

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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20 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-747/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BUTTAFUOCO, Mr ROMUALDI, Mr ALMIRANTE  
and Mr PETRONIO

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the renewal of the Italian-Tunisian fishing agreement

PE 81.106

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the fishing agreements concluded between the European Community and Guinea Bissau, Senegal, Norway, Spain, Canada and other countries,
  - B. whereas the Italian-Tunisian fishing agreement, which the Community is responsible for renewing, expired on 19 June 1979,
  - C. whereas at the last Council meeting on fisheries Italy again raised the question of the agreement asking for it to be renewed,
  - D. whereas the fisheries sector is one of the mainstays of the Sicilian economy,
  - E. whereas, because of the failure to renew the agreement, the work of the Sicilian motor-trawler fleets is made more difficult as they are forced to operate in waters at ever greater distances away from their home ports,
  - F. having regard to the Tunisian authorities' feeble commitment to cooperate with the Community to reach an agreement,
  - G. concerned at the increase in violent episodes such as the seizure of Sicilian motor-trawlers in international waters,
  - H. concerned at the fact that these episodes often result in bloodshed,
  - I. concerned that this continual delay in renewing the agreement may be detrimental to the prestige of the European institutions,
1. Requests that :
- (a) the fishing agreement which expired on 19 June 1979 be renewed as a matter of urgency,
  - (b) negotiations be opened meanwhile with the appropriate Tunisian authorities to protect the lives and property of Sicilian fishermen who, operate along the African coast but exclusively in international waters,
  - (c) the Italian navy provide protection in international waters,
  - (d) the crews being held prisoner in African ports be freed and their fishing vessels released;
2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council