EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION tabled by Mr de la MALENE and Mr LALOR, on behalf of the Group of European Progressive Democrats

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the European Parliament's contribution to finding a solution to the British share in the Community budget

The European Parliament,

- considering the danger to the Community arising from the British request concerning its share in the Community budget and the creation of a new system of extra-Community financing,
- considering that the seriousness of the problem lies less in figures than in the fundamental differences of approach to Europe between the United Kingdom and its eight partners,
- Recalls that the fundamental principles of own resources, Community preference and financial solidarity constitute the very essence of the Community;
- 2. Recalls that the own resources collected by the Member States on the Community's behalf are intended to finance existing common policies;
- Notes that the British deficit, which has been substantially reduced in recent months, is due to objective causes inherent in the structure of its economy and trade;
- 4. Acknowledges that the sudden increase in the United Kingdom's payments merits consideration and calls for specific, limited measures which do not undermine, either directly or indirectly, basic principles or the Community patrimony;
- 5. Considers that this situation must be rectified by the implementation of new common policies and by a greater effort on the part of the United Kingdom to respect the Community's rules and to get more of its supplies from the Community;
- 6. Considers that if there is to be real convergence of the economies any additional Community action in the United Kingdom must be accompanied by action of at least equivalent effect in the least prosperous states, in particular Ireland;
- Believes that the Community must give added encouragement to intra-Community trade so as to stimulate the re-orientation of British trade;
- 8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.