

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr CROUX, Mr d'ORMESSON, Mr HERMAN,
Mr BARBI, Mr VERGEER, Mr RYAN and Mr BOURNIAS,
on behalf of the Group of the European People's
Party

with request for topical and urgent debate,
pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on the expulsion of foreign workers from Nigeria

The European Parliament,

- A. shocked by the expulsion of foreign workers ordered by the Nigerian Government on 18 January 1983,
 - B. deploring the fact that this decision, taken without prior consultation with the other States of the East African Community, has had the effect of bringing, in an arbitrary and often violent way, hundreds of thousands of foreign workers on to the roads as they try to regain their country or origin in the most hazardous conditions,
 - C. aware of the problems created for neighbouring countries such as Benin and Togo by the transit of thousands of refugees who are mainly trying to get back to Ghana,
 - D. convinced that these hastily taken expulsion measures are not likely to provide an answer to the present economic difficulties of Nigeria and that they are going to cause a serious aggravation of the situation in Benin, Togo and Ghana, which are incapable of absorbing a massive influx of labour,
1. Asks the Nigerian authorities to reconsider its expulsion measures and to investigate together with the neighbouring countries concerned, in the context of regional cooperation institutions, ways of limiting the adverse human and economic effects;
 2. Takes note of the emergency aid of 500,000 ECU granted by the Commission and asks the Commission to step up this aid and to see that it is channelled as rapidly and effectively as possible to the benefit of the people concerned;
 3. Asks the ACP-EEC Joint Committee which is to meet in Kingston on 21-25 February to include on its agenda of priorities the question of the rights of migrant workers in Africa;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council and to the Government of Nigeria.