

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

10900/84 (Presse 200)

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970th meeting of the Council

- Budget -

Brussels, 29 and 30 November 1984

President: Mr Jim O'KEEFE
Minister of State,
Department of Foreign Affairs
Ireland



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 Knud Erik TYGESEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Germany:

Mr Hans TIETMEYER
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Finance

Greece:

Mr Panayotis ROUMELIOTIS
State Secretary,
Ministry of the National Economy

France:

Mr Henri EMMANUELLI
State Secretary with responsibility
for the Budget

Ireland:

Mr Jim O'KEEFE
Minister of State,
Department of Foreign Affairs

Italy:

Mr Carlo FRACANZANI
State Secretary
Ministry of the Treasury

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER
Minister attached to the Department
of Finance, with responsibility
for the Budget

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. VAN EEKELEN
State Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Ian STEWART
Economic Secretary
to the Treasury

Commission:

Mr Christopher TUGENDHAT
Vice President

MEETING WITH A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION

Before commencing the second reading of the draft 1985 budget as amended and modified by the European Parliament at its sitting on 14 November 1984, the Council had a meeting with a European Parliament delegation, led by the President of the latter, Mr Pierre PFLIMLIN, and also including: Mr COT, Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr FICH, Rapporteur on Section III - Commission - of the Budget, Mr CURRY, Rapporteur on the other Sections of the Budget, Mrs BARBARELLA, 3rd Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Budgets, Mr AIGNER, Chairman of the Committee on Budgetary Control and Mr ARNDT, Mr LANGES, Lord DOURO, Mrs SCRIVENER, Mr PASTY, Mr d'ORMESSON and Mr BONDE, Members of the Committee on Budgets.

This meeting enabled the European Parliament delegation to explain the reasoning behind its preparation of the amendments and proposed modifications to the draft general budget for 1985 and the Council members to inform the European Parliament of their feelings in the matter.

Following the exchange of views, the President of the Council stated that the Council would press ahead very shortly with discussions on the Parliament's amendments and proposed modifications to the draft budget in the light of the views expressed at this meeting.

1985 BUDGET

The Council, having discussed in detail at the first reading the draft budget as amended and modified by the European Parliament, acted on the amendments and proposed modifications voted by the Parliament on 14 November.

Referring, on the question of the financing of the common agricultural policy, to its statement on 2/3 October reading as follows:

"In deciding on a budget appropriation for the 1985 EAGGF of 18 000 MECU, i.e. a reduction of 1 315 MECU with regard to the figure considered necessary by the Commission in the preliminary draft budget, the Council for its part, while emphasizing the need for rigorous market management, undertakes to meet by 1 October 1985 the additional budgetary requirements which will arise in 1985 including the obligations entered into vis-à-vis the United Kingdom as prescribed under the Fontainebleau agreement through a supplementary and amending budget, for which additional funds will be provided."

the Council agreed to enter 1 315 MECU in square brackets against additional revenue and expenditure, which means that they are not, by definition, included in the present budget total.

In the case of non-compulsory expenditure, the Council agreed to increases over the draft budget of 410 MECU in commitment appropriations and 189 MECU in payment appropriations.

With regard in particular to the integrated Mediterranean programmes, it agreed to enter a reserve of 50 MECU in commitment appropriations.

It also agreed to increases in commitment appropriations over the draft budget of 50 MECU for the ERDF and 70 MECU for the European Social Fund.

