

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

11869/79 (Presse 173)

619th meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 20 December 1979

President: Mr Jim TUNNEY,
Minister of State,
Department of Education
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Lucien OUTERS

Minister for Foreign Trade and Scientific Policy

Denmark:

Mr Gunnar RIBERHOLDT

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Gisbert POENSGEN

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

France:

Mr Pierre AIGRAIN

State Secretary (Research)

Ireland:

Mr Jim TUNNEY

Minister of State,
Department of Education

Italy:

Mr Vito SCALIA

Minister for Scientific Research and Technology

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean DONDELINGER

Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr A.A.Th.M. van TRIER

Minister for Science

United Kingdom:

Mr Norman LAMONT

Parliamentary Under-Secretary
for Energy

Commission:

Mr Guido BRUNNER

Member

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JRC AND FUSION PROGRAMMES

The Council considered in detail all the problems connected with the new JRC and fusion programmes.

The Council agreed unanimously that the activities of the JRC should be maintained at their present level with existing staff and the same level of financing.

With regard to the specific contents of the two programmes, the discussions ended with eight delegations agreeing to a compromise put forward by the President, covering all the outstanding problems in these two fields. One delegation was unable at this stage to approve some essential points in the JRC programme.

In these circumstances another delegation felt it could not agree to the fusion programme.

RADIATION-PROTECTION PROGRAMME

After examining the matter of the funding of a new five-year research and training programme for 1980-1984 in the field of biology-health protection (radiation-protection programme), the Council noted that agreement could be reached on the sum of 59 MEUA.

The Council should therefore be able to take a decision on this programme once the European Parliament has delivered its Opinion on the matter.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Admission of securities to official stock-exchange listing

The Council signified its agreement in principle ⁽¹⁾ to the sixth Directive on the co-ordination of the guarantees required in Member States for the purpose of protecting the interests of the members of companies and of third parties as regards the contents, the scrutinizing and distribution of the listing particulars to be published when securities are admitted to official stock-exchange listing.

The aim of the Directive is to render equivalent, in the Community Member States, the guarantees offered to investors and to give them more protection. It lays down in detail the minimum content of listing particulars. It covers all securities except shares issued by undertakings which are not closed-ended and securities issued by the Member States and their regional or local territories. In certain instances the Member States or their competent authorities may provide for or grant partial or total dispensation from the obligation to publish listing particulars. The Directive lays down the conditions governing such dispensations, and their limits.

The listing particulars must be approved by the competent authority and published in newspapers of wide circulation or in brochure form.

(¹) Subject to completion of the procedure agreed upon with Greece for the interim period.

Like the Directive concerning the admission of securities to official stock-exchange listing adopted a year ago, this Directive contributes to the creation of a European capital market. As publication of listing particulars is a prerequisite for admission to official stock-exchange listing, the Directive will considerably facilitate such admission for securities from other Member States and the quotation of the same security on several Community stock exchanges.

In the very near future the Council will initiate discussions on a Directive on regular information on transferable securities already admitted to official stock-exchange listing.

Fisheries policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- a Regulation laying down certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of certain third countries in the 200-mile zone off the coast of the French department of Guyana;
- a Decision on the maintenance until 31 December 1979 of certain fishing rights of Community fishermen in the territorial waters of Yugoslavia.

Agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- Regulations:

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 352/79 authorizing the coupage of German red wines with imported red wines;
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine and Regulation (EEC) No 338/79 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions;
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 348/79 laying down measures for adapting wine-growing potential to the requirements of the market;
- = extending the validity of Regulation (EEC) No 3310/75 as regards agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg;
- = opening a Community tariff quota for frozen buffalo meat under subheading 02.01 A II b) 4 (bb) 33 of the Common Customs Tariff;
- = opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef and veal falling within subheading 02.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff;
- = opening a Community tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled and frozen beef falling within subheadings 02.01 A II a) and 02.01 A II b) of the Common Customs Tariff;
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal;

