

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1983 - 1984

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11 March 1983

DOCUMENT 1-14/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr LEZZI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the conservation of tropical forests, ecology  
and development

PE 83.710

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Pisani memorandum on development policy (COM(82) 640 final),
  - having regard to the resolution tabled by Mr Vergeer on behalf of the Joint Committee on the VIth annual report of the ACP-EEC Council of Ministers for the period of 1 April 1981 to 31 December 1981 as well as the initial experience gained under the second ACP-EEC Convention (Doc. ACP/EEC/38/32),
  - having regard to the Written Question by Mr Muntingh to the Commission and the Commission's answer (IS 747/82) and the proposal made by Mr Muntingh to the ACP-EEC Joint Committee on ecology and development (February 1983),
- A. whereas tropical rain forests are the richest and at the same time most endangered natural environment on the earth,
  - B. concerned by the fact that tropical forests are being destroyed at such a rate that 40% of them have already disappeared and the present jungle will be reduced by half by the end of the century,
  - C. whereas the resources of the jungle are renewable only to a limited extent and reforestation only partly compensates for the damage caused,
  - D. concerned by the fact that destruction of the jungle can for instance lead to climatic changes throughout the world,
  - E. whereas it is essential to make rational use of the jungle's potential resources for ecological as well as economic reasons, and convinced of the need for more carefully planned tree-felling and timber extraction operations,
  - F. convinced that the exploitation of tropical forests by multinational companies very frequently causes unnecessary damage and that the anti-ecological solutions opted for very often correspond to anti-economic solutions,
1. Considers conservation and valorization of the resources of the tropical rain forests and maintenance of the existing ecological balance of land areas essential for the promotion of independent and lasting development in the developing countries;
  2. Calls on the Member States to promote socio-economic development models in the developing countries that meet basic requirements for conserving the natural resources of tropical forests;
  3. Calls on the Commission, in its development policy in general and in the Lomé III negotiations in particular, to assert the principle of conservation of the natural environment of tropical forests and their potential natural resources and that ecological criteria are an integral part of development policy strategies;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly and the ACP-EEC Joint Committee.