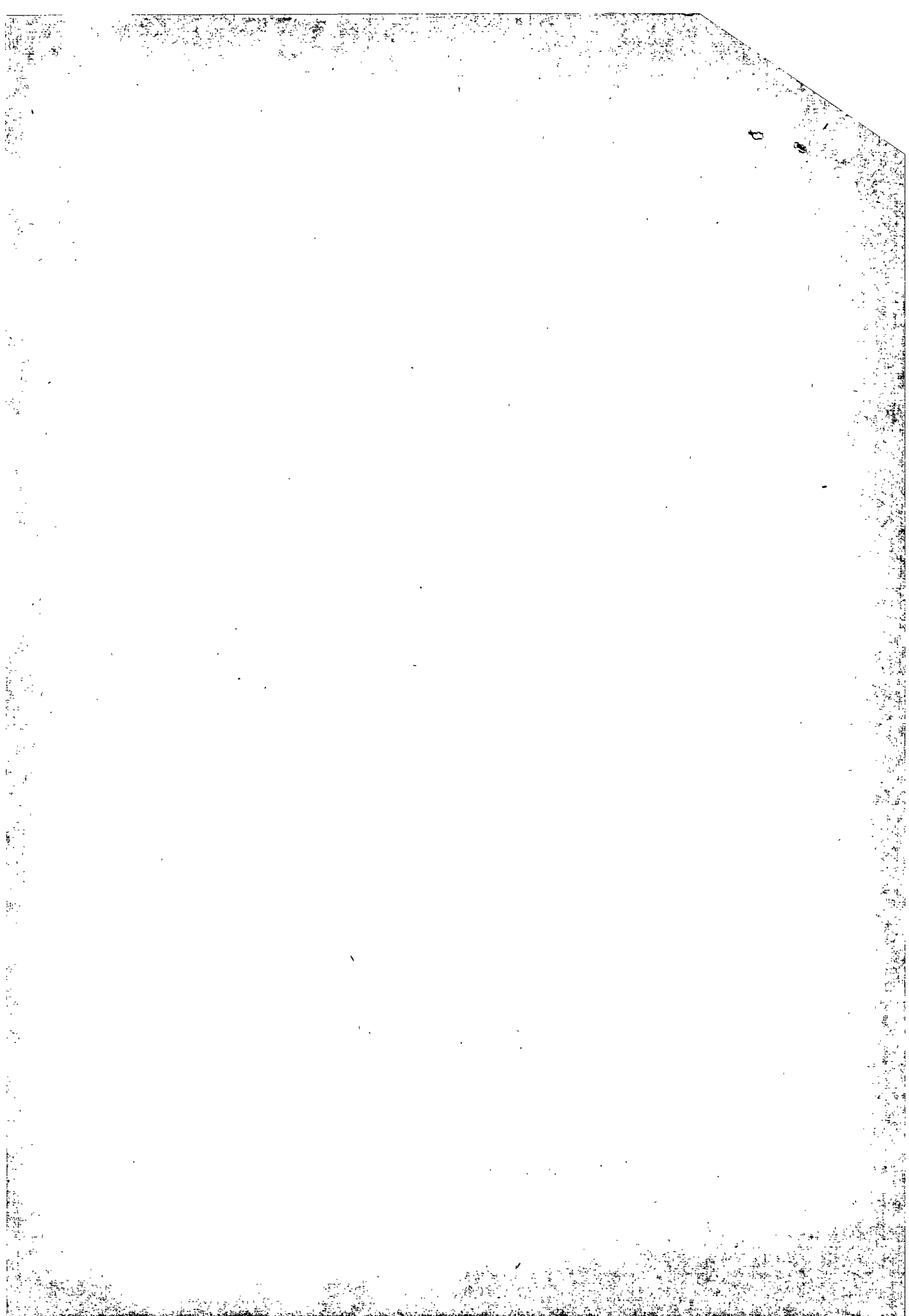
In addition, the Council gave special consideration to appropriations for food aid and aid for disaster victims in third countries.

Finally, it agreed on an appropriation, additional to the initial draft amount, of 30 MECU in commitment appropriations and 12 MECU in payment appropriations for non-associated developing countries, mainly intended for Central America further to the San José Conference.

OTHER DECISION

Agricultural decision

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the third Directive amending Directive 70/524/EEC concerning additives in feedingstuffs.



Bruxelles, le 28 novembre 1984

433

Note Bio(84) 452 aux Bureaux Nationaux
cc: aux Membres du Groupe du Porte-Parole

Preparation de la reunion informelle des ministres de la
sante (J. Robinson)

Les ministres de la sante publique se rencontrent demain, le 29 novembre, au Charlemagne a partir de 10.00 h. dans une reunion informelle. La reunion sera presidee par le ministre irlandais de la sante, m. Barry Desmond, et M. Ivor Richard y representera la Commission. Les themes a l'ordre du Jour s'annoncent comme suit :

1. Cooperation dans le domaine de la sante : sous ce theme general devraient se discuter trois points precis :

- la limitation des couts dans la fourniture et l'organisation des services de la sante. Les discussions auront lieu sur base notamment d'un document des services de la Commission approuve fin octobre;

- la toxicomanie et le tabagisme (voir note P 67 de septembre 1984 et COM(84) 502);

- comment mieux organiser la cooperation entre differents pays de la Communaute dans le domaine de la sante (voir note P-67 de septembre 1984 et COM(84) 502);

2. Actions dans le domaine de la toxicologie. A ce propos, les discussions devraient se porter sur la proposition de resolution qu'a faite la Commission le 29 mai dernier.

