European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1981 - 1982

12 FEBRUARY 1982

DOCUMENT 1-1006/81

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs BARBARELLA, Mr VITALE, Mr PAPAPIETRO, Mr CARDIA, Mr IPPOLITO, Mr CERAVOLO and Mr D'ANGELOSANTE

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the Mediterranean programmes

English Edition PE 77.369

The European Parliament,

- whereas the differences in levels of development between Mediterranean and northern areas have grown wider during the 1970s, as is clearly brought out in the conclusions of the first report on the social and economic situation of the regions of the EEC¹,
- whereas the operation of the common agricultural policy has been a substantial factor in this growing disparity, as the Commission itself points out in the document presented pursuant to the mandate of 30 May²,
- noting the Commission's intention of embarking on a policy to narrow the gap between the Mediterranean and the other regions through medium-term programmes directed specifically at those areas,
- Believes that the decisions on the scope and nature of these programmes, and on the financial resources to be allocated to them, should form an integral part of the negotiations on the 82/83 farm prices and related measures in implementation of the mandate;
- Considers that these measures in the Mediterranean area should be expressed in an effective policy for restoring the balance between the regions and not simply in some form of financial compensation with a view to the further enlargement of the Community;
- 3. Takes the view in any case that whatever political and financial commitment is made to these measures, it does not dispense with the need for improvements to the market organizations for Mediterranean products;
- 4. Supports the general guidelines proposed by the Commission for the drawing up of the programmes, but believes that it should speed up work on them so that the first programmes can be introduced by the beginning of next year;
- 5. Suggests for this purpose that the programmes be subdivided into three types:
 - (a) measures to develop individual product areas

these should consist of plans to improve the conditions of production in clearly defined areas which have good potential for crops or livestock; more specifically the plans should develop new and/or alternative products; improve the quality of production in the Mediterranean sector while at the same time diversifying varieties if necessary; develop non-Mediterranean animal products.

(b) regional rural measures

these should be programmes supporting the plans in the product areas to make it possible to create the structures and infrastructures as a basis for the comprehensive social and economic development of the area concerned and should therefore include measures to:

test and make available technological innovations;
guarantee the full use of water and land resources;

¹ COM (80) 816 fin.

² COM (80) 800 fin.

³ COM (81) 608 fin.

- create efficient rural infrastructures:
- modernize the methods of transporting, preserving and processing products;
- facilitate building programmes in rural areas;
- provide incentives to tourism in agricultural areas;
- take action to protect the land and the countryside;
- develop rural activities connected with agriculture;
- initiate vocational training and retraining programmes.

(c) integrated development measures

although it is essential to solve the agricultural problems facing the Mediterranean areas, a whole range of measures is necessary, covering the whole economic and social development of the areas if they are to recover from the backwardness in their development; there is therefore a need for integrated development programmes to deal in a comprehensive way with the problems of industrial and civil infrastructures, small and medium sized industry, craft industries and services; unless this is done there can only be a worsening in the problem of unemployment and an exacerbation of urban congestion in the metropolitan areas in the less favoured regions;

These various aspects could be present in whole or in part in each programme according to the specific requirements of the area at which the programme is directed;

- 6. Calls on the Commission to set up at an early date a working party composed of its own representatives and representatives of the national and regional authorities and to determine with their assistance:
 - the project areas
 - the specific content of the various programmes
 - the financial resources to be allocated at Community, national and regional level;
 - the administrative procedures that will be required by the fact that this type of project represents an innovation in this field.
- Calls upon the Commission to set up a suitable internal structure to coordinate the funds and manage the programmes properly;
- 8. Instructs its parliamentary committees responsible to report to it in due time on the basis of Rule 94(4) and Rule 97(1) of its Rules of Procedure, as appropriate, on the drawing up and implementation of the medium term programmes in the framework of a general policy for the development of the Mediterranean area.