

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: FRANCE

JANUARY-JUNE 1979

Meetings and press releases June 1979

Meeting number	Subject	Date
583 rd	Foreign Affairs	12 June 1979
584 th	Economics/Finance	18 June 1979
585 th	Energy	18 June 1979
586 th	Agriculture	18-22 June 1979
587 th	Environment	19 June 1979
588 th	Fisheries	25 June 1979

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

7376/79 (Presse 62)

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583rd meeting of the Council
- Foreign Affairs -
Luxembourg, 12 June 1979
President, Mr Jean FRANCOIS-PONCET,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the French Republic

12.VI.79

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

Belgium:

Mr Henri SIMONET

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Mark EYSKENS

Minister for Development
Co-operation

Denmark:

Mr Niels ERSBØLL

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI

Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

France:

Mr Jean FRANCOIS-PONCET

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jean-François DENIAU

Minister for Foreign Trade

Mr Pierre BERNARD-REYMOND

State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Michael O'KENNEDY

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Adolfo BATTAGLIA

Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Gaston THORN

President of the Government,
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr C.A. van der KLAUW

Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr John NOTT

Minister for Trade

Sir Ian GILMOUR

Lord Privy Seal

Mr Douglas HURD

Secretary of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Commission:

Mr Roy JENKINS

President

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Mr Claude CHEYSSON

Member

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Member

Mr Raymond VOUEL

Member

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GATT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

1. The Commission informed the Council of the most recent developments as regards the embodiment of the outcome of the Geneva negotiations in United States legislation. Although the Council was able to ascertain that there had been a favourable development as regards certain points, it noted that some difficulties and uncertainties remained and that the situation continued to be a matter for concern. The Council recalled the position it had defined at its meeting on 2 and 3 April 1979 and confirmed the importance the Community attached to satisfactory settlement of the problem. It was agreed that the Commission would keep a close watch on the situation and would report to the Council at its next meeting, in July.

2. The Council also examined the ad referendum agreement reached between the Commission and the Australian authorities in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations. The Council shared the Commission's view that in spite of its relatively limited economic impact, this agreement was of some political importance in that it should open the way towards a fruitful development of co-operation between Australia and the Community.

One delegation still maintains a reservation on a specific point. This delegation will adopt a position within the Permanent Representatives Committee as soon as possible.

3. Finally, the Council conducted an exchange of views on certain technical problems relating to the implementation of the Community's tariff concessions in the agricultural sector and worked out the guidelines to be followed by the Commission in this field.

EEC/JAPAN RELATIONS

The Council held an exchange of views on the Commission's communication on the EEC's relations with Japan in preparation for the European Council in Strasbourg. It approved the broad lines of the Commission's approach.

TEXTILES: NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Council took stock of these negotiations on the basis of a Commission report and noted that since its deliberations in April considerable progress had been made towards the formulation of additional directives.

The Council discussed the issues still outstanding. It stressed the Community's commitment to reaching agreement with the Chinese side without delay, and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the additional directives as soon as possible, in the light of the Council's discussions.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES

On the basis of information provided by the Council President, following his meeting on 11 June with Mr ANCHOUEY, President of the ACP Council of Ministers, and also by Commissioner CHEYSSON, after his visits to certain ACP countries, the Council took stock of the problems still outstanding in the negotiation of the new ACP-EEC Convention.

PREPARATION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council made preparations for the next meeting of the European Council in Strasbourg on 21 and 22 June; in particular it decided on the items which might be dealt with in the course of the proceedings of the European Council.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE EFTA COUNTRIES

The Council approved a report by the Permanent Representatives Committee containing an analysis of activities during the first half of 1979 as regards co-operation between the Community and the EFTA countries and prospects for the further development of co-operation with each of those countries during the next twelve months.

IRON AND STEEL PROBLEMS

The Council took note of a report from the Commission on the present situation and progress made with regard to the proposed regulations governing aid for the iron and steel industry.

OTHER DECISIONS

Fisheries policy

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

- the three Regulations allocating catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in Swedish, Norwegian and Faroese waters;
- the two Regulations laying down for the period 1 January to 31 December 1979 certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishing resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Spain and registered in the Faroe Islands.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision to sign the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Senegal and the European Economic Community on fishing off the coast of Senegal and two exchanges of letters relating thereto, and approved the exchange of letters on the provisional application of that Agreement.

Commodities

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision concerning the signing and deposit of a declaration of provisional application of the Protocols extending for the fifth time the Wheat Trade Convention and the Food Aid Convention constituting the 1971 International Wheat Agreement.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision opening quotas for imports into Italy of certain products originating in Romania (tractor transmissions, axles and engines).

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3059/78 on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in third countries (technical review containing completely updated and corrected version of entire text of the Annexes to the above-mentioned Regulation with a view to making it easier to use).

Furthermore, the Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, four Regulations concerning various quotas or Community tariff quotas for certain products originating in various Mediterranean countries (various wines, aubergines, apricot pulp from Algeria, Cyprus, and Turkey).

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

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning the extension of the period of application of the Decision of 4 April 1978 on the application of certain guidelines in the field of officially supported export credits.

Generalized preferences

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff preferences for textile products originating in developing countries and territories (5% increase in the generalized preferences offer applicable for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1979).

Relations with Yugoslavia

The Council approved the addition to the additional negotiating directives concerning the amount of financial aid for Yugoslavia under the Financial Protocol envisaged within the context of the new enlarged agreement to be concluded with that country.

