

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr Richard COTTRELL

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the future of the EEC railway network

The European Parliament,

- Recalling the decisions of the European Council in Venice with regard to energy conservation,
- Viewing with alarm the declining competitive position of the Community railway network,
- Observing that the fundamental cause of this decline is the overall inflationary situation throughout the Community related to the lack of co-ordinated investment to improve the efficiency and productivity of the railway network,
- Observes with concern the rapidly deteriorating situation in this respect in the United Kingdom in particular,
- States without qualification that a further decline in the extent and status of the Community railway network cannot be entertained considering the energy situation in terms of the cost and supply of fuel,
- Warning that Member States will risk grave economic consequence in permitting a further decline of the rail network, bearing in mind its certain economic strategic value in the future,

CALLS UPON THE COMMISSION

1. To prepare with urgency, on the basis of work already underway, a proposal to improve and reinforce the competitive position of the Community rail network;
2. To advise the Council, with equal urgency, that Member States who permit a further decline in their individual network risk a distortion of the Community transport system in general;
3. To advise the Council, by way of memorandum, that transport strategies must be viewed henceforth with full regard to efficient use of the Community's energy supplies.