



European Communities

**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

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REPORT

on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health  
and Consumer Protection

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities  
to the Council (COM(85) 123 final - Doc. C 2-15/85) for a  
decision amending Decision 81/971/EEC establishing a Community  
information system for the control and reduction of pollution  
caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea

Rapporteur: Mrs V. SQUARCIALUPI

It.-ph/jb

PE 98.018/fin.  
Or It



By letter of 19 April 1985, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision amending Decision 81/971/EEC establishing a Community information system for the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea.

On 6 May 1985, the President of the European Parliament referred the proposal to the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection as the committee responsible.

At its meeting of 25 April 1985, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection appointed Mrs Vera Squarcialupi rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission's proposal and the draft report at its meeting of 21 May 1985.

At the same meeting, the committee unanimously approved the Commission's proposal and the motion for a resolution as a whole.

The following were present at the meeting: Mrs Weber, chairman; Mrs Schleicher, vice-chairman; Mrs Bloch von Blottnitz, vice-chairman; Mrs Squarcialupi, rapporteur; Mr Banotti, Mr Elliott (deputizing for Mr Tognoli), Mr Iversen, Mrs Lentz-Cornette, Mr Mertens, Mr Muntingh, Mr Pearce, Mrs Peus (deputizing for Mr Alber), Mr Roelants du Vivier, Mr Schmid, Mr Schwalba-Hoth (deputizing for Mr van der Lek), Mr Sherlock, Ms Tongue and Mr Vittinghoff.

The explanatory statement will be presented orally by the rapporteur.

The report was tabled on 28 May 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.



The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision amending Decision 81/971/EEC establishing a Community information system for the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council<sup>1</sup>,
  - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to the EEC Treaty (Doc. C 2-15/85),
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection (Doc. A 2-51/85),
  - having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal,
- A. having regard to the frequency of cases of accidental pollution of the sea off the Community's coastline, which will be considerably lengthened by the accession of Portugal and Spain,
  - B. having regard to the many, different and serious problems of marine pollution caused, for example, by polluted rivers flowing into the sea and the (occasionally deliberate) discharge into it of toxic and/or polluting substances, as recently referred to in the motion for a resolution by Mr De Gucht on the pollution of the river Scheldt (Doc. 2-808/84) and the motion for a resolution by Mr Andrews and Mr Lemass on the need to save Dublin Bay from further deterioration (Doc. 2-1281/84),
  - C. having regard to the amendments to the proposal for a Council decision (81/971/EEC of 3 December 1981) establishing a Community information system for the control and reduction of pollution caused by hydrocarbons discharged at sea,
    - 1. Welcomes the fact that the Commission has extended its proposal for a decision to include harmful substances other than hydrocarbons,<sup>2</sup> as called for on more than one occasion by the European Parliament;
    - 2. Considers that it is right to leave the concept of 'harmful substances' open in view of the fact that toxic or dangerous substances or components of such substances, such as waste, are very often transported by sea;
    - 3. Welcomes the Commission's recent decision to set up an interdepartmental working party to deal with all aspects of the problem;

<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 112, 7.5.1985

<sup>2</sup> OJ No. C 172, 2.7.1984, p. 97  
OJ No. C 274, 15.10.1984

4. Notes the results of the studies carried out on the basis of the research programme on chemical methods of combating pollution due to hydrocarbons discharged at sea, methods which have proved inefficient and toxic to marine flora and fauna, but calls for further action to be taken to seek more efficient and non-toxic products and for research to be extended to biochemical methods;
5. Urges the Member States, therefore, to refrain from the indiscriminate use of solvents and respect the standards laid down by the European Community with regard to the end-uses of mixtures of water, oil and solid matter recovered from the sea or along the coast;
6. Stresses the overriding need for action to ensure that technical and legal preventive measures are rendered more efficient which could be achieved by subscribing to the plan to combat pollution as proposed by the Commission;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Member States and the signatory States of the Barcelona Convention, the Bonn Agreement and the Caribbean Convention.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 162, 8.7.1978