

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1973-1974

19 SEPTEMBER 1973

DOCUMENT 165/73

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by

Mr BROEKSZ, on behalf of the Socialist Group

- with request that it be dealt with by urgent procedure
pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure -

on

the measures taken by the Council to improve its decision-making procedures

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Paragraph 15 of the declaration issued at the end of the Conference of Heads of State or Government in October 1972, which includes a stipulation that the Council will take practical steps before 30 June 1973 'to improve its decision-making procedures and the cohesion of Community action';
 - noting that the Council was unable to keep to the above-mentioned date and did not decide on a first series of practical measures until its meeting of 23 and 24 July 1973;
 - noting further that this first series of measures will not lead to a basic improvement of the Council's decision-making procedures and the cohesion of Community action since they only apply to a small number of marginal phenomena;
 - emphasizing again that an end must be put to a situation in which almost 400 Commission proposals await a Council decision and night sittings are frequently necessary;
1. Expresses its dissatisfaction with the first series of practical measures taken by the Council to improve its decision-making procedures;
 2. Requests the Council to fix a date by which it will take effective measures;
 3. Asks the Council to consider the following measures:
 - (a) The transfer of powers to the Commission;
 - (b) More frequent abstention by Member States once a substantial majority in favour of a given position has emerged within the Council;
 - (c) Holding Council meetings and political consultations of the Community's Ministers of Foreign Affairs at the same place and time;
 - (d) An assurance that all meetings of ministers at which problems of importance to the Community are discussed will in future take place within the framework of the institutional machinery provided in the Treaty.
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the governments of the Member States.