

PRESS RELEASE

EEC-GREECE  
ASSOCIATION

- The Association Council -

Brussels, 29 July 1975  
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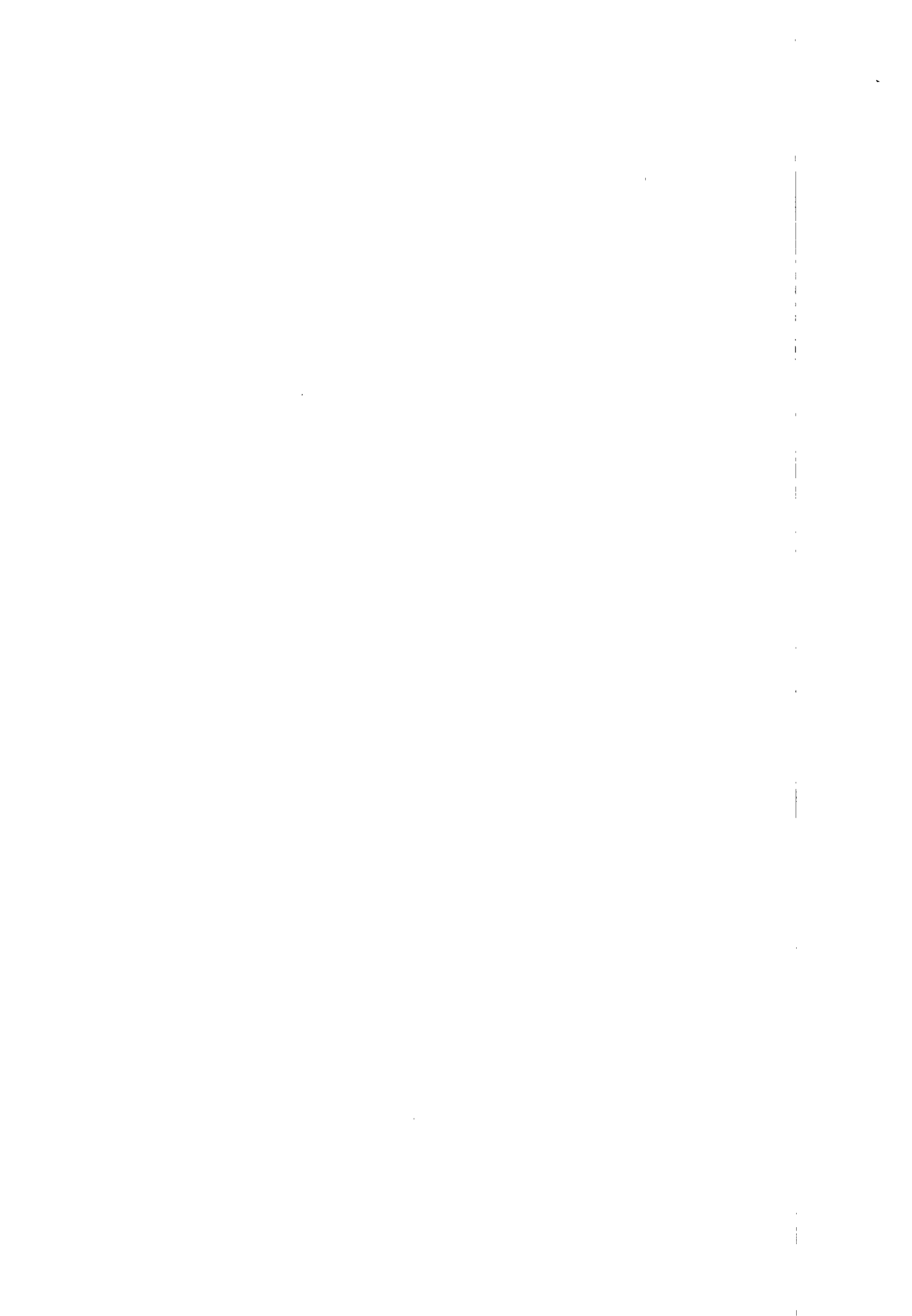
PRESS RELEASE

354th meeting

*Called the "354th" meeting  
in the Bulletin of the  
European Communities"*

The 39th meeting at Ministerial level of the EEC - Greece Association Council was held on Monday, 28 July 1975. At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Greece, the meeting was held in Athens and was chaired by Mr Panayiotis PAPALIGOURAS, Minister for Co-ordination and Economic Planning.

The Community delegation was headed by Mr Mariano RUMOR, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic and President in Office of the Council of the European Communities.



Also taking part in the meeting of the Association Council on behalf of the Member States were Mr Joseph VAN DER MEULEN, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the European Communities; Mr Ivar NØRGAARD, Minister for External Economic Affairs of Denmark; Mr Hans-Jürgen WISCHNEWSKI, Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany; Mr Bernard DESTREMAU, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, Mr Justin KEATING, Minister for Industry and Commerce of Ireland; Mr Mariano RUMOR, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy; Mr Jean DONDELINGER, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the European Communities; Mr Max VAN DER STOEL, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands; Mr Roy HATTERSLEY, Minister of State at Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom.

The Commission was represented by Sir Christopher SOAMES, Vice-President of the Commission.

At the beginning of the meeting, the President of the Association Council, the President in Office of the Council of the Communities and the Vice-President of the Commission expressed their profound satisfaction that the Association Council was meeting for the first time in the Greek capital in the same room in which, fourteen years previously, the Association Agreement had been signed. The meeting was taking place almost exactly one year after Greece had returned to a democratic regime.

The meeting was thus part of the process which had begun on that date and which, during the previous month, had been given concrete form in the application by Greece for accession to the European Communities.

Having reviewed the progress made in the reactivation of the Agreement, in particular since the previous Ministerial meeting on 2 December 1974, the Association Council went on to discuss the process of harmonization of the agricultural policies of Greece and the Community, and the second Financial Protocol.

As regards the first point, it was agreed that a joint examination of all the remaining problems would be undertaken at expert level by the Association Committee, in order to enable the Association Council to adopt the decisions which were essential for harmonization as rapidly as possible, priority being given to the fruit and vegetables, and wine sectors.

On the question of the second Financial Protocol, on the conclusion of which agreement has already been reached in principle, the Association Council took formal note that the Council of the Communities would in September begin studying the communication recently forwarded by the Commission, so that the Association Council would be able to discuss the matter as soon as possible, in view of the links between this matter and the harmonization of agricultural policies.

The Association Council then discussed the future of the Association in the light of Greece's application for accession and of the harmonious development of relations between the two Parties.

The Association Council also noted that the procedure laid down in the Treaties establishing the Communities had been commenced as soon as the Greek application had been received and that the Commission was already in the process of preparing the Opinion required by the Treaties.

In conclusion, the Association Council took the necessary steps to ensure that, in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Athens Agreement, consultations on Community agricultural regulations would be intensified from September onwards.

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