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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

348th Council meeting

- Energy -

Luxembourg, 26 June 1975

President: Mr Peter BARRY
Minister for Transport
and Energy of Ireland

788 e/75 (Presse 69)

26.VI.75

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

Belgium:

Mr Joseph VAN DER MEULEN	Ambassador, Permanent Representative
Mr Etienne DAVIGNON	Director-General

Denmark:

Mr Jens CHRISTENSEN	State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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Germany:

Mr Detlev Karsten ROHWEDDER	State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs
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France:

Mr Michel d'ORNANO	Minister for Industry
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Ireland:

Mr Peter BARRY	Minister for Transport and Energy
Mr Justin KEATING	Minister for Industry and Commerce

Italy:

Mr Carlo DONAT CATTIN	Minister for Industry, Trade and Craft Trades
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26.VI.75

Luxembourg:

Mr Marcel MART

Minister for Economic Affairs,
Transport and Tourism

Netherlands:

Mr R.F.M. LUBBERS

Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Anthony WEDGWOOD BENN

Secretary of State for Energy

Commission:

Mr Henri SIMONET

Vice-President

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DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

After a detailed discussion of the policy to be adopted in this sector the Council agreed to instruct the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its examination of the two Commission communications on this matter:

- main guidelines for a policy for developing energy resources inside the Community and within a wider context of international co-operation
- financing of the energy policy by the Community

and to decide, in the light of its discussions on this subject, on the advisability of holding a Council meeting before the end of July or in early autumn with a view to adopting the necessary guidelines in this sector.

COMMON ARRANGEMENTS APPLICABLE TO IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF
HYDROCARBONS

The Council had a general discussion on whether to introduce common arrangements for imports and exports of hydrocarbons. The discussion enabled the delegations to state their positions on this matter.

At the close of the discussion the Commission announced its intention of reviewing the details of its proposal in the light of information given to certain delegations.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to resume examination of this subject at its level.

SUPPORT FOR JOINT HYDROCRABON PROSPECTING PROJECTS

The Council undertook a policy discussion on the proposal for a Regulation on support for joint hydrocarbon prospecting projects.

The discussion dealt in particular with the conditions under which such a support system could be envisaged, the geographical limits that might have to be imposed on the system and the guarantees which would have to be provided for such support with regard to the yield from any deposits discovered.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work in the light of the policies emerging from the discussion, in order to enable the Council to act on this proposal as soon as possible.

FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF JOINT PROJECTS IN THE HYDROCARBONS SECTOR

The Council took note of a Commission communication specifying that the amount of 25 MUA initially set aside in 1973 for a system of Community support for technological development projects in the hydrocarbons sector was now inadequate for Community requirements in view of the considerable changes which had occurred since 1973, in particular in the cost of technological development activities in the hydrocarbons sector.

EURATOM LOANS FOR THE FINANCING OF NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS

The Council discussed the Commission proposal on the floating of Euratom loans by the Commission for the purpose of making a Community contribution to the financing of nuclear power stations.

The Council expressed a favourable opinion on the proposal and asked the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on this subject with all dispatch so as to allow the Council to act on the proposal as soon as possible.

EUROPEAN CO-ORDINATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUMMER-TIME SYSTEM

In April the French delegation forwarded to the Council a memorandum urging Member States to adopt jointly a summer time system; in a speech to this meeting the delegation expanded on the information given in the memorandum.

The Council discussed the question and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to assess the advantages and disadvantages of establishing such a system, with particular reference to energy saving aspects.

REDUCTION OF OIL CONSUMPTION

In the context of the reduction of oil consumption, the Council adopted the Resolution on the setting of a short-term target for 1975 and received a further communication from the Commission on energy saving targets for 1976-1977.

