

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: LUXEMBOURG

JANUARY-JUNE 1976

Meetings and press releases April-June 1976

Meeting number	Subject	Date
389 th	Foreign Affairs	5-6 April 1976
390 th	Agriculture	5-6 April 1976
391 st	Development Co-operation	8 April 1976
392 nd	Social Affairs	30 April 1976
393 ^d	Agriculture	29 April 1976
394 th	Foreign Affairs	3-4 May 1976
395 th	Economics/Finance	17 May 1976
396 th	Agriculture	17-18 May 1976
397 th	Foreign Affairs	31 May – 1 June 1976
398 th	Agriculture	21-22 June 1976
399 th	Foreign Affairs	29-30 June 1976

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

389th Council meeting

Luxembourg, 5 and 6 April 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
Mr Willy DE CLERCQ Minister of Finance

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External
 Economic Affairs
Mr Knud HEINESEN Minister of Finance
Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for
 Foreign Affairs
Mr Hans APEL Federal Minister of Finance
Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI Minister of State,
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

France:

Mr Jean SAUVAGNARGUES Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jean-Pierre FOURCADE Minister for Economic Affairs
 and Finance
Mr Bernard DESTREMAU State Secretary,
 Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Garret FITZGERALD Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Richie RYAN Minister for Finance
Mr Justin KEATING Minister for Industry
 and Commerce

6.IV.76

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO
Mr Luigi GEANELLI

Minister of the Treasury
State Secretary,
Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN
Mr Raymond VOUEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Minister of Finance

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL
Mr W.F. DUISENBERG
Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Minister of Finance
State Secretary,
Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Roy HATTERSLEY

Mr William ROSS

Mr Joel BARNETT
Mr J. TOMLINSON

Minister of State, Foreign and
Commonwealth Office

Secretary of State for
Scotland

Chief Secretary, Treasury
Parliamentary Under Secretary,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI
Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP
Mr Carlo SCARASICA-MUGNOZZA
Mr Claude CHEYSSON
Mr P.J. LARDINOIS
Mr Albert BORSCHETTE

President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Member
Member
Member

OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF BUDGETARY PROBLEMS IN THE CONTEXT OF
GENERAL COMMUNITY POLICY

Following the guidelines given by the European Council, the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Ministers for Finance undertook an overall assessment of budgetary problems in the context of general Community policy.

This examination produced a number of guidelines which, without prejudice to budgetary rules and procedure, would serve as a basis for the Commission and the Council when they were called upon to take decisions within their respective spheres of responsibility.

RELATIONS WITH SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Following a statement by the Commission, the Council held an exchange of views on Community aid and bilateral aid from the Member States to Southern African countries. The aim is to contribute to economic and political stability in that region.

The Council acknowledged the need to co-ordinate bilateral measures by the Member States and Community schemes, the latter having to be implemented within the framework of the Lomé Convention.

With a view to preparing the decisions to be adopted at the May meeting of the Council, the Permanent Representative Committee was instructed to study the details of the Commission proposals, with particular reference to co-ordination at an operational level of the schemes proposed for Zaire, Zambia and Mozambique.

ECONOMIC ZONES OF 200 MILES

The Council held an exchange of views on the problems raised for the Community by the introduction of economic zones of 200 miles in the fisheries sector, as proposed during the proceedings of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

In this connection, the Council paid particular attention to the provisions laid down in the Convention being drawn up at the Conference on the Law of the Sea with regard to Community jurisdiction on the matter.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to proceed further with its work on the substantive problems and called upon the delegations to give appropriate instructions to expedite progress.

GATT: COMMUNITY OFFER REGARDING TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Acting on a proposal from the Commission, and after completing the procedures required under the Lomé Convention and the Association Agreements with Greece (which has given its agreement to the proposed offer for unmanufactured tobacco, in accordance with the terms of the Athens Agreement) and Turkey, the Council defined the Community offer regarding tropical products, in the context of the GATT multilateral trade negotiations. The offer, which comprises tariff concessions for a large number of those products in Chapters 1 to 24 of the CCT which are of particular interest to developing countries and provisions concerning specific charges and quantitative restrictions, will be deposited with GATT in Geneva forthwith. The Community proposes that these concessions take effect from 1 January 1977.

Through this decision the Council has fulfilled the commitments undertaken in the Tokyo Ministerial Declaration to treat tropical products as a special and priority sector. The Community is now in a position to play an active part in the actual negotiations on this category of products.

MEDITERRANEAN POLICY

At this meeting the Council approved the outcome of the negotiations successfully completed by the Commission with the three Maghreb countries - Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia - for the conclusion of global co-operation agreements.

The Council agreed that these agreements would be signed - at ministerial level - in Tunis on 25 April, in Algiers on 26 April and in Rabat on 27 April.

The Council also arrived at certain guidelines concerning the general context for the further financial commitments which the Community is intending to enter into with a number of Mediterranean countries, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to consolidate these guidelines, as soon as possible, with particular reference to the allocation of funds among the various recipient countries.

PORTUGAL

The Council signified its agreement to the additional directives enabling the Commission to continue the negotiations with Portugal - including those on the financial aspect - which began on 13 February 1976 with a view to developing the co-operation established under the Agreements signed in 1972 and in this way to strengthen the links between the Community and Portugal.

EXPORT CREDITS

The Council held a brief exchange of views on questions concerning the harmonization of export credit terms.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the matter.

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

- PREPARATION OF UNCTAD IV

The Council heard a speech by the President of the Commission on the overall aims to be pursued in the Paris Dialogue and on the preparation of UNCTAD IV. It also heard a report from the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee on the Committee's progress on these issues. During the ensuing exchange of views the members of the Council stated their individual opinions on these topics.

In conclusion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to put the finishing touches to a constructive Community position for the 3rd meeting of the Dialogue and agreed to continue the preparation of UNCTAD IV at its meeting in May.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANT HEALTH

The Council dealt briefly with matters relating to the establishment of a Standing Committee on Plant Health and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to find an appropriate solution to the problem of how the Committee should be organized.

On the occasion of the departure of
Mr Giorgio BOMBASSEI FRASCANI de VERROR, Ambassador, Italian
Permanent Representative to the European Communities, the Council
took the opportunity of paying tribute to his efforts over many
years on behalf of the European cause.

o

o

o

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the braking devices of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors;
- on the disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls.

o

o

o

Food Aid

In view of persistent needs, the Council adopted two Regulations on the granting of emergency food aid - through UNCHR - to victims in Cyprus of the events there in 1974; the aid will comprise supplies of:

650 tonnes of butteroil,
10,000 tonnes of cereals.

o

o

o

The Council gave the assents requested by the Commission pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty (Natural Gas Tubes Ltd. and Italsider).

o

o

o

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision appointing the members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training for a period of 3 years.

The following have been appointed:

A. Experts in the medical profession

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Belgium	Mr André WYNEN	Mr Marc DEKESEL
Germany	Mr Hans-Joachim SEWERING	Mr Horst BOURMER
Denmark	Mr Erik HENRICHSEN	Mr Gunnar SCHIØLER
France	Mr AUTIN	Mr POUYAUD
Ireland	Mr P.A. FARRELLY	Mr Colm GALVIN
Italy	Mr Antonio SPINELLI	Mr Bruno BARUCHELLO
Luxembourg	Mr Guy MEISCH	Mr Mathias DEMOULLING
Netherlands	Mr VAN NIEUWENHUISEN	Mr C. LANDHEER
United Kingdom	Mr J.C. CAMERON	Mr Roger BREARLEY

B. Experts from university faculties of medicine

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Belgium	Mr Josuë VANDENBROUCKE	Mr André CASTÉRMANS
Germany	Mr Eduard SEIDLER	Mr Gerhard THEWS
Denmark	Mr Bent SØRENSEN	Mr Johannes MELCHIOR
France	Mr MEYNIEL	Mr RAPIN
Ireland	Mr E.M. O'DWYER	Mr P.N. MEENAN
Italy	Mr Alessandro BERETTA/ ANGUISSOLA	Mr Raffaello CORTESINI
Luxembourg	Mr Fernand SCHWACHTGEN	Mr Emile QUIRING
Netherlands	Mr VAN FAASSEN	Mr M.T. JANSEN
United Kingdom	Mr Hugh ROBSON	Mr Stanley CLAYTON

C. Experts from the relevant authorities of the Member States

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Belgium	Mr Pieter DE SCHOUWER	Mme Yvonne ROMBOUTS
Germany	Mme SCHLEICHER	Mr EGGSTEIN
Denmark	Mr Jørgen FOG	Mr Ernst GOLDSCHMIDT
France	Mr BRUNET	Mr Pierre LABROUSSE
Ireland	Mr David MITCHELL	Mr A. WALSH
Italy	Mr Carlo VETERE	Mr Vito DI LEO
Luxembourg	Mr Joseph KOHL	Mr Fernand HASTERT
Netherlands	Mr van TUYLL van SEROOSKERKEN	Mr G. de VRIES
United Kingdom	Mr J.N. WALTON	Mr John BROTHERSTON

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

390th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 5 and 6 April 1976

President: Mr Jean HAMILIUS,
Minister for Agriculture
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 Albert LAVENS Minister of Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSAGER Minister of Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

France:

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

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister of Agriculture

Mr Arcangelo LO BIANCO State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

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

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.L.M.M. VAN DER STEE Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS Member

SUGAR

The Council held a far-ranging discussion on certain measures to be taken in the sugar sector, primarily the brief for negotiations between the Community and the ACP countries (in accordance with the provisions of the sugar Protocol to the Lomé Convention) and India to fix before 1 May the guaranteed price to be applied for 1976-1977.

