

COUNCIL DECISION

of 1 June 1976

giving a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget and of the supplementary budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1974

(77/121/EEC, Euratom, ECSC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, and in particular Article 78d thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 206 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 180 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing a single Council and a single Commission of the European Communities, and in particular Article 20 thereof,

Having regard to the accounts of revenue and expenditure and the financial statements relating to the transactions made under the budget for the financial year 1974,

Having regard to the report of the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1974, to which report are annexed the replies of the institutions to the comments concerning them,

Whereas the Council has adopted the budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1974 ⁽¹⁾;

Whereas during the financial year 1974 a supplementary budget ⁽²⁾ was adopted making appropriations for international emergency aid for the developing countries most severely affected by the crisis;

Whereas the Commission made payments relating to appropriations carried over from the financial year 1973 (or previous financial years) from an appropriation of 1 980 338 834 units of account over and above the aforementioned appropriation amounts;

Whereas certain appropriations available at the close of the financial year 1974 have been carried forward to the financial year 1975;

Whereas the observations and comments in the report of the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1974 contain references to certain irregularities and mistakes; whereas suitable action should be taken on this matter;

Whereas, however, the general implementation by the Commission of the budgets for the financial year 1974 was such as to entitle it to be given a discharge in respect of the implementation of these budgets,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The views of the Council on the observations and comments in the report of the Audit Board on the accounts for the financial year 1974 are as set out in Annex I.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 115, 29. 4. 1974, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 347, 27. 12. 1974, p. 1.

Article 2

1. The Council notes that:

(a) total payments made from appropriations for the financial year 1974 (management of own resources) are as follows:

(in units of account)

1. administrative and operating expenditure (Titles I to IV):		
— Commission	248 408 630·54	
— repayment to Member States of 10% of amounts paid	222 225 327·88	
— European Parliament	29 315 181·38	
— Council	33 402 325·86	
— Court of Justice	<u>6 451 841·08</u>	539 803 306·74
2. research and investment expenditure		69 668 995·78
3. European Social Fund		10 141 677·62
4. EAGGF:		
— Guarantee Section	2 641 828 418·64	
— Guidance Section	17 965 351·60	2 659 793 770·24
5. food aid and emergency food aid		<u>160 817 691·02</u>
	Total (a)	<u>3 440 225 441·40</u>

(b) total payments made from appropriations to be financed according to an *ad hoc* scale are as follows:

aid to redundant workers in sulphur mines in Italy	<u>146 492·78</u>	<u>146 492·78</u>
	Total (a) + (b)	<u><u>3 440 371 934·18</u></u>

(c) total appropriations carried forward from the financial year 1974 to the financial year 1975 (management of own resources) are as follows:

1. administrative and operating expenditure (Titles I to IV):		
— Commission	60 786 939·68	
— repayment to Member States of 10% of amounts paid	84 561 015·56	
— European Parliament	2 895 112·02	
— Council	3 382 380·36	
— Court of Justice	<u>461 114·70</u>	152 116 562·32
2. research and investment expenditure		14 200 540·05
3. European Social Fund		315 158 697·31

		<i>(in units of account)</i>
4. EAGGF:		
— Guarantee Section		796 938 494·26
— Guidance Section		245 580 000·01
5. food aid and international emergency aid		
		<u>163 526 099·04</u>
	Total (c)	1 687 520 392·99
(d) total appropriations carried over from the financial year 1974 to the financial year 1975 to be financed according to an <i>ad hoc</i> scale are as follows:		
EAGGF: Guarantee Section	108 328·25	108 328·25
	<u>Total (c) + (d)</u>	<u>1 687 628 721·24</u>

2. The Council notes that the sum of the totals under (1) (a), (b), (c) and (d), viz: 5 128 000 655·42 units of account, is to be covered by equivalent revenue as follows:

(a) in accordance with Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom:		
— by own resources	3 067 700 396·25	
— by financial contributions	1 903 778 070·04	
— by the amount provided for the appropriations carried forward from the financial year 1973 to the financial year 1974 and cancelled	<u>91 011 440·09</u>	5 062 489 906·38
— by revenue connected with research and investment activities	4 432 940·24	
— by Member States' contributions to the Euratom complementary programmes	10 007 510·75	
— by the amount of the ECSC levies allocated to administrative expenditure	18 000 000·00	
— by other miscellaneous revenue	<u>32 815 477·02</u>	65 255 928·01
	Total (a)	5 127 745 834·39
(b) by financial contributions:		
— in accordance with Article 200 (1) of the EEC Treaty		146 492·78
— in accordance with Council Regulation No 130/66/EEC of 26 July 1966 on the financing of the common agricultural policy ⁽¹⁾ :		
EAGGF: Guarantee Section	<u>108 328·25</u>	<u>254 821·03</u>
	Total (a) + (b)	<u>5 128 000 655·42</u>

The calculation of the contribution of the Member States to the financing of the budget for the financial year 1974 is reproduced in Annex II.