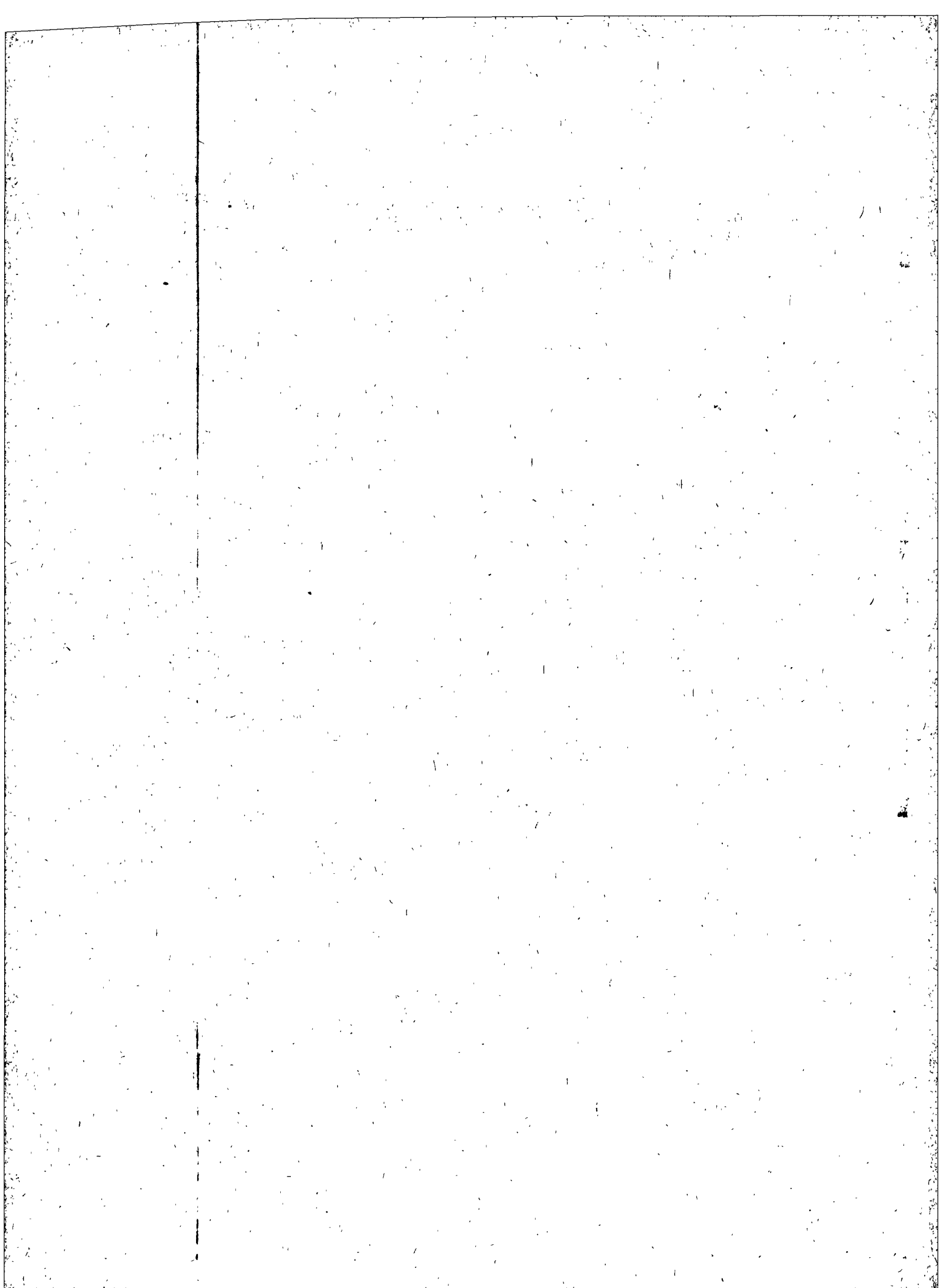
3. La question du traitement medical d'urgence, et comment mieux l'assurer et donc assurer aussi la mobilite accrue des citoyens europeens.