1. The text of the Resolution is as follows:

"THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

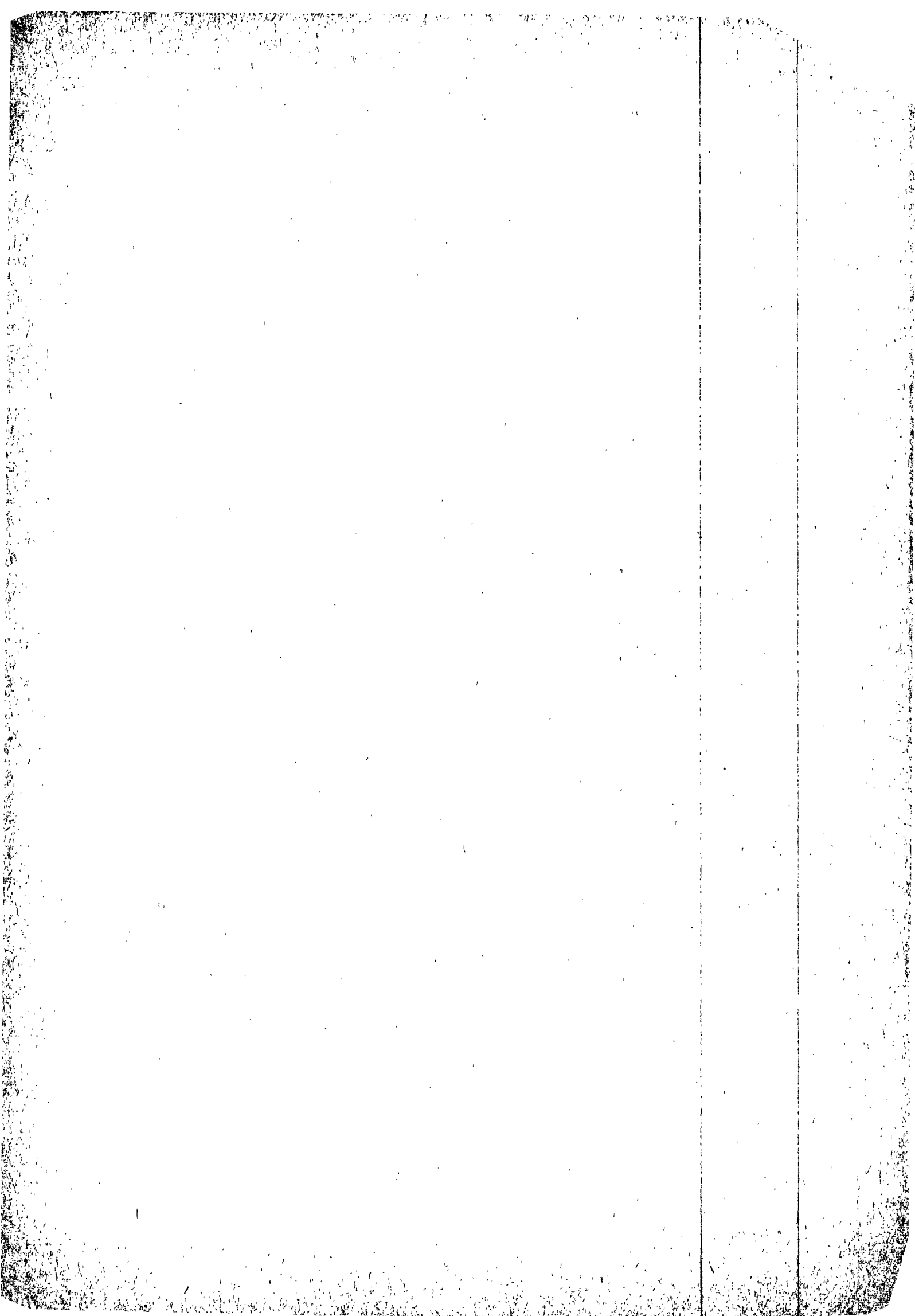
Having regard to the draft from the Commission;

Having noted the Commission communication entitled "Energy savings - short-term targets" which sets out, inter alia, measures for reducing oil consumption;

Considering the Council Resolutions of 17 December 1974 on Community energy policy objectives for 1985 and on the Community action programme on the rational utilization of energy;

Whereas reduction of the rate of growth of internal energy consumption by measures for the rational and economical use of energy without jeopardizing social and economic growth objectives is one of the aims of the Community's energy policy;

Whereas energy resources must be used rationally in order to conserve them as much as possible;



Whereas by reducing oil imports the Community can alleviate the burden on balances of payments resulting from the present level of oil prices;

Whereas it therefore appears desirable to establish a target for the reduction of oil consumption in the Community;

Whereas the Community should reserve the right also to set a short-term target for subsequent years.

