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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

9848/83 (Presse 168)

875th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Luxembourg, 17 and 18 October 1983

President: Mr Constantinos SIMITIS,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Hellenic Republic

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

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER
State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Niels Anker KOFOED
Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture
Mr Panayiotis KATSAROS
State Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Michel ROCARD
Minister for Agriculture
Mr René SOUCHON
State Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI
Minister for Agriculture
Mr Giulio SANTARELLI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MUHLEN
Minister for Agriculture
Viticulture, Water Control and
Forests

Netherlands:

Mr G. BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING
Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food
Mr John MacGREGOR
Minister of State
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Poul DALSAER - Member

REFORM OF AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

The Council heard a report from the Commission representative setting out the main aspects of the socio-structural measures intended to replace the Directives due to expire at the end of 1983.

These provisions, which will apply for a period of five years and cost ± 6,5 ECU, are mainly concerned with measures to help farmers and improve farming, with the adaptation of the policy for less-favoured regions and areas and with the strengthening of measures relating to the improvement of processing and marketing conditions for farm products.

The Council requested the Special Committee on Agriculture to hold a thorough examination of the issue and report back as soon as possible.

CHANGES TO THE "ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE" FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS

As part of an overall compromise solution, the Council agreed on basic questions relating to changes in the "acquis communautaire" for Mediterranean products as regards both fruit and vegetables and olive oil, subject to formal adoption of the relevant Regulations by the most appropriate procedure, following finalization of the texts in the official languages of the Communities.

The Council stated that this agreement would make it possible to open negotiations with the applicant countries. Its main features are set out below:

I. Olive oil

(a) Improvement of the management of the system

The Council takes note of the proposals submitted by the Commission for the improvement of the management and supervision of the olive oil production aid arrangements and agrees that a decision should be taken in good time for them to be implemented from the start of the 1984/1985 marketing year.

(b) Problems linked with the transitional period and the adoption of the acquis communautaire

The Council considers that the terms of reference for the negotiations with Spain and Portugal in relation to the transition period in the olive oil sector should include the following principles

- (i) the establishment of a long transitional period for olive oil, as provided for by the European Council of 23 March 1983;
- (ii) the establishment for the other vegetable oils and oilseeds of a long transitional period, within which provision would be made for a standstill period for the marketing arrangements now applied in Spain and Portugal.

The Council also believes that the Community measures for limiting the areas under olive trees should be applied in the same way by the applicant countries as quickly as possible.

Furthermore, the Council considers that a decision should be taken as soon as possible on the restructuring and conversion of areas under olive trees.

(c) Future organization of the market

The Council considers that, in the context of proposals which the Commission will be putting forward following the guidelines set out in its communication on changes to the Common Agricultural Policy and for an enlarged Community, particular attention will have to be paid to the olive oil sector, bearing in mind the following objectives:

- (i) the balance of the market in vegetable oils;
- (ii) the maintenance of producers' income;
- (iii) the need for a market organization that can be controlled from the administrative and financial points of view.

II. Fruit and vegetables

(a) Internal aspects

(i) Aids for the formation of producers' organizations

The arrangements currently in force concerning aid for the formation of producer organizations will remain in force until 1 July 1988, in parallel with the newly proposed system which provides for the granting of aid calculated at 5%, 5%, 4%, 3% and 2% of the value of production marketed by the producers' organization. After this date, the new system will be the only one applicable.

(ii) Extension of Statutory restraint to non-member producers

1. Representativity of producer organizations

From the start of application of the amended regulation, a producer organization is representative:

- (a) during the initial three years, when more than 50% of production and more than 50% of producers are part of the organization, unless at least 1/3 of the producers (associated or non-associated) express their opposition.
- (b) for the following years, in the circumstances when the application of this regulation is continued, when at least 2/3 of production and 2/3 of producers are part of the organization.

2. The Commission's power of control

The Council takes note that the Commission has revised its original proposal in order to provide that:

- (i) the extended rules may not undermine free trade;
- (ii) the marketing rules can only be extended after the Commission has given its agreement.

The Commission underlines that it has permanent power of control over the arrangement for extending the rules and will repeal the authorized extension as soon as it is established that the application of the arrangement is harmful to free trade or free competition.

3. Review of the validity of the system

Three years after the implementation of this decision concerning the extension of rules, the Commission will submit a report in order that a decision can be taken concerning its retention or abolition.

4. List of rules to be extended

The extension of statutory restraint also covers the rules on withdrawal from the market.

(iii) Identification of a serious crisis

In order to improve the mechanisms already in force for recording the state of a serious crisis, the Council agrees that Article 19a should be reinforced, extending its application to apricots, aubergines and tomatoes.

