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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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PRESS RELEASE

7973/82 (Presse 91)

782nd Council meeting

- Environment -

Luxembourg, 24 June 1982

President: Mr Firmin AERTS,
State Secretary for Public Health
and the Environment
of the Kingdom of Belgium

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 Erik HOLST
Minister for the Environment
Mr Holger LAVESSEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of the Environment

Germany:

Mr Gerhart Rudolf BAUM
Federal Minister for the Interior
Mr Günter HARTKOPF
State Secretary
Federal Ministry of the Interior

Greece:

Mr A. TRITSIS
Minister for Regional
Development and the Environment

France:

Mr Michel CREPEAU
Minister for the Environment

Ireland:

Mr John McGRATH
Assistant Secretary
Department of the Environment

Italy:

Mr Giancarlo TESINI
Minister for Scientific Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Josy BARTHEL
Minister for the Environment

Netherlands:

Mrs S. LAMBERS-HACKEBARD
State Secretary
Ministry of Health and
Environment Protection

United Kingdom:

Mr Giles SHAW
Under-Secretary of State
Department of the Environment

Commission:

Mr Karl-Heinz NARJES
Member

WASTE FROM THE TITANIUM DIOXIDE INDUSTRY

The Council agreed to a Directive on methods for the surveillance and monitoring of environments affected by waste from the titanium industry. The Directive implements Article 7 of Directive 78/176/EEC on waste from this industry, which provides that the disposal of such wastes shall be accompanied by monitoring of the environment concerned having regard to the physical, chemical, biological and ecological aspects.

The Directive lays down the procedures for the surveillance and monitoring of the environment concerned, establishing, in particular, certain parameters to be measured, the minimum frequency for sampling and the measurement methods to be used. It also specifies which data the Member States are obliged to communicate to the Commission and lays down a procedure for adjustment to technical and scientific progress of methods of measurement and of certain parameters to be measured.

ASSESSMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROJECTS

The Council examined a proposal for a Directive concerning the assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects.

This proposal for a Directive provides for the introduction into existing authorization procedures in the Member States of an assessment of the environmental effects of certain public and private projects.

At the end of its discussions, the Council stressed the importance of developing impact study procedures as preventive means of improving the environment. It requested the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue its work on the problems still outstanding, with a view to reaching an agreement on the subject as a whole at its next meeting in December 1982.

CONVENTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF
WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (WASHINGTON CONVENTION)

The Council agreed to a Regulation on the implementation in the Community of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Washington Convention).

The purpose of the Convention is to protect certain endangered species of wild fauna and flora by regulating international trade in animals and plants belonging to these species and in easily identifiable parts and products obtained from these animals and plants. The Convention was signed by all the Member States and entered into force on 1 July 1975. To date five Member States have ratified the Convention, and ratification procedures are under way in the other Member States.

Under the Convention, trade (for the purposes of the Convention "export, re-export, import and introduction from the sea") in the endangered species of wild fauna and flora contained in the Appendices is subject to the issue of permits or certificates by the Contracting Parties. The Convention provides for the appointment of competent management authorities to issue these documents.

According to the extent of the threat, the endangered species are included in Appendices I, II and III to the Convention. Apart from certain specific exemptions, trade in the endangered species included in Appendix I is prohibited.

The provisions concerning trade in specimens of the species included in Appendices II and III permit careful use of living natural resources. Appendix II contains all species which, although not necessarily now threatened with extinction, may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival. The same Appendix also includes a number of species which must be subject to regulation in order that trade may be brought under effective control. Appendix III contains the main species threatened by illegal exploitation within the territories of the Contracting States mentioned and in respect of which the co-operation of the other parties to the Convention is required to control the trade.

To protect species, the Convention employs commercial policy instruments such as prohibitions, restrictions or controls in respect of the import and export of the goods in question. By approving the European Community's environmental action programme for 1977-1981, the Council recognized this state of affairs.

The Regulation agreed to by the Council provides for the setting up of a common trade authorization procedure and common customs control at the Community's external frontiers to ensure that the operation of the common market is not disturbed. It also provides for customs controls to be reinforced by regulating the conditions for trade in specimens of the species contained in Appendix I to the Convention.

Furthermore, the Council decided to extend the level of protection afforded to the endangered species listed in Appendix I to the Convention to a series of other species not covered by the latter. Hence, under the Regulation the importation of 59 additional species of fauna and flora requires a special import permit.

AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR LEAD

The Council agreed to the Directive on air quality standards for lead. The Directive seeks to set a limit value for lead in the air of $2 \mu\text{g per m}^3$ expressed as a mean annual concentration. Moreover, the Directive defines the characteristics to be complied with in choosing a sampling method and reference method for analyzing lead concentrations in the air.

CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

The Council agreed to a Decision on the consolidation of precautionary measures concerning chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) in the environment.

This Decision renews the precautionary measures adopted on 26 March 1980 for the reduction of the use of CFCs in aerosols. The Council agreed to re-examine the situation before 31 December 1983 on the basis of proposals from the Commission.

THIRD ACTION PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The Council adopted a Resolution on the draft third action programme of the European Communities on the environment (see Annex). Some delegations also drew attention to projects which should have priority under the third action programme.

SEAL PUPS

The Council held an exchange of views on the problem of seal pups following the European Parliament's Resolution of 11 March 1982 on Community trade in products deriving from the whitecoat pups of harp and hood seals (*Pagophilus groenlandicus* and *Cystophora cristata*).

FURTHER STATEMENT

The Council took note of the following statement:

- Presidency statement on the progress of the proposal for a Directive concerning the limit values for discharges of cadmium into the aquatic environment and quality objectives for cadmium in the aquatic environment.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Environment

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Directive on the major accident hazards of certain industrial activities.

The Directive is concerned with both the prevention of major accidents which might be caused by certain industrial activities and the limitation of their effect on man and the environment and aims particularly at approximating the provisions adopted by the Member States in this area.

In particular, the Directive introduces the obligation on the manufacturer to notify substances, installations or any major accident hazards in order that hazards might be more clearly determined and accidents prevented. It also provides for an improved flow of information to both workers in the industrial undertakings concerned and national and Community authorities with a view to preventing major accidents.

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

- the Decisions

- = establishing a reciprocal exchange of information and data from networks and individual stations measuring air pollution within the Member States;
- = on the conclusion of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (Bonn Convention);
- = on a supplement to Annex IV to the Convention on the protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution

Customs union

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1430/78 on the repayment or remission of import or export duties.

Relations with the ACP and the OCT

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities Regulations opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia falling within subheading 22.09 C I of the Common Customs Tariff and originating in the ACP States and the OCT (1982/1983).

Agriculture

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities:

- the Directive amending Directives 72/159/EEC, 72/160/EEC and 72/161/EEC in relation to agricultural structures;
 - the Decisions
 - = authorizing certain Member States to increase the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms;
 - = amending Decision 76/402/EEC on the level of the interest rate subsidy provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernization of farms, to be applied in Italy.
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RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL

- referring to the draft third action programme of the European Communities on the environment,
- taking account of the outcome of the exchange of views the Council already held on this draft at its 742nd meeting on 3 December 1981,
- and subject to further examination of the draft third action programme in particular in the light of the Opinion of the European Parliament and that of the Economic and Social Committee,

stresses, meanwhile, that the Community should continue its projects for protection of the environment on the basis of the guidelines laid down in the action programme on the environment of 22 November 1973, extended and amplified on 17 May 1977, so as to ensure the continuity of the projects already undertaken;

will indicate to the Commission, taking account of the examination of the draft third action programme, the areas in which action at Community level is particularly important, without prejudice to the Commission's right of initiative.

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NOTE BIO(82) 277 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRÉS DU GROUPE DU PORTE PAROLE

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OBJET : PREPARATION CONSEIL ENVIRONNEMENT DU 24 JUIN 1982
F----- A LUXEMBOURG (OTTO VON SCHWERIN)

LE CONSEIL COMMENCERA SES TRAVAUX A 10 HEURES.

PLUSIEURS POINTS PRATIQUEMENT REGLES DEVRAIENT PASSER EN
POINT 'A', NOTAMMENT :

■- DIRECTIVE DITE 'SEVESO' (PREVENTION D ACCIDENTS INDUSTRIELS)
ADOPTÉE EN PRINCIPE EN DECEMBRE 1981,

■- DECISION SUR ECHANGE D INFORMATIONS SUR POLLUTION
ATMOSPHERIQUE.

D AUTRES POINTS SE HEURTENT ENCORE A DES PROBLEMES PLUS
POLITIQUES :

1. CONVENTION DE WASHINGTON (PROTECTION D ESPECES MENACEES
D EXTINCTION) : RESERVE GENERALE DANOISE CONCERNANT COMPETENCE
COMMUNAUTAIRE.

