

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: ITALY

JANUARY-JUNE 1985

Meetings and press releases March-April 1985

Meeting number	Subject	Date
990 th	Environment	7-8 March 1985
990 th	Environment continued	20-21 March 1985
991 st	Economics/Finance	11 March 1985
992 nd	Agriculture	11-13 March 1985
993 rd	Energy	15 March 1985
994 th	Foreign Affairs	17-21 March 1985
994 th	Foreign Affairs continued	28-30 March 1985
995 th	Agriculture	25-27 March 1985
995 th	Agriculture continued	1-2 April 1985
996 th	Industry	26-27 March 1985
997 th	Agriculture	22-23 April 1985
998 th	Budget	23-24 April 1985
999 th	Foreign Affairs	29-30 April 1985

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

5310/85 (Presse 26)

990th meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Brussels, 7/8 March 1985

President: Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Firmin AERTS
State Secretary for
Public Health and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Mogens BUNGAARD-NIELSEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Environment

Germany:

Mr Friedrich ZIMMERMANN
Federal Minister for the
Interior

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULOUMBIS
Minister for the Environment

Mr Martin BANGEMANN
Federal Minister for
Economic Affairs

Mr Carl-Dieter SPRANGER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of the Interior

France:

Mrs Huguette BOUCHARDEAU
Minister for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr Liam KAVANAGH
Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr P. WINSEMIUS
Minister for Housing, Regional
Planning and the Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr William WALDEGRAVE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of the Environment

Mr John BUTCHER
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Lord COCKFIELD - Vice-President
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES - Vice-President
Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS - Member

AIR POLLUTION BY GASES FROM ENGINES OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council continued its examination of the proposal for a Directive on measures to be taken against air pollution by gases from engines of motor vehicles.

The Council confirmed its desire to reach a Community solution and the discussion enabled delegations' positions to be brought considerably closer.

It was recognized, however, that a brief period for reflection on the outline of the proposed solution would be appropriate and the Council accordingly decided to postpone the final phase of its discussions until a special meeting on 20 March.

AIR POLLUTION CAUSED BY LARGE COMBUSTION PLANTS

The Council discussed the progress of work on the proposal for a Directive on the limitation of the emissions of pollutants into the air from large combustion plants.

The Council took note in particular of the request by the Commission representative to have as soon as possible the information necessary for a more detailed study of the technical and economic questions raised by this proposal.

At the close of the discussion the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to make every effort to find possible ways of reaching agreement in this area, the importance of which was stressed in the framework of a balanced policy for combating air pollution.

CONTAINERS OF LIQUIDS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Council had a further exchange of views on the Directive on containers of liquids for human consumption and agreed to include this item of the agenda for its next meeting.

TITANIUM DIOXIDE

The Council continued its examination of the proposal for a Directive on procedures for harmonizing the programmes for the reduction and eventual elimination of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine this dossier in greater detail, on the basis in particular of a compromise solution providing for the application, on certain conditions, of quality objectives, to enable it to reach agreement, if possible at its next meeting.

IMPACT STUDIES

The Council recorded its agreement on the Directive concerning the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects.

This Directive was a basic text for a preventive policy for the protection of the environment.

Under the Directive Member States are obliged to submit the following projects to an environmental impact assessment:

1. Crude-oil refineries
2. Thermal power stations and certain other combustion installations
3. Installations solely designed for the permanent storage or final disposal of radioactive waste
4. Integrated works for the initial melting of cast-iron and steel
5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos
6. Integrated chemical installations
7. Construction of motorways, express roads and lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports with a basic runway length of 2 100 m or more
8. Trading ports and inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes
9. Waste-disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment or land storage of toxic and dangerous wastes

The Directive does, however, provide for a certain number of derogations in specific cases.

Moreover, the Member States must submit for evaluation the environmental effects of other projects where they consider that their characteristics so demand. These are projects relating, for example, to agriculture, the mining industry, the energy industry, the metal-working industry, etc.

The purpose of the assessment is to identify, describe and assess the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors:

- human beings, fauna and flora;
- soil, water, air, climatic factors and the landscape;
- the inter-relationship between the above factors;
- material assets and the cultural heritage.

Member States must ensure that any request for development consent and information concerning the description of the project are made available to the public and that the public concerned is given the opportunity to express an opinion before the project is initiated.

Member States must comply with this Directive within three years.

2nd PCB/PCT DIRECTIVE

Pending receipt of the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, the Council expressed a favourable opinion on the proposal for a Directive relating to restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (2nd PCB/PCT Directive).

The proposal seeks to strengthen the Community rules which have already existed in this area since 1976 by placing an almost complete ban on the marketing and use of PCBs and PCTs, with a view to the greater protection of human health and the environment.

At the close of its discussion, the Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work, once the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee were known, to allow the Directive to be adopted as soon as possible.

LIMIT VALUES AND QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR DISCHARGES OF CERTAIN DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

The Council was favourably disposed towards the proposal for a Directive on limit values and quality objectives for discharges of certain dangerous substances in List I in the Annex to Directive 76/464/EEC.

The Council asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work in the light of the Opinions of the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, to allow the Directive to be adopted rapidly.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other environmental decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide. (See press release 8129/84 (Presse 114) of 28/29 June 1984).

Customs co-operation

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision accepting on behalf of the Community the Recommendation of 15 June 1983 of the Customs Co-operation Council concerning action against customs fraud relating to containers.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision accepting on behalf of the Community three Annexes to the International Convention on the Simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures.

Appointment

On a proposal from the Unione Italiana Lavoratori, the Council appointed Mr Piero IMBERTI a member of the ECSC Consultative Committee in place of Mr Agostino CONTE, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 17 February 1987.

PRESS RELEASE

5606/85 (Presse 36)
(OR.f)

LIBRARY

continuation of the 990th meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Brussels, 20/21 March 1985

President: Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Firmin AERTS
State Secretary for
Public Health and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Christian CHRISTENSEN
Minister for the Environment
and for Nordic Affairs

Mr Mogens BUNDGAARD-NIELSEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Environment

Germany:

Mr Friedrich ZIMMERMANN
Federal Minister for the
Interior

Mr Martin BANGEMANN
Federal Minister for
Economic Affairs

Mr Carl-Dieter SPRANGER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of the Interior

Greece:

Mr Alexandros PANTAZIS
Secretary-General of the Ministry
of Regional Planning

France:

Mrs Huguette BOUCHARDEAU
Minister for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr Liam KAVANAGH
Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS
Vice-President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr P. WINSEMIUS
Minister for Housing, Regional
Planning and the Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr William WALDEGRAVE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Lord COCKFIELD - Vice-President
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES - Vice-President
Mr Stanley CLINTON-DAVIS - Member

AIR POLLUTION BY GASES FROM ENGINES OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The Council reached agreement on the question of air pollution by exhaust gases from motor vehicles.

However, one delegation was only able to agree subject to confirmation. Another delegation had to enter a more general reservation but promised to inform its Government of the result that had been achieved.

The result represents a political agreement establishing a balance between, on the one hand, the demands of environmental protection and, on the other hand, a concern to allow European industry the time needed to adjust to emission values considerably more stringent than the limits currently in force.

It was agreed that the discussions necessary to translate this political agreement into a Directive would go ahead as speedily as possible to enable the Directive to be adopted in June.

LEAD CONTENT OF PETROL

In the light of the European Parliament's Opinion, the Council adopted a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States on the lead content of petrol.

The Directive provides for the compulsory introduction of unleaded petrol as from October 1989. This date gives the petroleum and automobile industries time to make the necessary investments.

The Directive does not rule out the possibility of measures being taken to introduce unleaded petrol at an earlier date.