- The following two paragraphs are added to the Article:

"5. In so far as in a given Member State, the representative production markets do not allow any recording of price levels, the measures referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 can be decided upon on the basis of prices recorded at the wholesale level on the most representative markets.

6. The Commission decides, according to the procedure set out in Article 33, the application of modalities for the Article."

- Paragraph 4 of the Article should read as follows:

"4. The Commission may grant exemption from the obligation laid down in paragraph 2 to a producer Member State which applies for exemption provided that:

- in that Member State at least two-thirds of the national production of the product in question is marketed through producers' organizations; or that
- in that Member State the national production of the product in question is less than 8% of the average Community production of that product, it being understood that should a Member State so request, this percentage may be up to 12% for pears."

(iv) Extension of intervention beyond the current marketing year

Intervention beyond the current marketing year is prohibited except under abnormal circumstances, when a decision may be taken to extend intervention through the management committee procedure.

(b) External aspects

(i) Calculation of the reference price

The Council takes note that the Commission revises its original proposal by introducing, as a ceiling on the increase in reference prices, a new criterion which takes account of the producer prices recorded in each Member State

The reference prices calculated in this way must not lead to Community offer prices, applicable to products of Greek origin according to Article 75 of the Accession Treaty, being less favourable than those which would have been in force if this modification to the calculation of reference prices had not taken place.

(ii) Amendment of the method of calculating reference prices for citrus fruits

The Council takes note that the Commission proposes to modify the calculation of the reference price for oranges and small citrus fruit other than clementines so that the link created between the changes in basic prices and buying-in prices, in financial compensation and in reference prices can be established in value terms and no longer in percentage terms, recovering for citrus fruit the loss of Community preference which that link has produced for as long as it has existed.

In order that this recovery should not give rise to too sharp an increase in reference prices, the Commission proposes that it should be limited to 15%, spread evenly over two production years (1984/1985 and 1985/1986).

(iii) Calculation of the entry price

The Council requests the Commission to submit suitable proposals which will enable the Commission, in co-operation with national administrations, to monitor the correct application of certain rules concerning:

1. the recording of prices of imported products;
2. the application of common quality standards.

(iv) Extension of the list of products subject to the reference price

The Council takes note of a declaration by the Commission that it will extend reference prices to apply to apricots, artichokes, lettuces and endives.

(v) Import regime for flowers

The Commission declares that it will study this question and will submit a report with proposals concerning the import regime for certain flowers (roses and carnations) in good time for a decision before the start of the 1984/1985 marketing year.

III. Date of application of the internal and external aspects

The Council agreed that both the internal and external aspects should be applied as soon as the Community has submitted its declaration on accession negotiations on fruit and vegetables to the two applicant countries.

The Council takes note of a declaration by the Commission that it will keep the operation of this regime under close review, during the transitional period and in an enlarged Community, and make appropriate proposals where necessary. In particular, the Commission will submit a report, and if necessary proposals, concerning the special problem of early potatoes.

SYSTEM FOR DRIED GRAPES AND DRIED FIGS FOR THE 1983/1984 MARKETING YEAR

Continuing its examination of the dossier on the general rules for the system of production aid for dried grapes and dried figs for the 1983/1984 marketing year, the Council held a detailed discussion in the course of which it noted that difficulties remained regarding the Commission proposal.

However, in view of the urgency of reaching agreement on the matter, the Council felt that for 1983/1984, the compromise submitted by the Presidency could be adopted, on the understanding that in any event the Commission proposal would have to be reviewed for the following marketing year.

The Commission was asked to review the situation as rapidly as possible and, if necessary, to submit a proposal on the basis of the above declaration, possibly accompanied by a statement.

IMPORTATION OF NEW ZEALAND BUTTER INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Council studied a Commission communication submitting its proposal relating to the continuation of New Zealand butter imports into the United Kingdom under special conditions, which proposes in particular:

- to authorize the United Kingdom to import, over a period of five years starting on 1 January 1984, the following quantities of New Zealand butter:
 - = 83 000 tonnes for the calendar year 1984
 - = 81 000 tonnes for the calendar year 1985
 - = 79 000 tonnes for the calendar year 1986
 - = 77 000 tonnes for the calendar year 1987
 - = 75 000 tonnes for the calendar year 1988
- to give the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, the possibility of temporarily reducing the quantities laid down, in particular in the event of a substantial drop in the direct consumption of butter;
- to apply a special flat-rate import levy of 25% of the prevailing Community intervention price level for butter (= 87,28 ECU/100 kg), on the understanding that the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, will adjust the rate of the levy in line with modifications in the level of the Community intervention price for butter.