At the end of the discussion the Council approved the negotiating brief to be given to the Commission. In the same context the Council signified its agreement in principle on certain measures in this sector (refining margin, minimum sugar stock, etc.).

FIXING OF AGRICULTURE PRICES

The Council held an exchange of views on the technical implementation of the decisions taken at its meeting from 2 to 6 March last on the fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and certain related measures.

As a result of the discussion it was able to settle certain technical aspects still in abeyance and to clarify the interpretation of certain decisions, particularly in the wine, sugar, cereals and beef and veal sectors. The Special Committee on Agriculture was entrusted with the work of finalizing the texts for formal adoption by the Council at the earliest opportunity.

On this occasion, the Council formally adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation authorizing Member States to grant a slaughter premium during the 1976/1977 marketing year for certain adult bovine animals intended for slaughter, on which it had recorded its agreement in principle when it fixed agricultural prices on 2 to 6 March last.

The amount of the premium, which will vary over a period of time, may on no account exceed 45 units of account per adult animal of an average weight to be determined by Management Committee procedure. It is calculated in such a way that when a premium is granted the sum of the market price and of the amount of the premium actually granted will not be higher on average, throughout the duration of the marketing year, than 85% of the guide price applicable in the Member State concerned. This sum may at no time exceed 88% of the guide price. The intervention purchase price for the meat of animals for which a premium has been paid will be reduced by the amount of the premium actually paid.

STRUCTURAL POLICY

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the level of interest rate subsidies provided for in the Directive on the modernization of agricultural holdings (72/159/EEC) to be applied in Italy.

Pursuant to this Decision, the Republic of Italy is authorized to raise the level of interest rate subsidy and to lower the level of the minimum charge payable by the recipient in the Mezzogiorno and the less-favoured areas in Central and Northern Italy.

POTATOES

Having noted the persistence of the difficult situation on the potato market, the Council decided, as a remedy, to extend the total suspension of autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties:

- on early potatoes of sub-heading 07.01 A II (a) until 25 April 1976;
- on ware potatoes of sub-heading 07.01 A III (b) until 30 June 1976.

FISHERIES

The Council held a brief general discussion on problems arising in the fisheries sector in particular connection with the improvement of support mechanisms.

It discussed particularly the system of reference prices and market withdrawal prices and also the compensatory allowance for tunny. Acting by a qualified majority, it decided that the safeguard clause for the fresh tunny market in France should be retained until 1 May 1976 in the same form as prior to 1 April.

Finally, the Commission said it was prepared to pay very close attention to developments in this sector and make whatever proposals might be necessary so that the Council could discuss them as soon as possible.

EGGS AND POULTRY

The Council took note of an oral statement by the Commission on the operation of the sluice-gate price system for eggs and poultry and also the refunds to producers of eggs and where appropriate egg-base products.

ALCOHOL MARKET

The Council took note of statements by certain delegations and by the Commission on the worrying situation in the alcohol market and relevant measures to be taken.

MUTTON AND LAMB

After a brief discussion on the common organization of the market in mutton and lamb, the Council confirmed the guidelines which it had laid down at its meeting on 15 and 16 December 1975 when it instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to expedite its study of this matter and to report back at the earliest opportunity.

MALT EXPORTS

Following an exchange of views on the Commission decision of 25 February 1976 to reduce to one month the additional period of validity of export certificates based on forward contracts for brewing malt, the Council noted the Commission's intention to fix export refunds applicable for the next malt marketing year as early as possible and by means of the normal procedure.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council held a detailed discussion of a political as well as economic nature on the special arrangements to be applied to New Zealand butter from 1978 to 1980.

It agreed to decide on this question at the next meeting.

DESCRIPTION AND PRESENTATION OF WINES AND GRAPE MUSTS

Having settled the last question still outstanding on the question of the labelling of wines of Community coupage, the Council approved the amendment to be made to the Regulation laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts.

The Council agreed to adopt the Regulation in question formally in the very near future at the same time as the other wine regulations.

BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE APPLICATION
OF MONETARY COMPENSATORY AMOUNTS

The Council took note of the Commission's statement concerning its estimates of expenditure under the common agricultural policy in 1976, bearing in mind the Council Decisions on the fixing of agricultural prices and certain related measures for 1976/1977, recent market trends and exchange rate fluctuations.

COMMON WHEAT

In order to deal with Italy's current supply difficulties, the Council signified its agreement to the transfer of 100,000 tonnes of common wheat from the French intervention agency to the Italian agency.

PRESERVED TOMATOES

Following a statement by the French delegation on the situation on the preserved tomato market, the Council held a brief discussion on recent developments in this sector.

It agreed to entrust the Special Agricultural Committee with an examination of the question, in order to prepare whatever measure the Council might be required to take at its meeting scheduled for 17 and 18 May next.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the following acts following on from the political agreement reached at the time of the decision of 2 to 6 March 1976 on the annual fixing of agricultural prices:

- the Regulations

- fixing certain prices and other amounts applicable in agriculture for the 1976/77 marketing year (cereals, fruit and vegetables, wine, rice, oils and fats, sugar, silkworms, tobacco, flax and hemp, seeds, dehydrated fodder);
- fixing for the 1976/77 marketing year the monthly increases in the target and intervention prices for oilseeds;
- fixing the monthly increases in the market target price, the intervention price and the threshold price for olive oil for the 1976/77 marketing year;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70 as regards the system of aid for flax and hemp;
- fixing for the 1976/77 sugar year the derived intervention prices, the intervention prices for unrefined beet sugar, minimum beet prices, threshold prices and the maximum amount of the production levy and fixing the coefficient for calculating the special maximum quota;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1305/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables, and Regulation (EEC) No 2511/69 laying down special measures to improve production and marketing of Community citrus fruit;
- laying down further measures to rationalize Community fruit production;
- supplementing Annex I to Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the markets in fruit and vegetables, by the inclusion of sweet peppers;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 986/68 as regards the granting of aid for denatured skimmed milk powder (option not to grant aid in the case of certain quantities of powder where this would entail the risk of impeding the efficiency of the aid system, insofar as such quantities could be used in compound feedingstuffs which fall below the minimum level of incorporated full powder);

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 567/76 laying down general rules governing the distillation of table wines for which the distillation contract must be approved before 15 April 1976;
- amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 359/67, 950/68, 3330/74, 2727/75 and 2744/75 on the tariff nomenclature of certain cereal, rice, beef and veal and sugar products;
- the Directive amending Article 15 of Directive 75/268/EEC on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas (35% contribution from the EAGGF in the case of Ireland and Italy as from 1 January 1976).

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

- the Directives
 - amending Directive 75/271/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (France);
 - making a 5th amendment to the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the colouring matters authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption (deletion of nine colouring matters);
- the Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with the Council of Europe on the accession of the Community to the European Convention for the Protection of Animals during International Transport.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation temporarily authorizing certain arrangements for catch quotas in the fisheries sector.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

391st Council meeting
- Development co-operation -

Luxembourg, 8 April 1976

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

8.IV.1976

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

Belgium:

Mr Joseph VAN DER MEULEN

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Egon BAHR

Federal Minister for Economic
Co-operation

France:

Mr Jean de LIPKOWSKI

Minister for Co-operation

Ireland:

Mr John KELLY

Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Francesco CATTANEI

Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr J.P. PRONK

Minister for Development Co-
operation

United Kingdom:

Mr John GRANT

Parliamentary Under Secretary,
Ministry of Overseas Development

Commission:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

CIEC - PROSPECTS IN THE FIELD OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Following the Council's discussions on this subject at its general meeting on 6 April, the Council held an exchange of views on a number of topics connected with development co-operation and relevant not only for the forthcoming session of the CIEC Commission on Development from 21 to 23 April but also for the IVth UNCTAD session in Nairobi which was to begin on 3 May 1976.

The discussion centred on the volume of official development aid, the redirection of official aid and the debt problem, and enabled a number of conclusions and guidelines to be drawn regarding certain of these problems.

In accordance with the conclusions reached by the Council on 6 April 1976, the Permanent Representatives Committee was requested to continue its work on preparing the Community position in the light of the discussions held at this meeting.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE IFAD

The Council noted that unanimous agreement could not yet be reached on the principle of contribution by the Community in the IFAD. It further noted that, should it not prove possible to bring about Community participation, most Member States intended to make a bilateral contribution to the IFAD.

ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT OF PAYMENTS OF COMMUNITY AID TO THE
THIRD WORLD

The Council took cognizance of a document, drawn up for the attention of the Council by the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee, which contained reference data regarding the estimated development of gross payments of Community aid to the Third World financed from the Community budget or by Member States.

HARMONIZATION AND CO-ORDINATION OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION
POLICIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the implementation of the Resolution of 16 July 1976 on the harmonization and co-ordination of development co-operation policies within the Community.

To this end, the Council had before it a Memorandum from the German Government on an action programme aimed at more closely integrating the co-operation policies of the Member States in this area by progressing gradually from the stage of strengthening co-ordination to a more advanced stage of harmonization, the ultimate objective being to confer on development aid policy a more truly Community character.

