

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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16 September 1982

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr EYRAUD and others

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on emergency measures in favour of areas badly  
affected by persistent drought



THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

- A - having regard to the statements made by the Commission representative to the Committee on Agriculture on 13 July 1982 in answer to a question by Mr EYRAUD,
- B - having regard to the statement made by Commissioner NATALI at the last part-session in Strasbourg,
- C - having regard to the climatic and rainfall conditions prevailing in certain regions in the South of Italy and in France south of the Loire,
- D - whereas in certain French départements the lack of significant snowfall or rainfall since last October is leading to a marked diminution in natural water reserves and the drying-up of many springs,
- E - whereas there were late frosts in some of these departments and an abnormal heat wave has persisted since the second half of June, exacerbating an already worrying situation,
- F - whereas, moreover, harvests of fodder, cereals and other crops have been reduced to a disastrous extent,
- G - whereas the growing numbers of fires breaking out in all the regions of South-East and South-West France are destroying thousands of hectares of forest, a valuable resource for the whole of the Community,
- H - whereas in consequence, the financial difficulties of farmers will increase over the next few months and in many cases the purchase of fodder or substitutes will be inadequate or impossible and, therefore, sales of livestock will be inevitable,
- I - whereas, moreover, the replacement of livestock will in many cases be difficult and further unemployment will thus be created,



**Calls on the Commission and the Council:**

1. To take structural measures to improve water-catchment and the water supply networks, particularly in rural areas where the population and livestock are suffering cruelly from the effects of drought,
2. To take steps to alleviate the effects of a very abnormal climatic situation in which the procedures laid down by each Member State for such cases are no longer adequate and much more must be done,
3. To set up an improved system of protection against forest fires,
4. To grant aid, in addition to national aid and local aid to the farmers concerned, some of whom have lost their income through this catastrophe - for example by reinforcing the appropriations for national funds for agricultural disasters.