After a short discussion, the Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture, in the light of that discussion, to carry out a technical study and to examine the effects of this proposal on, in particular, balance in the dairy sector and the Community's agricultural expenditure, and to report back to it in time for its next meeting on agricultural questions in November.

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMUNITY LIST OF LESS-FAVOURED FARMING AREAS

The Council continued its examination of three proposals for Directives for amendment of the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC in Italy, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

The Council asked the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue studying the consequences of adoption of those proposals and to report back in time for its next meeting.

FIXING FOR THE 1983/1984 MARKETING YEAR THE REPRESENTATIVE MARKET PRICE AND THRESHOLD PRICE FOR OLIVE OIL

The Council examined a proposal for a Regulation fixing the representative market price and the threshold price for olive oil for the 1983/1984 marketing year and the percentage of consumption aid to be retained during the same marketing year.

After a detailed discussion, the Council established that further examination of the technical aspects of this dossier was required. It therefore agreed to instruct a working party and then the Special Committee on Agriculture, to continue studying the technical aspects of the dossier, with the aim of enabling the Council to take a decision on the matter - if possible before 1 November - under the most appropriate procedure.

PRESERVATIVES AUTHORIZED FOR USE IN FOODSTUFFS INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The Council continued its examination of an amended proposal amending Directive 64/54/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption, as regards:

- = Community authorization of potassium acid sulphite (E 228) in wine-making;
- = retrospective and indefinite extension beyond 1 July 1982 of the authorization to use thiabendazole (E 233) for the surface treatment of citrus fruit and bananas;
- = national authorization of the use of natamycin (E 235) for the surface treatment of sausages which need to be matured before marketing and Community authorization of the use of this substance for the surface treatment of the rind of certain hard and semi-hard cheeses.

Following these discussions, the Council noted that delegations tended to favour acceptance of the first two substances. The Danish delegation - for reasons of public health in particular - not having been able at this stage to endorse authorization for the use of natamycin, the Council agreed to pursue its examination of the file as a whole at its meeting in November 1983, with a view to reaching a decision on the matter.

JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND CO-ORDINATION PROGRAMMES FOR
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The Council continued its examination of the proposal for a decision recommending the implementation at Community level of a series of co-ordinated activities and joint projects on agricultural research to be carried out during the period running from 1 January 1984 to 31 December 1988.

At the close of its discussions the Council noted that differences of opinion were still in evidence, particularly concerning the amount of the budget to be allocated to the programme. The Council accordingly agreed to carry over the discussion to the next meeting with a view to reaching a decision on the matter.

SUSPENSION OF THE ADVANCE PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS

Under "Other business" the Council heard a statement from the Commission concerning the recent measure suspending the arrangements for advance payments for agricultural products and held a brief exchange of views.

OTHER STATEMENTS

The Council heard statements on the following questions:

- Problem of presenting the Community position at the plenary conference of FAO in Rome (beginning of November)
- State of progress of the Commission report on caseins (request from the German and Netherlands delegations).

