

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: LUXEMBOURG

JULY-DECEMBER 1980

Meetings and press releases November 1980

Meeting number	Subject	Date
666 th	Agriculture	10-11 November 1980
667 th	Fisheries	17-18 November 1980
668 th	Economics/Finance	17 November 1980
669 th	Development Co-operation	18 November 1980
670 th	Budget	24-25 November 1980
671 st	Foreign Affairs	24-25 November 1980
672 nd	Energy	27 November 1980
673 rd	Labour/Social Affairs	27 November 1980

PRESS RELEASE

11093/80 (Presse 158)

666th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 10 and 11 November 1980

President:

Mr Camille NEY,
Minister for Agriculture, Viticulture,
Water and Forestry of the
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

10/11.XI.80

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS Minister for Agriculture and for Small Firms and Traders

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSAGER Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Ray MacSHARRY Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI Minister for Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Bruno ORSINI Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY Minister for Agriculture, Viticulture, Water and Forestry

The Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

The United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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Also present as an observer:

Greece:

Mr Athanase CANELLOPOULOS

Minister for Agriculture

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NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council discussed the issues raised by the Commission proposal to extend the special arrangements regarding imports of New Zealand butter.

The Council was not able to reach agreement on the main issues, namely the duration of the special arrangements and the quantities involved.

The Council will discuss this matter further at its next meeting.

STRUCTURES POLICY

The Council held a wide-ranging discussion on a series of structural measures including the criteria for granting Community and national aid for pigmeat and milk production.

General and budgetary matters were discussed in addition to technical details and the Council concluded by instructing the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine the matter further, in the light of today's discussions, in order to determine precisely what the remaining problems were.

The Council also agreed to further discuss the matter at its next meeting scheduled for 8 and 9 December.

BEEF AND VEAL MARKET

The Council took note of a statement by the Irish delegation, with the United Kingdom delegation's support, on the suspension of intervention for beef fore-quarters.

It also took note of a statement by the French delegation, endorsed by the Belgian delegation, concerning the state of the beef and veal market and calling in particular for more effective management of the market.

In reply, the Commission said it was prepared to hold a detailed discussion in the Council in the near future on policy for the meat sector as a whole.

HORTICULTURE IN HEATED GLASSHOUSES

The Council took note of a statement by the Commission on the initiating of the procedure provided for in Article 93 of the Treaty regarding the preferential price for gas supplied to horticulturalists in the Netherlands.

SUGAR

The Council held an extensive discussion on the new market organization to apply to sugar from 1 July 1981.

While agreement was reached on the principle of retaining a system of quotas, as proposed, various points regarding the details of implementing such a system remained unresolved. These concerned in particular the total volume of sugar which could be covered by the guarantees provided by the future market organization, the method of calculating and level of the quotas, the level of the financial contribution from producers, national aid and the provisions to be adopted should the Community accede to the International Sugar Agreement.

At the end of the discussion, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to look into these points more closely. It agreed to discuss the matter again at its next meeting in the light of the Opinions due to be received from the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee in order to reach a decision by the end of the year.

USE OF HORMONES

Following the policy approach worked out at its previous meeting, the Council took note of the proposal submitted to it by the Commission for a Regulation concerning the use of substances with a hormonal action and those having a thyrostatic action in domestic animals (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, domestic solipeds and poultry) and the presence of residues of such substances in domestic animals, fresh meat and fresh poultrymeat.

The Council decided to consult the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee as a matter of urgency. It gave instructions for the proposal to be examined by agricultural and veterinary experts as expeditiously as possible, with delegations' comments at this meeting being borne in mind, and agreed to consider the matter again at its next meeting in order to reach a decision as soon as possible.

IMPORTS OF MANIOC

The Council took note of a report by Vice-President GUNDELACH on his recent trip to Thailand and on negotiations he conducted which led to a draft agreement with Thailand on the production, marketing and trading of manioc.

SALE OF GOODS ON BOARD VESSELS

The Council took note of the statement by the Danish delegation on the sale of agricultural products, butter in particular, on board vessels.

POULTRYMEAT

At the request of the United Kingdom delegation, the Council turned its attention to certain matters concerning the health problems involved in trade in fresh poultrymeat.

The Council also took note of a statement by the United Kingdom delegation on the sluice-gate price for poultrymeat.

SWINE FEVER AND ENZOOTIC BOVINE LEUCOSIS

The Council adopted a series of Directives and Decisions on the harmonization of veterinary legislation in the Member States regarding swine fever. (1)

The measures are designed to render and keep the territory of the Member States of the Community free from classical swine fever by introducing a classification system for swine fever-free areas and joint action to totally eradicate the disease in the areas where it continues to occur. The joint action is expected to cost a total of 35 MEUA over five years and consists mainly of reimbursing the expenditure incurred by the need to slaughter the pigs affected. In addition to this 30 MEUA is to be spent over five years to eradicate African swine fever in Sardinia.

The provisions decided upon at this meeting will enter into force by 1 July 1981 at the latest. Until that date, Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom are authorized to retain their domestic legislation on protection against swine fever.

Successful implementation of these measures will permit free movement of the animals, meat and products in question and will go a long way towards achieving one of the objectives of the Treaty in this area.

(1) The Irish delegation agreed subject to confirmation.

The Council also agreed to the incorporation of the protective measures against enzootic bovine leucosis into Directive 64/432/EEC on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade and to certain provisional special arrangements and the possibility of application on a regional basis. Those Member States which, when this amendment to the basic Directive took effect (1 January 1981), were not implementing a mandatory national or regional prophylactic programme against enzootic bovine leucosis were nevertheless to introduce a minimum programme for the eradication of the disease.

ALCOHOL

The Council briefly discussed the amended proposal for a Regulation on the common organization of the market in ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.

It agreed to give further consideration to the basic problems arising from this proposal at its next meeting. It also took note of a statement by the Commission on the submitting of the proposals necessary to frame as a regulation the Council's statement of 6-7 May 1980 concerning the introduction of export refunds on grain used in the manufacture of spirits (chiefly whisky) in due course.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council took note of the final estimates for the 1978/1979 wine growing year, as placed before the Council by the Commission on 18 September 1980.

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine (extension for 2 years of the derogation as regards the use of cation exchange resins in the preparation of wine);
- on certain quality wines originating in the Republic of Austria, to make it possible to release for direct human consumption in the Community certain wines imported from Austria having a total alcoholic strength by volume exceeding 15%.

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

- laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products;
- fixing the quantities of basic products considered to have been used in the manufacture of such goods and amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff;
- laying down general rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex II to the Treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds.

Finally, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation amending Regulation No 115/67/EEC with regard to the criteria for determining the world market price for oil-seeds.

Atomic and Research policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decisions concerning the "Schnell-Brüter-Kernkraftwerksgesellschaft mbH (SBK)" joint undertaking (amendment of the Decision establishing the joint undertaking and adaptation of the tax advantages).

