



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

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Weekly Timetable of Community Activities - No 39/74

SUGAR ON THE TABLE

Busy Leadup to Community Summit

The Council of Foreign Ministers will meet in Brussels next Tuesday and Wednesday, November 12 and 13 as the Nine prepare for the summit meeting which has been proposed by the President of France in his capacity as President of the Council for the end of November or early December.

The Foreign Ministers will take up the problem of Community sugar supplies and may take a political view on what should be offered to the sugar producing countries of the 44-nation ACP Group (the "associables") in terms of quantity and price. Details would most likely be left to the Ministers of Agriculture to work out and make public when they meet as the Council of Ministers in Brussels the following Monday and Tuesday, November 18 and 19.

The Foreign Ministers will also take up again the question of energy, and in particular the proposed 12-nation sharing agreement; other questions likely to emerge at the proposed summit will also be discussed.

Pollution

Following a Council of Ministers on the Environment which was taking place in Brussels today, concerned particularly with the suggestion that "the polluter pays," the OECD Environmental Committee will meet in Paris next Wednesday, November 13, at Ministerial level.

The European Parliament meets all next week in Strasbourg. Among those issues likely to be debated are, again, the sugar situation, the proposed Regional Development Fund, relations with Arab states and oil money, and whether or not there should be a Community political secretariat.

The following Monday, November 18, as the Agricultural Council takes up sugar again, there will be a Council of Finance Ministers. This meeting should last only one day while the Agricultural Council will go into Tuesday.

Also on Monday, November 18, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine will meet in Paris as the Political Committee; this meeting will be preoccupied with summit questions.

On Tuesday, November 26, there is a Council of Ministers concerned with law and justice.

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The next Thursday, November 28, there will be a Council of Ministers on the Community budget. This is usually attended by junior Treasury Ministers.

FURTHER AHEAD:

The following Councils of Ministers are foreseen for December:

December 2-3	Foreign Ministers
December 9-10	Agriculture (confirmed)
December 12	Transport
December 16	Social Affairs
December 17	Energy

We are still awaiting confirmation of a date for the summit.

FLASHBACK:

A public opinion poll published by the Lousi Harris organisation indicated that a 53 per cent majority of those questioned favoured continued British membership of the Community while seeking better terms.

While sugar workers banned deliveries and employers predicted a sugar famine next year unless agreement with Commonwealth countries was concluded quickly, the Commission once again guaranteed that the Community would provide enough sugar at a reasonable price.

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