

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PRESIDENCY: BELGIUM

JANUARY – JUNE 1982

Meetings and press releases January-March 1982

Meeting number	Subject	Date
750 th	Agriculture	19 January 1982
751 st	Foreign Affairs	26 January 1982
752 nd	Textiles	25 February 1982
753 rd	Economics/Finance	15 February 1982
754 th	Agriculture	15-16 February 1982
755 th	Foreign Affairs	22-23 February 1982
756 th	Research	8 March 1982
757 th	Economics/Finance	15 March 1982
758 th	Agriculture	15-17 March 1982
759 th	Energy	16 March 1982
760 th	Foreign Affairs	22-23 March 1982
761 st	Agriculture	31 March – 1-2 April 1982

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4295/82 (Presse 5)

750th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 19 January 1982

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for Agriculture of the
Kingdom of Belgium

19.I.82

The Government 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 Bjoern WESTH
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Costas SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Agriculture

Mr André CELLARD
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI
Minister for Agriculture

Mr Fabio FABERI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY
Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Lakes, Rivers and
Forests

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING
Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

For the Commission:

Mr Poul DALSAGER
Member

PRODUCER GROUPS AND ASSOCIATIONS THEREOF IN THE COTTON SECTOR

The Council resumed its examination of a proposal for a Regulation on producer groups and associations thereof in the cotton sector. It will be remembered that the proposed Regulation - on the basis of the provisions in Protocol No 4 to the Act of Accession of Greece - supplements the Community arrangements applicable to cotton by granting aid for the setting up of producer groups as well as for certain investments, particularly harvesters, which could be made by the latter.

Following its discussion, the Council agreed on the substance of this proposal with a Community contribution of 40%, on the understanding that expenditure eligible for investment aid would not exceed 30 ECU.

INTEREST SUBSIDIES

The Council resumed its discussion of two proposals:

- on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC;
- amending Decision 76/402/EEC on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms, to be applied in Italy.

As it was not in a position to take a decision on the matter at this stage, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine these two proposals in greater detail with a view to reverting to them at its next meeting.

BEEF AND VEAL

The Council resumed its discussions on imports of beef and veal into the Community.

Following the discussions, the Council:

- fixed the allocation between Member States of the quantities which could be imported under the GATT quota as follows:

	For the part totalling 33,500 tonnes	For the part totalling 16,500 tonnes
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Benelux	3,189	1,571
Denmark	157	78
Germany	6,020	2,965
Greece	1,710	840
France	3,343	1,647
Ireland	3	2
Italy	9,658	4,757
United Kingdom	9,420	4,640

- decided to make available for 1982 possibilities for importing:

= young male bovine animals intended for fattening as follows:

- . Quota of 210,000 heads: 180,000 for Italy
20,000 for Greece
10,000 for the other Member States
- . Quarterly allocations: 70,000 head in first quarter;
70,000 head in second quarter; 70,000 for remainder of year.
- . If on 1 August 1982 imports reach 90% of a quota of 140,000 head for the Community or 90% of a quota of 120,000 head for Italy an additional quota of 25,000 head will be fixed for the fourth quarter for Italy.

= 60,000 t of meat for the processing industry, of which 30,000 t will be without levy and 30,000 t will have a levy reduced to 45%, the Commission undertaking to submit a progress report on 31 July 1982 on the situation of young male bovine animals for the processing industry.

SPECIAL AID FOR RAW TOBACCO FOLLOWING THE EARTHQUAKE IN ITALY IN NOVEMBER 1980

The Council examined a proposal for a Regulation making it possible, by granting aid to tobacco producers and processors, to make good the damage caused by the earthquake in November 1980 and to compensate for the loss of income.

Following the discussion, the Council agreed to the substance of a grant of special aid to tobacco first-stage processing and packaging undertakings in the Campania region. The cost of this Community contribution would be about 20 MECU. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to implement this Regulation speedily in view of its legal and budget aspects.

VARIOUS STATEMENTS

The Council heard the following statements:

- National aid envisaged by France (United Kingdom delegation);
- Butteroil refunds (Netherlands delegation).

The Council also decided to enter on the agenda for its next meeting the question of the price of natural gas for heated greenhouses in the Netherlands.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the EFTA countries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations concerning the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the amendment of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Switzerland/Austria on the application of the rules on Community transit.

EEC-Malta Association

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation (EEC) on the application of Decision No 1/82 of the EEC/Malta Association Council replacing the unit of account by the ECU in the Protocol on the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation to the EEC-Malta Association Agreement.

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending the first Directive of 23 July 1962 on the establishment of common rules for certain types of carriage of goods by road between Member States.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to participate, on behalf of the Community, in the negotiations concerning a worldwide framework convention on the protection of the ozone layer.

ECSC

The Council took note of the Commission report to the Council on the application of Decision 528/76/ECSC regarding the Community system of measures taken by the Member States to assist the coal-mining industry, and particularly of the fact that the Commission did not intend at this juncture to propose, under Article 18(2) of that Decision, any changes to the system of measures taken by the Member States to assist the coal industry.

Appointments

On a proposal from the Luxembourg Government, the Council replaced members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Veterinary Training for the remainder of the latter's terms of office which run until 17 February 1983:

- Mr Arthur BESCH, a member, in place of Mr Frank WOLFF, and Mr Albert HUBERTY, an alternate member, in place of Mr Joseph KREMER in the category of experts from the practising profession;
- Mr Frank WOLFF, a member, in place of Mr Aloyse SCHILTGES, and Mr Joseph KREMER, an alternate member, in place of Mr Frank WOLFF in the category of experts from the veterinary science teaching institutions;
- Mr Raymond FRISCH, a member, in place of Mr Aloyse SCHILTGES, and Mr Fernand KONS, an alternate member, in place of Mr Raymond FRISCH in the category of experts from the competent authorities of the Member State.

On a proposal from the French Government, the Council also appointed Mr François ROMAGNY, Secrétaire Confédéral C.F.D.T., as a full member of the Advisory Committee for Vocational Training in place of Mr Dominique SCHALCHLI, full member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 16 September 1983.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

4431/82 (Presse 7)

751st meeting of the Council
- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 26 January 1982

President: Mr Leo TINDEMANS,
Minister for External Relations
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Peter CORRIERER Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Dieter von WURZEN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Yanis HARALAMBOPOULOS Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Grigoris VARFIS State Secretary,
Economic Co-ordination,
responsible for relations with the
European Economic Community

France:

Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister attached to the Minister
for Foreign Relations, responsible
for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr James DOOGE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Mario FIORET State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Francesco REBECCHINI State Secretary,
Industry

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max van der STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr H Van den BROEK

State Secretary, Foreign Affairs

Mr W DIK

State Secretary, Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Humphrey ATKINS

Lord Privy Seal

Mr Peter REES

Minister of State to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN

President

Mr Wilhelp HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT

Vice-President

Mr Poul DALSAGER

Member

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Member

RELATIONS WITH THE ACP STATES

The Council agreed to authorize the Commission to resume negotiations with the ACP States on the guaranteed price for sugar for the 1981/1982 marketing year on the basis of a rate of increase equal to that applied to the price of white sugar for the same marketing year.

However, to ensure that an acceptable refining margin was maintained, the Council agreed to suspend for three marketing years beginning on 1 July 1982 the compensation system for storage costs applicable to preferential sugar, on the understanding that before 1 May 1985 the Council would, on the basis of a report from the Commission, examine the possible consequences of suspension and would take any decisions necessary.

In the same context, the Council agreed to restore in future the relationship which previously existed between the intervention prices for white sugar and for raw sugar and to cover the cost of losses sustained by Community raw sugar producers as a result of the current difference between the increases in raw sugar and refined sugar prices.

On the other hand, with regard to the wishes expressed by the ACP States following the reduction which, in accordance with the Lomé Convention, had to be applied to transfers under the Stabex system for the 1980 year of application, the Council noted that the Commission would be sending it a communication on this point, which it would examine at a forthcoming meeting.

TEXTILES

The Council held a general discussion on the problems still unresolved in connection with approval of the outcome of the Geneva negotiations on the Protocol extending the MFA.

It agreed that a special final session dealing with these problems would be held on Thursday 11 February 1982.

1982 BUDGET

The Council examined the situation with regard to the 1982 budget and the circumstances under which it was voted on and adopted by Parliament.

The Council came to certain conclusions on the attitude it should adopt and the terms on which it should enter into dialogue with the Parliament, particularly regarding the classification of expenditure. Some Member States, however, still have reservations about these conclusions and will examine them within their governments before making their positions known by mid-day on Friday.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY

The Council once again studied the question - raised at the Energy Council on 27 October 1981 - of additional financing for demonstration projects in the field of energy. After noting that some difficulties still existed, it agreed to return to this question at its next meeting.

IRON AND STEEL - SOCIAL ASPECTS

The Council noted that it would be best to await the outcome of new contacts between the Commission and the German delegation before deciding on the allocation of additional resources to the ECSC budget for the funding of accompanying social measures under the Community plan for the recovery of the iron and steel industry. It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its discussions on the subject and if possible to reach agreement.