The delegations and the Commission warmly welcomed the Federal Government's initiative and the thought-provoking contribution which it had made to their discussions. They gave their first reactions, at this juncture to the basic ideas contained in the German Memorandum.

Finally, the Council requested the Commission to submit before summer, and in the light of the discussions, concrete proposals for strengthening the harmonization and co-ordination of development policies. These proposals would be examined at the next Council meeting.

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN 1976

The Council discussed the problems arising in connection with the utilization of the 20 MUA set aside for financial and technical aid to non-associated developing countries in the 1976 budget.

It agreed to resume its discussions on this question at its next meeting on developing co-operation.

FOOD AID

In the context of the action to be taken in following up the resolutions of the World Food Conference, the Council held an exchange of views on the volume of the food aid and the multi-annual planning thereof.

EMERGENCY AID TO MOZAMBIQUE

The Council decided to grant humanitarian emergency aid of 70,000 UA to Mozambique which was recently devastated by a natural disaster. This aid, which will be directed to the stricken population through the intermediary of one of the United Nations' Specialized Agencies, is intended for the purchase of medicines.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- the Regulation concluding the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Hong Kong on trade in textile products;
- the Decision authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

It also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation laying down protective measures applicable to imports of tunny intended for the canning industry (Decision of the Council meeting on Agriculture on 5 and 6 April 1976).

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

392nd Council Meeting

- Social Affairs -

Luxembourg, 30 April 1976

President :

Mr Benny BERG,
Minister for Labour and Social
Security, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

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

Belgium:

Mr Alfred CALIFICE Minister for Labour and
Employment

Denmark:

Mr Erling DINSSSEN Minister for Labour

Germany:

Mr Walter ARENDT Federal Minister for Labour
and Social Affairs

France:

Mr Paul DIJOU State Secretary to the Minister
for Labour

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'LEARY Minister for Labour
Mr Frank CLUSKEY Parliamentary Secretary to
Minister for Social Welfare

Italy:

Mr Ugo TAVERNINI Director General
Ministry of Labour

Luxembourg:

Mr Benny BERG Minister for Labour and Social
Security
Mr Maurice THOSS State Secretary, Ministry of
Labour and Social Security

30.IV.76

Netherlands:

Mr J. BOERSMA

Minister for Social Security

United Kingdom:

Mr J. GRANT

Parliamentary Under-Secretary,
Department of Employment

Commission:

Mr Patrick John HILLERY

Vice-President

30.IV.76

EUROPEAN SOCIAL BUDGET

The Council agreed to the formulation of the second European social budget on the guidelines adopted by the Commission.

The European social Budget contains information of great relevance to the Community's social policy. It incorporates statistics on social security expenditure and revenue and on a general level takes into consideration all areas coming under social policy.

It contains medium-term estimates based on the laws in existence when the social budget was being drawn up. The information given in the social budget will enable both the Member States and the Community to evaluate the financial implications of the social policy and, in this context, the effects of the changes in social legislation on which the estimates are based.

Before drawing up the third European social budget, the experience drawn from the second social budget will be assessed and any methodological adjustments considered.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

The Council adopted the Regulation amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 1048/71 and 574/72 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

The purpose of this Regulation is to adjust the Community rules on social security in order to bring them into line with changes in some of the laws of the Member States and to take account of administrative changes regarding the division of responsibility between national social security institutions and bodies.

The Regulation which the Council had adopted contains, in particular, (new provisions for implementing the rules relating to aggregation of insurance and other periods so that periods completed by workers in the other Member States may be taken into account when determining the right to benefit under United Kingdom legislation and contributions paid in the United Kingdom may be taken into account when determining rights under the legislation of other Member States.

SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS' EARNINGS

The Council adopted the Regulation relating to the organization of a survey of the earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture.

This Regulation is intended to supplement the system of comparable statistics in salaries which has been set up in the Community. It provides that the Commission will carry out a survey similar to those carried out in 1974 and 1975; this survey will cover the actual earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture on the basis of the statistical data relating to September, October or November 1976.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH
PROTECTION AT WORK

The Council adopted the rules of procedure of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in the official languages of the Communities.

TRIPARTITE WORLD CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY THE ILO

The Council discussed the attitude to be adopted at the Tripartite World Conference on employment, distribution of income, social progress and the international division of labour being organized by the International Labour Office.

The Council stressed the importance of this conference at which the problems of the developing countries and those of the industrialized countries, particularly as regards employment, would be juxtaposed.

The Council reached a considerable measure of agreement on the analysis in the Commission communication which advocated a positive co-operative attitude to the other participants in the Conference.

The Council considered that efforts should be made to reach a common, co-ordinated position, particularly on the main issues which are set out in the report of the International Labour Office and are outlined in the Commission document.

In conclusion, the Council authorized the preparation of this common, co-ordinated position so as to enable the President to express the views of the Community at the Conference as far as possible. It also considered that more thorough consideration should be given to certain aspects, such as the problem of the international division of labour and the question of the effect of multinational undertakings on employment.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views on the employment and unemployment situation and prospects in the Community as a whole and in the individual Member States.

It considered that, despite the signs of recovery which were now apparent in some Member States, the problem of unemployment, particularly among the young was still very serious.

The Council's exchange of views was particularly significant as a contribution to the preparation for the next Conference of Ministers for Labour, Commission representatives and representatives of both sides of industry.

In conclusion, the Council asked the Commission to take the points made in this exchange of views into account when preparing the final communication which it was to submit to the Tripartite Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Agriculture

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 873/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of certain quantities of common wheat for intervention;
- extending the total suspension of the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II a).

o

o

o

ECSC

The Council gave the assents requested by the Commission pursuant to Article 54, second paragraph of the ECSC Treaty concerning the financing of

- the middle section of the Ruhr long-distance heating trunk line (Ruhrschiede) by the STEAG Aktiengesellschaft;
- a power station unit of 660 mW based on hard coal in Hohenhameln-Mehrum (Federal Republic of Germany) by Kraftwerk Mehrum-GmbH,

and the assent requested by the Commission pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty (Sierra Chemical Europe B.V., Netherlands and Courtaulds Ltd., United Kingdom).

o

o

o

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning the adjustment of the economic policy guidelines for 1976.

o

o

o

In connection with the renewal of the Triennial Convention of 18 December 1972 between the Community and UNRWA, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the supply of white sugar (6,153 tonnes per annum for the 1975/76, 1976/77 and 1977/78 sugar years) to UNRWA as food aid.

PRESS RELEASE

393rd Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 29 April 1976

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

433

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSAGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister of Agriculture

France:

Mr Christian BONNET Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Mark CLINTON Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS Minister for Agriculture

Mr Albert BERCHEM State Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS

Member

o

o

o

AGRI-MONETARY QUESTIONS

Following a thorough discussion of various problems raised for the functioning of the Common Agricultural Policy by the monetary situation, the Council adopted the Regulation fixing a new exchange rate to be applied to the Italian lira in the agricultural sector.

Under the provisions of the new Regulation the old rate is devalued by 6.023%, thus fixing the new rate at 100 lire = 0.103842 UA/1 UA = 963.000 lire. This new rate will be applied from May 3 next for products for which the 1976/77 marketing year has already started. For the other products the new rate will be applied from the beginning of the new marketing year.

Furthermore, the Council took note of the fact that from May 17 1976 until the end of the current year the compensatory monetary amounts so far applied by Italy and the United Kingdom to imports from the other Member States will be granted in accordance with Article 2a of Regulation 924/71 by the exporting countries.

The Council also noted

- the Commission's intention of submitting a proposal to improve the situation of the market for processed tomato products at the Council meeting in May;
- the fact that the Council will carry out at its meeting in November an examination of the situation of the wine market which will enable it to take appropriate measures if necessary should problems arise.

POTATOES

Having noted the persistence of a difficult situation on the potato market, the Council agreed to the total suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties for new potatoes coming under sub-heading 07.01 A II a) from April 26 last until May 20 next.

COMMON WHEAT

The Council recorded its agreement to the transfer, with immediate effect, to the Italian intervention agency of 200,000 tonnes of common wheat held by the intervention agencies of other Member States. This quantity is in addition to the 100,000 tonnes already decided on for this purpose by the Council.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

394th Council meeting
- Foreign Affairs -
Brussels, 3 and 4 May 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 Knud Boerger ANDERSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for External Economic Relations

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,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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

Italy:

Mr Mariano RUMOR Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Luigi GRANELLI Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Edmund DELL

Secretary of State for Trade

Mr Roy HATTERSLEY

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr J. TOMLINSON

Parliamentary Under Secretary,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

President

Mr Carlo SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA

Vice-President

Sir Christopher SOAMES

Vice-President

Mr Albert BORSCHETTE

Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND
PREPARATION FOR THE 4TH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council took note of the proceedings of the third session of the CIEC Commissions. It felt that work was progressing satisfactorily and had enabled a number of fundamental problems, to which solutions had to be sought in the framework of the North-South dialogue, to be clarified.

In this context the Council pointed out that the CIEC discussions and those of the 4th UNCTAD in Nairobi were complementary.

The Council also held a detailed discussion on the subject of the 4th UNCTAD. It worked out the joint positions to be taken by the Community in Nairobi and set out the guidelines to be followed by the delegations of the Nine attending the Conference.

At the opening of the 4th UNCTAD, the President of the Council and the Commission representative will make general statements on behalf of the Community, the texts of which will be published in Brussels on the same day.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY DIRECT
UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on the problem of the distribution of seats within the Parliament when it was elected by direct universal suffrage. It agreed to continue discussing this matter at its next meeting on 31 May and 1 June 1976.

