

MEETINGS OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT

**PARIS
9-10 DECEMBER 1974**

Documents in the dossier include:

Meeting of the Heads of Government

Includes preparatory work, communiqué, follow up documents
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European Community Summit Enhances Solidarity

European Community Background Information No. 28/1974
European Community Information Service
Washington DC

Communiqué of the European Community "Summit" Meeting

European Community Background Information No. 27/1973
European Community Information Service
Washington DC

1. Meeting of the Heads of Government

1101. The Heads of Government of the Community and the President of the Commission, Mr Ortoli met in Paris on 9 and 10 December. The meeting had been prepared by an *ad hoc* Group¹ whose work had enabled a number of common guidelines to be hammered out.

1102. During its sitting of 9 December, the European Parliament had appealed to the Heads of Government to give new momentum to the process of European unification as expressed in the following Resolution:

Resolution for the Conference of Heads of Government in Paris on 9 and 10 December 1974

The European Parliament,

— welcoming the initiative of the President of the French Republic in calling this Conference at a critical moment for Europe, in view of the need to give fresh impetus to European unification,

— stressing the urgent need to move on in the economic and financial fields as well in the general political field, from declarations of intent to practical decisions, which is a prerequisite for any further progress towards European union and the strengthening of the Community's popular support,

— having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee.

1. Calls upon the Conference:

A. to confirm the commitments entered into at the Paris Conference of October 1972 and the Copenhagen Conference of December 1973 on the progressive development of the Community towards a European Union and to transform them into specific directives;

B. to decide, consequently, on the creation of an overall Community policy designed to:

— fight inflation resolutely,

— ensure a high level of employment and to protect workers' earnings,

— give new impetus to economic recovery,

— implement a Community energy and raw materials policy to safeguard supplies, while maintaining the necessary solidarity, and to organize a dialogue between the producer and consumer countries, a pre-condition for a common energy policy and for successful cooperation between the energy producing and energy consuming countries is full participation by the European Community in the OECD International Energy Supply Agency,

— implement at last, in accordance with votes by the European Parliament, the decision to establish a regional development fund with sufficient resources to aid the less-favoured regions of the Community;

2. Requests that, for the purpose of putting this policy into effect, the decision-making procedures provided for in the Treaties should be restored and applied in the Council;

3. Requests that the transformation of the present political cooperation procedure into a Community procedure be speeded up;

4. Requests that the European Parliament be granted joint decision-making, budgetary and supervisory powers;

5. Requests that the Council be instructed to fix by 30 June 1975 a date for its election by direct universal suffrage not later than 1980;

6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Conference of Heads of Government, the Parliaments of the Member States, and the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

¹ Bull. EC 10-1974, point 2501, and 11-1974, points 2501 and 2502.

1103. In a letter from its Chairman, Mr Canonge, to the Heads of Government, 'The Economic and Social Committee considers that the Summit Conference should not confine itself to generalities, or draw up a sort of catalogue which would remain a dead letter. The various economic interests and social groups in the Community find it hard to understand why fundamental questions like energy or regional policy have so far led to nothing but statements of intent. They would also fail to understand it if, at a time when men and their families throughout the Community are threatened with the spectre of unemployment, the Summit Conference were to close without making it clear that concrete measures will be taken to combat and begin to remedy this grave situation. The Committee considers that only decisions which lead to concrete action will receive the consensus support of the economic and social forces which it represents.'

1104. After the meeting of the Heads of Government, the following Communiqué was issued:

Communiqué

1. The heads of Government of the nine States of the Community, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the President of the Commission, meeting in Paris at the invitation of the French President, examined the various problems confronting Europe. They took note of the reports drawn up by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and recorded the agreement reached by these Ministers on various points raised in the reports.
2. Recognizing the need for an overall approach to the internal problems involved in achieving European unity and the external problems facing Europe, the Heads of Government consider it essential to ensure progress and

overall consistency in the activities of the Communities and in the work on political cooperation.

3. The Heads of Government have therefore decided to meet, accompanied by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, three times a year and, whenever necessary, in the Council of the Communities and in the context of political cooperation.

The administrative secrétariat will be provided for in an appropriate manner with due regard for existing practices and procedures.

In order to ensure consistency in Community activities and continuity of work, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, meeting in the Council of the Community, will act as initiators and coordinators. They may hold political cooperation meetings at the same time.

These arrangements do not in any way affect the rules and procedures laid down in the Treaties or the provisions on political cooperation in the Luxembourg and Copenhagen Reports. At the various meetings referred to in the preceding paragraphs the Commission will exercise the powers vested in it and play the part assigned to it by the above texts.

4. With a view to progress towards European unity, the Heads of Government reaffirm their determination gradually to adopt common positions and coordinate their diplomatic action in all areas of international affairs which affect the interests of the European Community. The President-in-Office will be the spokesman for the Nine and will set out their views in international diplomacy. He will ensure that the necessary concertation always takes place in good time.

In view of the increasing role of political cooperation in the construction of Europe, the European Assembly must be more closely associated with the work of the Presidency, for example through replies to questions on political cooperation put to him by its Members.

