



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

479th Council meeting
- Social Affairs -
Luxembourg, 28 October 1977
President: Mr Guy SPITAEELS,
Minister for Labour
and Employment of the
Kingdom of Belgium

28.X.77

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

Belgium:

Mr Guy SPITAEELS Minister for Labour and Employment

Denmark:

Mr Charles J. AUKEN Minister of Labour

Germany:

Mr Reinhard STREHLKE State Secretary,
Ministry of Labour

France:

Mr Christian BEULLAC Minister of Labour

Ireland:

Mr Charles HAUGHEY Minister of Health and
Social Welfare

Italy:

Mr Baldassarre ARMATO State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

Luxembourg:

Mr Maurice THOSS State Secretary,
Ministry for Labour and
Social Security

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Netherlands:

Mr P.J.J. MERTENS

State Secretary
Ministry of Labour.

United Kingdom:

Mr John GRANT

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of Employment

Commission:

Mr Henk VREDELING

Vice-President

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Council continued the discussion on the review of the tasks and operating rules of the Social Fund which was begun on 28 June 1977.

The Council reached general agreement on the common guidelines relating to the following texts which are to be forwarded to the European Parliament:

- Decision amending the basic Decision of 1 February 1971 (71/66/EEC) on the European Social Fund
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2396/71 and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2397/71 and Regulation (EEC) No 2398/71 on the implementation of the basic Decision
- Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 858/72 on certain administrative and financial procedures for the operation of the European Social Fund
- Article 4 Decisions which are being extended to 31 December 1980:
 - = Decision amending Decision 72/428/EEC (agriculture), Decision 75/459/EEC (young people) and Decision 76/206/EEC (textile and clothing industries)
 - = Decision on action by the European Social Fund for migrant workers
- Council Regulation concerning the operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the European Social Fund.

The Council also confirmed its agreement on the principle of granting aid from the Fund for women under Article 4 of the basic Decision and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to finalize the wording of the proposal for a Decision submitted by the Commission so that the Council could adopt it at a forthcoming meeting.

As indicated above, the Council also agreed on the Commission proposal for a Regulation concerning operations qualifying for a higher rate of intervention by the Fund; under this Regulation, operations to be carried out in Greenland, the French Overseas Departments, Ireland, Northern Ireland and the Mezzogiorno will benefit from a higher rate of intervention.

It is agreed that the date of entry into force of this Regulation will be the same as that of the Decision making Fund assistance available under Article 4 of the basic Decision for women.

With regard to the question of the creation of a new category of aid for the promotion of employment, the Council, in the light of its discussion on the Commission communication on youth employment, adopted the following conclusions:

- The Council finds that it is not in a position at present to take a decision which would make aid for the promotion of employment available immediately.

- The Council nevertheless considers that, within the framework of the resources available for the Fund's operations, a category of aid which would be likely to promote employment - centring on employment for young workers - and which would not fall within the current categories of aid for vocational training or occupational mobility, is appropriate in the present labour market situation.

- The Council therefore asks the Commission to submit suitable proposals to it, in the light of the present discussions and of its communication on youth employment, so that this new category of aid can be introduced as soon as possible.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The Council had before it a communication from the Commission on youth employment and held a policy debate on this subject with particular reference to the nature of the joint action to be taken to stimulate such employment.

The initial suggestions made by the Commission in its communication involved mainly:

- new subsidies designed to assist the creation of jobs and the provision of work for young people in the form both of a Community subsidy for the creation of jobs by undertakings and of Community participation in job creation programmes in sectors of public interest;
- the strengthening of Community aid for post-school training for young people in the form of assistance for practical training and of projects of broader scope.

The various delegations made known their initial reactions during the discussion, and the Commission undertook to bear these reactions in mind when preparing the formal proposals to be submitted to the Council at a later stage.

At the end of this exchange of views the President drew the following conclusions:

"As instructed by the European Council at its meeting on 28 and 29 June 1977, the Council, in the light of its review of the measures taken by the Member States to promote employment and training for young people, held an initial examination of the joint action to be undertaken.

The Council accordingly invites the Commission to prepare detailed proposals for Community aid for programmes designed to encourage youth employment in the Member States. The Council considers that such proposals should be selective and should ensure that the aid is granted to areas of greatest need.

