

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

5601/83 (Presse 49)

834th meeting of the Council

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 14 and 15 March 1983

President: Mr Josef ERTL,
Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry of
the Federal Republic of Germany

.../...

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
Mr H.J. KRISTENSEN
Permanent Secretary, Agriculture

Germany:

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

Greece:

Mr Costas SIMITIS
Minister for Agriculture

France:

Mrs Edith CRESSON
Minister for Agriculture
Mr André CELLARD
State Secretary to the
Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY
Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Calogero MANNINO
Minister for Agriculture
Mr Mario CAMPAGNOLI
State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Ernest MÜHLEN
Minister for Agriculture,
Viticulture, Lakes, Rivers and
Forests

Netherlands:

Mr G. BRAKS
Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Peter WALKER
Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food
Mr Alick BUCHANAN-SMITH
Minister of State,
Ministry of Agriculture
Fisheries and Food

Commission:

Mr Poul DALSGER - Member

FIXING OF PRICES FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND CERTAIN RELATED MEASURES

The Council continued discussing the farm price fixing for 1983/1984. It first examined specific questions relating to the sectors affected by the Commission proposals.

After devoting special attention to these sectors giving rise to the most complex problems, in particular milk products, cereals and rice and beef and veal, the Council broadly discussed the general level of prices, the problems of monetary compensatory amounts and the financial and budget impact of the Commission proposals.

At the conclusion of its discussions, the Council noted progress to date and worked out priority guidelines for further proceedings on basic issues; it then instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue actively its discussions on all the technical questions relating to prices with the aim of identifying all the points likely to accelerate its proceedings and to lead to a decision within the scheduled time-limits.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE "AQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE" FOR MEDITERRANEAN PRODUCTS
(FRUIT AND VEGETABLES - OLIVE OIL)

As agreed at its meeting on 8 and 9 March 1983, the Council finalized the report on the outcome of its proceedings on the subject of the "aquis communautaire" and the various aspects covered by it to be presented to the European Council.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER

The Council formally adopted the Regulation authorizing the United Kingdom to import 65 250 tonnes of New Zealand butter on special terms from 1 April to 31 December 1983.

OTHER STATEMENTS

The Council heard statements on the following subjects:

- Exports of alcohol from France to the Member States (United Kingdom delegation)
- United Kingdom imports of UHT milk (French delegation)

OTHER DECISIONS

Further agricultural decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the import system applicable in 1983-1986 to products falling within subheading 07.06 A of the Common Customs Tariff and amending Regulation (EEC) No 950/68 on the Common Customs Tariff.

Fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement on the regulation of fisheries in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat in 1983 between the European Economic Community, Norway and Sweden.

Budgetary questions

The Council adopted the text of the recommendation to be submitted to the European Parliament giving discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget and of the supplementary and amending budgets for 1981.

Table 4 (continued)

Number, place and date of meeting	Subject	President	Commission	Main items of business
835th Brussels 21 March	Economic and financial affairs			Cancelled.
836th Brussels 28 March	Agriculture	Mr Ertl	Mr Dalsager	<i>Fixing of prices for certain agricultural products and related measures.</i> ³ Postponed. <i>Exchange rates to be applied in agriculture.</i> ³ <i>Adjustment of acquis communautaire for Mediterranean products.</i> ³

¹ Internal market and industrial affairs.

² Financial institutions and taxation.

³ Agriculture.

⁴ Research and development.

⁵ Development.

⁶ Enlargement and bilateral relations with applicant countries.

⁷ Financing Community activities.

⁸ Energy.

⁹ Relations with other countries and regions.

Commission

Activities

2.4.17. The Commission played a significant part in preparing the final agreement on currency realignment on 21 March.¹

2.4.18. Mr Thorn and Mr Ortoli attended the meeting of the European Council in Brussels on 21 and 22 March.² The major items having been deferred to the Stuttgart European Council in June, the Commission resolved to draw up a detailed work programme that would enable it to discharge, in the weeks ahead, its own political responsibilities.

Decisions, communications and proposals

2.4.19. The Commission approved a report to the Council and Parliament in response to the memorandum from the Greek Government concerning Greece's future relations with the Community.³ It also approved all the integrated Mediterranean programmes.⁴

The Commission sent the Council two major communications on development policy, one of which sets out new guidelines for Community food aid to the developing countries while the other offers guidelines for the forthcoming negotiations between the Community and the ACP countries for renewal of the Lomé Convention.⁵

Two communications on fisheries were adopted in connection with the enlargement negotiations with Spain and Portugal.

Having consulted the ECSC Consultative Committee the Commission approved at a second reading the General Objectives for Steel for 1985 and the social aspects of steel policy for 1983-86. It also adopted a proposal to the Council on the new arrangements

¹ Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.4.

² Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.10.

³ Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.13.

⁴ Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.12.

⁵ Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.23.