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff (prepared and preserved meats and offals);
- = amending the rates of the customs duties applicable to certain agricultural products and amending Regulation (EEC) No 516/77 on the common organization of the market in products processed from fruit and vegetables;
- = on assistance for exports of agricultural products eligible for special treatment upon importation into a third country;
- = laying down, for the 1980/1981 milk marketing year, the guideline figure for the fat content of standardized whole milk imported into Ireland and the United Kingdom;
- Decisions
 - = authorizing the United Kingdom to grant a national aid to milk producers in Northern Ireland;
 - = prolonging 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;
 - = on the negotiation of voluntary restraint arrangements with third countries on the sheepmeat sector;
- the Directive amending Directive 66/403/EEC on the marketing of seed potatoes;
- the estimates on
 - = young male bovine animals weighing 300 kg or less and intended for fattening for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1980;
 - = beef and veal for the processing industry for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1980.

Food aid

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation on emergency food aid of 1,500 tonnes of skimmed-milk powder for the population of Kampuchea through the agency of the World Food Programme (WFP).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulations on food aid in the form of butteroil for the Comoros and the Non-Governmental Organizations.

It further approved the allocation of 2,500 tonnes of cereals to Zaire under the 1979 cereals aid programme and a decision to change the destination of part of the 1,000 tonnes of butteroil allocated in 1977 to the UNHCR for Zaire and Pakistan, in order to assist the refugees from Afghanistan.

Commercial policy and customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities Regulations

- on the protection against dumped or subsidized imports from countries not members of the European Economic Community;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff (CCT 1980 consolidation);
- temporarily and partially suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain types of fish;
- opening allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) falling within subheading ex 03.01 B I q) of the Common Customs Tariff;
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen fillets of cod falling within subheading 03.01 B II b) of the Common Customs Tariff;
- Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for
 - = newsprint falling within subheading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff and extending this quota to include certain other types of paper (1979);
 - = ferro-silicon falling within subheading No 73.02 C of the Common Customs Tariff;
 - = ferro-silico-manganese falling within subheading No 73.02 D of the Common Customs Tariff
 - = ferro-chromium containing not more than 0.10% by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not more than 90% by weight of chromium (super-refined ferro-chromium) falling within subheading No ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff;

- = ferro-chromium containing not more than 4% by weight of carbon, falling within subheading ex 73.02 E I of the Common Customs Tariff, and extending the benefit of this quota to certain imports of ferro-chromium containing a quantity of between 3 and 4% by weight of carbon
- Regulations on the conclusion and application of exchanges of letters with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey concerning untreated olive oil;
- Regulations concluding exchanges of letters with Israel, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia concerning fruit salad, and with Algeria concerning tomato concentrates;
- a Regulation establishing ceilings and Community supervision for imports of certain products originating in Portugal;
- a Regulation extending the current import arrangements for certain jute products from Bangladesh, India and Thailand;
- a Decision amending the import quotas fixed by Council Decision 75/210/EEC on autonomous import arrangements in respect of State-trading countries in 1980;
- a Regulation fixing for 1980 Community quantitative quotas for exports of certain types of copper ash and residues and for certain types of copper, aluminium and lead waste and scrap.

The Council further approved the conclusion of an agreement resulting from the negotiations conducted under Article XXVIII of the GATT with Austria as regards certain products of the agri-foodstuffs industry.

Transport policy

Following approval in principle at its meeting on 6 December 1979, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities

- Regulations

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (increase in the quota);
- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 3164/76 on the Community quota for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (introduction of short-term Community authorizations);
- a Directive amending the first Directive on the establishment of common rules for certain types of carriage of goods by road between Member States;
- a Decision on the adjustment of capacity for the carriage of goods by road for hire or reward between Member States;

and

- a Directive on the limitation of noise emission from subsonic aircraft;
- a Decision initiating a consultation procedure concerning air transport relations between Member States and non Member countries and action to be taken in this field within international organizations.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities Regulations on the implementation of Decisions No 1/79 and 2/79 of the Joint EEC-Austria Commission - Community transit - and the Joint EEC-Switzerland Commission - Community transit - amending Appendices II and IIA of the Agreements between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the one hand and the Swiss Confederation on the other on the implementation of the rules governing Community transit.