Appointments

Acting on a proposal from the British Government, the Council appointed Mr Michael DOWNING, Confederation of British Industry, full member of the Committee of the European Social Fund, to replace Mr David DEUCHAR, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 16 April 1980.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the French Government, Mr Michel SPILLEMAKER, Attaché Principal, Adjoint chargé de la mission des Relations Internationales de la Direction de la Population et des Migrations, full member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement for Workers, to replace Mr Jacques COURBIN, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 10 October 1979.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

7581/79 (Presse 73)

584th Council meeting
- Economic/Financial Affairs -
Luxembourg, 18 June 1979
President: Mr René MONORY,
Minister for Economic Affairs
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Gaston GEENS Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Jakob Esper LARSEN Deputy Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Otto Graf LAMBSDORFF Federal Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr Manfred LAHNSTEIN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for Finance

Mr Otto SCHLECHT State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs

France:

Mr René MONORY Minister for Economic Affairs

Ireland:

Mr George COLLEY Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Finance

Italy:

Mr Filippo PANDOLFI Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques POOS Minister for Finance

Netherlands:

Mr F.H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr John BIFFEN Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI Vice-President

The following also took part in the Council's discussions:

Mr B. CLAPPIER Chairman of the Committee of
Governors of Central Banks

Mr J. van YPERSELE de STRIHOU Chairman of the Monetary Committee

Mr H. TIETMEYER Chairman of the Economic Policy
Committee

Mr M. PEBEREAU Chairman of the Policy
Co-ordination Group on Economic
and Financial Policies

EUROPEAN MONETARY SYSTEM

The Council had an exchange of views on the operation of the European monetary system during the past three months, on the basis of oral reports given by the Chairman of the Committee of the Governors of the Central Banks and the Chairman of the Monetary Committee.

CONVERGENCE OF ECONOMIC PERFORMANCES

The Council approved its report to be submitted to the European Council in Strasbourg on 21 and 22 June concerning the convergence of economic performances.

CO-ORDINATION OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

Following an exchange of views the Council asked the Commission to draw up concrete proposals for strengthening the co-ordination of economic policies, particularly with regard to a number of specific points, while bearing in mind the remarks expressed by the delegations during the discussion.

INTEREST SUBSIDIES

After an exchange of views on the final point outstanding as regards interest subsidies for certain loans granted under the European Monetary System, the Council agreed to resume its examination of the matter at its next meeting, on 16 July 1979.

EFFECTS OF THE OIL MARKET SITUATION ON THE COMMUNITY'S
ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

With a view to the deliberations of the European Council in Strasbourg on 21 and 22 June 1979, the Council held an exchange of views on the effects of the oil market situation on the Community's economic prospects.

TRIPARTITE CONFERENCES

After noting a statement by the German delegation on the subject the Council called upon the Permanent Representatives Committee to ensure that, when the next study of possible improvements to the Tripartite Conference procedure was carried out, account was taken of the economic and financial aspects of the matter as well as its social aspects.

EXPORT CREDITS FOR SHIPS

The Council held a short exchange of views on the Community position in the OECD with regard to amendments to the Understanding on Export Credits for Ships, at the end of which it instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examining the issue.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

7580/79 (Presse 72)

585th Council meeting

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 18 June 1979

President: Mr André GIRAUD,

Minister for Industry
of the French Republic

Netherlands:

Mr G.M.V. van AARDENNE

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr David HOWELL

Secretary of State for Energy

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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MEASURES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY

In preparation for the European Council's deliberations on energy at its meeting in Strasbourg on 21 and 22 June, the Council discussed, on the basis of a memorandum from the Presidency and proposals from the Commission, the measures to be undertaken by the Community with regard to energy problems arising out of disturbances in oil deliveries from certain producer countries and simultaneous appreciable price rises.

The discussions firstly focussed on improving the information of the Governments and the public on price trends by means of the preparation by the Commission of a weekly analysis of the prices voluntarily communicated by certain operators on the free market and of consumer prices for the principal products, in a form such that those prices could be compared with the monthly information on the cost of imported oil.

With a view to achieving greater transparency of oil markets the Council also discussed the creation of an instrument which would facilitate the compulsory recording of oil purchases so as to enable the Governments and the Commission to monitor oil prices directly. The Regulation prepared to this end would be put into effect after the Tokyo Economic Summit provided that the other major oil importers had agreed to take similar measures.

As regards longer-term measures, the Council, noting that the oil situation demanded extreme moderation in the use of oil and sustained efforts to develop other sources of energy, worked out Community guidelines firstly for stabilizing and subsequently for reducing oil imports and for achieving a redeployment of energy by changing the pattern of consumption.

The guidelines worked out on all these points will be forwarded to the European Council.

DIALOGUE WITH THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES

The Council noted that its current President and its President for the second half of 1979 together with Commissioner BRUNNER would be holding technical discussions on 30 June with representatives of the producer countries.

ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE OIL SITUATION

The Council had before it a Commission communication on the economic consequences of the oil situation which was also discussed at the meeting of the Ministers of Economic and Financial Affairs today in preparation for the European Council.

PRESS RELEASE

7582/79 (Presse 74)

586th Council meeting
- Agriculture -
Luxembourg, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 June 1979
President: Mr Pierre MEHAIGNERIE,
Minister for Agriculture
of the French Republic

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 28 June 1979
7582/79 (Presse 74) Corr. 1

C O R R I G E N D U M

to Press Release
7582/79 (Presse 74), 18 to 22.VI.79

The following corrections should be made to the Press Release on the fixing of the 1979/1980 agricultural prices and related measures:

- page 6, "Feed-grain"
read 6.04 ECU instead of 6.05 ECU

- page 7, "Rye"
delete lines 5 to 12, from the words "The Council noted ..."
to "... intervention "B" measures",

- page 9, "Sugar" (penultimate line):
read 1.475 ECU instead of 2.04 ECU

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean HAMILIUS

Minister of Agriculture and
Viticulture

Mr Albert BERCHEM

State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

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1979/1980 AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND RELATED MEASURES

Following a detailed exchange of views the Council agreed on a whole range of measures relating to the fixing of agricultural prices for the 1979/1980 marketing year.