It also provides that, as soon as they see fit, Member States will reduce in parallel the lead content of leaded petrol from 0,4 g/l to 0,15 g/l.

CONTAINERS OF LIQUIDS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Council agreed ⁽¹⁾ to a Directive on containers of liquids for human consumption.

This Directive forms part of the attempt to establish a better policy on the management of waste. It concerns environmental protection, while seeking to reduce the consumption of energy and raw materials. Against this background, the Directive provides for a package of measures to be carried out regarding the production, marketing, use, recycling and refilling of containers of liquids for human consumption and the disposal of used containers.

To achieve these objectives, Member States will draw up programmes for reducing the tonnage or volume of containers of liquids for human consumption in household waste to be finally disposed of.

These programmes will be revised at least every four years to take account, in particular, of technical progress and changing economic circumstances.

Not only by legislative or administrative means, but also by voluntary agreements of national or sectoral scope, Member States will be able to take measures designed inter alia:

- (a) to develop consumer education;
- (b) to facilitate the refilling or recycling of containers;

⁽¹⁾ The United Kingdom delegation entered a reservation on this Directive pending further examination.

(c) as regards non-refillable containers:

- to promote the selective collection of containers,
- to develop effective processes for retrieving containers from household waste,
- to extend the outlets for materials recovered from containers.

insofar as this is economically feasible;

(d) to encourage the technical development and placing on the market of new types of container;

(e) to maintain, and where possible increase, the proportion of refilled or recycled containers,

The Member States have two years to comply with this Directive.

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER

The Council adopted a Decision concerning the signature of a global framework Convention for the protection of the ozone layer.

The Convention provides inter alia that the contracting parties must take all appropriate steps to protect human health and the environment against any damaging effects that may alter the ozone layer. To that end, the contracting parties will co-operate - through monitoring, research and the exchange of information - to achieve a better understanding and evaluation of the effect which human activities have on the ozone layer. The Convention also provides for certain legislative or administrative measures to curb or even reduce those activities which may have a damaging effect on the ozone layer.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Annex IV to Regulation (EEC) No 516/77 on the common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables. Under this amendment, cherries in syrup are now covered by the system of import certificates which already exists for other particularly sensitive products.

PRESS RELEASE

5371/85 (Presse 28)

LIBRARY

991st meeting of the Council

- Economic and Financial Affairs -

Brussels, 11 March 1985

President: Mr Giovanni GORIA
Minister for the Treasury
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Marc LEPOIVRE
Deputy Permanent Representative

Denmark:

Mr Anders ANDERSEN
Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Panayotis ROUMELIOTIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Luc de la BARRE de NANTEUIL
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Giovanni GORIA
Minister for the Treasury

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS
Vice-President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. RUDING
Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Ian STEWART
Economic Secretary to the
Treasury

Commission:

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN
Vice-President

Lord COCKFIELD
Vice-President

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ
Member

Mr Alois PFEIFFER
Member

FINANCING OF THE AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES POLICY

The Council on Economic and Financial Affairs gave an opinion on the amount to be made available to the Guidance Section of the EAGGF for the period 1985-1989, viz. 5 250 MECU.

This opinion will enable the Agriculture Council to continue its proceedings in this area and does not prejudice the decisions which the Council will be required to take in due course on the Commission's proposals concerning the IMPs, which it has not examined.

FIRST QUARTERLY EXAMINATION OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

The Council carried out the first quarterly examination of the economic situation in the Community, on the basis of a Commission communication of 22 February.

The Council broadly endorsed the assessment of the economic situation made by the Commission in its communication. It agreed to continue examining this communication at its informal meeting in Palermo on 13 and 14 April.

The Council's conclusion at the close of this examination was that at present there was no reason to adjust the economic-policy guidelines contained in the 1984/1985 annual report and adopted in December 1984.

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE COURT OF AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1983

The Council exchanged views on a number of general questions raised by the Court of Auditors in its report on the financial year 1983. These mainly concerned, in the budgetary sphere, the under-utilization of appropriations for payment and the accumulation of non-settled commitments in the case of differentiated appropriations, and also certain aspects of the management of EAGGF Guarantee Section appropriations and of the implementation of food aid.

At the close of the discussion, the Council endorsed the preparatory proceedings of the Permanent Representatives Committee and adopted certain conclusions which will be brought to the attention of the Court of Auditors.

In addition, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue discussing the procedure to be used for examining the reports of the Court of Auditors in future.

20th VAT DIRECTIVE

The Council discussed the problems outstanding in connection with the proposal for a 20th VAT Directive. The purpose of the Directive is to cover derogations relating to the special aid granted to farmers in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In conclusion, the Council agreed to reiterate to the European Parliament its urgent request that it deliver its Opinion at its April part-session.

It also instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the problems at issue, to enable it to take a decision at its next meeting.

EXPORT CREDITS

The Council heard a statement by Commissioner DE CLERCQ concerning the position to be taken by the Community regarding tied-aid credits in the negotiations with the other participants in the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits.

UNDERTAKINGS FOR COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT IN TRANSFERABLE SECURITIES

The Council took note of a statement by Lord COCKFIELD, Vice-President of the Commission, on the speeding-up of proceedings concerning the proposal for a Directive on the co-ordination of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities other than of the closed-ended type (UCITS).

OTHER DECISION

Budgetary question

The Council adopted the Recommendation to the European Parliament on the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

5372/85 (Presse 29)

992nd meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 11, 12 and 13 March 1985

President: Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI,

Minister for Agriculture
of the Italian 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

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Walther FLORIAN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH
Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr Giulio SANTARELLI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr René STEICHEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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

Commission:

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

STRUCTURES POLICY

After noting the opinion delivered by the Economic and Financial Affairs Council on 11 March 1985, the Council ⁽¹⁾ was able to agree by a qualified majority to the new common measure to be implemented by the Member States in order to improve the efficiency of agricultural structures.

This Regulation provides in particular for aids for investment in agricultural holdings aimed in particular at improving quality and at converting production to meet market requirements, as well as aid for the installation of young farmers.

Measures are also laid down concerning the introduction of an accounting system and the establishment and operation of groups, services and other facilities for the benefit of several holdings.

The Regulation also makes provision for:

- specific measures to assist mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas;
- forestry measures on behalf of agricultural holdings;
- measures relating to the adjustment of vocational training to the requirements of modern agriculture.

⁽¹⁾ The Council agreed, subject to the Opinion of the European Parliament, to set the financial framework for the EAGGF Guidance Section at 5 250 MECU (1985-1989). The Commission feels that this figure represents a realistic estimate of the appropriations needed for implementation of the Community's structures policy. The exact breakdown of this amount will be decided upon in the light of the fact that:

- the cost originally estimated by the Commission for Regulation No 355/77 (marketing will be reduced by approximately 100 MECU;
- the Commission's original estimates for continuing measures under way and for implementing the "efficiency" Regulation will be reduced by approximately 10%;
- the cost of the structural measures on wine will, as a result of the agreement reached at the meeting on 25 and 26 February, be 459 MECU.

Under the same Regulation the Member States are authorized to introduce, under certain conditions, special national systems in environmentally sensitive areas, in accordance with Articles 92 to 94 of the Treaty. The possibility was also mooted of taking specific measures to promote agriculture as a whole in certain areas where agriculture is faced with structural or infrastructural handicaps.

As regards specific measures for Greece, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations introducing temporary, degressive aid for:

- the transhumance of sheep, goats and cattle;
- increasing the staff of the departments responsible for the quality control of agricultural products.

The Council is to continue its discussions on the proposal for a Regulation authorizing the Hellenic Republic to grant aid for the transport of means of production to certain islands.