Other decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision amending Decision 77/271/Euratom on the implementation of Decision 77/270/Euratom empowering the Commission to contract Euratom loans for the purpose of contributing to the financing of nuclear power stations.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States on units of measurement and repealing Council Directive 71/354/EEC.

The Council agreed to the Greek delegation's request to extend the period of validity of Protocol No 10 annexed to the Athens Agreement until 31 December 1980.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation on common rules for imports of certain textile products originating in the People's Republic of China.

Finally, the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation on Community aid for restructuring and conversion operations in the man-made fibres industry.

Appointment

On a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Konsulent Niels ENEVOLDSEN, Landsorganisationen i Danmark Uddannelsesafdeling, a member, and Konsulent Chr. Aagaard HANSEN, Landsorganisationen i Danmark Uddannelsesafdeling, an alternate, of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training to replace, respectively, Mr Finn THORGRIMSON, member, who has resigned, and Mr Keld ANDERSEN, alternate who has resigned, for the remainder of their terms of office, i.e. until 15 October 1980.

ECSC

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

- concerning certain tariff measures for the first half of 1980;
- relating to certain measures applicable vis-à-vis State-trading countries as regards iron and steel products falling under the ECSC Treaty, including pig iron, cast iron and high-carbon ferro-manganese.

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NOTE BIO(79)433 SUITE 2 ET FIN AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE, A M BURGHARDT DG I ET A M LECOMTE
DG VIII

SUBJECT : RESEARCH COUNCIL (B ELPHICK)

MINISTERS SPENT MOST OF THE DAY IN BILATERAL MEETINGS AND
RESTRICTED SESSIONS THE STICKING POINT AGAIN BEING THE
DISPUTE OVER THE SUPER SARA PROJECT. EVENTUALLY THE COUNCIL
ADJOURNED WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENTS
ON EITHER THE NEW PROGRAMME FOR THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
OR THE FUSION PROGRAMME.

AT THE FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE THE PRESIDENT, MR TUNNEY
(THIS WAS INCIDENTALLY THE FINAL COUNCIL OF THE IRISH
PRESIDENCY) SAID THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAD NEVERTHELESS
BEEN MADE. THERE HAD BEEN AGREEMENT AMONG EIGHT DELEGATIONS
WITH RESERVATIONS ON SOME ASPECTS BY THE FRENCH.

MR BRUNNER ALSO REFERRED TO LARGE AREAS OF CONSENSUS. ALL
NINE WERE AGREED ON FUSION AND ON JET. AS REGARDS THE
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE ALL AGREED THAT WORK SHOULD PROGRESS
AND THAT PERSONNEL LEVELS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AS AT PRESENT.
MINISTERS WERE ALSO NEAR AGREEMENT ON FINANCING. IT WAS STILL
A MATTER OF TUNING UP A FEW DETAILS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE
REST. ONE POINT OF DIFFERENCE WAS ON SUPER SARA WHICH
IS ABOUT TEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PROGRAMME. EIGHT
DELEGATIONS HAD AGREED ALONG THE LINES OF THE COMMISSION
PROPOSAL.

FRANCE WOULD HOWEVER LIKE TO HAVE A STUDY OF POSSIBLE
PROJECTS OF REACTOR SECURITY NOT EXCLUDING SUPER SARA.
FRANCE WOULD NO DOUBT NOW PONDER THEIR POSITION. THE OTHER
DELEGATIONS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT SUPER SARA WAS GOOD.
ANSWERING QUESTIONS MR BRUNNER SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT
ANY PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES IN FINANCING PROGRAMMES
APART FROM THE GENERAL BUDGETARY ONE OF ONE WTELFTHS. HE
EXPECTED THE REMAINING PROBLEMS WOULD BE SOLVED
RELATIVELY QUICKLY.

AMITIES

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R.ELPHICK

G.P.P.

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20.12.79

ROBERT ELPHICK