COKING COAL

For the same reasons the Council also referred back to the Permanent Representatives Committee the draft Decision concerning coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry in the Community.

POLAND

1. In accordance with the Commission's proposal and under the present circumstances the Council decided to discontinue sales to Poland of foodstuffs on special terms (instalment 3b). The funds earmarked for this purpose will be wholly or partially used for purely humanitarian aid (in the form of gifts) to the Polish people routed through the NGO's. The Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee have been instructed to implement this humanitarian measure and particularly to determine exactly which amounts should be devoted to this purpose. It is of course understood that exports on normal terms may continue.

2. After listening to the President's report on the discussions of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the Council:
 - (a) instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee, in conjunction with the Commission, to see what trade policy measures relating to imports would be open to be taken vis-à-vis the USSR, on the understanding that this study would be without prejudice to the eventual operational decisions, which would depend on subsequent decisions taken by the Council or the Member States;

 - (b) requested the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Commission to conduct an exchange of information and an analysis of the economic measures taken by the United States in respect of the Soviet Union, with a view to identifying their exact scope and their impact on the economy and trade of the Member States of the Community. In the light of this study the Council would be called upon to decide the necessary action to respect the commitment in paragraph 7 of the communiqué of 4 January 1982.

Greece adopted a negative position on the decisions under 2 above.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with the ACP States

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation regarding the application of the Decision of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers replacing the European Unit of Account by the ECU in Protocol No 1, concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation, to the second ACP-EEC Convention.

The Council also adopted the Regulation concluding the agreement on the accession of Zimbabwe to the second ACP-EEC Convention on the understanding that this Regulation would enter into force when all the Member States had completed their ratification procedures.

Food aid

- for refugees in Somalia

The Council agreed to the emergency measure which the Commission proposed to carry out through the UNHCR to help refugees in Somalia, involving the distribution of 1,000 tonnes of sugar in the refugee camps (where it could supply the sugar needs of the 700,000 refugees for about a month).

- for Grenada and Dominica

The Council agreed to the allocation of:

- = 150 tonnes of rice (equivalent to 435 tonnes of cereals) to Grenada;
- = 540 tonnes of rice (equivalent to 1,565 tonnes of cereals) to Dominica,

to be charged against the 2,000 tonnes of cereals "for other countries" under the 1981 cereals food aid programme.

Commercial policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India on trade in jute products.

It also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the People's Republic of Bulgaria on trade in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector.

Agricultural questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities,

- the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 on the common organization of the markets in the sugar sector;
- the Regulation laying down general rules for transfers of quotas in the sugar sector;
- the Directive amending Directive 64/432/EEC as regards the period of validity of the derogations relating to brucellosis guarantees in trade in certain bovine animals as provided for in Article 7.1 (E) thereof.

Freedom to provide services - doctors

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive amending Directive 75/362/EEC concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications in medicine, including measures to facilitate effective exercise of the right of establishment and freedom to provide services and Directive 75/363/EEC concerning the co-ordination of provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in respect of activities of doctors.

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision extending until 31 July 1982 the period of validity of the Decision of 28 April 1981 on the application of the OECD understanding on export credits for ships.

Appointments

On a proposal from the National Coal Board, the Council appointed Mr W.G. JENSEN to membership of the ECSC Consultative Committee in place of Mr R.V. FINDLAY, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 24 November 1982.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the Luxembourg Government, Mr Lucien JUNG, Director of the Fédération des Industriels Luxembourgeois, to membership of the ECSC Consultative Committee in place of Mr Raymond ACKERMANN, who has died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, i.e. until 24 November 1982.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

5146/82 (Presse 21)

752nd meeting of the Council

- Textiles -

Brussels, 25 February 1982

President: Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

25.II.82

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic Affairs

Mr André KEMPINAIRE
State Secretary, Ministry of
Foreign Trade

Germany:

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

France:

Mr Pierre DREYFUS
Minister for Industry

Italy:

Mr Paolo GALLI
Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr H.A.L. VIJVERBERG
Embassy Counsellor

Denmark:

Mr Flemming HEDEGAARD
Deputy Permanent Representative

Greece:

Mr Dimitrios PITSIORIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Ireland:

Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State,
Ministry of Industry and Energy

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean MISCHO
Deputy Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter REES
Minister of State,
Ministry of Trade

Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP, Vice-President
Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON, Vice-President

The Council resolved the last problems still outstanding in the textiles field, namely the "Outward Processing Traffic" Regulation, the question of global ceilings and acceptance of the "Multifibre Arrangement" Protocol.

The Community will consequently be able to give its acceptance of MFA III and begin the bilateral negotiations.

This result enables the Community to make considerable progress in regulating its textiles trade with external partners.

It represents a balance which will be beneficial both for the Community textiles industry and for third world countries which trade with the Community. The situation cannot, however, be definitively assessed until the bilateral agreements have been concluded.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Conference on Contributions to the WFP

The Council decided that the Community would henceforth participate as an observer in the Conferences on Contributions to the World Food Programme and in accordance with normal WFP practice.

The Community would indicate its estimated contribution to the WFP for 1983 and 1984 at the next Conference, scheduled for 2 March 1982 in New York.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation providing for special aid for raw tobacco following the earthquake in Italy in November 1980 and derogating from Article 12a of Regulation (EEC) No 727/70.

It also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation temporarily suspending certain rules for calculating monetary compensatory amounts.

PRESS RELEASE

4906/82 (Presse 16)

753rd meeting of the Council
- Economic and Financial Questions -

Brussels, 15 February 1982

President: Mr Willy de CLERCQ,
Minister for Finance of
the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy de CLERCQ	Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Finance
Mr Mark EYSKENS	Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD	Minister for Economic Affairs
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Germany:

Mr Hans MATTHÖFER	Federal Minister for Finance
Mr Horst SCHULMANN	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Yanis POTTAKIS	Minister for Finance
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France:

Mr Jacques LEPRETTE	Ambassador, Permanent Representation
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Ireland:

Mr M. Doyle	Secretary-General, Ministry of Finance
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Italy:

Mr Nino ANDREATTA	Minister for the Treasury
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Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques SANTER	Minister for Finance
Mr Ernest MÜHLEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Finance

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Mr Nicholas RIDLEY

Financial Secretary to the
Treasury

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Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI

Vice-President

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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr Horst SCHULMANN

Chairman of the Monetary Committee

Mr CIAMPI

Chairman of the Committee of
Governors of the Central Banks

Mr J. van YPERSELE de STRIHOU

Chairman of the Economic and
Financial Policy Co-ordination
Group

Mr I. BYATT

Chairman of the Economic Policy
Committee

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EUROPEAN MONETARY SYSTEM - CONCLUSION OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council heard the statements from the Vice-President of the Commission, the Chairman of the Monetary Committee and the President of the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks.
2. Following a wide-ranging discussion, the Council noted that work to date had pinpointed a number of possible ways of developing the System further, which measures were technically feasible without the existing institutional framework being exceeded.
3. The Council takes the view that no technical adjustment can hope to succeed unless it is accompanied by an increased effort to orient economic policies in the direction of monetary stability. Further development of the EMS must contribute to strengthening the internal discipline of the system, to developing its factors of solidarity, to allowing the Community to play a stabilizing role in the operation of the international monetary system and finally to influencing the behaviour of economic agents in accordance with the demands of monetary stability.
4. The Council considers that further development of the System should focus on each of the four areas indicated by the Commission which are currently being examined by the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Governors of the Central Banks.
 - the mechanisms of the system;
 - opening of the System to the outside world;
 - private use of the ECU;
 - strengthening convergence.

5. The Council takes note of the Commission's intention of making concrete proposals in this connection. It invites the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Governors of the Central Bank to continue their proceedings on the basis of these proposals.

The Council will discuss this question at its next meeting in the context of preparation for the meeting of the European Council at the end of March.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

4907/82 (Presse 17)

754th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 15 and 16 February 1982

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs and
Agriculture of the Kingdom of Belgium

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 Bjoern WESTH
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

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

Greece:

Mr Costas SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Agriculture

Mr André CELLARD
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Alan DUKES
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Guiseppe BARTOLOMEI
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY
Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Lakes, Rivers and
Forests

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING
Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

The Earl FERRERS
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

For the Commission:

Mr Poul DALSAER
Member

FIXING OF PRICES OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the Commission proposals on agricultural prices for 1982/1983. Delegations were able to give their initial reactions from both the political and technical points of view.

The Council will discuss this question further at its meeting on 15, 16 and 17 March 1982 on the understanding that, in the meantime, the Special Committee on Agriculture will give detailed examination to the various problems.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE "ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE" FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS

The Council continued its discussion of the adjustment of the "acquis communautaire" for Mediterranean products, in particular wine, fruit, vegetables and citrus fruits, and olive oil.

