



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

7784/79 (Presse 78)

588th Council meeting
- Fisheries -
Luxembourg, 25 June 1979
President: Mr Joël LE THEULE
Minister for Transport
of the French Republic

25.VI.79

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

Belgium:

Mr Albert LAVENS

Minister for Agriculture and
Small Firms and Trades

Denmark:

Mr Svend JAKOBSEN

Minister for Fisheries

Mr Jørgen HERTOFT

State Secretary,
Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR

State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

France:

Mr Joël LE THEULE

Minister for Transport

Ireland:

Mr Brian LENIHAN

Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giovanni DEL RIO

Under-Secretary of State for
Shipping

Luxembourg:

Mr Joseph WEYLAND

Deputy Permanent Representative

25.VI.79

Netherlands:

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

Minister for Agriculture
and Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Mr George YOUNGER

Secretary of State for Scotland

Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH

Minister of State,
Ministry for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Finn Olav GUNDELACH

Vice-President

FISHERIES POLICY

Internal aspects

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

External aspects

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

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

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS ⁽¹⁾

Agricultural decisions

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

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

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

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

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

Transport policy

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

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

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

Relations with the ACP States and the OCT

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

Commercial and customs policy

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

- the Decisions

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

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

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

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

Food aid

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

Mediterranean policy

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

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

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in Cyprus.

Other decisions

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

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

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

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NOTE BIO208 (79) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, AUX ASSISTANTS DG I ET VIII
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CONSEIL PECHE (K. VAN DER PAS)

AU COURS D'UNE BREVE REUNION DES MINISTRES DE LA PECHE, HIER APRES MIDI A LUXEMBOURG, LE MINISTRE BRITANNIQUE A DECLARE QU'IL AVAIT BON ESPOIR QUE LA POLITIQUE COMMUNE DE LA PECHE POURRA ETRE MISE AU POINT PENDANT L'AUTOMNE PROCHAIN. M. WALKER A ANNONCE QU'IL PRENDRAIT DES CONTACTS BILATERAUX AVEC LES AUTRES ETATS MEMBRES POUR PREPARER LES NEGOCIATIONS AU CONSEIL. LE DEBAT SUR LA POLITIQUE COMMUNE DE LA PECHE DURE DEJA DEPUIS PRES DE TROIS ANS, LES PROPOSITIONS DE LA COMMISSION DATANT DE SEPTEMBRE 1976.

L'ANNONCE A ETE ACCUEILLI SANS COMMENTAIRE PAR LES AUTRES DELEGATIONS. LE MANQUE D'ENTHOUSIASME PEUT S'EXPLIQUER PAR LE REFUS BRITANNIQUE, EXPRIME IMMEDIATEMENT AVANT L'ANNONCE DE M. WALKER, DE RENONCER A UNE NOUVELLE MESURE NATIONALE DE CONSERVATION. LE ROYAUME-UNI INTRODUIRA, LE 1.7.79, UN MAILLAGE MINIMUM DE 80 MM. POUR CERTAINS ACTIVITES DE PECHE DANS LA MER DU NORD. TOUS LES AUTRES ETATS MEMBRES ET LA COMMISSION SONT EN PRINCIPE D'ACCORD AVEC LA MESURE, MAIS DEMANDENT SON INTRODUCTION A PARTIR DU 1.9.79. ON DONNERAIT AINSI AUX PECHEURS DEUX MOIS SUPPLEMENTAIRES POUR ECHANGER LEURS FILETS (QUI ONT UN MAILLAGE MINIMUM DE 70 MM). LE ROYAUME UNI A CEPENDANT INSISTE SUR L'URGENCE DE CETTE MESURE DE CONSERVATION QUI, A SON AVIS, AURAIT DEJA DU ETRE INTRODUITE AU DEBUT DE L'ANNEE. M. GUNDELACH A DECLARE QUE LA COMMISSION, EN TANT QUE GARDIEN DU TRAITE, SERAIT OBLIGEE DE TIENNER LES CONSEQUENCES JURIDIQUES DE L'INTRODUCTION D'UNE NOUVELLE MESURE NATIONALE BRITANNIQUE. (PLUSIEURS AUTRES MESURES BRITANNIQUES ONT DEJA ETE PORTEES DEVANT LA COUR DE JUSTICE PAR LA COMMISSION.).

LE CONSEIL A PRISE UNE SEULE DECISION: IL A PROROGE JUSQU'AU 31.10.79 LES DIFFERENTES MESURES INTERIMAIRES QUI EXPIRENT LE 30.6.79. IL S'AGIT NOTAMMENT DE LA LIMITATION DE CAPTURES PAR LES PECHEURS COMMUNAUTAIRES.

QUANT AUX RELATIONS EXTERIEURES DANS LE DOMAINE DE LA PECHE, M. GUNDELACH A ANNONCE QU'IL SE RENDRA, A UNE DATE QUI RESTE A FIXER, EN TUNISIE POUR NEGOCIER LES DROITS DE PECHE////

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van der pas/sg porte-parole berl 1/4 2205/2902 26.VI.79

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M. SANTARELLI

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DES PECHEURS COMMUNAUTAIRES (NOTAMMENT ITALIENS) DANS LES EAUX TUNISIENNES. UN ACCORD BILATERALE ENTRE LA TUNISIE ET L'ITALIE EST VENU A L'EXPIRATION ET DEVRA ETRE REMPLACE PAR UN ACCORD ENTRE LA TUNISIE ET LA COMMUNAUTE. M. GUNDELACH A ENCORE DECLARE QUE LES NEGOCIATIONS AVEC LES TUNISIENS NE POURRAIENT PAS SE LIMITER AU SECTEUR DE LA PECHE ET ENGLOBERONT LE SECTEUR AGRICOLE. DANS L'ABSENCE D'UN ACCORD ENTRE LA COMMUNAUTE ET LA JOUGOSLAVIE, L'ITALIE A ETE AUTORISEE A MAINTENIR PENDANT SIX MOIS LE REGIME BILATERAL ACTUEL. LA JOUGOSLAVIE AUTORISE L'ACCES DE PECHEURS ITALIENS DANS SES EAUX DANS CERTAINES LIMITES ET MOYENNANT PAYEMENT D'UNE CONTRIBUTION FINANCIERE. LA COMMUNAUTE PREND EN CHARGE UNE PARTIE DE CETTE CONTRIBUTION.

AMITIES,
M. SANTARELLI
COMEUR
10H30
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