

Statement by Pierre Werner: extract on the completion of the Communities (The Hague, 1 December 1969)

Caption: In an address given on 1 December 1969 at the Hague Summit, the Luxembourg Prime Minister, Pierre Werner, sets out the issues involved in the completion of the European Communities.

Source: Bulletin of the European Communities. Dir. of publ. Commission of the European Communities. February 1970, n° 2. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities. "Statement by Pierre Werner (1 December 1969)", p. 48-49.

Copyright: (c) European Union, 1995-2013

URL:

http://www.cvce.eu/obj/statement_by_pierre_werner_extract_on_the_completion_of_the_communities_the_hague_1_december_1969-en-203f3097-e7bc-4a98-ace9-5e479892efd3.html

Publication date: 12/06/2013

Statement by Pierre Werner (The Hague, 1 December 1969)

[...]

Completion of the European Communities

1. In the communiqué to be issued when our talks end, our Governments should reaffirm their willingness to change over from the transitional period to the definitive stage of the European Economic Community at the end of 1969, and to accept all that this implies.

2. The EEC Treaty and derived Community law impose a number of requirements which the Member States must meet before passing to the definitive stage of the Common Market.

We can note with satisfaction that most of these have been met already or are on the point of being so.

3. The main problem to be dealt with before this deadline is reached is finalizing the definitive farm financing regulation.

Two essential elements of this definitive regulation - Community preference and financial solidarity - have already been accepted.

4. To facilitate the adoption of definitive financing arrangements before the end of the year, we must lose no time in finding ways of reducing and eliminating farm surpluses which are jeopardizing the very existence of the common agricultural policy. Market control is one of the essential elements on which the financial solidarity of the common agricultural policy must be based.

5. Secondly, and again with a view to smoothing the adoption of definitive farm financing arrangements, we must make headway with our studies and negotiations on the reform of European agriculture. This reform is imperative but it must be a gradual process to avoid unnecessary disturbances and to allow for the human and social factors involved.

6. Lastly, existing market organizations must be supplemented by arrangements for commodities such as tobacco and wine before the end of the year.

7. So far the Council of the European Communities has failed to agree on a new multiannual programme for Euratom. The uncertainty which has been hanging over this Community and the future of its research centres for a long time now cannot be allowed to continue. Scientific and technical research are as important for Europe's future and Europe's independence as the economic and customs union.

[...]