

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

4778/87 (Presse 28)

1144th Council meeting

- Agriculture -

Brussels, 23 and 24 February 1987

President: Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER,
State Secretary for European Affairs
and Agriculture of the
Kingdom of Belgium

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:

Ms Britta SCHALL HOLBERG Minister for Agriculture

Germany:

Mr Ignaz KIECHLE Federal Minister for Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Mr Walther FLORIAN State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Yiannis POTTAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr Carlos ROMERO HERRERA Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

France:

Mr François GUILLAUME Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Austin DEASY Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Filippo Maria PANDOLFI Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Marc FISCHBACH

Minister for Agriculture and
Viticulture

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture

Portugal:

Mr Arlindo CUNHA

State Secretary for Agricultural
Development

United Kingdom:

Mr Michael JOPLING

Minister for Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food

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Commission:

Mr Frans H.J.J. ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

Further to the political agreement reached at its meeting in December 1986 on the adjustments to be made to the organization of the market in milk and milk products, the Council discussed the proposals for Regulations necessary to implement that agreement.

During its meeting the Council was able to make significant progress on a considerable number of questions.

Nonetheless, in concluding its discussions, it noted that a number of questions, particularly the question of the criteria to be adopted for operation of the future intervention arrangements in this sector required further more detailed study. It consequently agreed to return to these problems at its next meeting.

SOCIO-STRUCTURAL MEASURES

Following its discussions on 8 to 16 December 1986 on the socio-structural measures to help adjust agriculture to the new market situation and maintain rural areas, the Council resumed examination of the dossier in an effort to finalize this package of measures.

In conclusion to its discussions, the Council agreed to take a decision on the dossier at its next meeting on 2 and 3 March 1987.

GRANT OF NATIONAL AID TO SMALL-SCALE MILK PRODUCERS

The Council took note of a request from the French delegation that it be authorized to grant national aid to small-scale milk producers in France.

It instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to examine this request so that it could take a decision at its next meeting on 2 and 3 March 1987.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Other agricultural decisions

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 on common measures (for Ireland) to improve the conditions under which agricultural and fishery products are processed and marketed.

(see press release 4608/87 (Presse 17) of 9 and 10 February 1987)

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Decision amending Decision 81/956/EEC on the equivalence of seed potatoes produced in third countries. This amendment is intended to extend until 30 June 1989 the period of validity of the Decision in question as regards the equivalence of seed potatoes for Austria and Switzerland.

The Council then took note of the eleventh communication from the Commission to the Council concerning the programme for the utilization of co-responsibility levy funds in the milk sector for the 1987/1988 milk year.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 986/68 laying down general rules for granting aid for skimmed milk and skimmed milk powder for use as feed. This amendment allows the margin within which such aid is fixed to be adjusted for the milk year 1986/1987.

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities the Regulation laying down special measures for imports of olive oil originating in Tunisia. This Regulation authorizes the importation subject to special conditions, of 10 000 tonnes of olive oil from Tunisia.

The Council then adopted in the official languages of the Communities, Regulations as follows:

- amending Regulation No 338/79 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions. This amendment extends until 31 August 1991 the transitional period during which the names of certain specified regions reserved for the description of quality wines psr may be used for the description of table wines;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 355/79 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts. This amendment extends until 31 August 1991 the transitional period during which the names of certain specified regions may be used for the description of table wines;
- amending Regulation (EEC) No 3309/85 laying down general rules for the description and presentation of sparkling wines and aerated sparkling wines. This Regulation is designed to supplement the provisions on certain particular aspects of presentation and labelling as regards aromatic sparkling wines and quality sparkling wines.

Finally the Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine. This amendment allows the Commission if need be to take as necessary and on a transitional basis, certain practical measures required to ensure the execution of compulsory distillation.

(see press release 4608/87 (Presse 17) of 9 and 10 February 1987).

Fisheries policy

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing the fishing rights and the financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Senegal on fishing off the coast of Senegal for the period from 1 October 1986 to 28 February 1988.

(see press release 11713/86 (Presse 214) - page VIII, of 22 December 1986).

Anti-dumping duties

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of plain paper photocopiers originating in Japan. The Regulation will enter into force on the day following that of its publication; it will be published in the Official Journal on 24 February 1987.

This Regulation constitutes a follow-up to the provisional arrangements in force since September 1986 and imposes a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of plain paper photocopiers incorporating an optical system falling within subheading 90.10 A of the Common Customs Tariff (corresponding to NIMEXE code ex 90.10-22), originating in Japan.

The rate of duty is 20% of the net free-at-Community frontier price before duty.

The Regulation provides for exceptions for products manufactured and exported by certain companies: Copyer Company Limited, Tokyo: 7,2% duty; Mita Industrial Company, Osaka: 12,6% duty; Toshiba Corporation, Tokyo: 10% duty - duty does not apply to products exported by Kyocera Corporation, Tokyo.

The duty provided for by the Regulation does not apply either to products with particular characteristics (rapid printers operating at a speed of more than 75 copies per minute, printers using microfilms, full colour copiers, machines which have the capacity of making copies from information displayed on screens, large format copiers).

The Council also adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1698/85 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of electronic typewriters originating in Japan.

This Regulation adds to the exceptions to which the anti-dumping duty does not apply a number of products which, it has been established, are not comparable with the electronic typewriters produced in the Community.