Several delegations stressed the need to reach an early conclusion, in view not only of the importance of safeguarding the equilibrium of Community production but also of the accession of Portugal and Spain. In this connection, the Commission indicated its intention of submitting shortly supplementary proposals on citrus fruits and olive oil. The United Kingdom delegation said that it would be putting forward suggestions on the latter product.

In concluding its discussions, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine this dossier in detail and to report back to the next Council meeting.

INTEREST SUBSIDY

As agreed at its last meeting, the Council resumed its examination of the two proposals:

- on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC;
- amending Decision 76/402/EEC on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms to be applied in Italy.

The Council invited the Commission to submit new suggestions on this matter at the earliest opportunity and agreed to return to this item at its next meeting.

NATIONAL AIDS CONTEMPLATED BY FRANCE

Mr DALSAGER said that the Commission was awaiting further information from the French authorities before adopting a final position on the compatibility of those aids with the Treaty.

PRICE OF NATURAL GAS FOR HOTHOUSES IN THE NETHERLANDS

The Council heard a statement by Mr DALSAGER, Commissioner, on the price of natural gas for hothouses in the Netherlands. Mr DALSAGER recalled the position adopted by the Commission on this matter on 15 December 1981. The Council noted that the Commission would have to start fresh discussions without further delay. Some delegations stressed the importance they attached to finding a speedy solution to this problem. It was agreed to resume discussions at the next meeting in the hope that a practical solution would be found to this problem in the meantime.

COMMUNITY MEASURES FOR THE ERADICATION OF BRUCELLOSIS, TUBERCULOSIS AND LEUCOSIS IN CATTLE

The Council examined the financial implications of the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/391/EEC which deals with the uninterrupted continuation of the programmes for the eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle for a further two-year period (3 years in the case of Greece).

As it was unable to reach agreement at this stage, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to re-examine this dossier and agreed to return to it at its next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS STATEMENTS

Mr DALSAGER reported to the Council on the outcome of his visit to the United States within the context of the high-level EEC-USA talks on 8 and 9 February 1982.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

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

- on producer groups and associations thereof in the cotton sector;
- on the organization of a survey on the structure of agricultural holdings for 1983.

Fisheries

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

- allocating catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in Canadian waters (1982);
- concerning the management and control of certain catch quotas for 1982 for vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention;
- laying down for the period from 15 February to 30 April 1982 certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Spain;
- laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels registered in the Faroe Islands.

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain coal-fish falling within heading ex 03.02 A I f) and certain fillets of coal-fish falling within heading ex 03.02 A II d).

EFTA

The Council approved the Community's position on the draft for a decision of the EEC-EFTA Joint Committees further supplementing and amending lists A and B annexed to Protocol No 3 concerning the definition of the concept of "originating products" and methods of administrative co-operation.

Relations with Israel

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concerning the application of Decision 1/81 of the EEC-Israel Co-operation Council replacing the Unit of Account by the ECU in the Protocol concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel.

Export credits

The Council adopted a brief for the Commission allowing it to start negotiations without further delay with the Participants in the Arrangement on guidelines for officially supported export credits with a view to classifying the USSR in category I of purchasing countries. The Greek delegation expressed a negative opinion.

European Regional Development Fund

The Council took note of the 6th Annual Report (1980) on the activities of the ERDF.

Approximation of laws

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres in mines susceptible to fire-damp.

Directive on information to be published on a regular basis

The purpose of this Directive, which is a follow-up to the Directives on "conditions for admission to official stock exchange listing" and "conditions for distribution of the listing particulars to be published for such admission", adopted in March 1979 and March 1980 respectively, is to make it compulsory for companies whose shares are admitted to official stock exchange listing in a Member State to publish, within 4 months of the end of the relevant six-month period, a report relating to their activities and profits and losses during the first six months of each financial year.

This report must consist of figures (indicating at least the net turnover and the profit or loss before or after tax deduction) and an explanatory statement including any significant information enabling investors to assess the trend of the company's activities and profits or losses.

However, the Member States may allow the competent authorities to authorize companies, exceptionally and on a case-by-case basis, to supply estimated figures for profits and loss, provided that the shares of each such company are listed officially in only one Member State.

Member States are free to submit companies to more stringent or supplementary requirements insofar as these are of general application.

The Directive also contains further provisions concerning publication of particulars, companies whose head office is established outside the Community and cooperation between authorities.

The competent authorities will also use their best endeavours to accept as a single text the text of the half-yearly report which meets the requirements of the Member State in which the company's shares were admitted to official listing for the first time. Member States will confer together to bring about convergence of the more stringent requirements which their authorities may still impose so as to make further adjustments to the Directive in the light of progress, with the aim of achieving mutual recognition of the half-yearly report which meets the requirements of the State in which the company was admitted to official listing for the first time.

The Commission is to report within five years on the use which the authorities make of the power allowed them to impose requirements stricter than those in the Directive. Where necessary, it will be able to propose measures directed towards compulsory recognition by the other Member States of the half-yearly report which meets the requirements of the State of first listing.

Research

The Council authorized the Commission to negotiate an agreement with the COST States on the implementation of a concerted action research project on "Physical properties of foodstuffs".

ECSC

The Council gave assents, pursuant to Article 54, second paragraph, of the ECSC Treaty, to:

- the co-financing of the extension of an industrial back-pressure power plant and its conversion from oil/gas firing to coal firing at Deutsche Solvay-Werke GmbH, Solingen-Ohligs;
- the partial financing of an investment programme to be carried out by the Oaky Creek Joint Venture for the annual production of 2.25 million tonnes of coking coal.

The Council also gave assents, pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty, concerning:

- Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft AG (FRG) (conversion loan)
- Finlombarda SPA (Milan, Italy) (conversion loan)
- Villeroy & Boch, Keramische Werke KG (FRG) (conversion loan)
- Bayerische Hypotheken-und Wechselbank AG, Germany.

Appointments

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr P.J. CASEY, Confederation of British Industry, a member, and Mr D.C. STANLEY, Confederation of British Industry, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace Mr M.O. BURY, member, who has resigned, and Mr P.J. CASEY, alternate member, who has resigned, for the remainder of the resigning members' term of office, which runs until 16 September 1983.

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council appointed Mr A. BATES, Senior Assistant, Education and Training Division, Corporate Affairs Directorate, Confederation of British Industry, a member, and Mr Norman PARKIN, Director (Special Duties), Industrial Relations Department, National Coal Board, an alternate member of the Committee of the European Social Fund to replace Mr David STANLEY, member who has resigned, and Mr John SCATES, alternate member who has resigned, for the remainder of the resigning members' term of office, which runs until 9 November 1982.

On a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, the Council also appointed Mr A.L. SAPPER, General Secretary, Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, a member, and Mrs P. TURNER OBE, National Industrial Officer, General and Municipal Workers Union, an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Freedom of Movement of Workers, to replace Mr J. MacGOUGAN, member who has resigned, and Mr A.L. SAPPER, alternate member who has resigned, for the remainder of the resigning members' term of office, which runs until 16 March 1982.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

5067/82 (Presse 20)

755th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 22 and 23 February 1982

President: Mr Leo TINDEMANS,

Minister for External Relations
of the Kingdom of Belgium

22/23.II.82

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

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Otto MØLLER State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans-Dietrick GENSCHER Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Peter CORTERIER Minister of State,
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Grigoris VARFIS State Secretary,
Economic Co-ordination,
responsible for relations with the
European Economic Community

France:

Mr Claude CHEYSSON Minister for Foreign Relations
Mr André CHANDERNAGOR Minister attached to the Minister
for Foreign Relations, responsible
for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr James DOOGE Minister for Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Mario FIORET State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCHE

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max van der STOEL

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr H. Van den BROEK

State Secretary, Foreign Affairs

Mr W. DIK

State Secretary, Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Lord CARRINGTON

Secretary of State for Foreign
and Commonwealth Affairs

Mr Humphrey ATKINS

Lord Privy Seal

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Commission:

Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

Mr Lorenzo NATALI

Vice-President

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON

Vice-President

Mr Edgard PISANI

Member

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

Member

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CONCILIATION WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON THE FOOD AID FRAMEWORK
REGULATION

The Council held a conciliation meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament on certain aspects of the draft framework Regulation on food aid. The European Parliament delegation was headed by Mr DANKERT, President of that Institution, and also comprised: Mr LEZZI, Mr WAWRZIK, Mr FERRERO and Mr Ch. JACKSON, members of the Committee on Development and Co-operation, Mr NOTENBOOM, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, and Mrs HOFF, Mr PRICE, Mr GOUTHIER and Mr IRMER, members of the Committee on Budgets.

The conciliation procedure covered in particular the distribution of budgetary powers between the European Parliament and the Council the powers of administration to be granted to the Commission and the nature of the Management Committee.

It was agreed in conclusion that each party would consider each other's point of view and that unofficial talks would be held between the Presidencies of the Council and the European Parliament in order to decide on further procedure which, in the general interest, should be concluded as quickly as possible.