1. APPROVES, in the light of Member States' current forecasts, the target set, namely to reduce the consumption of oil within the Community in 1975 to 500 million metric tons, that is to say a reduction of the order of 9% as compared with 1973;
2. REQUESTS the Member States, with a view to attaining this target, to continue the efforts already under way in this field and to take whatever measures are suited to their individual situations;
3. REQUESTS the Commission to submit a report to the Council on the attainment of this target and on measures taken by the Member States.

4. REQUESTS the Commission to submit to the Council before 30 June 1975 a proposal for a short-term target for the reduction of internal consumption in 1976.
5. AGREES to discuss this proposal before 31 July 1975 and to take a definitive decision on it as soon as possible and not later than 30 November 1975."

2. With regard to the 1976-77 targets, the Council received a communication from the Commission, delivered orally by Mr SIMONET, Vice-President.

The communication indicated that it would be possible to achieve the 9 % reduction in oil consumption in 1975, thanks mainly to favourable economic trends and climatic conditions. To attain the main target for 1976, which was to hold consumption down to the 1973 level despite the growth in the economy, and to achieve the 1977 objective, the Commission recommended measures aimed at effectively reducing the part played by non-useful energy consumption, viz. wastage and low efficiency.

The Council once more emphasized how important it felt this problem to be and confirmed its wish to achieve concrete results by the autumn. The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to examine the draft Resolution which the Commission intended to submit on this subject.

VARIOUS DECISIONS

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

- the Regulations

- on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel
- establishing Community supervision of imports of certain products originating in the State of Israel
- opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for apricot pulp falling within subheading ex 20.06 B II (c) (†) (aa) of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Israel
- on imports of fresh lemons originating in Israel
- derogating from the definition of the concept of "originating products" to take account of the special situation of Mauritius with regard to certain textile products
- the Directive amending Directives Nos 66/400/EEC, 66/401/EEC, 66/402/EEC, 66/403/EEC and 69/208/EEC on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes and seed of oil and fibre plants
- the Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the reverse and speedometer equipment of motor vehicles
- the second Directive amending Directive No 66/404/EEC on the marketing of forest reproductive material
- the Decision approving a proposal for EDF financing of improvements to the landing strip of the Bonaire airfield (Netherlands Antilles)

The Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting in Council, adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, the Decision opening tariff preferences for products coming under the ECSC and originating in Israel.

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BRUXELLES LE 25.6.1975

TELEX NO 54808

NOTE BIO (75) 203 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE ET A MM. LES DIRECTEURS GENERAUX DG I ET X
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PREPARATION DU CONSEIL ENERGIE DU 26 JUIN 1975

LE CONSEIL SE REUNIRA A LUXEMBOURG LE 26 JUIN 1975 A 9 HEURES,
SOUS LA PRESIDENCE DE MONSIEUR PETER BARRY, MINISTRE DES
TRANSPORTS ET DE L ENERGIE D IRLANDE. L ORDRE DU JOUR COMPORTE
LES HUIT POINTS SUIVANTS :

1. AXES ESSENTIELS D UNE POLITIQUE DE DEVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES

EN ENERGIE DANS LA COMMUNAUTE ET DANS UN CADRE PLUS LARGE DE

-2-----
COOPERATION INTERNATIONALE (DOC. COM (75) 310).

LE CONSEIL SERA APPELE A SE PRONONCER SUR UN CERTAIN NOMBRE DE
QUESTION FONDAMENTALES AVANT QUE SE POURSUIVENT LES TRAVAUX SUR
CE POINT. CES QUESTIONS ONT NOTAMMENT TRAIT A L ELABORATION D UN
PROGRAMME GLOBAL POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES ENERGETIQUES,
FONDE SUR DES MESURES SPEFIQUES D INCITATION ET DE SOUTIEN A
DETERMINER. CES QUESTIONS REVIENNENT AUSSI AU PROBLEME POSE PAR
LA FIXATION EVENTUELLE D UN MECANISME GENERAL DE PROTECTION
FONDE SUR UN NIVEAU MINIMUM DE SAUVEGARDE (AUTREFOIS DIT PRIX
PLANCHER). CE MECANISME EST CONSIDERE PAR LA COMMISSION
COMME UN ELEMENT NECESSAIRE A LA DETERMINATION D UNE POLITIQUE
VISANT A GARANTIR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DE NOUVELLES SOURCES
D ENERGIE. PAR CONTRE, CERTAINS CONCOIVENT QUE CE MECANISME
EST DIRECTEMENT LIE AU PROBLEME DE PRIX ACTUEL ET FUTUR DE
L ENERGIE. DES LORS, CE PROBLEME POURRAIT INTERFERER AVEC LA
REPRISE DU DIALOGUE AVEC LES PAYS PRODUCTEURS, LE MECANISME
GENERAL POUVANT ETRE CONSIDERE COMME UN PREALABLE AU DIALOGUE
OU COMME UN RESULTAT SOUHAITABLE DE CELUI-CI.

