

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: FRANCE

JANUARY-JUNE 1984

Meetings and press releases May 1984

Meeting number	Subject	Date
925 th	ACP Coordination meeting – no release available	2 May 1984
926 th	Agriculture	7-8 May 1984
927 th	Transport	10 May 1984
928 th	Foreign Affairs	14-15 May 1984
929 th	Energy	22 May 1984
930 th	Fisheries	24-25 May 1984

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS AND INFORMATION

925th Meeting of the Council

ACP Coordinating Meeting

May 2, 1984

No Press Release Issued

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

6867/84 (Presse 79)

926th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 7 and 8 May 1984

President: Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER
State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Niels Anker KOFOED
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

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

Greece:

Mr Hristos PAPATHANASSIOU
Secretary-General,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture

Mr René SOUCHON
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture,

Mr Patrick HEGARTY
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe ZURLO
Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of Agriculture

Mrs Paola CAVIGLIASO
Under-Secretary of State,
Ministry of Health

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MUHLEN
Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Water Control
and Forestry

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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

Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER
Member

STRUCTURES POLICY

The Council examined in detail the proposals concerning, on the one hand, the amendment of the Regulations for the improvement of the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed and, on the other hand, the improvement of the efficiency of agricultural structures.

As regards the processing and marketing of agricultural products, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to expedite its discussions in particular on the inclusion in the scope of the draft Regulation of harvesting equipment and forestry products, and the amount of the EAGGF's contribution, so that it could take a decision on this matter in the near future.

As for the proposal for the improvement of the efficiency of agricultural structures, the Council held a detailed discussion on the substantive problems, and in particular the definition of the aim of the aid granted to farmers and the links between structures policy and markets policy. At the close of the discussion it invited a group of senior officials to meet under the aegis of the Special Committee on Agriculture with instructions to continue the search for a possible outline compromise both in this sector and in the sector of the processing and marketing of agricultural products.

MUTTON, LAMB AND GOATMEAT

The Council recorded its agreement on the negotiating briefs and the draft exchanges of letters on the extension of the voluntary restraint agreements on trade in mutton, lamb and goatmeat concluded between the Community and Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Iceland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

The exchange of letters lays down that exports to certain Community markets considered to be sensitive (France and Ireland) are restricted to the following quantities:

Supplier countries	in tonnes	
	sensitive areas	
	France	Ireland
Austria	zero	zero
Bulgaria	360(a)	zero
Hungary	975	zero
Iceland	zero	zero
Poland	1 150(a)	zero
Czechoslovakia	zero	zero
Uruguay	zero	zero
Yugoslavia	50	zero

The Council agreed to take up the question of trade between the Community and New Zealand in this sector at a subsequent meeting.

(a) quantity for 1984; for the following years quantity to be determined during the consultations.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council recorded its agreement on the extension - for the period from 1 June to 31 July 1984 - of the authorization for the United Kingdom to import certain quantities of New Zealand butter under special conditions. The quantity fixed for this period will be 13 833 tonnes.

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

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The Council approved by a qualified majority the Regulation laying down general rules for the method of calculating production aid for processed fruit and vegetables. This Regulation is to permit the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Council in connection with the "1984/1985 price and related measures" decisions involving the amendment of basic Regulation No 516/77.

"Acquis communautaire"

The Council considered a proposal for a Commission Regulation for the implementation of Council Regulations (EEC) No 3284/83 and No 3285/83, adopted as part of the adaptation of the "acquis communautaire" in the fruit and vegetables sector.

The Council noted that a number of delegations were unable to state their final positions on this matter at the present Council meeting and that there were links with the development of the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal. It therefore thought that this matter should be examined at the meeting of the General Affairs Council on 14 and 15 May 1984.

OLIVE OIL

On the basis of a report from the Special Committee on Agriculture, the Council had an initial exchange of views on a proposal for a Regulation for the introduction of more efficient marketing arrangements in the olive oil sector.

It concentrated on three main issues, viz.:

- the principle of setting up control agencies,
- the financing of such agencies,
- sanctions in the event of breaches of the Community arrangements.

The Council agreed to the principle of setting up control agencies.

As regards the financing of the agencies and the measures to be adopted concerning sanctions, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to study the relevant issues and submit its results at the next meeting.

WINE

After hearing statements, notably from the French delegation regarding the worrying situation on the wine market, the Council agreed to resume discussion of the matter at a later date, on the understanding that in the meantime the Wine Management Committee would make a detailed analysis of current market conditions.

CONTROL OF CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER

In the light of the alarming trend regarding the control of classical swine fever and the rapid exhaustion of the Community resources allocated for this purpose, the Council requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to conclude its work on the proposal for a Directive in order that the proposed measures could enter into force as soon as possible.

PRESERVATIVES AUTHORIZED FOR USE IN FOODSTUFFS

The Council agreed to postpone its examination of the question of the use of natamycin (E 235) until its September meeting. In the meantime it adopted a further extension of the authorization for thiabendazole (E 233) until 15 September 1984.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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;
- extending the period of validity of Regulation (EEC) No 2692/83 derogating from the application of certain provisions relating to the adjustment of free-at-frontier values of certain cheeses;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2968/83 introducing a common measure for the acceleration of collective irrigation operations in Greece;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 2966/83 on the development of agricultural advisory services in Greece;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 introducing a system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy herds.

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

- on the conclusion of the Protocols, 1981, for the sixth extension of the Wheat Trade Convention, 1971, and for the first extension of the Food Aid Convention, 1980, constituting the International Wheat Agreement, 1971;
- on the granting of aid for the short-term private storage of table wine and must in Greece.

Food aid

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Decision on the conclusion of the Food Aid Convention, 1980;
- the Regulation laying down implementing rules for 1984 for Regulation (EEC) No 3331/82 on food aid policy and food aid management and amending Regulation (EEC) No 2750/75. The quantities of products to be made available in 1984 to certain developing countries and certain organizations as food aid are as follows:
 - = for cereals:
 - (a) an initial instalment of 927 663 tonnes
 - (b) a second instalment of up to 200 000 tonnes;
 - = for milk powder: a maximum of 122 500 tonnes;
 - = for butteroil: a maximum of 32 760 tonnes;
 - = for sugar: a maximum of 13 500 tonnes;
 - = for vegetable oil (seed oil and olive oil): a maximum of 20 000 tonnes;
 - = for other products (fish, dried vegetables, vegetable flour, etc.): quantities equivalent to no more than 147 000 tonnes of cereals.