3. The Council notes that the amount of payments from appropriations carried over from the financial year 1973 is 1 075 996 586·18 units of account.

Article 3

The Council hereby gives a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget and of the supplementary budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1974, as shown by the following table:

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 165, 21. 9. 1966, p. 2965/66.

(in units of account)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Balances brought forward from 1973 to 1974	Payments against appropriations brought forward	Amounts carried over from 1974 to 1975 from appropriations brought forward	Cancellations	Total appropriations for the financial year 1974	Commitments as at 31 December 1974	Payments made by 31 December 1974	Balances carried forward from 1974 to 1975 (1)	Cancellations
Administrative and operating expenditure (Titles I to IV)	90 330 282.56	86 212 224.99	—	4 118 057.57	717 463 098.54	666 499 652.74	539 949 799.52	152 116 562.32	25 396 736.70
Research and investment expenditure	9 147 594.74	8 047 720.85	—	1 099 873.89	85 607 919.00	72 883 642.13	69 668 995.78	14 200 540.05	1 738 383.17
European Social Fund	261 976 320.76	227 359 786.88	—	34 616 533.88	327 800 000.00	269 547 445.06	10 141 677.62	315 158 697.31	2 499 625.07
EAGGF:									
— Guarantee Section	854 849 733.90	636 031 881.88		218 817 852.02	3 443 550 000.00	3 107 375 241.14	2 641 828 418.64	797 046 822.51	4 674 758.85
— Guidance Section	755 936 214.95	110 447 083.06	634 347 725.28	11 141 406.61	325 000 000.00	118 706 662.50	17 965 351.60	245 580 000.01	61 454 648.39
Food aid and international emergency aid	8 098 687.14	7 897 888.52	—	200 798.62	325 551 953.46	285 159 570.60	160 817 691.02	163 526 099.04	1 208 163.40
Total	1 980 338 834.05	1 075 996 586.18	634 347 725.28	269 994 522.59	5 224 972 971.00	4 520 172 214.17	3 440 371 934.18	1 687 628 721.24	96 972 315.58

(1) The amounts in column 8 do not represent the difference between columns 6 and 7 as they include the 'carry forwards' referred to in Article 6 (1) (b) of Financial Regulation 73/91/ECSC, EEC, Euratom (OJ No L 116, 1. 5. 1973, p. 1).

Done at Brussels, 1 June 1976.

For the Council
The President
G. THORN

ANNEX I

VIEWS OF THE COUNCIL AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 1

Making up the accounts of the authorities and bodies referred to in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70

The Council requests the Commission to examine the possibility of speeding up the procedures for making up the accounts of the authorities and bodies referred to in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy ⁽¹⁾ in order to comply with the time limit laid down in Article 5 (2) (b) thereof.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 94, 28. 4. 1970, p. 13.

ANNEX II

CALCULATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE MEMBER STATES
TO THE FINANCING OF THE BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1974

1. Establishing the appropriations to be covered in accordance with Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom

<i>(in units of account)</i>				
Category of expenditure	Payments made during financial year	Appropriations carried forward to 1975	Appropriations carried forward from 1973 and cancelled (to be deducted)	Amount
1. Research and investment expenditure	69 668 995·78	14 200 540·05	1 099 873·89	82 769 661·94
2. European Social Fund	10 141 677·62	315 158 697·31	34 616 533·88	290 683 841·05
3. EAGGF:				
— Guarantee Section	2 641 828 418·64	796 938 494·26	48 817 852·02	3 389 949 060·88
— Guidance Section	17 965 351·60	245 580 000·01	2 158 324·11	261 387 027·50
4. — Administrative and operating expenditure:				
— Commission	248 408 630·54	60 786 939·68	3 248 058·08	305 947 512·14
— Parliament	29 315 181·38	2 895 112·02	172 746·52	32 037 546·88
— Council	33 402 325·86	3 382 380·36	212 298·70	36 572 407·52
— Court of Justice	6 451 841·08	491 114·70	41 876·76	6 901 079·02
— Food aid	98 476 891·02	101 516 899·04	200 798·62	199 792 991·44
— Emergency international aid	62 340 800·00	62 009 200·00	—	124 350 000·00
5. Refund to the Member States of 10% of own resources	222 225 327·88	84 561 015·56	443 077·51	306 343 265·93
	3 440 225 441·40	1 687 520 392·99	91 011 440·09	5 036 734 394·30

(in units of account)