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

- approving a Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of a European research project on benthic coastal ecology (COST project 47);
- amending Decision No 78/384/EEC on the duration of the (research and development) programme for paper and board recycling (extension for one year).

Customs Union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain industrial products.

Commercial and textiles policy

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

- authorizing the prolongation or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries;
- authorizing the tacit renewal or continued operation of certain treaties of friendship, commerce and navigation and similar agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.

In addition, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with India and Bangladesh for the adjustment of the Agreements with those countries on trade in jute products to take account of the accession of Greece to the European Communities.

Relations with Portugal

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the negotiating directives to the Commission for the conclusion of an agreement between the European Economic Community and Portugal, in the form of an exchange of letters, on the implementation of pre-accession aid for Portugal (see press release 10098/80 (Presse 133) of 7 October 1980).

In addition, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for Verde and Dão wines falling within heading ex 22.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal (1980/1981).

Relations with the ACP States

For its own part, the Council signified its agreement to the draft Decision of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers on the inclusion of Kiribati on the list of least-developed ACP States and on the list of island ACP States.

Relations with the OCT

The Council took note of the Commission report on the administration of financial and technical co-operation in 1979 under Decision 76/568/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Drs Th. DE KEULENAAR, Directeur van de Directie Voortgezet Onderwijs Werkende Jeugd, Ministerie van Onderwijs en Wetenschappen, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on vocational training, in place of Drs W.H. WEEKENBORG, alternate member who has resigned, until such time as the members of the Committee are replaced.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr A.R. MACKINTOSH, Professor at the H.C. ØRSTED Institute, as a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee, in place of Mr H. JENSEN, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 31 March 1983.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision appointing members and alternate members of the Committee of the European Social Fund for the period 10 November 1980 - 9 November 1982:

1. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

	(a) <u>Members</u>		(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr J. DENYS	Mr A. ANDRE	Mr P. CHEVREMONT
Denmark	Mr H. BOSERUP	Mrs B. KONDRUP	Mr M. FENGER
Germany	Dr. R. MILLER	Dr. S. SCHUMM	Dr. G. FAUST
France	Mr J.P. MINGASSON	Mr J.-C. SOMMAIRE	Mr M. RAMOND
Ireland	Mr P. LEONARD	Mr J.A. AGNEW	Mr J. SWEENEY
Italy	Mr G. MIGLIUOLO	Mr A. GALLO	Dr. de ANGELIS
Luxembourg	Mr R. SCHINTGEN	Mr Y. MERSCH	Mr A. SCHROEIER
Netherlands	Mr W.A. RENARDEL de LAVALETTE	Mr P. HOOGLAND	Mr J.W.S. PABON
United Kingdom	Mr W.R.B. ROBINSON	Mr I.A.W. FAIR	Mr G.R. WILSON

2. REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

	(a) <u>Members</u>		(b) <u>Alternates</u>
Belgium	Mr D. DE NORRE	Mr R. DUSSENNE	Mr G. OTTENBOURGH
Denmark	Mr H.S. CHRISTENSEN	Mrs B. JOHANSEN	Mr N.J. HANSEN
Germany	Dr. M. HAUSHOFER	Dr. W.D. LINDNER	Mr R. EBERT
France	Mr J.F. RETOURNARD	Mr B. CARON	Mr C. AMIS
Ireland	Mr J. DAVIS	Mr C. POWER	Mr C. MACNAMARA
Italy	Dott. C. POLITI	Avv. G. CAPECCHI	Mrs M.I.I. DELLA MOTTA
Luxembourg	Mr L. JUNG	Mr A. ROBERT	Mr M. SAUBER
Netherlands	Mrs Mr. C. HAK	Mr J.S.H. HUIJBEN	Mrs G.A. DE LANGE
United Kingdom	Mr M. MORTON	Mr M.F. DOWNING	Mr J. SCATES

3. TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES

	(a) <u>Members</u>		(b) <u>Alternate Members</u>
Belgium	Mr J.M. VANDERMEEREN	Mr R. VAN DEPOELE	Mr A. COLLE
Denmark	Mr P. NIELSEN	Mr H. HINRICH
Germany	Dr U. ENGELEN- KEFER	Mr F. KEMPF	Mr H.H. RUBBERT
France	Mr J. TESSIER	Mr B. DIZIER	Mr A. FAESCH
Ireland	Mr P. CARDIFF	Mr D. NEVIN	Mr D. MURPHY
Italy	Mr A. MINIUTTI	Prof. P. CRAVERI	Mr E. VERCELLINO
Luxembourg	Mr J. CASTEGNARO	Mr H. DUNKEL	Mr R. MERTEN
Netherlands	Mr C.N.M. COMMANDEUR	Mr D.H. GRASMAN	Mr H. WEGGELAAR
United Kingdom	Mr W.H. KEYS	Mr K. GRAHAM	Mr F.A. BAKER



PRESS RELEASE

11305/80 (Presse 165)

667th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 17 and 18 November 1980

President: Mr Paul HELMINGER,
State Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and
Co-operation 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 and for
 Small Firms and Traders

Denmark:

Mr Poul DALSGER Minister for Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT State Secretary,
 Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL Federal Minister for Food,
 Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary,
 Federal Ministry of Food,
 Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Daniel HOEFFEL Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Patrick POWER Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Aristide GUNNELLA State Secretary,
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Paul HELMINGER State Secretary,
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister of Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr George YOUNGER

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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Also participated as observer:

Greece:

Mr Chrysostomos KARAPIPERIS

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

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FISHERIES POLICY

The Council held a thorough discussion on the distribution of the catch quotas of fish stocks available to the Community in 1980 and related issues, including access to fishing zones in particular. At the close of its discussion it agreed to suspend its proceedings to allow the Commission and the Presidency to pursue the contacts necessary with the Member States with a view to preparing for the resumption of the Council's discussions under the best possible conditions, on the basis of the amendments which needed to be made to the Commission's original proposals.

The Council also held a brief exchange of views on current progress regarding structural policy, on the basis of the interim report from the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee. The delegations most concerned were thus able to outline their requirements and indicate their hopes as regards developments in this essential aspect of the common fisheries policy.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to pursue its work on the matter so that a decision on this issue could be taken in the wider context of a decision on fisheries before the end of the year.

The Council also took note of the proposal submitted by the Commission for the common organization of the market in fishery products.

The aim of this series of proposed measures is to establish a common organization of the market involving marketing standards, arrangements for prices and trade with third countries, and common rules regarding competition.

The Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the proposal in question so that the Council could hold a substantive discussion on this matter in the near future.

External aspects

In the context of the discussions on the external aspects of the common fisheries policy, the Council decided to sign the Convention on Future Multilateral Co-operation in North-East Atlantic Fisheries (NEAFC).

Furthermore, it took note of the Commission communication on the new Convention on the conservation of Antarctic marine resources.