It also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations extending for one year the common measures approved in 1978 and 1979, concerning inter alia:

- the improvement of public amenities in certain rural areas;
- forestry in certain Mediterranean zones of the Community.

FIXING OF PRICES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES

The Council held an in-depth discussion on the Commission proposals on the fixing of agricultural prices for the 1985/1986 marketing year.

This general discussion enabled delegations to state their views in detail on all the proposals.

At the end of its discussions the Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue examining the dossier as a whole and agreed to resume its deliberations at its meeting on 25, 26 and 27 March.

REGIONAL MEASURE TO HELP THE WINE SECTOR IN SICILY

The Council unanimously approved the Italian delegation's request that Sicily be allowed to grant, for 2 wine years, aid to its producers to facilitate the compulsory distillation of wine obtained from table grapes ("Italia" grape).

EEC-SPAIN NEGOTIATIONS

At the request of the Netherlands delegation, the Council discussed certain agricultural aspects of the EEC-Spain negotiations, notably as regards the transitional arrangements for imports of "continental" products into Spain and for imports of fruit and vegetables into the Community.

It was agreed that the concern expressed would be brought to the attention of those responsible for the negotiations.

- I -

DECISIONS CONCERNING SEVEN MULTIANNUAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Following the conclusions it reached on 19 December 1984, the Council proceeded to the formal adoption of seven multiannual research and development programmes.

The total financial allocations necessary for the implementation of these programmes which cover periods of either 4 or 5 years is estimated at 1.225 million ECU and is broken down as follows:

<u>PROGRAMME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u> <u>in million ECU</u>
Controlled Thermonuclear Fusion (1985-1989)	690
Biotechnology (1985-1989)	55
Basic technological research and the application of new technologies (BRITE) (1985-1988)	125
Radiation protection (1985-1989)	58
Management and storage of radioactive waste (1985-1989)	62
Stimulation of scientific and technical co-operation and interchange (1985-1988)	60
Non-nuclear energy (1985-1988)	175
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TOTAL	1.225
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CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR FUSION (1985-1989)

The essential features of this programme are:

- exploitation and extension of JET (Joint European Torus) to its full capacity. The JET undertaking occupies a leading position in research into controlled thermonuclear fusion of which it seeks to demonstrate the long-term scientific feasibility;
- completion of five further experimental devices in associated institutions where specific problems of the confinement and heating of plasmas not covered by the JET undertaking are in the course of study;
- completion of the definition period and commencement of the conceptual design of the next step after JET (Next European Torus - NET) together with technological developments required for its design.

RADIATION PROTECTION (1985-1989)

This programme follows on from a previous Community radiation protection programme which expired at the end of 1984. The aims of the programme are to improve the conditions of life in relation to safety at work and protection of man and his environment and to assure a safe production of energy from atomic fission.

Research will be carried out mainly on a contract basis and will endeavour to develop techniques to prevent and counteract the harmful effects of radiation, provide methods to cope with the consequences of radiation accidents and assess radiation risks.

MANAGEMENT AND STORAGE OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE (1985-1989)

This programme follows on from a previous multiannual programme which was completed at the end of 1984. The new programme will be carried out mainly on the basis of contracts. The main purpose of the programme will be to perfect and to demonstrate a system for managing the radioactive waste produced by the nuclear energy industry, ensuring at the various stages the best possible protection of man and his environment. The two main areas of research activity will relate firstly to waste management studies, including such matters as systems studies, radioactive waste treatment and safety of geological disposal and secondly to the construction and/or operation of underground facilities open to Community joint activities. Initially three projects are contemplated in this respect. Additional proposals may be submitted later.

BIOTECHNOLOGIES (1985-1989)

This five year programme represents a broadening in the initiatives already undertaken in this area of Community based research. It is one of the most important elements of the new policy initiatives endorsed by recent European Councils and is concerned with technologies which have transnational significance.

The main areas of activity will cover:

- (a) contextual measures aimed at upgrading the quality and capabilities of facilities, resources and support services in biotechnology research,
- (b) the reduction by means of pre-competitive research and training of scientific bottlenecks which inhibit the application to industry and agriculture of the materials and methods deriving from modern biotechnology, and finally

(c) concertation activity based on monitoring modern developments in biotechnology, assessing their strategic significance for Europe and promoting the necessary concertation of activities in the Member States.

STIMULATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AND INTERCHANGE (1985-1988)

The purpose of this four-year plan, which concerns all fields covered by the exact and natural sciences, is to foster the achievement of a European scientific and technical area, which is a necessary condition for strengthening the competitiveness and creativity of European research and development.

Its major objectives may be summarized as follows:

- to increase the mobility of researchers and communication between scientists within the Community;
- to develop co-operation between European R & D teams;
- to encourage the training and professional integration of young researchers in a way which makes the best of their talents.

After the successes of the experimental phase (1983-1984), this plan is intended to provide funding during the next four years for projects which will further these objectives by means of co-operation between teams from various Community countries.

BASIC TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND THE APPLICATION OF
NEW TECHNOLOGIES (BRITE) (1985-1988)

The aim of this four-year programme is to encourage a large number of industries to profit from a series of recent scientific developments which are of relevance to them.

By promoting technological progress in various traditional sectors, the BRITE programme is designed to help improve the competitiveness of industries which for a long time to come will be making a substantial contribution to the Community's GDP. Community contributions will be granted to pre-competitive R & D projects of high technical quality originated by partners in two or more member countries and involving at least one industrial undertaking.

NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY (1985-1988)

This is a four-year programme which is intended to support the Community's energy policy and which is of particular importance in that it introduces new areas of research while permitting the continuation of certain previous work which has proved to have long-term promise. The nine sub-programmes of which it consists concern the development of renewable sources of energy (solar, biomass, wind, geothermal), the rational use of energy, new energy vectors, hydrocarbons and the modelling of energy systems.

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate a fisheries agreement with the Republic of the Gambia.

The Council also approved the substance of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on fishing off the coast of Madagascar and authorized the signing of that Agreement.

Commercial policy

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 706/84 imposing a definitive countervailing duty in the framework of the anti-subsidy proceedings concerning imports of tube and pipe fittings of malleable cast iron originating in Spain and imposing the definitive collection of the provisional duty;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3072/80 imposing a definitive countervailing duty on certain seamless tubes of non-alloy steels originating in Spain.

ECSC

The Council gave assents:

- under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, concerning:
 - = Westdeutsche Genossenschafts-Zentralbank, Münster (Germany);
 - = Cymric Hotel Partnership (Royaume-Uni)
 - = Industriekreditbank AG, Deutsche Industriebank (IKB), Düsseldorf (Allemagne)
- under the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, to authorize the granting of loans to beneficiaries other than undertakings, for the financing of housing for persons employed in the industries of the ECSC.

Appointments

Acting on proposals from the German and United Kingdom Governments, the Council appointed Ministerialrat Dr. MATTHIAS, Bundesministerium der Finanzen, and Mr A. MOORE, Head of Training, Education and Training Division, Confederation of British Industry, as members of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr VON WESTPHALEN and Mr A. BATES, resigning members, for the remainder of their terms of office, which run until 23 May 1985.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Netherlands Government, Mr H. MULLER, Sekretaris van de Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweging, as a member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr P. H. HUGENHOLTZ, resigning member, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 23 May 1985.

Lastly, the Council appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr Poul SKIBELUND, Dansk Arbejdsgiverforening, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers to replace Mr L. BARFOED, an alternate member who has resigned, pending the renewal of the Committee.

