

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: GERMANY

JANUARY-JUNE 1988

Meetings and press releases January-February 1988

Meeting number	Subject	Date
1217 th	Agriculture	18-20, 23-24 January 1988
1218 th	General Affairs	25 January 1988
1219 th	Internal Market	2 February 1988
1220 th	Agriculture	8 February 1988
1221 st	Economics/Finance	9 February 1988
1222 nd	General Affairs	22 February 1988
1223 rd	Budget	23-24 February 1988
1224 th	Fisheries	29 February – 1 March 1988

PRESS RELEASE

4060/88 (Presse 4)

1217th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 18, 19 and 20 January 1988

and 23 and 24 January 1988

President:

M. Ignaz KIECHLE

Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
 Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Laurits TOERNAES Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food,
 Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL State Secretary,
 Federal Ministry of Food,
 Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Yiannis POTTAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Carlos ROMERO HERRERA Minister for Agriculture,
 Fisheries and Food

Mr Vicente ALBERO Chairman of the Fund for the
 Guidance and Control of
 Agricultural Products (FORPPA)

France:

Mr François GUILLAUME Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN

State Secretary for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

Portugal:

Mr Alvaro BARRETO

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

State Secretary for
Agricultural DevelopmentUnited Kingdom:

Mr John McGRÉGOR

Minister for Agriculture

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Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN

Vice-President

PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON
11 AND 12 FEBRUARY 1988 - AGRICULTURAL ASPECTS

During a protracted meeting held in two parts the Council conducted a detailed examination of the Commission proposals, primarily those concerning set-aside (withdrawal of land from agricultural production). These measures constitute a decisive supplementary factor in restoring balance to the agricultural markets.

It then resumed its discussions, on the basis of a note from the Presidency, on the introduction of stabilizers, more particularly with regard to cereals and oilseeds and protein plants.

At the end of the discussions the President noted that substantial progress had been achieved both on stabilizers for cereals, oilseeds and protein plants and on set-aside, including fallow land used for grazing, and that, in particular, the Commission broadly shared the approach of the Presidency.

This progress should enable the European Council to reach a solution on agriculture in the context of an overall agreement on all aspects of the Delors package.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council carefully examined the proposals on:

- the estimates for:
 - = young male bovine animals,
 - = beef and veal intended for processing,
- the opening for 1988, as an autonomous measure, of a special import quota for imports of high-quality beef.

Following its discussions, certain general trends emerged but it did not reach an overall consensus.

The Council accordingly decided to resume its examination of this matter at a forthcoming meeting.

TABLE OLIVES

Following an exchange of views on the situation of the market in table olives, the Council adopted a Decision under the third paragraph of Article 93(2) of the Treaty, authorizing Greece to maintain until 31 December 1989 the national aid measures in force, which are deemed necessary to enable the present income of table olive producers to be maintained.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- fixing at 1 694 tonnes for 1988 the quota applicable for imports into Portugal of maize starch from the Community as constituted on 31 December 1985;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 4066/87 and fixing at 408 tonnes for 1988 the quotas applicable to imports into Portugal of certain pigmeat products from the Community as constituted on 31 December 1985.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1698/85 imposing a definitive duty on imports of electronic typewriters originating in Japan.

GATT

The Council authorized the Commission to take part in the negotiations for the accession of Tunisia to the GATT.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4816/88 (Presse 8)

1218th Council meeting

- General Affairs -

Brussels. 25 January 1988

President: . Mr. Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER

Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY	Minister for Agriculture
Mrs Maire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN	Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Luigi FRANZA	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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Netherlands:

Mr H. VAN DEN BROEK	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Joao de DEUS PINHEIRO	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Victor MARTINS	State Secretary for European Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE	Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Mrs Lynda CHALKER	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS	President
Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN	Vice-President
Mr Willy DE CLERCQ	Member
Mr Grigoris VARFIS	Member

MAKING A SUCCESS OF THE SINGLE ACT

The Council, resuming its substantive discussions on the problems raised by the dossier entitled "Making a success of the Single Act" for the first time since the European Council meeting in Copenhagen, focussed its discussions on a number of questions which the Presidency had identified, as a result of the Permanent Representatives Committee's proceedings, as being of key importance for reaching an overall solution.