The salient features of the agreement may be summarized as follows:

- a 1.5% increase in prices, save for the price of milk;
- dismantling of the positive monetary compensatory amounts by 1 point in the Federal Republic of Germany and by $\frac{1}{2}$ point in the Benelux countries, save as regards milk products;
- the fixing of the rate of the co-responsibility levy in the milk sector at 0.5% as from 1 October 1979;
- the devaluation of the green rate for the Italian lira by 4.6% (already decided upon in March), for the pound sterling by 5% and for the French franc by 1.5%;
- extension until 31 March 1980 of the validity of Regulation No 652/79 on the introduction of the ECU into the common agricultural policy.

Annexed hereto are the detailed results of the Council's decisions.

COMMON WHEAT

	<u>UA/tonne</u>	<u>ECU/tonne</u>
Common single intervention price:	123.39	149.17
Reference price, minimum bread-making quality:	139.01	168.06

RYE

Single intervention price	132.20	159.82 ⁽¹⁾
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BARLEY

Common single intervention price	123.39	149.17
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MAIZE

Common single intervention price	123.39	149.17
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DURUM WHEAT

Single intervention price	206.06	249.12
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The Council noted that the Commission intended to take intervention measures for bread-making wheat for at least three months from 1 August 1979.

It also approved the Regulation fixing the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour, and wheat groats and meal.

⁽¹⁾ Special premium kept at 4.50 UA/tonne (5.44 ECU/tonne)

AID FOR DURUM WHEAT

The Council signified its agreement to the new Regulation on aid for durum wheat (applicability of the aid provided for in Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75), the amount being calculated on the basis of the acreage, and repealed Regulation (EEC) No 3103/76 (OJ No L 351, 21.12.1976) on aid for durum wheat.

It also fixed the list of regions eligible for the aid in question and fixed the amount of that aid at 63.95 UA (77.31 ECU) per hectare. It also repealed Regulation (EEC) No 1259/78 (OJ No L 156, 14.6.1978).

FEED-GRAIN

The Council agreed to decide, on the basis of a Commission proposal, to increase to 6.05 ECU (5 UA) per tonne the abatement on the levy applicable to feed-grain imported into Italy by sea up to 31 December 1979. It also called upon the Commission to carry out by 31 December 1979 a study on the comparative costs of feed-grain in Italy and in other Community regions, in the light of which it will take a decision on the subsequent level.

TRANSFER OF WHEAT TO ITALY

The Council agreed to decide, on the basis of a Commission proposal, to transfer to Italy 200,000 tonnes of wheat from the intervention stocks of other Member States.

RYE

The Council decided to maintain the system currently in force for rye. Noting the difficulties on the rye market, it called upon the Commission to submit appropriate proposals as soon as possible.

The Council noted that the Commission intends to:

- decide, in accordance with the Management Committee procedure, to fix the premium applicable to bread-making rye for the 1979/1980 marketing year at 10.69 ECU (8.84 UA) per tonne;
- maintain, during the 1979/1980 marketing year, the price of rye at around its present level of 157.47 ECU (130.25 UA) per tonne by means of intervention "B" measures.

RICE

The Council recorded its agreement on prices in the rice sector, viz.

= target price (husked rice)	316.20 UA/tonne	382.28 ECU/tonne
= single intervention price (paddy rice)	180.80 UA/tonne	218.58 ECU/tonne

STARCH PRODUCTS

The Council set the premium for potato starch at 14 UA/100 kg (16.92 ECU). The minimum price to be paid to potato producers is increased by 1.5%.

It also extended for the 1979/1980 marketing year the premiums for maize groats and meal and broken rice for brewing and for quellmehl intended for human consumption (bread making).

SUGAR

The Council recorded its agreement on a 1.5% price increase in this sector, thereby raising the minimum price for beet to 26.33 UA/tonne (31.83 ECU), the target price for white sugar to 457.80 UA/tonne (432.60 ECU), and the intervention price for white sugar to 339.90 UA/tonne (410/90 ECU).

The Council also decided to fix, for the 1979/1980 marketing year, the maximum quota at 127.5% of the basic quota and to retain the special maximum quota at 227.5% for the 1978/1979 and 1979/1980 marketing years.

In order to prevent possible distortions in competition, the Council decided to set the differential charge on raw preferential sugar refined at a sugar refinery at 2.04 ECU per 100 kg of sugar expressed as white sugar and to grant a differential amount to FOD raw sugar. However, this charge is not levied on raw preferential sugar refined during the 1979/1980 sugar year in Ireland up to a maximum quantity of 30,000 tonnes of sugar expressed as white sugar.

It also fixed the amount of aid for the disposal of FOD raw sugar provided for in the second subparagraph of Article 9(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 at 2.04 ECU per 100 kg of white sugar.

The provisions of Article 38(2a) of Regulation (EEC) No 3330/74 relating to an Italian national aid will remain applicable during the 1979/1980 marketing year; however, they will be based on an amount of aid of 13.30 ECU (11 UA) per tonne of beet. The quantity of beet to which this amount will apply will not exceed the quantity of beet necessary for the production of 1.4 million tonnes of white sugar.

