

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1983-1984

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October 1983

DOCUMENT 1-787/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr SIMMONDS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on Community Beaches

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to Council Directive 76/160 on the quality of bathing waters,
  - B. alarmed by reports from many coastal regions of the Community that the health of tourists has been jeopardised by the presence of untreated effluent and other pollutants in the bathing waters off popular beaches,
  - C. recognising that through growth in tourism more visitors are unaware of beach pollution problems which may be of short duration because of exceptional weather or tidal conditions. Likewise visitors may be unaware of medical advice to take precautions before bathing,
  - D. conscious of the fact that many European countries have a system of warning visitors to popular beaches of dangerous sea conditions by the flying of a red flag,
1. Urges the Commission to investigate with the ten Member States the practicality of introducing a common system of warning tourists locally on popular beaches when bathing in polluted waters might constitute a real danger to health;
  2. Suggests that a warning flag of common design be flown when potential dangers to health are present in such waters;
  3. Urges the Commission to investigate what, if any, advice is given to tourists in tourist guides and promotional literature concerning local health and pollution problems and any preventive medical practices which may be desirable, and if necessary, to seek legislation in the appropriate quarters to ensure that tourists are adequately advised in advance in such literature;
  4. Requests its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.