PRESS RELEASE

5447/85 (Presse 32)

LIBRARY

993rd meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Brussels, 15 March 1985

President: Mr Renato ALTISSIMO

Minister for Industry
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium

Mr Etienne KNOOPS
State Secretary for Energy

Denmark

Mr Knud ENNGAARD
Minister for Energy

Germany

Mr Dieter von WURZEN
State Secretary
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

Greece

Mr A. PAPATHANASOPOULOS
Secretary-General of the Ministry
of Energy and Natural Resources

France

Mr Martin MALVY
State Secretary responsible to
Minister for Industrial
Reorganization and Foreign
Trade, responsible for Energy

Ireland

Mr Andrew O'ROURKE
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Italy

Mr Renato ALTISSIMO
Minister for Industry

Luxembourg

Mr Marcel SCHLECHTER
Minister for Energy

Netherlands

Mr H.J. Ch. RUTTEN
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

United Kingdom

Mr Alastair GOODLAD
Minister at the Department
of Energy

Commission:

Mr Nicolas MOSAR
Member

OIL-REFINING

The Council took note of the Commission communication on "the situation in the oil-refining industry and the impact of petroleum product imports from third countries" and, in the light of its discussion, concurred with its general approach.

It asked the Commission to report to it before its next meeting on the different matters raised during the discussion and in the light of the talks which the Commission is to have with the other industrialized consumer countries and with the producing countries.

It therefore decided to place this item once again on the agenda for its next meeting.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE ENERGY FIELD

The Council held a policy debate on the proposals recently put forward by the Commission on continuing the energy demonstration programme for a further period.

The Council discussed in particular certain key-questions in these proposals, i.e. the duration of the programme, the total amount of money to be allocated to it, the division of the money available between the two Regulations on, respectively, liquefaction and gasification, and other energy-saving projects.

The Council's discussions confirmed that there was consensus on the principle of continuing the programme, and the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the Commission's proposals in order to enable the Council to act at its next meeting.

SUPPORT FOR TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE HYDROCARBONS SECTOR

The Council welcomed the Commission's new proposal for a Regulation on a programme of support for technological development in the hydrocarbons sector. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine questions arising in connection with this proposal such as the duration of the programme and the amount of money to be allocated to it, and the degree of Community support for the different projects. The Council stated its intention of acting on this subject at its next meeting devoted to energy matters.

ENERGY PRICING PRINCIPLES

The Council held a policy debate on a number of key-questions concerned with application in the Member States of the Community's energy pricing principles. The discussion dealt in particular with the general approach to be followed and the energy sectors to be covered, the question of the transparency of energy prices and the possibility of drawing up a Resolution on consumer gas and electricity prices.

In conclusion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine this subject further in the light of the guidelines and factors that had emerged during its discussion.

RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY IN THE BUILDING SECTOR

The Commission forwarded a communication to the Council on the rational use of energy in the building sector in November 1984.

This communication, which refers to the Council Resolution of 9 June 1980, concerns new lines of action by the Community in the field of energy saving, and stresses inter alia the economic importance of the building sector in the EEC and the implications of a European policy in this field. It also lays down a number of guidelines for action based on programmes already implemented by Member States or by the Community, viz.:

- promoting the thermal auditing of buildings;
- technical improvements and regulations;
- optimum use of funds;
- user information and behaviour.

Following the work on this subject by its preparatory bodies, the Council adopted the following Resolution: ⁽¹⁾

"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Council Resolution of 15 January 1985 ⁽²⁾ on the improvement of energy saving programmes in the Member States,

Having regard to the Commission communication of 13 November 1984 entitled "A European policy for the rational use of energy in the building sector",

⁽¹⁾ This Resolution will also be published in the OJ of the EC.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 20, 22.1.1985, p. 1.

Considering the important implications of economically reasonable exploitation of the energy saving potential of the building sector, particularly since this sector by itself accounts for about half of all potential energy savings,

Notes that the Commission will, in consultation with experts from the Member States, prepare a work programme covering the sectors referred to in its communication and in this Resolution, taking account of experience gained by the Member States,

Welcomes the Commission's initiative, designed to supplement efforts already undertaken in the Member States to promote the rational use of energy in the building sector,

Notes that particularly in the framework of this programme, the Commission in consultation with experts from the Member States:

- will as soon as possible conduct a detailed assessment of the pilot projects relating to the upgrading of the energy efficiency of existing buildings already carried out by some Member States after thermal auditing in order to identify and compare the methods used, the recommendations deriving from the audits and the results obtained,
- may, in the light of the conclusions of that assessment, be able to undertake pilot actions of Community interest, as referred to in its communication,
- will examine questions relating to the placarding of the energy consumption of buildings by a process of certification, in order to improve the flow of information to the parties concerned on the state of the real estate market and to give credit to the efforts made by the builders/owners,

- will continue its activities in the technical field, with a view particularly to the development of a specific Eurocode,

Reaffirms the importance of a detailed examination at Community level of definitions concerning standardized methods of measuring the thermal performance of buildings, taking account of climatic variations,

Notes the wisdom of a more detailed study of ways and means of improving thermal performance when existing buildings are renovated,

Emphasizes the importance of the regulations in force in the Member States to improve the energy performance of new buildings and of the introduction or reinforcement of such regulations, as the case may be,

Stresses the need to continue research/development and demonstration efforts in order to foster the development and use of new technologies and new products, as and where necessary,

Invites the Commission to keep it abreast of progress made with the work programme and to report to it on progress made in this area."

USE OF SUBSTITUTE FUEL COMPONENTS IN PETROL

Having noted the Greek delegation's concern regarding various implications of a draft Directive on crude oil saving through the use of substitute fuel components in petrol, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, in close co-operation with the Commission, to seek a specific solution to the problem raised in order to enable the Council, in the near future, to adopt this Directive, on which nine delegations already agree.

SOLID FUELS

The Council heard an oral statement by Commissioner MOSAR on progress made in the work on solid fuels, which included an announcement that the Commission would shortly forward a communication on Member States' national aid to the coal-mining industry, for which the present arrangements expire on 31 December 1985.

The Council noted that it could carry out an examination of the various aspects of the problems arising in connection with the development of a balanced policy on solid fuels, for example matters relating to investment in the producing industries in this sector.

PRESS RELEASE

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5532/85 (Presse 33)
(OR.f)

994th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 17 to 21 March 1985

President: Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Leo TINDEMANS Minister for Foreign Relations
Mr Jean GOL Minister for Foreign Trade

Denmark:

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

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Martin BANGEMANN Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Jürgen RUHFUS State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS State Secretary for European
Economic Community Affairs

France:

Mr Roland DUMAS Minister for Foreign Relations
Mrs Edith CRESSON Minister for Industrial Redeployment
and Foreign Trade
Mrs Catherine LALUMIERE State Secretary attached to the
Minister for Foreign Relations,
with responsibility for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jim O'KEEFFE Minister of State,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Michael MOYNIHAN Minister of State,
Ministry of Trade, Commerce and
Tourism

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Francesco FORTE	Minister for the Co-ordination of Community policies
Mr Mario FIORET	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Francesco MAZZOLA	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Robert GOEBBELS	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK	Minister for Foreign Affairs
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 Malcolm RIFKIND	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Mr Paul CHANNON	Minister for Trade

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS	President
Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESEN	Vice-President
Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN	Vice-President
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES	Vice-President
Mr Lorenzo NATALI	Vice-President
Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Member
Mr Willy de CLERCQ	Member

ENLARGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

The Council devoted five days of detailed discussions to preparing a solution to the last major issues still unresolved in the enlargement negotiations, viz. fisheries, agriculture, social affairs and the inclusion of the two applicant countries in the own resources system.