JAPAN

The Council held a general discussion on the Commission communication concerning the Japanese authorities' reply to the general list of desiderata which the Community had submitted in December 1981.

The Council and the Commission considered that the measures announced by the Japanese Government were an encouraging sign of political awareness but that, in practical terms their effects on the development of trade would be minimal. These measures could therefore not constitute the reply the Community was entitled to expect in order to achieve more balanced trade relations, which of necessity required a fundamental and lasting change in present trade trends.

The Council in addition instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine in more detail the Commission's proposals for action and the suggestions made by different delegations during the discussion. It also invited the ECO/FIN Council to submit its opinion on those aspects of Japanese economic and monetary policy which affected trade relations with the Community.

The Council agreed to discuss future Community action at its next meeting.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council prepared the 6th meeting of the Conference at Ministerial level on the accession of Portugal to the European Communities held on 22 February.

POLAND

1. Humanitarian aid

Referring to the conclusions of its meeting on 26 January 1982, the Council adopted a favourable position on an emergency aid action which would be implemented by the Commission, and agreed for its part ⁽¹⁾ to the proposal for the transfer of the appropriations required for this purpose. This action would make 8 MECU available to NGOs for rapid intervention to assist the most deprived sectors of the Polish population. This aid, which will be allotted by the Commission only to NGOs which give the necessary guarantees of effective distribution to the needy, will be for food products and other essential products (e.g. hygiene products, medical equipment, etc.).

2. Analysis of American measures with regard to the USSR

At its meeting on 26 January 1982 the Council had instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee - though Greece had adopted a negative position - to conduct an exchange of information and an analysis of the economic measures taken by the United States with regard to the Soviet Union in order to discover their exact scope and their impact on the economy and trade of the Member States of the Community.

⁽¹⁾ The European Parliament likewise having to give its Opinion.

The Council took note of an interim report on this subject from the Permanent Representatives Committee. It instructed the Committee to proceed on the abovementioned instructions and report back as soon as possible.

3. Commercial policy measures with regard to the USSR

The Council noted that a very large majority was in favour of a reduction in imports from the Soviet Union to be carried out on the basis of Article 113, and that the Commission would be making a proposal to that effect in the immediate future.

Greece confirmed its negative position on such a measure. Denmark entered a reservation on legal grounds on recourse to Article 113.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

The Council heard a report from the Commission, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the President of the Council on their recent visits to the United States.

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

External aspects

The Council discussed the conditions for the inclusion of a review clause in the arrangements to be negotiated for 1982 with a number of third countries and reached agreement on this subject.

Social aspects

The Council decided, subject to confirmation, on the transfer to the ECSC budget of 62 million ECU from amending budget No 2 for 1981. This transfer represented a second tranche intended for social measures in connection with the restructuring of the steel industry.

It should be noted that a first tranche of 50 million ECU for 1981 had already been approved by the Council on 7 December 1981.

COKING COAL

The Council referred back to the Permanent Representatives Committee the draft Decision concerning Community arrangements for coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry.

EXPLOITATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

To guarantee the viability and credibility of Community action in the field of energy exploitation and demonstration projects, the Council decided to increase the relevant allocation by 55 MECU.

The Council agreed that the Commission would join the Member States in assessing what place projects of this type should occupy in energy policy and research policy, not only at Community level but also in each Member State.

In the light of this assessment the Council (meeting on energy in June) would adopt the necessary decisions.

MULTIANNUAL R & D PROGRAMME

The Council established that it was unable at this stage to take a decision on the multiannual R & D programme of the European Communities in the raw materials sector (1982-1985). It accordingly asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue work on the subject and to report back as soon as possible.

RUBBER

The Council, having noted that the Community had suggested an extension until 15 April 1982 of the period for ratification of the International Rubber Agreement, received assurances from the Governments of Italy and Belgium that they would employ their best endeavours, while duly respecting the prerogatives of their respective Parliaments, to see to it that their national ratification procedures were completed within the new time-limit.

TIN

Following a statement by the French delegation, the Council stated that it had at its next meeting to take a decision on the signing of the Sixth Tin Agreement and participation therein by the Community and its Member States, noting the political importance of this matter.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3306/80 as regards the definitive anti-dumping duty on mechanical alarm clocks (other than travel alarms) originating in the German Democratic Republic.

Textiles

The Council decided to sign Additional Protocols to the Agreements between the European Economic Community and certain third countries (Haiti, Guatemala, Uruguay, Bangladesh and Peru) on trade in textile products, consequent on the accession of the Hellenic Republic to the Community. It also authorized its President to designate the person empowered to sign on behalf of the Council of the European Communities, subject to the agreements being concluded.

GATT

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

- the Decision authorizing the Commission to negotiate with Sweden reciprocal tariff concessions on cheeses;

- the Regulation on the import system applicable to certain third countries in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sector in 1982.

Relations with Yugoslavia

The Council decided to sign the adaptation Protocols to the EEC-Yugoslavia Co-operation Agreement and to the ECSC-Yugoslavia Agreement following the accession of Greece to the European Communities.

It should be noted that between this signing (scheduled for the beginning of April) and the conclusion of the adaptation Protocol to the EEC-Yugoslavia Co-operation Agreement, the European Parliament will have to be consulted (Article 238 of the Treaty).

Law of the Sea

The Council examined the problems raised by preparation for the 11th session of the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, concerning matters relating to the sea bed.

Appointments

The Council appointed, on a proposal from the French Government, Professor Jean REY, Directeur de l'U.E.R. médicale Necker, as member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training in place of Professor DORMONT for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 5 April 1982.

The Council also appointed, on a proposal from the French Government, Mr Alain BALLAGNY as member of the Advisory Committee of the Euratom Supply Agency in place of Mr A. FAUSSAT, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 28 March 1983.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

5387/82 (Presse 25)

756th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 8 March 1982

President: Mr Philippe MAYSTADT,
Minister for Policy on Science
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT
Minister for Policy on Science

Germany:

Mr Andreas von BÜLOW
Federal Minister for Research
and Technology

France:

Mr Jean-Pierre CHEVENEMENT
Minister for Technology

Italy:

Mr Giancarlo TESINI
Minister for Scientific Research

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. TERLOUW
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Economic Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Gunnard RIBERHOLDT
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Greece:

Mr Evangelos KOULIUMBIS
Minister for Research and
Technology

Ireland:

Mr Andrew O'ROURKE
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mr John WAKEHAM
State Secretary,
Department of Industry

Mr John MOORE
State Secretary,
Department of Energy

Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON, Vice-President

RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON RAW MATERIALS

The Council adopted a common position on the raw materials programme for 1982 to 1985. Since the European Parliament has requested that the conciliation procedure be initiated, this common position will be forwarded to it immediately.

The common position comprises the following basic points:

- Continuation and extension in an integrated form of a number of research activities hitherto undertaken as separate programmes in the following areas:
 - I Metals and mineral substances
 - II Wood
 - III Recycling of non-ferrous metals
 - IV Substitution and technical ceramics.
- Incorporation of two programmes already adopted (secondary raw materials and uranium) for which the funds are already committed.
- Execution either by indirect action (shared cost contracts between the Commission and public or private research organizations within the Member States) or by action on the part of the Member States, co-ordinated at Community level.
- Funding for the programme of 54 MECU (with 18 staff) to be distributed amongst the four areas as follows: 25 MECU: I; 12 MECU: II; 6.5 MECU: III; 10.5 MECU: IV.

FUSION

Pending its own decision following receipt of the Opinion of the European Parliament, expected before the end of the week, the Council adopted a favourable attitude on the basic features of the fusion research programme for 1982 to 1986.

The Council's attitude may be detailed as follows:

This programme is part of a long-term co-operation project embracing all work carried out in the Member States in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion. It is designed to lead, in due course, to the joint construction of prototypes with a view to their industrial production and marketing.

It will cover:

- (a) plasma physics in the sector concerned, in particular studies relating to confinement with suitable devices and to methods for producing and heating plasma;
- (b) research into the confinement, in closed configurations, of plasma of widely varying density and temperature;
- (c) research into light-matter interactions and transport phenomena and the development of high-power lasers;
- (d) the development and application to confinement devices of sufficiently powerful plasma heating methods;
- (e) improvement of diagnostic methods;
- (f) definition of the large device constituting the next step after JET (NET) and technological developments required for its design and construction as well as those needed in the longer term for the fusion reactor;
- (g) completion of the construction of the JET device in its basic performance; extension of JET to full performance; operation and exploitation of JET.

The implementation of the JET project referred to in (g), entrusted to a joint undertaking, is the single most important element in this programme and has been given a financial allocation of 319 MECU and a staff of 150 for the beginning of the programme and 165 at the end of 1986.

The main aim of the elements of the general programme is to supplement this programme and to obtain results with a view to designing the next step after JET and the technology necessary for that purpose.

The work under the general programme will be carried out by means of association or limited duration contracts. The allocation of the overall budget of 301 MECU will be as follows:

Association running costs	129 MECU
JET support	15 MECU
Normal priority actions	{ 88 MECU
Possible large new devices	
NET and technology	52 MECU
Management and mobility	17 MECU

There will be 113 staff at the beginning of the programme and 105 at the end of 1986.