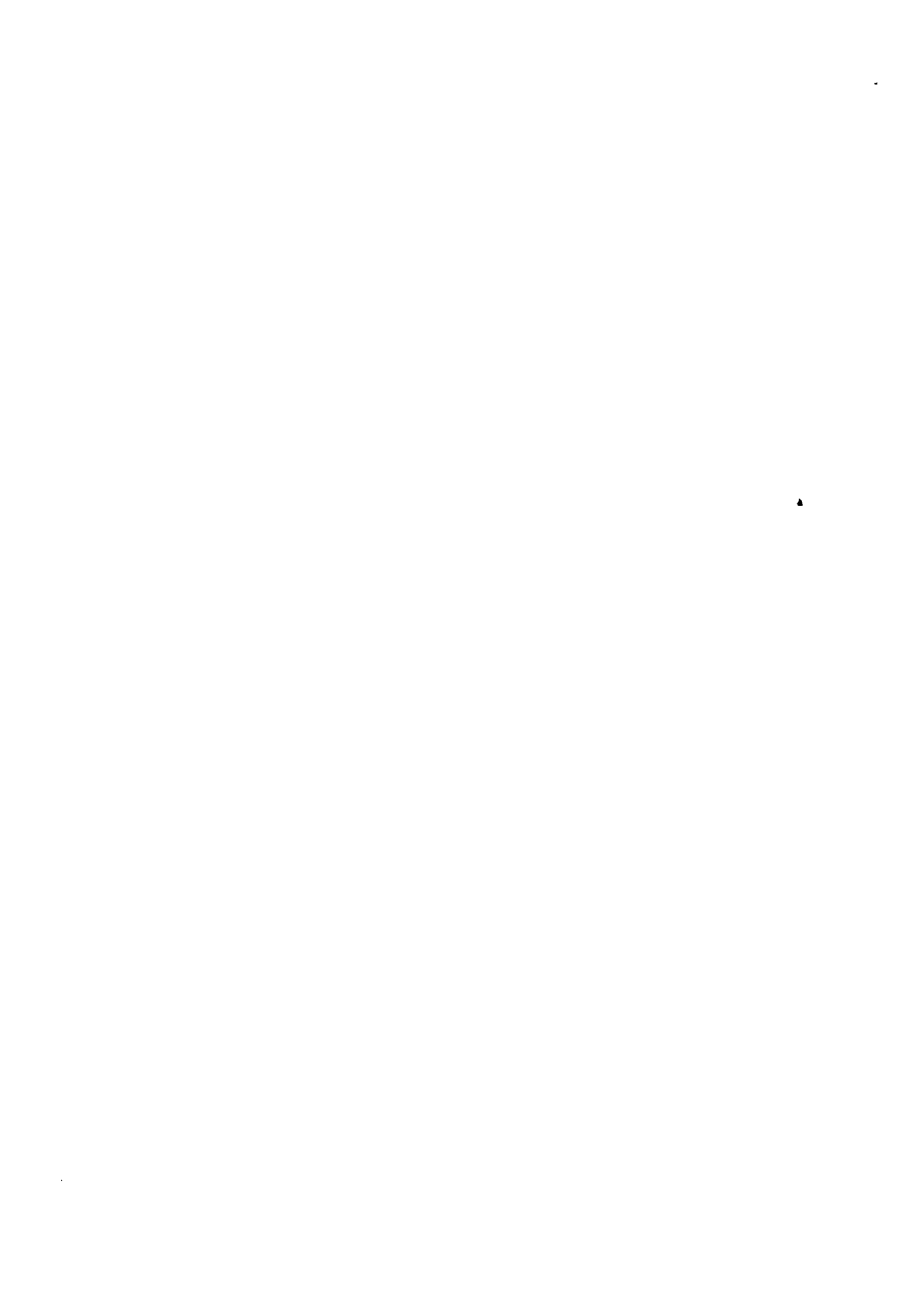
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The Council agreed to deal with the item on speeding up agricultural development in certain regions of Greece at its next meeting.

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OTHER DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council took note of a Commission communication concerning the programme of measures to promote the use of fibre flax for the 1982/1983 and 1983/1984 marketing years.

The Council also adopted, in the official languages of the Communities Regulations:

- = amending Regulation (EEC) No 1430/82 providing for restrictions on the importation of hemp and hemp seed and amending Regulation (EEC) No 1308/70 in respect of hemp;
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2958/82 laying down special measures in respect of olive oil producer organizations for the 1982/1983 marketing year;
 - = amending Regulation (EEC) No 2959/82 laying down general rules in respect of production aid for olive oil for the 1982/1983 marketing year.
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P1 Berl.1/3

No' BIO + LUXEMBOURG 3231

Luxelles, le 17 octobre 1983

Note BIO(83)421 aux Bureaux Nationaux
c.c. aux membres du groupe du Porte-Parole

PREPARATION CONSEIL AGRICOLE (M. Vasey)

Le Conseil agricole se reunit a Luxembourg ces 17 et 18 octobre, avec a l'ordre du jour les points suivants :

- Modification de l'acquis communautaire dans les secteurs des fruits et legumes et de l'huile d'olive en vue des negociations d'adhesion avec l'Espagne. La Presidence entend poursuivre les negociations sur la base du compromis qu'elle a presente lors de la derniere session (voir BIO(83)384).

- Raisins secs et figues seches : le Conseil poursuit son effort pour degager un accord sur l'extension du regime d'aide actuel pour la campagne 1983/84 (Voir BIO(83)384).

- Politique des structures : debat d'orientation (voir P-89 de septembre 1983).

- Extension des zones agricoles defavorisees au Royaume-Uni, en Italie et aux Pays-Bas : decision du Conseil.

- Beurre de Nouvelle-Zelande : extension du regime d'importation (voir P-90 d'octobre 1983).