The Council invites the Commission to work out measures, within the framework of the European Social Fund, for strengthening the link between the post-school training and the employment of young people.

Finally, the Council encourages the Commission to secure an increase in assistance and co-operation among the Member States in developing their institutions for achieving optimum balance between supply and demand on the labour market."

Following the discussion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine these proposals, and in particular their financial aspects, as soon as they had been forwarded by the Commission.

These questions will be discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Employment on 24 November and at the next Council meeting on Social Affairs planned for December. The Commission has undertaken to forward to the Council for this December meeting an outline programme which will precede the practical proposals it intends to make in the first few months of next year.

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

The Council agreed to the amendment of the Regulations on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community.

The object of this amendment to Regulations (EEC) No 1408/71 and 574/72 is to improve the situation of the family of a migrant worker who is living in a Member State other than his state of residence, particularly as regards sickness and maternity insurance.

A further object is to enable a worker who is receiving a pension under the legislation of one Member State while working in the territory of another Member State to be ensured under the legislation of the latter Member State even if the legislation of that State exempts pensioners from compulsory insurance. In addition, it allows workers to receive, without any restrictions, a pension acquired under the legislation of a Member State and to have a pension which was awarded under the legislation of another Member State postponed in order to receive the increase in pension due as a result of that postponement.

The amendment also regulates the award of invalidity benefits in cases where a worker previously subject to legislation based on the materialization of the risk is subject to legislation based on the length of the insurance under which he becomes disabled, and where under the former legislation the award of invalidity benefits is subject to the condition that the worker has previously received cash sickness benefits or that he has been incapable of work for a specified period.

PROGRAMME TO COMBAT POVERTY

The Council agreed on an amendment to the Decision of 22 July 1975 concerning a programme of pilot schemes and studies to combat poverty, to ensure that action under the programme continues, with financial assistance from the Community, beyond the two years originally laid down.

This amendment enables the Community to continue financing projects currently in progress until 1980 and provides, under certain specified conditions, for the possibility of introducing new, in particular replacement, projects.

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The Council took note of the Commission report on the European programme of pilot schemes to combat poverty, 1976.

This report on the 21 schemes and two cross-national studies approved under the programme contains general analytical comments and a summary of the progress reports submitted by those responsible for the projects and the competent authorities of the Member States. It also contains comments on future activities in the programme.

REPORT OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Council took note of the fifth report of the European Social Fund - financial year 1976.

The Council drew particular attention to the Commission's efforts as regards both the content and clarity of the report. As well as setting out the activities of the Fund according to the field of intervention (persons leaving agriculture, persons working in the textile and clothing sectors, migrant workers, young people, the handicapped, regional projects, technical progress and groups of undertakings), the report provides additional information on the financial impact of the Fund on the less-favoured regions of the Community and on the number of persons assisted in the various fields.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFETY, HYGIENE AND HEALTH PROTECTION

The Council took note of the first progress report produced by the Advisory Committee on Safety, Hygiene and Health Protection at Work since the establishment of the Committee in June 1974 and the commencement of its activities in July 1975.

This report covers the second half of 1975 and the whole of 1976. It describes the structure of the Committee and its activities in this initial period and draws a number of conclusions relating mainly to the future activities of the Committee. In an Annex to the Report the Committee submits a Resolution on the implementation of a Community Action Programme on Health and Safety at Work.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

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

- the Decision on the conclusion of the European Agreement on the exchange of tissue-typing reagents and of the Additional Protocol thereto;

- the Regulations
 - extending the term of validity of Regulations (EEC) Nos 2843/76 and 2844/76 laying down special measures for the determination of the offers of olive oil on the world market and on the Greek market;

 - on the standard amount for unrefined olive oil produced entirely in Greece and transported direct from that country into the Community;

 - fixing the threshold price for olive oil for the 1977/1978 marketing year;

 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 3209/73 on the subsidy for olive oil;

 - amending Regulation (EEC) No 1900/74 laying down special measures for soya beans;

 - concluding exchanges of letters between the EEC, on the one hand, and Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Turkey on the other hand, relating to untreated olive oil, and the implementing Regulations relating to those exchanges of letters;

 - suspending application of the conditions to which the importation into the Community of certain citrus fruit originating in Spain or Cyprus is subject by virtue of the Agreements between the Community and those countries;

- concerning the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the EEC and Turkey relating to imports into the Community of Turkish prepared and preserved sardines.

