



*European Communities  
Commission  
Press Release*

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Weekly Timetable of Community Activities - No 2/75

AGRICULTURAL PRICE REVIEW IN FULL SWING

Foreign Ministers Also Meeting

On Monday and Tuesday next, January 20 and 21, probably going into Wednesday, the Council of Ministers of Agriculture will continue their annual negotiations to settle farm prices for the coming year.

Also on Monday and Tuesday the Council of Ministers of foreign affairs will meet. The next day, Wednesday, there will be a Council of Ministers on development and cooperation in the wake of the unsuccessful negotiations between the Nine and the 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries this week.

On Monday, January 27, there will be a Council of Finance and Economics Ministers.

All these meetings will be in Brussels.

FLASHBACK

A series of meetings of Finance Ministers in Washington appeared to have paved the way for a compromise on the re-cycling of petro-dollars. The United States looked like approving early action for limited re-cycling through the International Monetary Fund, as agreed by the Finance Ministers of the Nine in London last week, and the Nine and other countries agreed to expand this later with the so-called Kissinger Plan to channel money through the OECD, a system which will require Parliamentary approval in several countries and therefore take time to start.

Because of continuing disagreement between Britain and the Commonwealth sugar-producing countries over supplies to the British market, the wider negotiations among the Nine and the 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries failed to reach a conclusion. The plan to initial a new convention between the Nine and the 46 ACP countries at the end of the month has been scrapped and further negotiations will be held soon.

Agricultural Ministers meeting in Brussels for preliminary negotiations on future farm prices set themselves a deadline of February 1. There was little support for a British proposal that beef farmers should be supported with special income subsidies.

In the House of Commons, the Prime Minister said that the ballot paper the Government envisaged for the proposed poll on continued British membership of the Community would require a clear answer: "In or out - answered by yes or no."

In Luxembourg the European Parliament voted overwhelmingly in favour of the introduction of direct elections, as agreed at the Paris summit in December during or sometime after 1978.

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