

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs LIZIN and Mr VAN MIERT

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on North-South relations following the  
Paris Conference

PE 74.781

The European Parliament,

- having heard the appeals made by 54 Nobel prize winners and the World Conference on the problems of the least-advanced countries;
- whereas hunger has already killed millions of people and famine will tomorrow threaten hundreds of millions; whereas malnutrition irreversibly damages the mental and physical health of children throughout the world and the declining world economic order offers no prospect but an aggravation of the crisis;
- whereas Europe will find neither prosperity nor security in a world economy depressed by the growing distress of the masses in the South;
- whereas the new technologies to be invented as a result of the progress made this century in basic physics and biology, together with existing technologies that have not yet been transferred, are capable of meeting immense food and energy requirements if they are applied to land-based, fresh water and salt water production in today's poorest countries; whereas however it is not enough for such a solution to be possible for it to be implemented;
- whereas the natural course of events will bring untold suffering to the new proletariat of the world instead of leading to such a solution unless it is deliberately guided by the political leaders of the countries of the North and South;
- whereas Europe, which has led the world in the great industrial, scientific and technological adventure that has made poverty avoidable, owes it to itself to take the initiatives needed to restore the hopes of the populations of the South and recreate full employment in the North;
- noting and deploring the fact that, instead of increasing, North-South cooperation has lost momentum and that stupid egoism is regaining ground amid general gloom and despondency;

Invites the Council, the Commission and the Member States

1. To take or support the initiatives needed to check the deterioration in world cooperation and North-South relations;
2. To provide a substantial impetus by making full use of the United Nations and EEC systems, the Lomé agreements, agreements with non-associated countries and bilateral cooperation, but with additional resources;
3. To leave no stone unturned in trying to convince the other industrialized countries in both the west and east of the temperate zone as well as the

oil-producing countries of the need to participate in the more effective world solidarity that is so urgently needed that there can be no geopolitical or financial excuse for delaying or evading it;

4. Even if those other countries refuse to join us, to embark resolutely on a joint programme between Europe and the countries of the South to overcome the threat of famine that looms ahead and redirect the world economy along a course of growth in keeping with a new model;
5. Irrespective of emergency food aid, to allocate priority to measures to help Third World countries, particularly the poorest, to increase their capacity to produce the food and energy they need and, with the aid of science and technology, to sow the seeds of their future progress and greater autonomy in their industrialization;
6. To negotiate without delay with the oil-producing countries and the countries in difficulty, new bases for the financing and management of investments and North-South trade, and, in this framework, the possibility of setting up a development bank jointly by Europe and the countries of the South;
7. Calls on the Commission to report to it annually on the state of the world economy, North-South relations and the results of the European initiatives.