Trade questions and Customs Union

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

- repealing the definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of standardized multiphase electric motors having an output of more than 0,75 kW but not more than 75 kW, originating in the Soviet Union, and terminating the anti-dumping proceeding in respect of the said imports;

- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for apricot pulp originating in Turkey (1 July 1984 to 30 June 1985);
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for fresh table grapes originating in Cyprus (1984);
- increasing the volumes of the autonomous Community tariff quotas, opened for 1984, for certain grades of ferro-chromium falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff;
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - = yarn of poly (p-phenylenterephthalamide), for use in the manufacture of tyres, or of products used in the manufacture of tyres, falling within subheading ex 51.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff;
 - = cherries marinated in alcohol and intended for the manufacture of chocolate products, falling within subheading ex 20.06 B I c) 2 bb) of the Common Customs Tariff;
 - = certain eels falling within subheading ex 03.01 A II of the Common Customs Tariff;
- temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain products intended for use in the construction, maintenance and repair of aircraft.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mrs Lisbeth LOLLIKE, Kantorchef at the Ministry of Labour, as a full member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work, to replace Mr U. BURG for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 1 April 1985.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr. P.A.A. SPIJKERS, Algemeen Bestuurder van de Industriebond FNV, as a full member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mr W. WAGENMANS for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 20 September 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

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6993/84 (Presse 82)

927th meeting of the Council

- Transport -

Brussels, 10 May 1984

President: Mr Charles FITERMAN,
Minister of State,
Minister for Transport
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Herman de CROO
Minister for Transport,
Post and Telecommunications

Denmark:

Mr Arne MELCHIOR
Minister for Public Works

Germany:

Mr Werner DOLLINGER
Federal Minister for Transport

Greece:

Mr Alexandre ROUSSOPOULOS
Secretary-General at the
Ministry of Transport

France:

Mr Charles FITERMAN
Minister of State,
Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Jim MITCHELL
Minister for Transport and
Minister for Posts and Telegraphs

Mr Guy BRAIBANT
Counsellor of State,
Ministry of Transport

Italy:

Mr Claudio SIGNORILE
Minister for Transport

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL
Minister for Transport,
Telecommunications and Informatics

Netherlands:

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

United Kingdom:

Mr Nicholas RIDLEY
Secretary of State
for Transport

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEOORGIS
Member

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Council recorded its agreement to the Regulation on a specific measure in the field of transport infrastructure. Under this Regulation, the Council approved projects to be financed from the 1983/1984 budgets.

Within the limits of the appropriations remaining under the 1983 budget, and on the terms set out in the Regulation, the Community will grant financial support for transport infrastructure projects by contributing towards the cost of the following projects:

- France - Modernization of the railway junction at Mulhouse-North;
- Ireland - Wexford by-pass;
- Greece - Evzoni-Volos road - improvement of the section between Axios and the Gallikos bridge;
- Luxembourg - Construction of the Potaschbiereg/German border section of the Luxembourg-Trier motorway.

Within the limits of the appropriations available under the 1984 budget, and on the terms set out in the Regulation, the Community will grant financial support for transport infrastructure projects which, within the framework of the harmonious development of a balanced infrastructure network, guarantee socio-economic benefit to the Community and comply with one of the following criteria:

- elimination of notorious bottlenecks within the Community or at its external frontiers;
- improvement of major traffic links between all Member States.

The projects selected for 1984 are as follows:

Urgent measures

- Italy : Section of the Chiasso to Milan railway
- France : Access to Mt Blanc (Le Fayet-les-houches)
- Community: Border infrastructures.

Greek memorandum

Greece : Evzoni-Athens-Kalamata trunk road
Greece : Larissa-Plati railway line

Other priority measures

Ireland : Shankill-Bray by-pass
Germany : Nuremberg station
United Kingdom: Motorway round London (M25)
- Leatherhead-Reigate section
- M4/M40 section
United Kingdom: Sidcup by-pass (A20)
United Kingdom: Rail access to the port of Harwich
Belgium-France: Improvement of the Lys
Netherlands : Dordrecht bridge

The financial support granted under the Regulation to the projects chosen may not exceed 25% of the total cost of each project or of the particular stage of the project to be supported.

Under no circumstances will contributions from all Community sources exceed 50% of the total cost of a given project.

With regard to medium-term policy, the Council, taking into consideration the recent Commission memorandum, invited the Commission to submit to it before 31 December 1984 a report concerning the basic elements for the introduction of:

- an indicative programme of significant transport infrastructure projects of Community interest which are achievable in the medium term,
- a set of objective criteria which may be used by the Committee on Transport Infrastructures in conjunction with the priorities adopted by the States concerned,

- ways of combining Community funding (both budget and non-budget) with that provided nationally; total appropriations should reach a sufficient level to enable the policy in question to be carried out, within the limits of the Community financial resources available.

COMMUNITY QUOTA FOR THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY ROAD

The Council signified its agreement to a significant increase in the current Community quota over a 5-year period.

The Regulation will apply from 1 January 1985 until 31 December 1989.

It decided that the number of Community authorizations issued to Member States should be increased by 30% in 1985 and by 15% over the following 4 years.

The subsequent process leading to the liberalization of road transport will be laid down in the framework of the Council's decisions relating to the implementation of the transport sector guidelines prepared by the European Council in March 1984.

WEIGHTS AND DIMENSIONS

The Council, in the course of its discussion on the draft Directive on the weights, dimensions and certain related characteristics of certain road vehicles, noted:

- that there was agreement, within a global compromise, on certain of the aspects of weights, dimensions and related characteristics which form the subject of the Directive;
- that efforts to achieve convergence, by reducing the range of the bracket values now represented by the different national standards, had been partially successful and needed to be pursued;
- that a number of important aspects regarding the weight of vehicles were nevertheless giving rise to difficulties which could be overcome only in the long term;
- that in order to resolve these problems certain of the standards included in the draft Directive should be applied at the end of a transitional period or should be the subject of temporary derogations to enable specific Member States to overcome their difficulties.

