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REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Development and
Cooperation

on the Communication from the Commission of the European
Communities to the Council (Doc. C2-98/85 - COM(85) 517 final)
concerning the Community and the Mediterranean countries:
guidelines for economic cooperation

Rapporteur: Mr Renzo TRIVELLI

PE 103.937/fin.
Or. En

By letter of 15 October 1985, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion, pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty on the Communication from the Commission to the Council on the Community and the Mediterranean countries: Guidelines for economic cooperation.

On 21 October 1985, the President of the European Parliament referred this communication to the Committee on Development and Cooperation as the committee responsible and to the Committee on External Economic Relations and the Committee on Budgets for an opinion.

At its meeting on 16 October 1985, the Committee on Development and Cooperation appointed Mr TRIVELLI rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission's communication and the draft report at its meeting of 18 and 20 March 1986.

At the last meeting, the committee unanimously decided to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission's guidelines without amendment.

The committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole unanimously.

The following took part in the vote: Mr de Courcy Ling, vice-chairman and acting chairman, Mr Trivelli, rapporteur; Mr Baget Bozo, Mr Barros Moura, Mr Barzainti (deputizing for Mrs Cinciari Rodano), Mr Cohen, Mrs De Backer-van Ocken, Mr Duran Corsanego, Mr Estrella Pedrola, Mr Flanagan (deputizing for Mr Andrews), Mrs Garcia Arias, Mr Grimaldos Grimaldos (deputizing for Mr Fellermaier), Mr Habsburg (deputizing for Mr Wawrzik), Mrs Heinrich, Mr Ch. Jackson, Mrs Lehideux (deputizing for Mr d'Ormesson), Mr McGowan, Mr Pons Grau, Mrs Rabbethge, Mrs Schmit, Dr Sherlock and Mr Verbeek.

The Committee on External Economic Relations decided not to deliver an opinion, as the question had been treated in the GALUZZI report¹. The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

This report was tabled on 24 March 1986. The explanatory statement will be given orally.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.

¹ OJ No. C 141 of 10.6.1985

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The Committee on Development and Cooperation hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the Communication by the Commission of the European Communities to the Council on the Community and the Mediterranean countries: Guidelines for economic cooperation

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the Council (COM (85) 517 final)
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. C2 98/85),
- having regard to the resolution of 10 May 1985 on the cooperation agreements with the developing countries of the Mediterranean region in the context of a global Mediterranean policy of the Community,¹
- having regard to the HÄNSCH report on the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal,²
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and Cooperation and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. A2-21/86),

¹ OJ No. C 141, 10.6.85, p. 485

² OJ No. C 141, 10.6.85, p. 130
OJ No. C 262, 14.10.85, p. 65

- (a) having regard to the Treaties of Accession of Spain and Portugal and the commitments undertaken therein,
- (b) having regard to the necessity of establishing a coherent global Mediterranean policy which safeguards and promotes the social, economic and political interests of the countries of the Mediterranean region,
- (c) having regard to the enlargement of the European Community and the potential effects of enlargement on European Community policy vis-à-vis the Mediterranean countries,
- (d) bearing in mind that the enlargement of the European Community adds another dimension to the relationship which the Community has on the whole enjoyed with the countries bordering on the Mediterranean,
- (e) bearing in mind that this additional dimension will not in itself strengthen the relationship between the European Community and the Mediterranean countries unless the Community policy in relation to the Mediterranean region is seen to be constructive and credible by all partners involved in the current negotiations,
- (f) bearing in mind that several countries of the Mediterranean are experiencing difficulties in their ability to maintain their level of trade, particularly in sensitive products, with the European Community,
- (g) bearing in mind the objectives of a global Mediterranean policy which are to establish and enrich the degree of economic interdependence to benefit both North and South of the Mediterranean region, to provide in the medium and long term for increased food production leading to self-sufficiency, to protect and promote the interests of the rural, economic and social infrastructure in the less-developed Mediterranean countries,
- (h) whereas the Community's Mediterranean policy will have to take into account the interests of the new Member States and the other states of Southern Europe,