In the light of these discussions, the Presidency and the Commission conducted intensive talks with the two applicant countries, whose delegations were led by Mr Fernando MORAN, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain, and Mr Ernani Rodrigues LOPES, Minister for Finance and Planning of Portugal. These discussions produced a basis for agreement on most of the issues dealt with.

However, the Council noted that a number of difficult problems remained and agreed to hold a further meeting on Thursday 28 March and to resume the negotiations with the two applicant countries at the same time.

INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES

In preparation for the next meeting of the European Council, the Council held a detailed exchange of views on the new proposals submitted by the Commission on this subject.

OWN RESOURCES

The Council worked out a common position on the new decision concerning own resources, subject to a provisional reservation by one delegation.

This decision will cover in particular the raising of the maximum VAT call-up rate to 1,4% and the budgetary correction in favour of the United Kingdom, in accordance with the conclusions of the European Council in Fontainebleau.

The common position will be forwarded to the European Parliament once the Greek reservation has been withdrawn.

In addition, the Council agreed in principle to the conclusion of an intergovernmental agreement on financing by non-refundable advances the 1985 deficit resulting from the reaching of the VAT maximum rate.

The agreement reached by the Council will enable the procedure for establishing the 1985 budget to be implemented.

MEDITERRANEAN POLICY OF THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY

The Council was presented by Commissioner CHEYSSON with a communication from the Commission concerning the Mediterranean policy of the enlarged Community. The Council once again stressed the importance it attached to the co-operation links established by the Community with the countries of the Mediterranean basin and its desire to intensify them.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission communication and to report back to it in due course, taking into account the progress of the accession negotiations.

PREPARATION FOR THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING

At a parallel meeting of the Ministers responsible for Foreign Trade chaired by Mr Francesco FORTE, Minister for the Co-ordination of Community Policies, the Council held a detailed exchange of views concerning a new round of GATT trade negotiations.

Following this discussion, the Council adopted the following statement:

DECLARATION ON A NEW ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

1. Suggestions for a new round of multilateral trade negotiations have been the subject of careful international consideration for the past two years. They received particular attention at the meeting of the OECD Ministers in May 1984, at the London economic summit in June 1984 and at the meeting of the Contracting Parties of the GATT in November 1984. Such multilateral negotiations have been a regular feature of the GATT since its inception.

2. The Council recalls that a new round, while of the utmost importance to a strengthening of the open multilateral trading system and to the expansion of international trade, will not of itself be sufficient to such purposes. Thus the Community, in the perspective of a New Round, and while working to achieve the broad consensus requisite for its launching, will urge that the following separate but related desiderata receive serious parallel consideration. Thus :

(a) In order to ensure credibility, reaffirmation will be necessary of the international commitments variously accepted at the Williamsburg and London economic summits, and at the last meeting of OECD Ministers in Paris and of the GATT Contracting Parties in Geneva :

- effectively to halt protectionism and resist continuing protectionist pressures (standstill);
- to relax and dismantle progressively trade restrictions as economic recovery proceeds (roll-back);
- to pursue the 1982 GATT work programme as complemented by the decisions of the Contracting Parties in November 1984.

(b) Solutions to imbalances whose origin lies in the monetary and financial areas cannot be found in trade negotiations. Determined, concerted action is required to improve the functioning of the international monetary system and the flow of financial and

other resources to developing countries. Results in the monetary and financial areas should be sought in parallel with results in the trade field.

3. Despite previous trade rounds, Japan's growth of imports of manufactured goods has nowhere near matched her export growth. Like concessions to Japan have not produced like results, and in consequence, an imbalance of benefits currently exists between Japan and her principal partners. It is therefore a pressing political necessity for Japan to bring her import propensity into line with that of her partners, by means of domestic structural and other adjustments as well as by measures at the frontier.
4. As regards negotiations on agriculture in the New Round, the Community is ready to work towards improvements within the existing framework of the rules and disciplines in GATT covering all aspects of trade in agricultural products, both as to imports and as to exports, taking full account of the specific characteristics and problems in agriculture.

The Council is determined that the fundamental objectives and mechanisms both internal and external of the CAP shall not be placed in question.
5. On possible new topics for negotiation, the Council considers that trade in services seems suitable for inclusion. Problems of counterfeit goods and the defence of intellectual property also deserve consideration. Other possible new items should be examined on their merits.
6. The Council affirms the need for reciprocity and a better balance of rights and obligations as between all contracting parties. The Council considers that too selective an approach to individual negotiating points should be avoided. A balanced package of topics for negotiations should be agreed in which all participants will find advantages for themselves. In principle items should be negotiated and the results implemented in parallel and not in succession.

7. Against this background, and in the light of the desiderata and other relevant considerations mentioned above, the Council considers that a New Round would help to promote world economic recovery and growth and would reinforce the multilateral structures and disciplines of the GATT. Subject to the establishment of an adequate prior international consensus on objectives, participation and timing, the Community declares its readiness to participate in the launching of such a New Round. The Community will accordingly now enlist the support of its trading partners, particularly among the developing countries, to this end. The Community further proposes that the New Round should be inaugurated in Brussels. The Community recognizes that a precise date for the formal launching of a New Round cannot be fixed now. A step-by-step approach will best permit solid progress to be made. To initiate the process the Community renews its proposal of last May for an ad hoc GATT meeting, in the coming months, preferably at the level of senior officials from capitals, to intensify consultations about a New Round and with the objective that a broad consensus on subject matter and participation should be secured at the earliest possible date.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with ASEAN

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the conclusion of the Protocol on the extension of the Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, member countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations to Brunei-Darussalam. This Protocol was signed at the 5th EEC-ASEAN Ministerial meeting in Dublin on 15 and 16 November 1984.

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation temporarily and totally suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain types of polyethylene falling within subheading ex 39.02 C I a).

Appointment

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mrs Ada MADDOCKS, National Organizing Officer, National Association of Local Government Officers, as member of the Economic and Social Committee to replace Mrs Marie PATTERSON, member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 20 September 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

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5844/85 (Presse 41)

Continuation of the
994th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 28, 29 and 30 March 1985

President: Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Knud-Erik TYGESEN State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrich GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jürgen RUHFUS State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Panayotis ROUMELIOTIS State Secretary,
Minister for Economic Affairs

France:

Mr Roland DUMAS Minister for Foreign Relations
Mrs Catherine LALUMIERE State Secretary attached to the
Minister for Foreign Relations,
with responsibility for
European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jim O'KEEFFE Minister of State,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

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

ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS

At the 29th ministerial negotiations meeting with Spain and the 27th meeting with Portugal, which were held from 27 to 29 March 1985, the Community and its two partners reached agreement on all major outstanding issues (fisheries, agriculture, social affairs and the own resources system).

The Spanish and Portuguese delegations at these ministerial meetings were led by Mr Fernando MORAN, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain, and Mr Ernani RODRIGUES LOPES, Minister for Finance and Planning of Portugal, respectively.

The European Council published a statement on the completion of the accession negotiations in its conclusions of 29/30 March 1985.

COUNCIL STATEMENT ON THE
ENLARGED COMMUNITY'S MEDITERRANEAN POLICY

1. The Council has listened to the Commission's general positions on the enlarged Community's Mediterranean policy and has unanimously confirmed the importance of the current co-operation and association relations between the Community and the Mediterranean countries as well as its intention of further strengthening these relations with the enlargement of the Community.

2. With this in view the Council has therefore reaffirmed the global concept of the Community's Mediterranean policy, the objective of which is to contribute to the economic development of the Mediterranean non-member countries and to promote the harmonious and balanced progress of relations and trade with those countries.

3. In this context the Community will seek mutually satisfactory solutions regarding the worries repeatedly expressed by the Mediterranean non-member countries concerning the possible consequences of enlargement for their traditional exports.