It was agreed that the draft Directive which the Permanent Representatives Committee would be submitting, with a view to its adoption at the next Council meeting, would include the following points:

- all standards relating to dimensions should be applied one year after the date of notification of the Directive;
- the other standards, and in particular all those relating to the maximum authorized weight of vehicles and non-driving axles, should be applied five years after the date of notification of the Directive;

- the Commission will report to the Council before 31 December 1984 on the maximum authorized weights to be quoted in the Directive for 2-axle and 3-axle rigid motor vehicles and 4-axle combined vehicles and on the problem of the weight per driving axle;
- vehicles forming part of a combination with 5 or 6 axles which seek to be covered by this Directive will have to conform to the Community technical requirements laid down in the draft Directive.

The United Kingdom and Ireland will be temporarily exempted from application of the second indent above.

The conditions and time limits for the implementation by all the Member States of the common standards for the maximum weights of vehicles and axle loads will be laid down in the framework of the Council's decisions relating to the implementation of the transport sector guidelines adopted by the European Council in March 1984.

AIR TRANSPORT

The Council, taking into consideration Commission Memorandum No 2 on civil aviation, considered that the present system of intra-Community air transport based on bilateral relations between States and co-operation between airlines had ensured a very substantial development of this mode of transport.

It nevertheless took the view that this system needed to be made more flexible to ensure greater efficiency in both economic and social terms.

It therefore decided to entrust a working party composed of high-level representatives of the Member States and the Commission with the task of preparing a report to be placed before the Council before the end of 1984.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMME ON ROAD SAFETY

Considering that the increase in road traffic within the Community should be accompanied by the stepping up of measures to improve road safety, the Council made a detailed examination of a draft Resolution on the implementation of a Community programme on road safety.

In particular, thought was given to the possibility of declaring 1986 road safety year.

At the close of the discussion, the Council expressed itself in favour of the draft Resolution, without prejudice to the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to re-examine, if necessary, the draft Resolution in the light of the opinions of the advisory bodies, and to submit a text for approval at a forthcoming meeting.

RAILWAY CO-OPERATION

The Council signified its agreement to a Recommendation on strengthening co-operation between Member States' national railway companies in international passenger and goods transport.

This Recommendation invites railway undertakings to go beyond the current stage of co-operation in order to achieve a dynamic and effective commercial policy based on the concept of the common interests of the railway companies.

To this end the railways are recommended to implement, in the area of international passenger and goods transport, including combined transport, a whole series of measures involving marketing, management, the exchange of information, training and exchange of staff, transport sales and prices, the organization and improvement of technical services and the easing of internal procedures at frontiers.

The networks are invited to submit an action programme before the end of the year.

The text of the Recommendation is attached.

SOCIAL PROVISIONS IN THE FIELD OF ROAD TRANSPORT

Taking into consideration the proposals forwarded by the Commission on 21 March 1984, the Council adopted conclusions on the revision of the Community social regulations in road transport.

In its conclusions it noted:

- that Regulation Nos 543/69 and 1463/70 were among the most important measures contributing towards the organization of the road transport market and the harmonization of conditions of competition;
- that these Regulations, which were adopted some fifteen years ago, should be adjusted in the light of the experience gained to current economic and social realities in the road transport sector by being simplified and made more flexible; the adjustments should contribute towards the economic efficiency of road transport by providing in particular for organization and for operating methods likely to enhance the productivity of equipment;
- that the revision of these Regulations was one of the prerequisites for a better application in all the Member States of provisions aimed at increasing road safety and improving the drivers' working conditions;
- that the same rules should be applied to carriage on own account and for hire or reward, whether carried out by employed or self-employed crew members.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to submit to the Transport Council before 31 December 1984, with a view to its adoption, a revised draft Regulation on the implementation of the following guidelines:

- making the rules on daily driving time more flexible;
- reducing the average weekly driving time as defined at present and in correlation with this increasing the average weekly rest period with the possibility of breaking it up;
- adjusting the daily rest period, with the possibility of breaking it up;
- studying the possibility of introducing standards relating to duty time;
- special provisions for certain categories of transport;
- improving the arrangements for checks.

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At the close of the meeting, the Council decided to set up a working party composed of high-level representatives of the Member States and the Commission.

The Working Party was instructed to submit to the Council by the end of 1984 suggestions for taking appropriate action in implementation of the transport sector guidelines prepared by the European Council in March 1984 and determining in particular the content and time limits of the parallel process of the harmonization and liberalization of road transport.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other transport Decision

As regards the road tax measures in Switzerland, the Council signified its agreement to the draft reply to the letter from Mr SCHLUMPF, Head of the Federal Department of Transport, Communications and Energy.

Agricultural Decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Council Resolution establishing a programme of work in the field of the harmonization of veterinary, plant health and animal feedingstuffs legislation.

RECOMMENDATION
ON STRENGTHENING THE CO-OPERATION OF
THE NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANIES OF THE MEMBER STATES
IN INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER AND GOODS TRANSPORT

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the proposals from the Commission,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,
and in particular Article 75 thereof,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas the Council, in its Resolution of 15 December 1981, defined
the broad outlines of its railway policy as part of the common
transport policy and indicated its interest in better co-operation
between railway companies in international traffic;

Whereas the Member States are particularly anxious that the railways
should exploit the potential afforded them by the Community
dimension;

Whereas improved co-operation in international traffic between the railway companies should enable this traffic to develop, allow rationalization of operations and improve the financial state of those companies, and thereby constitutes progress in the implementation of the common transport policy,

Whereas this improved co-operation requires initiatives from all railway services (commercial, movement and other specialized services) participating in the provision and sale of services for the international transport of passengers and goods,

Whereas such initiatives should in the long term lead to the pooling of the resources of the companies to ensure an efficient and rational approach to the international traffic of passengers and goods,

Whereas, on the basis of Council Decisions 75/327/EEC of 20 May 1975, 82/529/EEC of 19 July 1982 and 83/418/EEC of 25 July 1983 and the implementing measures adopted by Governments, railway companies have sufficient independence in the management of the international traffic of passengers and goods, in particular to enable them to pursue more ambitious common objectives,

Whereas the national railways should operate their international traffic along commercial lines and recognizing that action to attain these objectives is a management responsibility which falls primarily to the railways,

Whereas, while railway companies have taken steps and introduced structures for the promotion of a more effective transport policy, these achievements need to be supplemented by increased co-operation through joint action to eliminate the obstacles to the development of international rail traffic and thus improve both the quality of service and the financial return,

HEREBY RECOMMENDS:

Article 1

PRINCIPLES AND IMPLEMENTING CONDITIONS GOVERNING
INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER AND GOODS TRANSPORT BY RAIL

1.1. General principles

Railway companies are invited to develop, in accordance with the management autonomy accorded to them by Council Decisions 75/327/EEC of 20 May 1975, 82/529/EEC of 19 July 1982 and 83/418/EEC of 25 July 1983, an active policy of co-operation with a view to promoting international transport by rail.

