EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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ORAL QUESTION (0-59/79)

with debate pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure from Mr RUFFOLO, Mr RIPA DI MEANA, Mr DIDO', Mr WALTER and Mr LEZZI to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: The document on convergence prepared by the Commission for the Council at the request of the European Council

The European Council, following the debate on 'convergence' held during its meeting of June 1979 in Strasbourg asked the Commission to submit a reference paper to the Council of Ministers on the financial consequences for each country of applying the Community budget system, on the economic, financial and social effects of participation in the Community for each of the Member States and on the problem of the Community's own resources.

The European Council felt that once this document had been submitted to the Council each Member State would be able to put forward its opinions and requests. In the light of these comments the Commission would then put forward proposals to the European Council in time for its next meeting in Dublin.

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PE 59.837

Can the Commission say:

- 1. How far the above statements are correct;
- 2. Whether it believes it is advisable for the Commission and Council of the Communities to be used by the 'European Council' - an organ for which there is no provision in the Treaties as research, secretarial or political advisory bodies;
- 3. Why the whole proceedings described above took place completely without the knowledge of the European Parliament;
- 4. What action it intends to take, within what time-scale and under what procedures not only to inform Parliament as it must of the content of the document in question but also to allow Parliament to state its views, through a full debate on this topic, so crucial to the future of the Communities, before the next meeting of the 'European Council'.