4. The Community intends, on the one hand, to endeavour to maintain these traditional patterns and, on the other, to undertake initiatives designed to provide effective support for those countries' efforts to reduce their agricultural and food deficit and move progressively towards self-sufficiency in food and diversification of their production.
5. The Mediterranean policy of the enlarged Community will have to be of an ongoing nature and, as regards trade in industrial and agricultural products and in terms of economic development, make for significant and stable results in the medium term.
6. From an overall and long-term point of view, the Community will bend its efforts to pursuing financial and technical co-operation with the Mediterranean partners in order to make an appropriate contribution to their economic and social development.
7. Recalling its statement of January 1983, the Council therefore agrees to step up its internal work on the enlarged Community's Mediterranean policy. The Council looks to the Commission to submit as soon as possible negotiating directives for the adaptation of the Co-operation and Association Agreements.

COUNCIL STATEMENT ON EEC-CYPRUS RELATIONS

Alongside its statement on the enlarged Community's Mediterranean policy, the Council would like to state that the commitment it made at the last Association Council meeting with Cyprus on 17 December 1984 to adopt appropriate negotiating directives in 1985 for the process into the second stage of the Association Agreement will be honoured.

It noted that the Commission would submit the necessary proposals in good time.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

5797/85 (Presse 38)
(OR.f)

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995th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 25 to 27 March 1985

President: Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Italian 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

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Walther FLORIAN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Giulio SANTARELLI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr René STEICHEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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

Commission:

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

CONCILIATION MEETING WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

A conciliation meeting on the adjustment of the common organization of the market in the wine sector was held on 25 March.

The European Parliament delegation was led by Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI, Vice-President. Other members were Mr COT, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr GATTI, Rapporteur - Committee on Agriculture, Mr PISONI, Mr ROMEOS, Mr ELLES, Mr DUCARME and Mr MUSSO, members of the Committee on Agriculture.

Following the conciliation meeting, the following joint statement was adopted:

"The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission have noted by common accord the need to stabilize the market and at the same time bring about a lasting improvement in production conditions in the wine sector.

To this end they would reiterate that the points set out hereafter are the necessary elements for the application and the development of Community regulations:

- the strengthening of surveillance, including the speedy implementation of the vineyard register which constitutes a basic element for effective application of the measures laid down;
- early implementation of the promotional measures referred to in Article 12b of Regulation (EEC) No 337/79;
- balanced application of the various intervention measures provided for in the rules with a view to stabilizing the market;

- all the measures concerning the restoration of structural balance must safeguard quality production, in particular that obtained in hillside zones and zones which are undeniably suited to wine-growing and where there is no viable alternative."

The Council then formally adopted four Regulations which form part of the adjustment of the wine arrangements as decided on in principle on 25, 26 and 27 February 1985; these Regulations relate in particular to changes in market measures - compulsory distillation - and to the introduction of a new system of premiums for the permanent abandonment of vine-growing.

(see press release 5057/85 (Presse 19) of 25, 26 and 27 February 1985 - page 3).

FIXING OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES (1985/1986)

The Council continued its proceedings on the fixing of agricultural prices and certain related measures for the 1985/1986 marketing year.

It paid particular attention to the sectors experiencing the most complex problems, particularly the following products: cereals, milk, fresh and processed fruit and vegetables, beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat, tobacco and oilseeds.

It examined the agri-monetary aspects and financial implications of the proposals.

Conscious of the need to reach a balanced overall compromise as soon as possible, the Council agreed to continue its proceedings on 1 April 1985 with a view to reaching a decision at that meeting.

In the meantime, the Council decided to extend the current marketing year from 1 to 14 April 1985 for products for which it ends on 31 March. These are milk, beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat and dried fodder.

WINE

The Council approved the extension to 31 December 1985 of Regulation No 352/79 authorizing the coupage of German red wines with imported red wines.

STARCH AND SUGAR/ISOGLUCOSE SECTORS

The Council took note of the assurances from the Presidency, which is to take the necessary steps, in conjunction with the Commission, to have the issues arising in these sectors examined as quickly as possible.

IMITATION PRODUCTS IN THE MILK SECTOR

The Council briefly discussed the question of imitation products in the milk sector.

In view of the link established by some delegations with other measures proposed in the price package for the milk sector, it agreed to continue its discussion of the matter in that context.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1489/84 laying down the date for the entry into force of Regulations (EEC) No 3284/83 and No 3285/83 relating to the fruit and vegetables sector. The purpose of this amendment is to postpone the application of the arrangements for extending certain rules issued by producer groups;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 as regards the amount allotted to the Guidance Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF). Under this Regulation the five-year financial allocation relating to the total amount of financial aid which may be charged to the Fund, Guidance Section, for the period 1985-1989 amounts to 5 250 million ECU;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural and fishery products are processed and marketed. The Regulation sets the estimated cost of the common measure to be charged to the Fund for the period from 1 January 1985 to 31 December 1989 at 1 343 million ECU to be spread over the period;

the Decisions:

- concerning the conclusion of the exchange of letters extending the arrangement relating to Clause 2 of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Socialist Republic of Romania on trade in sheepmeat and goatmeat;
- amending Decision 77/97/EEC on the financing by the Community of certain emergency measures in the field of animal health;
- on the granting of aid for the distillation of wines obtained from table grapes in Sicily (see press release 5372/85 (Presse 29) of 11/12/13 March 1985, p. 5).

Fisheries

Following the entry into force on 1 February 1985 of the Treaty amending, with regard to Greenland, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and the results of the consultations between the Community and Greenland on the application, in 1985, of the Fisheries Agreement and Protocol concluded by the two Parties, which also entered into force on 1 February 1985, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation allocating, for 1985, Community catch quotas in Greenland waters.

In addition, in order to take account of the results of the trilateral consultations between the EEC, Norway and Sweden on the fisheries arrangements for the Skagerrak and Kattegat in 1985, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No 1/85 fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, provisional total allowable catches for 1985 and certain conditions under which they may be fished.

In order to take account of the new situation created by Greenland's withdrawal from the Communities and to implement the outcome of the consultations between the EEC and Norway on the system of licences for 1985, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending for the second time:

- Regulation (EEC) No 4/85 laying down for 1985 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway;
- Regulation (EEC) No 5/85 laying down for 1985 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of the Faroe Islands.

Relations with Cyprus

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for carrots (2 500 tonnes) falling within subheading ex 07.01 G II of the Common Customs Tariff originating in Cyprus (1 April - 15 May 1985).

Commodities

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning the application of the 1983 International Agreement on tropical timber.

ECSC

The Council gave the following assents under Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty:

- Investors in Industry Group (UK)
- Welsh Development Agency (UK)
- Barclays Bank (UK).

Appointments

The Council appointed Mr BOISNEL, Chargé de Mission de la Direction des Relations du Travail au Ministère des Affaires sociales et de la Solidarité Nationale, and Mr Gilbert SCHMIT, Chef de Service de la Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Luxembourgeois, members of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions to replace Mr B. BOYER and Mr R. KUGENER, members, who have resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, i.e. until 17 February 1988.

PRESS RELEASE

5872/85 (Presse 42)
(OR.f)

LIBRARY

995th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 1 and 2 April 1985

President: Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Italian 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

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Walther FLORIAN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH
Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr Giulio SANTARELLI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr René STEICHEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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

Commission:

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

FIXING OF PRICES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES

The Council continued in greater depth its discussions on agricultural prices for the 1985/1986 marketing year.

Having established that the conditions for overall agreement were not present at this juncture, the Council agreed to continue its discussion on Monday 22 April at 10.00.