Category of revenue	Amount
1. Miscellaneous revenue relating to research and investment activities	4 432 940·24
2. Other miscellaneous revenue	32 815 477·02
3. ECSC levies allocated to administrative expenditure	18 000 000·00
4. Member States' contributions to Euratom complementary programmes	10 007 510·75 ⁽¹⁾
	65 255 928·01
Appropriations to be covered pursuant to Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom	4 971 478 466·29

⁽¹⁾ Established entitlements on revenue orders issued: 10 040 372·87
 Actual established entitlements: 10 007 510·75
 Still to be recovered: 32 862·12

Belgium:	439 828·26
Germany:	4 311 372·57
France:	679 759·88
Italy:	618 717·60
Luxembourg:	8 018·70
Netherlands:	3 366 101·44
Denmark:	67 717·99
Ireland:	16 891·73
United Kingdom:	531 964·70
	<u>10 040 372·87</u>

2. Allocation of expenditure in accordance with Article 3 (2) of Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom, account being taken of Articles 127 to 132 of the Act of Accession

(in units of account)

	Own resources paid	Contribution from Member States according to Article 3 (2) scale (Articles 129 and 130 of Act of Accession)	Total share of Member States	Relative share (%)
Belgium	215 388 903·22	116 771 748·69	332 160 651·91	6·6813
Denmark	52 601 799·02	27 047 913·54	79 649 712·56	1·6022
Germany	861 368 684·58	564 968 791·66	1 426 337 476·24	28·6904
France	562 046 214·10	559 816 808·13	1 121 863 022·23	22·5660
Ireland	15 495 845·24	6 707 002·95	22 202 848·19	0·4466
Italy	507 973 998·02	346 879 281·46	854 853 279·48	17·1952
Luxembourg	4 457 239·12	3 434 001·22	7 891 240·34	0·1587
Netherlands	297 860 734·80	125 357 733·45	423 218 468·25	8·5129
United Kingdom	490 876 690·00	212 425 077·09	703 301 767·09	14·1467
Total	3 008 070 108·10	1 963 408 358·19	4 971 478 466·29	100·0000

3. Adjustment of the relative share of each Member State for the financial year 1974 to establish the relative share of the new Member States

	Relative share used as reference (1973) ⁽¹⁾	Upper limits (+ 1%)	Lower limits (- 1.5%)	Relative share before adjustment (Table 2)	Difference:		Allocation of balance	Relative share after adjustment
					below the lower limit	above the upper limit		
Belgium	7.1547	7.2262	7.0474	6.6813	+0.3661	—	+0.0484	7.0958
Denmark	1.3914	1.4053	1.3705	1.6022	—	-0.1969	—	1.4053
Germany	28.2422	28.5246	27.8186	28.6904	—	-0.1658	—	28.5246
France	24.0852	24.3261	23.7239	22.5660	+1.1579	—	+0.2320	23.9559
Ireland	0.3450	0.3484	0.3398	0.4466	—	-0.0982	—	0.3484
Italy	18.5010	18.6860	18.2235	17.1952	+1.0283	—	+0.1437	18.3672
Luxembourg	0.1730	0.1747	0.1704	0.1587	+0.0117	—	+0.0014	0.1718
Netherlands	9.1802	9.2720	9.0425	8.5129	+0.5296	—	+0.0519	9.0944
United Kingdom	10.9273	11.0366	10.7634	14.1467	—	-3.1101	—	11.0366
Total	100.0000	100.9999	98.5000	100.0000	+3.0936	-3.5710	+0.4774	100.0000

Balance to be allocated: — 0.4774

⁽¹⁾ For the new Member States, 56/45ths of the 1973 relative share.
For the original Member States, the balance in proportion to the relative share.

4. Allocation of expenditure, other than that financed by the three new Member States, to the original Member States in accordance with Article 3 (2) of Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom

(in units of account)

	Own resources paid out	Contribution from Member States according to Article 3 (2) scale	Total share of Member States	Relative share (%)
Belgium	215 388 903.22	128 283 066.39	343 671 969.61	7.9267
Germany	861 368 684.58	620 663 659.43	1 482 032 344.01	34.1828
France	562 046 214.10	615 004 112.39	1 177 050 326.49	27.1484
Italy	507 973 998.02	381 076 167.80	889 050 165.82	20.5058
Luxembourg	4 457 239.12	3 773 031.36	8 230 270.48	0.1898
Netherlands	297 860 734.80	137 715 644.80	435 576 379.60	10.0465
Total	2 449 095 773.84	1 886 515 682.17	4 335 611 456.01	100.0000

Denmark	1.4053 %	} of 4 971 478 466.29	} 69 864 186.89	Total expenditure	4 971 478 466.29			
Ireland	0.3484 %					17 320 630.98	Share borne by new Member States	635 867 010.28
United Kingdom	11.0366 %					548 682 192.41	To be borne by original Member States	4 335 611 456.01
	12.7903 %		635 867 010.28					

