by an additional 1% as from 16 September 1976
- (d) When applying Article 54 of the Act of Accession the United Kingdom Government will set the guaranteed price for milk within 97% of the admissible maximum.
- (e) The intervention prices for 6 months old Grana Padano and Parmesan will allow for a 10% increase in the processing costs.
2. The proposal for an amendment to Article 7 of Regulation No 804/68 on the extension of intervention in respect of second quality skimmed milk powder is withdrawn.
3. The proposal for an amendment to Article 5 of Regulation No 1014/68 concerning the resale price of skimmed milk powder held by the intervention agencies is withdrawn.
4. Incorporation of skimmed milk powder in animal feedingstuffs as an exceptional measure: the proposal for the obligatory purchase of 400,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder for use in animal feedingstuffs is adopted.

5. The system of temporary aids to private storage of 250,000 tonnes of certain protein products is adopted, subject to the Opinion of the European Parliament.

The Council took note of the Commission's intention to confine the storage arrangements, in Italy, to soya beans.

6. Increase to 200,000 tonnes of the amount of skimmed milk powder set aside for the food aid programme in 1976. However, Regulation No 155/75 on the sale of skimmed milk powder from public stocks for supply to developing countries is repealed as from 1 April 1976.

7. Aid for skimmed milk:

- liquid: the Council took note of the Commission's intention to increase the amount of such aid by means of the Management Committee procedure
- powder: the bracket will be increased to 33-43 UA. The Council took note of the Commission's intention of setting a minimum rate of 60 - 65% for aid for skimmed milk powder used in feedingstuffs for calves.

8. The proposal for an amendment to the basic Regulation, rendering optional the grant of aid for private storage of butter, is withdrawn.

9. The Commission's proposal on the school milk programme is adopted.
10. The Council agreed - subject to the Opinion of the European Parliament - to adopt Regulation No 1411/71 as regards the fat content of whole milk (3.5% as from 1 April 1976), on the understanding that the Regulations on quality and health standards for drinking milk will be adopted before 1 April 1977.
11. The Council adopted amendments to Regulation (EEC) No 1191/73 laying down general rules for the granting of a consumer subsidy for butter.

Extension of present aid arrangements until 30.4.1976.

The original Commission proposal is amended as follows as from 1.5.1976

- the maximum amount of the aid is set at 50 UA/100 kg
- EAGGF contributions will be:
 - 50% for that portion of the aid between 0 and 10 UA/100 kg
 - 0% for that portion of aid between 10 and 35 UA/100 kg
 - 75% for that portion of the aid between 35 and 50 UA/100 kg.

12. The Commission will study the question of the continued sale of butter at reduced prices to certain categories of consumers (social butter), and the question of butter subsidies and will, if necessary, submit proposals by 1 June 1976.
13. The Council will take a decision before 31 July 1976, on the implementation of a non-marketing premium for milk.
14. The proposal on aid for whole milk powder is withdrawn.

2. Beef and Veal

1. Intervention arrangements

- (a) If, during the 1976/1977 marketing year, the market price in a region of the Community is 95% or more of the guide price for a period to be determined (e.g. two consecutive weeks), the Commission may decide, in accordance with the Management Committee procedure, to suspend intervention buying in that region totally or in part.
- (b) The Council noted the Commission's intention of adapting the coefficients used for establishing intervention-buying prices for beef and veal for the duration of the 1976/1977 marketing year.

2. Premiums

- (a) Slaughter premium for certain adult bovine animals intended for slaughter:

The Member States are authorized, for the duration of the 1976/1977 marketing year, to grant premiums for the slaughter of certain adult bovine animals of Community origin intended for slaughter, other than cows.

The amount of the premium may under no circumstances exceed 45 UA per adult bovine animal and must be determined in such a way that the sum of the market price recorded in the Member State which avails itself of this authorization and the amount of the premium actually granted do not exceed either an average level of 85% of the guide price or, at any given moment, a ceiling of 88% of the guide price.

Furthermore, the intervention-buying price is reduced by the amount of the premium actually granted. The detailed rules of application will be adopted by the Commission in accordance with the Management Committee procedure.

25% of the amount of the premiums actually granted during the period from 1 September 1976 until the end of the 1976/1977 marketing year will be borne by the EAGGF.

- (b) The Council noted the Commission's intention of submitting a report before 1 November 1976 on the respective merits of the intervention arrangements and the slaughter premium arrangements and on the implementation of the calving premium, together with proposals, if any.
- (c) Member States which apply the calving premium arrangements laid down in Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 464/75 will grant a premium for every calf born in their territory for a further period of 12 months.