In addition, the Council amended Regulation (EEC) No 3331/74 laying down the basic quotas, as follows: for the 1979/1980 sugar year, the French Republic may decrease, in addition to the 10% already provided for in the Regulation, the basic quota for undertakings in the French Overseas Departments by a quantity not exceeding 30% of the basic quota for each of these applicable during the 1978/1979 sugar year up to a total quantity of 25,000 tonnes of sugar expressed as white sugar for these undertakings as a whole.

ISOGLUCOSE

Further to the recent judgment of the Court, and in order to prevent inequalities in the treatment of sugar and isoglucose production, the Council agreed to introduce a system of production quotas and export refunds for isoglucose comparable to that in force for sugar.

The Council agreed to examine the case of undertakings not benefiting from a basic quota and capable of starting industrial production during the period from 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980.

.../...

MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

The Council agreed not to alter the price of milk and milk products for the 1979/1980 marketing year and to fix the co-responsibility levy rate at 0.5% as from 1 October.

The Council stated that in maintaining for the time being a different representative rate for milk and milk products from that applicable to other products, in the context of its decision on prices for the 1979/1980 marketing year, it had taken an exceptional decision which cannot under any circumstances be regarded as a precedent.

As regards the future arrangements for the co-responsibility levy, the Council agreed that if the action programme did not yield the expected results, the Commission would propose measures to strengthen the agreement. Subject to the above, and to subsequent decisions on the most effective method of implementing the future agreement, the following measures will be adopted:

= if the total quantity of milk delivered to dairies in 1979 were more than 2% above the quantity delivered in 1978, the normal rate of the co-responsibility levy would be raised by 1% of the target price in 1980/1981. If subsequently, during this period, these conditions no longer existed, the normal rate of the levy would apply again.

The Council agreed to examine the suggestion that the additional amount should not be levied on the total volume of milk already subject to the normal levy rate but on the quantity of milk which exceeds a new limit expressed in litres per hectare under fodder.

= from 1980/1981, any producer who did not increase his milk deliveries to dairies would not be subject to the normal rate of levy and would pay only the previous rate, which would encourage producers to try to avoid increasing output.

Butter subsidies

The Council decided that a subsidy of 46.7 ECU (38 UA) per 100 kg of butter of Community origin would continue to be paid during the 1979/1980 marketing year in the United Kingdom and that this subsidy would be financed entirely by the Community, with a corresponding reduction in the special levy.

It also decided that other Member States could opt either for a short-term measure financed completely by the Community (disposal of butter from intervention stocks and subsidized private stocks at a price of 90 ECU (74.4 UA) per 100 kg up to a given limit), or for a general butter subsidy (financed 75% by the Community, up to a maximum contribution of 50 ECU (41.4 UA) per 100 kg).

Aids for processing

The Council decided that the suspension of aids for the processing of milk and milk products would apply to butter and to milk powder, subject to the provisions of the Commission proposal, and that it would adopt a text to this effect, the final version of which would have to be worked out by the Special Committee on Agriculture.

It also noted that the Commission intended to adopt appropriate measures pursuant to Article 93(1) of the Treaty concerning other investment aids for the marketing and processing of milk and milk products.

School milk

The Council decided to increase Community support for the school milk scheme (Regulation (EEC) No 1080/72) to 100% of the target price from 1 September 1979.

Transfer of skimmed milk powder to Italy

The Council will act on a Commission proposal to replace, in Regulation (EEC) No 1763/78, 1 January 1980 by 1 November 1980 in order to extend the period within this transfer may take place.

The Council took note of a statement by the Commission to the effect that it intended to decide, subject to the opinion of the Management Committee, to adjust the private storage period for Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses and to review the amount of the aid.

The Council took note of the Commission proposal that the quantity of butteroil supplied annually under the food aid programme be fixed at 55,000 tonnes and agreed to take a decision on this proposal as soon as possible.

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council adopted a favourable position regarding the extension for the 1979/1980 marketing year of the authorization to grant aid to milk producers in Northern Ireland.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

The Council recorded its agreement on an extension for one year and a 1.5% increase in the marketing premium for lemons and also increased by 1.5% the basic prices and buying-in prices for cauliflowers, tomatoes, peaches, lemons, pears, table grapes, apples, mandarins and sweet oranges, and certain amounts applying in this sector.

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council adopted a favourable position on the Commission proposal that, where supplementary import charges are applied on imports of fruit and vegetables, these charges should be abolished only after they have actually been in force for 2 days.

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It was agreed to decide, on the basis of a proposal from the Commission, to include in the aid arrangements tomato flakes, deep-frozen peeled tomatoes and 7-12% concentrated tomato juice, William pears and cherries preserved in syrup, and that the aid for William pears and cherries preserved in syrup should not apply to more than 105% of the quantity produced in 1978.

The Council also took note of a Commission statement that it intended to examine with the management committee the application of reference prices to aubergines, courgettes and sweet peppers and, if necessary, to take appropriate decisions.

OILSEEDS

The Council gave its agreement to the following prices for oilseeds:

Colza and rapeseed

- Target price 301.15 UA/tonne (364.08 ECU)
- Intervention price 292.52 UA/tonne (353.64 ECU)

The Council gave its agreement to the Regulation listing the principle intervention centres and derived intervention prices for colza, rape and sunflower seed which are applicable for 1978/1980.

Sunflower

- Target price 328.05 UA/tonne (396.60 ECU)
- Intervention price 318.51 UA/tonne (385.06 ECU)

Soya

- Guide price 326.53 UA/tonne (394.76 ECU)

The Council amended the semi-lump-sum aid system in force, replacing it by a system of aid to be granted on the basis of actual seed production.

Linseed

- Guide price 329.16 UA/tonne (397.94 ECU)

The Council decided that there would be not change in the aid measures for linseed for the 1979/1980 marketing year, and that the Commission's proposals for special measures, a target price and a minimum price for linseed and for the introduction of supplementary aid for linseed would be the subject of a detailed examination.

