



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

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WEEKLY TIMETABLE OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - No 34/76

Next Council Meetings

Brussels	November 4	Transport
	November 8	Eco-Finance
	November 8	Development
	November 15 + 16	Foreign Affairs
	November 22 + 23	Agriculture
	November 22	Eco-Finance
	November 29	Education
Brussels	December 9	Social Questions
	December 9	Environment
	December 13 + 14	Foreign Affairs
	December 13 + 14	Agriculture PROPOSED
	December 16	Fiscal questions
	December 16	Transport

European Parliament

Luxembourg	November 15 - 19
Luxembourg	December 13 + 17

Economic and Social Committee Plenaries

Brussels	November 24 + 25
	December 15 + 16 (possible)

Other Events

Political Cooperation (Foreign Ministers)	The Hague October 29 - 30
European Council (summit)	The Hague November 29 + 30

FLASHBACK

Agriculture: The Council of Ministers of Agriculture devoted their two-day meeting largely to the Commission's proposals on the milk market and the "green" currencies. No decision was taken on the package of proposals to regulate the milk sector. Four Governments opposed the proposed tax on margarine, five supported the inseparable nature of the package. But the Council agreed not to prolong the compulsory addition of skimmed milk powder in animal food. So far 300,000 tonnes have quit the intervention stores, against the target of 400,000 tonnes by October 31.

The British Government held out firmly against any devaluation of the "green" pound. The difference between the "green" pound and the actual pound is about 40.8 per cent. Mr Lardinois, Commissioner for agriculture, forecast that within two weeks it might pass 45 per cent. There was no vote because of the extremely political nature of the problem. The Council agreed to a devaluation of the Danish "green" crown by 4 per cent, eliminating Danish monetary compensatory amounts.

The Commission's proposals to regulate automatically the monetary compensatory amounts were supported by seven Member States and opposed by Britain and West Germany. The Council asked the Commission to prepare new proposals on the levels of monetary compensatory amounts and a cutoff point.

Budget: The European Parliament adopted an amended proposed budget for the Community, with the sole opposition of the Communists, although on some areas the vote was unanimous. The Parliament proposed 178 amendments, mainly aimed at restoring cuts made by the Council in the Commission's proposals. The Council cut 571 million units of account (£238 million) from the proposed budget; the Parliament seeks to restore about 515 mua (£215 million).

The Parliament's amendments chiefly concern spending on energy (hydrocarbone, uranium and coal), aeronautical and data planning, the environment and consumer protection, food aid, the Social Fund and possible farm price revisions.

Japan: In a declaration at the O.E.C.D. the Commission urged Japan to recast and restrain her shipbuilding policy. British delegates urged Western Europe to work together to contain the growing Japanese share of the world market.

The President of the Japanese Federation of Industries, Mr Doko, called on the President of the Commission, Mr Francois-Xavier Ortoli, and the Commissioner acting for external affairs, Mr Finn Olav Gundelach. The Commissioners expressed their concern at the growing disequilibrium in Community trade with Japan now approaching \$4 billion. They remarked particularly on penetration in such sectors as steel, motor cars, electronics and ball bearings. Mr Doko said the problem would be studied carefully and urged the Community to sell more in Japan.

Jordan: Negotiations on a new cooperation agreement were concluded with Jordan. Although Jordan is not strictly a Mediterranean country it has been included by the Community in its Mediterranean policy. Only one item remains outstanding; the date from which the financial protocol should run. This is the Community's first agreement with Jordan.

Britain: After a sharp drop in the value of sterling the Prime Minister, Mr Callaghan, argued that the outside world should not press Britain too hard on restrictive economic measures, and reminded television viewers of Britain's expenditure on defence commitments in Europe.