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In this context the Council also discussed, on the basis of a note from the Commission, the questions arising with respect to international co-operation on fusion. The Council agreed to continue this examination at its next meeting on research.

COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Further to the Council's request on 9 November 1981 that studies be undertaken on a number of aspects of a Community research and development strategy, the Commission submitted to the Council on 24 February two communications on:

- a framework programme for the scientific and technical activities of the Community: Principles and methods of working;
- stimulating the scientific and technical potential of the European Community: Perception of needs and action to be undertaken.

The Council held a policy debate on these two communications, which allowed delegations to give their general thoughts on the problems raised.

The Council held a constructive exchange of views on the concept of the framework programme for the scientific and technical activities of the Community. It invited the Commission to submit a preliminary draft to the next meeting of the Research Council. It also approved the Commission's suggestion that a particular study be made of procedural problems regarding the establishment and assessment of the programmes. This study would be carried out within an "ad hoc" Working Party consisting of Commission representatives, full members of CREST and personal representatives of the Ministers. The Council asked the Commission to submit the Working Party's conclusions to the next Council meeting.

On the second communication, the Council took note of the Commission's intention of submitting a new document for the next meeting of the Research Council in the light of today's discussions.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Customs union and trade policy

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1798/75 on the importation free of Common Customs Tariff duties of educational, scientific and cultural materials;
- making the importation into Greece of certain jute products originating in Bangladesh or India subject to quantitative limitation;
- on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic regarding prepared or preserved tomatoes falling within subheading 20.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff.

ECSC

The Council gave assents, pursuant to Article 56(2)(a) of the ECSC Treaty (conversion loan), in respect of:

- Société UTEMA-TRAVHYDRO ("TRAVHYDRO") SA, Belgium;
- Belgian Mechanical Fabrication (BMF) SA, Belgium;
- Usines à Tubes de la Meuse SA, Belgium;
- Halbergerhütte GmbH, Federal Republic of Germany;
- Kent Confectionery Industries Ltd., United Kingdom.

The Council also gave its assent, pursuant to the first paragraph of Article 95 of the ECSC Treaty, on the draft Commission Decision (ECSC) amending Decision 73/287/ECSC concerning coking coal and coke for the iron and steel industry in the Community.

It should be noted that this Decision extends the period of validity of the instrument in question until the end of 1983 while making a number of amendments to it; Community financing will apply to a maximum tonnage of 14 million tonnes and a maximum amount of 47 MECU per year, while the sales aid in respect of deliveries to areas remote from the coalfield may be as high as 4.70 ECU/t for deliveries by sea and 2.80 ECU/t in other cases.

The Council also gave the consultation under Article 6(1) of Commission Decision No 528/76/ECSC on financial aid awarded by the Member States to the coal industry in 1981.

Appointment

On a proposal from the Italian Government, the Council appointed Mr Pietro IMBERTI, Unione Italiana del Lavoro, member of the ECSC Consultative Committee to replace Mr Agostino CONTE, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 24 November 1982.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

5593/82 (Presse 28)

757th meeting of the Council
- Economic and Financial Questions -
Brussels, 15 March 1982
President: Mr Willy de CLERCQ,
Minister for Finance of
the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Willy de CLERCQ Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Finance

Denmark:

Mr Ivar NØRGAARD Minister for Economic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans MATTHÖFER Federal Minister for Finance
Mr Horst SCHULMANN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Yanis POTSFAKIS State Secretary,
Ministry for Co-ordination

France:

Mr Jacques DELORS Minister for Economic Affairs
and Finance

Ireland:

Mr M. DOYLE Secretary-General,
Ministry of Finance

Italy:

Mr Nino ANDREATTA Minister for the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH Deputy President of the Government,
Minister for Economic Affairs,
Small Firms and Traders

Mr Jacques SANTER Minister for Finance

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN State Secretary, Ministry of
Finance

Netherlands:

Mr. A.P.J.M.M. van der STEE Minister for Finance

United Kingdom:

Sir Geoffrey HOWE Chancellor of the Exchequer

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Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI Vice-President

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT Vice-President

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The meeting was also attended by:

Mr Horst SCHULMANN Chairman of the Monetary Committee

Mr CIAMPI Chairman of the Committee of
Governors of the Central Banks

Mr J. van YPERSELE de STRIHOU Chairman of the Economic and
Financial Policy Co-ordination
Group

Mr I. BYATT Chairman of the Economic Policy
Committee

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EMS -- CONCLUSIONS

The Council noted with satisfaction that the European Monetary System has worked well during the past three years, and has been an essential factor in achieving a more stable and orderly development of exchange rates in the Community and economic and monetary policies with a greater emphasis on stability and economic development. However, the attempt at the convergence of economic policies, especially as regards budgets, production costs and employment, must be reinforced if the aim of the creation of a zone of monetary stability in Europe is to be attained.

Accordingly the Council agreed on the importance of increasing in a realistic but meaningful manner the internal strength of the EMS and its capacity for external expression.

To this end the Council, after thorough discussion, concluded that it was possible and desirable to develop the EMS further by more actively co-ordinating the economic and monetary policies of the Member States, by pragmatically strengthening the technical mechanisms for mutual assistance, by encouraging and developing the use of the ECU and by improving monetary co-operation between the Community and third countries.

The Council signified its political agreement on many points, in particular the Commission's suggestions on the private use of the ECU, the measures to enhance convergence and the organizational features of the external relations of the EMS. It considers, however, that the development of the EMS mechanisms should go even further.

The Council requested the Monetary Committee and the Committee of Governors, acting in close co-operation, to submit the opinions necessary to enable the Council to adopt a resolution and take positive decisions at its May meeting.

EEC--JAPAN RELATIONS

- Economic and financial problems

The Council considered that the joint Community position toward Japan should, apart from the commercial aspects, include aspects of macro-economic policy and the evolution of the yen.

To this end the Council conducted an initial exchange of views on a working document submitted by the Commission and setting forth certain guidelines.

Winding up this exchange of views, the Council agreed to discuss these matters further at a forthcoming meeting.

EURATOM LOANS

The Council adopted the Decision raising to 2,000 MECU the total amount of Euratom loans which the Commission is empowered to contract for the purpose of contributing to the financing of nuclear power stations.

This Decision is the follow-up to the Decision of 29 March 1977 introducing this instrument with an amount of 500 MECU and to the Decision of 17 January 1980 which raised that amount to 1,000 MECU, and takes account of the fact that almost all that amount has already been committed.

The Decision also stipulates that when the total value of the transactions effected reaches 1,800 MECU, the Commission will inform the Council, which, acting unanimously on the Commission's proposal, will decide on the fixing of a new amount as soon as possible.

FIRST QUARTERLY EXAMINATION OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY

On the basis of a Commission communication dated 10 March 1982, the Council held the first quarterly examination of the economic situation in the Community for 1982.

This examination enabled the members of the Council to mention, in particular, the recent economic developments and economic prospects in their respective countries.

Concluding this examination, the Council shared the Commission's opinion that the economic policy guidelines for 1982, which were adopted by the Council on 14 December 1981, need not be amended at the moment.

ECONOMIC POLICY GUIDELINES FOR 1982 FOR GREECE

The Council, supplementing its Decision of 14 December 1981 adopting the annual report on the economic situation in the Community and laying down economic policy guidelines for 1982, adopted the guidelines to be followed by the Hellenic Republic in its economic policy for 1982.

NCI II - CONCILIATION WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Council held a conciliation meeting with a delegation from the European Parliament concerning the New Community Instrument (NCI II - Draft Decision empowering the Commission to contract loans with a view to promoting investment in the Community, which draft is the subject of a common position reached by the Council on 14 October 1981).

The European Parliament delegation was led by Mr Piet DANKERT, President, and was composed of the following members: Mr NOTENBOOM, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr Jacques MOREAU, Chairman and Rapporteur of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, Mr SPINELLI and Mr GOUTHIER, Rapporteurs of the Committee on Budgets, Mr HOPPER and Mr de GUCHT, members of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, and Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

At the close of the discussions the President of the Council recorded that:

- the two institutions still disagreed on certain substantive questions regarding NCI II;
- the Council insisted on the urgency of the matter, as the 1 000 MECU of NCI I was fully committed and it had therefore adopted the basic Decision;
- the Council expected to receive in the very near future the European Parliament's Opinion on the draft Decision implementing NCI II;
- the Council and the European Parliament noted the Commission's intention of submitting proposals for the continuation of the NCI, that the European Parliament would be consulted on those proposals, and that the conciliation procedure would again apply.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISION

Commercial policy measures with regard to the USSR

The Council adopted two Regulations relating to trade with the USSR. The first of these Regulations reduces imports for a list of products originating in the USSR, while the second provides for the provisional suspension of these measures with regard to Greece.

