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NATO RESTRICTED

ORIGINAL: FRENCH 9th February, 1976

DECISION SHEET AC/127-R/493

ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Meeting held at NATO Headquarters, 1110 Brussels, on Thursday 5th February, 1976, at 10.15 a.m.

DECISION SHEET

I. APPROVAL OF DECISION SHEETS

Documents: AC/127-R/491 AC/127-R/492

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) approved the decision sheets at reference subject to:
 - (a) the addition in AC/127-R/492, at the end of Item IX of the following "(without the participation of France)";
 - (b) comments by the United States Representative on Item VII of the same decision sheet concerning the consolidated report on inflation in the USSR and the Eastern countries (see Item VI below);
- (2) asked that a draft decision sheet be referred to it before being circulated.

II. EVALUATION OF THE SOVIET UNION'S MARITIME TRADE

Reference: AC/127-R/492, Item VI

The COMMITTEE:

agreed, at the suggestion of the Chairman, that at its meeting on 19th February Vice-Admiral Bell-Davies (SACLANTREPEUR) should make a brief statement on certain aspects of the problem dealt with under this item.

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III. EAST/WEST VISITS

The COMMITTEE was briefed:

- (1) by the French Representative on:
 - (a) the work of the select Franco-Soviet commission (on technical, scientific and economic cooperation) on 23rd and 24th January;
 - (b) the visit to Paris on 12th and 13th January of Mr. Smole, a member of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, in preparation for the visit of Mr. Bijedic, Chairman of the Federal Executive Council scheduled for 16th and 18th February;
- (2) by the Norwegian Representative on the results of a session of the Joint Norwegian-Polish Commission held in Oslo from 12th to 15th January, 1976.

IV. STRUCTURE BY COMMODITY OF TRADE BETWEEN NATO AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN 1973

Document: AC/127-WP/453

The COMMITTEE:

agreed to defer discussion of the substance of this report until 4th March to give the capitals sufficient time to study it in depth.

V. EXPORT CREDITS GRANTED BY NATO COUNTRIES TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN 1974

Document: AC/127-WP/454

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) held a preliminary exchange of views on the abovementioned draft;
- (2) noted that the United States Representative would in future be in a position to provide regularly information on credits granted by the United States to Communist countries;
- (3) agreed, after a brief exchange of views, to continue with the present procedure of reporting annually to the Council the data supplied by delegations half yearly to the International Staff;

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(4) agreed to discuss the draft report at its meeting on 19th February.

VI. INFLATION IN THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE

Document: AC/127-WP/450(Revised)
Reference: AC/127-R/491, Item VI

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) agreed, at the request of several delegations, including those of the United States and the United Kingdom, to upgrade the classification of this document to NATO RESTRICTED;
- (2) noted the United States Representative's recommendation that the experts in the capitals should be given an opportunity to express their views on the way their contributions and statements were presented in documents;
- (3) accordingly, agreed to defer examination of the document at reference until 19th February next.

VII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRC IN 1974-1975

Document: ED/EC/76/6

The COMMITTEE:

held an exchange of views on outstanding contributions, the presence of experts at the meeting on 26th February and agreed to upgrade the classification of the note at reference.

VIII.THE STATE OF SOVIET AGRICULTURE

Document: AC/127-WP/455

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) agreed to defer discussion of the above-mentioned draft until its meeting on 19th February so as to allow delegations time to obtain further information on and appraisals of the document from their capitals;
- (2) noted the ciruclation to the meeting of various contributions on the question at reference;

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(3) approved the principle, suggested by the Chairman, of requesting the originators and experts in capitals to pinpoint any classified material which should be deleted in reports likely to be published.

IX. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The COMMITTEE received during the meeting:

- (1) from the Italian Delegation, contributions on:
 - river transport in the GDR;
 - difficulties encountered by Albania in the oil sector and their implications;
- (2) from the Canadian Delegation, contributions on:
 - recent price increases in Hungary;
 - certain aspects of the implementation of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act (in particular, Basket II) raised at the Moscow meeting in December of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Pact countries;
- (3) from the United States Delegation a contribution regarding the comments made in Prague on 12th January to members of the Diplomatic Corps by Mr. A. Barcak, Czech Minister for Foreign Trade.

X. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Reference: ED/EC/75/53(2nd revise)

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) agreed, at the request of the United States
 Representative, to defer until June the meeting
 scheduled for 4th and 5th March and suggested
 10th and 11th June as possible dates;
- (2) noted that the meeting with experts on the application of the Final Act (Basket II) could be held on 16th March, if the Political Committee confirmed its intention to hold a special meeting on this subject on 18th and 19th March;

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(3) agreed that the meeting scheduled for 3rd and 4th June on the yearly review of the economy of certain Eastern countries would be limited to one day, namely 3rd June, and would cover Bulgaria and Rumania.

XI. BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COLUMBIA AND COMECON

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted a verbal statement by the United States Representative;
- (2) agreed to place this question on the Agenda of the next meeting.

XII. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12th February, 1976.

NATO, 1110 Brussels.