To this end, procedures and instruments based on the common interests of the railway companies should be implemented, together with a strategy whereby the railway companies can present themselves on the international transport market as a single carrier and the profitability of the services to be offered to their customers can be assessed in relation to the aggregate costs and revenue in respect of the traffic links concerned, with their efforts being concentrated on profitable traffic.

On the basis of these principles, companies are invited to take the following measures:

1.2. Marketing

- development of marketing strategies specifically geared to international traffic by setting up joint bilateral or multilateral inter-network teams composed of commercial or movement-service staff;
- drawing-up and progressive implementation of medium-term and long-term business plans for each market by groups of routes on a bilateral and multilateral basis;
- development of joint publicity and sales promotion campaigns in conjunction, if appropriate, with tourist offices and transport agents.

1.3. Management

- strengthening of co-operation between commercial and movement services;
- wider use to be made of the delegation of powers in order to enable vendors of international services to negotiate and conclude speedily price agreements on behalf of all the railway companies;
- promotion of revenue pools or any other new systems of sharing out revenue, bearing in mind the importance for all railways of international transport.

1.4. Exchange of information

- development of a better exchange of information among companies concerning the priority to be given to certain types of traffic in view of their profitability and to sales follow-up and utilization of the capacity offered;
- joint data storage using modern data-processing systems technology and establishment of harmonized procedures for the circulation of basic information.

Article 2

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

2.1. Sales and transport rates

- Introduction of an integrated European tariff independent of national tariffs, having regard to the costs and markets under consideration;
- harmonization, where appropriate, of:
 - = existing special tariff conditions (age limits for children; students; families; senior citizens; groups; frequent journeys);
 - = supplements and other special conditions for travelling on certain trains and on certain peak days;
- introduction of joint special offers and an attempt to find new commercial solutions, particularly in conjunction with the tourist industry, in the form of fixed all-in rates;
- production of an international timetable of the inter-city type, for instance, giving the schedules of European trains on the main lines and services.

2.2. Technical organization and services

- adjustment of the schedules for international services so as to reconcile as far as possible the requirements of international traffic and national traffic (timetabling, frequency and duration of international journeys);

- improvement of the blueprint for a European rail network so that rapid connections and regular services between the major European cities can gradually be provided;
- development of uninterrupted subsidiary services in international traffic which best meet the needs of actual and potential customers;
- improvement and diversification in the provision of night services and car-sleeper trains;
- [- improvement of the rail services between the work places of the Institutions of the European Communities. 7 (1)

Article 3

TRANSPORT OF GOODS

(including combined transport)

3.1. Sales and transport rates

- establishment, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, of market groups while adjusting sales structures so as gradually to cover the whole territory of the Member States;
- development of joint services and sales offices composed of technical and commercial teams and improvement of the operation of existing offices;
- development of management by product sector and clarification of resulting liabilities.
- examination of the possibility of creating, for certain categories of goods, joint branches responsible for administrative tasks and particularly the provision of services to the companies;

- extension of tariffs independent of national tariffs, especially by means of common scales, taking account of the costs and markets under consideration;
- maintenance of some stability in the published tariffs so as to make these tariffs more accessible to consignors;
- development of the logistical supply by means of a package of measures intended to offer the customer a full service between production and sale of the products transported, including intermodal handling, storage, redistribution of goods and management of stocks;
- offering the customer guaranteed delivery dates for specialized consignments.

3.2. Technical organization and services

- even more extensive application of the opportunities provided by the International Convention concerning the Carriage of Goods by Rail (CIM) with a view to concentrating consignments on the main efficient routes;
- intensification of multilateral action designed to guide traffic towards these routes in order to speed up deliveries and concentrate flows to a greater extent;
- encouragement of users with a view to guiding traffic towards these routes;
- improvement of international consignments by increasing the number of trains moving between marshalling yards within the networks without being reshunted at frontiers;
- development at technical level, depending on customer demand, of different categories of whole trains or grouped transport, programmed as far as possible.

3.3. Additional provisions for combined transport

Attempt to create sufficient room for commercial manoeuvre, if necessary by negotiation with the partners concerned, for subsidiaries marketing rail services in respect of combined transport, so as to improve services offered.

Article 4

JOINT PROVISIONS

4.1. Internal barriers encountered at frontiers

- development of bilateral and multilateral agreements on:
 - . the elimination of duplicated technical inspections of wagons and trains at frontiers by introducing mutual trust arrangements;
 - . the elimination of the duplication of administrative operations within the networks;
- the speeding up of the formalities and inspections required by public authorities by increased use of telegraphic or computerized information services in collaboration with those authorities.

4.2. Liability arrangements

Preparation of joint proposals for improving, in the framework of international conventions in force, the liability arrangements in the event of loss, damage or delay.

4.3. Staff

- attempt at specific training and intensification of the study of foreign languages with a view to greater efficiency in services dealing with international traffic;
- taking account of existing possibilities and with a view to improving network efficiency and productivity, encouragement of staff exchanges between railway companies with a view to better understanding of the languages and methods used by companies in the other Member States.

Article 5

Before 31 December 1984, the railway companies shall furnish the Commission and the Council simultaneously with an action programme covering two years, in response to this Recommendation, and a report on measures which have already been accomplished.

After two years they shall send a joint report on the results obtained and the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the programme and on other matters of co-operation already under way, in particular the Basel pilot project (Trans info) and the wagon pool.

On the basis of this report, the Commission will take the new initiatives needed in order to allow the Council to continue the action already taken.

Article 6

The Community's national railway companies will consult the railway companies of the non-member States concerned in order to ensure the co-ordinated implementation of this Recommendation.