These Regulations will be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities dated 16 March 1982 and will enter into force the following day.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

5595/82 (Presse 30)

758th meeting of the Council
- Agriculture -
Brussels, 15, 16 and 17 March 1982

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs
and Agriculture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

The Government 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

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

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

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Agriculture

Mr André CELLARD
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI
Minister for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING
Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Bjoern WESTH
Minister for Agriculture

Greece:

Mr Costas SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Camille NEY
Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Lakes, Rivers and
Forests

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

For the Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER
Member

FIXING OF PRICES FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES

The Council resumed its discussions on the agricultural prices for 1982/1983. It began with a detailed examination of specific matters relating to milk products, beef and veal, sheepmeat and pigmeat, cereals and rice, fresh and processed fruit and vegetables, oils and fats, wine, sugar, tobacco and cotton.

Regarding milk products, the Council had in particular a detailed exchange of views on the rate of the co-responsibility levy to be applied in this sector and on the special measures to be envisaged in the case of small producers. It also considered the level of the guarantee threshold to be set for these products for 1982.

With reference to fruit and vegetables, olive oil and wine, a number of delegations drew the Council's attention to the link which existed between the fixing of prices for these products and further examination of the issue of "acquis communautaire".

On the basis of a report from the Commission, the Council also examined problems arising as a result of the inflation rates in the various Member States.

Several delegations stressed the importance they attached to the gradual abolition of monetary compensatory amounts. The Council will return to this important question during the general debate on the fixing of agricultural prices.

The Council also held a detailed examination of the financial implications of the Commission's proposals.

Concluding its discussions, the Council emphasized its desire to reach a decision at its meeting beginning on 31 March. To this end it instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue its discussions on all matters relating to the prices issue with the aim of establishing all the factors which would make it possible to expedite discussions and to reach a decision at its next meeting.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE "ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE" FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS

As agreed at its last meeting, the Council resumed its discussions on the adjustment of the "acquis communautaire" for Mediterranean products, and in particular wine, fruit and vegetables, citrus fruits and olive oil.

After noting that it was as yet unable to reach agreement, the Council invited the Special Committee on Agriculture to make, with all due speed, a further study of all the questions raised by the relevant proposals and communications and to report back for its next meeting on agriculture.

NATURAL GAS PRICES IN THE HOTHOUSE SECTOR IN THE NETHERLANDS

The Council heard a statement by the Commissioner, Mr DAISAGER, on the price of natural gas in the hothouse sector in the Netherlands. The Council noted that the Commission would adopt a position on this matter during the following week.

GENERAL RULES FOR OPERATIONS FOR THE DISTILLATION OF TABLE WINES

The Council examined a proposal from the Commission for an exceptional operation for the distillation of table wines taking account of current market conditions and the considerable differences in the price, in particular, of red wines on the markets of the two largest producer Member States.

The Council agreed to the principle of such an operation, which would cover the maximum volumes to be distilled, both for red wines (5 mio hl) and for white wines (1.5 mio hl). It stressed the urgent need for a final decision in the very near future, after a study of the effects of this operation on the alcohol market.

EXTENSION OF SOCIO-STRUCTURAL DIRECTIVES

The Council examined a proposal to extend until 31 December 1983 the period for carrying out the joint measures referred to in the three socio-structural Directives of 1972 (¹). In conclusion, it decided to return to the matter at its next meeting.

INTEREST RATE SUBSIDY

The Council resumed its examination of the two proposals:

- on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms;
- amending Decision 76/402/EEC relating to Directive 72/159/EEC (to be applied in Italy).

After its discussion, the Council agreed to return to these proposals at its next meeting.

(¹) Directives 72/159/EEC
72/160/EEC
72/161/EEC

COMMUNITY MEASURE FOR THE ERADICATION OF BRUCELLOSIS, TUBERCULOSIS
AND LEUCOSIS IN CATTLE

The Council continued its examination of the financial implications of the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 77/391/EEC and under which the programmes for eradicating brucellosis, tuberculosis and leucosis in cattle would be continued without a break for a further period of two years (three years for Greece).

At the close of its discussion, the Council invited the Permanent Representatives Committee to clarify the budgetary aspects of the proposal and agreed to return to the subject at its next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the Communities' official languages
Regulations:

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 on the common organization of the market in sugar;
- derogating from Regulation (EEC) No 456/80 in respect of the date when applicants for an abandonment premium must have carried out grubbing of vines;
- fixing the maximum percentage of the aid for bee-keeping which may be used for purchase of feeding sugar for the 1982/1983 marketing year.

Textiles

The Council formally adopted the decisions arrived at by the Textiles Council on 25 February, viz.:

- the adoption of the Protocol extending the Multifibre Arrangement;
- the directives for the Commission to open bilateral negotiations with supplier countries and in particular the global import ceiling figures;
- the Regulation on economic outward processing traffic.

Commercial policy and Customs Union

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

The Council also adopted in the Communities' official languages the Regulation amending Regulation No 1798/75 on the importation free of Common Customs Tariff duties of educational, scientific and cultural materials.

Research

The Council adopted in the Communities' official languages the Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Switzerland on a concerted action project in the field of the detection of the tendency to thrombosis.

Social policy

The Council adopted in the Communities' official languages the Regulation establishing, in the relations between the Italian institutions and the institutions of the other Member States, special measures for the reimbursement of the sickness and maternity insurance benefits in kind.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

5594/82 (Presse 29)

759th meeting of the Council

- Energy -

Brussels, 16 March 1982

President: Mr Etienne KNOOPS,
State Secretary for Energy
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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 Poul NIELSEN
Minister for Energy

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr A. PEPONIS
Minister for Industry and Energy

France:

Mr Edmond HERVE
Minister delegate to the
Ministry of Industry with
responsibility for Energy

Ireland:

Mr Andrew O'ROURKE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Enrico NOVELLINI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL
Minister for Energy

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. TERLOUW
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr John MOORE
Parliamentary
Under-Secretary of State
for Energy

Commission:

Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice-President

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SITUATION OF ENERGY SUPPLIES

The Council examined the current picture on the energy market. It found that, according to the Commission's figures, the 1980 falls in energy consumption (- 4.2%) and in the demand for petroleum products (- 8%) had continued in 1981 (- 3.9% and - 8.3% respectively) (*). It also noted the fall in the world market price for petroleum, and the level of stocks.

The Council agreed that the situation should not lead to any relaxation of the efforts to use energy more efficiently and to diversify supplies.

Although the fall in consumption was partly due to changes in the consumption structure and to more efficient use of energy, it was also partly due to a decline in economic activity and an economic up-turn could trigger an increase in the demand for energy.

The Council therefore remained convinced of the need not only for further progress towards attaining the objectives which the Community has set itself, which were to restructure demand in order to achieve more efficient use of energy, and to develop energy sources other than oil, and again to keep a constant watch on the results obtained by the Member States in these fields.

(*) provisional figures

ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT IN THE RATIONAL USE OF ENERGY

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the Commission communication concerning investment in the rational use of energy.

The Council examined with interest the Commission document containing a useful analysis of the policies adopted and measures taken by the Member States in their efforts to attain the Community's objective, and of the difficulties and obstacles encountered in their attempts to use energy more rationally.

The Council agreed to encourage moves towards the attainment of the Community's objectives.

The Council accordingly instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine in detail the draft Council recommendation to the Member States which was appended to the Commission communication, giving due weight to the views expressed within the Council, in order that decisions could be taken at the next meeting of the Council.

The Council noted that the Commission was soon to submit specific proposals on the action which public authorities could take to encourage further progress on certain selected types of investment in the energy field, which the Commission considered to be especially urgent.

THE NUCLEAR ASPECTS

The Council examined with great interest the Commission's communication concerning the nuclear aspects of the energy strategy; this document offers a comprehensive approach which could serve as a basis for a more detailed analysis of the problems arising in this field.

The Council decided to make a more thorough examination of these issues at its next meeting and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to prepare the ground.

ROLE FOR SOLID FUEL IN THE COMMUNITY'S ENERGY STRATEGY

The Council examined a Commission communication on the role solid fuel could play in a Community energy strategy.

The Council recognized the outstanding importance of solid fuel in the diversification of primary energy sources.

The Council asked the Commission to consider the matter further in order that at its next meeting, the Council could continue its discussion of the matter.

It instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the Commission's proposals in the light of the day's discussions.

NATURAL GAS

The Council noted the growing contribution which natural gas was likely to make towards reducing the Community's dependence on oil and more broadly towards the diversification of supplies.

The Council also noted that the Commission was to carry out studies which would serve as a basis for appropriate proposals on the measures to be taken to strengthen the security of the Community's supplies of natural gas.

ENERGY PRICING

1. The Council is aware of the need for Member States to develop gradually a common approach on price formation in accordance with the Council's conclusions of 3 December 1981.
2. The Council considers that government policies must aim to reduce gradually the artificial obstacles which prevent reliable information from reaching the market.
3. The Council would encourage the Commission's efforts to improve price transparency, wherever necessary, and asks the Commission to report back on the results of these efforts.
4. The Council asks the Commission to examine pricing policies, sector by sector, for the purpose of ensuring that they conform to the principles adopted by the Council and, if appropriate, to submit to it proposals based on the results of that examination.