The Council also had before it a report from the Presidency on the outcome of the Agriculture Council meeting as regards the agricultural aspects of this matter, in particular stabilizers in the areas of cereals, oilseed and protein plants and the set-aside of agricultural land.

The Council will continue its discussions on all these problems at its meeting "in conclave" on 1 and 2 February 1988 with the aim of achieving a degree of preparation on the matter as a whole such as to enable the European Council meeting on 11 and 12 February to arrive at an overall solution.

RELATIONS WITH THE EFTA COUNTRIES

The Council prepared for the ministerial meeting on the internal market to be held between the Community, its Member States and the EFTA States on 2 February 1988.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with Norway

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for cod and fish of the species *Boreogadus saida*, dried, salted or in brine, originating in Norway (1988).

Relations with the Mediterranean countries

The Council approved, as a common position of the Community within the EEC-Algeria, EEC-Egypt, EEC-Jordan, EEC-Lebanon and EEC-Tunisia Co-operation Councils, the draft Decisions amending, on account of the accession of Spain and Portugal to the European Communities, the Protocol on the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation.

Agriculture - Beef and veal

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

- opening a Community tariff quota for 1988 for 2 250 tonnes of frozen buffalo meat falling within subheading 0202 30 90 of the Combined Nomenclature at a rate of duty of 20%;
- opening a Community tariff quota for 1988 for 34 300 tonnes of high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef and veal (Hilton beef) falling within headings 0201 and 0202 of the Combined Nomenclature and for products falling within subheadings 0206 10 95 and 0206 29 91 thereof at a rate of duty of 20%;

Following an agreement with Argentina concluded within the GATT, further to the accession of Spain and Portugal, and on the basis of an amended Commission proposal, this volume was increased from 29 800 to 34 300 tonnes.

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for 1988 for 53 000 tonnes of frozen beef and veal falling within heading 0202 of the Combined Nomenclature and for products falling within subheading 0206 29 91 thereof at a rate of duty of 20%.

Following an agreement with Artentina concluded within the GATT, further to the accession of Spain and Portugal, and on the basis of an amended Commission proposal, this volume was increased from 50 000 to 53 000 tonnes.

These 53 000 tonnes will be allocated among the Member States as follows:

Benelux	4 900 tonnes
Denmark	419 tonnes
France	7 500 tonnes
Germany	10 653 tonnes
Greece	1 802 tonnes
Ireland	418 tonnes
Italy	11 597 tonnes
Portugal	790 tonnes
Spain	1 275 tonnes
United Kingdom	13 646 tonnes

A favourable attitude towards the initial proposals had already emerged at the Agriculture Council meeting on 10 December 1987.

Other agricultural items

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables.

The purpose of this amendment is to introduce guarantee thresholds for nectarines, satsumas, clementines and mandarins which, if exceeded, would involve the financial responsibility of producers. This Regulation also extends application of the system of basic and buying-in prices to clementines, satsumas and nectarines;

- fixing certain prices for clementines and satsumas in the fruit and vegetables sector for the 1987/1988 marketing year.

This Regulation lays down the basic and buying-in prices for clementines until the end of the 1987/1988 marketing year (15 February 1988) (the marketing year for the other fruit in question has already ended).

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Resolution on a Community action programme to combat environmental pollution by cadmium (see press release 10042/87 Presse 206, page 4).