2. EVALUATION DES INCIDENCES DES OUVRAGES PUBLICS ET PRIVES
SUR L ENVIRONNEMENT : APRES DES LONGUES NEGOCIATIONS, DURCISSE-
MENT DE LA POSITION ANGLAISE : APPROCHE PLUS FLEXIBLE, CONTRE
SOLUTION GENERALE.
COMMISSION : PROPOSITION ESSENTIELLE DANS LE CADRE D UNE LUTTE
PREVENTIVE CONTRE POLLUTION.

3. DIOXYDE DE TITANE :
PREMIERE DIRECTIVE D APPLICATION : SURVEILLANCE ET CONTROLE
DES EMISSIONS.

4. PLOMB DANS L AIR : PROPOSITION DE DIRECTIVE DE 1975,
■ PLUSIEURS PROBLEMES TECHNIQUES SUBSISTENT.

5. CHLOROFLUOROCARBONES :
BIEN QUE LES DEGATS DANS LA COUCHE D OZONE PARAISSENT MOINS
IMPORTANTES QUE PRESUME, PLUSIEURS DELEGATIONS VEULENT ALLER
PLUS LOIN QUE PROPOSITION DE LA COMMISSION (REDUCTION DE 30 0/0
PAR RAPPORT AU NIVEAU 1976).

6. CONVENTION DE GENEVE (POLLUTION ATMOSPHERIQUE TRANSFRONTIERE):
COMPETENCE MIXTE CEE/EM; PROBLEME INSTITUTIONNEL DE SIGNATURE
CONJOINTE, OPPOSITION DANOISE.
A SUIVRE.
AMITIES, M. SANTARELLI

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GPP O VON SCHWERIN B 1/13 52559 23.6.82 X X

M. SANTARELLI

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I.S.	✓
FIN.	✓
AGR.	✓
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R.D	✓
ADM.	✓
S.A.	✓
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NOTE BIO (82) 277 (SUITE 1)

CONSEIL ENVIRONNEMENT DU 24 JUIN 1982 A LUXEMBOURG

1.
 LE CONSEIL A DEFINITIVEMENT ADOPTE EN POINT "A" LA DIRECTIVE "SEVESO" (PREVENTION D'ACCIDENTS INDUSTRIELS) QUI, APRES TROIS ANS DE NEGOCIATIONS, CONSTITUE UN PAS IMPORTANT DANS LA VOIE PREVENTIONNELLE DE RISQUES INDUSTRIELS. DE PLUS, LA DECISION SUR L'ECHANGE D'INFORMATIONS SUR LA POLLUTION ATMOSPHERIQUE AN AXINSI QUE DES POINTS MINEURS COMME CONTROLE DES REJETS DE MERCURE DANS LE RHIN ONT ETE ADOPTES.
2.
 PARMIS LES POINTS EN DISCUSSION AU CONSEIL, LA CONVENTION DE WASHINGTON (PROTECTION D'ESPECES MENACEES D'EXTINCTION) A PU ETRE ADOPTE APRES LA LEVEE DE LA RESERVE GENERALE DANOISE. A NOTER QUE LA COMMISSION, DANS SON REGLEMENT, VA AU DELA DES DISPOSITIONS DE LA CONVENTION DE WASHINGTON ET ASSURE AINSI UNE CONTRIBUTION IMPORTANTE A LA SAUVEGARDE DES ESPECES MENACEES.
3.
 LA DIRECTIVE SUR LE DIOXYDE DE TITANE A PU ETRE ADOPTEE APRES DE LONGUES NEGOCIATIONS TECHNIQUES. IL S'AGIT DE LA SURVEILLANCE ET DU CONTROLE DES EMISSIONS NON SEULEMENT DE L'EAU MAIS AUSSI DE L'AIR.
4.
 EN DEBUT D'APRES MIDI, LE CONSEIL A EU UN ECHANGE DE VUE A CARACTERE GENERAL SUR LE PROJET DU 3E PROGRAMME D'ACTION AINSI QUE SUR LE MEMORANDUM ALLEMAND CONCERNANT LES EMISSIONS DE GAZ ET LE BRUIT CAUSE PAR LES AUTOMOBILES. LES EXPLICATIONS DE M. BAUM ONT ETE ACCUEILLIES FAVORABLEMENT, EN GENERAL, AVEC CERTAINES NUANCES NOTAMMENT PAR LES DELEGATIONS FRANCAISES ET IRLAN DAISES QUI SE SONT PRONONCEES EN FAVEUR DES PRIORITES BIEN PRECISES. M. NARJES A SOULIGNE LE BIENFONDE DES DEMANDES ALLEMANDES ET L'A ASSURE DE LEUR DONNER UNE PRIORITE DANS LA MESURE DU

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Global Communications

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POSSIBLE. EN CE QUI CONCERNE LE 3E PROGRAMME D'ACTION IL A ANNONCE QUE LA COMMISSION, A LA SUITE DE LA RESOLUTION DU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN, FERA DES PROPOSITIONS SUPPLEMENTAIRES AFIN DE CONCRETISER CE PROGRAMME.

