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OF THE

EUROPEAN COAL & STEEL COMMUNITY

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THE HIGH AUTHORITY

INFORMATION

Benelux tariff quotas in respect of pig-iron, ordinary steels and special steels

By letters dated November 6, 1956, the High Authority informed the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands that the tariff quotas for 1956 had been fixed, in accordance with Section 15 of the Convention containing the Transitional Provisions. The quotas are shown in the table following.

BENFLUX TARIFF QUOTAS FOR 1956

(in metric tons)

Benelux tariff numbers	Description of goods	Tariff quota 1956		
		Total Benelux quota	Allocation of quota	
			B.L.E.U.(¹)	Netherlands
696 a, b, c 2 ...	Pig-iron	166,000	150,000	16,000
697 a 1 ...	High-carbon ferro-manganese ...	32,300	30,000	2,300
699	Puddle bars and pilings, ingots of iron or steel	10,250	10,000	250
700 a 1, b 1 ...	Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet- bars of iron or steel, not forged	136,000	6,000	130,000
701 b	Wide hot-rolled iron or steel coils for rerolling, clad	200	100	100
702	Iron or steel universal plates ...	2,500	100	2,400
703 a, d 1 A ...	Iron or steel bars and rods ...	20,000	7,000	13,000
704 a 1 A I aa	Iron or steel angles, shapes and sections	21,000	1,000	20,000
a 1 A II aa				
a 1 B I				
a 1 C I				
a 4 A I aa, b	Plate and sheet of iron or steel, flat, unworked	33,500	6,000	27,500
706 a 1 B,				
a 2 B, b 1 A,				
b 1 B, b 1 C,				
b 1 D, b 1 E,				
b 2, b 3 B,				
b 3 C, b 3 D,				
b 3 E				
707 a 2, b 1,	Plate and sheet of iron or steel, flat, surface worked	95,000	20,000	75,000
b 2 C, b 2 D,				
b 2 E				
708 a 2, b 1, b 2,	Plate and sheet of iron or steel otherwise finished or worked	700	500	200
b 4 C				
709 a, b 1, c 3,	Iron or steel hoop and strip ...	3,100	100	3,000
c 5 A 1				
710 a 1 B, a 3,	Fine carbon steels	3,500	3,000	500
a 4 B, a 5 A,				
a 5 C I aa,				
a 6 A,				
a 6 B, a 6 C				
II, a 6 D,				
a 6 E I				
710 b 1 3, b 3,	Alloy steels	11,600	3,600	8,000
b 4 B,				
b 5 A, b 5 C I				
aa, b 6 A II,				
b 6 B I,				
b 6 B II,				
b 6 B III bb,				
b 6 B IV,				
b 6 B V aa				
716 a, b, d, e 1 ...	Permanent-way material of iron or steel	1,700	200	1,500

(¹) Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union.

**Letter addressed by the High Authority on November 14, 1956,
to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium concerning the extension
of the compensation rates on Belgian coal**

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE,

In its letter of October 24, the High Authority informed you that it was putting back until November 30 the expiry date for the compensation rates.

The examination undertaken by the High Authority following the conclusions reached on the situation of the Belgian collieries as regards costs and receipts has shown the need to introduce a number of new elements. For this reason, and considering the scale of the problem, the High Authority proposes to discuss the matter further with the Belgian Government.

At the same time, the High Authority considers that, as regards the decision to be taken concerning the further reorganization of the compensation scheme, it would be preferable to await the judgment of the Court on appeals Nos. 8/55 and 9/55, which, as matters now stand, cannot now be long delayed.

In these circumstances, the High Authority has decided to extend until December 31, 1956, the time-limit fixed by it for the reorganization of the compensation scheme. The present compensation rates therefore remain in force up to and including that date.

I have, &c.

**Correspondence between the High Authority on the one hand and the
Governments of the French Republic and the German Federal Republic
on the other concerning the Agreement on the status of the Saar**

On October 18, 1956, the High Authority received from the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the German Federal Republic the text of a number of articles of the Agreement on the status of the Saar, which was then being negotiated between the two Governments in question. It was subsequently signed in Luxembourg on October 27, 1956.

The High Authority now publishes below the text of its observations on the document transmitted to it, together with the replies to these from the two Governments.

*1. Observations by the High Authority contained in a letter addressed on
October 24, 1956, to the Governments of the French Republic and the German
Federal Republic*

I have the honour to thank your Government, on behalf of the High Authority, for your courtesy in sending to it, in agreement with the Government of the German Federal/French/Republic, the text of those provisions of the draft Agreement on the status of the Saar which relate to coal matters.

The High Authority has noted these, and has deliberated them with due regard for the political importance of an agreement being reached between France and Germany on this matter. Its observations are, of course, based solely on those articles of the Agreement which have been transmitted to it; it understands, at the same time, that the full text of the Agreement contains no other provisions relating to coal questions.

The High Authority's deliberations lead it to put forward the following observations:

(1) Article 81,1 provides that the new legal owners of the Saarbergwerke shall deliver 1,200,000 metric tons of coal per annum "to the Houillères du Bassin de Lorraine or any other consignee named by the Government of the French Republic."

