

Note from the General Secretariat of the Council on the visits of Mário Soares to the capital cities of the Nine (9 February 1977)

Caption: In this note dated 9 February 1977, the General Secretariat of the Council outlines the common position to be adopted in order to reply to Mário Soares, Portuguese Prime Minister, during his visits to the capital cities of the Nine.

Source: Archives historiques du Conseil de l'Union européenne, Bruxelles, Rue de la Loi 175. Adhésion du Portugal, 07.151 (469) 07. Dossiers 559-564, Boîte 68. Traitement par le Conseil d'une éventuelle demande d'adhésion présentée par le Portugal, Dossier n° 564.

Note: Relations with Portugal, Outline of a joint position to be used in reply to Mr Soares on the occasion of his visit to the nine capitals (from 14 February to 12 March 1977). Brussels: General Secretariat of the Council, 09.02.1977. 2 p.

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Note from the General Secretariat of the Council on the visits of Mário Soares to the capital cities of the Nine (Brussels, 9 February 1977)

Subject: Relations with Portugal

- Outline of a joint position to be used in reply to Mr SOARES on the occasion of his visit to the nine capitals (from 14 February to 12 March 1977)

Delegations will find below the outline, approved by the Council at its meeting on 8 February 1977, of the common position to be adopted in reply to Mr SOARES on the occasion of the visits he will make to the nine capitals between 14 February and 12 March 1977.

The Council of the European Communities and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council:

1. would draw attention to the fundamentally open nature of the Community, as asserted in the Treaty of Rome, and to Portugal's European Vocation and would welcome the political commitment to Europe of that democratic country, which can thus aspire to become a member of the Community;
2. would express their concern over the problems which short term economic integration would entail for both Portugal, in view of its economic, financial, social and agricultural circumstances, and for the Community, whose patrimony and internal and external development prospects must be preserved;
3. would recall all the joint actions already undertaken since Portugal's return to democracy and would emphasize all the progress which can still be achieved in strengthening cooperation between the Community and Portugal;
4. would reaffirm their will to continue the common search with Portugal for ways and means of aligning their economies more closely with the ultimate aim of leading to the full and complete accession of Portugal to the Community under conditions and on a time scale most favourable to all parties;
5. would take note of the Portuguese Government's intention to submit a request for accession to the Community on the basis of Article 237 of the Treaty of Rome;
6. would recognize that the procedure provided for in the Treaties requires, before the opening of negotiations, the search for and the definition of satisfactory solutions to all the problems standing in the way of Portugal's economic integration into the Community;
7. would restate their readiness to contribute to strengthening their co-operation with Portugal both in the political and economic spheres.