The amount of this premium will be 28 UA, charged to the EAGGF and paid in a single instalment if the calf was still alive 6 months after birth.

3. The Council adopted the Commission proposal to enable export refunds in the beef and veal sector to be fixed in advance.

3. Pigmeat

The basic price of standard-quality pig carcasses is increased by 8% for the period from 15 March 1976 to 31 October 1977.

3 a. Poultry

Before the Council meeting on Agriculture in April 1976, the Commission will submit a report to the Council on the functioning of the sluice-gate price (possibly on refunds) in the egg and poultry sector.

4. Cereals1. Prices

	1975/1976		1976/1977
	UA/t	Increase (%)	UA/t
<u>COMMON WHEAT</u>			
Single intervention price for common wheat of bread-making quality	-	-	131
Basic intervention price	125.93		
Target price	139.44	+ 9	152
<u>RYE</u>			
Single intervention price	119.76	+ 3.5	124
Target price	138.74	+ 7.5	149.15
<u>BARLEY</u>			
Single intervention price	110.96	+ 4.5	116
Target price	126.99	+ 8.5	137.80
<u>MAIZE</u>			
Single intervention price	103.43	+ 8.5	112.20
Target price	126.41	+ 9	137.80
<u>DURUM WHEAT</u>			
Single intervention price	190.53	+ 6	202
Target price	207.33	+ 5.5	218.80

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2. During the 1976/77 marketing year there will be a drawback of 15 UA/t for common wheat for feed. As from the 1977/78 marketing year the provisions laid down in the Commission proposal on intervention for common wheat will apply.
3. There will be an increase of 3 UA/t, i.e. to 127 UA/t, in respect of intervention for rye of bread-making quality with an amylogram factor of at least 200.
4. Durum wheat: the aid of 50 UA/ha is to be applied in all the areas defined in Directive 75/268/EEC (mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas).

The list of regions eligible for aid for durum wheat during the 1976/77 marketing year will remain unchanged for at least the following two marketing years.

5. Starch products
 - maintenance of the production refund at its present level,
 - supplementary measure in a form to be determined to compensate for not more than half the increase in the price of maize, to be decided before 1 July 1976,
 - maintenance of the balance between the various starch products.

6. Rice

	1975/1976		1976/1977
	UA/t	%	UA/t
Intervention price for paddy rice in Vercelli	154.87	+ 6	164.16
Target price for husked rice in Duisburg	261.03	+ 9	284.52

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5. Oils and fats

1. Olive oil

Production target price: 185.00 UA
Market target price : 144.89 UA
Intervention price : 137.64 UA

The Council also adopted temporary arrangements which concern essentially the introduction of a tendering procedure in respect of imports, pending new rules concerning the organization of the olive oil market which the Commission said it will submit on 1 November 1976.

2. Colza, rape and sunflower seed

(a) colza and rape seed:

- target price 27.57 UA/100 kg
- intervention price 26.77 "

(b) sunflower seed:

- target price 28.63 "
- basic intervention price 27.80 "

In addition to the Commission price proposals, the Council agreed to adopt the Directive on the maximum level of erucic acid before 31.7.1976.

3. Linseed

The Council adopted a specific system for linseed based on the system currently in force for soya beans and consisting essentially in:

- fixing a guide price at 29 UA,
- a system of aid amounting to the difference between the guide price and the world price if the guide price was higher than the world price.

These new rules would require the modification of Regulation No 1308/70 on the common organization of the market in flax and hemp.

4. Soya beans

Fixing of the guide price with the same price ratio between soya and maize as the previous year.

5. Cotton seed

The Council agreed to fix the lump-sum aid at 103.20 UA/ha.

6. Sugar

1. Target price for white sugar in UA per 100 kg : 34.87
2. Intervention price for white sugar in UA per 100 kg : 33.14
3. The region with the largest surplus consists of the following French departments : Aisne, Ois
Somme
4. Minimum price for beet in UA valid for the region with the largest surplus per tonne on delivery at collection centre : 24.57
5. Standard-quality beet are of sound, fair and marketable quality and have a sugar content of 16% on receipt
6. Notwithstanding the second subparagraph of Article 25 (1) of Regulation No 3330/74, the coefficient referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 25 (1) of this Regulation is 1.35

The threshold price is set at

- 38.21 UA/100 kg for white sugar
- 33.28 UA/100 kg for raw sugar

The Council adopted the Commission proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation No 3330/74 on the common organization of the market in sugar as regards the following:

- inward processing traffic
- national aid authorized for Italy under Article 38 of Regulation No 3330/74 (increased to 9.9 UA)
- mixed prices; a new Article 32a is inserted after Article 32 of Regulation No 3330/74 as follows:

"Each Member State referred to in Article 32(1) may decide that, for the 1976/1977 sugar year, Article 30 shall not apply in its territory.