2. FINANCEMENT COMMUNAUTAIRE DE LA POLITIQUE DE L ENERGIE.

(DOC. COM (75) 245 FINAL)

CE POINT EST ETROITEMENT LIE AU PRECEDENT. ICI AUSSI, LE CONSEIL
AURA A SE PRONONCER SUR DES QUESTIONS DONT LA SOLUTION DETERMINERA
LA SUITE DES TRAVAUX. L UNE DE CELLE-CI CONCERNE LA MESURE
SPECIFIQUE DE DEVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES ENERGETIQUES CONSTITUEE
PAR UN PROGRAMME INDICATIF DE FINANCEMENT, DIT PIF. CELUI-CI
DONNERA UNE VUE GOBALE DES ACTIONS DE LA COMMUNAUTE DANS LE
DOMAINE DU FINANCEMENT DES SOURCES D ENERGIE.

Communications

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3. PROPOSITION DE REGLEMENT (CEE) DU CONSEIL RELATIF AU REGIME COMMUN

APPLICABLE AUX IMPORTATIONS ET EXPORTATIONS D HYDROCARBURES

L OBJET DE CETTE PROPOSITION EST DE SOUMETTRE LES HYDROCARBURES
AU REGIME COMMUN ACTUELLEMENT APPLICABLE AUX AUTRES PRODUITS
DANS LE CADRE DE LA POLITIQUE COMMERCIALE COMMUNE.
LE CONSEIL EXAMINERA LE RAPPORT DU GROUPE ENERGIE EN TENANT COMPTE
DES DIVERGENCES QUI SE SONT MANIFESTEES.
PLUSIEURS DELEGATIONS ESZIMENT QUE CETTE PROPOSITION EST
PREMATUREE, ET QUE L OCTROI AUTOMATIQUE DES LICENCES NE PEUT SE
CONCEVOIR QUE DANS LE CADRE D UNE VERITABLE POLITIQUE GLOBALE
D APPROVISIONNEMENT.
LA COMMISSION ESTIME, QUANT A ELLE, QU IL FAUT METTRE FIN A UNE
SITUATION CONTRAIRE A L ARTICLE 113, CARACTERISEE PAR L EXISTENCE
SIMULTANEE D UNE POLITIQUE COMMUNE POUR LES RELATIONS AVEC LES
PAYS TIERS SUR UN PLAN GENERAL ET DE POLITIQUES NATIONALES
SPECIFIQUES EN CE QUI CONCERNE LES REGIMES D IMPORTATION ET
D EXPORTATION D HYDROCARBURES.

4.
PROPOSITION DE REGLEMENT (CEE) DU CONSEIL CONCERNANT LE SOUTIEN DE

PROJETS COMMUNS D'EXPLORATION D'HYDROCARBURES (DOC. COM(74) 1962
----- FINAL).

LE CONSEIL AURA A TRANCHER DES QUESTIONS DE PRINCIPE AVANT QUE LA
COMMUNAUTE NE S'ENGAGE DANS LA VOIE DU SOUTIEN A APPORTER A DES
PROJETS QUI TROUVENT LEUR PLACE DANS LA NOUVELLE STRATEGIE ENERGE-
TIQUE. LA QUESTION FONDAMENTALE EST DE SAVOIR S'IL FAUT METTRE EN
VALEUR DE NOUVELLES ZONES D'EXPLORATION OU DEVELOPPER DES ZONES
D'EXPLOITATION DEJA ----- RECONNUES.

