

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 524/78

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr William W. HAMILTON

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on/human rights in South Africa

The European Parliament,

- noting that the situation of political refugees in South Africa is worsening, and that the plight of political prisoners inside the Republic is deteriorating,
 - noting that the number of political trials either under way or due to begin soon has increased enormously,
 - noting that as a result of this political repression there is a regular flow of political refugees across South Africa's borders,
 - noting that the South African authorities continue to detain and ban those judged to be political opponents, and that under new legislation the powers of detention available to the Minister of Justice have been widened, while court procedures have been adapted to make conviction on political charges easier,
 - noting further that some European firms, notably the British firm of International Computers Ltd. (I.C.L.), which is one quarter owned by the United Kingdom Government through the National Enterprise Board, have recently been selling their equipment to the South African police,
 - noting also that I.C.L. is now proposing to establish a manufacturing capacity in South Africa,
1. Believes that this equipment is being used, or will be used, for politically repressive purposes;
 2. Calls on the Council and Commission of the European Community and on the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation -
 - a) to persuade all Member States to open wider their doors to admit more political refugees from South Africa,
 - b) to persuade all Member States to take all appropriate action to demonstrate unequivocal opposition to the continued detention and banning of political opponents by the South African authorities,
 - c) to take joint action to stop immediately all sales to South Africa of technologically sophisticated equipment likely to be used for repressive purposes;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.