

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10880/83 (Presse 201)

887th meeting of the Council

- Environment -

Brussels, 28 and 29 November 1983

President: Mr Andonios TRITSIS,

Minister for Regional Planning and
the Environment of the Hellenic Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Firmin AERTS
State Secretary for Public Health
and the Environment

Denmark:

Mr Christian CHRISTENSEN
Minister for the Environment
and for Nordic Affairs

Germany:

Mr Carl-Dieter SPRANGER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of the Interior

Greece:

Mr A. TRITSIS
Minister for Regional Planning
and the Environment

France:

Ms Huguette BOUCHARDEAU
State Secretary attached to the
Prime Minister,
Ministry of the Environment and
the Quality of Life

Ireland:

Mr Ruari QUINN
Minister of State,
Department of the Environment

Italy:

Mr Alfredo BIONDI
Minister for Ecology

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL
Minister for the Environment

Netherlands:

Mr P. WINSEMIUS
Minister for Housing, Regional
Planning and the Environment

United Kingdom:

Mr William WALDEGRAVE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
of State,
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES
Member

COMBATING AIR POLLUTION FROM INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the proposal for a Directive on combating air pollution from industrial plants. This proposed Directive, of a general nature, stipulates that Member States must make the building of industrial plants subject to prior authorization and that certain criteria must be met before such authorization is granted.

Discussion concentrated on the three main questions raised by this proposal, namely: the scope of the Directive; definition of the economic criterion for issuing authorization; the possible fixing of Community limit values for emissions.

At the end of the debate the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue to seek solutions which could enable it to take a decision at its next meeting.

IMPACT STUDIES

Following further detailed discussion of the main problems outstanding, the Council noted the agreement of nine delegations on the text of the proposal for a Directive concerning the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects.

Since one delegation had a general reservation on this proposal, the Council instructed the Permanent Representative Committee to take up the matter again in due course.

MEDITERRANEAN SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS - PROTOCOL TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION

The Council discussed a proposal for a Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention concerning Mediterranean specially protected areas.

This Protocol, the fourth to the Convention, is designed to protect marine areas which are important in safeguarding the natural resources and natural sites of the Mediterranean Sea area.

Since one delegation wanted further clarification regarding the financial rules of the Protocol, the Council postponed examination of the dossier.

WASTE FROM THE TITANIUM DIOXIDE INDUSTRY

The Council held a policy debate on the proposal for a Council Directive on procedures for harmonizing the programmes for the reduction of pollution caused by waste from the titanium dioxide industry.

The Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to expedite its work on this proposal so that the Council could take up the matter again.

LEAD IN PETROL

The Council noted a statement by the Commission on the progress of work on lead in petrol. It also took note of a statement by the Greek delegation on the subject.

In the course of discussion, the Council confirmed its procedural decision of June 1983 inviting the Commission to submit appropriate proposals before April 1984.

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At the end of its discussion on the above items the Council agreed to suspend its meeting until 16 December with a view to continuing its proceedings on the following items in particular:

- surveillance and control of transfrontier shipments of hazardous waste
- action by the Community relating to the environment (ACE)
- joint declaration on environmental policy
- limit values and quality objectives for mercury discharges.

OTHER DECISION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3626/82 on the implementation in the Community of the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

ALIGNEZ VOTRE MACHINE SUR LE BORD SUPERIEUR HACHURE DU CADRE

443683 METTRE ■■■ AU-DESSUS ET EN DESSOUS DE CHAQUE ADRESSE

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NOTE BIO(83) 502 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE PAROLE

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OBJET : CONSEIL ENVIRONNEMENT DU 28 NOVEMBRE 1983 (O VON SCHWERIN)

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L ORDRE DU JOUR ETANT TRES CHARGE, LE CONSEIL A SIEGE PENDANT 18 HEURES SANS POURTANT ARRIVER A DES CONCLUSIONS FORMELLES SUR UN DES POINTS.

NEANMOINS, DES PROGRES CONSIDERABLES ONT ETE REALISES A PLUSIEURS POINTS IMPORTANTS, ET NOTAMMENT :

1. LA PROPOSITION DE DIRECTIVE SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA POLLUTION ATMOSPHERIQUE EN PROVENANCE DES INSTALLATIONS INDUSTRIELLES

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CETTE PROPOSITION D AVRIL DERNIER DEVRAIT FORMER LE CADRE POUR LES ACTIONS ENVISAGEES PAR LA COMMISSION DANS CETTE LUTTE CONTRE LA POLLUTION DE L AIR EN SOUMETTANT LA CONSTRUCTION DES INSTALLATIONS A UNE AUTORISATION PREALABLE ET CECI SUBORDONNE AU RESPECT DE CERTAINS CRITERES.

