

DRAFT CONCLUSIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (new text)

The European Council reaffirms the Community's resolve to ensure the continuity and development of the common agricultural policy in compliance with the basic principles thereof, as set out in Article 39 of the Treaty, and in the desire to increase efficiency in the agricultural sector as a whole by means of rationalization in relation to current economic conditions.

In this context the European Council calls upon the Council (Agriculture) to give shape before 1 April 1984 to the points of agreement as embodied in the documents which it has adopted on MCAs (5803/84), milk (5802/84), other products and the method of calculating MCAs (5847/84).

The Council adopted the following text on commercial policy (Athens text).

Commercial policy

With regard to export policy, the European Council takes the view that the implementation of measures permitting compliance with guarantee thresholds and, among other things, partial or total producer participation in disposal costs, will enable the Community to develop its agricultural export policy for all products on a sounder economic basis. This would create the conditions in which it would be possible to conclude framework agreements for the supply of agricultural products to non-member countries, and particularly certain developing countries which have made this request to the Community as part of their food security policies.

With regard to import policy, the Community will, bearing in mind the need to ensure adequate compliance with Community preference, have to reconsider the arrangements applicable to the various products in order to adapt them to the market situation, both in cases where unilateral concessions have been granted for reasons of general commercial policy and foreign policy and in cases where the Community has signed international undertakings on agricultural imports in return for reciprocal concessions in agricultural or other sectors. This examination will have to be made while complying with the Community's international obligations.

The European Council would also stress the importance of international co-operation, on a reciprocal basis, with the principal exporting countries, in order to counteract the downward trend in world prices.

The European Council adopted the following conclusions (to be specified) on

- the Irish problem
- the tax on oils and fats
- financial implications.