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On a proposal **from the** French Government, the Council appointed Miss Rolande RUELLAN, Administrateur Civil, Chef du Bureau des Conventions Internationales de Sécurité Sociale, member of the Advisory Committee on Social Security for Migrant Workers in place of Mr Robert FONTENEAU, member who has resigned, for the remainder of the latter's term of office which runs until 7 February 1979.

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NOTE BIO (77) 371 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, AU DIRECTEUR GENERAL DE LA DG I ET
A M. OPITZ, DG VIII

LE CONSEIL SOCIAL AURA LIEU A LUXEMBOURG LE 28 OCTOBRE SOUS LA
PRESIDENCE DE M. SPITAELS.
LES DEUX POINTS PRINCIPAUX A L'ORDRE DU JOUR SONT LA REFORME
DU FONDS SOCIAL ET LA COMMUNICATION DE LA COMMISSION CONCERNANT
L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES.

REFORME DU FONDS SOCIAL

LE CONSEIL SOCIAL DU 28 JUIN A EU UNE PREMIERE DISCUSSION
A CE SUJET SUR BASE DES PROPOSITIONS DE LA COMMISSION DE MARS
DERNIER VISANT A ADAPTER LE FONDS SOCIAL A LA SITUATION DIFFI-
CILE SUR LE MARCHE DE L'EMPLOI AINSI QU'A AMELIORER L'EFFICACITE
DES CONCOURS OCTROYES PAR LE FONDS (VOIR COM(77)90 ET LA NOTE
P - 21). SUITE A CETTE DISCUSSION LE CONSEIL A DEGAGE UN
NOMBRE D'ORIENTATIONS FAVORABLES EN CE QUI CONCERNE LA REVISION
DES REGLES DU FONDS ET A CHARGE LE COREPER DE METTRE AU POINT
LES TEXTES EN VUE DE LEUR ADOPTION FUTURE.

LE CONSEIL DU 28 OCTOBRE DOIT REGLER QUELQUES POINTS QUI
RESTENT TOUJOURS EN SUSPENS TELS QUE LA DEFINITION DES AIDES A
CARACTERE REGIONAL, LA POSSIBILITE D'UNE AIDE POUR FACILITER
L'EMBAUCHE DES TRAVAILLEURS (DEMANDEE PAR L'ITALIE ET L'IRLANDE),
LE TAUX DE L'AVANCE A VERSER (30 POUR CENT OU 40 POUR
CENT), L'INTERVENTION DU FONDS EN FAVEUR DES FEMMES ET LES
OPERATIONS BENEFICIANT D'UN TAUX D'INTERVENTION MAJOREE DU
FONDS (VOIR P-88 DE SEPTEMBRE 1977).

L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES

LES MINISTRES AURONT UN ECHANGE DE VUES SUR LA COMMUNICATION DE LA
COMMISSION DU 17 OCTOBRE (VOIR COMM(77)476 ET NOTE P-93). ON
S'ATTEND A CE QUE LA DISCUSSION PORTE PRINCIPALEMENT SUR LES
SUGGESTIONS DE LA COMMISSION CONCERNANT LES AIDES NOUVELLES
TENDANT A FACILITER LA CREATION DE L'EMPLOI. LA COMMISSION
ELABORERA DES PROPOSITIONS CONCRETES A LA LUMIERE DES CONCLUSIONS
DE CE DEBAT.

PROGRAMME PAUVRETE

IL S'AGIT DE LA PROPOSITION DE LA COMMISSION DE JUIN 1977 QUI
VISE LA CONTINUATION DU PROGRAMME DE PROJETS-PILOTES POUR COMBAT-
TRE LA PAUVRETE PRIMITIVEMENT LIMITEE A DEUX ANS (1975-76), ET LA
POSSIBILITE D'INTRODUIRE DE NOUVEAUX PROJETS. IL Y A UNE LARGE
MESURE D'ACCORD AU SEIN DU CONSEIL SUR CETTE PROPOSITION///

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■■■■ A CONDITION QUE LES CREDITS POUR LES ANNEES 1977-1979 NE
DEPASSENT PAS 14,25 MUC.