PRESS RELEASE

11304/80 (Presse 164)

668th meeting of the Council

- Economics/Finance -

Brussels, 17 November 1980

President: Mr Jacques SANTER,
Minister for Finance
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

The Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Attending as an observer:

Greece

Mr Miltiadis EVERT

Minister for the Economy

The meeting was also attended by:

Mr Jean-Yves HABERER

Chairman of the Monetary
Committee

Mr F.W. RUTTEN

Chairman of the Economic
Policy Committee

Mr Erik HOFFMEYER

Chairman of the Committee
of the Governors of the
Central Banks

AMENDMENT OF THE MECHANISM FOR COMMUNITY LOANS

The Council heard a statement by Mr ORTOLI, Vice-President of the Commission, presenting the latter's proposal to amend the mechanism for Community loans.

This proposal is a follow-up to the policy debate on recycling problems which the Council held at its last meeting, on 20 October, on the basis of a report from the Monetary Committee.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission proposal and to submit its report to the Council after receiving and examining the European Parliament's Opinion.

PREPARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council held an exchange of views on the economic, financial and monetary issues likely to be raised at the forthcoming meeting of the European Council, in Luxembourg on 1 and 2 December.

ENERGY AND ECONOMIC POLICY

After hearing a short communication from Vice-President ORTOLI, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the Commission communication on energy and economic policy.

EXPORT CREDITS

In order to give the Commission additional directives for the forthcoming meeting of the Participants in the Arrangement on Guidelines for export credits, to be held in Paris on 26, 27 and 28 November on the amendment of the Arrangement, the Council approved the following text:

In order to bring the terms of the Arrangement on export credits closer to current market conditions and to reduce distortions in export competition while recognizing the differentiated treatment of developing countries ⁽¹⁾ the Council agrees:

1. to propose to the Parties to the "Consensus", as an immediate measure, raising the minimum rates by:

- 1.0% (category I)
- 1.0% (Category II)
- 0.6% (Category III)

2. Before the end of 1981, during the annual review of the operation of the Arrangement, the Council will hold an exchange of views on the fixing of minimum interest rates and will continue its efforts to ensure that an arrangement is introduced which is in keeping with the objectives outlined in Venice.

⁽¹⁾ See point 21 of the OECD Communiqué of 3/4 June 1980 and point 32 of the Venice Communiqué of 22/23 June 1980.

OTHER DECISIONS

Food aid for Algeria

In the context of Community aid to the victims of the recent earthquake in Algeria, the Council approved the emergency action proposed by the Commission to grant Algeria food aid consisting of 450 tonnes of legumes and foodstuffs for children.

Transport policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on statistical returns on the transport of goods by inland waterways (see Press Release 8171/80 (Presse 94) of 24.VI.80).

ECSC

The Council granted the consultation pursuant to Article 53 of the ECSC Treaty, requested by the Commission, on a draft Commission Decision authorizing the Chamber of Coal Traders and the National Coal Board to establish an equalization fund to reduce the price of anthracite and anthracite briquettes imported from the Community and from third countries.

Appointments

On a proposal from the Italian Government, the Council appointed Dr Costante BENIGNI as a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr Umberto CECONI, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 18 September 1982.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr Oliver TYNAN, Department of Employment, Work Research Unit, as an alternate member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions to replace Mr F. GALE, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 March 1980.

Lastly, on a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Pierre REYNAUD, as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency to replace Mr KAYSER, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 28 March 1981.

PRESS RELEASE

11344/80 (Presse 169)

669th Council meeting
- Development Co-operation -
Brussels, 18 November 1980

President: Mr Paul HELMINGER

State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade
and Co-operation 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 Daniel COENS

Minister for Development
Co-operation

Denmark:

Mr Gunnar RIBERHOLDT

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Alwin BRUCK

Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of
Economic Co-operation

France

Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Tom NOLAN

Minister of State at the
Department of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Aristide GUNNELLA

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Paul HELMINGER

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr J. de KONING

Minister for Development
Co-operation

United Kingdom:

Mr Neil MARTEN

Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

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NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

On the basis of an introductory statement by Mr CHEYSSON, Member of the Commission, the Council held a general exchange of views on the progress of the North-South Dialogue with particular reference to the negotiations currently taking place in New York in the context of the **XXXVth General Assembly** regarding the launching of a new round of global negotiations.

FOLLOW-UP TO THE DEBATE BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON HUNGER IN THE
WORLD

In the light of the Resolution on hunger in the world adopted by the European Parliament on 18 September 1980, the Council applauded the proceedings of the Parliament and held an extensive discussion on the basis of a Commission communication, at the close of which it adopted the Resolution attached as Annex I below.

In this connection, the Council also discussed the specific issue of food aid, after which it also adopted a Resolution (Annex II) enabling the Community to make multiannual commitments for the benefit of recipient countries and to use a proportion of the food aid to create security stocks in one or more recipient countries.

The Council concluded its proceedings by agreeing to continue its examination of the problem of hunger in the world at its forthcoming meetings, in particular on the basis of the Commission's studies and proposals.

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Financing programme envisaged for the 1980 budget year

The Council noted that there were no technical objections to the financing programme for 1980 proposed by the Commission in the context of the general guidelines approved by the Council in October 1979. However, some delegations withheld their formal assent to the programme pending approval of the framework Regulation on financial and technical aid to the non-associated developing countries, which is at present under discussion by the General Affairs Council.

The 1980 programme totals 138 MEUA, shared between 36 items (projects and programmes) involving 15 countries and 9 agencies.

The main priority sectors are irrigation (30.2 MEUA), agricultural production (27.1 MEUA), marketing infrastructures (14 MEUA) and animal production (11.7 MEUA). Co-financing, in particular that with the Member States, is growing steadily. Special attention was paid to regional projects.

General guidelines for the 1981 programme

Subject to the same qualifications as above, the Council reached a consensus on the technical aspects of the general guidelines to be followed by the Commission when drawing up the 1981 financing programme.

These guidelines for the most part broadly match the criteria used when drawing up previous programmes: priority is given to the poorest non-associated developing countries and to the most deprived groups in those countries, as well as to the rural sector in the broadest sense; aid must basically be aimed at improving the living conditions of the poorest groups in society in the recipient countries and in particular at improving food supplies.