In this case:

- Article 32 shall no longer apply to that State
- the first subparagraph of Article 25(1) shall apply for the marketing year concerned, the coefficient being 1.25."

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7. Fruit and vegetables

1. Citrus fruits

(a) Financial compensation to apply to oranges, mandarines, and clementines is fixed at the following levels (i.e. + 8% as compared with last year, instead of the 4% proposed):

- 8.42 UA/100 kg net for Moro, Tarocco, Ovale Calabrese, Belladonna, Navel, Valencia Late;
- 7.23 UA/100 kg net for Sanguinello;
- 4.75 UA/100 kg net for Sanguigno and Biondo Comune;
- 7.23 UA/100 kg net for mandarines;
- 4.21 UA/100 kg net for clementines.

(b) The financial compensation for lemons is maintained throughout the 1976/77 marketing year, its amount being fixed at 5.10 UA/100 kg net (i.e. + 8% as compared with 1975/76).

2. Table grapes (to be taken together with the compromise on wine)

The proposal amending Regulation No 1035/72 at present before the Council is modified in such a way that a specific withdrawal price is maintained for products in quality grade I. The price will be fixed by applying to the buying-in price fixed by the Council an adjustment coefficient to be determined in accordance with the Commission/Management Committee procedure.

3. Rationalization of fruit production

(a) 1 November 1976 is set as the deadline for submitting applications for grubbing-up premiums.

(b) The scope of grubbing-up operations is extended to cover trees producing apples of the "Imperatore" and "Starking Delicious" varieties.

4. The coefficient applicable to plum tomatoes is set at 1.2.

8. Tobacco

Norm prices, intervention prices and amounts of the premium for leaf tobacco buyers, derived intervention prices for baled tobacco from the 1976 harvest.

Variety	Norm price	Inter- vention price	Amount of Premium	Derived Inter- vention price
Badischer Geudertheimer Forschheimer Havanna IIc)	2.256	2.030	1.514	3.104
Badischer Burley E	2.6969	2.426	1.553	3.487
Virgin SCR	2.571	2.314	1.459	3.001
Paraguay and hybrids thereof Dragon vert and hybrids th thereof	1.990	1.791	1.209	-
Nijkerk	1.939	1.745	1.194	-
Burley (Barley x Bel)	2.175	1.958	1.047	-
Misionero and hybrids thereof Rio Grande and hybrids thereof	1.799	1.619	1.200	-
Philippin Petit Grammont (Flobecq) Burley (Ergo x 6410 and Ergo x Bursana)	1.515	1.364	0.859	-
Semois Appelterre	1.815	1.634	1.029	-

Variétés	Prix d'objectif	Prix d'intervention	Montant de la prime	Prix d'intervention dérivés
Bright	2,180	1,962	1,228	2,748
Burley I	1,642	1,478	0,774	2,231
Maryland	1,906	1,715	0,955	2,504
Kentucky et ses hybrides Moro di Cori Salento	1,678	1,510	0,734	2,169
Nostrano del Brenta Resistente 142 Gojano	1,651	1,486	1,202	2,235
Beneventano	1,289	1,160	0,904	1,725
Xanti-Yakà	2,422	2,180	1,459	3,464
Perustitza	2,294	2,065	1,372	3,041
Erzegovina et ses hybrides	2,060	1,854	1,242	2,740
Round Tip Scafati Sumatra	10,802	9,722	5,294	14,737
Brazile Selvaggio autres variétés	1,076	0,968	0,295	-

9. Semences

Designation des produits	Montant de l'aide UC/100 kg
Linum usitatissimum L. partim (lin textile)	13
Cannabis sativa	8
<u>I. GRAMINAE</u>	
Arrhenatherum elatius (L) J. et C. Bresl.	31
Dactylis glomerata L.	27
Festuca arundinacea Schreb.	27
Festuca ovina L.	19
Festuca pratensis Huds.	21
Festuca rubra L.	18
Lolium multiflorum Lam.	11
Lolium perenne L. (à haute persistance tardif ou mi-tardif)	18
Lolium perenne L. - à haute persistance, tardif ou mi-tardif	17
- Nouvelles variétés et autres	13
- à basse persistance, mi-tardif, mi précoce ou précoce	10
Lolium x hybridum Hausskn.	11
Phleum pratense L.	31
Poa nemoralis L.	19
Poa pratensis L.	19
Poa trivialis L.	19
<u>2. LEGUMINOSAE</u>	
Pisum arvense L.	4
Vicia faba L. ssp faba var. equina Pers	4
Vicia faba L. var. minor (Petersm.) bull	4
Medicago sativa L. (écotypes)	8
Medicago sativa L. (variétés)	12
Trifolium pratense L.	20
Trifolium repens L.	22
Trifolium repens L. var. giganteum	25
Vicia sativa L.	14

