

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

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1020th Council meeting

- Foreign Affairs -

Luxembourg, 25 June 1985

President: Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Italian Republic

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 Jakob Esper LARSEN

Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Jürgen RUHFUS

State Secretary,  
Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros PANGALOS

State Secretary for European Economic Community Affairs

France:

Mrs Catherine LALUMIERE

State Secretary attached to the Minister for Foreign Relations, with responsibility for European Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Andrew O'ROURKE

Ambassador,  
Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Giulio ANDREOTTI

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Jacques F. POOS  
Mr Robert GOEBBELS

Minister for Foreign Affairs  
State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Netherlands:

Mr W.F. VAN EEKELEN

State Secretary for Foreign affairs

United Kingdom:

Sir Michael BUTLER

Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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Commission:

Mr Jacques DELORS

President

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INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES

The Council reached a common position on the Regulation on the integrated Mediterranean programmes (<sup>1</sup>); this position will be submitted to the European Parliament under the conciliation procedure.

The agreement reached gives legislative form to the political agreement reached by the European Council in Brussels which laid down the main features of the special Community measure in favour of the southern regions of the Community as at present constituted. The object of the measure is to improve the socio-economic structures of the regions in question, particularly Greece, in order to facilitate their adjustment to the new situation created by enlargement under the best possible conditions; it will take the form of a Community contribution to the implementation of integrated Mediterranean programmes of a maximum duration of 7 years.

The regions and areas which are to benefit under the IMPS are:

- the whole of Greece;
- in France, the regions of Languedoc-Roussillon, Corsica, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Aquitaine and Midi-Pyrénées and the departments of Drôme and Ardèche, with the exception of the conurbations of Marseilles, Bordeaux and Toulouse and with restrictions for the built-up coastal strip with all-year-round tourist activity;

- in Italy, the whole of the Mezzogiorno, the regions of Liguria, Tuscany, Umbria and Marche, the Apennines in Emilia-Romagna, and some lagoon areas on the northern Adriatic, with the exception of the conurbations of Rome, Naples, Palermo, Florence and Genoa and with restrictions for certain built-up areas will all-year-round tourist activity.

The IMPs are to be multiannual operations which relate in particular to investments in the productive sector, the creation of infrastructures, and better use of human resources; they will concern the various spheres of economic activity:

- agriculture, fisheries and related activities, including the agri-food industries;
- energy;
- crafts and manufacturing, including building and public works;
- services, including tourism.

A detailed list of operations which contribute to meeting the objectives of the IMPs is annexed to the Regulation.

The European Council has already taken the decision on the financial allocation. The financial assistance for IMPs from the Community budget will take the form of:

- a contribution of 2 500 million ECU from the existing funds (ERDF, European Social Fund, EAGGF Guidance Section);
- an additional budgetary allocation of 1 600 million ECU.

The IMPs submitted by Greece will qualify for an amount of 2 000 million ECU from both categories of budget resources.

It is estimated that over the seven-year period, the IMPs could receive EIB loans totalling 2 500 million ECU from own resources and from the resources of the new Community instrument (NCI).

With regard to the budget allocations from the existing funds, the draft Regulation stipulates that increases in real terms accruing to the Funds during the period concerned will help to finance the IMPs but without transfers from the Funds to other priority or less prosperous regions being adversely affected thereby.

The three recipient countries will have to submit IMPs to the Commission before the end of 1986 with a view to securing Community part-financing.

The rate of Community assistance for IMP operations may not exceed 70% of the total cost of the project, whatever the form such assistance (budget resources and loans) may take, except in the case of Greece. In the case of France and Italy the rate of Community budget assistance must not exceed the maxima applied under the rules of the Funds by more than 10 points. In the case of operations not covered by the Regulations governing the structural Funds, the IMP subsidy may not exceed the existing ceiling for the Regional Fund (55%). Amounts in excess of the maximum rates in force for the existing Funds must be financed from the additional budget allocation (1 600 million ECU).

The Commission will examine the IMPs. In determining the amount of Community assistance for IMPs account will be taken, first and foremost, of the actual needs of the various regions and of the economic and social development conditions obtaining in them, priority being given to the least-favoured regions and to those most affected by enlargement.

The text lays down other criteria to be taken into account, in particular the effort made by the Member States measured in terms of its situation.

The decision-making procedure provides that the draft programme proposed by the Commission for each IMP will be submitted to an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of the Member States which will deliver its opinion by a qualified majority vote.

This vote will take place not later than two months after the draft has been submitted to the Advisory Committee.

The programme will be approved by the Commission upon expiry of this period.

If the Committee's opinion is negative, the Commission will amend its initial draft taking into consideration the Advisory Committee's opinion.

The amended proposal will be submitted to the Advisory Committee. Within a period of one month following this second submission, the Commission will take a final decision on the implementation of the programme.





Bruxelles, le 26 juin 1985  
Note BIO(85)233 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX  
c.c. AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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CONSEIL AFFAIRES GENERALES (25.6.1985)  
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Le Conseil des Affaires Generales du 25 juin a approuve tres tard dans la soiree le reglement du Conseil relatif aux PIM. Ce reglement reprend l'essentiel du projet de la proposition de la Commission (voir MEMO 15/85). En ce qui concerne les dispositions financieres les trois sources sont maintenues :

- une participation des fonds structurels de 2,5 milliards d'ECUS
- une contribution budgetaire supplementaire de 1,6 milliards d'ECUS
- les possibilites de prets de 2,5 milliards

Les PIM presentes par la Grece beneficieront de 2 milliards d'ECUS.

En ce qui concerne la mise en oeuvre l'autonomie de la Commission est maintenue. Le reglement prévoit que le Comite Consultatif examine le projet de programme propose par la Commission pour chaque PIM et donne son avis a la majorite qualifiee. Ce vote intervient au plus tard deux mois apres que le projet ait été soumis. Si l'avis du Comite est negatif la Commission modifie son projet initial. La proposition modifiee est soumise au Comite Consultatif. Dans un delai d'un mois apres cette seconde transmission la Commission decide la mise en oeuvre du programme. Le texte du reglement vous sera envoye dans les meilleurs delais.

Amitiés  
Hugo PAEMEN

