

E *European Communities* *Commission*

The Week in Europe

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ISEC/WT20/81

A WEEKLY SUMMARY OF PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

Next Council Meetings Scheduled

| | | |
|----------|------------|---------------------------|
| Brussels | June 4 | Steel |
| | June 10 | Social Affairs |
| | June 11 | Ecofinance/Social Affairs |
| | June 11 | Environment |
| | June 15 | Finance |
| | June 15/16 | Agriculture |
| | June 18 | Transport |
| | June 22 | Education |
| | June 22/23 | Foreign Affairs |
| | June 25 | Fiscal |

Other Events

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|------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Strasbourg | June 15 - 19 | European Parliament |
| Luxembourg | June 29 + 30 | European Council (summit) |

Provisional Dates Further Ahead

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|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Finance Council: | July 6 | |
| Foreign Affairs Council: | July 13/14 | |
| Agriculture Council: | July 20/21 | |
| Budget Council: | July 23 | |
| European Parliament: | July 6 - 10 | (Strasbourg) |
| Western Economic Summit: | July 20 + 21 | (Ottawa) |
| European Council (summit): | Nov. 26 + 27 | (London) |

THE WEEK AHEAD

A Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday next week, for ministers responsible for steel questions. The Council will seek to decide on the arrangements for maintaining some stability in the steel industry when the manifest crisis measures come to an end on June 30.

FLASHBACK

COMMUNITY BUDGET: Commissioner Mr Christopher Tugendhat presented the Commission's proposals for the 1982 budget, as well as proposed modifications to the 1981 budget. Under the Commission's proposals for next year, agricultural guarantee spending would fall to 62.3 per cent of the total. The allocation to agriculture would rise by 11.8 per cent, whereas the sums allocated to regional policy would go up by 26 per cent and social fund spending by 40 per cent. Total budget expenditure for 1982 is estimated at 22 382m ECU, requiring a VAT rate of 0.95 per cent and leaving a margin within the own resources ceiling of 660m ECU (£350m). For the 1981 budget, the Commission proposes a shift of resources from agriculture to social policy and food aid.

NEW FRENCH COMMISSIONER: Following the appointment of Mr Claude Cheysson as French foreign minister, the Council of Ministers has appointed M. Edgard Pisani as new French member of the European Commission. M. Pisani will be responsible for development policy.

AMERICAN TALKS: The first meeting was held in Brussels between the new American Secretary for Agriculture, Mr John Bloch and the European Commission. The question of export refunds on farm products was discussed. A meeting was also held with Mr Bill Brock, special representative of President Reagan for commercial questions. Mr Brock emphasised the importance of strengthening relations with the Community and reinforcing a liberal world trade system.

NUCLEAR SAFETY: A decision has been taken at Council level to support the 'Super-Sara' nuclear research project, a simulation experiment costing 54m ECU which examines Three Mile Island-type accidents.

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