1. Welcomes the fact that the European Council has accepted the need for a reassessment of European Community policies in relation to , in particular, the developing countries of the Mediterranean;
2. Expresses its concern that differences of opinion within the Council in relation to the financial package, to the commercial and trade discussions and to medium and long term development policy may seriously jeopardise the chances of creating a Mediterranean policy based on a global concept;
3. Believes that the allocation of proper financial resources and their proper management is crucial to the outcome of the Community's Mediterranean policy, as more than anything else they provide a measure of the Community's commitment to cooperation and development in the region;
4. Believes that the current proposals made by the Council to increase resources allocation by approximately 50% compared to the existing financial protocols (43% to take account of inflation) is inadequate and will not promote the launching of new policies for which the Commission has a negotiating mandate;
5. Expresses its support for the development of joint ventures in small and medium sized rural industrial projects and a wider use of co-financing operations aimed at the improvement of the regions' transport and communications infrastructure;
6. Supports all measures which aim at encouraging greater regional cooperation, and in particular the establishment of closer economic and cultural links between the Mediterranean region and the countries of the Lomé Convention. Such regional cooperation should be extended to the industrial, scientific and technical areas and environmental programmes;

7. Believes that discussions must be reopened in the framework of the multifibre agreement, in order to restore normal trading patterns in textiles between the developing countries of the Mediterranean region and the European Community, trading patterns which were in fact recognised in previous cooperation agreements, but which were not respected;
8. Urges the Commission and the Council in the context of its negotiations, to pay particular attention to the need to assure a mutually acceptable level of trade ;
9. Considers, in the context of the necessary reform of the CAP, that due emphasis be placed on the inter-relationship of the EEC with the Mediterranean developing countries and on the protection of the interests of the poorest Mediterranean countries as regards their so-called sensitive products;
10. Considers that institutions like the IMF and the World Bank should, together with EEC institutions concerned, help to solve the debt problems of countries in this region, so that primarily the poor people of these countries will have better possibilities to produce for their own basic needs;
11. Considers that the creating and implementation of food strategies aimed at agricultural self-sufficiency should constitute a priority for the EEC in the current negotiations, particularly given the foreseeable effect of rapid demographic growth in the countries concerned;
12. Believes that greater cooperation should be established in the fisheries sector to protect existing fish stocks and to promote a long term development of the fisheries industry;
13. Reiterates its request for a study to be carried out and subsequently made widely available by the Commission and the European Investment Bank on ways to more actively promote private investments in the countries of the Mediterranean region;

14. Believes that more financial provisions must be made available to assist in education and professional training in the countries concerned by this report, and by so doing, encourage participation by other developing countries in the operation of such schemes;
15. Emphasises the need previously expressed by the Parliament and subsequently supported in the report of the Committee of Inquiry into the rise of Fascism and Racism for the European Community, in conjunction with the Member States, to improve social and cultural policies which aim at the harmonious integration of migrant workers and their families into European society, and to support reinforced policies of cultural cooperation between the EEC and the countries of the Mediterranean region;
16. Calls for a more intensive and structured contact and cooperation between the European Parliament and parliamentary representatives of Maghreb and Mashreq countries. Where it can be helpful, all possible initiatives should be taken to guarantee stability and peace in these regions. As a first step, wishes that its three 'Mediterranean interparliamentary delegations' seek a joint meeting with their counterparts, for instance to examine ways and means to implement the new activities;
17. Considers that, in the interests of regional political stability, harmonious political and commercial relations between the countries of the EC and the Mediterranean must be maintained and further developed. In this context the political and financial commitments entered into by the European Community should match the political and economic objectives decided upon by the countries of the Mediterranean region in the course of the negotiations;
18. Draws particular attention to the delicate problem of the West Sahara region and considers that the Community's position should favour peaceful solutions to intraregional conflicts;
19. Considers that Community aid should never be granted directly or indirectly to military structures or projects;
20. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities, to national parliaments of the Communities, and to the Mediterranean countries concerned.

OPINION BY THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the chairman of the committee, to Mrs K. FOCKE, chairman of the Committee on Development and Cooperation

Subject: Communication from the Commission to the Council on the Community and Mediterranean countries: Guidelines for economic cooperation (COM(85) 517 - Doc. C 2-98/85)

Dear Mrs FOCKE,

At its meeting of 20 March 1986 the Committee on Budgets considered the Commission proposal referred to above.

It took note of the Commission's proposal to set up a new budget heading in 1987 to finance Community participation in joint ventures.

It approved the communication from the Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Jean-Pierre COT

The following were present: Mr COT, chairman; Mr RYAN, vice-chairman, Mr ABENS, Mr ARIAS CANETE, Sir Fred CATHERWOOD, Mr CHRISTODOULOU, Mr COLOM I.NAVAL, Mr DANKERT, Mr EYRAUD (deputizing for Mrs FUILLET), Mr LANGES, Mr POTSCHKI (deputizing for Mr HACKEL) and Mr ROSA.