LIMITED SHORTAGE OF OIL

The Council noted that the other industrialized countries had adopted measures similar to those contemplated by the Community and had undertaken to implement, if circumstances so required, the procedure and measures to cope with a limited oil shortage, as agreed by the Council on 27 October 1981.

It also noted, in this connection, the Commission's intention to submit in due course, and as agreed on 27 October 1981, a report on the level and use of stocks.

The Council invited the Member States to endeavour to maintain, in 1982, stocks of each category of petroleum product specified in Council Directive 68/414/EEC at a level equal to at least 90 days of the average daily internal consumption recorded in 1980.

INFORMATION ON THE ENERGY CONSUMPTION OF HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

The Council looked at the last remaining reservations on the three draft Directives applying the Directive on the indication by labelling of the energy consumption of domestic appliances to:

- electric washing machines;
- electric dishwashers with cold water supply only;
- electric refrigerators, frozen food cabinets, freezers and their combinations.

The Council agreed that talks would be held with the delegations involved in order that an overall agreement could be reached and the Directives adopted swiftly.



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

5779/82 (Presse 33)

760th meeting of the Council

- Foreign Affairs -

Brussels, 22/23 March 1982

President: Mr Leo TINDEMANS,

Minister for External Relations
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

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

Denmark:

Mr Kjeld OLESEN	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Otto MØLLER	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans Dietrich GENSCHER	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Otto Graf LAMBSDORFF	Federal Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Werner LAUTENSCHLAGER	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Horst SCHULMANN	State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Grigoris VARFIS	State Secretary, Economic Co-ordination, with responsibility for relations with the EEC
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France:

Mr Michel JOBERT	Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Trade
Mr Claude CHEYSSON	Minister for External Relations
Mr André CHANDERNAGOR	Minister responsible to the Minister for External Relations, with responsibility for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Gerry COLLINS	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Brian LENIHAN	Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Emilio COLOMBO
Mr Mario FIORET

Minister for Foreign Affairs
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Miss Colette FLESCH

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr Max van der STOEL
Mr H. van den BROEK
Mr W. DIK

Minister for Foreign Affairs
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Lord CARRINGTON
Mr John BIFFEN
Mr Humphrey ATKINS

Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs
Secretary of State for Trade
Lord Privy Seal

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Commission:

Mr Gaston THORN
Mr Francois-Xavier ORTOLI
Mr Wilhelm HAFERKAMP
Mr Lorenzo NATALI
Viscount Etienne DAVIGNON
Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES

President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Member

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EEC/JAPAN RELATIONS

1. The Council examined the question of relations with Japan, which remained a matter of serious bilateral concern and which raised numerous multilateral issues affecting the functioning of the international trading system. In this connection the Council considered that the measures recently announced by the Japanese Government, aimed at further opening the Japanese market, reflected an encouraging political awareness but that their practical effect on the evolution of trade would be very limited and could not therefore constitute the response expected by the Community.

As part of a comprehensive common strategy the Council agreed that the following course of action should be pursued.

2. Efforts should be continued in bilateral contacts and multi-lateral fora to persuade Japan to modify its trading and economic policies and to achieve a more balanced integration of the Japanese economy with that of its main industrialized partners. The aim here will be to address the **cause** of economic friction at its root, i.e. Japanese low import propensity. While the removal of specific barriers to imports at the frontier remains welcome, what is needed, beyond that, is determined and swift action by the Japanese Government positively to promote imports, e.g. through guidance to public and private sectors.

3. Japan is again called upon to provide tangible assurances that, from 1982 onwards, it will pursue a policy of effective moderation towards the Community as a whole as regards Japanese exports in sectors where an increase in Japanese exports to the Community would cause significant problems, notably passenger cars, colour television sets and tubes, certain machine tools including numerically controlled lathes and machining centres, in order to improve the situation.
4. The Council reiterated the conclusions of the ECO/FIN Council on 15 March 1982, according to which the common position of the Community should cover besides trade aspects, aspects of macro-economic policies and the development of the yen. It noted that it had been agreed to examine these aspects in depth at a forthcoming session with a view to forthcoming international Conferences. Japan's policy in these areas had to take account of Japan's international responsibilities. This is an essential complement to action in the field of trade.
5. The Council recalled the need for European industries to strengthen their international competitiveness through adequate investment and modernization efforts. The Council recognized the need to complete a Community policy within which European firms will be better able to develop positive strategies to meet Japanese

competition. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to establish a high-level Working Party to consider the issues involved, from the point of view of structural adjustment in industry linked to trade policy. This Working Party should also review the general Japanese export strategy and its implications for European industry. It should report to the Permanent Representatives Committee within the near future making appropriate recommendations.

6. The Council also agreed that the possibilities of scientific and technological co-operation between the Community and Japan should be explored. The appropriate Community bodies should examine the specific sectors which might be envisaged, with a view to achieving balanced co-operation.
7. Since the benefits expected by the Community as a result of successive GATT negotiations with Japan have not been realized, and since the results of bilateral discussions have been unsatisfactory, the Council agreed that the procedures of Article XXIII of GATT will be initiated with Japan.

The detailed aspects of the representations to be made will be finalized in consultation with the Article 113 Committee and the Permanent Representatives Committee. The objective will be to secure prompt action by Japan on the lines of that described in paragraph 2.

8. The Commission was requested to report to the Council as appropriate and to submit a comprehensive report for consideration, at the earliest opportune meeting of the Council.

COMMODITIES: TIN

The Council recorded its agreement on the principle of participation by the Community and its Member States in the 6th International Tin Agreement. In signing this Agreement, the Community will stipulate that the Agreement may not be used to facilitate or support manipulation of the tin market.

PRESERVED SARDINES FROM MOROCCO AND TUNISIA

The Council recorded its agreement on the extension until 31 December 1982 of the Community tariff quota arrangements currently applied to preserved sardines originating in Morocco and Tunisia and due to expire on 31 March 1982. It undertook to adopt, before 30 September 1982 on the basis of Commission proposals, negotiating directives to enable definitive arrangements to be set up as from 1 January 1983 for imports of preserved sardines from the preferential countries concerned, in compliance with Community preference.

SPANISH ACCESSION

The Council prepared for the 10th Ministerial meeting in connection with the negotiations for Spanish accession to the European Communities, which was held at the end of the afternoon of Monday 22 March 1982.

PORTUGUESE ACCESSION

The Council discussed a number of problems arising with respect to right of establishment in the context of the negotiations on the accession of Portugal to the Communities.

DISTILLATION OF TABLE WINE

Following the discussions of the Agriculture Council ⁽¹⁾ on an exceptional operation for the distillation of table wines to alleviate the difficult situation on this market, the Council reached agreement on the details of such an operation.

The Regulation was submitted for formal approval by means of the written procedure which will be concluded on Thursday evening.

⁽¹⁾ See Press Release 5595/82 (Presse 30), p. 5, of 15/16/17.III.82

APPROXIMATION OF THE LAWS OF THE MEMBER STATES RELATING TO COSMETIC PRODUCTS

The Council recorded its agreement on the substance of a Directive amending for the first time Directive 76/768/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products.

The purpose of this Directive is to protect consumers in this important economic sector by making certain clarifications to the basic Directive, adopting a positive list of substances permitted as preservatives and laying down a speedy and flexible procedure - cosmetic products "Committee procedure" - for the adaptation to technical progress of the Annexes to the Directive (lists of prohibited products or lists of permitted products).

PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT FOR CHARGE CHROME

The Council examined the question of the opening of a quota for high-carbon ferro-chrome (charge chrome) and agreed to discuss this matter further at its next meeting.

MANDATE OF 30 MAY

Continuing its discussions on the Commission report pursuant to the mandate of 30 May 1980, the Council held a fruitful debate on the problem of the United Kingdom situation in connection with the Budget of the Communities. During this debate the Presidents of the Council and of the Commission put forward fresh suggestions which were favourably received by all delegations.

The Council agreed to continue its discussions on this matter on 3 April in Luxembourg.

PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The Council prepared for the forthcoming meeting of the European Council on 29 and 30 March in Brussels, at which the principal subject for discussion will be the economic and social situation in the Community.

EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

The Council settled the final outstanding questions regarding the setting up of the European Foundation.

It was agreed that the Agreement setting up this Foundation would be signed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States at the ceremony commemorating the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Rome Treaties to be held on Monday 29 March (morning) in Brussels.

The task of the Foundation will be increased to mutual understanding between the peoples of the European Economic Community, to promote a better understanding of the European cultural heritage in both its unity and rich diversity and to give citizens a direct and practical perception of the reality of progress towards the goal of European union ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ A press release summarizing the main points will be published on the occasion of the signing of the Agreement.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Relations with Cyprus

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities two Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for the following products originating in Cyprus:

- carrots
- new potatoes.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the statistical surveys to be carried out by Member States on sheep and goat stocks.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges by the chlor-alkali electrolysis industry (see press release 11421/81 (Presse 158), p. 5 of 3 December 1981).