Castor seed

- Guide price 426.30 UA/tonne (515.38 ECU)

- Minimum price 406.00 UA/tonne (490.83 ECU)

Cotton seed

- Aid per hectare 110.33 UA (133.38 ECU)

TEXTILE FLAX/HEMP

The Council gave its agreement to aid of 205.59 UA per hectare (248.55 ECU) for flax and 186.72 UA per hectare (225.74 ECU) for hemp.

The Council also took note of the Commission's intention to propose an information programme from the beginning of the 1980/1981 marketing year, with the aim of increasing the use of flax in the Community. This will be financed by the use of a part of the aid (5% for the 1980/1981 season) and by a contribution from Community funds not exceeding the amount deducted from the aid.

SEEDS

The Council gave its agreement to an increase of 1.5% in the price of seed for the 1979/1980 marketing year and decided in addition to increase as follows the aid granted for two varieties for the marketing years 1980/1981 and 1981/1982:

trifolium repens L. var giganteum	+ 2 UA (2.42 ECU)/100 kg
phleum pratense	+ 3 UA (3.63 ECU)/100 kg

The Council also took note of the Commission's decision to delete the article in its initial proposal relating to aid for textile flax and linseed, the aid concerned consequently becoming 14.5 UA/tonne (17.5 ECU) for the former and 11.5 UA/tonne (13.9 ECU) for the latter.

PEAS AND FIELD BEANS

The Council signified its agreement on a triggering threshold price level for aid for peas and field beans of 289.28 UA/tonne (349.73 ECU) and fixed the minimum buying-in price for these products at 177.63 UA/tonne (214.75 ECU).

The Council took note of the Commission's statement to the effect that the Commission intends to submit, before 30 September 1979, a proposal for a Regulation to extend from the 1980/1981 marketing year the scope of the aid arrangements for peas and field beans to include by-products for animal feeding resulting from the manufacture of bean protein concentrates.

OLIVE OIL

The Council signified its agreement to the following prices:

Production target price	1,944.13 UA/tonne (2,350.36 ECU)
Production aid	437.57 UA/tonne (529.00 ECU)
Intervention price	1,432.57 UA/tonne (1,731.91 ECU)

It also approved the monthly increases applicable during the seven months from 1 January 1980.

SILK WORMS

The Council signified its agreement to aid of 56.10 UA per silk worm seed frame put into use (67.82 ECU).

DRIED FODDER

The Council fixed the standard aid for dried fodder at 5.08 UA/tonne (6.14 ECU) and the guide price at 104.55 UA/tonne (126.40 ECU).

Pending the Opinion of the European Parliament, the Council adopted a favourable position on the Commission proposals to:

- amend Article 17 of Regulation (EEC) No 1117/78 as regards the extension of the aid arrangements for dried potatoes to the 1979/1980 marketing year;
- fix the standard amount of aid for dried potatoes for the 1979/1980 marketing year at 11.546 ECU/tonne,

and called upon the Member States to continue applying, from 1 July 1979, the monitoring system introduced so that following the adoption of the proposals in question, payment of the standard aid for dried potatoes produced from 1 July 1979 can be made in accordance with existing rules.

TOBACCO

The Council signified its agreement to the norm prices, intervention prices and premiums for leaf tobacco from the 1979 harvest and to the derived intervention prices for baled tobacco from the 1979 harvest. These prices and premiums show an increase in the region of 1.5%, varying, as regards the premiums for certain varieties, by an amount resulting from the multilateral tariff negotiations.

At the same time the Council revised the percentages and quantities of tobacco taken over by the intervention agencies, as laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 1469/70 - exceeding of which triggers market management measures - in order to update them in the light of trends in Community production of the various varieties. In the same context it amended the basic Regulation laying down a common organization of the market in raw tobacco with a view to improved adjustment of market management instruments, notably in order to facilitate the triggering of such measures.

The Council also submitted a statement in which the Commission announced that its departments will study the memorandum submitted by the United Kingdom delegation on improving the efficiency of the organization of the market in tobacco and that the conclusions will be submitted to the Council before the 1980/1981 marketing year.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council recorded its agreement to a 1.5% price increase in this sector, thus raising the guide price for adult bovines to 1,278.60 UA/tonne (1,545.80 ECU) and the intervention price to 1,150.70 UA/tonne (1,391.20 ECU).

The slaughtering premiums for certain adult bovines and the calving premiums are extended for the 1979/1980 marketing year.

The Council took note of a statement by the Commission to the effect that it

- did not intend in the 1979/1980 marketing year to suspend intervention purchasing of particular categories of beef in Ireland while the average market price level in that Member State remained below 85% of the guide price, on the understanding that this situation would be reconsidered before the 1980/1981 marketing year;
- intended to decide, under the Management Committee procedure, that a limited quantity of beef and veal should be released from intervention stocks for processing into canned and cooked beef, and that monetary compensatory amounts would be charged, but not paid, on this beef released from intervention stocks;
- intended to examine, together with the Management Committee, the relationship between the export refunds for live cattle and beef and veal and if necessary to submit the appropriate proposals;

- states its intention of speeding up its current work with a view to introducing a Community system for the classification of carcasses.

PIGMEAT

The Council agreed to a 1.5% increase in the basic price (pig carcasses), thus increasing it to 1,244.43 UA/tonne (1,504.46 ECU) for the 1979/1980 marketing year.

MANIOC

The Council approved the Commission's position on the measures to be taken regarding imports and noted the Commission's indications as to the scope of such measures.⁽¹⁾

WINE AND SHEEPMEAT

The Council agreed to intensify its discussions on the Commission proposals so that decisions can be taken by 31 October 1979.

