II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 3 December 1981

on the provisional application to Belize of the arrangements provided for in Decision 80/1186/EEC on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community

(81/970/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 80/1186/EEC of 16 December 1980 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community [1], and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 142 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas, pursuant to the second subparagraph of Article 142 (2) of Decision 80/1186/EEC, the arrangements provided for therein may continue to apply provisionally, under the conditions laid down by the Council, to countries and territories which become independent;

Whereas Belize, which appears in Annex I to the said Decision, achieved independence on 21 September 1981;

Whereas it should be decided to continue to apply provisionally to that State the arrangements provided for in the said Decision;

Whereas the Second ACP-EEC Convention is open, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 185 thereof, to accession by countries or territories referred to in Part Four of the Treaty which have become independent; whereas such accession can take place only following a request by the State concerned and with the approval of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers;

Whereas Belize has submitted a request for accession to the Second ACP-EEC Convention,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The arrangements laid down by Decision 80/1186/EEC shall apply provisionally to Belize until the latter accedes to the Second ACP-EEC Convention.

Article 2

Questions relating to the application to Belize of Decision 80/1186/EEC shall be dealt with as necessary by direct contact between the competent authorities of that State and of the Community.

Article 3

This Decision shall take effect on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

It shall apply as from 21 September 1981.

Done at Brussels, 3 December 1981.

For the Council

The President

T. KING

[1] OJ No L 361, 31. 12. 1980, p. 1.