

## Final Communiqué issued by Anker Jørgensen following the Copenhagen European Summit (Copenhagen, 14 and 15 December 1973)

**Caption:** On 15 December 1973, in his statement following the Copenhagen European Summit, the Danish Prime Minister, Anker Jørgensen, describes the procedures for European political cooperation and confirms the political role of the Nine in the international arena.

**Source:** Bulletin of the European Communities. December 1973, No 12. Luxembourg: Office for official publications of the European Communities.

**Copyright:** (c) European Union, 1995-2012

**URL:**

[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/final\\_communique\\_issued\\_by\\_anker\\_jorgensen\\_following\\_the\\_copenhagen\\_european\\_summit\\_copenhagen\\_14\\_and\\_15\\_december\\_1973-en-3a5ed1b6-00da-486e-a85d-88b60f05ce1d.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/final_communique_issued_by_anker_jorgensen_following_the_copenhagen_european_summit_copenhagen_14_and_15_december_1973-en-3a5ed1b6-00da-486e-a85d-88b60f05ce1d.html)

**Publication date:** 23/10/2012

## Final Communiqué issued by the Conference Chairman (Copenhagen, 15 December 1973)

The Heads of State or Government of the Member States of the European Community met in Copenhagen on 14 and 15 December 1973 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Denmark. The President of the Commission participated actively in their work on Community questions. They agreed as follows:

1. The nine countries affirm their common will that Europe should speak with one voice in important world affairs. They adopted the declaration on the European identity, which defines, with the dynamic nature of the Community in mind, the principles which are to underlie their action.
2. They decided to speed up the work required to define the European Union which they had set themselves as their major objective at the Paris Summit. They asked the Presidency to make the necessary proposals without delay.
3. They decided to meet more frequently.

These meetings will be held whenever justified by the circumstances and when it appears necessary to provide a stimulus or to lay down further guidelines for the construction of a united Europe. They also agreed to meet whenever the international situation so requires.

It will be for the country providing the President to convene these meetings and to make detailed proposals concerning their preparation and organization.

The Heads of State or Government attach the greatest importance to the Institutions of the Community playing their full role and to the necessary decisions being taken there in good time.

4. It was agreed that the Foreign Ministers of the Member States should, at their next meeting, decide on the means by which a common position should be worked out quickly in times of crisis. The development of political cooperation will also enable them to make joint assessments of crisis situations, with the aim of foreseeing them and of taking the measures needed to deal with them.

5. They confirmed their support for the policy of international detente which respects the independence and security of each State and the rules laid down in the Charter of the United Nations for the prevention and settlement of conflicts.

They agreed that the growing unity of the Nine would strengthen the West as a whole and will be beneficial for the relationship between Europe and the United States.

6. The Heads of State or Government welcome the convening of a peace conference in Geneva and call on the participants to make every effort to achieve a just and lasting settlement at an early date. The Nine Governments are ready to assist in the search for peace and in the guaranteeing of a settlement. They will inform the Secretary General of the UN thereof.

The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the united stand of their Governments on the Middle East question embodied in the Declaration issued on 6 November. Recent events have strengthened them in their view that the security of all states in the area, whether it be Israel or her Arab neighbours, can only be based on the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 242 in all its parts taking into account also the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

The Heads of State or Governments are convinced that the requirements of sovereignty and the requirements of security can be met by the conclusion of peace agreements including among other arrangements international guarantees and the establishment of demilitarized zones.