STRUCTURES

The Council undertook to adopt decisions by 31 December 1979 on the Commission proposals relating to the reform of the existing structural directives and to various regional structural programmes.

(1) The Netherlands delegation reserved its position on this point.

Other agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- Regulations

- = supplementing the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables
- = laying down, in respect of hops, the amount of the aid to producers for the 1978 harvest
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 1418/78 adopting general rules in connection with the special measures for peas and field beans used in the feeding of animals
- = extending the period of validity of Regulation (EEC) No 2862/77 on levies applicable to imports of certain adult bovine animal and beef from Yugoslavia

- Decisions

- = amending fifth Decision 76/538/EEC on the equivalence of field inspections carried out in third countries on seed-producing crops
 - = amending fifth Decision 76/539/EEC on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries
- and the Directive prolonging, in respect of swine fever, tuberculosis and brucellosis, certain derogations granted to Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom

Emergency aid

The Council approved two emergency aid projects to be carried out by the Catholic Relief Service

- one for 80,000 EUA to cover the basic needs of victims of the cyclone in India which struck the States of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
 - and one for 20,000 EUA to supply prime requisites to victims in Paraguay of the flooding of the Paraguay River.
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PRESS RELEASE

7583/79 (Presse 75)

587th Council meeting

- Environment -

Luxembourg, 19 June 1979

President: Mr Michel D'ORNANO,

Minister for the Environment and the Quality of
Life of the French Republic

PRESS RELEASE

Luxembourg, 20 june 1979

7583 e/79 (Presse 75) Corr. 1 (d,i,e,dk)

C O R R I G E N D U M

to the Press Release
7583/79 (Presse 75) of 19.VI.1979
concerns English, Italian, Danish
and German translations only

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In the Press Release issued after the 587th Council meeting (Environment) held in Luxembourg on 19 june 1979 the first indent of paragraph 3 on page 9 should read :

- "the need to maintain in the Directive a system of limit values (Annex I) and guide values (Annex II) referring to the values recommended by the WHO ;"

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

Belgium:

Mr Luc DHOORE Minister for Health and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Niels MATTHIASSEN Minister for Cultural Affairs
Mr Holger LAVESSEN State Secretary,
Ministry for the Environment

Germany:

Mr Gerhardt BAUM Federal Minister for the Interior
Mr Günter HARTKOPF State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for the Interior

France:

Mr Michel D'ORNANO Minister for the Environment and
the Quality of Life
Mr François DELMAS State Secretary,
Ministry for the Environment and
the Quality of Life

Ireland:

Mr Sylvester BARRETT Minister for the Environment

Italy:

Mr Giorgio POSTAL Deputy State Secretary,
Ministry for Scientific Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL

Minister for the Environment

Netherlands:

Mr L GINJAAR

Minister for Health and the
Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr Tom KING

Minister of State,
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

PROTECTION OF GROUNDWATER

Following a discussion during which it settled the final questions outstanding, the Council approved the Directive on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances.

The aim of this Directive is to protect groundwater from pollution in the future and to eliminate or at least reduce existing pollution by prohibiting the discharge of certain particularly dangerous substances into groundwater and by laying down detailed rules for the discharge of certain other less dangerous substances. The Directive thus covers both direct and indirect (filtration through the ground) discharge of both categories and also stipulates the conditions which must be met for derogations from the prohibition as well as the prior investigation procedures which must precede any exceptional authorization to discharge and the particulars which must be given in such authorizations.

The Member States, which have two years in which to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with the Directive, will keep an inventory of all authorizations to discharge which they grant, the main provisions of which will be communicated to the Commission at its request. The Commission may also participate in the prior consultations between the Member States concerned relating to any discharge into transfrontier groundwater.

SURFACE WATER INTENDED FOR THE ABSTRACTION OF DRINKING WATER

The Council recorded its agreement on the Directive on the methods of measurement and frequencies of sampling and analysis of the parameters of the quality required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water in the Member States.

This Directive lays down reference methods for measuring the parameters of Directive 75/440/EEC concerning the physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water, and the frequency of sampling and analysis of these parameters. It also sets up a Committee for Adaptation to Technical and Scientific Progress so that, where necessary, the required amendments can be made to the reference methods of measurement, the limit of detection, the accuracy and precision of the methods, and the materials recommended for the container used.

The Member States have a time limit of two years from the time of notification to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions to comply with this Directive.

HYDROCARBONS DISCHARGED AT SEA

The Council took note of a statement by Mr NATALI, Vice-President of the Commission, on the progress of the Commission's work on implementation of the action programme of the European Communities on the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea, which was set up following the "Amoco Cadiz" disaster.

This statement described the position with regard to the various points of the action programme, relating to

- computer processing of data on ways of dealing with marine pollution by hydrocarbons,
- access in emergencies to reliable information on the features of tankers and artificial structures and on infringements committed in territorial waters,
- enhancement of the co-operation and effectiveness of emergency teams,
- possibility of Community participation in the design and development of clean-up vessels,
- the study of the amendments and improvements which may have to be made to the legal rules on insurance against the risks of accidental pollution from hydrocarbons,
- the research programme within the framework of the second multi-annual research and development programme on environmental protection (indirect action).

The statement also laid emphasis on certain priority subjects, such as:

- technologies for collecting and dispersing hydrocarbons;
- the behaviour and subsequent history of hydrocarbons at sea and the examination of the effects of chemical dispersants;
- the effects of hydrocarbons on marine flora and fauna, including exploitable resources such as fish.