PRESS RELEASE

4318/88 (Presse 10)

1219th Council meeting

- Internal Market -

Brussels, 2 February 1988

President: Mr Martin BANGEMANN

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Marc LEPOIVRE Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Nils WILHJELM Minister for Industry

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN Federal Minister for Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr N. AKRITIDIS Minister for Trade

Spain:

Mr Javier CASANOVA Secretary-General for the European Communities

France:

Mr Bernard BOSSON Minister with responsibility for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Seamus BRENNAN Minister of State at the Department of Industry and Commerce

Italy:

Mr Enrico PIETROMARCHI Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Robert GOEBBELS State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN

State Secretary for Foreign
Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Vitor A.M. da COSTA MARTINS

State Secretary for
European Integration

United Kingdom:

Mr David ELIOTT

Deputy Permanent Representative

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Commission:

Lord COCKFIELD

Vice-President

COMMUNITY PATENTS

The Council resumed discussion of the Agreement relating to Community Patents, centering on the questions of the Agreement's entry into force, the possible convening of a third and final inter-governmental conference and the conditions for amending the financial scale.

The Council found itself unable to reach overall agreement at this stage. It therefore asked the Presidency and the Commission to clarify the technical issues still outstanding and submit a proposal to resolve them at the next meeting. Settling the technical problems would make it easier to resolve the other problems.

TRADE MARK LAW

The Council held a policy debate on the proposal for a Regulation on the Community trade mark and the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of national legislation in that field.

It concluded that a number of technical points should be referred to the Permanent Representatives Committee, which was to report back at a forthcoming meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Steel

Following political agreement in the Industry Council on 22 December 1987, the Council formally adopted the Regulation instituting a Community programme to assist the conversion of steel areas (RESIDER programme).

The Regulation is designed as a response to the risk of a worsening of the situation in a number of parts of the Community which are highly dependent on the steel industry and affected by considerable job losses as a result of its decline. The aim is to support the efforts being made in such areas to replace the jobs lost by creating new sources of employment in other industries.

Concurrently with the social measures, action under the RESIDER programme should accompany the efforts to restructure the steel industry by contributing to the development of new economic activities. The measures provided for in this programme are focussed on the development of the indigenous potential of the regions and zones concerned. It involves a series of measures combining improvements in infrastructure and the physical and social environment of the areas and the growth of small and medium-sized undertakings (SMU), particularly by means of business advisory services, improvements in management, development of common services, promotion of innovation, access to risk capital, the preparation of sectoral studies and aid to investment.

All or part of the investment aid may be in the form of a capital grant.

The programme involves areas which meet the following criteria:

- (a) minimum number of jobs in the steel industry of the order of 3 500;
- (b) industrial employment dependent in large measure on the steel industry - in principle 10% or more;
- (c) major job losses in the steel sector - of the order of 1 500 or more as from 1.1.1986;
- (d) socio-economic situation in the region in which the area concerned is located characterized by particularly marked employment difficulties (application of the "joint indicator" and of indicators reflecting an unfavourable employment situation).

The programme will apply, subject to a decision by the Commission, to areas in all Member States which satisfy the abovementioned criteria and in which the restructuring of the steel industry carried out within the framework of the Community's general objectives for steel between 1 January 1986 and the end of 1989 entails major job losses in the steel sector.

The programme is financed jointly by the Member State and the Community. Assistance from the Fund, which may not as a rule exceed 55% of the total public expenditure taken into account in the programme, will be provided from the appropriations entered for this purpose in the general budget of the European Communities.

Textiles

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

- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2072/84 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in the People's Republic of China;
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4136/86 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in third countries;
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 4135/86 on rules for imports of certain textile products originating in Yugoslavia.

The purpose of the Regulations is to amend the bilateral agreements in order to introduce the Combined Nomenclature.

The Regulations concerning third countries and Yugoslavia are also designed to allocate among Member States the Community levels already agreed on for 1988-1991.

Commercial policy

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

Consumer protection - Indication of prices

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a common position, for submission to the European Parliament under the co-operation procedure in the Single Act, on the:

- Directive amending Directive 79/581/EEC on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of foodstuffs;
- Directive on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of non-food products.

(See press release 10583/88 Presse 229, p. 6)

Environment

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a common position, for submission to the European Parliament under the co-operation procedure in the Single Act, on the Directive amending Directive 70/220/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from engines of motor vehicles (particulate emissions) (see press release 10042/87 Presse 206, p. 6).

