



*European Communities  
Commission  
Press Release*

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14 November 1974

Weekly Timetable of Community Activities - No. 40/74

COUNCIL MEETINGS ON AGRICULTURE & FINANCE

Ministers of Agriculture meet in Brussels on Monday and Tuesday November 18-19. The main point on their agenda will be to lay down the guidelines for the contracts to be offered to the Commonwealth sugar producers. Foreign Ministers agreed on November 12 in principle that the Community should import 1.4 million tonnes a year from these producers, but the question of the length of the contracts and the price to be offered is still to be settled. Ministers will also discuss the problems of the beef market, which continues to be in a state of crisis throughout the Community.

On Monday November 18 there will be a Council of Finance Ministers in Brussels. Its main task will be to settle in detail the administration of the 'Community loan' to countries in balance of payments difficulties and the conditions which are to be attached to the loans.

Also on Monday November 18 Foreign Ministers of the Nine meet as a Political Committee in Paris. The agenda of the December 'Community Summit' will probably dominate the discussions. The following day Mr. Callaghan will have private meetings with the French Foreign Minister, M. Sauvagnargues.

The following week there will be Council meetings on Law and Justice (November 26) and the Community budget (November 28).

FURTHER AHEAD:

The following Councils of Ministers are foreseen for December:

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

The Community Summit now seems likely to take place on December 9/10, but this is yet to be confirmed.

FLASHBACK:

On November 12 the Council agreed in principle to a commitment to import 1.4 million tonnes of sugar from Commonwealth developing countries. This was a formal confirmation by the Council that the 'bankable assurance' negotiated by Geoffrey Rippon is still valid.

Also on December 12 the Council had its first discussions on contributions to the Community budget. Most delegations showed some sympathy to the British case, but any concrete moves will have to wait for further studies of the problem.

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