European Communities

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Mr EPHREMIDIS on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group

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

on the destruction of agricultural production in Greece caused by the recent violent storms

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the enormous amount of damage caused by the violent storms and hail in particular in Central and Northern Greece on 23 June 1983 and 3 July 1983, a time of the year when agricultural products are particularly sensitive to weather conditions of this kind,
- B. whereas the violent storms on 23 June 1983 resulted in the destruction of the following crops:
 - 10,000 hectares of cotton (40 -100% destroyed)
 400 hectares of beetroot (30 100% destroyed)
 500 hectares of clover (100% destroyed)

Water melons, cereals, maize and tobacco also suffered extensive damage.

- C. aware that it is not yet possible to estimate the extent of the damage caused by the disaster of 3 July 1983 but it causedmore destruction than the storms of 26 July 1983,
- D. bearing in mind that the producers of many of the regions affected are in the same tragic situation for the second successive year,
- E. bearing in mind the great inadequacies of the insurance system for producers,
- F. aware that these violent storms will result in enormous economic and social problems for large regions of Greece whose principal source of income is agriculture,
- 1. Calls on the Commission to intervene financially to deal with the great problems facing producers and entire agricultural regions;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to contribute to the realization of land improvement schemes and to furnish anti-hail machinery;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission.