

Note to the press on the first meeting of the EEC and EAEC Councils (Brussels, 25 January 1958)

Caption: Note to the press on the first meeting of the Councils of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC or Euratom), held in Brussels on 25 January 1958.

Source: Archives historiques du Conseil de l'Union européenne, Bruxelles, Rue de la Loi 175. Fonds CEE et CEEA, CM2. CM2 1958. 1ère session des Conseils de la CEE et de la CEEA, Bruxelles, 25.01.1958, CM2/1958-0001/e.

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Press statement (Brussels, 25 January 1958)

The Councils of Ministers of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community held their first meeting in Brussels on 25 January 1958 under the presidency of Mr Larock, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs; this meeting, held in the presence of the Commissions of both Communities, was attended by the Ministers for Foreign and Economic Affairs and by the President and the Members of the High Authority of the ECSC and the Chairman and Members of the Board of Governors (see the annex for a list of Ministers and ministerial officials, Presidents and Members of the Commissions, the High Authority and the Secretariat).

At this meeting, the Councils first approved the Report submitted to them by Baron Snoy et d'Oppuers, President of the Interim Committee, on the work of the Committee to carry out the mandate conferred upon it by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs at their Conference in Rome on 25 March 1957.

Under this mandate, the Committee had a number of tasks, some relating to the coordination of the negotiations under way within various international organisations, and others relating to preparations for certain of the missions conferred upon the Institutions by the Treaty.

Various groups of experts have helped the Committee to carry out its mandate.

The work of the Interim Committee has, in particular, included:

— establishing a common attitude among the Six for the purposes of the negotiations to create a free trade area and the negotiations within the GATT.

In the case of these latter negotiations, it should be borne in mind that the Interim Committee had asked its President, acting in conjunction with the delegations of the Six to the GATT, to act as coordinator, following the Committee's guidelines, for these negotiations;

— drawing up a draft Statute of the Monetary Committee as provided for by Article 105 of the Treaty;

— drafting a common customs nomenclature and calculating the rates of the common customs tariff;

— drawing up an additional protocol to the European Convention on social security for migrant workers, which protocol was signed on 9 December 1957 in Rome at the same time as the Convention;

— coordinating the approach taken by the Six within the various international organisations and conferences (Economic Commission for Latin America, United Nations, Economic Commissions for Europe);

— various Euratom issues (research programme, safety rules, work of the Study Syndicate on isotope separation);

— drawing up the Statutes of the Procurement Agency;

— coordinating the approach taken by the Six in the atomic negotiations at the OEEC;

— finalising the protocols on the privileges and immunities and on the Statute of the Court of Justice of the two Communities, which protocols were signed in Brussels on 17 April 1957 and are annexed to the Rome Treaties;

— adopting the Resolution signed on 18 June 1957 concerning the appointment of the representatives of the Member States to the Assembly of the European Communities.

The Councils then went on to examine the question of drawing up their rules of procedure as prescribed by Article 151(1) of the EEC Treaty and Article 121(1) of the EAEC Treaty, and agreed to give the permanent

representatives of the Governments, assisted by a representative from each of the Commissions, the task of drawing up draft provisional rules of procedure to be submitted for approval by the Councils at one of their forthcoming meetings.

The Councils also decided that their Secretariat would continue to be provided by the Secretariat of the Interim Committee, directed by Mr Christian Calmes, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Coal and Steel Community.

As regards the question of the advances needed to cover the initial expenditure of the Communities, the Council decided that the Governments would pay an initial advance to cover the operation of the Institutions for three months.

At the end of these three months, the Commissions will be in a position to submit detailed proposals to the Councils for the remainder of the financial year.

Moreover, the Councils, examining the question of the procedure to be followed for the establishment of the Economic and Social Committee as provided for by Article 193 of the EEC Treaty and by Article 165 of the EAEC Treaty respectively, agreed to ask a working group, made up of representatives of the Member States and of the two Commissions, to examine, on the basis of the exchange of views at the present meeting, the question of the composition of the committee in order to ensure balanced representation of all sectors of economic and social life of the Member States of the Communities.

As regards the common approach to be taken by the six countries in the European Nuclear Energy Agency, it was decided that the representatives of the six Governments and of the Commission would meet regularly to coordinate their action within the European Nuclear Energy Agency.

The Council lastly examined the issue of the participation of the Common Market Commission in the work to create a free trade area. It was recalled that participation by the European Economic Community in the Committee had already been planned when the OEEC Intergovernmental Committee was being set up.

As the Commission, as guardian of the Treaty and agent for common action by the Six, is now in place, the Council has decided that it should therefore play an active part in all work by the Six in this area. The Governments will attach extreme importance to these views and will work with the Commission to pursue the negotiations under way.

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The Council of the EEC and the Council of the EAEC will hold their next meeting on 25 February 1958.

