

# European Communities

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## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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11 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-713/82

### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr EYRAUD, Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI,  
Mr GLINNE, Mr JAQUET and Mr SEEFELD,  
on behalf of the Socialist Group

with request for topical and urgent debate  
pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on emergency measures on behalf of areas hit  
by the drought in spring and early summer 1982  
(forest fires, crop losses, etc.)

The European Parliament,

- A. Having regard to the statement made by Commissioner NATALI in Strasbourg during the July 1982 part-session,
  - B. Having regard to the statements made by the Commission representative to the Committee on Agriculture on 13 July 1982 in reply to a question by Mr EYRAUD,
  - C. Having regard to the exceptional climatic conditions in Greece, in southern Italy and in the south of France during the summer of 1982,
  - D. Whereas in the south of France in particular the rainfall deficit is about one third over the last 3 years and more than half over the last 5 years with the result that natural water reserves have been depleted considerably and springs have dried up with disastrous consequences for agriculture, water-consuming industries and fire fighting,
  - E. Whereas the members of a united Community cannot be indifferent to the extent of the damage caused by fires this summer to the common heritage of our forests in southern Europe, particularly in the Var and Corsica,
  - F. Whereas the pooling of protective measures within the large area covered by the forests of the Mediterranean, stretching from the south of France to Italy and eastern Greece, would benefit each region concerned and whereas European action in 1983 to protect these forests would be a sensible initiative consistent with the provisions of Article 235 of the Treaty of Rome,
  - G. Whereas in certain areas of these regions farmers have suffered considerable crop losses and whereas financial difficulties resulting in the closure of numerous holdings are bound to increase the number of unemployed,
1. Calls on the Commission and the Council:
    - a) to speed up the implementation of structural measures designed to improve water catchment and water supplies,
    - b) to take emergency measures which cannot be covered solely by the regulations provided for in such cases by each of the Member States - to limit the effects of this extremely abnormal climatic situation,
    - c) to encourage cooperation between the States affected by these forest fires and to propose for 1983 a programme to obtain additional fire-fighting resources, which could be controlled by a joint body in the regions concerned under the supervision of Community authorities or inter-state agencies,
    - d) to approach the Member States with a view to harmonizing national agricultural disaster funds and gradually transforming them into a European fund.
  2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Governments of the Member States and the countries that have applied for accession.