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10. Silkworms

1. Fixing of annual aid at 40 UA per box of silk seed, as proposed by the Commission.
2. Introduction of supplementary aid of 15 UA to recognized producer groups and adoption of general rules as regards the recognition of these groups.

11. Fibre flax and hemp

Fixing of the flat-rate aid at

- 188.15 UA/ha for flax (143.20 UA/ha for the United Kingdom)
- 174.04 UA/ha for hemp.

12. Dehydrated fodder

Fixing of the aid to producers at 9 UA/tonne.

13. Wine

Following the discussions which have taken place over recent months, and in an effort to solve the short-term, medium-term and long-term problems in the wine sector, the Council agreed on a set of measures which may be outlined as follows:

1. Immediate measures

- the Council and the Commission took note of a statement by the French delegation that the import tax on wine would be abolished by 1 April 1976
- a special distillation operation will be initiated on 15 March 1976 to clear the market of the current surpluses, mainly by means of the following:
 - . revocable contracts
 - . quantity: 4 million hl
 - . payment to the producer of an advance of 40% of the price when the contracts are approved
 - . buying-in price 1.4 UA °/hl

2. Medium-term measures

- adoption of temporary, selective Community regulations to limit Community wine-growing potential, and an undertaking by the Council to introduce the necessary measures to adapt wine-growing potential to market requirements.

- adoption of regulations on the granting of a conversion premium
- as regards intervention
 - = introduction of a system of optional preventive distillation of wines, the buying-in prices being fixed on a sliding scale from 68% of the guide price for table wines of type A I in 1976 to 55% of that price in 1980,
 - = tightening up of the rules on wine deliveries and introduction of supplementary wine deliveries, zones A and B being exempt from these measures; Italy has satisfied the obligation regarding increased wine deliveries by the compulsory distillation of wine produced from table grapes
 - = fixing of the buying-in price of wine subject to increased wine deliveries on a sliding scale from 63% of the guide price for table wines of type A I in 1976 to 50% of that price in 1980
 - = adoption of provisions concerning additional measures at the end of the marketing year; these include storage, removal from storage and distillation, in order to guarantee, if need be, that prices are maintained at a level higher than the activating price
 - = maintenance of the current arrangement regarding exceptional distillation to be decided upon by the Council.

3. For British and Irish wines, non-application in the United Kingdom and Ireland until 1 January 1978 of the reference price for must and juice introduced elsewhere; before that date, the Commission will submit a report and suitable proposals, bearing in mind that the industry concerned must be safeguarded. The new Member States undertake to align with the CCT before 1 July 1976.

4. Measures to improve quality

- 0.5° increase of alcoholic strengths in zones C 1, C 2 and C 3 and fixing of the minimum actual alcoholic strength of table wines at 9° actual strength. For zones A and B the latter strength is set at 8.5°;
- 0.5° increase of the minimum natural alcoholic strength of quality wines;
- ban on movement of wine suitable for table wine;
- ban on the growing of provisionally authorized vine varieties in 1983 and of hybrid varieties in 1979;
- non-marketing of wines made from table grapes except those grown under glass;
- retention until 1 January 1978, and Commission report thereon before that date, of specific provisions on the system of compensatory charges on imported quality wines (sherry, port).

6.III.76

5. Adoption of a provision to the effect that the Member States are to take the necessary steps to ensure that Community provisions in the wine sector are respected and appoint one or more authorities to be responsible for supervising compliance with these provisions (prevention of fraud).

 6. As regards aid: authorization to France to grant national aid limited to FF 1 °/hl for a period of three years to certain full-time wine-growers for wines which comply with certain criteria as regards yield and wine varieties.
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PRESS RELEASE

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387th meeting of the Council
- Economy/Finance -
Brussels, 15 March 1976

President: Mr Raymond VOÛËL
Minister for Finance of
the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented by the following:

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Per HAEKKERUP	Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Kurt HANSEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans APEL	Federal Minister for Finance
Mr Karl Otto POEHL	State Secretary, Ministry of Finance
Mr Otto SCHLECHT	State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Jean-Pierre FOURCADE	Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance
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Ireland:

Mr Richie RYAN	Minister for Finance
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Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO	Minister for the Treasury
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Luxembourg:

Mr Raymond VOÛEL

Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. DUISENBERG

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

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COMMUNITY LOANS

The Council adopted the Decision concerning a Community loan for the Italian Republic and Ireland and also the Decisions laying down economic policy conditions to be observed by these countries.

