

European Community NEWS

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LABOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE CONTINUES

AFL-CIO Research Department Director Nat Goldfinger visited the Commission November 11-12 as part of an information exchange program for US and European labor leaders. The program was arranged by Jens Otto Krag, Head of the Commission's delegation to Washington. Goldfinger met with Commission Vice President Christopher Soames and various trade union officials. Talks centered on US labor attitudes toward EC-US trade, the outlook for the upcoming multilateral negotiations on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and the consequences of inflation on labor and unemployment.

EC ENVIRONMENT ACTION PROGRAM MOVES FORWARD

The European Community's environmental action program got underway through a series of measures adopted by the Council of Ministers November 7. The Council adopted guidelines for the uniform application of the "polluter pays" principle in a recommendation to the member states. The burden of pollution control would be placed on the polluter and uniform environmental standards would be set for the entire Community.

In other action, the Council agreed on:

- a directive for standardizing the treatment of surface water to be used for drinking.

- a directive for recycling waste oil to prevent air, water, or soil pollution.
- an energy and environment resolution asking member states to observe environmental protection requirements in carrying out energy policies and to promote the conservation and rational use of energy resources.
- future EC participation in the Paris Convention on land-based pollution and in the Strasbourg Convention on fresh water protection.

DESIGN FOR FUTURE EC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

"Fresco" of future European Community action in the field of development aid was presented to the press by Commissioner Claude Cheysson in Brussels November 5. Cheysson emphasized the unique character of EC development policy which uses a wide range of instruments in addition to financial aid. Flexibility is necessary, Cheysson said, to handle the varying needs and degrees of Third World underdevelopment. Accordingly, the poorest countries will basically require financial aid. Better off countries with some resources would need some form of guaranteed access to EC markets as well as export earning stabilization. Finally, countries rich in raw materials, should be helped through trade and industrial cooperation. Cheysson pointed to the Community's association agreements as examples of the adaptability of Community development policy.

**BRUNNER CHOSEN TO
SUCCEED DAHRENDORF**

Ambassador Guido Brunner has been appointed to replace Ralf Dahrendorf as member of the EC Commission responsible for education, research, and science. Dahrendorf had resigned to become Director of the London School of Economics.

Born in Madrid on May 27, 1930, Brunner has law degrees from the Universities of Munich, Heidelberg, and Madrid. A career diplomat, he worked for the German Foreign Ministry until being appointed to the Commission. He was a member of Germany's observer mission to the United Nations (UN) from 1960-68 and was a member of the German delegation to the UN Conferences on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva (1964) and New Delhi (1968) and to the Geneva 1966 and 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty negotiations. In 1970, he became The Foreign Ministry Spokesman and was put in charge of the planning staff at the Foreign Office in 1972.

**COMMISSION OKAYS
COAL INDUSTRY AIDS**

British, German, Belgian, French, and Dutch government subsidies for their coal industries, totaling 765.1 million units of account (UA) were approved by the Commission last month. (One UA equals \$1.20635

at current rates.) The aid will go toward measures to increase profits improve mine safety; finance sales of marketable coal or coke stocks; underwrite mine closing costs, or cover operational financial losses. Britain will provide the most aid (UA 265 million) and the Netherlands the least (UA 10.3 million).

**EC - TUNISIA TRADE
TALKS MOVING AHEAD**

Negotiations for a new and broadened trade cooperation agreement between the European Community and Tunisia were resumed in Brussels October 29-30. Sufficient agreement was reached between Tunisian and Commission officials that a joint working committee was assigned to prepare a working text of the accord for discussion at the next round of talks, in early December.

**EC VACCINE FOR
GREECE AND TURKEY**

A million doses of vaccine to combat hoof and mouth disease in Greece and Turkey will be sent to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Commission decided November 8. The Community sent the FAO 250,000 doses in June and will contribute 600,000 units of account (UA) toward the organization's budget. (One UA equals \$1.20635 at current rates.)

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