7. As regards the European Communities, the Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the importance they

attach to what the Community has already achieved and their will to see it develop. After examining the progress already made in implementing earlier decisions they agreed:

- (i) to invite the Community institutions to take measures to achieve more rapid progress towards the full establishment of economic and monetary union building on the decisions already taken;
- (ii) to seek actively the definition of a common position on reform of the international money situation, to increase the instruments at the disposal of the European Monetary Cooperation Fund and to strengthen the coordination of their action to deal with de-stabilizing capital movements, in order to create an area of stability in Europe;
- (iii) the Heads of State or Government agreed that the Regional Development Fund should be established on 1 January 1974. As an expression of their positive attitude to the establishment of the Fund agreed to recommend to their Foreign Ministers that the Council of the European Communities at its next session shall take the necessary decisions concerning the size and the distribution of the Fund and the criteria for the Fund's operations;
- (iv) to implement a social action programme having as its aims the achievement of full and better employment in the Community, the improvement of living and working conditions in a way which makes possible their harmonization while the improvement is being maintained, and growing participation by the social partners in the Community's economic and social decisions and by workers in the activities of enterprises;
- (v) to make the functioning of the Community's institutions more effective by improving cooperation between the Council, the Commission and the Parliament, by a more rapid procedure for the settlement of questions submitted to the Community authorities and by reinforcing its financial control, involving *inter alia* the establishment of an independent Community Audit Board and the strengthening of the role of the European Parliament in Budgetary matter;
- (vi) that the Foreign Ministers at the next session of the Council of the European Communities find a solution to enable the Faroe Islands to postpone their decision concerning membership of the European Communities until the result of the Conference on the Law of the Sea is known;
- (vii) the Heads of State or Government, mindful of the importance they attach to problems arising from international trade in primary products and raw materials, asked the Commission to prepare a detailed study and to put proposals to the Council;
- (viii) to develop more actively between them a common policy on industrial, scientific and technological cooperation in all fields.

8. The Heads of State or Government have considered the question of energy in a separate paper, attached to this declaration.

9. The Heads of State or Government are convinced that a united Europe will be able to play a role consonant with its history and its abilities in the service of economic and social progress in the Community, of the growth and industrialization of developing countries and of peace between all nations.

### **Annex to the final declaration of the Copenhagen Summit (15 December 1973)**

#### **Energy**

The Heads of State or Government considered that the situation produced by the energy crisis is a threat to the world economy as a whole, affecting not only developed but also developing countries. A prolonged scarcity of energy resources would have grave effects on production, employment and balances of payment within the Community.

The Heads of State or Government therefore agreed on the necessity for the Community of immediate and effective action along the following lines:

The Council should adopt at its session of 17–18 December 1973, the Community instruments which will enable the Commission to establish by January 15, 1974, comprehensive energy balance sheets covering all relevant aspects of the energy situation in the Community.

The Commission should on this basis proceed to examine all present or foreseeable repercussions of the energy supply situation on production, employment, prices and balances of payments, as well as on the development of monetary reserves.

The Heads of State or Government should ask the Commission to present by 31 January 1974, proposals on which the Council will be invited to decide as quickly as possible and in principle before 28 February 1974, to ensure the orderly functioning of the common market for energy;

In this context the Commission is asked to submit to the Council as quickly as possible for rapid decision proposals aimed at resolving in a concerted manner the problems raised by the developing energy crisis.

For the same reasons they asked the Council to adopt provisions to ensure that all Member States introduce on a concerted and equitable basis measures to limit energy consumption.

With a view to securing the energy supplies of the Community the Council will adopt a comprehensive Community programme of alternative sources of energy. This programme will be designed to promote a diversification of supplies by developing existing resources, accelerating research in new sources of energy and creating new capacities of production notably a European capacity for enrichment of uranium, seeking the concerted harmonious development of existing projects.

The Heads of State or Government confirmed the importance of entering into negotiations with oil-producing countries on comprehensive arrangements comprising co-operation on a wide scale for the economic and industrial development of these countries, industrial investments, and stable energy supplies to the Member Countries at reasonable prices.

They furthermore considered it useful to study with other oil-consuming countries within the framework of the OECD ways of dealing with the common short and long-term energy problems of consumer countries.

The Council should establish at its session of 17–18 December 1973, an Energy Committee of Senior Officials which is responsible for implementing the energy policy measures adopted by the Council.