The negotiations opened by the Commission on the basis of the Council Decision of 16 February last have led to the drawing up of an integrated set of loan agreements involving, firstly, three operations relating to the issue by banking syndicates of debentures and firm bonds, two of which concern a total amount of \$800 million and the other DM 500 million and, secondly, a \$300 million banking loan at a variable rate. The length of these loans varies but is on average more than 5 years.

The funds raised by these different loan operations, which the Council has authorized the Commission to conclude, will be granted to the Italian Republic and Ireland, the former receiving \$1000 million and the latter \$300 million.

EURATOM LOANS

Continuing its discussions on the draft decision concerning the use of Euratom loans to make a Community contribution to the financing of nuclear power stations, the Council worked out guidelines covering most of the economic and financial aspects of the draft.

It was agreed to re-submit the draft to the Council at its meeting on Energy Questions on 25 March 1976 in order to complete these guidelines particularly from the energy point of view.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

Pursuant to its Decision on the attainment of a high degree of convergence of the economic policies of the Member States, the Council carried out the first quarterly examination for 1976 of the economic situation in the Community.

At the close of its discussion, which gave the delegations an opportunity to adopt positions on the course to be adopted by their countries, the Council approved the analysis of the economic situation set out in the Commission communication of 3 March 1976 and recorded its agreement on the Decision concerning the adjustment of the economic policy guidelines for 1976, as they appear in the Commission communication.

Under the same item of the agenda, the Council considered the Commission communication headed "Summary account and Degree of Convergence of the Economic Policies pursued in the Member States of the Community in 1975".

BUDGETARY UNIT OF ACCOUNT

Pending the submission in the near future of the Commission proposals regarding the budgetary unit of account, the Council held a preliminary discussion on the general aspects of the problem.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products;
- fixing the threshold prices for certain milk products for the 1976/1977 milk year;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71 on the fat content of whole milk;
- repealing Regulation (EEC) No 155/75 on the sale of skimmed-milk powder from public stocks for supply to developing countries;
- on the compulsory purchase of skimmed-milk powder held by intervention agencies for use in feedingstuffs;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 986/68 laying down general rules for the granting of aid for skimmed milk and skimmed-milk powder for use in feedingstuffs;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 823/68 as regards the conditions of entry for certain kinds of cheeses and Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff;
- on the granting of a consumer subsidy for butter;
- laying down special measures, in particular for the determination of the supply of olive oil on the world market;
- laying down special measures, in particular for the determination of the supply of olive oil on the Greek market;

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal;
 - fixing certain prices applicable to milk and milk products, beef and veal and pigmeat for the 1976/1977 marketing year;
 - on the exchange rates applicable in agriculture repealing Regulation (EEC) No 475/75;
 - laying down general rules governing the distillation of table wines for which the distillation contract must be approved before 15 April 1976;
- the Decision concerning the system of aid applicable in France to certain wine producers;
- the Directives
- amending directives 66/403/EEC and 70/458/EEC on the marketing of seed potatoes and vegetable seed;
 - on mutual assistance for the recovery of claims resulting from operations relating to the system of financing the EAGGF, and agricultural levies and customs duties.

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

- the Regulations
- laying down special measures for linseed;
 - fixing for the year 1976 a Community quantitative export quota for certain types of lead waste and scrap;

- the Decisions

- supplementing the Decision of 15 October 1975 authorizing the Commission to negotiate an agreement between the European Economic Community and third countries on the rules applicable to the international carriage of passengers by coach and bus;
- adopting a research and training programme (1976 - 1980) for the European Atomic Energy Community in the field of biology - health protection (radioprotection programme);
- adopting a research programme (1976 - 1980) for the European Economic Community in the environmental field (indirect action);
- adopting a research programme (1976 - 1980) for the European Economic Community in the field of reference materials and methods (Community Bureau of References).

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In the context of the 1974/75 implementation plan of the Food Aid Convention, the Council agreed that 3,500 tonnes of cereals from the special reserve for the Sahel be allocated to the Upper Volta.

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The Council adopted the Decision, with the necessary directives, authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with Romania on textiles.

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The Council adopted the Decision appointing the Members of the Administrative Board of the Euratom Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions for the period from 15 March 1976 to 14 March 1979.