5.

COMME IL ETAIT ATTENDU, LA DISCUSSION SUR LA DIRECTIVE "EVALUATION DES INCIDENCES DES OUVRAGES PUBLICS ET PRIVES SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT" N'A PAS CONDUIT A UNE OUVERTURE EN RAISON DE LA POSITION ANGLAISE QUI S'OPPOSE A L'APPROCHE GENERAL DE CETTE PROPOSITION.

6.

ENFIN, LA DIRECTIVE SUR LE CONTROLE DU PLOMB DANS L'AIR A ETE APPROUVEE EGALEMENT, LES DELEGATIONS DANOISE ET NEERLANDAISE, QUI VOULAIENT ALLER PLUS LOIN, AYANT LEVE LEURS RESERVES.

(A SUIVRE)

AMITIES,

0. VON SCHWERIN

24.6.1982

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NOTE BIO(82) 277, ~~RECEVE~~ SUITE 2 ET FIN, AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRE DU GROUPE DU PORTE PAROLE

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OBJET : CONSEIL ENVIRONNEMENT DU 24 JUIN 1982 (O. VON SCHWERIN)

7. EN FIN D APRES MIDI, LE CONSEIL A ENCORE DEBATTU LONGUEMENT
SUR LA QUESTION DES CHLOROFLUOROCARBONES SANS ARRIVER A UNE
CONCLUSION.

8. SOUS DIVERS, M. NARJES A FAIT RAPPORT SUR L ETAT DU DOSSIER
BEBE ~~DE~~ PHOQUES ET DE SES NEGOCIATIONS AVEC LES AUTORITES
CANADIENNES ET A EXPLIQUE LES ~~DE~~ RESULTATS DE L ETUDE DU
NATIONAL CONSERVANCY COUNCIL. IL A ANNONCE QUE LA COMMISSION
EN SERA ~~DE~~ SAISI AU DEBUT JUILLET AFIN DE PREPARER LA DISCUSSION
AU PARLEMENT EUROPEEN A LA SEANCE DE JUILLET.

9. IL Y AVAIT UNE CERTAINE CONTROVERSE INSTITUTIONELLE AU
CONSEIL QUAND CELUI CI A APPRIS QUE LES AUTORITES DANOISES ONT
EFFECTIVEMENT DEPOSE L INSTRUMENT DE RATIFICATION POUR L ADHE-
SION A LA CONVENTION DE GENEVE (POLLUTION ATMOSPHERIQUE TRANS-
FRONTIERE A LONGUE DISTANCE) SANS SE RALLIER A L APPROCHE COMMU-
NAUTAIRE DECIDE PAR LE CONSEIL. M. NARJES AINSI QUE D AUTRES
DELEGATIONS ONT CRITIQUE CET INCIDENT QUI FAIT ATTEINT A LA
SOLIDARITE COMMUNAUTAIRE DANS UNE ENCEINTE OU D AUTRES ETATS,
Y INCLUS DES PAYS DE L EST, SONT PARTENAIRES.

10. APRES LA FIN DU CONSEIL, A 21 HEURES, M. NARJES A QUALIFIE
LES RESULTATS COMME TRES SATISFAISANTS AVEC L ADOPTION DE
TROIS DIRECTIVES ET UN REGLEMENT, ~~DE~~ TOUS CONCERNANT DES PRO-
BLEMES IMPORTANTS DANS LA PROTECTION DE L ENVIRONNEMENT.

D AUTRE PART, IL A REGRETTE QUE LE CONSEIL, MALGRE DES PREPARA-
TIONS ET NEGOCIATIONS TRES APPROFONDIES, N AIT TOUJOURS PAS
REUSSI A ADOPTER LA DIRECTIVE 'EVALUATION DES INCIDENCES'
QUI CONSTITUE ~~DE~~ AUX YEUX DE LA COMMISSION UN ~~DE~~ DES PILIERS
DE SA POLITIQUE PREVENTIVE EN MATIERE D ENVIRONNEMENT.

AMITIES, M. SANTARELLI
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GPP O VON SCHWERIN B 1/13 52559 25.6.82

M. SANTARELLI

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