

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1979 - 1980

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr GLINNE
on behalf of the Socialist Group

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on world hunger

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The European Parliament,

- profoundly concerned at the persistent hunger situation in the world as illustrated by numerous statistics and international surveys :
 - according to the FAO, 70% of the world population suffers from chronic undernourishment, and 24% suffers from starvation,
 - according to a recent World Bank report, at least 700 million if not 1,000 million people will be living in a state of utter poverty in the year 2000,
 - alarmed at the exceptional periods of severe famine which strike the poorest and most underprivileged countries of Africa, Asia and South America,
 - noting the negligible effect of the industrialized countries' aid to the developing countries, which has still not reached the 0.7% agreed in the United Nations,
 - noting that little progress has been made towards establishing the new international economic order, and that the gap between the poor countries and the industrialized countries remains as wide as ever,
 - noting that the 'green revolution', which had inspired a certain amount of hope as regards the development and improvement of agricultural production in the developing countries, has not in fact come up to expectations,
 - convinced of the need to increase agricultural production in the developing countries,
 - convinced also that, in order to meet the most immediate needs of these countries, the question of food aid should be given special attention without delay,
1. Draws the Community's attention to the seriousness of the situation and urges it to recognize its responsibilities and the role it should play in this field;
 2. Insists that the Community should adopt a general voluntarist approach and find increased resources to save these people condemned to die of hunger, and deplores, therefore, the Council's intention to reduce the appropriations proposed by the Commission for food aid, especially cereals, in 1980;
 3. Emphasizes that the problem of world hunger is connected with the whole question of underdevelopment and urges, therefore, that the Community should implement a genuine food policy, which would include food aid policy, a financial and technical aid policy in the development sector, and a policy aimed at guaranteeing food supplies not only in the developing countries but throughout the world;
 4. Requests the Community to endorse the recommendation formulated by the fifth session of the World Food Council, with a view to resuming negotiations on the new food aid convention without waiting for the resumption of negotiations on the convention on trade in cereals;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

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