

PM Tsipras says Greek creditors didn't accept reform plan

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In his official Twitter account Tsipras said the international creditors have never been so persistent in rejecting reform plans, neither in Ireland nor in Portugal.

This stance means they either don't want an agreement or serve specific interests in Greece, he added.

Leading negotiators including IMF chief Christine Lagarde say a debt deal should not be expected until the end of the month, not at this week's meetings.

The finance ministers of the 19 eurozone countries are to hold talks on Wednesday to sort out the details of the new Greek proposals. Tsipras will also meet ECB President Mario Draghi, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on Wednesday to try to strike a deal before the June 30 deadline to repay about €1.6 billion of IMF debt.

A broader meeting of all 28 EU members is scheduled for Thursday.

European stocks fell on the Tsipras statement. The Stoxx Europe 600 Index was down 0.5 percent to 396.69 at 13:08pm MSK. The Greek ASE Index fell 3.1 percent, ending its four-day upward trend, and is the biggest drop among Western European markets.

On Monday Tsipras offered a new package of proposals that focuses on tax increases on Greek firms and wealthy individuals, which is expected to help the country meet its budget targets.

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Several dozen protesters gathered in Trafalgar Square in London on Tuesday in solidarity with Greece. **Similar protests took place in Lisbon and Athens earlier this week.**

Greece and its international creditors have been stuck in tough negotiations over the country's multibillion euro debt for five months. Tsipras' leftist Syriza party came to power aiming to end austerity measures, while the troika of international lenders insists the Athens should cut its spending and comply with their budget requirements.

The creditors want Athens to hit a target primary budget surplus of 1 percent of annual GDP by the end of the 2015 in the hope of achieving a 2 percent target in 2016 and 3 percent in 2017.