SUR LES PROBLEMES ESSENTIELS, A SAVOIR CHAMP D APPLICATION, DEFINITION DU CRITERE ECONOMIQUE ET FIXATION DES VALEURS LIMITEES DES EMISSIONS, CE DERNIER A POSE DEFINITIVEMENT UN PROBLEME EN RAISON DE L OPPOSITION ANGLAISE.

2. LA DIRECTIVE SUR L EVALUATION DES INCIDENCES (DITE IMPACT)

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PROJET CLE D UNE POLITIQUE D ENVIRONNEMENT PREVENTIVE DE LA COM.) ETAIT POUR LA SIXIEME FOIS DEVANT LE CONSEIL ET EST FINALEMENT PRETE POUR L ADOPTION, ABSTRACTION FAITE D UNE RESERVE DANOISE QUI INSISTE POUR QUE DES PROJETS SOUMIS A UNE DECISION DU PARLEMENT NATIONAL DANOIS SOIENT EXEMPTS DU CHAMP D APPLICATION. MALGRE UNE PRESSION INSISTANTE AUTOUR DE LA TABLE, LA DELEGATION DANOISE N A PAS BOUGE D UN CENTIMETRE DE SA POSITION.

3. LA DIRECTIVE SUR LA SURVEILLANCE ET LE CONTROLE DES TRANSFERTS TRANSFRONTALIERS DES DECHETS DANGEREUX (DIRECTIVE DITE POST SEVESO)

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JE VOUS RAPPELLE QUE LA COMMISSION, APRES L INCIDENT DES 41 FUTS DE DIOXYN EN JUIN DERNIER, AVAIT PROPOSE UN RENFORCEMENT CONSIDERABLE DE SA PROPOSITION DU 17.1.1983 AVEC LAQUELLE LE TRAFIC DES DECHETS INDUSTRIELS TOXIQUES ENTRE ETATS MEMBRES DEVRAIT ETRE SOUMIS A UN CONTROLE EFFICACE.

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Ne pas aligner sur le bord du cadre

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M. SANTARELLI

LE CONSEIL S EST ENGAGE EN JUIN DERNIER D ADOPTER CETTE DIRECTIVE AVANT LA FIN DE L ANNEE. OR, IL FAUT CONSTATER QUE LE CONSEIL EST ENCORE LOIN D UNE TELLE DECISION : EN EFFET, LES ELEMENTS DE RENFORCEMENT SONT EN GRANDE PARTIE CONTESTES, NOTAMMENT LA BASE JURIDIQUE D UN REGLEMENT, AU LIEU D UNE DIRECTIVE, DEUXIEMEMENT LE PRINCIPE DES SANCTIONS EN CAS D ABUS ET TROISIEMEMENT LE PRINCIPE DE LA RESPONSABILITE ENTIERE DU PRODUCTEUR.

C EST NOTAMMENT EN RAISON DE CET ENGAGEMENT QUE LE CONSEIL A PRIS DEVANT LA COMMISSION, LE PARLEMENT EUROPEEN ET L OPINION PUBLIQUE QU IL A DECIDE DE SE REUNIR DE NOUVEAU ~~AVANT~~ LE 16 DECEMBRE.

L ORDRE DU JOUR SERA PRATIQUEMENT IDENTIQUE, DANS L ESPOIR DE POUVOIR REGLER CERTAINS POINTS, ET NOTAMMENT

- LE PROBLEME 'POST SEVESO'
- LES ACTIONS COMMUNAUTAIRES POUR L ENVIRONNEMENT (ACE): PREMIERE AMORCE D UN FONDS COMMUNAUTAIRE POUR L ENVIRONNEMENT
- LA DIRECTIVE DITE 'IMPACT'
- VALEURS LIMITEES ET OBJECTIFS DE QUALITE POUR REJETS DE MERCURE ET
- LE PROTOCOLE DE BARCELONE.

AMITIES, M. SANTARELLI
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