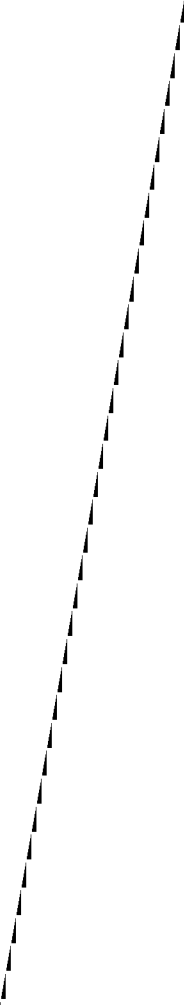
- Huile d'olive : fixation du prix representatif (qui sert a determiner l'aide a la consommation) et du prix de seuil pour la campagne qui commence au 1er novembre.

- Developpement agricole en Grece : decision sur l'extension de l'action commune en Grece (Reglement 1975/82).

- Agents conservateurs dans les denrees alimentaires .

A suivre
Amities

P. CERF - COMEUR 9h28/////



NOTE BIO (83) 421 SUITE 1 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

LE CONSEIL AGRICOLE A TRAITE LES POINTS SUIVANTS :

1. REVISION DE LA POLITIQUE DES STRUCTURES

M. DALSAGER A PRESENTE AU CONSEIL LES PROPOSITIONS DE LA COMMISSION EN VUE DE LA REVISION DE LA POLITIQUE COMMUNAUTAIRE DES STRUCTURES AGRICOLES QUI DEVRAIT COMPORTER UN DOUBLEMENT DES DEPENSES A CE TITRE AU COURS DE LA PERIODE QUINQUENNALE 1985-89. SELON M. DALSAGER; LA POLITIQUE PRUDENTE DES PRIX PRECONISEE PAR LA COMMISSION; DOIT ETRE COMPLETEE PAR UNE POLITIQUE PRUDENTE EN MATIERE D'INVESTISSEMENTS; ETANT DONNE QUE LA SITUATION DE MARCHÉ DE PLUSIEURS PRODUITS AGRICOLES NE PERMET PLUS AUX AGRICULTEURS D'AMELIORER LEURS REVENUS EN AUGMENTANT LA PRODUCTION. LA NOUVELLE POLITIQUE VISE A AIDER LES AGRICULTEURS LES MOINS FAVORISES; ESSENTIELLEMENT PAR LA REDUCTION DES COÛTS ET PAR L'AMELIORATION DES CONDITIONS DE VIE ET DE TRAVAIL (VOIR P-89). M. DALSAGER A NOTAMMENT SOULIGNE L'INTERET QUE REPRESENTÉ POUR LES AGRICULTEURS LA MISE EN VALEUR DES RESSOURCES FORESTIERES. LES PROPOSITIONS DE LA COMMISSION ONT ETE RENVOYÉES SANS DEBAT AU COMITE SPECIAL AGRICOLE POUR EXAMEN.

EXTENSION DE LA LISTE DES REGIONS DEFAVORISEES

LA COMMISSION ESTIME QUE L'EXTENSION DES REGIONS DEFAVORISEES DEMANDEE PAR LES TROIS ETATS MEMBRES INTERESSES (ROYAUME-UNI; ITALIE; PAYS-BAS) EST CONFORME AUX CRITERES DE L'ART. 3 DE LA DIRECTIVE NO 275/268 ET QU'IL N'Y A DES LORS AUCUNE RAISON DE NE PAS LEUR DONNER SUITE. TROIS DELEGATIONS SE SONT OPPOSEES A UNE TELLE EXTENSION A LA VEILLE DES NEGOCIATIONS SUR LA REVISION DE LA POLITIQUE STRUCTURELLE ET COMPTE TENU DE LEURS IMPLICATIONS FINANCIERES POSSIBLES. LES DELEGATIONS BRITANNIQUE ET ITALIENNE ONT EXPRIME LEUR DECEPTION DEVANT CE REFUS; QUI SIGNIFIERAIT QUE CERTAINES REGIONS; TOUT EN REMPLISSANT LES CRITERES PREVUS; NE POURRONT PAS ETRE CLASSIFIEES COMME REGIONS DEFAVORISEES. LA COMMISSION A REGRETTE QUE LA MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA LEGISLATION COMMUNAUTAIRE SOIT LIEE AUX NEGOCIATIONS FUTURES; D'AUTANT QUE LES CONSEQUENCES FINANCIERES SONT TRES LIMITEES. LE CONSEIL A RENVOYE LE DOSSIER A MARDI EN ATTENDANT LA CLARIFICATION TECHNIQUE DES CRITERES APPLICABLES.

