

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1976 - 1977

13 OCTOBER 1976

354/76

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PRESCOTT

on behalf of the Socialist Group

with request for an immediate vote pursuant to Rule 47(4) of the Rules of Procedure

to wind up the debate on oral questions Docs 325/76, 326/76 and 327/76

on the extension of the Community Member States' fishing zones to 200 miles on 1 January 1977; fishing agreements with non-Community nations; and a revised Common Fishing Policy.

PE 46.377

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the failure of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference to produce an international convention for ratification at its September session;
 - having regard to the intention of some States including Iceland, Norway, the United States and Canada to extend unilaterally their fishing zones to 200 miles early in 1977;
 - noting that the consequences will be severely detrimental to the fishing industries of the Community if the Community States fail to extend their fishing zones to 200 miles;
 - convinced of the need for Member States of the Community to take immediate action;
1. Calls upon the Council of the Communities to agree an extension of the Community Member States' fishing zones to 200 miles on 1 January 1977;
 2. Calls upon the Commission to open discussions on fishing agreements with non-Community nations, and to begin immediately negotiations with Iceland concerning the British fishing agreement which ends on 30 November;
 3. Calls upon the Commission to take the initiative in calling for a conference of Ministers from Community Member States and our European neighbours in the Council of Europe to discuss the social, political and economic problems that will arise from unilateral European extension of fishing zones;
 4. Urges rapid agreement on a revised Common Fishing Policy consequent on the extension of fishing zones by the Community and its neighbours on the basis of a Community-agreed system of:
 - a) fishing quotas for each Member State;
 - b) limiting of fishing effort by licensing arrangements;
 - c) reserved fishing zones; and
 - d) coastal fishing conservation zones up to 50 miles controlled by the coastal state for the purpose of conservation of fishing stocks.

Such a policy would give due recognition to the historic fishing rights of Member States, the needs of those peripheral coastal regions which are particularly dependent on fishing and the essential requirement to conserve and increase the Community's fishing stocks.

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.