This Recommendation is addressed to the Member States' railway companies listed in the Annex.

Entreprises de chemins de fer / Eisenbahnen / Railways /
Reti ferroviarie / Spoorwegen / Ειδικό οδικό δίκτυο /
Jernbanevirksomheder /

- Société nationale des chemins de fer belges (SNCB) /
Nationale Maatschappij der Belgische Spoorwegen (NMBS)
Rue de France, 85 - 1070 Bruxelles
Frankrijkstraat, 85 - 1070 Brussel
- Danske Statsbaner (DSB),
Sølvgade 40 - København
- Deutsche Bundesbahn (DB),
Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 43 - 6000 Frankfurt (Main)
- Οργανισμός Ειδικού οδικού δικτύου Α.Ε. (ΟΙΕ),
Rue Karolou 1 - Athènes
- Société nationale des chemins de fer français (SNCF),
Rue Saint Lazare, 88 - 75436 Paris
- Coras Iompair Eireann (CIE),
Heuston Station - Dublin 8
- Azienda autonoma delle ferrovie dello Stato (FS),
Piazza della Croce Rossa - Roma
- Société nationale des chemins de fer luxembourgeois (CFL),
Place de la Gare, 9 - Luxembourg
- Naamloze Vennootschap Nederlandse Spoorwegen (NS),
Moreelse Park 1 - 3500 HA Utrecht
- British Railways Board (BRB),
Euston Square - London NW1 2DZ
- Northern Ireland Railways Company Ltd. (NIR),
East Bridge Street, Belfast BT1 3PB

PRESS RELEASE

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6992/84 (Presse 81)

928th meeting of the Council
- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 14 and 15 May 1984

Presidents: Mr Claude CHEYSSON
Minister for Foreign Relations

and

Mr Roland DUMAS
Minister for European Affairs
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS Minister for External Relations
Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Uffe ELLEMANN-JENSEN Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Knut-Erik TYGESEN State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Hans-Werner LAUTENSCHLAGER State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS State Secretary for EEC Affairs
Mr Antonios GEORGIADIS State Secretary, Ministry of the National Economy

France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Minister for Foreign Relations
Mr Roland DUMAS Minister for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr P. BARRY Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jim O'KEEFFE Minister of State, Department of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Mario FIORET State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCHE

Vice-President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr F. BOLKESTEIN

Minister for Foreign Trade

Mr W.F. van EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Paul CHANNON

Minister of State for Trade

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o

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Francois-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

Mr Antonio GIOLITTI

Member

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

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PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council prepared for the 18th meeting at ministerial level of the Conference for the Accession of Portugal to the European Communities, held in the evening of Monday 14 May. The Portuguese delegation was led by Mr Ernâni Rodrigues Lopes, Minister for Finance and Planning.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES: ADJUSTMENT OF THE "ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE"

The Council adopted a Regulation laying down the date of 1 June for the entry into force of Regulations (EEC) Nos 3284/83 and 3285/83 adopted by the Council on 14 November 1983 in the context of the adjustment of the "acquis communautaire" in the fruit and vegetables sector. The entry into force of these Regulations had been postponed until such time as the Community had submitted to Spain and Portugal the statement on the accession negotiations on fruit and vegetables.

The Regulations will be effective for the different products at the start of the respective marketing years, for example 1 June for lemons and pears, etc.

MEASURES TO COVER BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1984

In the light of the Commission communication on measures to be taken to cover budgetary requirements in the financial year 1984, and a report from the Permanent Representatives Committee on the same subject, the Council held an initial discussion on problems arising in the current financial year.

After the discussion, the President noted that the problems connected with the implementation of the 1984 budget should be assessed as accurately as possible, in order to find answers to them. In this context, he indicated the importance of rigorous management of the current budget.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, in collaboration with the Commission, to continue the examination of these budgetary questions.

ELIMINATION OF TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

The Council noted that the technical examination being undertaken in respect of the fifteen directives pending in the field of the elimination of technical barriers to trade had not yet been completed in one Member State.

He hoped that this delegation would rapidly be able to take a final decision so that these directives could be adopted, together with the regulation on the new commercial policy instrument.

ACP-EEC NEGOTIATIONS -FOLLOW-UP TO THE THIRD MINISTERIAL NEGOTIATING
CONFERENCE IN FIJI

The Council welcomed the considerable progress made at the Fiji Conference and the constructive and friendly atmosphere in which the negotiations between the ACP and the Community were conducted. It paid particular tribute to the work of the Co-Presidents, Mr H. SHEARER and Mr C. CHEYSSON, and of the Commissioner for Development, Mr E. PISANI.

On the basis of statements by the Presidency and the Commission, the Council took stock of the negotiations. As regards the joint guidelines which were established, it noted that an active start was now to be made on the drafting of the future Convention, in accordance with the final Resolution of the Fiji Conference. The Council also took stock of the issues on which the Community has still to complete and clarify its position for the next round of negotiations. It noted the Commission's suggestion in this connection and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to establish the details of the Community's internal position.

As the parties have decided to work out an overall agreement at the fourth Ministerial Conference to be held in Luxembourg on 28 and 29 June, the Council will prepare for that Conference at its next meeting on 18 and 19 June on the basis of reports which the Commission and the permanent Representatives Committee will submit in due course.

REVIEW OF THE ERDF REGULATION

Further to the preparatory work done by the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Council made a full examination of the Commission proposal for reform of the ERDF on the basis of a compromise suggestion drawn up by the Presidency in collaboration with the Commission.

The Council agreed on an overall compromise involving the following points:

1. The fixing of upper and lower limits for the amount of aid which each Member State may receive from the Fund ("brackets"):

Member State	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
B	0,90	1,20
DK	0,51	0,67
D	3,76	4,81
GR	12,35	15,74
F	11,05	14,74
IRL	5,64	6,84
I	31,94	42,59
L	0,06	0,08
NL	1,00	1,34
UK	21,42	28,56

2. For Community programmes: Council to decide by a qualified majority.

3. The Fund's contribution to be 50%, rising to a possible 55% in the case of projects of particular importance for the regions or areas in which they are located.
4. Adoption of a list of types of infrastructure project not eligible for aid from the Fund (*).

