1. The Committee considered the request by a Party (VAL/17), pursuant to paragraph I:2 of the Protocol, for an extension of its period of delay before applying the provisions of the Agreement. After intensive consultations, it was not possible to reach agreement on this matter at the meeting. The Chairman concluded that further thought needed to be given to ways of resolving the difficulties and to the wider implications and that the Committee should meet again as soon as a chance of coming to an agreement existed.

2. The Committee also heard statements about the legal position of Portugal and Spain in the Agreement after their accession to the European Communities.