The High Authority takes it that the option thus given to the French Government to name consignees will not give that Government the right to compel any consumer or dealer to take some or all of the 1,200,000 metric tons of Saar coal concerned if he is unwilling to do so.

(2) The High Authority interprets Article 83,2 as meaning that deliveries of Saar coal to the French bodies referred to in Articles 81 and 83,1 of the Agreement may be reduced in the event of a decision by the competent institutions of the Community declaring a state of serious shortage (Article 59 of the E.C.S.C. Treaty).

The same applies, in regard to the delivery of the 1,200,000 metric tons provided for in Article 81 of the Agreement, in the event of a manifest crisis (Article 58 of the E.C.S.C. Treaty).

(3) The High Authority notes that Article 3 of Annex 17⁽¹⁾ whereby France agrees, in certain circumstances, not to sell in other Community markets a portion of the 33% of Saar production delivered under Article 83,1, is warranted by the Saar producers' twenty-five-year undertaking to set aside one third of their production for delivery to France.

It considers that such reciprocal undertakings may be stipulated in a long-term contract containing obligation to sell and buy firm a specified tonnage. It assumes, on the other hand, that such a contract does not deprive French buyers of the right to apply direct to Saar producers with a view to buying coal over and above the 33%.

(4) The High Authority assumes that Article 4 of Annex 17⁽¹⁾ does not entitle the body receiving the 33% of Saar production to allocate the tonnages concerned among the various French consumers.

(5) The High Authority is not yet in a position to adopt a definite position regarding the Company provided for in Article 84,1 and Annex 17,a⁽²⁾ of the Agreement. It will only be able to do so when the Articles of Association of the Company have been drawn up, particularly as regards its field of activity and the distribution of its capital.

The High Authority would, however, take this opportunity to point out that such a Company is a joint-selling organization in respect of which the enterprises concerned will be required to apply for authorization in accordance with Article 65 of the E.C.S.C. Treaty. In this connexion, the High Authority reserves the right, in particular, to examine the extent to which the distribution of capital ultimately decided upon by the Governments in accordance with Article 4,2 of Annex 17,a⁽²⁾ should result in a majority holding for the producers in the Company set up by them for the marketing of their production.

(6) From a general standpoint, the High Authority would recall that the provisions of the Agreement on the status of the Saar to be concluded between the German and French Governments in no way release these Governments from any of the obligations incumbent upon them under the E.C.S.C. Treaty.

⁽¹⁾ Annex 28 to the final text.

⁽²⁾ Annex 29 to the final text.

In particular, action by the two Governments to approve the general principles regarding the co-ordination of sales policies, as provided for in Article 84,2 of the Agreement, must observe not only the provisions of Article 4 of the E.C.S.C. Treaty, but also the rules governing the enterprises under Article 65 of the same Treaty, and the decisions taken by the High Authority in implementation of Article 65,2.

II. *Observations from the Government of the German Federal Republic, dated October 26 and November 16, 1956*

(a) The Federal Government thanks the Members of the High Authority for the opportunity afforded it on October 22, 1956, to discuss with them and the representatives of the French Government the text of the draft Treaty for the settlement of the Saar question in so far as it relates to coal.

The Federal Government has studied your letter with great interest. It notes with satisfaction that the High Authority in its deliberations paid due regard to the political importance of the Franco-German Agreement on the status of the Saar.

The Federal Government will give its most careful consideration to your suggestions, and will be replying to your letter in detail at an early date.

(b) I have the honour to confirm that the texts transmitted to the High Authority contained all the articles of the Treaty which relate to coal.

The Federal Government has always shared the High Authority's view that the Agreement on the status of the Saar could in no circumstances release it from any of the obligations incumbent upon it under the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community.

With regard to the observations by the High Authority concerning coal questions generally, the Federal Government is agreed that the details of the implementation of the Agreement in respect of Article 84 and of the Company to be set up under Article 1 of the present Annex 29 shall be discussed with the High Authority when the Articles of Association of the Company have been drawn up.

III. *Observations from the Government of the French Republic, dated October 26, 1956*

The French Government thanks the High Authority for its letter of October 24, conveying its observations concerning the provisions on coal in the draft Agreement on the status of the Saar.

The French Government has the honour to confirm that the texts transmitted to the High Authority with its letter and memorandum of October 18 contain all the articles in the Agreement relating to the coal question. In the final version these articles will be numbered 78 to 88 inclusive, while the annexes also transmitted to you will be numbered 25 to 29 inclusive.