Pending that occasion, the Council decided to extend until 28 April 1985 inclusive the current marketing years for milk products, beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat and dried fodder.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision extending until 15 October 1985 the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities Decisions authorizing the Commission to open negotiations with a view to concluding a framework agreement for scientific and technical co-operation with

- the Kingdom of Sweden
- the Swiss Confederation.

The Council took note of a Commission communication concerning participation by the Commission, on behalf of the Community, in the Implementing Agreement for a programme of R & D on energy conservation in buildings and community systems.

Appointment

The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, appointed Mr Gérard CREMERS, Christelijk Nationaal Vakverbond, as a member of the Management Board of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training to replace Mr H. HUGENHOLTZ, resigning member, for the remainder of his term of office which runs until 19 April 1985.

PRESS RELEASE

LIBRARY

5798/85 (Presse 39)

996th Council meeting
- Industry -
Brussels, 26 and 27 March 1985
President: Mr Renato ALTISSIMO
Minister for Industry
of the Italian 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

Denmark:

Mr Ib STETTER
Minister for Industry

Mr Aage ANDERSEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Germany:

Mr Martin BANGEMANN
Federal Minister for Economic
Affairs

Greece:

Mr Alexandre ZAFIRIOU⁴
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Mr Dieter von WURZEN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Economic
Affairs

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Industrial
Redeployment and Foreign Trade

Ireland:

Mr Edward COLLINS,
Minister of State at the
Department of Energy and at the
Department of Industry, Commerce
and Tourism

Italy:

Mr Renato ALTISSIMO
Minister for Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS
Minister for Economic Affairs
and Foreign Trade

Mr Clelio DARIDA
Minister for State Holdings

Mr Johny LAHURE
State Secretary for Economic
Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr G.M.V. van AARDENNE
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Norman LAMONT
Secretary of State,
Department of Trade and Industry

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES
Vice-President

Mr Willy DE CLERCQ
Member

Mr Peter SUTHERLAND
Member

RESTRUCTURING AND AMENDMENT TO THE AIDS CODE

The Council examined in depth the proposals of the Commission on the amendment of the aids code, and reached the following conclusions: ⁽¹⁾

1. It is an absolute requirement that the deadline of 31 December 1985 for the payment of all aid be strictly adhered to. No aid will be permitted after that deadline expires.
2. The deadline for the payment of aid approved conditionally in June 1983 for continuing operations shall be extended to 31 December 1985.
3. With regard to the notification and authorization of additional aid these applications must be in accordance with Article 2 of Commission Decision No 2320/81/ECSC. For example, the Commission shall ask for capacity reductions if they are necessary for viability or if they do not affect trading conditions. In addition, the capacity reductions should not disturb current restructuring programmes in the course of implementation.
4. Aid will be authorized in addition only for the further purposes of a financial restructuring towards reducing the debt service burden to the order of the burden carried now by firms which were profitable in 1984 or to cover costs incurred because of capacity cuts.

⁽¹⁾ The Greek delegation gave its agreement ad referendum.

COUNCIL STATEMENT ON RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES IN THE STEEL SECTOR

The Council has been informed by the Commission of the state of negotiations with the United States concerning, on the one hand, the "short supply" clause provided for in the arrangement governing imports of tubes and pipes into the United States and, on the other hand, imports of products covered by the carbon and steel arrangement of October 1982 which are not subject to quantitative restrictions.

The Council holds the view that the position taken by the US Administration cannot be reconciled either with the letter or the spirit of the arrangements concluded between the Community and the United States and cannot therefore accept that the US Administration should present this position as final and irrevocable.

As regards the question of "short supply", the Council asks the Commission to resume immediately the consultations provided for in the arrangement. The Council points out that correct application of the "short supply" clause is one of the basic factors which led the Community to accept the arrangement.

Moreover, it asks the Commission to continue talks with the US Administration to obtain full compliance with the arrangements and to ensure that the European steel industry's share of the market is maintained, particularly in relation to that of other suppliers.

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The Council strongly emphasizes that the Community should act most forcefully against any unilateral measures which might be imposed and asks the Commission to examine immediately all possible counter-action.

The Council draws attention to the fact that the increasingly obvious protectionist measures taken by the United States conflict with the efforts undertaken to launch a new round of GATT trade negotiations and increase the risk of a serious deterioration in relations between the Community and the United States.

COMPENSATION FOR THE RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTRUCTURING MEASURES -
ARTICLE 14 B OF DECISION 234/84/ECSC

The Council carried out a fresh examination of the Commission proposal providing for amendments to the present system of granting quota additions as compensation for the rapid implementation of restructuring measures; it also considered some alternative suggestions by the delegations on this matter.

At the close of the discussion, the Commission, noting that neither its original proposal nor the alternative suggestions met with the qualified majority necessary for Council assent, and in view of the short time still to run - until the end of 1985 - said that it would consider withdrawing its proposal.

INCREASE IN MINIMUM PRICES

The Council was consulted on a draft Commission Decision designed to increase the minimum prices for certain steel products as from 1 April, by 7 and 9 ECU respectively.

The Council also took note, in the course of the discussion, of a statement by Vice-President NARJES that during the year the Commission would consider a possible further increase in minimum prices depending on international monetary developments and production costs.

SCRAP MARKET SITUATION

The Council carried out a fresh examination of the situation on the scrap market which is beset by a prices problem. For this discussion the Council had before it a Commission communication recommending measures to alleviate the situation.

The discussion gave delegations the opportunity to express their concern about the matter, and it was understood that the Commission would continue to keep a close watch on developments in the market.

ADVANCED PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT

The Council took note of a statement by Vice-President NARJES introducing a Commission communication on advanced production equipment in the Community. The Council welcomed the Commission's initiative. Examination of this important communication will be entrusted to an ad hoc High-level Working Party.

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

The Council took note of the Commission's intention to submit to it in the near future a proposal on the legal protection of integrated circuits.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Agricultural information system (CADDIA)

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision concerning the co-ordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations (CADDIA).

ECSC

The Council gave its assent

- pursuant to Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty, to the draft Commission Decision (ECSC) amending for the fourth time Decision No 3717/83/ECSC introducing for steel undertakings and steel dealers a production certificate and an accompanying document for deliveries of certain steel products;
- pursuant to Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty, to aid for the implementation and execution of a steel pilot and demonstration project programme.

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

PRESS RELEASE

6195/85 (Presse 47)
(OR.f)

LIBRARY

997th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 22 and 23 April 1985

President: Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI,

Minister for Agriculture
of the Italian 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

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Walther FLORIAN
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Henri NALLET
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH
Minister for Agriculture
and Viticulture

Mr René STEICHEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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

Commission:

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

FIXING OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES (1985/1986) AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES

On the basis of compromise proposals prepared by the Presidency, the Council continued its discussions, in close co-operation with the Commission, on the fixing of agricultural prices for 1985/1986. It paid particular attention to the sectors experiencing the most complex problems, particularly cereals, milk products, fruit and vegetables, sheepmeat, tobacco and MCAs.

In view of the complexity of the dossier as a whole and conscious of the need to reach a balanced compromise, the Council saw fit to suspend its proceedings at this juncture to allow the Presidency and the delegations to give further study to the problems outstanding.

It will resume examination of the entire dossier at its meeting on 2 May in Luxembourg.

In the meantime, the Council decided to extend the current marketing year until 5 May inclusive for milk products, beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat, dried fodder and cauliflowers.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Environment

The Council approved the conclusions on the positions to be adopted at the 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, to be held in Buenos Aires from 22 April to 3 May 1985.

Commercial and customs questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision accepting on behalf of the Community the Recommendation of the Customs Co-operation Council concerning the establishment of links between customs transit systems and the Resolution of the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe concerning the same subject.

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

- extending (for a maximum period of 2 months beginning on 29 April 1985) the provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of certain ball bearings and tapered roller bearings originating in Japan
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1224/80 on the valuation of goods for customs purposes.

External relations

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to participate on the Community's behalf in the United Nations Conference on the law of Treaties between States and International Organizations and between International Organizations, and in the preceding consultations.

Commodity: Rubber

The Council approved the joint position enabling the Community and its Member States to take part in the United Nations Conference for the negotiation of a second International Natural Rubber Agreement (22 April - 3/10 May 1985).

Appointments

Acting on a proposal from the Commission the Council appointed Mr R. SCHNEIDER, Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund Bundesvorstand, an alternate member of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, to replace Mr E. FEHRMANN, alternate member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, viz. until 17 February 1988.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Danish Government, Mr KELD THOMSEN, Dansk Tandlaegehøjskole, a full member of the Advisory Committee for the Training of Dental Practitioners to replace Mr Bent SKANNILD for the remainder of the latter's term of office, viz. until 10 October 1986.

Finally, acting on a proposal from the French Government, the Council appointed Mr Michel SAIU, Secrétaire national de la CGC, and Mr Guy DRILLEAUD, Délégué national de la CFTC, members of the Economic and Social Committee to replace respectively, Mr Henry BORDES-PAGES and Mr Jean BORNARD, members who have resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, viz. until 20 September 1986.

PRESS RELEASE

6196/85 (Presse 48)
(OR.f)

LIBRARY

998th meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Luxembourg, 23 and 24 April 1985

President: Mr Carlo FRACANZANI,
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Treasury
of the Italian Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT
Minister for the Budget,
Science Policy and
Planning

Denmark:

Mr Knud-Erik TYGESEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Panayotis ROUMELIOTIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of the National Economy

France:

Mr Henri EMMANUELLI
State Secretary with
responsibility for the
Budget

Ireland:

Mr Jim O'KEEFFE
Minister of State,
Department of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI
State Secretary
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER
Minister attached to the
Department of Finance, with
responsibility for the Budget

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. VAN EEKELEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Ian STEWART
Economic Secretary to
the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN
Vice-President

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WITH A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION

During the afternoon of 23 April, a meeting took place between the Council and a European Parliament delegation led by Mr PFLIMLIN, President, and consisting of Mr COT, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr RYAN, 1st Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS, 2nd Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Miss BARBARELLA, 3rd Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr FICH, Rapporteur of the Committee on Budgets on Section III of the Budget, Miss FLESCH, Liberal Group, Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control, and Mr DANKERT, Member of the Committee on Budgets.

At this meeting, participants were able to state their views concerning the general budget for 1985. Each participant laid particular stress on the importance of adopting a budget for 1985 as quickly as possible. Following the meeting, the Council assured the European Parliament delegation that it would pay very close attention to the Opinions expressed by the latter.

NEW DRAFT GENERAL BUDGET FOR 1985 AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON
NON-REFUNDABLE ADVANCES FOR 1985

Following a detailed discussion, the Council established the draft general budget for the Communities for the financial year 1985 on the basis of letter of amendment No 3 submitted by the Commission.

In establishing this draft budget for 1985, the Council in particular made the following amendments to the draft budget it adopted on 29 November 1984:

Payment appropriations

EAGGF-Guarantee Section	+ 1955	MECU
Food aid	+ 26,1	MECU

At the same time, the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council agreed to pay the Community an amount of 1 981,1 MECU to finance the 1985 budget ⁽¹⁾. That amount would be provided by the Member States through non-refundable advances calculated in accordance with the VAT scale.

The outcome of the Council's discussions will be communicated immediately to the European Parliament.



⁽¹⁾ Subject to technical adjustments.

PRESS RELEASE

6386/85 (Presse 51)

LIBRARY

999th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 29 and 30 April 1985

President: Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI

Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Italian Republic

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER	Minister attached to the Department of Finance, with responsibility for the budget
Mr Robert GOEBBELS	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr H. van den BROEK	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr W.F. van EEKELEN	State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Malcolm RIFKIND	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Commission

Mr Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN	Vice-President
Mr Lorenzo NATALI	Vice-President
Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Member
Mr Willy de CLERCQ	Member

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NEW OWN RESOURCES

The Council held a meeting on new own resources with a delegation from the European Parliament led by the Parliament's President, Mr PFLIMLIN, and comprising Mr RYAN, 1st Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS, 2nd Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mrs BARBARELLA, 3rd Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr SCHON, Mr ARNDT, Mrs SCRIVENER, Mr PASTY, Members of the Committee on Budgets, Mr BONDE, Member of the Committee on Budgets, and Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

At this meeting, the representatives of both institutions and the Commission stressed the urgency of taking a decision on this matter with a view to implementing the agreements of the Fontainebleau European Council.

For their part, the representatives of the European Parliament submitted a number of requests and suggestions concerning the draft Council Decision.

The Council subsequently examined the European Parliament's requests.

In conclusion, the President noted that one point alone was still outstanding within the Council. He hoped that a solution could be found by the end of the week so that this Decision could be adopted.

BONN SUMMIT

The Council held an in-depth discussion on the topics likely to be discussed at the Bonn Summit from 2 to 4 May 1985.

SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council took note of a report from the Chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee on progress on the final problems still to be resolved in the negotiations with Spain and Portugal.

It held a policy debate, at the close of which it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to bring negotiations to a conclusion at Deputy level within the next few days.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Council discussed the directives to be given to the Commission for renewing the EEC-Yugoslavia Financial Protocol.

It decided to continue these discussions at its next meeting.

CANADA: BEEF AND VEAL - COUNCIL STATEMENT

The Council took note of the fact that consultations about an increased quota for imports of beef from the Community into Canada had not yet been concluded because of delays in the formulation of the position of the Canadian Government. It was also informed of measures adopted by the Canadian authorities to exempt certain types of high-quality beef.

The Council expressed its serious concern at the continuing delay in reaching an arrangement which would re-open the Canadian market for Community exports during 1985. It noted that, unless a formal Canadian confirmation of the arrangements that had been informally worked out was made in the next few days, the Community would have no other choice than to proceed with retaliatory measures in accordance with the provisions of the GATT.

To this end, the Council instructed the relevant Community bodies (the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Article 113 Committee) to examine urgently the Commission's proposal in COM(85) 108 final.

MALTA

Following a report from Mr CHEYSSON, Member of the Commission, on progress in negotiations with Malta on the conclusion of a Second Financial Protocol, the Council held a discussion of the matter. It agreed to resume this examination at its next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Community loans

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation No 682/81 concerning the Community loan mechanism designed to support the balances of payments of Community Member States.

The amendments in particular involve raising the authorized ceiling for Community loans from 6 to 8 thousand million ECU and stipulating that normally no Member State may borrow more than 50% of the borrowing authorized under this ceiling; moreover, the link with an increase in prices of petroleum products, which was originally one of the criteria for the granting of loans, has been dropped.

Relations with Pakistan

The Council decided in the near future to sign the Agreement for commercial, economic and development co-operation between the EEC and Pakistan.

EEC-Cyprus Association

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations concerning Community tariff quotas for:

- fresh table grapes (8 June 1985 to 31 July 1985 - 7 500 t)
- new potatoes (16 May 1985 to 30 June 1985 - 60 000 t).

Relations with Canada

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Government of Canada concerning compensation for loss suffered by the Community arising from the extension by Canada, for the period 1 December 1984 to 30 November 1985, of quantitative import restrictions for footwear.

Trade and customs questions

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

- authorizing the Commission to participate in the negotiations concerning an amendment to the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972;
 - authorizing extension or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and third countries.
-