5.
ASPECTS FINANCIERS RELATIFS AUX PROJETS COMMUNAUTAIRES DANS LE

SECTEUR DES HYDROCARBURES

LA COMMISSION FERA UNE DECLARATION PROPOSANT AU CONSEIL DE PORTER
DE 25 MUC A 50 MUC LE PLAFOND DES CREDITS ANNUELS DE SOUTIEN AUX
PROJETS COMMUNAUTAIRES. LE PLAFOND DE 25 MUC PAR AN PENDANT TROIS
ANS N'EST PLUS ADAPTE AUX BESOINS DE LA COMMUNAUTE, COMPTE TENU
DU VOLUME IMPORTANT DE DEMANDES QUE LA COMMISSION A RECU DES FIRMES
INTERESSEES.

6.
PROJET DE DECISION HABILITANT LA COMMISSION A EMETTRE DES EMPRUNTS

EURATOM EN VUE D'UNE CONTRIBUTION DE LA COMMUNAUTE AU FINANCEMENT

DES CENTRALES NUCLEAIRES DE PUISSANCE.

ICI AUSSI, UN ACCORD POLITIQUE FONDAMENTAL DOIT ETRE RECHERCHE AVANT
DE RESOUDRE LES QUESTIONS TECHNIQUES ET DE GESTION. CE MECANISME DE
FINANCEMENT, QUI POURRAIT CONCERNER UN MONTANT DE 500 MUC EN TROIS
ANS OU UN MILLIARD SANS LIMITATION DE DUREE, DEVRAIT ETRE IMPLIQUE
DANS LE PROGRAMME INDICATIF DE FINANCEMENT, DIT PIF, DONT IL A ETE
QUESTION PLUS HAUT.

7.
COORDINATION EUROPEENNE POUR L'ETABLISSEMENT D'UN SYSTEME D'HEURE
D'ETE (COL. COM(75)319).

CE POINT REpond A UNE DEMANDE DE LA DELEGATION FRANCAISE. SE. LA
COMMISSION ESTIME QUE L'INSTAURATION D'UN SYSTEME COMMUN D'HEURE
D'ETE OFFRIRAIT EN EFFET UN CERTAIN NOMBRE D'AVANTAGES ET PROPOSE
QUE LE CONSEIL INVITE LES ETATS MEMBRES A HARMONISER SON APPLICATION
DU PREMIER SAMEDI APRES L'EQUINOXE DU PRINTEMPS, A MINUIT, AU
PREMIER SAMEDI APRES L'EQUINOXE D'AUTOMNE, A MINUIT, COMPTE TENU
DU DECALAGE DES FUSEAUX HORAIRES.

8.
COMMUNICATION ORALE DE LA COMMISSION SUR LES OBJECTIFS A BREVE
ECHEANCHE 1976-1977 D'ECONOMIE D'ENERGIE.

LA COMMISSION ESTIME QU'IL Y A LIEU D'INTENSIFIER A COURT TERME
L'EFFORT D'ECONOMIE D'ENERGIE, AFIN DE REDUIRE LA VULNERABILITE
DE L'ECONOMIE EUROPEENNE VIS-A-VIS DE L'IMPORTATION DE PETROLE.
CET EFFORT PEUT ETRE OBTENU PAR LA LUTTE CONTRE LE GASPILLAGE ET
L'AUGMENTATION DU RENDEMENT. UNE POSITION COMMUNE EN CETTE MATIERE,
SI ELLE RECEVAIT L'ACCORD DE PRINCIPE DU CONSEIL, DONNERAIT AUX
ETATS MEMBRES UNE LIGNE DE CONDUITE COHERENTE ET UNE POSITION PLUS
FORTE DANS D'AUTRES ENCEINTES INTERNATIONALES.

AMITIE
M. SANTARELLI

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TELEX NO 4057

COPIE AU CHEF DE LA DELEGATION

AVEC PRIERE DE TRANSMETTRE A NEW YORK

NOTE BIO 203 SUITE 1 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GPP ET MM. LES DIR. GEN. DES DG I ET X

CONSEIL ENERGIE

LE CONSEIL A COMMENCE SES TRAVAUX A 9H15.