The French Government has noted the observations by the High Authority on these provisions as a whole, and would emphasize once again that the Agreement on the status of the Saar can in no circumstances release it from any of the obligations incumbent upon it under the E.C.S.C. Treaty.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DECISIONS, OPINIONS AND CONSULTATIONS

DECISION designating the representative organizations of producers and workers responsible for drawing up the lists of candidates from which will be nominated the members of the Consultative Committee and the persons to sit in with the Committee by special arrangement

THE COUNCIL,

HAVING regard to Article 18 of the Treaty;

HAVING regard to its decision of December 7 and 8, 1954, and January 20, 1955, concerning the nomination of the members of the Consultative Committee for the period January 15, 1955–January 14, 1957;

HAVING regard to its decision of December 7 and 8, 1954, and January 20, 1955, concerning the designation of persons to sit in with the Consultative Committee by special arrangement for the period January 15, 1955–January 14, 1957;

DECIDES:

That the representative organizations of producers and workers shown in the accompanying table are hereby designated to draw up the lists of candidates from which will be nominated, in numbers equal to those shown in the same table for each of the said organizations, the members of the Consultative Committee and the persons to sit in with the Committee by special arrangement.

ORGANIZATIONS OF PRODUCERS

Country	Name of Organization	No. of Seats	No. of persons to sit in by special arrangement
Belgium ...	<i>coal</i> Fédération des Associations Charbonnières de Belgique, Brussels ...	2	
	<i>steel</i> Comité de la Sidérurgie, Brussels ...	1	
France ...	<i>coal</i> Charbonnages de France, Paris ...	2	
	<i>steel</i> Chambre Syndicale de la Sidérurgie Française, Paris ...	1	
Germany ...	<i>coal</i> Chambre Syndicale des Mines de Fer de France, Paris ...	1	
	<i>coal</i> Unternehmensverband Ruhrbergbau, Essen ...	1	1
	<i>coal</i> Unternehmensverband des Aachener Steinkohlenbergbaus, Aachen ...	1	
Italy ...	<i>steel</i> Legal Owners of the Saar coalmines Wirtschaftvereinigung Eisen- und Stahlindustrie, Düsseldorf ...	2	
	<i>coal</i> Associazione Mineraria Italiana, Rome		1
Luxembourg	<i>steel</i> Associazione Industrie Siderurgiche Italiane (Assider), Rome ...	1	
	<i>steel</i> Groupement des Industries Sidérurgiques Luxembourgeoises, Luxembourg	1	
Netherlands	<i>coal</i> Gezamenlijke Steenkolenmijnen in Limburg, Heerlen ...	1	
	<i>steel</i> Vereniging van de Nederlandse IJzer- en Staalproducerende Industrie, IJmuiden	1	
		16	2

ORGANIZATION OF WORKERS

Country	Name of Organization	No. of Seats	No. of persons to sit in by special arrangement
Belgium ...	{ Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens de Belgique (C.S.C.B.) ... Fédération Générale de Travail de Belgique (F.G.T.B.), Brussels ... }	3	
France ...	{ Fédération Nationale Force Ouvrière (C.G.T.F.O.), Paris ... Fédération Nationale des Syndicats Chrétiens de Mineurs (C.T.F.C.), Paris ... Fédération des Métaux (C.F.T.C.), Paris ... Confédération Générale des Cadres, Paris ... }	1	
		1	
		1	
		1	
Germany ...	{ Industriegewerkschaft Bergbau, Bochum ... Industriegewerkschaft Metall, Frankfurt-Main ... Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, Düsseldorf ... }	2	
		2	
		1	
Italy ...	{ Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori (Federazione Italiana Metalmeccanici) (C.I.S.L.) ... Unione Italiana del Lavoro (Federazione Italiana Metalmeccanici) (U.I.L.) ... }	1	
		1	
Luxembourg...	{ Fédération Nationale des Ouvriers du Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette ... }	1	
Netherlands ...	{ Christelijk Nationaal Vakverbond (C.N.V.) Katholieke Arbeidersbeweging (K.A.B.) ... }	1	1
		16	1

Two seats are reserved for organizations to be designated at a later date to represent steel producers and workers in the Saar.

This decision was adopted by the Council at its thirty-eighth session on November 8, 1956.

For the Council,

M. RASQUIN,

President.

DECISION concerning the replacement of a person formerly sitting in with the Consultative Committee by special arrangement, now deceased

THE COUNCIL,

HAVING regard to its decision of December 7 and 8, 1954, and January 20, 1955, concerning the designation of persons to sit in with the Consultative Committee by special arrangement;

WHEREAS one such seat has fallen vacant in consequence of the death of M. M. Duchscher;

DECIDES:

That M. J. Wagener shall be appointed to sit in with the Consultative Committee as a consumer, under the special arrangement laid down in the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, in succession to the late M. M. Duchscher, for the remainder of M. Duchscher's term of office.

This decision was adopted by the Council at its thirty-eighth session on November 8, 1956.

M. Wagener was informed accordingly, and has accepted the appointment.

For the Council,

M. RASQUIN,
President.

DECISION appointing the Auditor to the Community

THE COUNCIL,

HAVING regard to Article 78,6 of the Treaty;

HAVING regard to its decision of December 8, 1953, appointing an Auditor to the Community for a period ending December 7, 1956;

DECIDES:

That M. Urbain Vaes shall be appointed Auditor to the Community for a further term of three years as from December 8, 1956.

This decision was adopted by the Council at its thirty-eighth session on November 8, 1956.

M. Vaes was informed accordingly, and has accepted the appointment.

For the Council,

M. RASQUIN,
Président.

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