4. Le probleme particulier de la toxicite provenant de l'aluminium dans le traitement de la dialyse renale.

Amities

M. SANTARELLI COMEUR///





Bruxelles, le 29 novembre 1984


NOTE BIO (84) 452 (suite 1 et fin) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
C.C. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

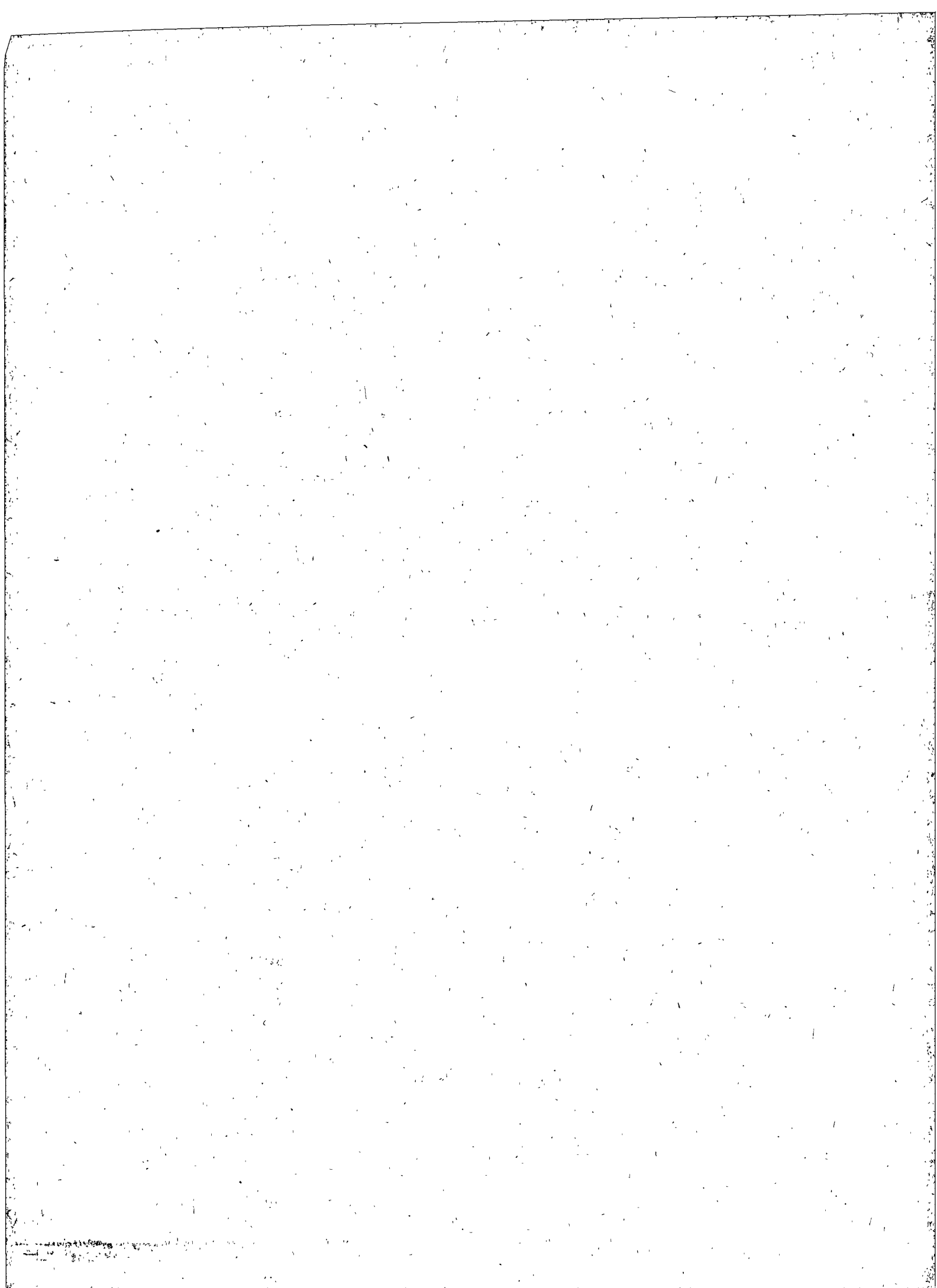
INFORMAL MEETING OF HEALTH MINISTERS (J. ROBINSON)