The following have been appointed:

I. Government representatives

	(a) <u>Full members</u>	(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr G. BENS	Dr. L. DENONNE
Denmark	Mr G. COLN	Mr E. ANDERSEN
Germany	Mr K. FITTING	Dr. R. MILLER
France	Mr S. ANTOINE	Mr P.L. REMY
Ireland	Mr N. GREENE	Mr J. McGRATH
Italy	Mr U. TAVERNINI	Mr G. FORLENSA
Luxembourg	Mr R. SHINTGEN	Dr. NOESEN
Netherlands	Mr Ir. J.L. PRIMA	Dr. W.J. KAKEBEKE
United Kingdom	Mr N.S. FORWARD	Mr T. GALE

II. Trade union representatives

	(a) <u>Full members</u>	(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr G. GOGNE	Mr A. THYRE
Denmark	Mr F. THORGRIMSON	Mr W.H. TJØRNEHØJ
Germany	Dr. U. ENGELEN- KEFFER	Mr S. BALDUIN
France	Mr A. LAVAL	-
Ireland	Mr P. CARDEFF	Mr D. NEVIN
Italy	Mr A. FANTONI	Mr G. MARRI
Luxembourg	Mr J.P. HUPPERICH	Mr Pr. SCHWEITZER
Netherlands	Mr H. BODE	Mr H. VAN DER MEULEN
United Kingdom	Mr K. GRAHAM	Mr P. JACQUES

III. Representatives of employers' organizations

	(a) <u>Full members</u>	(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr A. DUA	Mr DE PAEPE
Denmark	Mr A. PETERSEN	Mr J. ROSENBERG
Germany	Mr W. IMHOFF	Mr F.J. KADOR
France	Mr C. THOMAS	Mr Cl. AMIS
Ireland	Mr A.J. CULLEN	Mr J.J. MAHER
Italy	Mr G. LENATI	Mr P. SAVINI
Luxembourg	Mr E. SCHLEPPER	Mr L. JUNG
Netherlands	Mr M.G. JANSSEN	Mr J. DE JONGH
United Kingdom	Mr R.W. WATSON	Mr D. BELL

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The representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted the Decision concerning certain tariff measures for the first half of 1976 in the official languages of the Communities.

PRESS RELEASE

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388th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Brussels, 25 March 1976

President: Mr Marcel MART,
Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

25.III.76

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

Belgium:

Mr Fernand HERMAN Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSEBØLL Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Detlev Karsten ROHWEDDER State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Michel d'ORNANO Minister for Industry

Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY Minister for Transport and Power

Italy:

Mr Mario PEDINI Minister for Scientific Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel MART Minister for Economic Affairs,
Transport and Power

Netherlands:

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Anthony WEDGWOOD BENN

Secretary of State for Energy

Mr John SMITH

Minister of State for Energy

Commission:

Mr Henri SIMONET

Vice-President

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1985 ENERGY TARGETS AND RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY

On the basis of a Commission report, the Council held a general discussion on the achievement of the Community energy policy targets for 1985, with particular reference to the reduction of the Community's threshold of dependence on imported petrol by means of measures for reducing consumption and encouraging the development of Community energy resources.

This exchange of views enabled the delegations to explain the developments which their countries were envisaging in order to attain the targets and to give their views on the prospects for achieving the targets both in relation to the various sectors and in relation to the overall reduction target.

The discussion demonstrated the support of all the delegations for the basic guidelines for the 1985 targets as laid down by the Council in 1974, and brought to the Council's attention the fact that in the case of particular targets some amendments might be necessary in the light of experience to date.

In this connection, the Council took note of the first periodical report of the Commission on the programme for the rational use of energy (RUE). The delegations supported the basic conclusions of the report, which dealt with the work carried out in the various

sectoral groups: thermal insulation of buildings; heating systems; motor vehicles; transport structures; industrial processes - heat; power; conversion in power stations; transformation in refineries.

The results were given practical form in five Recommendations to the Member States adopted by the Council, which include specific provisions concerning the rational use of energy in the following sectors:

- buildings : - the promotion of thermic insulation by means of information campaigns and the adoption of harmonized insulation standards
 - improvement of heating installations in existing buildings by fitting programming and regulating units, and by maintaining and checking generators and controlling the distribution of hot water

- transport : - as regards road transport vehicles, the improvement of driving habits by the inclusion of clearer information in drivers' handbooks and the introduction of a standard fuel consumption test
 - in the case of the urban transport of passengers, the introduction of measures to facilitate and encourage the use of public transport

- household electrical appliances : - the provision of clearer information to users on unit energy consumption, and on harmonized standards.