Appointments

The Council appointed the following members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Veterinary Training for the period until 15 December 1989:

A. Experts from the practising veterinary profession

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>
Greece	Mr Georgios EXARCHOPOULOS	Mr Ioannis MADEMOCHORITIS
Portugal	Mr Carlos Eduardo DA SILVA MORBEY	Mr Edmundo Gouveia ANDRADE PIRES

B. Experts from the veterinary science teaching institutions

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Portugal	Prof. Dr Apolinário José BARBOSA DA CRUZ VAZ PORTUGAL	Prof. Dr Manuel CARVALHO VARELA

C. Experts from the competent authorities of the Member States

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>
Greece	Mr Dimitrios DIMITRIOU	Mrs Eleni PROTOPAPA
Portugal	Mr Manuel DOMINGOS LAGE	Mr António LOPES MADUREIRA

The Council also appointed the following members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on the Training of Midwives for the period until 6 October 1989:

A. Experts from the practising profession

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Spain	Doña Maria Teresa DEL HIERRO	Doña Adoración BELTRAN

B. Experts from the institutions responsible for the training of midwives

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>
Greece	Mrs Rebecca TRAGHEA	Mrs Ekateríni TATAKI
Spain	Don Fernando DE LA TORRIENTE	Doña Gloria SEGURANYES

C. Experts from the competent authorities of the Member States

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Spain	Doña Rosario MUÑOZ GONZALEZ	Doña Isabel SANCHEZ TERRUCA

In addition the Council appointed the following members and alternate members of the Advisory Committee on Training in Nursing for the period until 11 May 1989:

A. Experts from the practising profession

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Spain	Don Maximo GONZALEZ JURADO	Doña Miriam OVALLE BERNAL

B. Experts from the establishments providing training in nursing

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Spain	Doña Rosa BLASCO	Doña Concepción GERMAN

C. Experts from the competent authorities of the Member States

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Spain	Doña Milagros HERRERO LOPEZ	Doña Amparo NAHARRO CALDERON

Acting on a proposal from the Danish Government, the Council also appointed:

- Dr Jens Kristian GØTRIK a full member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training as a replacement for Professor Erik HOLST for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 11 May 1989;
- Dr Ole Andree LARSEN as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Medical Training as a replacement for Dr J.K. GØTRIK for the remainder of his term of office, i.e. until 11 May 1989.

Finally, acting on a proposal from the Greek Government, the Council appointed:

- Mr Ioulios IOSIFIDIS as a member of the Advisory Committee on Training in Nursing to replace Mrs Maria MALGARINOU for the remainder of her term of office, which runs until 11 May 1989;
 - Mrs Maria MALGARINOU as an alternate member of the Advisory Committee on Training in Nursing to replace Mrs O. PATSI for the remainder of her term of office, which runs until 11 May 1989.
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24 February 1987

NOTE BIO (86) 48 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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AGRICULTURE COUNCIL - FEBRUARY 23 1987 - (M. Berendt)

Agriculture ministers managed to make some valuable progress late last night on the detailed regulations for implementing the reform measures for the dairy sector which were agreed in principle at the marathon Council in December. There was general agreement on a compromise proposal which will allow implementation of the programme to cut quotas by 7 per cent in the 1987-88 year and a further 2 1/2 per cent in 1988-89. A decision has thus been taken before negotiations begin on the price proposals for 1987-88.

The measures agreed lay down the ground rules for application of the quotas, including payment of 10 ECU per 100 kg compensation for the 4 per cent cutback in quotas which was agreed in December and payment of the superlevy at 100 per cent for production exceeding the new quotas. A declaration was also agreed which provides for a new Council decision on the basis of a Commission proposal at the end of the 1987-88 year if the target reduction in output has not been achieved.

There was less success in agreeing the rules for tightening up the intervention system, a series of measures designed to limit a flood of new butter and skimmed milk powder into intervention. The regulation would allow the Commission to suspend sales into intervention under certain circumstances, such as when stock levels reached a certain tonnage (300,000 tonnes) or when prices fell below a certain level (90 per cent of intervention price). Ministers took widely differing views on this proposal, ranging from fierce opposition to any restrictions on intervention sales until the quota rules have had time to take effect (Ireland) to full support for the Commission's proposals (Italy, Spain). Ireland, Germany and Luxembourg sought at least a postponement in the application of the new measures to 1988.

Several Member States called for a higher stock threshold to trigger the Commission action, at least to begin with, perhaps falling to 300,000 tonnes over an 18-month period. Vice-President Andriessen undertook to discuss the Commission's proposals further in the Special Committee for Agriculture with a view to a Council decision at next week's Council, while maintaining the essential features of the Commission's proposal and remaining true to the compromise of December which called for immediate action.

Despite several hours of further discussion, no progress was made on the socio-structural measures. Mr. Andriessen warned the Council that if ministers failed to agree Commission proposals now, the opportunity for decisions in this sector would be put off for a long time. The proposals now are to be remitted to the CSA, which will try to work out an acceptable text with a view to a rapid adoption - or rejection - at next week's Council, where the main subject will be the 1987-88 price proposals.

Photocopiers and electronic typewriters

Council agreed as A points Council regulations imposing definitive anti-dumping duties on imports of plain paper, photocopiers and electronic typewriters originating in Japan.

Regards,


H. Paemen