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PRIME MINISTER

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Cabinet: Community Affairs

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food may report on the emergency meeting of the Council of Ministers (Fisheries) on 30 June which discussed interim measures on fishing for herring in the North Sea. Nine member states were prepared to accept interim quotas of 66 per cent of the full year 1983 proposals. Denmark, however, invoked the "Luxembourg compromise" and a number of countries, including the United Kingdom, accordingly declined to participate in the vote. Thus no decision was taken. The Commission intend to make a Regulation halting North Sea herring fishing by Norway, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom from 12 July.

2. The first meeting of the special Council to launch the work programme resulting from the Stuttgart Declaration will be on 8 July. A draft programme of meetings for the autumn has been drawn up and no great difficulties are foreseen. The Finance Council will meet on 11 July, the Fisheries Council on 11-12 July and the Energy Council on 12 July.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

6 July 1983