

1 JANUARY 1986 : A EUROPEAN COMMUNITY OF TWELVE

European Commission - MEMO/85/169 20/12/1985

As from 1 January 1986, the Community will embrace more than 321 million Europeans, almost twice as many as there were when the Community was established in 1958. Originally made up of six Member States, the Community will now have twelve, and the entry of Portugal and Spain will bring into the Community a population much younger than the Community average.

The population of the Community thus becomes larger than that of the United States by more than a third. Portugal made a formal request to accede on 28 March 1977, followed by Spain on 28 July of the same year.

On 20 April 1978, the Commission gave its opinion on the requests for accession and their consequences. The Council then adopted the principle of enlargement. Official negotiations with Portugal opened in October 1978, and those with Spain on 5 February 1979.

In June 1984 the Fontainebleau European Council set January 1986 as the date for accession, after a solution had been found to the Community's budgetary problems.

On 29 March 1985 the last obstacles were overcome and the following day the European Council noted with great satisfaction that the fundamental issues of the negotiations with Portugal and Spain had been resolved.

The Accession Treaties were signed in Lisbon and in Madrid on 12 June.

THE MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACCESSION AGREEMENTS

1. Institutions

From 1 January 1986 Council will have twelve members. Spain's eight votes and Portugal's five will bring the total number of votes to 76, with 54 being required for a qualified majority (Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom : 10 votes; Belgium, Greece and the Netherlands : 5 votes; Denmark and Ireland : 3 votes; Luxembourg : 2 votes).

The two Spanish members and one Portuguese member of the Commission will bring the total number of Commissioners to 17.

The European Parliament will have 518 members with the addition of 60 Spanish and 24 Portuguese members, designated by their national parliaments in the first instance and then by direct universal suffrage before 31 December 1987.

The number of the judges at the Court of Justice will rise from 11 to 13, Portugal and Spain each sending one. There will be six Advocates-General, Portugal and Spain taking it in turns to designate the sixth.

Membership of the Economic and Social Committee will increase by 21 members for Spain and 12 for Portugal, making 189 in total.

The Court of Auditors will also be expanded, with each new Member State sending one member.

Adjustment will also be made to the ECSC Consultative Committee, the Scientific and Technical Committee of Euratom, the Advisory Committee and the capital of the Euratom Supply Agency and the administration of the European Investment Bank.

2. Customs Union

Spain : progressive abolition of customs duties over a seven-year transitional period; abolition of quantitative restrictions on the date of accession; alignment of the Spanish customs tariff on the Common Customs Tariff over a period of seven years; application of competition rules and introduction of VAT on the date of accession; special provisions for motor vehicles, textiles, the steel industry and national monopolies.

Portugal : progressive abolition of intra-Community customs duties over seven-year transitional period and, simultaneously, alignment of the Portuguese tariff on that of the Community; a two-stage abolition of quantitative restrictions and other measures; postponement of full introduction of VAT until the fourth year after accession; special provisions for motor vehicles, textiles and national monopolies.

3. Agriculture

Spain : progressive application of the machinery of the common organizations of the markets and establishment of the free circulation of goods after transitional periods varying according to the products; general or "classic" arrangements will apply to most agricultural products over a seven-year period with a progressive alignment of prices and aids, accession compensatory amounts, the gradual implementation of customs union and Spain's progressive application of the Community's preferential arrangements; special arrangements for wine, vegetable oils, and fresh fruit and vegetables, and a surveillance system for imports of sensitive products (fruit and vegetables, milk, butter, cheese, beef/veal, common wheat, milk powder, potatoes and wine).

Portugal : same general principles as for Spain with "classic" transitional arrangements which will apply to processed fruit and vegetables, sugar and isoglucose, and vegetable oils, in general over a seven-year period (10 years for vegetable oils), with the Community bringing forward tariff dismantlement by one year, and indeed four in the case of tomatoes; specific transitional arrangements for 85% of Portuguese production (cereals, rice, milk and milk products, beef/veal, pigmeat, eggs and poultry, fresh fruit and vegetables, and wine); a surveillance system for imports, a specific development programme and production rules for tomato concentrates, canned tomatoes, sunflowers, colza and rapeseed; special arrangements for sugar and the same arrangements as for Spain in the case of vegetable oils.

4. Fisheries

Spain : reciprocal access to maritime zones and respective stocks with monitoring arrangements; on accession, application of the common fisheries policy subject to certain conditions; progressive dismantling of intra-Community customs tariffs and alignment on the common external tariff over a seven-year transitional period, except for special circumstances, with special provisions for access to the zone lying between 6 and 12 nautical miles for the exclusive economic zones and for certain sensitive species; pre-accession aid of 28.5 million ECU.

Portugal : no access for vessels of the present Member States to the 12 nautical mile coastal zone off Portugal and vice versa; varying restrictions in the exclusive economic zone beyond the 12 mile line, to be reviewed by 31 December 1995; application of the common fisheries policy subject to certain reservations; customs dismantling over seven years for Portugal and six years for the Community, with some special arrangements; same provisions as for Spain concerning relations with non-member countries; special provisions for sardines and structural matters.

5. Social Affairs

Spain : application of social legislation, including that concerning the Social Fund, on accession; seven-year transitional period during which certain restrictive national measures may be retained; five years after accession, review of the transitional arrangements for free circulation of workers; special provisions for equal treatment, access to employment and social insurance benefits.

Portugal : same provisions as Spain.

6. Budgetary provisions

Spain : full participation in the financing of the budget and in expenditure, subject to certain transitional measures, Spain will qualify for the various structural funds on accession; special provisions for the repayment of the VAT contribution, the amount repaid being set according to a sliding scale until 1992.

Portugal : full participation in the financing of the budget and in expenditure, subject to certain transitional measures; postponement of the full introduction of VAT until the fourth year after accession; special provisions on the graduated refund of VAT contributions based on GNP applicable for six years; aid to the balance of payments in the form of a 1 million ECU loan over six years.

EFFECTS OF ACCESSION

Animals	286	96	177	13
Beverages and tobacco	852	1.096	451	107
Fuel and lubricants	1.441	668	104	449
Oils and fats	65	16	20	7
Chemicals	772	1.514	276	525
Manufactures	2.991	1.866	1.128	702
Machinery and transport equip.	4.992	5.497	788	1.253
Various manufactured	1.224	869	954	218
Other	164	844	24	254
Source Eurostat				

PIB (au prix du marche) (mrd. ECU) 2.777,1 207,7 25,4

PIB par habitant (ECU) 10.197 5.370 2.647