

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUSIONS ON COMMUNITY MATTERS ADOPTED
BY THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL HELD IN BRUSSELS ON 16 AND
17 JULY 1975.

Election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage; Passports Union; special rights for citizens of the Member States

The European Council requested the Council (Ministers for Foreign Affairs) to examine the problem of elections to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, taking into account the draft submitted by the latter and any factors which may emerge during the examination itself and to report back to it on this matter by the end of the year.

The European Council invites the Council (Ministers for Foreign Affairs) to ensure that further progress is made on the setting up of a Passports Union and also to submit a report on this question, if possible by the end of the year.

Finally, with reference to point 11 of the Paris Communiqué of 9 and 10 December 1974, the European Council invites the Council (Ministers for Foreign Affairs) to examine in greater detail the question of giving special rights to the citizens of the nine Member States as members of the Community with a view to submitting a report to a subsequent meeting of the European Council.

Economic and monetary situation

The European Council confirmed the guidelines which emerged at the meeting of the Council (Ministers for Finance and Economic Affairs) on 10 July and which are summarized in the Commission's synthesis and invited the Council (Ministers for Finance and Economic Affairs) to give close attention to the development of the economic situation, and to strengthen the co-ordination of the Member States' economic and financial policies. It took note of the intention of certain Member States to adopt harmonized measures to prevent a further deterioration of the economic situation in the autumn.

The European Council recognized that the current economic problems must be tackled in co-operation with the other industrialized countries (in particular the United States and Japan) if there was to be any hope of an effective economic recovery and confirmed its readiness to do all in its power to achieve this objective.

The European Council invited the Council (Ministers for Finance and Economic Affairs) to continue to make every effort to re-establish a more stable international monetary system. With this in view it reaffirmed the importance of close co-operation within the Community, took note with satisfaction of the French franc's return to the Community exchange system (the so-called "snake") and invited the Council (Ministers for Finance and Economic Affairs) to undertake a detailed examination of the technical problems of the floating of Community currencies.

Finally, the European Council gave a favourable reception to the idea of a tripartite conference, requested by the European Trade Union Confederation, in which the Ministers Economic Affairs and for Labour would take part, and invited the Commission to prepare appropriate proposals.

Relations with Portugal

The European Council reaffirms that the European Community is willing to discuss closer economic and financial co-operation with Portugal. It also points out that the European Community - in accordance with the European policy it has followed heretofore and with its historical traditions - can only support a pluralist democracy.

Relations with the People's Republic of China

The European Council expressed great satisfaction at the decision of the People's Republic of China to establish official relations with the Community. This decision opens the way for the development of closer relations between China and Europe, to which prospect the Heads of Government attach great importance.

Energy, raw materials and development aid problems in preparation for the dialogue in the appropriate international fora

The European Council reached broad agreement on calling a preparatory meeting for late September.

Pending the ministerial conference scheduled for a later date, the basic aspects of energy policy will be examined thoroughly within the Community, and every possible effort will have to be made to ensure single representation of the Community

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at the conference itself. To this end, the suggestion was advanced that the next European Council could be scheduled for a date which would enable the common position of the Nine to be finalized, had this not proved possible in the course of the normal Community meetings.

The European Council held an exchange of views on the various aspects of the raw materials problem, and invited the Community Institutions to continue working out a common position.