



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

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Weekly Timetable of Community Activities - No 41/74

BUSY PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY SUMMIT

There will be a special Council meeting of Foreign Ministers in Brussels on Monday November 25, to discuss the substantive questions to be put on the agenda of the Community summit in Paris on December 9-10. It is expected that Roy Hattersley will attend for the United Kingdom.

On the following day, November 26, there will be a Council meeting on Law and Justice. Ministers will discuss the problem of the penalties to be imposed for infringing the economic laws of the European Community and the question of the legal immunities of Community officials.

On November 28, there will be a Council meeting on the Community budget for 1975; a junior Minister at the Treasury will probably attend for the United Kingdom. The Ministers will have to take into consideration the European Parliament's opinion that the cuts originally ordered by the Council should not take place.

FURTHER AHEAD

The programme of Council meetings proposed for December is as follows:-

December 2-3	Foreign Ministers
December 9-10	Agriculture (confirmed)
December 11	Transport
December 16	Social Affairs
December 17	Energy
December 19	Economy & Finance

FLASHBACK

On Monday November 18, the Foreign Ministers of the Nine met in Paris. The agenda for the forthcoming summit, and particularly the problem of the EEC Institutions, dominated their discussions.

Contributions to the Community budget were a major topic of discussion in the private talks between M. Sauvagnargues and Mr Callaghan the following day. Although there was no evident progress on renegotiations Mr Callaghan said the meeting had been a useful one.

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In a long and important agricultural Council meeting on November 18 and 19, further agreements were reached on sugar and beef. The Commission was authorised to conclude agreements with Commonwealth sugar producers to buy at least 1.4 million tons a year for at least five years, with a review before seven years. The price offered will be "within the limits of the Community price", which at present means about £115 per ton, but this will rise substantially at the next farm price increases in 1975. Britain can pay a higher price for the sugar if she wishes, by agreement with the sellers. It should be remembered that, for 1975 at least, the Community has agreed to subsidise the imports of any country with a shortage of sugar.

On beef, Mr Peart managed to get the Community to agree that British beef producers should benefit from a temporary minimum guaranteed price of £20 per Cwt. In return the UK has agreed gradually to introduce intervention buying in beef. The Intervention Board will buy beef initially when the price slips below 65% of the guide price, rising gradually to 85% of the guide price. (This compares with the normal Community figure of 93%)

Finally, the Council agreed to increase the price the Community pays for New Zealand butter and cheese products by 18% to offset increasing production costs.