

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

6675/82 (Presse 51)

767th meeting of the Council

- Industry -

Brussels, 4 May 1982

President: Mr Mark EYSKENS

Minister for Economic Affairs
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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

Belgium:

Mr Mark EYSKENS
Minister for Economic
Affairs

Denmark:

Mr Erling JENSEN
Minister for Industry

Germany:

Otto Graf LAMBSDORFF
Federal Minister for
Economic Affairs

Greece:

Mr Dimitrios PITSIORIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of Industry and Energy

France:

Mr Pierre DREYFUS
Minister for Industry

Ireland:

Mr Albert REYNOLDS
Minister for Industry and
Energy

Italy:

Mr Giovanni MARCORA
Minister for Industry

Luxembourg:

Mr Paul HELMINGER
State Secretary,
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr J.C. TERLOUW
Deputy Minister-President,
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Norman LAMONT
Minister of State,
Department of Industry

Commission:

Mr François-Xavier ORTOLI, Vice-President
Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON, Vice-President
Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES, Member
Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN, Member
Mr Ivor RICHARD, Member

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MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Commercial policy and customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- Regulations:

= opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain textile products under Community outward processing traffic;

= extending the provisional anti-dumping duty on mechanical wrist-watches originating in the Soviet Union;

- a Decision concerning the conclusion of the agreement between the EEC and Spain comprising agreed minutes and a temporary agreement on concerted disciplines concerning imports of cheese into Spain.

Research

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Decision authorizing the Commission to enter into negotiations for an agreement between the Community and the COST States on the implementation of a concerted action project in the field of shore-based maritime navigation aid systems.

The Council gave its assent, under Article 55(2)(c) of the ECSC Treaty, to two coal research programmes concerning:

- mining engineering
- product beneficiation.

ECSC

The Council gave its assent, pursuant to the second paragraph of Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty, for the part-financing of a project of Hellenic Ferroalloys S.A., Volos, Greece, concerning the mining and enrichment of chromite and the processing of ferrochromium.

Export credits

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decisions on the position to be adopted by the Community at the international negotiations on the amendment of certain provisions of:

- the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits;
- the OECD Understanding on Export Credits for Ships.

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 878/77 on the exchange rate to be applied in agriculture.

Under this Regulation the following new green rates will apply from 6 May:

- 1 ECU = 42.9772 Belgian francs/Luxembourg francs
- " " = 8.18382 Danish kroner
- " " = 6.19564 French francs
- " " = 63.7637 Greek drachmas

The new parity for the Italian lira (1 ECU = Lit 1289.00) will apply to the main products as follows: from 6 May for wine, 17 May for milk, beef and veal, sheepmeat and goatmeat, 1 July for sugar, iso-glucose and seeds, 1 August for cereals, eggs and poultry, 1 November for pigmeat, 1 January 1983 for fishery products, from the start of the 1982/1983 marketing year for the other products for which the marketing year had not yet begun on 1 April 1982, and from 6 May 1982 in all other cases.

Nominations

On a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council appointed Mr Chr. Aagaard HANSEN, Landsorganisationen i Danmark, Uddannelsesafdelingen, as a member, and Mr Vilhelm PEDERSEN, Uddannelsessekretær, Specialarbejderforbundet i Danmark, as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Vocational Training in place of, respectively, Mr Niels ENEVOLDSEN, member and Mr Chr. Aagaard HANSEN, alternate member, who have resigned, for the remainder of their term of office, which runs until 16 September 1983.

On a proposal from the German Government, the Council appointed Dr med. dent. Horst SEBASTIAN, Präsident des Bundesverbandes der deutschen Zahnärzte e.V., as a full member of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Dental Practitioners, in the category of experts from the practising profession, in place of Mr Werner EGGERS, for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 25 March 1983.

COMMUNITY IRON AND STEEL POLICY

1. The Council gave its assent on pricing policy, but bore in mind the provisional reservations by the United Kingdom and Danish delegations pending clarification of some points.
2. The Council agreed in principle to the extension of the market organization system for twelve months.

Certain Commission proposals on the products covered by this system, the questions raised by the various delegations, and the matter of whether the system should be extended for eighteen months will be examined further by the Permanent Representatives Committee with a view to a final decision by the Council, possibly at its meeting on Wednesday 26 May.

3. At its forthcoming meeting, on Wednesday 26 May, the Council will also examine the Commission proposal on social measures.

COMMUNITY INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

On the basis of the Commission communication of October 1981 and in the light of the conclusions of the European Council on 29 and 30 March 1982, the Council held a policy debate on the implementation of the Community's industrial strategy. It also had for this purpose a report on the proceedings of the Working Party of Directors-General for Industry of the Governments of the Member States on this subject. It took note of this report and also of a memorandum on the subject from the Presidency.

In conclusion, the Council asked the Commission to continue its efforts in the light of today's discussions with the aim of submitting other specific proposals in addition to those already laid before the Council, so that it could discuss them in good time.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Council noted that because of one continuing difficulty it was unable at this stage to adopt three recommendations before it in the telecommunications sector. The Council agreed to discuss the matter again at its next meeting.

PREFERENTIAL TARIFF TREATMENT FOR CHARGE CHROME

The Council referred briefly to the remaining problems concerning the opening of a tariff quota for the current year in respect of certain ferro-alloys known as charge chrome. The Council will discuss this matter again at its next meeting.

