



THE WEEK AHEAD (cont'd)

meeting in Athens on September 29 and 30.

A meeting will be held at Church House, Westminster on September 23 of the presidents and secretaries-general of the economic and social councils of the Community countries. The meeting will be chaired by the NEDO Director-General.

The Economic and Social Committee will hold a plenary session in Brussels on September 28 and 29 to consider a number of opinions on Commission proposals.

The European Commission member responsible for Regional Policy, Mr Antonio Giolitti, will be visiting Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Devon and Cornwall on a visit beginning next Thursday, September 29.

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FLASHBACK

UK CONTRIBUTION: The British Government argued in the foreign ministers meeting that a further 102mECU were due from the Community budget to Britain under the rebate arrangements for 1982. This was disputed by other delegations and will be raised at future meetings.

STEEL: Foreign ministers emphasised the importance of rapid compensation under the GATT for the tariffs imposed by the United States on special steel imports. The Council failed to agree a Greek demand for a higher export quota for steel under the EEC/American agreement.

LOME III: The Foreign Affairs Council agreed the main lines of the mandate for negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries which were due to begin shortly to establish the Third Lome Convention.

WORKING TIME: The European Commission have put forward new proposals for the reduction and reorganisation of working time.

£7.8M ECSC GRANTS: The Commission announced re-adaptation grants of £7 841 000 for schemes to help workers made redundant in the British steel industry.

£2M EIB LOAN: A loan of £2m for development in the Western Isles of Scotland has been granted by the European Investment Bank to the local authority.

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