5. Adjustment of the relative shares of the original Member States for the financial year 1974 in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 3 (3) of Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom

	Relative share used as reference (1973)	Upper limits (+ 1%)	Lower limits (- 1.5%)	Relative share before adjustment (Table 2)	Difference:		Allocation of balance	Relative share after adjustment
					below the lower limit	above the upper limit		
Belgium	8.1921	8.2740	8.0692	7.9267	+0.1425	—	+0.0701	8.1393
Germany	32.3373	32.6607	31.8522	34.1828	—	-1.5221	—	32.6607
France	27.5776	27.8534	27.1639	27.1484	+0.0155	—	+0.3361	27.5000
Italy	21.1836	21.3954	20.8658	20.5058	+0.3600	—	+0.2082	21.0740
Luxembourg	0.1981	0.2001	0.1951	0.1898	+0.0053	—	+0.0021	0.1972
Netherlands	10.5113	10.6164	10.3536	10.0465	+0.3071	—	+0.0752	10.4288
Total	100.0000	101.0000	98.4998	100.0000	+0.8304	-1.5221	+0.6917	100.0000

Balance to be allocated: — 0.6917

6. Contributions of the Member States to the financing of the budget for the financial year 1974 in accordance with Decision 70/243/ECSC, EEC, Euratom, taking into account the provisions of Articles 127 to 132 of the Act of Accession

(in units of account)

	Allocation of expenditure		Breakdown of revenue	
	% ⁽¹⁾	Amounts	Own resources	Contributions
Belgium	7.0982	352 885 484.49	215 388 903.22	137 496 581.27
Denmark	1.4053	69 864 186.89	52 601 799.02	17 262 387.87
Germany	28.4833	1 416 041 125.99	861 368 684.58	554 672 441.41
France	23.9827	1 192 294 766.13	562 046 214.10	630 248 552.03
Ireland	0.3484	17 320 630.98	17 320 630.98	—
Italy	18.3786	913 688 141.41	507 973 998.02	405 714 143.39
Luxembourg	0.1720	8 550 942.96	4 457 239.12	4 093 703.84
Netherlands	9.0949	452 150 995.03	297 860 734.80	154 290 260.23
United Kingdom	11.0366	548 682 192.41	548 682 192.41	—
Total	100.0000	4 971 478 466.29	3 067 700 396.25	1 903 778 070.04

⁽¹⁾ The percentages calculated in Table 5 for the six original Member States have been adjusted to take account of the enlarged Community of nine.

7 Contributions of the Member States provided for

	<i>(in units of account)</i>						Total
	Belgium	Germany	France	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	
— In Article 200 (1) of the EEC Treaty	11 572-93	41 017-98	41 017-98	41 017-98	292-98	11 572-93	146 492-78
— In Regulation No 130/66/EEC: EAGGF: Guarantee Section	8 612-10	33 397-60	31 696-84	23 832-22	238-32	10 551-17	108 328-25
Total	20 185-03	74 415-58	72 714-82	64 850-20	531-30	22 124-10	254 821-03

8. Liquid assets

	<i>(in units of account)</i>						Difference (b+c+d-e-f)
	Payments made in accordance with Article 31 of Financial Regulation 73/91/EEC, EEC, Euratom			Amounts held by the Commission at the end of the financial year 1973	Established entitlements		
	Own resources		Advances		Own resources	Contributions	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	
Belgium	215 388 903-22	97 879 819-76	11 036 466-07	215 388 903-22	137 496 581-27	—	28 580 295-44
Denmark	52 601 799-02	7 855 713-46	6 345 553-56	52 601 799-02	17 262 387-87	—	3 061 120-85
Germany	861 368 684-58	441 015 045-01	23 915 157-30	861 368 684-58	554 672 441-41	—	89 742 239-10
France	562 046 214-10	541 420 547-99	26 930 388-67	562 046 214-10	630 248 552-03	—	61 897 615-37
Ireland	15 495 845-24	— 1 185 514-38	2 493 660-92	17 320 630-98	—	—	516 639-20
Italy	507 973 998-02	329 376 726-64	6 830 164-57	507 973 998-02	405 714 143-39	—	69 487 252-18
Luxembourg	4 457 239-12	3 808 306-97	142 913-74	4 457 239-12	4 093 703-84	—	142 483-13
Netherlands	297 860 734-80	99 896 997-49	9 757 756-21	297 860 734-80	154 290 260-23	—	44 635 506-53
United Kingdom	490 876 690-00	—37 540 008-71	78 978 519-63	548 682 192-41	—	—	16 366 991-49
Total	3 008 070 108-10	1 482 527 634-23	166 450 580-67	3 067 700 396-25	1 903 778 070-04	—	—314 430 143-29