OVERALL MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH AND GENERAL VIEW OF THE
COMMUNITY'S EXTERNAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS IN RESPECT
OF VARIOUS MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

The Council again discussed in detail the possible total amount (EIB own resources and budget resources) of the Community's external financial commitments towards the various countries with which negotiations were already being held or with which they were to be held.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit to it in time for its next meeting suggestions concerning possible ways of distributing this amount among the various countries concerned, in order to enable it to adopt the necessary negotiating directives.

RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL

The Council took the necessary decisions for the continuation of the negotiations currently in progress with Portugal, with particular reference to the essential features of the financial co-operation which is to take over from the emergency aid granted to Portugal in October 1975.

The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to finalize the text of the additional negotiating directives.

SUMMER TIME

In connection with the introduction of a system of summer time in the Community, the Council was called upon to fix the dates for the beginning and end of the period of summer time in the Community for 1977, 1978 and 1979.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to attempt to resolve the remaining difficulties in this matter at its own level.

RELATIONS WITH GREECE

The Council noted that the preparatory work within the Community bodies for examination of Greece's application for membership of the Communities had got under way according to the schedule previously adopted, and it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit a more detailed report for the next Council meeting.

Environment

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community. This Directive is part of the European Communities' environment programme, adopted by the Council on 22 November 1973.

The Council has already adopted other Directives in this context concerning:

- surface water for the production of drinking water (16 June 1975),
- the quality of bathing water (8 December 1975).

Others are still under examination within the Council. These concern:

- the quality of water for human consumption,
- waste from the titanium dioxide industry,
- waste from paper pulp industry,
- the dumping of waste at sea.

This Directive will serve as a point of reference for the Community and the Member States in the international and bilateral negotiations for several conventions or draft conventions aimed at protecting international watercourses and the marine environment against pollution: the Convention on

the prevention of marine pollution from land-based sources (Paris Convention), the draft Convention for the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution, and the draft European Convention for the protection of international watercourses against pollution (Strasbourg Convention).

The Directive itself establishes a first list (black list) of certain substances which are particularly dangerous because of their toxicity, persistence or bioaccumulation, and a second list (grey list) containing substances which also have a deleterious effect on the aquatic environment, but whose effect can be confined to a given area and depends on the characteristics and location of the water into which the substances are discharged.

The authorization issued by a Member State will fix the emission standards for the substances on the black list in each case (for example, the quantity of a blacklisted substance admissible in factory waste). These standards must not exceed the limits to be set by the Council. The Council will also set water quality objectives for these substances. (The quality objective for a given environment covers all the requirements which must be met in order to protect human beings and the environment in general.) Any State which wishes to have recourse to the quality objectives method must prove that it is complying with a number of conditions laid down in the Directive.

The authorization issued by a Member State will specify the emission standards for the substances on the grey list calculated on the basis of the quality objectives for water set out in the programmes adopted by each Member State. Arrangements will be made by the Commission together with the Member States to compare these national programmes.

The Directive covers inland surface water, territorial waters, internal coastal waters and ground water. Pending a proposal for a specific Directive on ground water, Member States are to apply a system of zero-emission as regards substances on the black list.

The Directive also provides for a procedure for informing the Commission on how the Directive is being applied. The Commission has stated its readiness to report to the Council every five years on how the Directive is being implemented.

The adoption of this framework Directive will be followed by a preliminary period designed to allow both the Commission and the Member States to make the necessary arrangements concerning its implementation.

Commercial policy

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

- amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 87/76, 88/76, 90/76 and 92/76 establishing indicative ceilings and Community supervision for imports of certain products originating in Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden;
- suspending the application of the indicative ceilings for imports of certain products originating in Finland, Norway, Portugal and Sweden established by Regulations (EEC) Nos 88/76, 90/76, 91/76 and 92/76;
- increasing the size of the Community tariff quotas opened for 1976 by Regulations (EEC) Nos 3150/75, 3151/75, 3152/75 and 3153/75 for certain textile products originating in Malta;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2051/74 on the customs procedure applicable to certain (fisheries) products originating in and coming from the Faroe Islands.

o

o

o

Approximation of laws

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

- amending for the 11th time Directive 64/54/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption;
- amending for the second time Directive 65/66/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States laying down specific criteria of purity for preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption.

o

o

o

Relations with the ACP/OCT

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Rules of Procedure of the European Development Fund Committee. Now that its Rules of Procedure have been adopted, the European Development Fund Committee will be able to meet and to begin its work.

o

o

o

Energy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the following texts which were the subject of political agreements at its last meeting on energy ⁽¹⁾:

- the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1056/72 on notifying the Commission of investment projects of interest to the Community in the petroleum, natural gas and electricity sectors;
- the Decision on the grant of measures of support for Community projects in the hydrocarbons sector;
- the Directive regarding a Community procedure for information and consultation on the prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the Community;
- the Recommendations on the rational use of energy
 - by promoting the thermal insulation of buildings;
 - in the heating systems of existing buildings;
 - consumed by road vehicles by improving driving habits;
 - consumed in urban passenger transport;
 - required for the operation of household electrical appliances.

(1) See Press Release No 369/76 (Presse 29)

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

395th Council meeting

- Economic and Financial Affairs -

Brussels, 17 May 1976

President: Mr Raymond VOUËL,
Minister for Finance
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 Willy DE CLERCQ Minister for Finance
Mr Fernand HERMAN Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Per HAEKKERUP Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Karl Otto POEHL State Secretary,
 Ministry of Finance
Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary,
 Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Jean-Marie SOUTOU Ambassador,
 Permanent Representative

Ireland:

Mr Michael MURPHY Secretary-General,
 Ministry of Finance

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Raymond VOUEL

Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Denis HEALEY

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Patrick John HILLERY

Vice-President

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY -
PREPARATION OF THE NEXT TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE WITH BOTH SIDES
OF INDUSTRY

In preparation for the Tripartite Conference on 24 June between the Council, the Commission and both sides of industry, the Council examined in detail the economic and social situation within the Community on the basis of a Commission working document.

The Council requested the Commission to prepare the basic documents for the Conference in the light of the opinions expressed by the members of the Council, both on the macro-economic policies to be followed and the micro-economic measures to be taken, with a view to encouraging employment and stability.

FINANCIAL MECHANISM

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation setting up a financial mechanism.

The adoption of the Regulation amounts to the entry into force of the political decision taken by the Heads of State and Government at the European Council in Dublin on 10 and 11 March 1975.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- the Regulations
 - deleting certain products from the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2603/69 establishing common rules for exports;
 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 2886/75 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for newsprint falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff (1976), and extending this quota temporarily to include certain other types of paper;
- the Decision supplementing the Directives annexed to the Council Decisions of 28 December 1972 and 17 February 1975 on the opening of negotiations for an agreement on the implementation of regulations concerning the temporary laying-up of goods vessels and applicable to certain waterways.

o
o

On behalf of the Community, the Council recorded its agreement on two draft Decisions of the EEC/EFTA Countries Joint Committees

- adding to Note 11 re-Article 23 of Annex I to Protocol No 3 to the EFTA Agreements concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation;
 - supplementing and modifying lists A and B annexed to Protocol No 3 to the EFTA Agreements concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation, and the list contained in Article 25 of that Protocol.
- o
o

The Council recorded its agreement to the substance of the Regulations concluding Agreements between the EEC and Macao, the Republic of Singapore, Malaysia and Japan respectively on trade in textile products.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation concerning the import arrangements for certain textile products originating in Brazil.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

396th meeting of the Council
- Agriculture -
Brussels, 17 and 18 May 1976

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

590/76 (Presse 56)

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Agriculture
Mr Hans-Jurgen 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 HAMILLIUS Minister for Agriculture
Mr Albert BERCHEM State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Robert MacLENNAN

Parliamentary Under Secretary,
Ministry of Prices and Consumer
Protection

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS

Member

o

o

o

WINE

Further to its agreement in principle reached in March 1976, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a series of Regulations concerning the wine sector:

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 817/70 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 865/68 on the common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff
- on the granting of a conversion premium in the wine sector
- on measures designed to adjust wine-growing potential to market requirements.

The essential purpose of these Regulations is to adjust a certain number of provisions concerning the common organization of the market in wine, in the light of the experience gained, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of intervention machinery and preserving producers' incomes, improving the balance of supply and demand, improved quality in vineyards and in wine products, better guarantees for the consumer, and finally a trade policy better adapted to the development of the Community and international markets for these products.

These measures will, in general, enter into force at the beginning of the next marketing year, namely 1 September 1976, and they will be published as soon as possible in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2506/75 laying down special rules for the importation of products in the wine-growing sector originating in certain third countries
- amending Annex IV to Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine and the Common Customs Tariff as regards the exchange rates applicable to customs duties on certain wines.

These Regulations provide for the postponement of the application of Regulation (EEC) No 2506/75 (free-at-frontier reference price system) to 1 July 1976 and for a legal basis enabling the Commission to take any transitional measures necessary, by means of the Management Committee procedure, this latter provision remaining applicable until 1 July 1977 at the latest, and also for the application to the products concerned, under the arrangements in question, for tariff purposes, the conversion rates for national currencies fixed for the transactions to be carried out in implementation of the common agricultural policy ("green" rates).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the European Communities:

- the Regulation amending Regulation 2133/74 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wine and grape musts.

