

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-480/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr DE PASQUALE, Mr PAPAPIETRO, Mr VITALE,
Mr NIKOLAOU, Mr KYRKOS and Mr ZIAGAS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on safeguarding traditional production of nuts and
similar products

PE 85.489

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the traditional importance that the production of nuts and similar products has for the Mediterranean regions;
 - B. whereas these crops represent a source of income difficult to replace in many regions,
 - C. whereas these crops (particularly hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts, pistachios and carobs) play a specific role in protecting the soil and conserving and beautifying the countryside,
 - D. whereas the tree crops referred to also offer interesting possibilities for use for energy purposes, for certain wastes and for wood production,
 - E. concerned at the steady decline in the cultivated area and production of nuts which has severe consequences for agricultural incomes in already depressed areas,
 - F. having regard at the same time to the large increase in Community imports originating not just from developing countries but, above all, from the USA which in recent years has come to control the largest share of the international markets (60% for almonds),
1. Draws the Commission's attention to the need to safeguard the traditional production of nut crops and, to this end, considers that decisions should be taken as soon as possible to implement the following:
- (a) an experimental research programme to identify the varieties most suited to the conditions of the terrain and market possibilities in this area; the most advanced production techniques should also be studied and made known with a view to keeping down the costs of harvesting and processing;
 - (b) measures within the market to provide firmer guarantees for the incomes of nut growers, establishing at Community level quality control standards and safeguarding Community production from the competition of third countries. To this end, Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1035/72 should be amended;
 - (c) a pilot project, in a nut-producing region, financed by the EEC with funds under budget heading 550, to promote the development of these crops and providing for:
 - the rationalization of production and production techniques;
 - the production of varieties in line with demand;
 - the use of waste from processing for energy purposes;
 - the necessary drying and processing plants;
 - productive collateral activities (e.g. agriculture and tourism);
 - soil conservation and protection of the natural environment.
2. Instructs its President to forward to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Member States concerned.