The Council has also made provision for a certain amount of aid to sectors other than the rural sector (particularly in favour of regional projects) and the possibility of opening the way to certain energy projects.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN INVESTMENT IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Council held an exchange of views on the encouragement and protection of European investment in the developing countries, at the end of which it approved the guidelines given in Annex III for the approach on investments to be followed by the Community during negotiations with developing countries or groups of such countries.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY'S DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION POLICY AND ITS OTHER POLICIES

The Council held a general exchange of views on this matter, and concluded by instructing the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to consider the matter in the light of the day's discussions.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:Follow-up to the debate by the European Parliament
on hunger in the world

In the light of the Resolution of the European Parliament, whose proceedings it applauded, the Council held an extensive discussion, on the basis of the Commission communication, on the problem of hunger in the world, at the end of which it adopted the following Resolution:

1. The Council, noting that world hunger constitutes one of the fundamental problems facing mankind and accordingly requires special efforts to deal with it, subscribes to the approach that the problem should be tackled and solutions to it sought under its various aspects (relations between developing and industrialized countries, development of agricultural and rural production in the developing countries, food aid, consistency between Community agricultural and commercial policy on the one hand and development co-operation policy on the other) in view of their interdependence.
2. The Council confirms the prominence which the Community intends to give to the theme of food and agriculture at the global negotiations once they begin; once the negotiations have been opened the Community will put forward proposals on the various agenda items to be approved for the subject, thereby endeavouring to live up to the expectations generated by its initiative regarding this agenda.

3. The Council is pleased to note that, according to current programming prospects, a substantial share of the financial and technical aid resources provided for in the Lomé Convention is earmarked for agricultural and rural development projects and hopes in this connection that projects for improving the food situation will be given a prominent place. It also confirms that the financial and technical aid for non-associated developing countries should go as a matter of priority to agricultural and rural development projects and in particular to improving the food situation. It expresses the wish that this form of aid may contribute still further to the campaign against hunger in the world, particularly in the case of the most deprived countries.

4. The Council emphasizes the fundamental role, acknowledged by the international community, of the efforts which must be made by the developing countries to incorporate agricultural and rural development activities in suitable national food strategies affording greater food security, especially for the most deprived populations. The Council therefore supports any action which can be undertaken within the resources available to assist those countries which so desire to define and implement such strategies.

The Council stresses in this connection the importance of closer integration of the agricultural sector in national development plans and of measures aimed in particular at:

- better adaptation of land ownership structures;
- introduction of a policy guaranteeing profitable prices at producer level;
- creation of appropriate rural credit schemes;

- the improvement of marketing and distribution conditions to facilitate the access of all classes of the population to the available food;
- the development of advisory capacity and structures;
- greater participation by the populations concerned in the formulation and implementation of activities in this area.

5. The Council stressed the importance of developing research capacity geared in particular to food agriculture in the developing countries and of ensuring complementarity between the activities of research centres in the Community and the efforts undertaken in this area by developing countries.

6. The Council hopes that satisfactory solutions will soon emerge from the work now in progress in the relevant international bodies on financial assistance to agricultural development in developing countries and on formulas to finance the imports of countries faced with insurmountable food difficulties caused by the increase in the cost of importing food.

7. The Council endorses the view that food aid ought to be:

- better administered to increase its effectiveness;
- seen as a development assistance instrument, especially in the agricultural and rural sectors, allowing activities in this area to be better combined with the development programmes or projects of these countries;
- better adapted to the nutritional needs of developing countries.

With this in mind the Council:

- adopted a Resolution on the use of Community food aid to attain food security objectives in the developing countries, which deals in particular with the multiannual programming of food aid and the creation of strategic stocks in one or more beneficiary countries;
- stressed that it considers it essential that efforts be continued for the adoption without delay of the framework Regulation to govern this entire area, including the possibility of the Community supplying food aid in products other than those provided at present.

8. The Council confirms the importance it attaches to increasing world food security. It emphasizes that the two components of the International Wheat Agreement (Wheat Trade Convention and Food Aid Convention) are equally essential to achieve this objective. It accordingly confirms that the Community is ready to use its best endeavours to enable the negotiations for the new Wheat Trade Convention to be resumed as soon as possible and to be concluded in such a way that the advantage of participation in the Convention by the developing countries is taken into account. It points out that a positive outcome on this matter would make it easier to extend the new Food Aid Convention beyond 30 June 1981.

9. The Council confirms its concern to seek the greatest consistency between the Community's internal and external policies and its development aid policy. It notes that the Commission plans to conduct a survey of the relationships between Community development aid policy, agricultural policy and trade in agricultural products.

 10. The Council intends to continue its efforts to make a greater contribution to the fight against hunger in the world with the intention in particular of deploying with the utmost effectiveness the financial resources available to the Community.

 11. The Council is resolved to continue examining the problem of hunger in the world at its forthcoming meetings, notably in the light of the studies and proposals by the Commission.
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COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE USE OF COMMUNITY
FOOD AID TO ATTAIN FOOD SECURITY OBJECTIVES IN
THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The Council,

Whereas Community food aid must contribute to the economic and social development of recipient countries, while at the same time raising their nutritional standards;

Whereas development operations financed through food aid must be properly planned, which requires guaranteed financial continuity;

Whereas such operations must be able to form a significant contribution to projects financed by the Community, its Member States or international organizations, as the case may be, with the aim of furthering world food security;

Whereas in the fight against hunger in the world certain developing countries are now establishing food strategies with the aid of bilateral donors, including Community Member States, or international organizations;

Whereas the Community should, where appropriate, support the developing countries' endeavours, in particular when they have proposed suitable food strategy plans;

Whereas certain developing countries have asked for food aid so that food security stocks may be constituted; whereas the creation of such stocks in the developing countries, where appropriate also on a regional basis, could be an effective instrument of food security; whereas the Community could help establish such an instrument by providing that food aid may be used for this purpose;

Whereas the multiannual aid programming and the constitution of security stocks in the recipient countries are only two aspects of the work in progress to improve food aid policy and management; whereas it is therefore essential that efforts be continued with a view to the adoption without delay of the framework Regulation intended to govern this entire matter,

Has agreed as follows:

1. Food aid programmes may include, as well as annual allocations, amounts that are covered by multi-annual commitments to recipient countries, on the understanding that such quantities are in no way additional and must not represent more than a reasonable proportion of the aid;

Where budgetary resources permit, these multi-annual commitments may be approved for countries which:

- have a suitable food strategy which receives aid from bilateral donors, including Community Member States or international organizations and has, for example, the combating of post-harvest losses as one of its objectives;

- and/or undertake to use food aid and the counterpart funds obtained through food aid as a parallel contribution to those from Community funds (under the EDF or Article 930 of the general budget of the European Communities: aid to non-associated developing countries) or funds allocated under the budget of a Member State for the implementation of specific development projects or operations;
- and/or undertake a food security programme in conjunction with international organizations.

2. Although food aid is predominantly intended to meet the urgent food requirements of the developing countries, a small proportion of Community food aid in the form of cereals may be supplied on a case-by-case basis to one or more developing countries, where appropriate also on a regional basis, to build up security stocks for emergency situations. Use of food aid for this purpose will be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the creation of stocks must be part of a well-defined socially useful and economically sound food security programme;
 - (b) while other approaches will not be ruled out, particular attention will be given to supplies intended to form the basis of a stockbuilding system set up with Community funds.
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INVESTMENTGuidelines approved by the Council

1. The search for a common approach with regard to the encouragement of European investment in the developing countries should be seen as a means of complementing and reinforcing national measures and not as a substitute for them. National spheres of competence thus remain intact.

Whatever solution might be adopted should be so designed as not to conflict with existing national agreements or the practical possibility of Member States subsequently concluding international agreements in this area.

2. In view of the principles set forth in paragraph 1, the Community should raise in principle the subject of investment in the negotiations with developing countries or groups thereof with the aim of having a clause included in the agreements to be concluded with those countries.
3. Although the content and final wording of the clause in each specific case may vary depending on the outcome of the negotiations it would be advisable to ensure that the Community's negotiating position:
 - seeks to include a provision setting out the objective and, if necessary, the means of co-operation with regard to investments, with the specific measures for achieving the objective being left to the implementation of the agreements;
 - lays down a provision aimed at improving the climate for investment and including, inter alia, a reference to the general aim of non-discrimination.

4. The Council instructs the Permanent Representatives Committee to analyse the content and implementation of the abovementioned general objective of non-discrimination and to consider, on the basis of the Commission proposals and in whatever way it sees fit, the procedures for implementing the provisions on investment protection in the agreements negotiated by the Community.
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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

The Council took note of the 5th annual report from the Commission on the European Regional Development Fund (1979) and of the comments made by the delegations and by the Commission representative on this matter.

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation on the tariff treatment of certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft.

PRESS RELEASE

11579/80 (Presse 173)

670th meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 24 and 25 November 1980

President: Mr Jacques SANTER
Minister of Finance,
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

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

Belgium:

Mr Guy MATHOT Minister for the Budget

Denmark:

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

France:

Mr Maurice PAPON Minister for the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Sean CALLEARY Minister of State,
Department of Labour and the
Public Service

Italy:

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI State Secretary at the
Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister of Finance
Mr Ernest MUHLEN State Secretary at the
Ministry of Finance

Netherlands:

Mr D.F. van der MEI

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Nigel LAWSON

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member

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Also present as an observer was:

Greece:

Mr Miltiadis EVERT

Minister for the Economy

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DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1981

In the course of its discussion on the preparation of the general budget of the Communities for 1981, the Council held a meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament led by Mrs VEIL, President of the European Parliament. The Parliament delegation was composed of the following:
Mr LANGE, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr NOTENBOOM, Mr SPINELLI and Mr ROSSI, Deputy-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr ADONNINO, Rapporteur for the 1981 budget (Commission), Mr ANSQUER, Rapporteur for the 1981 budget (other Institutions), Mr TAYLOR, Mr BONDE and Mr AIGNER, members of the Committee on Budgets, Mr AIGNER also being present in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

This meeting enabled the Parliament delegation to explain the European Parliament's priorities in drawing up their amendments and proposed amendments to the draft general budget of the Communities for 1981. This useful dialogue, following up that conducted at the first meeting on the 1981 budget on 24 September 1980, continued in a broad exchange of views between various Ministers and members of the Parliament delegation.

Following this exchange of views, the President of the Council said that the Council would proceed without delay with discussing the amendments and proposed amendments to the draft budget in full cognizance of the views and wishes of the European Parliament

The Council then proceeded with an item-by-item examination of the amendments and proposed amendments to the draft budget, keeping in mind the comments made by the delegation from the European Parliament.

With regard to the most important items under the heading of non-compulsory expenditure (NCE) in the draft budget, the Council signified its approval to the following increases for commitment appropriations in relation to the draft approved by the Council in September.

European Regional Development Fund:	+ 140 MEUA
European Social Fund	: + 40 MEUA
Energy policy	: + 47.3 MEUA
Aid for non-associated developing countries:	+ 50 MEUA

The increases decided on by the Council for non-compulsory expenditure total 281 MEUA. The Council moreover decided to suggest to the European Parliament that it fix a new rate for payment appropriations.

The Council also signified its approval of a reduction of the order of 51,250,000 EUA in expenditure under the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund, mainly covering aid for skimmed milk powder for use as feed for calves.

Following this discussion, the Council drew up the draft general budget of the European Communities for 1981. The draft budget thus amended by the Council will be forwarded to the European Parliament for debate at its next plenary session which will take place in Luxembourg from 15 to 19 December

PRESS RELEASE

11580/80 (Presse 174)

671st meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 24 and 25 November 1980

President: Miss Colette FLESCH,
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 Charles-Ferdinand NOTHOMB Minister for Foreign Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Count Otto LAMBSDORFF Federal Minister for Economic Affairs

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

France:

Mr Jean FRANCOIS-PONCET Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Michel COINTAT Minister for Foreign Trade

Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND State-Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Edoardo SPERANZA State-Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Bruno CORTI State-Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr C.A. van der KLAUW	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr D.F. van der MEI	State-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr K.H. BEYEN	State-Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Lord CARRINGTON	Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Mr John NOTT	Minister for Trade
Mr Adam BUTLER	Minister of State, Department of Industry

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS	President
Mr Wilhelm HAERKAMP	Vice-President
Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH	Vice-President
Mr Lorenzo NATALI	Vice-President
Mr Henk VREDELING	Vice-President
Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Member
Mr Antonio GIOLITTI	Member
Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON	Member
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT	Member

Attending as an observer:

Greece:

Mr Constantin MITSOTAKIS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council prepared the topics likely to be brought up at the next meeting of the European Council in Luxembourg on 1 and 2 December; the main topics, in addition to issues of political co-operation, concern the economic, social and financial situation in the Community and the world, and certain institutional questions.

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES

The Council adopted the Regulation on the conclusion by the Community of the second ACP-EEC Convention signed in Lomé on 31 October 1979.

The progress of the ratification procedures both by the Community Member States and the ACP States means that this Convention will probably be able to enter into force on 1 January 1981.

IRON AND STEEL PROBLEMS

Social aspect

The Council examined in detail the social measures proposed by the Commission for iron and steel. Concluding its discussions, the Council recognized the need for Community action in this sector.

Consequently, in order to be able to give an opinion at its meeting on 15 December, it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to intensify preparation, in close collaboration with the Commission, of the various details of such action, i.e. the types of intervention and their legal basis and financing.

External aspect

The Council approved the directives to the Commission enabling it to propose that certain countries exporting steel to the Community conclude new bilateral arrangements with the Community for 1981.

Such arrangements would involve both price restraint in order not to cause disturbance on the Community market, and the maintaining of traditional patterns of trade, but having regard to the possibility of cutting consumption in 1981 and anti-crisis measures applied pursuant to Article 58 of the ECSC Treaty which expire on 30 June 1981.

RELATIONS WITH CYPRUS

The Council prepared the Community position for the 6th meeting of the EEC-Cyprus Association Council which was held during this Council meeting on Monday 24 November 1980.

SPANISH ACCESSION

The Council prepared the Community's negotiating position for the 6th meeting of the Ministerial Conference between the Community and Spain which was held on Tuesday 25 November 1980.