MEASURES IN THE EVENT OF DIFFICULTIES IN THE SUPPLY OF OIL

The Council made a detailed study of certain vital aspects of the Community arrangements to be introduced in the event of difficulties in the supply of crude oil and petroleum products. These would consist in targets for a reduction in the consumption of primary forms of energy and measures concerning intra-Community trade in crude oil and petroleum products.

The discussion dealt mainly with the question of the decision-making machinery required to initiate the various measures to be taken in the event of supply difficulties.

The Council noted that the discussions had revealed some elements of a possible solution to the question and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to seek a definitive solution, in the light of the discussions at the meeting.

COMMUNITY PROCEDURE FOR INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION ON
PETROLEUM PRICES

The Council agreed in principle on the Directive regarding a Community procedure for information and consultation on the prices of oil and petroleum products in the Community.

The Directive makes the Member States responsible for procuring from petroleum undertakings and communicating to the Commission certain details on the prices obtaining in the preceding quarter for the main types of crude oil and petroleum products, both on importation and on leaving the refinery.

The Commission will draw up and communicate to the Member States on a quarterly basis a synoptic and analytical table of the various national statistics. Consultations between the Commission and the Member States on the basis of this information will take place regularly and, if appropriate, the Commission will propose any measures it considers necessary as a result of these consultations.

MEASURES OF SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN THE HYDROCARBONS
SECTOR

The Council recorded its agreement on a Decision on the grant of measures of support for Community technological projects in the hydrocarbons sector.

This Decision lays down that for the period from 1975 to 1977 support measures are to be granted for 34 Community projects in the form of subsidies which are repayable in the event of commercial exploitation of the results up to a total amount of 38,448,635 UA.

INFORMATION ON INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO THE
COMMUNITY IN THE PETROLEUM, NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRICITY
SECTORS

The Council recorded its agreement on an amendment to Regulation No 1056/72 on notifying the Commission of investment projects of interest to the Community in the petroleum, natural gas and electricity sectors.

In particular the amendment lays down, as regards projects in the electricity sector, that, in view of the experience which has been gained, the obligation to provide information shall extend to projects whose realization is to start within a period of five years instead of only three years.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ENERGY POLICY GUIDELINES

The Council undertook a thorough discussion of the questions connected with the implementation of the energy policy guidelines laid down by the European Council on 1 and 2 December 1975.

At the end of the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue preparing the draft resolution in the light of today's discussion, and to report back in time for the Council meeting on 10 June devoted to energy questions.

EURATOM LOANS

After confirming the guidelines worked out at the meeting of the Economic and Financial Council on 16 March last concerning the draft decision empowering the Commission to make Euratom loans as a Community contribution to the financing of atomic power stations, the Council noted that two delegations had entered general reservations on this subject.

It therefore agreed to return to the matter at its next meeting devoted to energy questions.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

On a proposal from the Belgian Government, the Council appointed Mr J. DENYS, a Director General in the "Administration de l'Emploi" as a member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers in place of Mr MISSOTEN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 17 March 1977.

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On a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Bendt DREWSEN, "Arbejdsmiljøkonsulent Landsorganisationen i Danmark" as a full member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr JØRGENSEN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 4 May 1978.

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Malta

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation concluding the Agreement to extend the first stage of the Association Agreement with Malta.

ACP-EEC

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Decision concerning the examination by the Member States of Commission proposals for financial transfers in connection with the stabilization of ACP-OCT export earnings.

Agriculture

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

- a Regulation on the recognition of producer groups of silkworm rearers;
- a Regulation on the granting of supplementary aid in the silkworm sector for the 1976/1977 marketing year;
- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2824/72 laying down general rules for the financing of interventions by the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund;
- a Regulation continuing the total suspension of autonomous Common Customs Tariffs duties applicable to new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II (a), until 15 April 1976, and applicable to potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A III (b) until 30 April 1976.

Domestic market

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

- a Regulation on the customs treatment applicable to goods returned to the customs territory at the Community;
- a Directive implementing Directive 69/73/EEC as regards repair operations under the inward processing system.

Food aid

The Council drew up the 1975/1976 implementation plan concerning the commitments entered into by the Community and the Member States under the Food Aid Convention. These commitments were for a total of 1,287,000 tonnes of cereals per year, of which 708,000 tonnes (55%) would be granted as Community aid, and the remainder under bilateral projects.

