

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

N A T O C O N F I D E N T I A L

EXEMPLAIRE
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ORIGINAL: FRENCH
20th February, 1976

ACTION SHEET
AC/119-R(76)7

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting held on Tuesday 17th February, 1976 at 10.30 a.m.

ACTION SHEET

I. EAST/WEST VISITS

The COMMITTEE was informed:

- (1) by the Danish Representative:
 - of the main gist of the talks which the Danish Foreign Minister had had with his Bulgarian and Rumanian opposite numbers, concerning, in particular, the CSCE, the Middle East and relations between the COMECON and the EEC, in the course of his recent visit to Bulgaria and Rumania (29th January - 4th February, 1976)
 - of the outcome of the Polish Foreign Minister's visit to Copenhagen from 9th to 12th February;
- (2) by the Netherlands Representative of the visit to The Hague on 12th and 13th February of Mr. Macovescu, Rumanian Foreign Minister;
- (3) by the Greek Representative of the outcome of the recent visit to Czechoslovakia and Hungary of Mr. Bitsios, the Greek Foreign Minister.

II. EAST GERMAN POLICY TRENDS

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the United States Representative of the "NATO-wide" distribution under reference AS(76)038 of the State Department analysis on the above subject.

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III. THE SITUATION IN ALBANIA

References: AC/119-R(75)110, Item III
AC/119-R(76)2, Item III
AC/119-R(76)4, Item II
AC/119-R(76)6, Item I

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was briefed by the Greek Representative on the political aspects of a recent visit to Tirana by a Chinese trade delegation headed by the Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade; noted that there were signs of a current "readjustment" in Albania's foreign policy towards both the other East European countries and the People's Republic of China;
- (2) was informed by the French Representative of the unusual coverage given in the Albanian press, early in February, to an incident which occurred on 15th December between a Yugoslav and an Albanian vessel;
- (3) given the interest shown by several of its members in present trends in Albania, invited the delegations whose countries were represented in Tirana (France, Italy, Greece and Turkey) and those who could obtain information from their embassies in Belgrade (Norway, Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium) to provide the International Staff with material on this subject;
- (4) noted that the International Staff would be able to prepare a consolidated report, for the Council's attention, on the basis of these contributions and of any additional information which could be obtained from Allied diplomatic missions in Moscow and in Peking;
- (5) also noted that if the necessary information had not been gathered in time, it might be possible to invite the experts on the East European countries to consider this question.

IV. SOVIET-RUMANIAN RELATIONS

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the French Representative that, according to a report from the French Embassy in Bucharest, the Rumanian Delegation to the 25th Congress of the CPSU would be led by Mr. Ceaucescu in person.

V. THE SITUATION IN CHINA

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) heard a statement from the German Representative on Chinese criticism of the West's policy of détente;
- (2) heard a statement from the Italian Representative on the nomination of Mr. Hua-Kuo-Feng as Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China.

VI. PREPARATION OF THE ALL-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES

The COMMITTEE:

was notified by the United Kingdom Representative of the "NATO-wide" distribution of a paper prepared by his Authorities on this subject (AS(76)034).

VII. CRITICISM OF NATO IN THE UNITED NATIONS

The COMMITTEE:

heard a brief statement from the United States Representative to the effect that **his** Authorities had reacted favourably to the procedure adopted by the Committee for discussion of criticism of NATO in United Nations bodies and supported the Canadian move concerning the malicious activities of a working group responsible to the Committee on Apartheid.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE

(a) Date of the reinforced meeting

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was informed by the Chairman that in view of the symposium on East-West technological co-operation due to take place on 17th, 18th and 19th March, the Economic Committee had agreed on 16th March as the date for its reinforced meeting on the implementation of the provisions arising out of "Basket two" and that a joint meeting with those members of the Political Committee in favour of such a meeting could take place, if necessary, on the afternoon of the 16th;

- (2) noted that the majority of delegations were in favour of keeping the date of 18th and 19th March which had already been agreed on for the meeting with the competent experts on matters arising out of other aspects of the implementation of the Final Act.

(b) Draft Agenda and outline of the report

Reference: Corrigendum to AC/119-R(76)6, Item VIII

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the French and Turkish Representatives could withdraw their objections to the wording of the draft Agenda and to the proposals for the outline report, as set out in Annexes A and B to POLADS(76)3(Revised), distributed on 13th February, 1976;
- (2) noted, in this connection, the wish of the Belgian Representative that, for the purposes of the report to the Council, the whole of the Final Act should be re-examined since there were certain gaps in the outline at the end of Annex A to POLADS(76)3(Revised).

(c) Exchange of information

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) held an exchange of views on appropriate ways of using the available statistical data on the application by the Warsaw Pact countries of certain provisions of the Final Act;
- (2) was provided with information by the Netherlands Representative on a recent conference of European "left of centre" parties organized by the Bulgarian party in Helsinki from 6th to 8th February and devoted to exchanges of view on the implementation of the Final Act of the CSCE;
- (3) noted a statement by the United States Representative on approaches made by his Government to the neutral and non-aligned countries with regard to the implementation of the Final Act.

IX. CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES PROVIDED FOR IN THE CSCE

Statistics on Allied manoeuvres

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the IMS Representative that the reports on Allied and Warsaw Pact manoeuvres, prepared by the NATO Military Authorities at the request of the Council, would be ready within the next few weeks.

Exchange of information on Soviet exercise "Caucasus"

Reference: ISD(94)(2nd revise)

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted the information of political interest provided at the meeting which the Greek and Turkish Representatives had obtained from the observers from their respective countries who had witnessed exercise "Caucasus" at the invitation of the Soviet Authorities;
- (2) noted that, at the request of a number of their colleagues, the Greek and Turkish Representatives would circulate this information in writing.

X. ORGANIZATION OF THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING WITH THE DISARMAMENT EXPERTS

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the United Kingdom experts would not be free on 25th and 26th March;
- (2) suggested that delegations should consult with their authorities on the possibility of holding the meeting on 5th and 6th April;
- (3) agreed to pursue this matter and to discuss the Agenda at its next meeting.

XI. CONSULTATION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

The COMMITTEE:

agreed that the list of topics given at Annex to letter DS(76)16 dated 10th February should constitute the Agenda for the Council meeting on 25th February.

XII. TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS OF EXPERT GROUPS

Reference: POLADS(76)2 and Corrigendum

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the Turkish Representative could not accept the alternative dates (12th-14th April) suggested by the United States Delegation;
- (2) agreed that if unanimous agreement on the initial timetable were not forthcoming at the next meeting, the Expert Group on the Middle-East should meet on the dates chosen for the meeting of the Expert Group on Africa (15th-17th March) and vice versa.

XIII. SEMINAR ON THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CIVIL DEFENCE

Reference: AC/119-R(76)6, Item XIV

The COMMITTEE:

noted that the Norwegian, French and Netherlands Authorities to which invitations had also been sent, had decided not to be officially represented at this seminar.

XIV. UNITED NATIONS DEBATE ON KOREA

The COMMITTEE:

noted a statement by the **United States Representative** on the advantage to be obtained from an exchange of views prior to the debate which could be expected to take place at the United Nations on the initiative of North Korea.

XV. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 26th February, 1976 at 10.30 a.m.

NATO,
1110 Brussels.