Transport

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States, by increasing that quota (see press release 11770/81 (Presse 169), p. 7 of 15 December 1981).

Court of Auditors' report

As regards the Court of Auditors' annual report concerning the financial year 1980, the Council approved a recommendation which it forwarded to the European Parliament with a view to the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget and the supplementary and amending budgets of the European Communities for the financial year 1980.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

5969/82 (Presse 37)

761st meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 31 March, 1 and 2 April 1982

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs
and Agriculture
of the Kingdom of Belgium

Presse 37 - G

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

Germany:

Mr Josef ERTL,
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

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

France

Mrs Edith CRESSON,
Minister for Agriculture,

Mr André CELLARD,
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe BARTOLOMEI,
Minister for Agriculture

Netherlands:

Mr Jan de KONING,
Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Bjoern WESTH,
Minister for Agriculture

Greece:

Mr Costas SIMITIS,
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN,
Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

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

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER,
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH,
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

For the Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER
Member

FIXING OF PRICES FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND RELATED MEASURES

On the basis of a Commission compromise, the Council continued its discussions on the fixing of the agricultural prices for the 1982/1983 marketing year. The discussions dealt with the level of prices, the agri-monetary problems and budgetary aspects of the 1982/1983 marketing year, and the problem of adjusting the *quote communautaire* for Mediterranean products.

The Council noted that considerable progress had been made on the various matters submitted to it. However, there were still problems outstanding, particularly with regard to the level of prices, the measures to be taken with a view to gradually dismantling the positive and negative monetary compensatory amounts, the milk products *quote* and Mediterranean products.

Further, the Council examined the more specific problems concerning inflation rates, which are particularly high in certain countries, and the consequences that should be drawn from this with regard both to prices and other measures which might be suitable for alleviating the declining incomes of farmers in such countries.

Taking into account the complexity of the situation and aware of the need to reach an overall and balanced compromise on the various matters submitted to it, the Council considered it useful at this stage to suspend its discussions with a view to allowing the delegations more time for reflection and to enable the experts to examine certain aspects of the problems. It was therefore agreed to adjourn the meeting with a view to resuming discussions on 21 October 1982 at 16.00 in order to reach a decision on the whole question of prices and related measures.

Pending resumption of discussions, the Council decided to extend the present marketing year for milk products, beef and veal and sheepmeat and goatmeat until 26 April 1982. Furthermore, it extended the term of validity of the Regulation fixing flat-rate production aid and the guide price for certain dried fodder for the period 1 April to 26 April 1982.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural questions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3035/80 laying down general rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex II to the Treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds.

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision based on the Treaties relating to fishing activities carried out in waters falling within the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the Member States and taken provisionally pending the adoption of definitive Community measures (extension until 30 April 1982).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation extending the period of validity for fishing licences issued under Regulation (EEC) No 848/81 (French Guyana).

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation laying down for 1982 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway.

Relations with Morocco and Tunisia

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3814/81 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for prepared or preserved sardines falling within subheading 16.04 D of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Morocco;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3815/81 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for prepared or preserved sardines falling within subheading 16.04 D of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Tunisia.

Commercial policy

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

- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3439/80 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain polyester yarn originating in the United States of America;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 90/82 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on phenol originating in the United States of America;
- adding other products to the Annex to Regulation (EEC) No 2532/78 on common rules for imports from the People's Republic of China.

Textiles

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation concluding the Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Poland on trade in textile products and the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters.

Commodities

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision concerning the signing and provisional application of the 6th International Tin Agreement (see Press Release 5779/82 (Presse 33) - page 7 - of 22/23 March 1982).

Approximation of laws

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

- concerning the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants and amending Directive 73/404/EEC;
- amending Directive 73/405/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants.

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision authorizing the Commission to take part in negotiations concerning a Protocol to the 1976 Barcelona Convention on specially protected areas of the Mediterranean Sea.

ECSC

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

Appointments

On a proposal from the Irish Government, the Council appointed Mr J.F. O'BRIEN, Divisional Director, Federated Union of Employers, as a member of the European Social Fund Committee to replace Mr J. DAVIS who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 9 November 1982.

The Council also appointed:

- on a proposal from the United Kingdom Government, Mr H.J. DUNSTER, Director designated of the National Radiological Protection Board, as a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee to replace Mr A.S. McLEAN, who has died, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 31 March 1983;
- on a proposal from the Italian Government, Mr Giovanni NASCHI, member of the Italian National Nuclear Energy Council, as a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee to replace Mr COLOMBO, who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 31 March 1983.

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision appointing the members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work for a period of three years (1982-1985):

I. REPRESENTANTS DU GOUVERNEMENT

	a) <u>Membres titulaires</u>		b) <u>Membres suppléants</u>	
Belgique	M. BENS	Dr. DENONNE	Mme MARQUEGNIES	M. GREGOIRE
Danemark	M. BURG	M. ANDERSEN	M. SAXILD	M. NEPPER-CHRISTENSEN
Allemagne	M. KLIESCH	Dr. WAGNER	M. OPFERMANN	Dr. WOLFF
Grèce	M. VASSILOPOULOS	Mme GEORGOPOULOU	Mme KAFETZOPOULOU	M. ZORBAS
France	M. NUTTE	M. COURSAULT-DURAND	Mlle BUNE	M. BABUSIAUX
Irlande	M. KENNEDY	M. CONROY	M. MORRISON	Dr. MURPHY
Italie	Dott. FREDELLA	Dott. FIORE	Dott. ^{ssa} ROCCA-ERCOLI	Dott. GUERRIERI
Luxembourg	M. SCHUSTER	Mme le Dr. KIEFFER	M. MOUSEL	M. DEMUTH
Pays-Bas	M. DE ROOS	Drs. SICCAMA	M. RIKMENSPOEL	Drs. VOS
Royaume-Uni	M. MARTIN	Dr. SORRIE	M. MUNNS	Dr. CRITCHLOW

II. REPRESENTANTS D'EMPLOYEURS

	a) <u>Membres titulaires</u>		b) <u>Membres suppléants</u>	
Belgique	M. CORDY	M. LEONARD	M. BORMANS	M. HARDY
Danemark	M. FALK	M. VON GRUMBKOW	M. LINIUS	Mme ANDERSEN
Allemagne	M. VON HASSEL	M. MEYER	M. MÜLLER	M. WINCKLER
Grèce (*)
France	M. CAVE	M. TASSIN	M. FREDERIC-MOREAU	M. FRUCHET
Irlande	M. CLARKE	M. RICE	M. CASSIDY	Mme CARROLL
Italie	Dott. GARLANDO	Dott. BUSSETTI	M. GIUSTI	Dott. SCARPINI
Luxembourg	M. RAUCHS	M. OLANGER	M. BERWEILER	M. BEFFORT
Pays-Bas	M. DEN BOER	Mme DE MEESTER	Mme DE QUANT	M. KORTEN
Royaume-Uni	M. AMIS	M. EBERLIE	Mlle MACKIE	Mlle SWIAD-KOWSKA

III. REPRESENTANTS DE TRAVAILLEURS

	a) <u>Membres titulaires</u>		b) <u>Membres suppléants</u>	
Belgique	M. THYRE	M. SILON	M. THISSEN	M. COLLE
Danemark	M. ELIKOFER	Mme CHRISTENSEN	M. NIELSEN	Mme SVANHOFF
Allemagne	M. KONSTANTY	M. PARTIKEL	M. KIENAPPEL	M. GÄRTNER
Grèce (*)
France	M. ATLAN	M. GUEVEL	M. MALNOE	M. DIAZ
Irlande	M. CASSELLS	M. O'SULLIVAN	M. O'HALLORAN	M. KEATING
Italie	M. LELI	M. STANZIANI	Mme TOMASSINI	M. LUCIANI
Luxembourg	M. JUNCK	M. EHSSES	M. DUNKEL	M. NURENBERG
Pays-Bas	M. DE BRUIN	M. HOGENES	M. BURINGH	Drs. SCHMITZ
Royaume-Uni	M. LLOYD	M. JACQUES	M. BUCKTON	M. HAMILTON

(*) The Council will appoint the representatives of the Greek employers' and trade-union organizations at a later date.

Relations with Turkey

Following the meeting of the EEC-Turkey Association Council on 2 April, which was devoted to the problem of imports of cotton yarns into the Community, the Council adopted a Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain cotton yarns originating in Turkey.

The Regulation will enter into force on 3 April. The rate of anti-dumping duty is fixed at 12% of the value for customs purposes of the goods.

Research

Taking into account the European Parliament's request for the application of the conciliation procedure, the Council adopted a common position on:

- the Fusion research programme (1982-1986);
- the Research programme in the raw materials sector.

(See press release 5387/82 (Presse 25) of 5 March 1982).