In conclusion the Commission indicated that it would be submitting specific proposals in the next few months on the various points contained in its statement.

Speaking on behalf of the members of the Council, the President stressed the importance which the Council attached to work in this area.

THE QUALITY OF SHELLFISH WATERS

The Council recorded its agreement on the Directive on the quality required of shellfish waters. This Directive forms part of the environmental action programmes which provide for the setting of quality objectives for different uses of fresh and salt water, and follows on from the directives already adopted concerning the quality of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water, the quality of bathing water and the quality of fresh waters suitable for fish life.

The purpose of this Directive is both to bring about an increase in shellfish numbers under favourable conditions and to help ensure that shellfish gathered in these waters and intended for human consumption are of a high standard. It is designed to protect or indeed improve the waters in question by ensuring compliance with various binding values and guide values for a number of parameters indicated in the Annex to the Directive. It also lays down a procedure for providing the Commission with information relating to waters designated by the Member States.

SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND SUSPENDED PARTICULATE MATTER

The Council held a detailed exchange of views on the proposal for a Directive concerning health protection standards for sulphur dioxide and suspended particulate matter in urban atmospheres, which is the first major Directive on the protection of the atmosphere.

At the end of its exchange of views the Council, taking into account the agreement on the general substance of the draft Directive, instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to study the possibility of implementing a parallel approach which does not give rise to discriminatory provisions and to report back to it at its next meeting.

The study by the Permanent Representatives Committee will take into account:

- the need to maintain in the Directive a system of limit values (Annex I) and guide values (Annex II) inspired by the values recommended by the WHO;
- the interdependence of sulphur dioxide concentrations and suspended particulate matter.

CLASSIFICATION, PACKAGING AND LABELLING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

The Council approved the Directive amending for the sixth time the Directive of 27 June 1967 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

This Directive, which is extremely important both for the protection of man and the environment and for the European chemical industry, makes it possible to introduce at Community level harmonized control of the placing on the market of new chemical substances, which, owing to the expansion of the industry, are constantly increasing in number and constitute a potential risk to man and the environment.

In their future legislation Member States will comply with the Community rules, which will also provide an essential basis for the Community's common position in the negotiations currently being conducted with the United States concerning the Toxic Substances Control Act (TOSCA).

The Directive will be formally adopted in the next few weeks after legal finalization of the text.

OTHER DECISIONS

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on consumer protection in the indication of the prices of foodstuffs and the Resolution on the indication of the prices of foodstuffs and non-food household products pre-packaged in pre-established quantities.

EEC-Greece Association

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending until 31 December 1980 the special provisions applicable to the importation into the Community from Greece of goods covered by Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 (processed agricultural products).

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

7784/79 (Presse 78)

588th Council meeting

- Fisheries -

Luxembourg, 25 June 1979

President: Mr Joël LE THEULE

Minister for Transport
of the French Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS

Minister for Agriculture and
Small Firms and Trades

Denmark:

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN

Minister for Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT

State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR

State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Joël LE THEULE

Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN

Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni DEL RIO

Under-Secretary of State for
Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND

Deputy Permanent Representative

25.VI.79

Netherlands:

Mr A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE

Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr George YOUNGER

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

FISHERIES POLICY

Internal aspects

The Council held an exchange of views on a number of measures relating to the internal aspects of the fisheries policy, following which it noted that it was as yet unable to reach general agreement on this matter, and agreed to go into all the problems at a meeting in October 1979.

The Council therefore signified its agreement to the following Decision under the Treaties, concerning fishery activities in waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of Member States, taken on a temporary basis pending the adoption of permanent Community measures:

"The Council intends to reach an agreement as early as possible in 1979 on Community measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources and related matters. Pending its decision in the matter and in view both of Article 102 of the Act of Accession and of the need to protect biological resources and to maintain suitable relations with third countries in fisheries matters, the Council, on 19 December 1978 and on 9 April 1979, adopted interim measures which were in force from 1 January to 31 March 1979 and from 1 April to 30 June 1979 respectively. Following on from these measures, the Council is adopting the following interim measures, which will apply from 1 July 1979 until the Council has reached a definitive agreement or until 31 October 1979, whichever is the earlier.

1. Member States shall conduct their fishing activities in such a way that the catches of their vessels during the interim period take into account the total allowable catches (TACs) submitted by the Commission to the Council in its communications of 23 November 1978 and 16 February 1979 and the part of the TACs made available to third countries under agreements or arrangements made with them by the Community.

The catches taken in the interim period will be offset against the allocations eventually decided upon by the Council for 1979.

2. As regards technical measures for the conservation and surveillance of fishery resources, Member States shall apply the same measures as they applied on 3 November 1976, and other measures taken in accordance with the procedures and criteria of Annex VI to the Council Resolution of 3 November 1976."

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As regards certain technical measures for the conservation of fisheries resources relating, in particular, to the minimum mesh sizes for fishing nets, minimum sizes for species and authorized by-catch levels, the Council noted a broad consensus at this juncture on the main features of the Commission proposals, although the United Kingdom delegation was unable to support it, mainly for reasons of timing, this delegation wishing the measures to be applied earlier than on the dates proposed by the Commission.

External aspects

The Council held an exchange of views on the external aspects of the fisheries policy, particularly regarding the agreements to be concluded or signed with the Faroe Islands, Sweden, Norway, Spain and Finland and concerning four proposals for Regulations establishing the catch quotas allocated in 1979 to vessels flying the flags of the Member States of the Community for certain "joint stocks", following which it agreed to resume its discussion of these proposals at its next meeting.

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The Council took note of the report by Vice-President GUNDELACH on the progress of negotiations on framework agreements with certain third countries, and particularly as regards fisheries relations with Tunisia.