PRESS RELEASE

4443/88 (Presse 13)

1220th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 8 February 1988

President:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE

Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Laurits TOERNAES Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walter KITTEL State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Yiannis POTTAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Carlos ROMERO HERRERA Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

France:

Mr François GUILLAUME Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Seamus KIRK Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture and Food

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN

State Secretary for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

Portugal:

Mr Alvaro BARRETO

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

State Secretary for
Agricultural Development

United Kingdom:

Mr John MCGREGOR

Minister of Agriculture

Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

BEEF AND VEAL

On the basis of a Presidency compromise, the Council formally adopted the estimates for young male bovine animals and for beef and veal intended for processing.

The figures for 1988 are:

- young male bovine animals intended for fattening: 164 000 head according to the traditional breakdown between Italy, Greece and the other Member States;
- beef and veal intended for the processing industry: 12 000 tonnes, broken down into 8 500 tonnes totally free of levy (system (a)) and 3 500 tonnes at a reduced rate of levy (system (b)).

Pending receipt of the European Parliament's Opinion, the Council also expressed a favourable view of the opening in 1988 of a special autonomous zero-duty import quota (8 000 tonnes) for high quality, fresh, chilled or frozen beef falling within headings 02.01 and 02.02 and for products falling within subheadings 02 06 10 95 and 02 06 29 91 of the Combined Nomenclature.

It will take a final decision on the matter in the light of the European Parliament's Opinion.

OLIVE OIL

The Council discussed the proposals for Regulations:

- amending Regulation No 2261/84 laying down general rules on the granting of aid for the production of olive oil and of aid to olive oil producer organizations;
- fixing for the 1987/1988 marketing year the percentage of production aid to be withheld pursuant to Article 20d(1) of Regulation No 136/66/EEC.

Following that discussion the Council noted that significant progress had been made towards an agreement. It decided to continue its discussions at its next meeting, and the Special Committee on Agriculture was instructed in the meantime to examine certain technical points in more detail to make it easier for the Council to reach a decision.

MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

Pending receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council expressed a favourable view of the Commission proposal to increase the effectiveness of the supplementary levy in the milk sector at the level of individual producers by allowing the Member States, where formula "B" (dairy quotas) was applied, to collect the supplementary levy at the full rate from the individual producer, irrespective of the situation of the dairy with regard to quantities of milk purchased.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 458/80 on collective projects for the restructuring of vineyards.

The aim of the amendment is to extend the period of application of the Regulation for Spain by 7 months, under certain conditions which are more restrictive than in the past. The extension is justified by the particularly short interval between the date of Spain's accession to the Community and the end of the period of application of the Regulation in question.

- a Decision on the granting of national aid measures in the table olive sector in Greece.

Greece is authorized to retain existing national aid measures until 31 December 1989 (see press release 4060/88 Presse 4 - January 1988).

- a Decision on the entry into force of the International Sugar Agreement, 1987.

The UN Secretary-General has invited the signatories to the International Sugar Agreement, 1987, to attend a meeting on 10 February 1988 to determine the conditions for entry into force of the Agreement. That decision will enable the Commission representative to state that the Community would support immediate entry into force of the Agreement on condition that the actual signatories or the Governments which have already lodged an instrument of accession hold at least 50% of the votes of exporting countries and 50% of the votes of importing countries as shown in the Annexes to the Agreement.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision concerning the conclusion by the Commission of the Agreement of participation by the European Atomic Energy Community in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Conceptual Design Activities, together with Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

Generalized preferences

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision suspending the generalized tariff preferences for 1988 for steel products originating in the Republic of Korea. A similar Decision relating to products covered by the EEC Treaty was taken on 18 December 1987 (see press release 10582/87 Presse 228, page I.)

Relations with the EFTA countries

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision establishing the arrangements to be applied to imports into Spain and Portugal of products covered by the ECSC Treaty originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden or Switzerland and covered by the Agreements between the Community and those countries.