Having thus settled the four points which all delegations and the Commission consider fundamental to completion of work on revising the basic ERDF Regulation, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to deal with the few remaining questions and to finalize the text. It agreed to give its formal approval at a forthcoming meeting.

(*) With a provisional reservation from one delegation.

PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING (PARIS, 17 AND
18 MAY 1984)

The Council defined the Community's position as regards the trade aspect of the next OECD ministerial meeting, particularly concerning the question of a possible new round of trade negotiations and the problem of speeding up the implementation of tariff reductions.

It was agreed that the Community and its Member States would keep up close on-the-spot co-ordination with a view to defending common positions on all items relating to trade policy.

PREPARATION FOR THE WESTERN ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN LONDON (7/9 JUNE 1984)

On the basis of a Commission communication, the Council began to prepare for the Western Economic Summit in London. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue preparations, particularly with regard to the trade aspects and other aspects.

RELATIONS WITH NORTH YEMEN

The Council adopted the Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with the Yemen Arab Republic for the conclusion of a co-operation agreement with that country. This would be a commercial and economic co-operation agreement, non-preferential, designed with a view to future developments and containing three main aspects: commercial co-operation, economic co-operation and development co-operation.

EXPORTS OF CERTAIN CHEMICAL PRODUCTS FOR USE IN CHEMICAL WEAPONS

In accordance with political co-operation discussions concluding that it was necessary to control exports of certain chemical products which might be delivered directly or indirectly to warring countries, the Council, which had before it a Commission proposal under Article 113 of the Treaty:

- noted that all the Member States had already or were about to take the necessary control measures at national level and agreed that such measures would be taken on a co-ordinated basis and that the Member States would consult each other and the Commission, in accordance with Article 224 of the Treaty, with a view to ensuring the proper functioning of the common market;
- instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to carry out for future reference a detailed study of the legal, technical and jurisdictional problems which, in the light of the provisions of the Treaty, might be raised by this type of measure.

EASING OF CHECKS ON PERSONS AT FRONTIERS

The Council noted that delegations' views converged regarding the content of a Resolution on the easing of checks on persons at frontiers, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue discussions as to the appropriate legal form for such a Resolution so that it might be adopted quickly.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Trade and customs questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Council Regulations temporarily suspending the Common Customs Tariff duties on
 - = a number of agricultural products
 - = a number of industrial products

- the Regulation amending the Regulation on the implementation of Community counter-measures (special steel - United States of America). The aim of this Regulation is to take better account, for the import quotas expressed in ECU, of dollar-ECU exchange rate trends between 1982, the reference year chosen by the Community for calculating import quotas, and the date for implementing such measures.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Morocco.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the following Resolution on the computerization of administrative procedures in intra-Community trade:

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard in particular to the proposals submitted to it by the Commission regarding the strengthening of the internal market and to the undertaking given at the Council meeting on 25 November 1983 to take action to orientate the co-ordinated development of computerized administrative procedures in the Community so as to facilitate intra-Community trade,

Aware of the need to strengthen the internal market;

Noting that efforts to harmonize taxation and other rules have not yet made it possible to abolish all administrative formalities in trade between Member States;

Whereas the streamlining of these formalities could make an effective contribution to strengthening the internal market; whereas computerization of administrative procedures could facilitate such streamlining, as long as the maintenance of formalities continues to be justified in intra-Community trade;

Whereas most Member States have already begun computerizing administrative procedures; whereas such action should be encouraged, as the use of modern data-processing techniques makes it possible to reduce considerably the length and cost of the procedures for undertakings and authorities; whereas, however, the systems concerned are at disparate stages of development and are not at present mutually compatible;

Whereas in order to give full effect to the development of computerization, national computer systems must be linked, so that exchanges of data can be organized, and administrative systems must be linked with undertakings' private systems; whereas a co-ordinated development of national procedures should be organized to that end; whereas such linking is in effect likely to speed up formalities and the related checks;

Whereas the co-ordinated development of computerized procedures and their linking should constitute an important element of the Community infrastructure aimed at facilitating intra-Community trade and combating fraud; whereas this operation will have a beneficial effect on the Community computer industry;

Whereas such an operation is a medium-term objective; whereas the technical work to enable substantial progress to be made in a sufficiently near future should therefore begin without delay;

Whereas the establishment of the maximum list of data which may be requested by the Member States in intra-Community trade constitutes a fundamental step in the process of computerization;

Aware that, even with the development of data-processing, some documents will still be necessary in trade between Member States; whereas efforts must be made, without waiting for computerization, to simplify such documents on the basis of the Commission proposals for the introduction of a "single document";

CALLS UPON the Member States to expand as soon as possible the computerization of the administrative procedures applicable in trade, in close collaboration with one another and with the Commission;

AGREES to effect the computerization of exchanges of data and the gradual linking of the computers used in the aforementioned procedures;

ASKS the Commission to continue the work under way and to submit to it, before 1 October 1984 and taking into account the characteristics of the Member States, the proposals necessary for the creation of a Community data-processing framework together with a work programme and precise timetable.

Transports

The Council took note of a Commission report on the conclusion of negotiations with a view to signing the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Spain on the international combined road-rail carriage of goods.

Atomic Questions

The Council took note of a Commission communication concerning a Co-operation Agreement with the National Co-operative for the Storage of Radioactive Waste - NAGRA (Switzerland) - Radioactive waste management.

Aid

The Council recorded its agreement to joint guidelines on the new Convention between the European Economic Community and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) concerning aid to refugees in the countries of the Near East.

Appointments

On a proposal by the Luxembourg Government, the Council appointed Mr Marc GLODT, Attaché d'Administration at the Ministry of Labour, as alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr J.M. MOUSEL, alternate member who has resigned for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 1 April 1985.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal by the French Government, Mr Michel LAROQUE, Sous-Directeur des accidents du travail, des régimes spéciaux et de la mutualité at the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity, as a member of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work in place of Mr COURSAUT-DURAND, who has resigned for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 1 April 1985.