Bruxelles, le 4 mai 1982
Note BIO(82)188 aux Bureaux Nationaux
c.c. aux membres du groupe du Porte-Parole

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CONSEIL INDUSTRIE (J. ROBINSON)

Le Conseil Industrie, qui a commence ses travaux ce matin a 10 H sous la Presidence de M. Marc Eskeyns, a procede directement a la discussion des problemes dans le secteur siderurgique.

Pour la Commission, M. Davignon a souligne la coherence des trois elements majeurs de la politique de la Commission, a savoir : l'aspect marche (quotas de production, prix), le code des aides et le volet social. C'est dans ce cadre uni que M. Davignon a presente la proposition de la Commission pour prolonger pour une periode qui pourrait aller jusqu'a 18 mois, et ceci a partir du 1er juillet, le regime "article 58" pour la grande majorite des produits CECA. Pour la Commission, d'ailleurs, ce regime devrait s'etendre des sa prorogation au fil machine. Ce dernier point, ensemble avec la question des aciers speciaux et celle de la duree de la prorogation, constituaient les trois themes principaux du debat de ce matin.

Pour le fil machine, il est devenu necessaire de l'inclure dans le regime proroge, a defaut d'un systeme volontaire qui a ete eprouve au troisieme trimestre de 1981 sans pour autant se rendre ni efficace ni durable. Quant aux aciers speciaux, ces produits ne devraient pas etre inclus dans le regime obligatoire, mais la Commission a tenu a souligner qu'elle allait entreprendre des efforts pour mettre sur pied un accord volontaire, et qu'elle ferait rapport au Conseil avant le debut juin. En ce qui concerne la duree de la prolongation, la proposition de la Commission est de 18 mois, mais il semble que la Commission pourrait eventuellement accepter une periode de 12 mois si un tel compromis pouvait rallier le soutien des Etats membres.

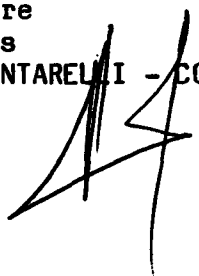
Presentant le volet social, M. Richard a rappele les propositions initiales de la Commission pour un chiffre global de 212 millions d'Ecus s'etaland de 1980 a 1984 de la maniere suivante : 50 mio ECU'S en 1980, 62 mio ECU's en 1981, 50 mio ECU's en 1982, 50 mio ECU's en 1983 et 1984. Suite aux accords deja intervenus l'annee passee et au mois de mars cette annee, M. Richard a propose que, pour les 100 mio ECU's qui restaient, la procedure de transfert du budget CEE au budget CECA soit retenue. Pour l'Allemagne, le Ministre Lamsdorff a insiste sur le fait qu'un accord sur l'aspect marche et surtout l'aspect aide intervienne avant de pouvoir se prononcer sur le volet social. Le volet social a, cependant, ete largement appuye par la France et la Belgique.

Le Conseil reprend ses travaux cet apres-midi, et continuera ses discussions sur la siderurgie, la mise en oeuvre d'une strategie industrielle communautaire, et ensuite sur la proposition de la Commission dans le domaine des telecommunications.

A suivre

Amities

M. SANTARELLI - COMEUR 15H15////





Bruxelles, le 4 mai 1982.

Note BIO (82) 188 (suite 1 et fin) aux Bureaux Nationaux
cc. aux Membres du Groupe du Porte-Parole

CONSEIL INDUSTRIE (John Robinson)

Le Conseil Industrie a termine ses travaux a 18h45 ce soir etant arrive a un large consensus sur le dossier acier qui lui avait ete presente ce matin par les Commissaires Davignon, Richard et Andriessen. Le Conseil reviendra au dossier en vue d'arriver a l'accord final a une reunion qui devrait avoir lieu le 26 mai. Dans ses conclusions, le Conseil marque son avis conforme pour la politique de prix dans le domaine acier, et indique son accord de principe pour la prorogation de 12 mois du regime "art. 58" pour les categories de produits CECA vises par la Commission. Les details de cet accord seront discutees d'ici le Conseil du 26 mai par le Coreper, ainsi que la preparation de la discussion ministerielle sur le volet social. (pour les details, voir Bio 188 de ce midi).

Le Conseil a en outre discute des dossiers strategie industrielle et telecommunications. Dans les deux cas, et ceci apres de longs debats, le Conseil s'est mis d'accord de charger les Conseils appropriees de poursuivre la discussion sur ces points.

A noter enfin qu'une reserve emise par la Grece sur le point A concernant le mandat de la Commission pour les negociations de l'OCDE sur les credits a l'exportation (mandat qui a ete agree en principe lors du dernier Conseil Ecofin) a ete levee a la condition suivante : il est entendu que les negociations OCDE peuvent commencer mais ne peuvent pas etre conclues a moins d'une reclassification de la Grece de la categorie 1 a la categorie 2 des pays participants au Gentlemen's agreement de l'OCDE.

Pour sa part, l'Irlande a tenu a souligner que si un ou plusieurs Etats membres se font reclassifier d'une categorie a l'autre, l'Irlande exigerait un traitement semblable.

Amities,
Manuel SANTARELLI Coreper 19h30/////

