

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

9647/88 (Presse 188)

1281st Council meeting

- FISHERIES -

Brussels, 28 November 1988

President: Mr Yannis POTTAKIS
 Minister for Agriculture
 of the Hellenic Republic

28.XI.88

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

Denmark:

Mr Lars P. GAMMELGAARD Minister for Fisheries
Mr Thomas LAURITSEN State Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN State Parliamentary Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Yannis POTTAKIS Minister for Agriculture

Spain:

Mr José LOIRA RUA Secretary-General for Fisheries

France:

Mr Jacques MELLICK Minister for the Sea (Ministry of Transport)

Ireland:

Mr Brendan DALY Minister for the Marine

Italy:

Mr Enrico PIETROMARCHI Deputy Permanent Representative

Luxembourg:

Mr Thierry STOLL

Deputy Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Gerrit BRAKS

Minister for Agriculture and
Fisheries

Portugal:

Mr Manuel OLIVEIRA GODINHO

State Secretary for Fisheries

United Kingdom:

Mr Donald THOMPSON

State Secretary at the Ministry
of Agriculture

Lord SANDERSON

Minister of State, Scottish Office

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Commission:

Mr Antonio José Baptista CARDOSA E CUNHA

Member

PRICES FOR 1989

The Council reached an agreement by a qualified majority on the Regulation fixing for 1989 the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81, and the producer price for tuna intended for the canning industry.

The variations in price for the various species as compared with the prices for 1988 are as follows:

A. Guide prices - fresh products

1. Herring

- from 1.1 to 31.7 and	
from 1.10 to 31.12.89	-2%
- from 1.8 to 30.9.89	-11%

2. Sardines

(a) Atlantic	-1%
(b) Mediterranean	-1%
3. Spur dogfish	-1%
4. Spotted dogfish	-1%
5. Redfish	+1%
6. Cod	0%
7. Saithe	-1%
8. Haddock	+1%
9. Whiting	0%
10. Ling	0%
11. Mackerel (Scomber scombrus)	0%
12. Spanish mackerel (Scomber japonicus)	+1%
13. Anchovy	0%

14. Plaice - from 1.1.to 30.4.89	0%
- from 1.5.to 31.12.89	0%
15. Hake	+1%
16. Megrime	+1%
17. Ray's bream	0%
18. Monkfish	
- with head	+1%
- without	0%
19. Shrimps	0%
20. Edible crab	0%
21. Nephrops	
- whole	0%
- tail	-5%

B. Guide prices
for frozen products

1. Sardines	0%
2. Sea bream	+2%
3. Squid (loligo)	+2%
4. Squid (Ommastrephes)	-12%
5. Squid (Illex)	-16%
6. Cuttlefish	0%
7. Octopus	0%

C. Producer prices

Yellowfin tuna (Thunnus albacore)	-2%
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TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES FOR 1989

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the three proposals for Regulations respectively:

- fixing, for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, the total allowable catches for 1989 and certain conditions under which they may be fished (Community waters)
- fixing catch possibilities for 1989 for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the regulatory area as defined in the NAFO Convention
- allocating, for 1989, Community catch quotas in Greenland waters.

The Council then instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to make preparations for the deliberations to be held by the Council at its next meeting on 9, 10 and 11 December 1988.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACT OF ACCESSION OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

The Council mentioned three proposals for Regulations extending up until 1989 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of:

- one of the ten Member States, in the waters of
 - = Spain
 - = Portugal
- Portugal in the waters of the Community of Ten.

The Council decided to resume discussion on this dossier at its next meeting, with a view to taking a decision.

RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION

The Council held an exchange of views on relations between the Community and the USSR, concerning the conclusion of a fishery agreement in particular.

NORTH SEA POLLUTION

The Council, reaffirming the importance that it attached to that subject, noted with satisfaction the Commission's intention to submit, for the next meeting of the Fisheries Council on 9, 10 and 11 December 1988, a report on the effects of the pollution of the North Sea and Baltic Sea on fishery activities.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONSReform of the Structural Fund - implementing regulations

Within the framework of the finalization of the implementing regulations for the reform of the Structural Fund, the Council, following the political agreement reached at its meeting on 21/22 November 1988, and having accepted since that meeting certain amendments proposed by the Commission following the first reading by the European Parliament of its proposals, adopted two joint positions on the Regulation on the Co-ordination of Legislation and the ERDF Regulation.

These joint positions will be forwarded to the European Parliament within the framework of the co-operation procedure so that it can discuss them at its December part-session.

It will be recalled that following the proceedings of the Council on 21/22 November, the conciliation procedure was begun with the European Parliament on the joint guidelines of the Council concerning the implementing Regulations for the Social Fund and EAGGF - Guidance Section.

The Council hopes that, following completion of the procedures with the European Parliament, it can go on to adopt the four Regulations before the end of December, so that the reform of the Structural Fund may enter into force as from 1 January 1989.

Trade policy

The Council formally adopted the Regulation extending (until the entry into force of definitive measures and until the end of January 1989 at the latest) of the provisional anti-dumping duty imposed on imports of copper sulphate originating in Bulgaria and in the Soviet Union.

Relations with the EFTA countries

The Council adopted the joint position on the draft decisions of the EEC/EFTA Joint Committees amending Protocol No 3 relating to the definition of the concept of "originating products" and administrative co-operation methods in order to simplify the rules on cumulation.