The general rules are to apply from 1 September 1976 and the above amending Regulation provides in particular for their adaptation to administrative requirements and commercial practices.

o o
o

Following discussions on the application of the provisions concerning the rules for the target yield of a quality wine produced in a specified region (quality wine psr) and for action if the yield was exceeded, the Council noted that Article 10 of Regulation 817/70 raised certain practical difficulties of application in several producer Member States and that the provisions concerned should therefore be adapted. In this connection it noted the Commission's intention to submit an appropriate proposal before 30 June 1976.

TOMATOES

The Council discussed the market situation, in the Community, of tomato concentrates and peeled tomatoes and adopted, in the official languages of the European Communities, the Regulation laying down the minimum price and the special minimum price for tomato concentrates for the 1976/1977 marketing year.

Under the provisions of this Regulation, the minimum price applicable to tomato concentrates coming from third countries is increased from 60.0 units of account per 100 kg to 64.0 units of account per 100 kg and the special minimum price to apply in the three new Member States was increased from 40.0 units of account per 100 kg to 48.0 units of account per 100 kg.

The Council also took note of the Commission's intention to increase the export refunds for concentrates and peeled tomatoes.

Finally the Council agreed to re-examine at its next meeting additional measures to be taken with a view to rationalizing the market in tomatoes; it instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to prepare its work on the basis of new proposals which the Commission could submit to it for this purpose within the next two weeks.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FRIULI REGION

The Council noted a communication from the Italian delegation which underlined the need for assistance to be granted from the EAGGF, Guidance Section, on terms to be laid down, for carrying out a number of projects for the rebuilding of agricultural installations destroyed by the recent earthquake in the Friuli region.

The Commission representative told the Council of the progress that had been made in the Commission's work of drawing up a plan of assistance which could be extended to include the projects proposed by the Italian delegation.

The Council expressed its solidarity with the Italian delegation and said it hoped that the Commission would, as soon as possible submit a package of proposals covering different sectors - including agriculture - to enable effective aid to be granted for reconstruction of this region.

CEREALS

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a series of Regulations which implement the decisions taken in this sector at the Council meeting on the fixing of agricultural prices held on 2 to 6 March.

These decisions will be implemented by means of Regulations:

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 on the common organization of the market in cereals
- fixing cereal and rice prices for the 1976/1977 marketing year
- on particular and special intervention measures for cereals
- laying down rules for determining the intervention centres for cereals
- on aid for durum wheat
- on the list of Community regions receiving aid for durum wheat and fixing the amount of such aid
- fixing, for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour and wheat groats and meal
- fixing, for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the monthly price increases for paddy rice and husked rice
- fixing, for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the protective amount to be included in the threshold price for milled rice

The main aspects of this series of measures are:

- the alignment, as from the 1977/1978 marketing year, of common wheat, barley and maize on a single common intervention price;
- for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the single common intervention prices for wheat, barley and maize will be fixed at differentiated levels. As from 1977/1978 the reference price will replace the intervention price for common wheat of bread-making quality;
- maintenance of the market prices of bread-making qualities at the reference price level by special and particular intervention measures such as the purchase of cereals by means of tenders;
- as regards durum wheat, the production aid system, previously based on quantities harvested, will be replaced by aid per hectare under seed and harvested. Aid will be differentiated according to the production region concerned and limited to certain of these regions.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council noted the Commission report on supplies of beef and veal for processing in 1976, in which it was established that there was still no shortage of such meat and that accordingly there was no need to amend the supply and demand estimates adopted in December 1975.

o

o

o

In addition, the Council recorded its agreement to the Regulation amending the arrangements for imports of beef and veal originating in certain African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

In view of the importance of exports of beef and veal for Botswana and of the seasonal nature of production, the Regulation provides for an increase of 1500 tonnes in the amount which that country is authorized to export to the Community under the system whereby import charges are being reduced until 1 July 1976. The quantity is to be deducted from any figure which might be allocated to Botswana for the second half of 1976.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

Following a constructive discussion on the exceptional treatment to be applied to United Kingdom imports of New Zealand butter for 1978/1979/1980, the Council agreed to take a final decision on the matter at its June meeting.

SUGAR

The Council discussed in detail one final practical difficulty in implementing the agreement reached at its meeting on 2 to 6 March last. It entrusted the technical finalization of the text to the Special Committee on Agriculture.

ACP SUGAR

In the light of the debate on the progress of the current negotiations, it was agreed that the Commission would continue its negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries in accordance with the directives already adopted.

APPLES

Following a request from the Belgian delegation, the Council agreed to extend, until the end of June, the Regulation setting the basic price (19.64 UA/100 kg) and the buying-in price (9.94 UA/100 kg) for apples.

This extension has proved necessary on account of the large stocks of apples likely to be offered for intervention during May unless the Community can buy them into intervention after the end of this month.

STRUCTURAL POLICY

The Council took note of an interim report on the work of the Special Committee on Agriculture on a series of proposals relating to structural policy.

It instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to advance its discussions on these proposals so that it could submit a final report as soon as possible.

POTATOES

The Council approved a final extension until 31 May 1976, of the Regulation temporarily suspending the Common Customs Tariff for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II.

WINE

The Council agreed in principle to the resumption, for a period of fifteen days from the end of May, of the distillation operation agreed on at the meeting of 2 to 6 March, mainly to solve some regional difficulties in the wine sector.

ITALIAN MEASURES

The Council discussed in detail the effects which the monetary measures recently taken by the Italian Republic could have on the import of agricultural products into Italy. Having noted that these measures would have a considerable impact on the agricultural sector, the Council asked the heads of the agricultural departments to examine the agricultural aspects of these measures at their next meeting.

In this connection, the Council recorded a large measure of agreement on the proposal for a Regulation amending the Regulation laying down general rules on the granting of aid for skimmed milk powder to be used as animal feed. The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to prepare a decision on the matter for adoption at the earliest opportunity.

In conclusion, the Council agreed to resume its discussion of the general agricultural implications of the Italian measures at its next meeting on agriculture.

MUTTON AND LAMB

The Council held a discussion on all the questions relating to the establishment of a transitional common organization of the market in mutton and lamb, taking account of price and quality differences on the various Community markets, and of traditional patterns of trade.

It requested the Commission to submit a report which would serve as a basis for Council discussions, to be held before 1 August 1976, on definitive regulations in this sector.

The Council undertook to adopt before 1 August 1976, on a proposal from the Commission, interim measures to improve the conditions of intra-Community trade in mutton and lamb.

TINNED PINEAPPLE

The Council noted a statement by the Commission representative that aid to producers of tinned pineapple could be granted as from 1.7.1976.

MALT

The Commission communicated to the Council its draft Regulation regarding special arrangements for implementating the system of import and export licences in the cereals and rice sector.

The Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to seek an agreement on the matter and agreed to adopt the text as soon as possible by means of the written procedure.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the fifth Council Decision on the equivalence of field inspections carried out in third countries on seed-producing crops;
- the fifth Council Decision on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries;
- a Council Decision amending the second Decision 73/370/EEC on the equivalence of seed potatoes produced in third countries.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Council Regulation laying down general rules for granting compensation to producers of tunny for the canning industry.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

397th meeting of the Council
- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 31 May - 1 June 1976

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

633/76 (Presse 59)

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

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI Minister of State
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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 L.J. BRINKHORST

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Roy HATTERSLEY

Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Francois-Xavier ORTOLI

President

Sir Christopher SOAMES

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Mr Finn olav GUNDELACH

Member

COMMUNITY AID TO FRIULI

The Council noted a letter addressed to the Council by Mr ORTOLI after he had visited the FRIULI region following the recent earthquake; he had met Italian Ministers and senior officials to study how the Community could help in reconstruction in FRIULI.

It emerged from this study that Community aid might be allocated in the following spheres:

- repair of agricultural damage:
the Commission will propose a special aid programme under the EAGGF Guidance Section;
- reconstruction of certain infrastructures essential to the economic recovery of the region: the procedures and experience of the Regional Fund might be used;
- reconstruction of workers' dwellings (600): Community aid as part of ECSC activities;
- social sphere: financing of vocational re-training programmes with income being maintained.

To implement these contributions to the reconstruction of FRIULI, the Commission announced that, in view of the different types of aid and existing possibilities under the Social Fund and the ECSC, it will propose to the Council a supplementary budget of approximately 60 MUA under the heading "Community aid to reconstruction in FRIULI".

Pending the submission of formal proposals by the Commission, the Council expressed its sympathy with those affected by the disaster by recording its support for the measures proposed by the Commission.

OUTCOME OF UNCTAD IV in Nairobi

The Council heard a report by Mr CHEYSSON, Member of the Commission, on the proceedings and outcome of the IVth UNCTAD Conference, which closed in Nairobi on 31 May 1976.

The Council expressed its satisfaction at the successful completion of the Conference proceedings.

It agreed that the Community Institutions would shortly carry out the necessary internal preparations to define the Community position for the follow-up to the Conference.

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

As the final questions outstanding at internal level had been settled, the Council signified its agreement to accession by the Community to the Protocols further extending (for a period of two years) the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention, which together form the 1971 International Wheat Agreement.