The Community aid and the aid from the Member States is intended for 38 countries and 6 international organizations. It is to be allocated as follows:

1975/1976 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

in thousands of tonnes

Recipient countries or bodies	Total	Community projects	National projects
<u>I. COUNTRIES</u>			
<u>LATIN AMERICA</u>			
Bolivia	12	p.m.	-
Haiti	12	9	3
Honduras	7	7	-
Peru	3.5	2.5	1
<u>SAHEL</u>			
Sénégal	-	-	-
Mali	-	-	-
Mauritania	5	-	5
Chad	-	-	-
Niger	10	-	10
Upper Volta	-	-	-
Gambia	-	-	-
Special Reserve	30	30	-

Recipient countries or bodies	Total	Community projects	National projects
<u>EAST AFRICA</u>			
Ethiopia	21	-	21
Kenya	2.5	2.5	-
Mauritius	8	5	3
Somalia	46	25	21
Sudan	7	7	-
Tanzania	2	2	-
Rwanda	2.5	-	2.5
<u>CENTRAL AND WEST AFRICA</u>			
Sao Tomé and Principality	1.5	1.5	-
Benin	1	1	-
Guinea Bissau	5	5	-
Cape Verde (Islands)	6.5	5	1.5
Zaire		token entry	-
CAR	1.5	1.5	-
<u>NEAR EAST</u>			
Egypt (Arab Rep.)	64	24	40
Jordan	14	14	-
Lebanon	8	-	8
Yemen (Arab Rep.)	12	6	6
Syria	5.5	2.5	3
<u>ASIA</u>			
Bangladesh	228.2	150	78.2
India	231	175	56
Indonesia	18	-	18
Pakistan	55	35	20
Sri Lanka	32	15	17
Philippines	6.5	2.5	4
<u>OTHER COUNTRIES</u>			
Malta	6.5	-	6.5
Tunisia	20	-	20
Portugal	5.59	-	5.59

Recipient countries or bodies	Total	Community projects	National projects
II. ORGANIZATIONS			
WFP	123	50	84
UNICEF	17.5	15	2.5
UNRWA	31.5	25	6.5
ICRC	10	10	-
League of Red Cross Societies	5	5	-
UNHCR	5	-	5
III. RESERVE			
	206.71	75	131.71
IV. TOTAL: Community aid + aid from Member States			
= 1,287,000 tonnes			

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the rules relating to the 1976 milk products aid programme (to be supplied in the form of butteroil).

The supplies, totalling 45,000 tonnes, are intended for 19 countries and 5 international organizations and are to be allocated as follows:

Countries or organizations	Tonnes
<u>LATIN AMERICA</u>	
Haiti	1,500
Honduras	1,000
Peru	500
<u>EAST AFRICA</u>	
Kenya	100
Mauritius	200
Tanzania	500
Somalia	1,100
Ethiopia	1,500

<u>Countries or organizations</u>	<u>Tomes</u>
<u>WEST AFRICA</u>	
Cape Verde	100
Upper Volta	750
Mauritania	350
Guinea Bissau	350
<u>NEAR EAST</u>	
Egypt	2,000
Jordan	1,000
Yemen	700
<u>ASIA</u>	
Afghanistan	250
Bangladesh	4,300
Pakistan	3,500
Sri Lanka	160
WFP	16,000
UNICEF	2,000
UNRWA	3,000
League of Red Cross Societies	500
<u>RESERVE</u>	3,640
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>45,000</u>

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on emergency aid for the benefit of the people of Angola and of Angolan refugees in Zaïre. This aid comprises 100 tonnes of skimmed milk powder to be delivered to the port of unloading, via the International Red Cross Committee, for the people of Angola, plus for the benefit of Angolan refugees in Zaïre, via the UNHCR, 2,000 tonnes of cereals, 150 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 100 tonnes of butteroil, of which 50 tonnes of skimmed milk powder will be sent by air and the remaining quantities delivered to the port of unloading.

Aid to Guatemala

The Council approved the grant of Community aid totalling 500,000 UA for the rebuilding of Guatemala, to be supplied via the League of National Societies of the Red Cross.

This aid is in addition to the initial emergency assistance of 200,000 UA granted by the Community to Guatemala immediately after the earthquake.

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The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a decision laying down a Euratom multi-annual research and training programme in the field of fusion and plasma physics.

The Council gave the consultation requested on a draft Commission ECSC decision on the temporary postponement of the date of payment of the steel production levy.

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

- supplementing the Decision of 17 November 1975 concerning certain tariff measures for the first half of 1976 (quota of 12,000 tonnes for the United Kingdom for tin plate);
- on exports of scrap to third countries (310,000 tonnes for the period from 1.4.1976 to 30.6.1976).