APRES UN RAPIDE EXAMEN DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR ET L'ADOPTION DES POINTS A,
LE CONSEIL EST CONVENU D'ORGANISER SES TRAVAUX COMME SUIT :

1. AXES ESSENTIELLES DU DEVELOPPEMENT ENERGETIQUE DANS LA COMMUNAUTE
ET FINANCEMENT (POINT 1 ET 2 DE LA BIO ENERGIE 203) EN SUPER-
RESTREINTE.
2. REGIME COMMUN APPLICABLE AUX IMPORTATIONS ET EXPORTATIONS
D'HYDROCARBURES :
SEANCE NORMALE ET VOTE A LA MAJORITE QUALIFIEE.
3. LE CONSEIL DEVRAIT ENSUITE POURSUIVRE SES TRAVAUX SUR LES AUTRES
POINTS A L'ORDRE DU JOUR (POINT 4-8 DE LA BIO 203).

LE CONSEIL CONSACRERA L'ESSENTIEL DE SES DELIBERATIONS AU POINT 1
CI-DESSUS ET DEVRA CLOTURER SES DEBATS VERS 13H. APRES LE DEJEUNER,
L'OUVERTURE DU CONSEIL RECHERCHE EST PREVUE POUR 16 H.

LE CONSEIL S'EST MIS EN RESTREINTE A 9H25.

AMITIES,

M. SANTARELLI

26.6.75

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NOTE B I O (75) 203 (SUITE 2) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE ET A MM. LES DIR.GEN. DES DG I ET X

LE CONSEIL A REPRIS SES TRAVAUX EN SEANCE NORMALE A 12 H 25 POUR
LES CLOTURER A 14 H, LE PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL A TENU SA CONFERENCE
DE PRESSE A 16 H 15 AVANT L'OUVERTURE DU CONSEIL RECHERCHE.

LES POINTS 3 A 8 DE LA B I O 203, PREPARATION DU CONSEIL, ONT
ETE TRAITES COMME SUIT:

3.
LES DIVERGENCES QUI ETAIENT APPARUES AU COREPER N'ONT PU ETRE SUR-
MONTEES, LE CONSEIL CONSIDERANT POUR L'ESSENTIEL QUE LA POLITIQUE
COMMERCIALE DANS LE DOMAINE ENERGETIQUE NE PEUT ETRE QU'UN INSTRU-
MENT AU SERVICE D'UNE POLITIQUE ENERGETIQUE DE LA COMMUNAUTE ET NON
PAS L'EXTENSION AU SECTEUR ENERGETIQUE DE LA POLITIQUE COMMERCIALE
GENERALE.

IL A ETE CONVENU DE POURSUIVRE L'ETUDE DE CE DOSSIER AU COREPER.

4.
LE CONSEIL N'A PU SE METTRE D'ACCORD SUR CE POINT MALGRE L'ACCORD
DE PRINCIPE DE 8 DELEGATIONS (M. BENN N'A PU SE RALLIER A CET AC-
CORD). LES 8 ONT ESTIME D'AUTRE PART QUE CE SOUTIEN DE PROJETS
COMMUNS DEVAIT S'APPLIQUER AUX PROJETS ON ET OFF SHORE, QU'IL
DEVAIT AVOIR UN CARACTERE EXPERIMENTAL ET QUE CERTAINES GARANTIES
D'ACCES DEVAIENT ETRE RESERVEES A LA COMMUNAUTE.
LE COREPER POURSUIVRA L'EXAMEN DE CETTE AFFAIRE.

5.
LE CONSEIL A PRIS ACTE DE L'INSUFFISANCE DE LA DOTATION ACTUELLE
DE 25 MUC PAR AN ET, SANS ACCEPTER FORMELLEMENT LA PROPOSITION DE
LA COMMISSION, IL L'A AUTORISEE EN FAIT A DEPASSER LE PLAFOND DE
25 MUC PREVU PAR LE REGLEMENT 3056/73 DU 9.11.1973.

6.
LE CONSEIL AYANT MARQUE SON ACCORD SUR CE POINT, IL APPARTIENDRA
AU CONSEIL DES FINANCES DU 10 JUILLET DE TRANCHER SUR L'HABILITA-
TION DE LA COMMISSION.

7.
LE COREPER A ETE CHARGE DE POURSUIVRE L'ETUDE DE CETTE AFFAIRE.

8.
LE CONSEIL A MARQUE SON ACCORD DE PRINCIPE TRES FAVORABLE SUR LA
COMMUNICATION DE M. SIMONET ET CHARGE LE COREPER DE POURSUIVRE
ACTIVEMENT SES TRAVAUX SUR LA BASE DE CE DOCUMENT.

AMITIES

M. SANTARELLI

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