

Important decisions taken by the Council of the EEC (October 1959–April 1960)


Caption: List of the main work undertaken by the Council of the European Economic Community (EEC) during the period from October 1959 to April 1960, published in the first overview of the activities of the Councils of the European Communities.

Source: Aperçu sur les activités des Conseils. Octobre 1959 - avril 1960. Bruxelles: Secrétariat général des Conseils des Communautés européennes, 1960. 151 p. "Annexe I: Décisions importantes prises par le Conseil". Archives centrales du Conseil de l'Union européenne, B-1048 Bruxelles/Brussel, rue de la Loi/Wetstraat, 175.

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Review of the activities of the Councils (October 1959–April 1960)

[...]

Annex I — Important decisions taken by the Council

Six-month period from October 1959 to April 1960

13–14 October 1959 (24th meeting)

The Council decided to set up an interim committee to consider the various issues raised by the creation of a first university teaching establishment (European University) and to report to the Council.

The Council drew up the draft budgets for the Community for 1960.

The Councils approved the holding of an annual colloquy with the European Parliamentary Assembly.

23–24 November 1959 (25th meeting)

The Council adopted the directives establishing arrangements for the progressive extension of the right of establishment to natural and legal persons who were nationals of the Member States resident in the Overseas Countries and Territories.

The Council discussed the Staff Regulations. It set the scale of remuneration for servants of the Community and adopted the proposals submitted by the Committees on taxation.

The Council took a series of decisions relating to the external relations of the Community. In regard to quota measures, the Member States of the Community stated that, on 1 January 1960, they were ready to extend to GATT member countries and countries covered by the most-favoured-nation clause concessions similar to those that they had granted to each other on that date. The Community also declared itself ready to set up a Contact Committee to be responsible for liaison with the other European states or groups of states, to participate in consultations to ensure the cohesiveness and effectiveness of aid to the developing countries and to formulate a concerted short-term economic policy.

The Council reported officially for the first time on the measures taken to speed up the integration of the Common Market.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs decided to meet regularly in order to compare their policies. The Commission might be invited to those consultations for matters concerning it.

The Council heard statements by the Commission on matters relating to the common agricultural policy and financial and economic policy.

1–2 December 1959

The representatives of the Member States of the European Economic Community held an exchange of views on the issues raised by the setting of Common Customs Tariff duties for products in list G.

18 December 1959 (26th meeting)

The Council decided to add further products to the list in Annex II to the Treaty.

The representatives of the Member States held a further discussion on the issues raised by the setting of Common

Customs Tariff duties and recorded further agreements of principle.

The Council finally adopted the Community budget. It also adopted the provisional rules for the implementation of the budget and the separate sections relating to the joint institutions.

2 February 1960 (28th meeting)

The Council held an exchange of views with the Commission on short-term economic policy and approved the principle of the setting up of a Short-Term Economic Policy Committee.

The Council also welcomed the Commission's intention to convene a working party to be responsible for the consideration of various aspects of the labour market.

The Council held an exchange of views with the Commission on the guiding principles of a competition policy and approved the principles proposed by the Commission.

The Council heard a statement by the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs on the request from the Netherlands for negotiations on the association of the Netherlands Antilles with the Community.

The Councils agreed to the United States and United Kingdom Governments being informed of the intention of the Communities to open missions in London and Washington.

13 February 1960 (29th meeting)

The Council approved the draft Common Customs Tariff, subject to a few amendments.

25 February 1960 (30th meeting)

The Council considered the draft regulation referred to in Article 79(3) of the Treaty on the abolition of discrimination in transport rates and conditions.

29 February, 1–2 March 1960

The representatives of the Member States signed the Agreement on the establishment of the Common Customs Tariff and laying down the duties applicable to the products in list G.

9–10 March 1960 (31st meeting)

The Council determined the mandate to be given to the Commission for the negotiations with Greece on the signature of an association agreement and invited it to open those negotiations.

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the recommendations on accelerating the timetable laid down in the Treaty.

The Council noted the communications from the French and Cameroonian Governments on the arrangements for the association of Cameroon with the Community.

The Council gave its agreement of principle to the proposal from the Commission for an initial directive on the progressive abolition of restrictions on capital movements between the Member States.