SECURITE SOCIALE DES TRAVAILLEURS MIGRANTS

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LE CONSEIL DOIT ADOPTER UNE PROPOSITION QUI A POUR OBJET CERTAINES
AMELIORATIONS AUX DROITS DES TRAVAILLEURS MIGRANTS COMMUNAUTAIRES.

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CETTE MODIFICATION AUX REGLEMENTS DE BASE 1408/71 ET 574/72 PER-
METTRAIT L'OCTROI D'UNE PENSION D'INVALIDITE AU TITRE DE CERTAINES
LEGISLATIONS ET PLUS PARTICULIEREMENT CELLE DU ROYAUME-UNI
LORSQUE LE TRAVAILLEUR N'EST PLUS SOUMIS A CETTE LEGISLATION
ET QU'IL EST DEvenu INVALIDE ALORS QU'IL EST SOUMIS A LA LEGIS-
LATION D'UN AUTRE ETAT MEMBRE.

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AMITIES,
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M. SANTARELLI

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M. SANTARELLI JC/md Le 25.10.77

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RETRANSMISSION/SHA/SENT AT 15.35 HRS LOCAL TIME

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PRIERE DE FAIRE LA DIFFUSION HABITUELLE A PARTIR DE BRUXELLES

MONSIEUR RUGGIERO

COPIE : MM. COLLOWALD, PRYCE, HUGHES, HIJZEN ET OPITZ

NOTE B I O (77) 371 (SUITE 1) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU GPP, AU DG DE LA DG I ET A M. OPITZ, DG VIII

LE CONSEIL SOCIAL S'EST OUVERT VERS 11.00 HEURES SOUS LA PRESIDENCE
DE M. SPITAEELS, LE MINISTRE BELGE DE L'EMPLOI.

REFORME DU FONDS SOCIAL: LE CONSEIL DE JUIN AVAIT DEJA APPROUVE
----- LES GRANDES LIGNES DE LA REVISION (TAUX
MAJORE D'INTERVENTION EN FAVEUR DES REGIONS SOUS-DEVELOPPEES, AIDES
AMELIOREES EN FAVEUR DES FEMMES, SIMPLIFICATION DES PROCEDURES ETC.).
LES MINISTRES ONT ABORDE LES PROBLEMES QUI RESTENT A RESOUDRE ET
ONT REUSSI AVANT LE DEJEUNER D'ARRIVER A DES SOLUTIONS SATISFAISAN-
TES EN CE QUI CONCERNE LES QUESTIONS DE CARACTERE TECHNIQUE TELLES
QUE TAUX D'AVANCE, GROUPEMENT DE DEMANDES, REPETITION DES SOMMES
INDUES, ORIENTATIONS POUR LA GESTION. LA QUESTION LA PLUS IMPOR-
TANTE, C'EST-A-DIRE, LA DEMANDE ITALIENNE, APPUYEE PAR L'IRLANDE,
POUR UNE AIDE NOUVELLE DU FONDS SOCIAL POUR FACILITER L'EMBAUCHE
DES TRAVAIL- ----- LEURS A ETE RENVOYEE, SUR PROPOSITION DU
PRESIDENT, A LA DISCUSSION PREVUE POUR L'APRES-MIDI SUR LA COMMU-
NICATION DE LA COMMISSION CONCERNANT L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES.

EN CE QUI CONCERNE LES VOLETS ''FEMMES'' ET ''TAUX MAJORE'', ON
EST CONVENU QU'IL EXISTE UN ACCORD DE PRINCIPE SUR LA MISE EN
VIGUEUR DE CES DEUX AMELIORATIONS A PARTIR DU 1ER JANVIER PROCHAIN
ET QUE LA DECISION FORMELLE DU CONSEIL SUR LES TEXTES SERA PRISE
LORS DU CONSEIL DE DECEMBRE.

A SUIVRE.