The Community's Ministers of Public Health, whose informal meeting began at 10.00 am, ended around 17.00 their first session for six years with a commitment to hold further regular meetings at ministerial level. The first such ministerial should take place under the Italian presidency in the first half of next year.

Topics under discussion today included in particular drug addiction, cigarette and alcohol abuse, and how cooperation between the Member States in these and other areas could be rendered more effective. The possibility that improved cooperation at Community level might also introduce greater cost efficiency in often financially overburdened public health services - for example, in areas like expensive medical technology - was also raised and should be discussed further. For other points discussed see BIO preparation.

Amities,
M. Santarelli

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Brussels, 29 November 1984

NOTE BIO (84) 454 TO NATIONAL OFFICES
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#33

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BUDGET COUNCIL (29.11.84) (Elphick)

Ministers began the second reading of the 1985 draft budget this morning beginning with a short discussion after they met a delegation from the European Parliament led by President Pflimlin.

During the discussion, the Council President, Mr. O'Keeffe, said that a prevalent feeling that the Budget was doomed was no reason for not trying to find solutions. Convergence meant some movement for both sides.

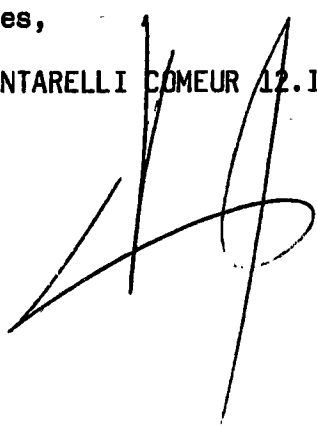
For the Commission, Mr. Tugendhat urged the Council to do its utmost to find a compromise with the Parliament so as to start 1985 with an adopted Budget. If Council stuck to its October position (arbitrary cuts to keep within 1%) there could be serious negative consequences for the Community, both political and practical. Lack of an agreed budget and the introduction of provisional twelfths would not only create difficulties in managing the CAP but would also mean that new policy initiatives would at best be postponed at a time when there is a commitment of all institutions for a relaunch of Community activities in new technology and other fields.

