

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr TRAVAGLINI, Mr O'DONNELL,
Mr COSTANZO and Mr LIMA

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the ERDF contribution to house-building in
the least favoured areas of the Community

The European Parliament,

- whereas the gravity of the housing problem affects the development potential of the least favoured regions of the Community,
- whereas, in the context of the new regional development policy criteria being drawn up by the Commission for the purposes of ERDF intervention, housing should be considered as a necessary infrastructure for the development of these regions, although due precautions should be taken to safeguard the financing of measures designed to eliminate the structural causes of backwardness in development,
- whereas the ERDF contribution to priority building programmes could help to offset the high cost of loan finance, particularly when this derives from foreign loans which may involve exchange-rate risks,

calls on the Commission and Council to

1. Include housing among the infrastructure required for the development of the least favoured regions of the Community;
2. Allow the Member States, nevertheless, to use a part of the 'quota section' allocated to them annually from the European Regional Development Fund to assist residential building programmes related to the development of these regions;
3. Stipulate that such contributions may not exceed 15% of the annual quota allocated to the Member State in question and that they must not represent more than 20% of the overall cost of the programmes. ERDF intervention could take the form of interest subsidies as well as of contributions to capital.