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## 12 Opec Members Approve Agreement To Maintain \$18/ barrel Price & amp; Production Quotas For First Half Of 1988

by John Neagle Category/Department: General Published: Tuesday, December 15, 1987

On Dec. 14 in Vienna, 12 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) agreed to postpone until mid-1988 changes in price and production quotas established last July. Algerian Oil Minister Belkacem Nabi made the announcement at a press conference. Iraq was the only OPEC member that refused to approve the agreement. The established reference price continues at \$18 per barrel, and production quotas were not changed. OPEC's collective production ceiling as of Jan. 1 will be 15.06 million barrels a day for the 12 nations. Iraq was not included in this figure. Analysts expected an immediate decline in world oil prices, by as much as \$2 per barrel. Next, the agreement is not likely to halt overproduction by Iraq and the United Arab Emirates. (Basic data from AFP, AP, 12/14/87)

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