PRESS RELEASE

4444/88 (Presse 14)

1221st Council meeting
- Economic and Financial Affairs -
Brussels, 9 February 1988
President: Mr Gerhard STOLTENBERG
Minister for Finance
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Knud ENNGAARD Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Gerhard STOLTENBERG Minister for Finance

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs
Chairman of the Co-ordinating Group for Economic and Financial Policies

Mr Hans TIETMEYER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Panayotis ROUMELIOTIS Minister for Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr Guillermo DE LA DEHESA ROMERO State Secretary for Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Edouard BALLADUR Minister of State for Economic Affairs, Finance and Privatization

Ireland:

Mr John CAMPBELL Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Giuliano AMATO Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER

Prime Minister, Minister of State
and Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr O.C.R. RUDING

Minister for Finance

Portugal:

Mr Miguel CADILHE

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Chancellor of the Exchequer

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

Also attended:

Sir Geoffrey LITTLER

Chairman of the Monetary Committee

Mr Jean GODEAUX

Chairman of the Committee of
Governors of Central Banks

CREATION OF A EUROPEAN FINANCIAL AREA

The Council held a detailed discussion, on the basis of two interim reports from the Chairman of the Monetary Committee and the Chairman of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks, on a range of political issues which arise in connection with the complete liberalization of capital movements within the Community.

At the end of its discussion the Council called upon the two Committees to submit their final reports to it in time for its April meeting, at which it would continue its proceedings on the matter.

The President of the Council emphasized the importance attaching to this issue with a view to the completion of the large market in 1992, and he would therefore do all in his power to enable decisions to be reached by the end of the current six-month period.

DECISIONS DIVERSES

DIRECTIVE ON DIRECT INSURANCE OTHER THAN LIFE ASSURANCE
"PROVISION OF SERVICES"

The Council has formally adopted a common position on the Directive on provision of services in the field of non-life insurance, on the basis of the political agreement reached on 18 December last year under the Danish Presidency.

The adoption of this common position represents a major step forward in the completion of a common market in the insurance field and in the completion of the internal market as a whole.

What does the exercise of the right to provide services in insurance actually mean?

From the point of view of the provider of services, it means that any Community insurer will be able to underwrite contracts to cover risks situated all over the Community without the necessity of opening subsidiaries or agencies or branches in every country.

From the point of the person seeking insurance cover, it means that they have access to a Community-wide market and, if necessary, to tailor-made contracts. This will stimulate competition between insurers both on tariffs and on the conditions offered.

This competition will also be encouraged by the possibility given in certain cases to the parties to contracts to choose the law applicable to their contract.

The Directive sets out two regimes, adapted to the different levels of protection to be given to the insured party by his national authorities:

- for industrial and commercial risks ("large risks"), the access procedure is very simple, as the insurer can start his activity the same day he notifies the supervisory authorities of the Member State of provision of services

- for the other risks ("mass risks"), the access procedure is somewhat longer as the insurer has to wait six months for authorisation from the supervisory authorities of the Member State of provision of services, authorisation given on the basis of a certain number of documents to be produced by the insurer.

The difference of regime also applies to the technical reserves :

- for "large risks", the technical reserves have to be constituted in conformity with the law of the Member State where the insurer is established and have to be supervised by the authorities of this State (this is the application of the principle of the home country control)

- for "mass risks", the technical reserves have to be constituted in conformity with the law of the Member State of provision of services and have to be supervised by the authorities of this State.

To avoid any possibility of distortion of competition between established insurers and insurers providing services, the Directive lays down that the insurance contract is in any case subject to the fiscal regime of the Member State where the risk is situated.

This cross-border activity demands greater collaboration between supervisory authorities and between these authorities and the Commission, which is provided for by the Directive.

In order to take account of the particular difficulties of certain markets, the Directive provides for transitional arrangements for Greece, Portugal, Spain and Ireland.

PRESS RELEASE

4567/88 (Presse 18)

1222nd Council meeting
- General Affairs -
Brussels, 22 February 1988

President: Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Paul DE KEERSMAEKER	State Secretary for European Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Uffe ELLEMAN-JENSEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Knud-Erik TYGESEN	State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mrs Irmgard ADAM-SCHWAETZER	Minister of State, Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS	Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Spain:

Mr Francisco FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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France:

Mr Jean-Bernard RAIMOND	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Victor MARTINS State Secretary for European Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Mrs Lynda CHALKER Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS President

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN Vice-President

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Member

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ Member

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 11 AND 12 FEBRUARY 1988

The Council noted that it was able to confirm the agreement reached at the European Council on all the conclusions on the subject of "Making a success of the Single Act".

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In connection with the final adoption of the conclusions of the European Council on 11 and 12 February 1988, the Council also approved the following conclusions:

"At the European Council in Copenhagen, the French delegation mentioned the disturbing demographic situation in Europe and emphasized that Europe could not retain its political, economic and cultural position in the world without a renewal of its demographic dynamism.

The Ministers for Family Affairs will meet to exchange information on their national experiences and will submit a report in 1989 on their discussions.

The French delegation also submitted a project for a meeting entitled "Assises européennes de la Jeunesse" (European Youth Assembly) in Strasbourg.

Interest was shown in this initiative, which aims at ensuring that the voice of European youth is heard more clearly. The arrangements for organizing this event will be finalized jointly."

TEXTILES: NEGOTIATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

On the Portuguese delegation's initiative, the Council held a general discussion on bilateral textile negotiations, during which several delegations stressed the textile industry's importance to their economies.

The Council noted the information given by the Commission on the course of future negotiations. The Commission will, moreover, submit a report to the Council on the situation of the textile industry in the Community, to enable it to hold a detailed discussion on that basis.

At the same time the Council adopted two Decisions concerning the conclusion of arrangements with Egypt and, by a qualified majority, with Turkey.

GATT -URUGUAY ROUND: ROLLBACK

In the context of the rollback commitment contained in the Punta del Este Declaration, the Council adopted a Decision on the Community offer to be submitted in Geneva.

RELATIONS WITH CENTRAL AMERICA

The Council took stock of preparations for the 4th EEC/Central America Ministerial Conference to be held in Hamburg on 29 February and 1 March 1988 and noted that these were well in hand.

At the same time it confirmed the political and economic importance which the Community attached to the success of the Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade policy and customs union

The Council noted that the majority required for adoption of the proposal submitted by the Commission in July 1987 for a Regulation amending the definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of Kraftliner paper and board originating in Austria, Canada, Finland, Sweden, the USA and the USSR had not been reached.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a number of agricultural products falling within Code Numbers 0713 33 90 and 1212 20 00 of the Combined Nomenclature.

Relations with Turkey

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Decision on the conclusion of the Additional Protocol to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and Turkey.

Relations with Cyprus

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

- certain types of concentrated grape juice falling within Code Nos 2009 60 51, 2009 60 71, ex 2009 60 90 and ex 2204 30 91;

- certain wines of fresh grapes in containers holding more than 2 l falling within Code Nos 2204 29 25, 2204 29 29, 2204 29 35 and 2204 29 39,

of the Combined Nomenclature and originating in Cyprus.

Appointments

On proposals from the German and Netherlands Governments respectively, the Council appointed Dr Hans Gerd KIRCHFELD and Mr G.J. DOORNBOS, members of the Economic and Social Committee to replace respectively Mr Jürgen STAHLMANN, member, who has died, and Mr J. van der VEEN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, which runs until 20 September 1990.

On a proposal from the Commission, the Council also appointed Mr Hanshorst VIEHOF a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to replace Mr F. KEMPF, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 16 December 1988.

PRESS RELEASE

4568/88 (Presse 19)

1223rd Council meeting

- Budget -

Brussels, 23 and 24 February 1988

President:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER

State Secretary,

Federal Ministry of Finance
of the Federal Republic of Germany

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

Belgium:

Mr Guy VERHOFSTADT Minister for the Budget

Denmark:

Mr Knud Erik TYGESEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Yannis PAPANTONIOU State Secretary for
Economic Affairs

Spain:

Mr José BORRELL State Secretary for Finance

France:

Mr Alain JUPPE Minister attached to the Minister
for Economic Affairs and Finance,
with responsibility for the Budget

Ireland:

Mrs Maire GEOGHEGAN-QUINN Minister of State for
European Affairs

Italy:

Mr Tarcisio GITTI State Secretary,
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER Minister for the Budget

Netherlands:

Mr P.R.H.M. VAN DER LINDEN

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Portugal:

Mr Rui ALVAREZ CARP

State Secretary for the Budget

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter BROOKE

Paymaster General

Commission:

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN

Vice-President

RESUMPTION OF THE BUDGET PROCEDURE FOR 1988

Before resuming its discussions on the budget procedure for 1988, the Council met a delegation from the European Parliament, headed by its President the Lord PLUMB, and comprising the following Members of Parliament: Mr COT, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mrs BARBARELLA, rapporteur for the Budget - Section III, Mr DANKERT, rapporteur on the inter-institutional agreement, Mr COLOM I NAVAL, Mr CHRISTODOULOU, Mr CORNELISSEN, Mr LANGES, Mr PRICE, members of the Committee on Budgets and Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

At the meeting the President of the Council firstly highlighted the financial and budgetary effects of the conclusions of the European Council in Brussels and underlined the prospects they opened for the implementation of the Single Act on a secure financial and budgetary basis in line also with the objectives which the European Parliament had consistently and emphatically formulated.

The representatives of the European Parliament then commented on these results, indicating in particular their views on the steps to be taken both as regards the drawing up of the 1988 budget and the conduct of future budgetary policy, and especially the conclusion of an inter-institutional agreement. At the close of the meeting, the President of the Council noted that the procedures to be followed for the establishment of the 1988 budget and the definition of inter-institutional co-operation would take place in parallel.

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After the meeting with the European Parliament, the Council turned to the examination of the preliminary draft general budget of the Communities as it stood following letter of amendment No 2 dated 18 February 1988, which the Commission had submitted to it taking into account the conclusions of the European Council on 11, 12 and 13 February and of the latest corrections to the assessment of revenue.

In the course of the discussions the Council was able to resolve all the issues arising in connection with expenditure with the proviso, however, that further thought would have to be given to the financing of the 1988 budget through an inter-governmental agreement.

The Council accordingly broke off its proceedings and gave itself until 24 00 on 29 February to reflect on the matter and to enable delegations to state final positions on the possibility of agreeing to a formula proposed by the Presidency concerning the inter-governmental agreement in question.

PRESS RELEASE

4738/88 (Presse 21)

1224th Council meeting

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 29 February and 1 March 1988

President: Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN
Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Luxembourg:

Mr Thierry STOLL

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Manuel OLIVEIRA GODINHO

State Secretary for Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr John GUMMER

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Lord SANDERSON

Minister of State,
Scottish Office

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Commission:

Mr Antonio José Baptista
CARDOSO E CUNHA

Member

AUTONOMOUS QUOTAS FOR 1988

The Council reached overall agreement, by a qualified majority, on the autonomous tariff quotas for fishery products for 1988. These were as follows:

Product	Amount of quota (in tonnes)	Rate of duty under the quota (%)
Eels (¹)	5,250	0
Fillets of Alaska pollock, frozen	20,000	5
Fillets of hake, frozen	25,000	5
Fillets of pike, frozen	500	0
Cod, chilled or frozen	45,000	3,7
Saithe, chilled or frozen	15,000	3,7
Haddock, chilled or frozen	4,000	3,7
Fillets of cod, frozen	12,500	0
Fillets of saithe, frozen	12,500	0
Fillets of haddock, frozen	3,000	0
Cod, salted, not dried	52,500	5
Cod, dried, not salted	1,000	10
Cod (fillets, dried, salted or in brine)	250	10
Fillets of saithe, salted	4,000	5
Shrimps and prawns <i>Pandalus</i> <i>Borealis</i>	2,000	0
Flat fish	15,000	3,7
Redfish (²)	6,000	2
Blue whiting (frozen blocks and fillets)	4,000	5

(¹) The period of application of the quota for this product is from 1 July 1988 to 30 June 1989.

(²) For the period up to and including 30 June 1988.

RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO

The Council agreed in principle, without prejudice to the Opinion pending from the European Parliament, to the fisheries Agreement between the European Community and the Kingdom of Morocco initialled on 25 February 1988 in Brussels, and authorized its provisional application in the meantime as from 1 March 1988.

This four-year Agreement provides for economic, commercial, scientific and technical co-operation in the fisheries sector. It also enables both parties to introduce special measures likely to increase solidarity between their respective operators, for example through the initiation of specific studies and the creation of joint ventures.

The fishing possibilities granted by Morocco amount to approximately 100 000 grt per annum. The financial compensation to be paid by the Community has been fixed at 272 MECU for the four years. This Agreement also provides that as from 1 January 1989 Morocco will be able to export to the Community a zero-duty tariff quota of 17 500 tonnes of tinned sardines.

WHITE ZONE IN THE BALTIC SEA

The Council examined the situation as it affects Community fishermen further to the Agreement between the Kingdom of Sweden and the USSR regarding the delimitation of their maritime zones in the Baltic Sea.

At the close of the discussion, the Council invited the Commission to press ahead with its talks with Sweden and the USSR and to keep it informed of developments in the situation.

RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CERTAIN
THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council took note of an oral communication from the Commission representative concerning relations with certain international organizations and certain third countries, in particular NAFO, Senegal, the United States, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, India, Canada and the Baltic Sea coastal States.

COMMON ORGANIZATION OF THE MARKET IN FISHERY PRODUCTS

The Council resumed examination of the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 on the common organization of the market in fishery products and amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff.

It centred its debate on certain key issues in the proposal, in particular those connected with the regionalized specific intervention scheme for certain new species, the review of the private storage aid arrangements and the review of the compensatory allowance mechanism for tuna stock.

After a detailed discussion, the Council noted that it was unable to reach agreement at this stage. It therefore instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its discussions on these issues so that overall agreement could be reached at the next Council meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decisions in the fisheries sector

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation establishing for the period 1 March to 30 June 1988 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Japan in waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of Portugal.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the organization of Community surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings between 1988 and 1997. The purpose of this Regulation is to contribute to the CAP's statistical requirements and at the same time to ensure continuity with previous surveys of this kind.

GATT

The Council adopted the Recommendation for a Decision authorizing the Commission to participate in the negotiations on China's request to resume GATT membership.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision amending Decision 85/196/EEC on a multiannual research and development programme for the European Economic Community in the fields of basic technological research and applications of new technologies (BRITE) (1985 - 1988). (See the common position adopted by the Council at the Research Council on 21 December 1987, L10584/87 Presse 230, p. 9_7).

ECSC

The Council gave its assent pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty concerning Westdeutsche Genossenschafts-Zentralbank e.G. (Federal Republic of Germany).

The Council also gave its assent pursuant to Article 55(2) of the ECSC Treaty concerning the fifth ECSC Medical Research Programme on the protection of workers against risks arising from work in the coal and steel industries.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal by the French Government, Mrs Annie CONSTANTINI, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on education and training in the field of architecture in place of Miss Pascale BUCH for the duration of the latter's term of office, which expires on 22 March 1990.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Spanish Government, members of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at work until 16 December 1988:

I. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mrs Concha SERRANO HERRERA

Mr Angel ALLUE BUIZA

(b) Alternates

Mr Mario GRAU RIOS

Mr José Luis CASTELLA

II. WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr Francisco Javier PINILLA GARCIA
Mr Angel CARCOBA ALONSO

(b) Alternates

Mrs Matilde DIAZ OJEDA
Mrs Lidia RODRIGUEZ GARCIA

III. EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES

(a) Members

Mr Enrique MALBOYSSON CORRECHER
Mr José Luis PASTOR RODRIGUEZ-PONGA

(b) Alternates

Mr Fernando MORENO PIÑERO
Mr Antonio MORENO UCELAY