NOTE BIO (83) 421 SUITE 2 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

CONSEIL AGRICOLE (MARTIN VASEY)

BEURRE NEO-ZELANDAIS

LE CONSEIL A EU UN ECHANGE DE VUES SUR LES PROPOSITIONS DE LA
COMMISSION EN VUE D'UN NOUVEL ARRANGEMENT POUR L'IMPORTATION DE
BEURRE EN PROVENANCE DE LA NOUVELLE-ZELANDE (P-90). LA PLUPART
DES DELEGATIONS ONT EXPRIME UN PREJUGE FAVORABLE. LA DELEGATION
FRANCAISE A RECONNU LA NECESSITE DE PREVOIR UN 'ARRANGEMENT CONVENA-
BLE' AVEC LA NOUVELLE-ZELANDE, QUI DEVRAIT ETRE LIE AUX NEGOCIA-
TIONS AVEC CE PAYS SUR LA VIANDE OVINE.
DIS : M. ROCARD A EGALEMENT ETABLI UN LIEN SUR LE PLAN INTERNE AVEC

---- LES DOSSIERS DE LA TAXE SUR LES MATIERES GRASSES ET LA
LIMITATION DES IMPORTATIONS DE PRODUITS DE SUBSTITUTION. FINDIS

LA DELEGATION IRLANDAISE DE SON COTE A EXCLU TOUTE DECISION SUR LE
BEURRE NEO-ZELANDAIS EN DEHORS DU CONSEIL EUROPEEN D'ATHENES.
LE DOSSIER A ETE RENVOYE AU COMITE SPECIAL AGRICULTURE POUR EXAMEN
TECHNIQUE.

AMITIES
MANUEL SANTARELLI

17.10.1983g

NOTE BIO au Porte-Parole de la Commission
Luxembourg, le 18 octobre 1983

NOTE BIO(83) 421 suite 3 aux Bureaux Nationaux
des Membres du Groupe

Conseil agricole (M. Vasey)

ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE

Après 2 ans de négociations, le Conseil est enfin parvenu à un accord politique sur l'aménagement de l'acquis communautaire, dans le secteur de l'huile d'olive et des fruits et légumes.

Ce résultat, qui permettra à la Communauté de mettre au point sa position, en vue de l'ouverture effective des négociations d'adhésion avec le Portugal et l'Espagne, dans le domaine agricole, a été acquis grâce à un compromis présenté par la Commission. En prenant cette initiative, M. Dalsager avait précisé que le compromis en question était destiné à réaliser un accord au cours de la présente session du Conseil et qu'en cas de désaccord il serait retiré et le dossier renvoyé en l'état au Conseil européen d'Athènes.

Cette demande s'est avérée justifiée par la suite des événements. Plusieurs délégations, et d'abord la Délégation italienne, ont exprimé des hésitations avant de se rallier au texte de la Commission qui a subi des retouches purement rédactionnelles et max qui const(ituait manifestement la seule base d'accord possible.

Sur l'huile d'olive, le compromis reprend essentiellement les conclusions du rapport des directeurs généraux concernant :

1. l'amélioration de la gestion du régime d'aides (les propositions de la Commission devraient être adoptées pour la campagne 1984/85),
2. la période transitoire pour l'huile d'olive et les autres huiles végétales, et
3. l'organisation future du marché qui devrait être fondée sur l'équilibre du marché des huiles végétales, le maintien des revenus des ~~oléiculteurs~~ oléiculteurs et la nécessité d'une organisation de marché maîtrisable sur les plans administratif et financier.

/Rép.féd.

La Délégation italienne d'une part, la délégation britannique appuyée par celles de la/ d'Allemagne et des Pays-Bas d'autre part, ont fait des déclarations ~~unilatérales~~ unilatérales à ce sujet.

Fruits et légumes : il est convenu que les nouvelles dispositions seront appliquées dès l'ouverture des négociations sur ce volet avec les pays candidats.

Un réexamen est prévu après trois ans, mais ceci n'affectera pas sa validité.

Les modifications essentielles du régime existant sont les suivantes :

volet interne : aides aux groupements de producteurs pendant 5 ans à raison de 5%, 5%,
%, 3%, 2% du volume de la production commercialisée dans les limites des frais réels; toutefois,
le régime existant sera applicable parallèlement au nouveau régime jusqu'au 1/1/88

2. Dispositif d'intervention : le champ d'application de l'art. 19, concernant l'intervention en cas de crise grave sur les marchés de la production sera étendu aux abricots aux aubergines et aux tomates.

En l'absence de marchés représentatifs de la production, l'existence d'une crise grave peut être constatée sur la base des prix enregistrés au stade du commerce de gros (mais pas d'une manière générale, comme la délégation française l'avait demandé).

L'intervention au-delà de la campagne en cours, peut être autorisée (demande italienne) mais seulement à titre exceptionnel.

