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Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External
Economic Relations

on the /texts of the Supplementary Protocols to
the EEC-TUNISIA and EEC-MOROCCO Association
Agreements following the accession of new
Member States to the European Economic
Community (Doc. 26/73)

Rapporteur: Mr L. FELLERMAIER



By letter of 11 April 1973 the Council of the Communities consulted the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 238 of the EEC Treaty, on the Supplementary Protocols to the EEC-TUNISIA and EEC-MOROCCO Association Agreements negotiated with those countries following the accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community (Doc. 26/73).

On 4 May 1973 the recommendations were referred by Parliament to the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion.

On 4 May 1973 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr L. Fellermaier rapporteur. At this same meeting the following motion for a resolution and explanatory statement were adopted unanimously. The committee decided to propose that the vote on this report be taken without debate, pursuant to Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure.

The following were present: Mr de la Malène, chairman; Mr Fellermaier, vice-chairman, rapporteur; Mr Baas, Mr Bangemann, Mr Bousquet, Mr Brégégère, Mr Christensen, Mr Cousté, Mr Dewulf, Mr Habib-Deloncle, Mr Lange, Sir John Peel and Mr Schultz.

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A.

The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the texts of the Supplementary Protocols to the EEC-TUNISIA and EEC-MOROCCO Association Agreements following the accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Supplementary Protocols to the EEC-TUNISIA and EEC-MOROCCO Association Agreements following the accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community (COM(73) 101 final);
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 238 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 26/73);
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 51/73);
1. Approves these recommendations for regulations;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the accompanying explanatory statement to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

B.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. On 28 February and 2 March 1973 the EEC signed protocols with Tunisia and Morocco laying down the transitional measures and the adjustments to the EEC-Tunisia and EEC-Morocco Association Agreements rendered necessary by the enlargement of the Community on 1 January 1973 .

These transitional measures and adjustments will allow the three new Member States to adopt progressively the provisions of the EEC-Tunisia and EEC-Morocco agreements, it being understood that relations between the Community as originally constituted and the two associated States will continue to be governed by the association agreements signed in Tunis and Rabat in 1969.

2. In the preamble to these protocols it is pointed out that the Contracting Parties aim at negotiating a new, broader-based agreement, and that the Community has planned for this new agreement to cover not only a preferential trade system but also other measures relating to cooperation.

In a statement annexed to the Protocol, the Community explains that preparations for negotiating this new agreement are being conducted with a view to concluding the negotiations before the end of 1973, so as to allow the completion of the constitutional procedures necessary for the agreement to enter into force on 1 September 1974.

The aim is to bring forward the date of implementation of the proposed new trade arrangements, if possible to 1 January 1974.

3. These protocols will come into force on the first day of the month following the date on which the Contracting Parties notify each other of the completion of the required procedures.

As far as the Community is concerned, it is proposed, pursuant to Article 238 of the EEC Treaty, that these protocols will be concluded by the Council after Parliament has been consulted.

4. Parliament became acquainted with the contents of these protocols on 25 January 1973, before they were signed, during an exchange of views with the President-in-Office of the Council carried out under the 'Luns procedure'.

As no major reservations on these protocols were made at that time, Parliament is now asked to deliver a favourable opinion on them.

¹ See Article 108 of the Act of Accession in this connection.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the President of the Committee on Agriculture

Luxembourg, 16 April 1973

Dear Mr President,

At its meeting of 12 and 13 April 1973 in Brussels, the Committee on Agriculture considered the recommendations for a regulation concerning the conclusion of two protocols laying down certain provisions on the EEC-Morocco and EEC-Tunisia Association Agreements, which had been referred to it for its opinion.

The Committee on Agriculture has instructed me to forward with this letter the opinion formulated at the above meeting on the basis of a draft presented orally by Mr Vetrone, deputizing for the draftsman, Mr Ligios.

In view of the fact that the texts in question concern adjustments to existing agreements rendered necessary by the enlargement of the Community, and that these provisions will be applicable only during the transitional period preceding the entry into force of new, broader-based agreements to be negotiated in the course of this year, the Committee on Agriculture is delivering a favourable opinion on them.

This opinion was adopted unanimously.

The following were present for the vote: Mr Houdet, chairman; Mr Vredeling, vice-chairman; Mr Vetrone, vice-chairman and draftsman (deputizing for Mr Ligios), Mrs Orth, Mr de Koning, Mr McDonald, Mr Scott-Hopkins, Mr Hilliard, Mr Durieux, Mr Liogier and Mr Lefèbvre.

Yours sincerely,

Roger HOUDET