AMITIES

J. CARROLL

28.10.77

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PRIERE DE FAIRE LA DIFFUSION HABITUELLE A PARTIR DE BRUXELLES

MONSIEUR RUGGIERO
-----COPIE : MM. COLLOWALD, PRYCE, HUGHES, HIJZEN ET OPITZ

NOTE B I O (77) 371 (SUITE 2 ET FIN) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU GPP, AU DG DE LA DG I ET A M. OPITZ, DG VIII

CONSEIL SOCIAL

L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES: APRES L'INTRODUCTION DE M. VREDELING LES MINISTRES ONT PROCEDE A UN ECHANGE DE VUES SUR LA COMMUNICATION DE LA COMMISSION. UN PREJUGE FAVORABLE SI NUANCE S'EST DEGAGE EN FAVEUR D'UNE INTERVENTION COMMUNAUTAIRE POUR AIDER L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES SELON LES LIGNES SUGGEREES PAR LA COMMISSION. LE PRESIDENT A RESUME LES CONCLUSIONS DU DEBAT COMME SUIT:

1. CONFORMEMENT AU MANDAT DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN DES 28 ET 29 JUIN 1977, LE CONSEIL A PROCEDE, A LA LUMIERE DU BILAN DES MESURES PRISES PAR LES ETATS MEMBRES POUR PROMOUVOIR L'EMPLOI ET LA FORMATION DES JEUNES, A UN PREMIER EXAMEN DES ACTIONS COMMUNES A ENTREPRENDRE.

2. DES LORS, LE CONSEIL INVITE LA COMMISSION A DEVELOPPER DES PROPOSITIONS DETAILLEES POUR UNE AIDE COMMUNAUTAIRE A DES PROGRAMMES DESTINES A FAVORISER L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES DANS LES ETATS MEMBRES. LE CONSEIL EST D'AVIS QUE DE TELLES PROPOSITIONS DEVRAIENT ETRE SELECTIVES ET ASSURER QUE L'AIDE SOIT ACCORDEE AUX SITUATIONS OU LES BESOINS SONT LES PLUS GRANDS.

3. LE CONSEIL INVITE LA COMMISSION A DEVELOPPER DES ACTIONS POUR RENFORCER LE LIEN ENTRE LA FORMATION POST-SCOLAIRE ET L'EMPLOI POUR DES JEUNES DANS LE CADRE DU FONDS SOCIAL EUROPEEN.

4. ENFIN LE CONSEIL ENCOURAGE LA COMMISSION A AMPLIFIER L'AIDE ET LA COOPERATION ENTRE LES ETATS MEMBRES DANS LE DEVELOPPEMENT DE LEURS INSTITUTIONS VISANT A OPTIMALISER L'EQUILIBRE ENTRE L'OFFRE ET LA DEMANDE SUR LE MARCHÉ DE L'EMPLOI.'

CETTE INVITATION DU CONSEIL DANS LE PARAGRAPHE 2 CORRESPOND PARFAITEMENT A CE QUE M. VREDELING ATTENDAIT DE LA DISCUSSION. LA COMMISSION A DONC LE FEU VERT POUR PROCEDER A L'ELABORATION DES PROPOSITIONS POUR UNE AIDE COMMUNAUTAIRE POUR PROMOUVOIR L'EMPLOI DES JEUNES DANS LE CADRE DU FONDS SOCIAL.

PROGRAMME PAUVRETE: LE CONSEIL A ADOPTE LA DECISION QUI PERMET LA
----- PROLONGATION DU PROGRAMME ACTUEL DES PROJETS-PILOTES JUSQU'A 1980 ET L'INTRODUCTION DE CERTAINS PROJETS ADDITIONNELS.

SECURITE SOCIALE: LE CONSEIL A APPROUVE UNE PROPOSITION QUI VISE
----- CERTAINES AMELIORATIONS AUX DROITS DES TRAVAILLEURS MIGRANTS COMMUNAUTAIRES CONCERNANT LES PENSIONS D'INVALIDITE.

LE CONSEIL A CONCLU SES TRAVAUX A 18.15 HEURES EN PRENANT ACTE D'UNE SERIE DE RAPPORTS SUR L'ACTIVITE DU FONDS SOCIAL, LE PROGRAMME DE LUTTE CONTRE LA PAUVRETE ET LE COMITE CONSULTATIF POUR LA SECURITE, L'HYGIENE ET LA PROTECTION DE LA SANTE SUR LE LIEU DE TRAVAIL.

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AMITIES J. CARROLL
28.10.77

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