

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

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DOCUMENT 1-428/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr DE PASQUALE

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the protection of the habitat of the Lakes of
Ganzirri and Faro (Messina)

The European Parliament,

- A having regard to the local authority project to construct a tourist port on the two coastal lakes of Ganzirri and Faro (Messina) at the north-eastern tip of Sicily;
- B having regard to the very high scenic, ecological and geomorphological value of these lakes;
- C whereas the specific natural features of these lakes and the presence in them of a wide variety of rare and unique animal species have aroused the scientific interest of eminent scholars and prestigious international organizations;
- D having regard to their inclusion in the International Biological Programme, the most important worldwide census of inland and coastal waters worthy of protection;
- E whereas the construction of a tourist port on one of the two lakes would inevitably disturb their age-old natural and biological balance and would lead to the disappearance of rare living species, without bringing any significant economic benefits to the local population, who at present derive their livelihood from the lakes (cultivation of shellfish, fishing, etc.);
- F whereas the conservation of habitats was designated by the Commission as one of the central problems in its draft action programme of the European Communities on the environment, forwarded to the Council on 4 November 1981;
- G whereas this programme states that a Community framework must be considered essential if due cohesion is to be given to environmental initiatives at local, regional and national level. 'Such a framework', the programme maintains, 'would ensure that a network of properly protected biotopes, sufficient in both extent and number, and interlinked in a rational fashion, was set up and maintained. The network should be designed in such a way as to guarantee - as far as the habitat is concerned - the survival of all species native to the Community';
- H having regard to the proposal for a directive from the Commission of 11 June 1980, on the assessment of the environmental impact of certain public and private works, designed to protect the Community's environmental resources;
1. Calls on the Council to adopt immediately both the programme and the directive proposed by the Commission, so that the latter may be enabled to implement these at an early date;
 2. Calls on the Council to take action, in concert with the authorities of the Member State concerned, to prevent the disappearance of the coastal lakes of Ganzirri and Faro, which are unique elements of the Community's natural and biological patrimony;
 3. Calls on the Commission to act immediately, on the basis of the existing directives and recommendations, to ensure the maximum possible protection of the environment and territory of the Community, and to arrange for the implementation of the projects outlined in the draft action programme of 4 November 1981;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the appropriate national authorities.