EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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13 NOVEMBER 1979

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SUPPLEMENTARY

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions to the report

containing urgent proposals for amendments to certain of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure (Doc. 1-404/79)

Rapporteur : Mr H.R. NORD

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Following the debate on the report by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions (Doc. 1-404/79), the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions met at 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 13 November 1979 to examine the amendments tabled to the report.

During the meeting, proposals were made in an effort to reach a compromise on certain controversial points, which would expedite the vote and could lead to the withdrawal of certain amendments.

After a vote, the committee adopted the following proposals which are set out in this supplementary report.

Present: Mr Nyborg, chairman; Mrs Vayssade, lst vice-chairman;
Mr Malangré, 3rd vice-chairman; Mr Nord, rapporteur; Mrs Bonino; Mrs Boot;
Mr Cecovin: (deputizing for Mr Vanderpoorten); Mr Chambeiron;
Mr D'Angelosante; Mr Friedrich; Mr Galland; Mr Hänsch; Mr Janssen van
Raay (deputizing for Mr Fischbach); Mr Klepsch (deputizing for Mrs Gaiotti
de Biase); Mr Luster; Mr Patterson; Mr Price (deputizing for Lady Elles);
Mr Rogers; Mr Turner; Mr Tyrrell and Mr Verroken.

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Rule 12(2):

In the seventh line, delete the words 'by a political group, or'.

In the eighth line, after the word 'Members' add the phrase 'on the understanding that a political group or at least ten Members shall have the right to propose, at each part-session, one alteration to the draft agenda'.

Rule 29(5) (new):

In the sixth line of the second subparagraph, delete the words 'a political group or'.

Rule 35 :

The text proposed by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions has been replaced by the following text which incorporates, except for one modification, the text of amendment No. 10 tabled by Mr LUSTER, Mr FISCHBACH and Mr KLEPSCH, on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democratic Group).

- '1. Normally Parliament shall vote by show of hands.
- '2. If the President decides that the result of the shows of hands is doubtful, a fresh vote shall be taken by sitting and standing.
- '3. If the President decides that the result of this last vote is doubtful, the vote shall be taken by roll call.
- '4. If so requested by at least twenty-one Members or a political group before the voting has begun, the vote shall be taken by roll call.
- '5. The roll shall be called in alphabetical order, beginning with the name of a Member drawn by lots. The President shall be the last to be called to vote.

Voting shall be by word of mouth and shall be expressed by 'Yes', 'No', or 'I abstain'. In calculating whether a motion has been adopted or rejected, account shall be taken only of votes cast for and against. The President shall establish the result of the count and announce it.

Votes shall be recorded in the minutes of proceedings of the sitting in the alphabetical order of Members' names.

- '6. The President may at any time decide for the voting operations indicated in paragraphs 1 to 5 above to be taken by means of the electronic voting system.
- The technical provisions for the use of the electronic voting system shall be laid down by the enlarged Bureau.
 - '7. When an electronic vote is taken, only the numerical result of the vote shall be recorded.

However, if a vote by roll call has been requested in accordance with paragraph 4, the result of the vote shall be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings in the alphabetical order of Members' names.

- '8. The vote by roll call shall be taken in accordance with paragraph 5 if a majority of the Members present so request; the procedure indicated in paragraph 6 may be used to determine whether a majority exists.
- '9. Without prejudice to Rules 2(2), 7(2) and (4), 21(4), 24(2) and (3), 41(5), 54 and the provisions of the budgetary procedure, motions put to the vote shall be declared adopted only if they have secured a majority of the votes cast.

In the event of a tie, the motion shall stand rejected.

"10. In the case of appointments, voting shall be by secret ballot without prejudice to Rules 7(1), 37(2) and 41(5) second subparagraph. Only ballot papers bearing the names of persons who have been nominated shall be taken into account in calculating the number of votes cast.'

The rapporteur wishes to point out that a number of committee members have requested a separate vote on the words 'or a political group' in paragraph 4.

Rule 36(5):

The text proposed by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions is replaced by the following text which is the same as paragraph 1 of amendment No. 41 tabled by Mr CAPANNA.

'5. A minimum number of twenty-one Members shall be required to form a political group if all the Members come from a single Member State. The corresponding number shall be fifteen if the Members come from two Member States and ten if they come from three or more Member States.'

Article 36A (new):

The text proposed by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions has been replaced by the following text, which corresponds in part to amendment No. 6 tabled by Mrs SPAAK and Mr GENDEBIEN:

- '1. Members who do not belong to a political group shall form part of the group of non-attached Members.
- '2. This group shall delegate two of its members to attend meetings of the enlarged Bureau, without the right to vote.
- '3. The group of non-attached Members shall be provided with administrative facilities and have at its disposal a secretariat, the composition and size of which shall be determined by the enlarged Burcau on a proposal from the Secretary-General, having regard to the number of non-attached Members.
- 4. The speaking time of non-attached Members shall be calculated in accordance with Rule 28(2). The time thus obtained shall be doubled so as to take account of the great diversity of political views within the group of non-attached Members to enable, as far as possible, each such view to be expressed. Each member of the group of non-attached Members shall be accorded the same speaking time. If he does not wish to use his speaking time he may assign it to another non-attached Member.

The method by which this speaking time may be allocated shall be determined by the enlarged Bureau.

'5. The allocation of seats on the various committees to members of the group of non-attached Members shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Rule 37.

Rule 37(3):

The Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Petitions has withdrawn its proposed modification; it intends to examine this rule in greater detail at a later date.

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