Velet externe

1. Calcul du prix de référence : la hausse du prix de référence résultant de la nouvelle méthode de calcul proposée par la ~~Commission~~ Commission sera plafonnée par un nouveau critère tenant compte du prix à la production dans chaque Etat-Membre. D'autre part, le rattrapage de la perte de préférence communautaire constatée pour les agrumes sera limitée à 15 % étalés sur deux ans (initialement 10 %).

2. Calcul du prix d'entrée : la proposition de la Commission visant à tenir compte des prix communautaires dans le calcul du prix d'entrée de certains produits importés, a été abandonnée. Il a été ~~xxx~~ convenu de renforcer l'application des règles existantes concernant l'enregistrement du prix et l'application des normes de qualité.

du

3. Champ d'application ~~un prix de référence~~ du prix de référence

La Commission ajoutera à la liste existante les quatre produits sur lesquels un accord existait déjà : abricots, artichauts, laitues et scarolles.

A noter que la Commission s'est engagée à soumettre des propositions concernant le régime d'importation de certaines fleurs coupées (roses et œillets (demande néerlandaise), ainsi que des éponnes de terre nouvelles (demande italienne).

Je vous ferai parvenir par exprès le texte du compromis de la Commission tel qu'il a été présenté en séance par M. Dalsager.

Amitiés

Nanni Santarelli



NOTE B I O (83) 421 SUITE 4 ET FIN

AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX - CC AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE

CONSEIL AGRICOLE (M. VASEY)

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VOICI LE TEXTE DE LA DECLARATION QUE VIENT DE FAIRE M. DALSAGER, AU NOM DE LA COMMISSION, COMME PREVU AU POINT "DIVERS" DU CONSEIL SUR LES MESURES QUE LA COMMISSION A PRISES A TITRE CONSERVATOIRE ET SUR CELLES QU'ELLE PRENDRA DEMAIN.

''

COMMISSION STATEMENT TO THE AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL CONCERNING THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS

I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE SUSPENSION OF SOME PAYMENTS WHICH THE COMMISSION ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK.

AS YOU KNOW, EXPENDITURE HAS BEEN RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AT A HIGHER LEVEL THAN FORESEEN, AS RECENTLY AS SEPTEMBER, WE WERE LOOKING FORWARD THE ECONOMIES RESULTING FROM LOWER-THAN-USUAL HARVESTS AND HIGHER WORLD PRICES.

BUT AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION, MR. THORN, VICE-PRESIDENT TUGENDHAT AND MYSELF POINTED OUT IN THE PARLIAMENT LAST WEEK, THESE HOPED FOR ECONOMIES HAVE NOT YET MATERIALIZED.

IN THIS SITUATION THE COMMISSION, IN ORDER TO AVOID THAT F E O F A EXPENDITURE IN 1983 DOES NOT EXCEED AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, HAS A RESPONSABILITY TO ACT IN GOOD TIME AND SO TO MEET THE PROBLEM IN AN ORDERLY FASHION. THE TEMPORARY HOLDING MEASURE WHICH THE COMMISSION TOOK LAST WEEK WAS A NECESSARY RESPONSE TO SPECULATION. THE MEASURE TAKEN WAS NOT A SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS BUT A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS OF CERTAIN

AIDS AND REFUNDS.

THE COMMISSION IS CONTINUING TO EXAMINE THE PRESENT SITUATION OF F E O G A AND IS DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF APPLYING MEASURES IN ORDER TO ENHANCE BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE.

GIVEN THE LIMITED RESOURCES REMAINING WITHIN THE 1 0/0 LIMIT FOLLOWING THE PARLIAMENTARY VOTE LAST WEEK ON THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1983, THERE IS NO SCOPE FOR A THIRD SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1983.

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LES DELEGUES N'ONT PAS MANIFESTE D'OPPOSITION AUX INTENTIONS DE LA COMMISSION TELLES QUE PRECISEES PAR M. DALSAGER, CERTAINES D'ENTRE ELLES ONT CEPENDANT FAIT PART DE LEURS RESERVES ET LEUR PREOCCUPATION.

EN PLUS DES CONCLUSIONS RESUMEES SUR CE POINT DANS LA B I O SUITE 3, LE CONSEIL A MARQUE SON ACCORD SUR LA NECESSITE DE PRENDRE UNE DECISION RAPIDE CONCERNANT LA RESTRUCTURATION ET LA RECONVERSION DES SUPERFICIES OLEICOLES.