PRESS RELEASE

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7274/84 (Presse 88)

929th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Brussels, 22 May 1984

President: Mr Jean AUROUX,
State Secretary
responsible to the
Minister for Industry and Research,
responsible for Energy,
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr Etienne KNOOPS
State Secretary for Energy

Denmark:

Mr Knud ENNGAARD
Minister for Energy

Germany:

Mr Ulrich ENGELMANN
Director-General
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULOUMBIS
Minister for Energy
and Natural Resources

France:

Mr Jean AUROUX
State Secretary responsible to
the Minister for Industry and
Research, responsible for
Energy

Ireland:

Mr Dick SPRING
Tanaiste (Deputy Prime Minister)
and Minister for Energy

Italy:

Mr Nicola SANESE
State Secretary
Ministry of Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

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

United Kingdom:

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH
Minister of State
Department of Energy

Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice-President

MEMBER STATES' ENERGY POLICIES

The Council held a wide-ranging policy debate on the two Commission communications dealing with, firstly, Progress in Structural Change: the Main Findings of the Commission's Review of Member States' Energy Policies, and, secondly, the Review of Member States' Energy Policies. Following this debate, the Council approved the following conclusions:

In view of its previous discussions and the communication approved by it on 4.11.1983, the Council reaffirmed the importance of the common objectives of independence in energy for the Community, recognized the decisive role of a regular review by the Commission of national policies and of the progress each Member State had made towards the common objectives and:

- took note of the important communications from the Commission to the Council on progress in structural change and the review of Member States' energy policies;
- noted that substantial progress had already been achieved.

In the light of the Member States' assessments and the questions raised, the Council

- gave COREPER the task of continuing its examination of the communications including:
 - . in-depth examination of national energy policies, to see the extent to which these policies were making a harmonized and balanced contribution to the common objectives;

- . the conclusions to be drawn at Community level regarding the areas for concern and the priorities for action;
- . consideration of new common guidelines for 1995.

COMPARISON OF ENERGY-SAVING PROGRAMMES OF THE MEMBER STATES

The Council held a discussion on the Commission communication on comparison of energy saving programmes of EEC Member States, following which it drew the following conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

- took note of the Commission report prepared in accordance with the Council Resolution of 9 June 1980 (OJ No C 149, p. 3);
- noted with satisfaction the progress already made in all the Member States;
- stressed the importance of the principle of true prices and the importance of market forces for an effective energy-saving policy, while taking into consideration the individual economic and social development characteristics of the various Member States;
- emphasized the need for the Member States to continue to develop integrated energy-saving policies comprising inter alia, in the light of particular circumstances, regulations, financial incentives and information and consultation programmes;

- instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, in the light of the conclusions reached by the Working party on Energy meeting at senior official level, to continue examining the Commission report in close co-operation with the Commission, with a view to preparing conclusions for the Council on possibilities for reinforcing the Member States' energy-saving policies so as to attain an optimum level of action;
- requested the Commission to continue
 - = circulating widely the results obtained by national and Community demonstration programmes;
 - = studying the results obtained through energy saving in the Member States and to report back to it.

NATURAL GAS

The Council held a policy debate on the recent Commission communication concerning natural gas.

The discussion dealt in particular with aspects concerning the importance of gas in relation to other energy sources, co-operation between Member States in this sector, the role of the gas companies, prices, storage and network inter-connections, and the diversification and security of supplies in the gas sector.

Following the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, in contact with the Commission, which stated that it would supplement its communication to take into account the comments made by delegations at this meeting, to continue examining this important dossier and to report back for its next meeting to enable it to work out common guidelines to be followed in the natural gas sector.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY (1983-1985)

At its meeting on 12 and 13 March, the Council gave its agreement to an overall amount of 265 MECU estimated to be necessary for Community support for demonstration projects in the energy sector for 1983 to 1985. At this meeting, it agreed to allocate this amount as follows:

- 50 MECU for the Regulation on liquefaction and gasification;
- 215 MECU for the Regulation on energy saving, alternative energy sources and the substitution of hydrocarbons.

COAL - SOCIAL ASPECTS

Having confirmed the need for social measures concerning coal at its meeting on 12 and 13 March, the Council signified its agreement to the principle of a transfer of 60 MECU entered in the Community budget for 1984 to the ECSC budget as a contribution, in the form of a Community solidarity measure, to the financing of measures to deal with the socio-economic consequences of the restructuring and modernization of the Member States' coal industry.

It was agreed that this amount would be allocated in accordance with the relevant articles of the ECSC Treaty with regard to the social measures, taking into account the cutbacks in staff in the coal industry and the amount spent by Member States on each person affected, and that the resources would be utilized when the work on this allocation had been completed.

FINANCIAL AID TO EEC INDUSTRIES PRODUCING SOLID FUEL

The Council held a further discussion on the Commission proposals concerning Community financial aid to EEC industries producing solid fuel.

The discussion revealed that more work was required on various points.

Accordingly, the Commission stated that it would re-examine certain features of its proposal to make it easier for the Council to reach a compromise solution.

At the close of the discussion, the Council confirmed its conclusions of 4 November 1983, stressing that solid fuel was an essential aspect of the Community's energy strategy, particularly for reducing its dependency on imported hydrocarbons.

It agreed to resume its discussions on this question at its next meeting (Energy), and noted that the Presidency - in contact with the Commission - would organize the Council's proceedings so as to enable it to take a decision on this dossier before the end of the year.

SITUATION IN THE GULF: STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL TO
THE PRESS CONFERENCE

While they were considering the energy supply situation, the Ministers for Energy discussed the present situation in the Gulf and its possible implications for EEC energy supplies.

It was agreed that events required the situation to be followed closely.

During this detailed discussion it was stressed that the Community's past efforts over a number of years, in particular in the field of energy savings and control of our consumption of petroleum products, and their continuation in the future, the general market situation and the level of stocks afforded the necessary means for coping with the situation.

PROMOTION OF ENERGY INVESTMENTS

The Council noted that it was unable to take a decision on the Commission proposal on the payment of financial incentives in support of certain categories of investment in the rational use of energy.

The Council noted that the Commission would submit alternative proposals (transfers) enabling the 20 MECU appropriation entered in the 1984 budget under "Promotion of energy investments" to be used.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for wines originating in Portugal (1984/1985):

- (a) - Verde wines
- Dão wines
- (b) - Port wines
- Madeira wines
- Setubal Muscatel wines.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for wines originating in Spain (1984/1985):

- Sherry
- Malaga
- Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepeñas.

Finally, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and Norway amending the temporary arrangement on joint discipline in their trade in cheese.