THE COMMUNITY'S EXTERNAL COMMITMENTS

The Council continued its work on the Community's external commitments as a whole and concentrated on the amounts to be earmarked for financial co-operation under the overall Mediterranean approach, paying particular attention to the likely breakdown of the amounts of aid which would probably be set aside under the proposed agreements with each country or group of countries involved.

The Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to continue its work.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL COMPOSED OF MINISTERS OTHER THAN THOSE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

On the basis of a report by the President, the Council held a discussion on progress on the various problems under examination within the Council composed of Ministers other than those for foreign affairs.

The discussion enabled the members of the Council to locate the main questions in their general context and also to draw the attention of Member States' Governments to the effects of those questions on the development of common policies as a whole.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council adopted directives to the Commission for the negotiation of an Agreement for co-operation between EURATOM and Switzerland in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion and plasma physics.

In the context of co-operation with the International Energy Agency on research and development, the Council adopted:

- directives to the Commission for the negotiation with the IEA of an outline agreement in the form of an exchange of letters stating the intentions of the two parties to co-operate, under agreements to be concluded, in the field of research and development;
- directives to the Commission on participation by EURATOM in two R & D Agreements in the nuclear field prepared under the auspices of the IEA;
- a Decision approving the conclusion of Implementing Agreements:
 - . on the exchange of technical information in the field of reactor safety research and development;
 - . for a co-operative research and development programme leading to the construction of an intense neutron source;

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

- temporarily suspending the autonomous duties in the Common Customs Tariff on certain industrial products
- temporarily and totally suspending the customs duties applicable in the Community as originally constituted to a number of chemical products imported from the new Member States
- amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No 567/76 laying down general rules governing the distillation of table wines for which the distillation contract must be approved before 15 April 1976.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the European Communities, the Directive laying down the revised basic safety standards for the health protection of the population and workers against the dangers of ionizing radiation.

o

o

o

The Council, acting on a proposal from the Netherlands Government appointed Mr JONKER member of the Economic and Social Committee in replacement of Mr NOORDWAL for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 September 1978.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision nominating the representative organizations called upon to draw up lists of candidates for the European Coal and Steel Community Consultative Committee.

The Council gave the assents requested in accordance with Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty (Société industrielle de Bruay and Société artésienne de Vinyle - France).

Food aid

Under the 1976 food aid programme the Council adopted the programme for the supply of skimmed milk powder to certain developing countries and international organizations together with the general rules for implementation of this programme.

55,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder ⁽¹⁾ are to be supplied, and allocations are as follows:

	<u>tonnes</u>
Afghanistan	200
Bangladesh	4 000
Cape Verde Islands	450
Egypt	800
Ethiopia	500
Grenada	100
Guinea-Bissau	500
Haiti	1 000
Honduras	800
Upper Volta	700

⁽¹⁾ The Commission is to submit additional proposals in the near future in view of the Council meeting on Agriculture on 2 to 6 March 1976 on increasing skimmed milk powder food aid.

Ile Maurice	200
Inde	5 000
Jordanie	600
Kenya	200
Mali	800
Malte	100
Mauritanie	500
Niger	350
Pakistan	2 500
Pérou	600
Philippines	500
Rwanda	200
Sao Tomé	100
Sénégal	350
Somalie	850
Soudan	170
Sri Lanka	850
Tanzanie	350
Uruguay	200
Yemen RA	200
<u>ORGANISMES</u>	
CICR	2 000
LIGUE SCR	1 000
PAM	20 000
UNICEF	4 000
UNRWA	700
Réserve	<u>3 630</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>55 000</u></u>

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Community the Regulation on the supply of skimmed milk powder to Niger as food aid pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 3263/74, drawing 750 tonnes from current reserves.

The Council approved emergency food aid for the refugees from Timor involving the supply of 2,000 tonnes of cereals and 100 tonnes of skimmed milk powder from the 1975 programme reserves.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

398th Council Meeting

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 21 and 22 June 1976

President: Mr Jean HAMILIUS,
Minister for Agriculture
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 Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Agriculture

Federal Republic of 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

Luxembourg:

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

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Frederick PEART

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr P.J. LARDINOIS

Member

FRIULI

As an act of Community solidarity, the Council adopted a set of measures designed to contribute to the reconstruction of the Friuli region after the earthquake of May 1976.

These measures include two Regulations on the contribution to be made by the Community towards the cost of repairing damage both to the region's infrastructure and to its agriculture, together with a Decision assimilating the disaster-stricken communes to the areas covered by the Community Directive on mountain and hill-farming.

To finance these measures, the Council approved a supplementary budget of 60 million UA for 1976.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

After debating the political aspects of the question, the Council agreed to extend the period of validity of the exceptional arrangements for imports of New Zealand butter into the United Kingdom.

These exceptional arrangements provide for imports to the United Kingdom totalling:

- 125,000 tonnes in 1978,
- 120,000 tonnes in 1979, and
- 115,000 tonnes in 1980.

In the event of these imports exceeding 25% of direct butter consumption in the United Kingdom, a decision may be taken to sell the quantity in excess of this threshold, on terms to be laid down, for purposes other than direct consumption.

CEREALS

Supplementing the decisions on cereals taken at its meeting on 2-6 March 1976, which dealt with the fixing of farm prices, the Council adopted a Regulation fixing the threshold prices for cereals for the 1976/1977 marketing year:

	Units of account: per tonne
Common wheat and meslin	149.30
Rye	146.45
Barley	135.10
Maize	135.10
Durum wheat	216.10
Oats	130.00
Buckwheat	133.00
Sorghum	133.00
Millet	133.00
Canary seed	133.00

The Council also adopted a Regulation laying down the minimum requirements as regards intervention for common wheat of bread-making quality (baking test).

The Council did not adopt the proposal for a Regulation fixing a carry-over payment for maize remaining in stock at the end of the 1975/1976 marketing year.

As for the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2742/75 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sector, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture urgently to carry out a more detailed examination of the various aspects of this problem in the light of today's discussions.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council reviewed the situation in this sector, having particular regard to the drought prevailing in certain regions of the Community.

It welcomed the measures which the Commission intended to adopt within the Management Committee for the purpose of easing market conditions, by extending intervention by the French authorities to cover up to 10,000 tonnes of cow carcasses during the period running from 28 June to 31 July 1976.

The Council agreed to follow developments attentively over the coming weeks and to review these questions in greater detail at the meeting scheduled to take place on 19 and 20 July 1976.

ADVANCE FIXING OF EXPORT REFUNDS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 557/76 on the exchange rates to be applied in agriculture.

Although this amendment is general in scope it will have the particular effect of doing away with certain anomalies in the sugar sector. This will be achieved by abolishing the operator's right to cancel export certificates subject to refunds fixed in advance, when a new representative rate is fixed. Appropriate compensation will, however, be provided in respect of any disadvantages actually incurred (arrangements to be settled by the Commission, applying the Management Committee procedure).

PRIVATE STOCKS OF PROTEIN PRODUCTS

After examining the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council, having regard to the considerations underlying the Commission's proposal, agreed to adopt in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation introducing a temporary system of aid for private stocks of certain protein products.

This Regulation supplements the Regulation on the incorporation of skimmed milk powder in feedingstuffs which was adopted when farm prices were fixed at the meeting on 2 to 6 March 1976.

The total quantity able to benefit from this aid may not exceed the equivalent of 250,000 tonnes of oilcakes and the duration of the storage contracts may not exceed 12 months. The Regulation will apply from 1 July to 31 October 1976.

SKIMMED MILK POWDER

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 986/68 laying down general rules for granting aid for skimmed milk and skimmed milk powder for use as feedingstuffs.

This amendment provides for the payment of certain aid by the exporting countries in order to assist trade in skimmed milk powder between the Member States.

SUGAR

Taking account of the decisions reached during the meeting on 2 to 6 March, particularly those on prices, and of the outcome of the negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and India concerning the guaranteed price for cane sugar imports under preferential arrangements, the Council adopted a number of measures concerning sugar in the official languages of the Communities.

With a view to contributing towards the stabilization of markets and to ensuring that deliveries to consumers are effected at reasonable prices and that normal supplies can be guaranteed for the whole of the Community and for its individual regions, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation adopting provisions for the introduction of a system of minimum stocks in the sugar sector. This system provides for stocks which in principle are to be 10% of the basic quota for each undertaking or 10% of the production achieved by an undertaking where its production falls below the basic quota. As regards preferential sugar, the minimum stock is to be 10% of the quantity of preferential sugar which an undertaking refines during a period which has still to be determined.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending the Regulation concerning the granting of export refunds on sugars imported into the Community under preferential arrangements. This amendment makes it possible for sugar covered by preferential import arrangements (under the Lomé Convention the Council Decision on imports of cane sugar originating in the OCT and the Agreement between the Community and the Republic of India on cane sugar) to be included in the scope of the Regulation in question.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation laying down, for the 1976/1977 sugar marketing year, the differential charge levied on preferential raw sugar (1.20 UA/100 kg) and the differential amount to be granted for raw cane sugar from the French Overseas Departments (1.20 UA/100 kg).

As part of the measures to facilitate the disposal of sugar produced in the French Overseas Departments, the Council decided to grant a subsidy of 1.29 UA/100 kg for sugar produced in those Departments within the maximum quota and refined in the Community.

Finally, the Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending the basic Regulation No 3330/74 on the common organization of the market in sugar. This relates in particular to Articles 8, 18 and 38 (Italian aid), which were affected by the previous decisions, including those on prices and related measures adopted at the meeting on 2 to 6 March 1976.