GENERALIZED PREFERENCES

The Council arrived at a common policy covering the new Community generalized preferences scheme for 1981.

It will make a final decision on this scheme at its next meeting in the light of the Opinion expected from the European Parliament at its December part-session.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council discussed two fundamental aspects of the new arrangements for the importation of New Zealand butter into the Community from 1 January 1981, namely the duration of the arrangements and the quantities to be decided on. It was agreed that this examination would be continued at the meeting devoted to agriculture on 8 and 9 December.

MANIOC

The Council discussed the Commission proposals concerning a draft Co-operation Agreement with Thailand and the unbinding under GATT of the tariff concession for manioc.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of this matter so as to enable it to take a decision no later than its next meeting on 16 December.

REGIONAL FUND -- GREEK QUOTA

The Council discussed the amendment to the Regulation setting up the European Regional Development Fund in order to determine the Greek quota to this fund.

Following the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare this dossier further and to report back to it at its December meeting.

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN

The Council held a detailed discussion on current relations between the Community and Japan after which it adopted the following statement:

The Council expresses its serious concern at the present state of trade between Japan and the Community and its likely future development.

It finds that the penetration of European Community products on the Japanese market remains inadequate.

It further considers that Japanese competition by its nature and the extent of the effort behind it and by its concentration on a small number of particularly sensitive sectors leads to an imbalance which places a strain on the normal development of international trade. The Commission, in conjunction with the Member States, should undertake a detailed analysis of the concentration of Japanese exports to the Community, and, more generally, of the industrial and commercial strategy of Japan.

The Council therefore agreed on the need for a wide-ranging dialogue between the Community and Japan based on a common strategy.

Fundamental to this approach should be the concept that Japan should not attempt to deal with the balance of payments deficit caused by recent oil price increases by an exaggerated export drive, and that it should as a matter of urgency increase its imports of Community products.

In order to promote this dialogue certain developments are essential. These should be:

- (i) in the sectors where a continued increase in Japanese exports to the European Community would lead to difficulties there needs to be effective moderation designed to produce early and tangible results. This should apply towards the European Community as a whole and not only to certain markets;
- (ii) the yen should reflect the fundamental strength of the Japanese economy;
- (iii) there should be no new measures on the part of the Japanese authorities to restrict imports. Indeed, there should be a clear commitment on the part of the Japanese Government to a substantial and early increase in the imports of Community products. The Japanese authorities should facilitate opportunities for European investment and banking in Japan;
- (iv) in relation to imports, regard should be paid by the Japanese authorities to avoid measures or policies which give other major trading partners more favourable treatment than is given to the Community;
- (v) on the European side further progress must be made in getting European industries to develop positive strategies to deal with Japanese competition, including not only restructuring in Europe but also by greater involvement in the Japanese market.

To the extent that tangible progress in these areas is made, certain possibilities in relation to liberalization on both sides could be explored.

In addition, there should be discussions - including in particular discussions between the businessmen and firms concerned - on industrial co-operation, including conditions for investment both in Japan and the Community, facilities for joint ventures and the transfer of technology.

On this basis and in the light of further studies carried out in conjunction with Member States, of both general and specific problems, the Commission will pursue its forthcoming discussions with the Japanese authorities. It will do this in close contact with Member States, in particular the 113 Committee and will report back to the Council before the end of February 1981.

The Council will be informed continuously about the results of the dialogue. The Council will give the Commission at any particular time and in the light of the results of these efforts the necessary directives for the negotiations.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Emergency aid for the victims of the recent earthquake in Algeria

The Council agreed to the Commission proposal that an additional sum of 1 million EUA be made available to the Algerian Government as emergency aid for the victims of the recent earthquake in El Asnam.

It will be recalled that the Council, at its meeting on 20 October 1980, had already approved an initial sum of 1 million EUA for the victims of El Asnam earthquake; it had also approved the sending of emergency food aid to Algeria at its meeting on 17 November 1980.

Emergency aid for the victims of events in Kampuchea

On a proposal from the Commission, the Council agreed to making an additional sum of 20 Million EUA in emergency aid available to international organizations engaged in assisting the victims of events in Kampuchea. That amount should cover the period from October to December 1980 and the early months of 1981.

This latest aid is in addition to the emergency aid of 20 Million EUA and the 35,000 tonnes of food aid in cereals already approved by the Council at its meeting on 13 May 1980.

Relations with ACP States

The Council agreed, on behalf of the Community, to the draft Decision of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers approving the request of the Republic of Vanuatu for accession to the Second ACP-EEC Convention.

This draft will be forwarded to the ACP States as a Community proposal for final approval by the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers by means of the procedure for the adoption of decisions by correspondence.

Relations with Spain

The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Regulation concerning the conclusion of the fisheries Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Spanish Government.

Customs Union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a certain number of agricultural products.

Financial questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the decision supplementing, with regard to the allocation of a portion (100 MEUA) of the second tranche of loans, Decision 80/739/EEC applying for the second time Decision 78/870/EEC empowering the Commission to contract loans for the purpose of promoting investment within the Community (see Press Release 10442/80 (Presse 138) of 20.X.80).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the decision on the position to be adopted by the Community at the international negotiations on adjusting certain terms of the Arrangement on Guidelines for export credits qualifying for public support (see Press Release 11304/80 (Presse 164) of 17.XI.80).

Appointments

On a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Joseph DAUL, Vice-President of the CNJA, to be a member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr Pierred BOULNOIS, who has resigned, for the remainder of his term of office, which expires on 18 September 1982.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Irish Government, Mr Cathal O FEINNEADHA, Principal Officer, Department of Labour, and Mr Vincent KEOGH, Industrial Relations Executive, Federated Union of Employers, full members of the Advisory Committee on the Freedom of Movement for Workers to replace Mr J.R. MATHER and J.C. FEGAN, full members who have resigned, for the remainder of their terms of office, which expire on 16 March 1982.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the European Communities the Decision appointing the members of the Consultative Committee of the European Coal and Steel Community for the period from 25 November 1980 to 24 November 1982:

