

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1978 - 1979

11 May 1978

DOC. 117/78

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by

Mr DAMSEAUX, on behalf of the Liberal and
Democratic Group,

with request for an immediate vote pursuant to
Rule 47(5) of the Rules of Procedure

to wind up the debate on the oral question (Doc. 73/78)
on the crisis in the inland waterways sector

---o0o---

The European Parliament

1. Is concerned at the particularly serious situation obtaining in the inland waterways sector;
2. Considers that structural overcapacity is the main problem in this sector and that it is having a serious effect on social conditions, safety, freight rates and the competitive position of operators of inland waterway vessels in the Community;
3. Fearing that the opening of the Rhine-Main-Danube canal will result in serious distortions of competition on the part of the state-trading countries, thus exacerbating the crisis in the inland waterways sector, considers it absolutely essential that the Revised Mannheim Convention for the Navigation of the Rhine be further revised;
4. Welcomes the various measures taken in certain European States, but deplores the lack of coordination at European level, despite its repeated requests for effective control to be exercised over capacity¹;
5. Considers it essential that a thorough analysis be carried out without delay of the present situation in the inland waterways sector, with particular reference to the problem of surplus capacity;
6. Invites the Commission therefore to draw up, on the basis of an analysis of this kind, a coherent set of appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of the surplus capacity of the inland waterways fleet, while protecting the special interests of inland waterway operators;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

---oOo---

¹ OJ No. C 4, 8.1.1975, p.14
OJ No. C 125, 8.6.1976, pp.54-55
OJ No. C 6, 10.1.1977, pp.146 and 147