



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

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Weekly Timetable of Community Activities - No 45/74

NEW YEAR PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ministers to Follow Up the Summit

The Finance Ministers of the Nine will meet in London on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 7 and 8, when they will discuss, among other things, the problem of re-cycling oil money. The meeting is informal, rather than a Council of Ministers, and will begin around noon at Lancaster House.

As announced by Mr Hattersley in the House of Commons yesterday, there is a full programme of Council meetings in January.

On Monday and Tuesday, January 13 and 14, there will be a Council of Agricultural Ministers on prices. Also on January 13, there will be a Council on Development and Cooperation with developing countries.

Agricultural Ministers meet again the following Monday and Tuesday, January 20 and 21, as do Foreign Ministers for the first time together since the Summit.

The following Monday, January 27, there will be a Council of Finance Ministers who will be continuing efforts to coordinate the Community struggle against inflation.

FLASHBACK

Discussion in Brussels and London failed to achieve agreement on a new sugar arrangement between Britain, the Community and the Caribbean suppliers. There will be more talks in January.

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Gough Whitlam, said in Brussels on Wednesday that he would regret Britain's withdrawal from the Community, which would be of no advantage to Australia, the world or Europe.

A Council of Ministers on energy passed a resolution on sharing energy in the Community. If the programme is fully adopted this should reduce energy consumption by 15 per cent by 1985. Britain's Minister, Mr Varley, reaffirmed there was no Community threat to North Sea oil.

The Council of Ministers on social affairs adopted a directive to protect workers against mass dismissals, and another on equal pay for men and women.