CATEGORIE DES PRODUCTEURS

Secteur Charbon

BELGIQUE

M. Pierre URBAIN

DANEMARK

ALLEMAGNE

Dr. Karlheinz BUND
Dr. Heinz REINTGES
M. Rudolf LENHARTZ
Dr. Walter BELLINGRODT

FRANCE

M. Pierre DELMON
M. Jacques PETITMENGIN

IRLANDE

Secteur Acier

M. Christian OURY
M. Rudolf GAUDER

M. Erland THRANE

Dr. Dieter SPETHMANN
Dr. Ruprecht VONDRAN
Dr. Jürgen KRACKOW

M. Michel COLLAS
M. Yves-Pierre SOULE

M. Gerard FARREN

Secteur Charbon

Secteur Acier

ITALIE

Dott. Alberto CAPANNA
M. Luigi LUCCHINI

LUXEMBOURG

M. Paul METZ
M. André ROBERT

PAYS-BAS

Drs. J.D. HOOGLANDT

ROYAUME-UNI

Sir Derek EZRA
M. J.R. COWAN
M. R.V. FINDLAY

M. R. SCHOLEY
Dr. D. GRIEVES
M. A.H. MORTIMER

CATEGORIE DES TRAVAILLEURS

BELGIQUE

M. Jean DOYEN
M. Germain DUHIN
M. Jan OLYSLAEGERS

ALLEMAGNE

M. Hans AIKER
M. Rudolf NICKELS
M. Karl-Ernst BROSCHE
M. Hans MAYR
M. Rudolf JUDITH
M. Volker JUNG

IRLANDE

M. Patrick DONEGAN

LUXEMBOURG

M. Mario CASTEGNARO

ROYAUME-UNI

M. Joseph GROMLEY
M. Lawrence DALY
M. A.E. SIMPSON
M. W. SIRS
M. E. LINTON
M. H.C. SMITH

DANEMARK

M. Steffen MØLLER

FRANCE

M. Alain TACQUIN
M. Louis BERGAMINI
M. Pierre ROBERT
M. Bernard MOURGUES

ITALIE

M. Ottaviano del TURCO
M. Giangiacomo ITALIA
Dott. Agostino CONTE

PAYS-BAS

M. A. SONNEVELD
M. H. KRUL

CATEGORIE DES UTILISATEURS ET NEGOCIANTS

BELGIQUE

M. Lodewijk COOSEMANS
M. Charles de la VALLEE POUSSIN

ALLEMAGNE

Dr. Theo RIEDL
Dr. Fritz BERG
Dr. Bruno DEHLER
M. Heinz H. WERSIG
Dr. Günther NIEHAGE
M. Heinz MOHR

IRLANDE

M. James J. HUSSEY

LUXEMBOURG

M. Raymond ACKERMANN

ROYAUME-UNI

Sir Richard MARSH
M. J.F. SAFFORD
M. Edward S. JOHNSON
M. J.S. DUTHIE
M. D.A. DAVIS
M. J.H. THOMAS

DANEMARK

M. Jørgen HARNE

FRANCE

M. Alain AUDIAT
M. Jean GUILHAMON
M. Georges IMBERT
M. Jean LAURENS
M. René TERREL

ITALIE

M. Mario PORTANOVA
M. Ferdinando PALAZZO
Dott. Sivio BOBBIO

PAYS-BAS

M. J.W. BOTS
Drs. S.J.G. WIJNANDS

PRESS RELEASE

11742/80 (Presse 177)

672nd meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Brussels, 27 November 1980

President: Mr Josy BARTHEL,

Minister for Energy 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 CLAES Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Paul NIELSSON Minister for Energy

Germany:

Mr Dieter von WURZEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr André GIRAUD Minister for Industry

Ireland:

Mr George COLLEY Minister for Energy

Italy:

Mrs Maria MAGNANI NOYA State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL

Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr G.M.V. van AARDENNE

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr David HOWELL

Secretary of State for Energy

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

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Attending as an observer:

Greece:

Mr Stephanos MANOS

Minister for Industry
and Energy

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CLARIFICATION OF ENERGY OBJECTIVES

The Council heard a statement by Mr DAVIGNON, Member of the Commission, on the clarification of energy objectives and the means to be implemented to obtain the targets set in particular at the European Council in Venice.

The Council held a wide-ranging exchange of views which enabled delegations to voice their reactions to the Commission's ideas and to state their general approach to these problems. Mr DAVIGNON's statement was welcomed by the Council.

At the close of the discussion the Council agreed to give further thought to these major problems in the light of the day's proceedings, with the intention of continuing the development of a common approach to energy problems.

ENERGY AND ECONOMIC POLICY

The Council noted a statement by Mr ORTOLI highlighting the main points of the Commission communication concerning energy and economic policy. This communication is also under examination by the Economy/Finance Council.

The Council expressed the wish that in the further preparation of this dossier, notably in the Permanent Representatives Committee, due account be taken of the problems relating more specifically to energy in the more general context of the Community's economic policy.

OIL SUPPLY PROBLEMS

General measures

1. The Council held an exchange of views on the oil supply situation as a result of the stoppage of deliveries from Iraq and Iran.
2. Demand has been reduced considerably, particularly because of the present levels of economic activity, but also owing to the results obtained as regards oil savings and the substitution of alternative energy sources. For this reason, and taking into account the withdrawals which will be made against the large stocks held, there is no overall oil shortfall, even though there may be some limited difficulties for certain countries and certain companies.
3. The Council welcomes the increase in oil production decided on by certain OPEC Governments in order to prevent the situation from deteriorating and to help the consumer countries which are most affected.
4. In the present circumstances, price increases on the oil markets are unjustified and both producer and consumer countries have a common responsibility for and interest in preventing speculative upward trends.

5. The Council expresses its determination to do everything in its power to prevent tension on the oil markets during the coming months. Bearing in mind the very rapid rate of increase which has occurred over the past few years, a further price increase would seriously handicap world economic prospects and, in particular, would heighten the problems of the oil-importing developing countries.

6. Provided that other industrialized consumer countries do likewise, the Member States of the Community undertake to adopt the following course of action:

(a) ask oil companies to use stocks in excess of regulation reserve obligations. The significant measures which they have agreed on will be implemented in a comparable and equitable manner insofar as they are necessary to avoid tension on the market.

The Member States and the Commission will collaborate on the co-ordination and verification of these measures.

(b) - take all the necessary measures, in conjunction with the oil companies, to prevent import prices varying from normal prices

- or ask the oil companies to refrain from making abnormal purchases.

- (c) encourage adjustment of supplies in such a way as to correct imbalances which pose particular problems for some Member States and encourage the relevant International Organizations to assist the oil companies in remedying specific imbalances which may occur between them.
- (d) further encourage the saving of oil and its replacement by other forms of energy in both the public and the private sector in order to reduce consumption.
- (e) support domestic production at a high level.

7. The main objective will be to avoid an overall demand for imported oil at a higher level than that which can be made available by the producing countries. Trends in supply and demand and in stocks will be closely followed by the Commission in conjunction with the Member States. If necessary, policies will be adapted to moderate import requirements, taking account of the varying degrees of dependence vis-à-vis these policies.

The Council has invited the Member States to take appropriate measures in close co-operation with the Commission.

European spot markets

The Council took note of a Commission communication on European spot markets for oil products and endorsed the Commission's approach.

Registration of oil transactions

The Council briefly discussed the extension of the Regulations in force regarding the registration of crude oil and petroleum product imports. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its proceedings with a view to reaching a decision.

ELECTRICITY TARIFF STRUCTURES IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council held a policy debate on the draft Recommendation on electricity tariff structures in the Community and concluded that there were no objections to it.

The Council will discuss this draft again in the light of the Opinion to be delivered by the European Parliament in the next few weeks.

