



DÉLÉGATION SUISSE

PRÈS

L'ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES

IEA/GB - BO/pa

75007 PARIS, le 9 octobre 1978

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Destinataires:

D F E P
Division du commerceD F T C E
Office de l'économie énergétique

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AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENERGIE

Objet de la transmission:

Lettre de M. U. Lantzke du 5.10.78 concernant
la Réunion informelle du Governing Board du 21 septembre 1978
avec 1 annexe : liste des participants

But de la transmission:

 à titre d'information 1 Nombre d'annexes selon votre demande du pour avoir votre réponse pour instructions Observations de cette Délégation:

Le Chef de la Délégation:

Copie, avec annexe, à :

- Service économique et financier, DPF, 3003 Berne
- Office de la science et de la recherche, DFI, 3003 Berne
- Délégué à la défense nationale économique, DFEP, 3003 Berne

OCDE

ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES

OECD

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENTAGENCE INTERNATIONALE
DE L'ÉNERGIEINTERNATIONAL ENERGY
AGENCY

F 6 OCT. 1978

Le Directeur Exécutif

GR	CX	B	Z	W	IM	M	EA	PL		A/A

The Executive Director

IEA/GB

IEA/ED/78.313

To: Heads of Delegations
of IEA Member Countries

5th October 1978

Dear Mr Ambassador,

As you know, an informal meeting of Heads of Delegations to the Governing Board of the International Energy Agency was held on 21st September in Paris in connection with the 36th meeting of the Governing Board. The Chairman of the Governing Board has asked me to prepare for Delegations a summary of the discussions which took place at that meeting. A list of those participating is attached.

A major part of the informal meeting was devoted to a preliminary consideration of what policy action IEA Member countries might take to increase the use of coal and to expand world trade in coal.

The "non-paper" on coal policy circulated to Heads of Delegations with the Executive Director's letter of 6th September 1978 was introduced as a basis for discussion of what could be the framework of a final result, of what would be realistic to expect member countries to be willing to do, and what the real difficulties are.

There was general agreement that IEA Member countries should vigorously encourage the use of coal in their national energy policies, that the amount of coal traded internationally could be substantially increased, and that a higher degree of cooperation within the Agency would contribute to both results. The form of action envisaged by most Heads of Delegations was a meeting of the Governing Board at Ministerial level, possibly in March or April 1979, to take definite and positive action on coal policy, as well as to consider other matters. Action by Ministers might consist of (i) an analysis of the importance of coal in meeting the Group objectives and other IEA commitments;

(ii) specific and rigorous recommendations to member governments concerning national coal policies; and (iii) commitments regarding international trade in coal. Some doubt was expressed as to whether it would be possible to arrive at numerical group objectives for coal, particularly in the absence of a clear scenario for other energy sources. The final result could be similar in style and content to the 12 Principles for Energy Policy adopted by Ministers in October 1977, and should be designed, among other things, so as not to reduce emphasis on nuclear power and conservation.

The following key problems were identified as requiring policy action by governments:

- the need to reconcile environmental and energy requirements, and especially to improve the trade-off between them through improved technology
- the need to meet the economic and social objectives of producers of relatively high-cost coal without preventing the market from functioning with respect to supplies to meet incremental demand
- the need for cooperation between governments in order to increase coal trade by means of interlocking assurances as to availability of supplies and of markets.

The results of this discussion of coal policy will be reflected in a revised paper prepared, in informal consultation with a number of advisors from Member governments, for consideration by the SLT in its preparation of recommendations for the next meeting of the Governing Board.

The Heads of Delegation also heard a presentation by the United States Delegation of current studies of the energy outlook to 1985 and of the energy situation in the USSR. In very brief summary, these studies suggested (i) that there could be upward pressure on oil prices in the early 1980s as a result of growing perceptions that major OPEC producers would not increase their production capacity as rapidly as had been anticipated in some other studies; and (ii) that the Soviet Union could encounter serious difficulties in meeting its energy needs, and those of other Comecon members, from its indigenous resources because of the growing difficulties of producing oil, gas and coal in frontier and offshore regions located far from consuming areas.

Sincerely yours,

U. Laantzke
 U. Laantzke

Enclosure

INFORMAL MEETING OF GOVERNING BOARD AT HEADS
OF DELEGATION LEVEL

21st September 1978, 3 p.m.

<u>Chairman</u>	Dr. D.K. Rohwedder
Allemagne	Dr. U. Engelmann Mr. Mohnfeld
Autriche	Dr. P. Jankowitsch
Belgique	Mr. D. Laloux M. Detroz
Canada	Mr. D.S. McPhail Mr. Millar
Danemark	Mr. N. Ersbóll Mr. D. Nielsen
Espagne	Mr. T. Chavarri
* Etats-Unis	Mr. S.W. Bosworth Mr. H. Bergold Mr. Rosen
Grèce	Mr. D. Athanassopoulos
Irlande	Mr. J. Moylan
Italie	Mr. M. Magliano
Japon	Mr. T. Hirahara Mr. Watanabe Mr. Sawada
Luxembourg	Mr. J.J. Kasel
Norvège	Mr. O. Bucher Johannesen
Nouvelle Zélande	Mr. B.J. McLaughlin
Pays-Bas	Professor H.C. Posthumus Meyjes Mr. A.A.T. van Rhijn
Royaume-Uni	Mr. D. le B. Jones Miss G. Brown
Suède	Mr. H. Colliander
Suisse	Mr. B. von Tscharner
Turquie	Mr. H. Celem
CCE	Mr. J.C. Renaud
Secrétariat	Dr. U. Lantzke Mr. J.W. Hopkins
* Department of State Consultants	Mr. John Eckland Mr. Maurice Ernst