The various measures enter into force on 1 July 1976 for the 1976/1977 sugar marketing year.

The Council approved the agreement negotiated by the Commission on behalf of the Community on the price to be applied to sugar to be imported under the preferential arrangements from the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, as provided for by the Lomé Convention.

It agreed to adopt formally the legal act embodying this decision at its next meeting. This text will enter into force on 1 July 1976.

PROCESSED FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The Commission submitted a proposal for a Regulation on tomato concentrates during the meeting and the Council decided to forward this to the European Parliament for an Opinion, using the emergency procedure, and to examine the proposal in detail on receipt of that Opinion.

The Council also adopted by a qualified majority a Regulation fixing, for the 1976/1977 marketing year, the production aid for tinned pineapples (30.0 Ua.100 kg) and the minimum price to be paid to pineapple producers.

HOPS

The Council held a general discussion on the situation as regards hops. It agreed to continue this at its next meeting, to be held on 19 to 20 July, on the basis of proposals to be submitted by the Commission.

EGGS

Following an exchange of views on the egg market situation, the Council adopted a Decision justifying the granting in Denmark of an exceptional national aid for the slaughter of hens, the cost of which - up to a ceiling of 600,000 kroner - is to be borne by producers. This will extend until 1 October 1976.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

The Council took note of the following:

- a statement on the improvement of support mechanisms in the fisheries sector (several delegations);
- a statement on the situation on the alcohol market (German and Netherlands delegations).

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- consolidating the acts adopted in the rice sector;
- on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 30,000 head of heifers and cows, not intended for slaughter, of certain mountain breeds falling within sub-heading ex 01.01 A II (b) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- on the opening, allocation and administration of the Community tariff quota of 5,000 head of bulls, cows and heifers, not intended for slaughter, of certain Alpine breeds falling within subheading ex 01.02 A II (b) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- supplementing Regulation No 885/68 as regards the general rules for advance fixing of export refunds for beef and veal;
- fixing the main intervention centres for oilseeds for the 1976/1977 marketing year and the derived intervention prices applicable at these centres;

- on compensatory amounts for colza and rape seed;
- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of agricultural products.

o

o

o

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation extending the arrangements laid down in Regulation No 3328/75 for imports of beef and veal originating in certain ACP States (27,532 tonnes per annum until 31 December 1976).

o

o

o

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation No 2757/75 as regards the accession compensatory amounts and coefficients to be applied thereto for cereals.

o

o

o

Food aid

The Council adopted three Regulations concerning aid to Vietnam, involving 15,000 tonnes of cereals, 2,500 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 1,200 tonnes of butteroil. This aid is to be supplied to the ICRC, UNHCR and UNICEF.

Under the agreement concluded between the Community and the ICRC on 3 February 1975, the Council gave the Community's approval to an ICRC aid operation to supply the Bolivian Red Cross with 240 tonnes of skimmed milk powder.

The Council also approved the granting to Zaire of 10,000 tonnes of cereals (cif), thereby rounding off the 1975/1976 implementation plan adopted on 25 March 1976.

o

o

o

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation concluding a Commercial Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

o

o

o

The Council gave its agreement to the principle of the provisional application by the Community of the Fifth International Tin Agreement and adopted a Decision concerning the Community's deposit of a statement on the subject.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision on the conclusion of an outline agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between Euratom and the International Energy Agency (IEA), for co-operation in the field of energy research and development, together with a Regulation concerning information on the state of the Community's energy supplies.

On a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr B. O'RIORDAN a member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work to replace Mr LUISDEN, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, viz., until 4 May 1978.

On a proposal from the Belgian Government, the Council appointed Mr BENS a member to replace Mr LAURENT, and Mr PAQUE an alternate to replace Mr BENS, on the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work for the remainder of the terms of office of Messrs LAURENT and BENS, viz., until 4 May 1978.

o

o

o

The Council adopted the Decision appointing the full members and alternates of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training provided for under the fourth principle of the Council Decision of 2 April 1963.

The term of office for the following appointments will run from 21 June 1976 to 20 June 1978.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS

	(a) <u>full members</u>		(b) <u>alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr P. MULLER	Mr A. COEN	Mr A. HOFFMAN
Denmark	Mr M. JOHANSEN	Mr J.A. MORTENSEN	Mrs B. FLINDT SØRENSEN
Germany	Mr H. LEMKE	Mrs K. SCHULTE- STEINBERG	Mr F. PUTTMANN
France	Mr BLONDEL	Mrs BARBERYE	Mr BRUYERE
Ireland	Mr J. AGNEW	Mr I. FINLAY	Mr P. CONNOLLY
Italy	Mr A. GALLO	Mr R. CIANNARELLI	Mr G. ABETE
Luxembourg	Mr N. ESTGEN	Mr G. GLAESENER	Mr J. FRIEDRICH
Netherlands	Mr H.K. VOS	Mr A.H. KOELINK	Mr W.H. WEEKENBORG
United Kingdom	Mr F.C. HAYES	Mr D.G. LIBBY	Mr B.D. WINKETT

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS

	(a) <u>Full members</u>		(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr G. SAUVAGE	Mr G. DERIEUW	Mr W. PEIRENS
Denmark	Mr M. BAEHRING	Mr E. NIELSEN	Mr E. BORDING
Germany	Mrs M. WEBER	Mr F. KEMPF	Mr H. NIERHAUS
France	Mr R. LEBESCOMD	Mr VERGER	Mr C. MICHEL
Ireland	Mr F. KENNEDY	Mr M.J. GRIFFIN	Mr H. O'SULLIVAN
Italy	Mr M. ROTA	Mr R. DRAGO	Mr L. ZANIER
Luxembourg	Mr J. BACKES	Mr J. REGENWETTER	Mr R. SCHADECK
Netherlands	Mr H.J. MOES	Mr W. BAARS	Mr C.N.M. COMMANDEUR
United Kingdom	Mr L.F. EDMONDSON	Mr F.F. JARVIS	Mr L.W. BUCK

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

	(a) <u>Full members</u>		(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr D. DE NORRE	Mr R. DUSSENNE	Mr P. VAN DE CRUYCE
Denmark	Mr O. SCHANDORFF	Mr H. ØHRSTRØM	Mr E. TØTTRUP
Germany	Mr R. RADDATZ	Mr H.P. KUHFUHS	Mr K.G. KRACHTEN
France	Mr Y. CORPET	Mr J.P. MEINRAD	Mr A. CONQUET
Ireland	Mr A.F. RICE	Mr W.J. FENELON	Mr A. MULLIGAN
Italy	Mr G. LANZONI	Mr M. VITA	Mr G. MISSERVILLE
Luxembourg	Mr E. MULLER	Mr C. GALOWICH	Mr G. THEIS
Netherlands	Mr A. BECK	Mr J.R. WESTERHUIS	Mr H. ROTFUSZ
United Kingdom	Mr E. de MARSH	Mr M.O. BURY	Mr P.J. CASEY

o

o

o

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted the following in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Decision on exports of ferrous scrap to third countries
- a Decision on exports of alloy steel scrap to third countries.

PRESS RELEASE

LIPDARY

399th Meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 29 and 30 June 1976

President:

Mr Gaston THORN

Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 30 June 1976
759/76 (Presse 73) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M

to Press Release

No 759/76 (Presse 73)
of 29 June 1976

Page 13: Association of the OCT with the Community, third
paragraph

Read: ".....160 million units of account"

instead of "..... 60 million units of account".

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

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER 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

Mr Luigi GRANELLI Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr M. VAN DER STOEL Minister for Foreign Affairs

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

United Kingdom:

Mr Anthony CROSLAND Secretary of State Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr Roy HATTERSLEY Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI President

Sir Christopher SOAMES Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Member

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH Member

Mr Guido BRUNNER Member

ELIMINATION OF TECHNICAL BARRIERS

The Council approved 18 Directives on the elimination of technical barriers to trade in industrial products. These Directives concern motor vehicles, tractors, measuring instruments, interference caused by electrical equipment, pressure vessels, cosmetic products and a number of dangerous substances.

The approval of this set of 18 Directives concerning the elimination of technical barriers to trade in numerous industrial products, which are thus added to the 62 Directives already adopted by the Council, constitutes a very important step towards the achievement of a genuine common market in this sector.

For a correct assessment of the importance of this decision, it should be remembered that public authorities have traditionally and increasingly concentrated on protecting consumers against fraud in trade (control of weights and measures) and securing personal safety in the use of motor vehicles (brakes, lights, etc.) or equipment such as boilers, gas cylinders, or even cosmetic products. However, all these national measures concerning the protection of consumers and personal safety create technical barriers to trade within the Community if, by reason of their national character, they remain divergent. To achieve a genuine common market, i.e. free movement of goods, it is essential therefore that such technical barriers be eliminated.

The progress made in this sector, which is a reward for many years of effort and perserverance, reinforces the internal market of the Community and hence its internal cohesion. Successes such as these cannot but have beneficial consequences, both because of the direct effects of the decisions taken and because they enable Europe to assert its identity still more clearly vis-à-vis its economic partners.

To illustrate the significance of this decision, one need only refer to the difficult GATT negotiations on the elimination of non-tariff barriers, which are a weapon at least as effective as custom duties in protecting national markets. One specific instance of the repercussions abroad of harmonization measures in the field of technical regulations is the Japanese authorities' recent recognition of the equivalence of harmonized Community specifications and controls in the car industry with their own specifications, an event which will open up fresh opportunities for the Community industry in this sector.