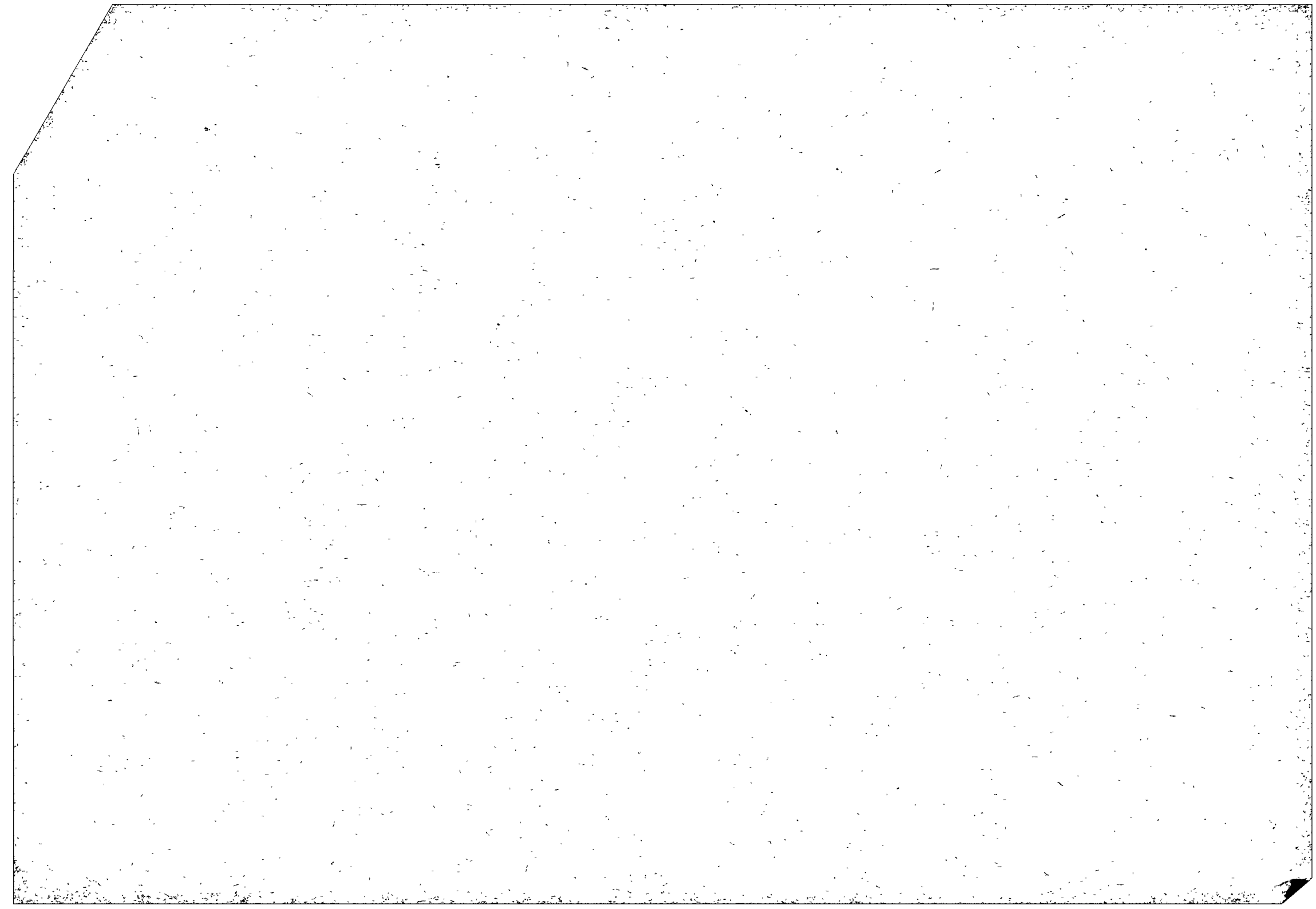
The Council is due to lunch with the Parliamentary delegation after the meeting this morning. Detailed negotiation within the Council on the 1985 Budget will start this afternoon.

More later,

Amities,

M. SANTARELLI COMEUR 12.15///





Brussels, 30 november 1984

NOTE BIO (84) 454 (suite 1 and end) TO NATIONAL OFFICES
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BUDGET COUNCIL (29.11.84) (Elphick)

It took ministers more than ten hours of negotiation much of it in restricted session before an agreement emerged on the second reading. They were clearly conscious of the probability of a serious clash with Parliament but unable to agree on the best way of defusing the issue. In particular they found great difficulty in building some kind of bridge, as the Presidency put it, towards Parliament, especially over the problem of whether and how to "budgetise" the promise to provide funds in 1985 to cover the shortfall in agricultural funds that everyone expects. In the end after long argument the amount of 1.315 million Ecus was written into the budget on the revenue and expenditure side together with a commentary committing the Council to provide the money later next year but the figure was put into brackets. It remains to be seen whether this will be sufficient to appease Parliament when the MEP's meet next week to vote in their second reading.

The Council also increased allocations for food aid, aid to non-associated third countries (Central America), and for victims of catastrophe. In the end they left very little room for Parliament to add onto non-obligatory expenditure - only 2.8 MECUs on commitments and 54.4 MECUs on payments remain according to the Council's reckoning. So ministers kept themselves strictly within the 1% ceiling, thus adhering to the letter of the limits set by the Treaty.

The Council rebuffed Parliament's action in writing into the Budget amounts for United Kingdom and the F.R. of Germany compensation. Ministers stuck to the strict wording of the Fontainebleau agreement which says that the compensation will be made to the U.K. on the revenue side of the Budget and not as hitherto through special spending programmes.

Further details of budget after the Council's second reading should be available in due course.

End

Amities,

M. SANTARELLI / COMEUR /// 10h40