PAR AILLEURS, LE CONSEIL A ETE SAISI D'UNE PROPOSITION DE LA COMMISSION TENDANT A FIXER LE PRIX REPRESENTATIF DU MARCHE DE L'HUILE D'OLIVE POUR LA NOUVELLE CAMPAGNE, A UN NIVEAU PERMETTANT D'ETABLIR UN RAPPORT DE PRIX DE 2,2 A 1 ENTRE L'HUILE D'OLIVE ET LES AUTRES HUILES VEGETALES, CONTRE LE RAPPORT DE PRIX DE 2,3/2,4 A 1 VISE LORS DES PRECEDENTS CAMPAGNES.

LA COMMISSION JUSTIFIE CETTE PROPOSITION PAR LA NECESSITE D'EVITER UN RELEVEMENT TROP IMPORTANT DES PRIX A LA CONSOMMATION, COMPTE TENU DU NIVEAU ELEVE DES STOCKS (123.000 TONNES FIN SEPTEMBRE). LE NIVEAU DE L'AIDE A LA CONSOMMATION PASSERAIT TOUTEFOIS, DE 76,67 ECU/100 KG ACTUELLEMENT A 52,29 ECU/100 KG POUR LA NOUVELLE CAMPAGNE QUI COMMENCE LE 1ER NOVEMBRE PROCHAIN, CECI EN RAISON DE LA HAUSSE TRES IMPORTANTE DES PRIX DU SOJA SUR LE MARCHE MONDIAL. IL EN RESULTERAIT DES ECONOMIES DE 72 MECU POUR E F E O G A EN 1984 PAR RAPPORT AUX CREDITS INITIALEMENT DEMANDES DANS L'AVANT-PROJET DE BUDGET 84. L'AIDE A LA CONSOMMATION EN GRECE SERAIT FIXE A 36,98 ECU/100 KG.

LE DOSSIER A ETE RENVOYE A UN GROUPE DE TRAVAIL POUR EXAMEN.

RAISINS SECS

LE CONSEIL A PRIS LA DECISION DE PRINCIPE DE PROROGER PENDANT UN AN LE REGIME D'AIDES, AUX RAISINS SECS ET AUX FIGUES SECHES, CE REGIME QUI A EXPIRE EN AOUT DERNIER, A CEPENDANT ETE MAINTENU PROVISOIREMENT EN VIGUEUR PAR LA COMMISSION SOUS SA PROPRE RESPONSABILITE. UNE DECISION EST DONC URGENTE, NOTAMMENT POUR PERMETTRE A LA COMMISSION D'ADAPTER LES AIDES POUR ASSURER L'ECOULEMENT DE STOCKS QUI AUGMENTENT DE FACON ALARMANTE. LA DELEGATION GRECQUE A INVOQUE UN INTERET NATIONAL VITAL POUR REFUSER LA PROPOSITION DE LA COMMISSION QUI COMPORTE LA PROROGATION DU REGIME ACTUEL ASSORTIE DE L'INTRODUCTION D'UN SEUIL DE GARANTIE. CERTAINES DELEGATIONS ETRIENT PRETES A ACCEPTER LA MAINTIEN DU STATU QUO PENDANT UN AN PROPOSE PAR LA PRESIDENCE, MAIS SEULEMENT A CONDITION QUE LA COMMISSION S'ENGAGE A MAINTENIR SA PROPOSITION RELATIVE A L'INTRODUCTION D'UN SEUIL DE GARANTIE POUR L'ANNEE PROCHAINE. LA DECISION SERAIT PRISE PAR PROCEDURE ECRITE DU CONSEIL, SOUS RESERVE QUE LA COMMISSION ACCEPTE LORS DE SA REUNION DE DEMAIN, DE MODIFIER SA POSITION DANS LE SENS INDIQUE.

AUTRES POINTS

- 3 -

LE CONSEIL N'A PAS ETE EN MESURE DE FAIRE DES PROGRES SUR LES POINTS SUIVANTS :

- EXTENSION DE LA LISTE DES ZONES AGRICOLES DEFAVORISEES AU ROYAUME-UNI; A L'ITALIE ET AUX PAYS-BAS.
- EXTENSION DE 'L'ACTION COMMUNE' CONCERNANT LE DEVELOPPEMENT AGRICOLE ACCELERE DE CERTAINES REGIONS EN GRECE;
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- MODIFICATION DE LA DIRECTIVE 64/54 CONCERNANT LES AGENTS CONSERVATEURS UTILISES DANS LES DENREES ALIMENTAIRES;
- ADOPTION DU PROGRAMME QUINQUENNAL DE RECHERCHE AGRICOLE.

CES QUATRES POINTS SERONT SANS DOUTE INSCRITS A L' O J DE LA SESSION DE NOVEMBRE.

AMITIES

MANUEL SANTARELLI