Annex Belgian Delegation

Mr V. Larock Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr H. Liebaert Minister for Finance
Mr H. Fayat Minister for Foreign Trade
Baron J.-C. Sney et d'Oppuers Permanent Representative
Secretary-General of the Ministry of Economic Affairs
Foreign Affairs

Mr L. Scheyven Secretary-General
Mr J. Delvaux de Fenffe Director-General for Policy
Mr P.A. Forthomme Administrator/Director-General of Foreign Trade
Mr R. Rothschild Ambassador

Mr M. Wery Head of the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Grandry Head of the Office of the Minister for Foreign Trade
Mr Wendelen Counsellor,
Deputy Permanent Representative
Mr Watteuw First Secretary
Mr H. Vander Eycken Secretary of the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs
Economic Affairs

Mr van der Meulen Director-General
Mr van Tichelen Director-General
Mr Pourvoyeur Counsellor
Ministry of the Colonies

Mr Masure Director
Mr Lefebvre Secretary of Administration
Ministry of Agriculture

Mr Blero Director-General
Mr Mostin Director
Ministry of Finance

Mr Legrand Head of the Office of the Minister for Finance
Mr Mabille Deputy Head of the Office of the Minister for Finance
Mr Dubois Director

German Delegation

Dr Heinrich von Brentano Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
Professor Ludwig Erhard Federal Minister for Economics
Dr Frans Etzel Federal Minister for Finance
Professor Siegfried Balke Federal Minister for Atomic Affairs
Federal Foreign Office

Dr Carstens Director
Dr Haarkort Director
Dr Hartlieb Counsellor
Dr Haedrich Senior Principal
Mr von Hase Senior Principal
Mr Hansen Principal
Dr Viehmann
Baron von Mentzingen
Federal Ministry of Economics

Professor Mueller-Armack
Dr Seibt Ministerial Counsellor
Mr Jentsch Ministerial Counsellor
Mr Reichardt
Mr Homann Ministerial Counsellor (Press)
Federal Ministry of Finance

Mr Fischer-Menshausen Director-General
Mr Feldmann Principal
Mrs Hartmann Administrative Staff Officer to the Minister
Federal Ministry of Atomic Affairs

Dr Meyer-Cording Director
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry

Dr Schlebitz Ministerial Counsellor
Mr von Verschuer
Federal Ministry of Transport

Mr Schulte-Meermann Ministerial Counsellor
Federal Ministry of Labour

Dr Miller Higher Executive Officer
Federal Press Office

Dr Weber

French Delegation

Mr Christian Pineau Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Pierre Pflimlin Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs
Mr Maurice Fauré President of the French Delegation to the Council of Ministers,
State Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Mr Olivier Wormser Deputy Director-General of Economic and Financial Affairs at the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
Mr J. Donnedieu de Vabres Secretary-General of the Joint Ministerial Committee for European Economic
Cooperation Matters
Mr René Larre Director of Mr Pflimlin's Office
Mr François Valéry Head of the Economic Cooperation Service at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Genton Technical Adviser to the Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Mr Jean Mille Embassy Counsellor
Mr Manach Embassy Counsellor
Mr Renou Atomic Energy Commissariat
Mr Jean François Poncet Embassy Secretary
Mr de la Genière Inspector of Finance

Italian Delegation

Mr Giuseppe Pella Deputy Prime Minister,
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr Giuseppe Medici Minister for the Treasury
Mr Attilio Cattani Ambassador,
Director-General of Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Antonio Venturini Italian Ambassador to Luxembourg
Mr Francesco Cavaletti Minister,
Head of the Press Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Roberto Ducci Embassy Counsellor,

Vice-Director-General of Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Franco Bobba Embassy Counsellor,
Head of Office, Directorate for Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Paolo Molajodi Legation Counsellor
Mr Nicola Catalano State Attorney
Mr Silvano Palumbo Ministry of the Treasury
Luxembourg Delegation

Mr Joseph Bech Prime Minister,
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
Mr Victor Bodson Minister for Transport and Energy
Mr Pierre Werner Minister for Finance
Mr Lambert Schaus Luxembourg Ambassador to Brussels
Mr Pierre Pescatore Legation Counsellor
Mr Albert Borschette Legation Counsellor
Mr Paul Reuter Legation Secretary
Mr Albert Duhr Legation Secretary
Dutch Delegation

Mr J. Luns Minister for Foreign Affairs
Mr H.J. Hofstra Minister for Finance
Professor Zijlstra Minister for Economic Affairs
Mr Linthorst-Homan Qualified Representative
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr H. Van Vredenburg Extraordinary Ambassador,
Director-General for European Cooperation
Dr H. Riemens Plenipotentiary Minister
Professor J. Kymmell Head of Directorate at the European Integration Directorate
Mr C. Rutten Deputy Director of the European Directorate
Ministry of Finance

Mr C. Van Lennep Treasurer-General
Mr J. Grooters Head of the Multilateral Affairs Division
Ministry of Economic Affairs

Mr Hoogwater Economic Adviser
Mr Hijzen Deputy Director of the European Integration Division