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Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing Italy to agree with Yugoslavia on the provisional maintenance for six months of the fishing arrangements currently in force pending the conclusion of a fisheries agreement between the Community and Yugoslavia, and the Regulation laying down certain conservation and management measures for fishery resources off the West Greenland coast applicable in 1979 to vessels flying the flag of Canada. (1)

(1) Subject to any comments by delegations, to be made before the afternoon of 26.VI.79.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS (1)

Agricultural decisions

The Council gave legal form to the agreement reached in Luxembourg on 22 June 1979 on the agricultural prices and related measures for the 1979/1980 marketing year by adopting in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 652/79 relating to the effects of the European Monetary System in the context of the common agricultural policy
- = amending, with respect to the German mark and the currencies of the Benelux countries, Regulation (EEC) No 878/77 on the exchange rate to be applied in agriculture
- = amending, with respect to the French franc and the pound sterling, Regulation (EEC) No 878/77 on the exchange rate to be applied in agriculture
- = fixing the target price for milk and the intervention prices for butter, skimmed-milk powder and Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano cheeses for the 1979/1980 milk year
- = fixing the threshold prices for certain milk products for the 1979/1980 milk year
- = on the granting of a consumer subsidy for butter
- = extending Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 introducing a system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy herds
- = on the co-responsibility levy in the milk and milk products sector
- = amending Regulations (EEC) Nos 985/68 and 1014/68 as regards the buying-in prices applied by intervention agencies to butter and skimmed-milk powder

(1) Subject to any comments by delegations, to be made before the afternoon of 26.VI.79

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 986/68 laying down general rules for granting aid for skimmed milk and skimmed-milk powder for use as feed
- = fixing the guide price and the intervention price for adult bovine animals for the 1979/1980 marketing year
- = continuing for the 1979/1980 marketing year the premium for the slaughter of certain adult bovine animals provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 870/77
- = on the granting of a premium for the birth of calves during the 1979/1980 marketing year
- = fixing for the 1979/1980 marketing year sugar prices, the standard quality of beet and the coefficient for calculating the maximum quota
- = fixing for the 1979/1980 sugar year the derived intervention prices, the intervention price for raw beet sugar, the minimum prices for beet, the threshold prices, the maximum amount of the production levy and the amount of the repayment to offset storage costs, and altering the coefficient for calculating the special maximum quota
- = laying down for the 1979/1980 sugar year measures to facilitate the disposal of sugar produced in the FOD
- = fixing for the 1979/1980 sugar year the differential levy to be charged on preferential raw sugar and the differential amount to be granted to the raw cane sugar from the FOD
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 3331/74 on the allocation and amendment of basic sugar quotas
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 1111/77 laying down common provisions for isoglucose
- = fixing the target prices and basic intervention prices for colza, rape and sunflower seeds for the 1979/1980 marketing year

- = fixing the monthly increases in the target price and the intervention price for colza, rape and sunflower seeds for the 1979/1980 marketing year
- = fixing for the 1979/1980 marketing year the main intervention centres for colza, rape and sunflower seeds and the derived intervention prices applicable at these centres
- = fixing the amount of aid in respect of silkworms for the 1979/1980 rearing year
- = fixing for the 1979/1980 marketing year the activating price for aid for peas and field beans and the minimum price for these products
- = fixing the flat-rate production aid and the guide price for dried fodder for the 1979/1980 marketing year
- = fixing certain prices and other amounts applicable in the fruit and vegetables sector for the 1979/1980 marketing year
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2511/69 laying down special measures in the sector of Community citrus fruit and Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables

Transport policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1108/70 introducing an accounting system for expenditure on infrastructure in respect of transport by rail, road and inland waterway.

The Council also approved the Decision concerning the acceptance of Resolution No 119 (revised) of the Economic Commission for Europe on the standardization of the forms used for authorization for international goods transport by road.

Finally, the Council approved the Decision on the amendment of the European Agreement concerning the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport (AETR) and on the accession of the European Communities to the Agreement.

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia falling within subheading 22.09 C I of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the ACP States (1979/1980), on the one hand, and originating in the overseas countries and territories associated with the European Economic Community (1979/1980) on the other hand.

Commercial and customs policy

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

- the Decisions

= amending the quotas for imports into Italy and the United Kingdom of certain products originating in Romania

= amending the quotas for imports into Italy of certain products originating in China

- the Directive on the harmonization of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action relating to customs debt.

In connection with the recent GATT agreement in the context of the multilateral trade negotiations, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Recommendation on notification by the Member States of withdrawal from the Convention on the Valuation of Goods for Customs Purposes of 15 December 1950.

Food aid

Under the cereals food aid programme for 1979 the Council approved the allocation of 5,000 tonnes of cereals to the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (HCR) for South-East Asian Refugees.

Mediterranean policy

The Council approved a set of financing proposals for countries in the Mediterranean basin:

- = Financing of trade promotion projects in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria (Commission proposal)
- = Technical assistance to the Moroccan Export Promotion Centre (Commission proposal)
- = Small industries' development and industrial promotion (Commission proposal)
- = Keban hydro-electric power station in Turkey (EIB proposal)

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 new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Cyprus.

Other decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decisions concerning the negotiation of protocols enabling the European Economic Community to become a Contracting Party to

- = the European Agreement on the Exchange of Therapeutic Substances of Human Origin
- = the Agreement on the temporary importation, free of duty, of medical, surgical and laboratory equipment for use on free loan in hospitals and other medical institutions for purposes of diagnosis or treatment
- = the European Agreement on the Exchange of Blood-Grouping Reagents.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the roll-over protection structures of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors (static testing).