At the same time, it should be strongly emphasized that harmonization, extending as it does to a great variety of products (the annual turnover of Community industries directly involved amounts to tens of thousands of millions of units of account) benefits above all 250 million Community consumers and users. By enabling firms to offer their products over the entire common market area, it encourages competition (by increasing the range and quality of products offered) and customer choice and also opens the way for a uniform mass production, with all that this implies for the final price to the European consumer.

... ..

Furthermore, the Council managed, as the Commission had in its proposal, to maintain at a high level the requirements which the products in question must satisfy to protect and sometimes even raise the quality of life. Earlier national regulations had of course also aimed at protecting health and safety, but their differences had too often turned them into tools of commercial protectionism.

This Council Decision is important both because of its effects - for it enables trade barriers to be eliminated while ensuring that the quality of the products placed on the market will be maintained at a high level - and its wide field of application. With these 18 Directives, the number of Council Directives on the elimination of technical barriers to trade in industrial products is increased by nearly one third to 80.

This achievement, contributing as it does to the balanced development of the Community by strengthening its domestic industrial market, will be certain to give fresh impetus to efforts for the achievement of further progress in this area in the near future.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE "PACKAGE" of 18 DIRECTIVES

Motor vehicles

With the adoption of the 8 "lighting" Directives almost all the work of harmonization in the field of motor vehicles will have been completed.

All that will remain will be a number of Directives, forming an entire set, on ensuring the safety of driver and passengers (safety windows, seat belts and head rests).

Tractors

Attention should be drawn in this connection to a very positive point regarding the sound level of tractors, namely that all Member States now set as their target a sound level considered internationally to be the maximum permissible (90 dB (A) or 86 dB (A), depending on the measuring methods used) and that the deadline for attainment of the target will be decided by the procedure of the Commission's Committee on Adjustment to Technical Progress, acting by a qualified majority.

Measuring instruments

With the adoption of the 4 Directives on clinical thermometers, electrical energy meters, alcohol tables and alcoholometers, a total of 20 Council Directives now covers the field of metrology at Community level.

The Council Directives are based on the work of international organizations (e.g. CENELEC and OIML) and are therefore set in a framework far larger than the Community, since the activities of these organizations extend to the whole of the industrialized world.

This means that not only will barriers due to mutual misunderstanding have disappeared within the Community but the solution adopted will exclude protectionism and will facilitate exports.

Interference (electrical equipment)

The 2 Directives on radio interference produced by:

- electrical household appliances such as irons, hair dryers, toasters, razors, etc.....
- fluorescent lighting

are the first of a series of Directives on all types of electrical appliances and machines which are subject to analogous national regulations. The harmonization measures are total, i.e. existing national regulations are replaced by common European regulations.

Pressure vessels

The framework Directive in question represents a first measure of harmonization in this field, after years of effort at the world level, and will influence work on a whole series of special Directives currently under examination by the Council or in preparation at the Commission.

Cosmetic products

This Directive provides for total harmonization, i.e. the replacement of existing national regulations by Community provisions. Its aim is to ensure that the health of users is protected and that they are better informed regarding the constituents and method of use of the product concerned.

It should be noted that, during the Council discussions, the Member States and the Commission succeeded in establishing "positive" lists, in particular of the types of colouring substance permitted and the conditions governing their use, side by side with the "negative" lists of banned products.

Dangerous substances

The Member States undertake with this Directive to impose a total ban on monomer vinyl chloride as an aerosol propellant because of its danger to human health, and there is provision for a long-term ban by all the Member States on the use of PCBs and PCTs (polychlorinated diphenyls and triphenyls).

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY DIRECT
UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

In anticipation of the forthcoming discussion of this subject by the European Council, there was a final exchange of views in the Council of Ministers on the number and allocation of seats in the Parliament when its members are elected by direct universal suffrage.

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION
BETWEEN CANADA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the decision on the signing - to take place in Ottawa on Tuesday 6 July 1976 - of a framework agreement for commercial and economic co-operation between Canada and the European Communities (¹).

(¹) A joint communiqué will be published in Ottawa on the occasion of the signing.

LAW OF THE SEA - 200-MILE MARITIME ECONOMIC ZONES

The Council noted a report from the Permanent Representatives Committee on the problems raised for the Community in the fisheries sector by the establishment of 200-mile maritime economic zones and on preparations for the IIIrd United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.

It went on to hold a discussion during which delegations expressed their opinions on problems such as Community fisheries arrangements in the event of the creation of a 200-mile Community zone and, in particular, the introduction of reserved coastal belts, the drafting of a declaration of intent by the Community on the introduction of 200-mile economic zones and the conduct of negotiations with third countries on the exercise of fishing rights.

It also examined the possibility of including in the instruments of the future Convention on the Law of the Sea an EEC clause enabling the Community as such to be a party to that Convention. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine this question further with a view to submitting the text of such a clause at the next Council meeting.

CONTINUATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION

The Council held an exchange of views in preparation for the meeting of Senior Officials in Paris from 8 to 10 July 1976. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the formulation of the Community's position.

In this connection, after noting that Mr Albert DONDELINGER was resigning his position as co-Chairman of the Commission on Financial Affairs of the CIEC, the Council and the Commission agreed to appoint Mr Dirk SPIERENBURG, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, to this function. The Council and the Commission expressed their gratitude to Mr Albert DONDELINGER for the way in which he had discharged his duties during the past six months.

ASSOCIATION of the OCT with the COMMUNITY

The Council adopted the Decision on the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Economic Community.

According to this Decision, the Overseas Countries and Territories will have direct access to the Community market on the same terms as those granted to the ACP States which signed the Convention of Lomé, i.e. as a general rule, with total exemption from duties.

Moreover, aid amounting to 60 MUA will be given to these Countries and Territories in the context of financial and technical assistance and the export earnings.

This Association, which is based on Part Four of the Treaty of Rome will henceforth cover not only the French and Netherlands Countries and Territories already associated with the Community, but also the United Kingdom Overseas Countries and Territories referred to in the Accession Treaty.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation fixing the guaranteed prices applicable in 1976/1977 to cane sugar originating in the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT).

FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND GREECE

The Council continued its discussions on the financial commitments to be entered into in respect of the various eastern Mediterranean countries and reached conclusions regarding the amounts to be allocated to the various countries or groups of countries concerned.

With particular regard to relations with Turkey and Greece, the Council thought that it would very shortly be in a position to propose to these two countries dates for the ministerial meetings of the EEC-Turkey Association Council (in Ankara) and the EEC-Greece Association Council (in Brussels); the latter could coincide with the formal opening of negotiations for Greece's accession to the Community.

CYPRUS SHERRY

The Council agreed to extend for one year, from 1 July 1976, the arrangements applicable at present to Cyprus Sherry on the understanding that, during this period, efforts would be made to work out definitive arrangements for exports of this product to the Community.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the Mediterranean countries:

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decisions

- extending the period of validity of the Decision of 26 June 1975 opening tariff preferences for products within the province of that Community originating in Israel
- opening tariff preferences for products within the province of that Community originating in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia respectively.

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

- suspending application of the condition on prices governing the importation into the Community of fresh lemons originating in the Mediterranean countries with which the Community concludes agreements
- amending Regulations Nos 3152/75 and 3153/75 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for outer garments falling within headings Nos 60.05 and 61.01 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Malta

- extending the special provisions applicable to imports from Greece of goods coming under Regulation No 1059/69
- concluding an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on the importation into the Community of tomato concentrates originating in Algeria
- derogating, for 1976/1977, from the provisions concerning the definition of the concept of originating products in the Co-operation Agreement and the Interim Agreement between the EEC and the Kingdom of Morocco.

Commercial policy:

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- the Regulations:

- . maintaining in effect the rules whereby imports into Italy of cast-iron tube and pipe fittings originating in Taiwan are subject to import authorizations
- . increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1976 by Regulation No 126/76 for unwrought magnesium falling within subheading 77.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff
- . on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for ferro-chromium containing not less than 4% by weight of carbon falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff and extending the benefit of this quota to certain imports of ferro-chromium containing a quantity of between 3 and 4% by weight of carbon
- . on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for processing work in respect of certain textile products under Community outward processing arrangements
- . on the extension of the exceptional arrangements for imports into the United Kingdom of butter from New Zealand

- the Decision amending Decision 788/75 with regard to Romania

o o
o

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

-- the Directives:

- . amending Directive 238/73 on the co-ordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of direct insurance other than life assurance
- . for the negotiation of one or more exchanges of letters to supplement or interpret the current provisions on security safeguards in the Euratom-Canada Agreement

- the Decisions:

- . on the opening of negotiations for an Agreement between the European Economic Community, Austria and Switzerland to extend the application of the rules on Community transit
- . on the continuation of the surveys to be carried out by the Member States on bovine livestock

o o
o

On the French Government's proposal, the Council appointed Mr Bruce VEVER, Assistant to the Director for International Social Affairs of the CNPF, a full member of the Committee of the European Social Fund in place of Mr OECHSLIN for the remainder of the latter's terms of office, which expires on 28 October 1977.

o o

o

The Council appointed Mr Lucien CHAVROT, Confédération Générale du Travail, an alternate member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions for the period ending on 14 March 1979.