Commodities

The Council adopted the joint position of the Community and of its Member States concerning the negotiations on the setting-up of an international study group on tin.

Agricultural policy

The Council formally adopted the Regulation fixing, for the hop sector, the amount of aid to producers for the 1987 harvest.

This amount breaks down as follows:

- 330 ECU/ha for aromatic varieties
- 380 ECU/ha for bitter varieties
- 370 ECU/ha for other varieties.

Research policy

The Council noted the Commission communication concerning the Co-operation Agreement, in the form of an exchange of letters, between the European Atomic Energy Community and the Republic of Finland in the field of research into the administration of radioactive wastes, to be concluded by the Commission in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 101 of the Treaty establishing Euratom.

World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference

The Council adopted a decision concerning the joint action of the Member States concerning the completely new Regulation on international telecommunications in the framework of the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (Melbourne, 28 November - 9 December 1988).

Trademarks

The Council adopted conclusions which lay down that Member States are to act in such a way as to ensure the participation of the Community, with full status, at the Diplomatic Conference of the World Intellectual Property Organization, with a view to amending the Madrid Agreement on the international registration of trademarks.

The Conference will be held in June 1989 for the purpose of amending the Madrid Agreement on the international registration of trademarks, with a view in particular, to enabling a link to be established between the future Community trademark and that international registration.

28.XI.88

Appointment to the General Secretariat of the Council

The Council appointed Mr Anastassios VIKAS as an established official of the European Communities at grade A1 with effect from 1 January 1989.

Bruxelles, le 25 novembre 1988

NOTE BIO(88) 377 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

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Rendez-vous de midi (A. Figueras)

Preparation du Conseil Pêche

Le principal point à l'ordre du jour du Conseil Pêche du 28 novembre, et le seul pour lequel on attend des conclusions, est la proposition de la Commission sur les prix des produits de la pêche pour la campagne 1989. Le "paquet" TACs et quotas devra aussi faire l'objet d'un tour de table, mais sa discussion doit se poursuivre lors du Conseil prévu pour le 9, 10 et 11 décembre. En effet, les consultations avec la Norvège, la Suède et les îles Féroé ne s'achèveront que le 7 décembre, ce qui n'a pas permis de compléter le "paquet" envoyé il y a deux semaines au Conseil.

Matériel diffusé le 25.11.1988

Calendrier

IP 739 - Commission sponsors fact finding mission on subcontracting in Japan

IP 740 - Deuxième action Europartenariat en Andalousie

IP 745 - Accord pêche île Maurice

Pas de matériel distribué le 24.11.1988

Amitiés,



C.D. Ehlermann

Bruxelles, le 29 novembre 1988

NOTE BIO(88) 377(suite 1 et fin) AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU SERVICE DU PORTE-PAROLE

Conseil Pêche (A. Figueira)

Le Conseil Pêche s'est terminé le 28 novembre à 19h, avec l'adoption de la proposition sur les prix des produits de la pêche pour la campagne de 1989 comme résultat principal.

La proposition originale de la Commission a été modifiée dans le sens de répondre à un grand nombre de demandes posées par les Etats membres, mais une divergence de vues sur les prix de la sardine de la Méditerranée a amené la France et la Grèce à voter contre le paquet global. La proposition a donc été adoptée à la majorité qualifiée.

Comme prévu, l'ensemble des propositions faisant partie du paquet "Tacs et Quotas" ont été abordées, mais l'essentiel de leur discussion aura lieu lors du prochain Conseil de décembre. Rappelons qu'à ce moment les traditionnelles consultations de la fin de l'année avec les pays scandinaves seront terminées, bien comme le travail au niveau des experts que le Conseil a entamé sur les chiffres déjà présentés par la Commission.

La question des effets sur la pêche de la pollution en Mer du Nord et en Mer Baltique, soulevée par les délégations allemande et danoise, sera aussi abordée lors du prochain Conseil. A cette occasion, et à l'invitation du Conseil, le Commissaire Clinton Davis s'adressera aux Ministres sur ce thème.

La question des POP's (Programmes d'orientation pluriannuels) a aussi été discutée sous la rubrique "divers" à la demande de la délégation française. La Commission ayant rejeté la requête du Ministre Melllick de constituer un groupe à haut niveau pour mettre en oeuvre les conclusions du Conseil d'octobre à ce sujet, la France a demandé l'inscription de cette question de l'ordre du jour du prochain Conseil.

Les négociations de pêche qui sont en cours avec l'Union Soviétique ont aussi été discutées, mais sans aboutir à aucune conclusion. La Commission n'a pas ajouté de nouveaux éléments aux informations qu'elle avait déjà transmises lors du dernier Conseil Pêche, et les Etats membres se sont montrés divisés sur la réponse à donner aux premières propositions soviétiques. "Grosso modo", les opinions se partagent en deux groupes : ceux qui croient qu'un futur éventuel accord avec l'URSS ne doit pas donner aux bateaux de ce pays l'accès aux eaux de la Mer du Nord et de l'Atlantique occidentale et ceux qui, peut-être plus intéressés dans les droits de pêche à obtenir des soviétiques en mer Baltique, estiment qu'il ne faut pas imposer des "a priori" aux négociations. Le dossier reviendra au Conseil lorsque de nouvelles informations seront disponibles.

Finalement à la demande de la délégation Grècque, le Conseil a aussi brièvement abordé la question de la pêche aux éponges. Amitiés,

C.D. Ensermann —
Ensermann