

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

961st meeting of the Council

- Research -

Brussels, 6 November 1984

President: Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
of Ireland

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

Belgium:

Mr Philippe MAYSTADT
Minister for Science Policy

Denmark:

Mr Bertel HAARDER
Minister of Education
Mr Flemming VOLDBY
State Secretary,
Ministry of Education

Germany:

Mr H-H. HAUNSCHILD
State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Research
and Technology

Greece:

Mr Georgios LIANIS
Minister for Research and
Technology

France:

Mr Hubert CURIEN
Minister of Research and
Technology

Ireland:

Mr John BRUTON
Minister for Industry, Trade,
Commerce and Tourism
Mr Edward COLLINS
Minister of State at the Department
of Energy and at the Department of
Industry, Trade, Commerce and
Tourism

Italy:

Mr Luigi GRANELLI
Minister for the Co-ordination
of Scientific and Technological
Research

Luxembourg:

Mr Johny LAHURE
State Secretary for Economy

Netherlands:

Mr G.M.V. van AARDENNE
Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Economic Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Geoffrey PATTIE
Minister of State for Industry
and Information Technology

Commission:

Vicomte Etienne DAVIGNON
Vice President

R&D PROGRAMME

The Council, at its meeting on 6 November 1984, undertook a detailed examination of ways and means by which a satisfactory development of the common research and development policy might be ensured, taking account at the same time of the exceptional financial and budgetary constraints which the Community is currently experiencing.

In line with the conclusions of the European Councils at Stuttgart and Fontainebleau, it confirmed its wish that scientific and technical activities should be maintained as high priorities for the Community and that the goals and criteria set out in the "Framework Programme for Community scientific and technical activities 1984-1987" should be used as the basis for programme decisions. The Council confirmed that the principles of the Framework Programme should also be based on a commitment to solidarity in relation to the establishment of Community programmes. It also reaffirmed its agreement to a gradual increase in expenditure for Community R&D activities.

The Council decided that the Presidency and the Commission should take all necessary steps, taking account of the comments made by delegates, to define the elements of the decisions which the Council has committed itself to take on 19 December 1984, after due preparation by COREPER, on the following 8 programmes:

- Radiation Protection
- BRITE
- Stimulation
- Biotechnology
- Non Nuclear Energy
- Reactor Safety
- Fusion
- Radioactive Waste

It was also agreed that the Commission would give further consideration to the proposed "Programme of assistance for the development of indigenous scientific and technical research capacities in the developing countries" and would report to the Council as soon as possible.

EUROPEAN SYNCHROTRON FACILITY

The Council agreed that, following the meeting which is to take place on 5 December of the standing committee which is considering this question, a report would be made available for discussion at the next meeting of the Research Council in December. At this time a note will also be available from the Commission on the possible involvement of the Community in the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility.

VIDEOCOMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

An interim report on the intergovernmental video-communications project was submitted by the Commission to the Council.

The Council took note on this occasion that a first demonstration of the technical feasibility of videoconferencing communication will be organized on Tuesday, 13 November, linking the videoconference studio in Paris successively with Frankfurt, The Hague, London and Rome.

Bruxelles, le 6 novembre 1984.

Note BIO (84) 407 aux Bureaux Nationaux
cc. aux Membres du Groupe du Porte-Parole

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CONSEIL RECHERCHE : debat constructif avant la decision de
decembre sur les grands programmes (W. Helin)

Les Ministres de la Recherche des Dix ont reaffirme mardi leur volonte de doter la Communaute des programmes de Recherche et Developpement prioritaires et ambitieux qu'elle merite.

A l'issue d'une reunion (dont la partie essentielle s'est deroulee en dejeuner de travail), il apparait clairement que la Commission Europeenne a ete entendue : en substance les Dix ont confirme sans ambiguïte que les difficultes budgetaires reelles ne peuvent mettre en danger des programmes de R & D reconnus comme prioritaires par tous.

Tout en tenant compte des "contraintes budgetaires exceptionnelles auxquelles la Communaute doit faire face en ce moment", souligne le texte du communique final. les Dix reaffirment leur appui au programme-cadre propose par la Commission pour la periode 1984-1987 dont les actions sont jugees "hautement prioritaires".

Et, ajoute le texte, le Conseil reaffirme son accord a l'egard "d'un accroissement graduel des depenses de R & D de la Communaute".

Pratiquement, cet accord politique doit etre traduit en termes concrets (reglements. engagements financiers, etc) le 19 decembre prochain, lors du dernier Conseil de la Recherche de 1984.

D'ici a cette date, la Presidence irlandaise et le Vice-president Davignon mettront au point les elements de decision sur les huit programmes suivants :

1. La radioprotection
2. BRITF (programme de recherche devant permettre une plus grande utilisation des nouvelles technologies dans des secteurs industriels traditionnels)
3. Stimulation (qui doit traduire en termes concrets "l'espace europeen de la recherche" : jumelages de laboratoires. mobilite des chercheurs, facilites pour jeunes chercheurs, etc.)
4. Biotechnologie
5. Energie non nucleaire
6. Surete des reacteurs
7. Fusion thermonucleaire
8. Dechets radioactifs.

Il convient de rappeler que le programme ESPRIT (1984-1988) et celui du Centre Commun de Recherche avaient deja ete approuves anterieurement.