ECSC

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the ECSC, meeting within the Council, adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision on certain measures to be applied, in respect of State-trading countries, to trade in iron and steel products covered by the ECSC Treaty, including pig iron, cast iron and high-carbon ferro-manganese.

Appointment

On proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Arne Scheel THOMSEN, as alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training in place of Mr Jens Peter STEENSEN for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 8 November 1985.

PRESS RELEASE

7277/84 (Presse 91)

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930th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 24 and 25 May 1984

President: Mr Guy LENGAGNE,
State Secretary
responsible for the Sea,
attached to the Minister for Transport
of the French Republic

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 Henning GROVE
Minister for Fisheries

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Stathis YIOTAS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

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

Ireland:

Mr Patrick O'TOOLE
Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI
Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

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

United Kingdom:

Mr John MacGREGOR
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture

Commission:

Mr Georges CONTOGEORGIS
Member

AMENDMENT OF THE 1984 TACs AND QUOTAS REGULATION

North Sea herring

The Council decided to fix provisionally the TACs and quotas for the North Sea herring stock. This decision was taken in order that Community fishermen should not have to suspend herring fishing pending a resumption of the EEC-Norway consultations.

The TACs and quotas are as follows:

Stock			Member State	1984 quota (tonnes)
Species	Geographical region	ICES or NAFO Division		
Herring	Norwegian Sea, Northern North Sea, Central North Sea	IIa (EC zone), IVa (EC zone), IVb (EC zone)	Belgium	0
			Denmark	28 780
			Germany	17 970
			Greece	
			France	1 410
			Ireland	
			Italy	
			Luxembourg	
			Netherlands	22 820
			United Kingdom	29 020
	Available for Member States			
		EEC TOTAL	100 000	
Herring	Southern North Sea, Eastern English Channel	IVc, VIId	Belgium	7 100
			Denmark	2 500
			Germany	1 700
			Greece	
			France	19 000
			Ireland	
			Italy	
			Luxembourg	
			Netherlands	18 000
			United Kingdom	6 700
	Available for Member States			
		EEC total	55 000	

North Sea sprat

At the same time the Council agreed to take a decision before 15 September 1984 on TACs and quotas for sprat and on by-catches during fishing for Norway pout, taking full account of the special difficulties encountered by Danish fishermen.

TECHNICAL MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF FISHERY RESOURCES

The Council agreed to make certain amendments to Regulation (EEC) No 171/83 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources.

These amendments particularly concern the mesh size of nets used in the North Sea.

PROCEDURE FOR FIXING TACs AND QUOTAS FOR 1985 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS

After an exchange of views, the President drew the following conclusions:

"The Council stressed the importance of fixing TACs and quotas for the following year during the previous December at the latest. It considered that this objective, even if it led to the fixing of provisional TACs and quotas, was essential to ensure the proper management of all fishing activities and, at the same time, the satisfactory application of the policy for the conservation and management of fish stocks.

The Council welcomed the Commission's intention of enabling it to act within the desired time limit.

Even closer collaboration between the Community, the scientific bodies under its aegis and the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas would further facilitate the achievement of this objective. The Member States which are party to the I.C.E.S. for their own part undertake to facilitate its implementation.

Such collaboration should in particular:

- facilitate the planning of the submission of the scientific opinions according to the time-scale of the Community management policy;
- lead to a shortening of the time taken by the ICES procedures themselves;
- make possible a better use of the ICES opinions by the Scientific and Technical Committee on Fisheries.

The possibility of fixing multiannual TACs (and quotas) for certain, as yet unspecified, stocks should be considered, taking into account the biological data available.

Anxious to ensure a suitable involvement of those engaged in the profession with the policy for the conservation and management of resources, the Council welcomed the fact that the Commission, while working out its proposals, intended to discuss matters with those engaged in the profession within the Advisory Committee on fisheries."

FRENCH GUIANA

The Council agreed to a Regulation on the arrangements applicable from 1 June to 1 December 1984 to vessels flying the flag of third countries in the waters of the French department of Guiana.

FISHERIES RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EEC AND THE UNITED STATES

The Council requested the Commission to resume negotiations with the United States as soon as possible.

FISHERIES RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND CERTAIN THIRD COUNTRIES

The Council took note of an oral report from the Commission on the progress of negotiations between the Community on the one hand and Mauritania, Madagascar, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry and Equatorial Guinea respectively on the other.

SAFETY AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF FISHERMEN

The Council took note that the Commission would shortly submit proposals on safety on board fishing vessels and agreed to examine these proposals when they arrived.

SITUATION OF THE MARKET IN HERRING

The Council took note of a Commission report on the situation of the herring market in the Community and in particular of the trends in that situation in recent years from the point of view of production, prices, withdrawals and trade; of the present situation as regards Community arrangements for imports and outlets; of the requirements of the processing industry as they may appear schematically following a survey conducted in the processing industries by the Commission.

The Council requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine this report further.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Food Aid

The Council noted the Commission's intention of granting food aid to Malta.

Relations with Malta

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the application of Decision No 1/84 of the EEC-Malta Association Council again amending Article 6 and 7 of the Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision adopting a concerted action research project on the effects of processing and distribution on the quality and nutritive value of food.

Agricultural Decisions

- The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities
- the Regulations
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2169/81 laying down the general rules for the system of aid for cotton;
 - = amending for 1984 and 1985 the quantities of cheese originating in Austria with a view to bringing trade between the Community and this country closer into line with the real needs of the market;
 - = amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 1569/72 and 2027/83 as regards special measures for colza, rape and sunflower seed;
 - = on the organization of surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings for 1985 and 1987.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the negotiating directive with, on the one hand, the ACP States referred to in Protocol No 7 annexed to the second ACP-EEC Lomé Convention and, on the other hand, the Republic of India concerning the guaranteed prices for cane sugar for the 1984/1985 delivery period.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to take part in the negotiations on a Protocol to the Geneva Convention of 1979 on long-range transboundary air pollution, in respect of the long-term financing of the co-operative programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in Europe (EMEP).

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Community

- the Regulation amending Annex VII to Regulation (EEC) No 3588/82 concerning the common arrangements applicable to imports of certain textile products from Yugoslavia;
 - the Decision authorizing the extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded by Member States with third countries.
-