The items on the agenda relating to coal and gas were deferred to the next meeting on energy.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other decisions in the energy sector

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

- amending Decision No 77/186/EEC on the exporting of crude oil and petroleum products from one Member State to another in the event of supply difficulties (inclusion of liquified petroleum gas among the products covered by this Decision);
- issuing directives to the Commission for the renegotiation of the conditions referred to in paragraph (e) of the amendment of the Euratom/Canada Agreement of 1959 concluded by the exchange of letters of 16 January 1978.

Customs union and commercial policy

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

- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain industrial products (first six months of 1981);
 - imposing a definitive countervailing duty on certain seamless tubes of non-alloy steels originating in Spain.
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PRESS RELEASE

11743/80 (Presse 178)

673rd meeting of the Council
- Labour and Social Affairs -
Brussels, 27 November 1980

President: Mr Jacques SANTER
Minister for Labour and Social Security
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

27.XI.80

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

Belgium:

Mr R. DEWULF Minister for Labour and
Employment

Denmark:

Mr Svend AUKEN Minister for Labour

Germany:

Mr Walter KITTEL Deputy Permanent Representative

France:

Mrs Nicole PASQUIER Secretary of State, Ministry of
Labour and Participation
(Employment of Women)

Ireland:

Mr Tom NOLAN Minister of State
Department of Social Welfare

Italy:

Mr Franco FOSCHI Minister for Labour

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER

Minister for Labour and
Social Security

Netherlands:

Mr W. ALBEDA

Minister for Social Affairs

Mr L. de GRAAF

State Secretary for
Social Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr James PRIOR

Secretary of State for
Employment

Mrs Lynda CHALKER

Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Health and
Social Security

Commission:

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

Attending as observer:

Greece:

Mr Constantin LASKARIS

Minister for Labour

AID FROM THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

Subject to a possible request for consultation from Greece, the Council adopted the Decision extending for two years the four Council Decisions concerning European Social Fund aid measures for certain categories of persons.

These four Decisions, which granted aid from the European Social Fund to workers in the textiles and clothing industries, migrant workers, young people under 25 and women, expire at the end of this year.

Each of these Decisions is the result of measures adopted under Community policies or of a common measure and relates to an employment imbalance situation ascertained for a particular category of workers. Labour market trends in general continue to give cause for concern; in view of this situation, it seems necessary for the Community to continue its efforts on behalf of categories of persons who already encountered employment difficulties in the past.

SOCIAL FUND AND SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

The Council held an exchange of views on the proposal for a Regulation on assistance from the European Social Fund to provide income support for workers in the shipbuilding industry.

The exchange of views enabled delegations to state their initial reactions on the matter and, in conclusion, the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to consider the question more closely in the light of the day's discussion and any amendments the Commission might make to its original proposal in connection with the current employment situation.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIAL FUND IN 1979

As part of its discussions touching on the European Social Fund, the Council took note of the report on the activities of the Social Fund in 1979 and of the delegations' and Commission's comments on it.

PAYMENT OF FAMILY ALLOWANCES

The Council held a further exchange of views on the proposal for a Regulation aimed at standardizing the system of paying family allowances to workers, the members of whose families reside in a Member State other than the country of employment.

The discussion served chiefly to enable the members of the Council and the Commission to state their views on the actual principle of the solution to be adopted for paying family allowances.

In conclusion, the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the matter and to seek the most appropriate solutions to the problems raised by the proposal.

EXPORT OF EARLY RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Council took note of a statement by the Italian delegation on the export of early retirement benefits, in which the delegation stressed the importance it attached to the relevant Commission proposal which had been placed before the Council in June 1980. The Council noted that work had already been started on the proposal, and the Presidency-in-Office expressed the hope that proceedings would be expedited, so that the Council would be able to discuss the matter at a forthcoming meeting.

PROGRAMME TO COMBAT POVERTY

Having taken note of the interim evaluation report on the programme to combat poverty submitted by the Commission, the Council agreed to the Decision concerning a supplementary programme to be implemented in 1981.

Under the terms of this Decision, the Commission is authorized to undertake a certain number of secondary studies intended to fill gaps relating to various important aspects of this matter with a view to broadening and supplementing the first evaluation of the programme to combat poverty.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the text of the Decision so that it can be formally approved as soon as possible.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

On the basis of a statement by the Italian delegation the Council held an exchange of views on the general employment situation in the Community. The Italian delegation particularly stressed the importance it attached to a full discussion of the current disturbing situation by the European Council in Luxembourg on 1 and 2 December, and to the action to be taken at European level to alleviate it.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS

The Council agreed to the Regulation on social security for self-employed workers moving within the Community.

This Regulation represents an important and keenly awaited step forward in Community social security regulations. Its scope is wide since it extends to all self-employed workers the Community system of co-ordination of national social security schemes already enjoyed by migrant workers, properly so-called, since 1959. A gap in the social security system at Community level has thus been filled. It was necessary to take into account progress in the achievement of freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services for self-employed persons and of developments in the social security systems of Member States, some of which already afford protection to the self-employed which is almost as extensive as that available to employed workers.

This text means that self-employed workers moving within the Community will henceforth benefit, with some exceptions, from the same Community system as employed workers in respect of:

- equality of treatment with nationals in regard to the internal legislation of the Member States;

- determination of the legislation applicable
- benefits under the various social security branches, such as sickness and maternity, invalidity, old age, death and also, under certain conditions, unemployment.

The Regulation contains no provisions dealing with family benefits for members of the families of self-employed workers residing in another Member State than the self-employed worker, the scheme in force under Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 being maintained solely for employed workers. The general problem of the rules to be laid down for family benefits is continuing to be studied at Community level (see the preceding item).

The very few exceptions stipulated mainly concern:

- the rules to apply in the event of the concurrent pursuit of activities in a self-employed capacity in the territory of two or more Member States;
- certain arrangements for aggregating insurance periods in order to have access to pension rights.

In order that the Regulation now approved by the Council may be applied, Regulation (EEC) No 574/72 (implementing Regulation) will have to be adapted in order to cover self-employed workers too. The Council expects the Commission to submit a proposal to this effect in the near future.

All the rules thus adopted (basic Regulation adopted today, implementing Regulation) will enter into force simultaneously seven months after the date on which the implementing Regulation is published in the Official Journal of the Communities.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Protection from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to chemical, physical and biological agents at work, to which it had already agreed in principle at its meeting on 9 June 1980.

It will be remembered that, in addition to certain immediate and specific obligations regarding surveillance of workers' health and information to be given to workers in the case of a limited number of agents, the Directive contains a series of framework measures which are to serve as a basis for future legislation in this field at both national and Community level.

Greece, which was consulted before the final approval of this Directive, will have an additional year for implementing it.

Other decisions on social matters

The Council took note of the Fourth progress report of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at work (period: 1979).

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation relating to the organization of a survey on the earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture.