

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr HOFFMANN, Mr VERGEER, Mr van AERSEN,
Mr KLEPSCH, Mr HELMS, Mr PÜRSTEN, Mr GIAVAZZI
and Mr JONKER

on behalf of the Group of the European People's
Party (Christian-Democratic Group)

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on a common position for the European Community at
the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its reports on the Conference on the Law of the Sea as it affects the European Community (Doc. 82/77) and on the EEC's relations with the COMECON countries in the field of maritime shipping (Doc. 51/79),
 - in view of the imminent threat to the Community's maritime shipping interests by the unfair practices of a number of maritime shipping nations,
1. Points out that it is of vital importance to the Community's maritime shipping industry that the Member States should take up a common position during the negotiations in 1980 leading up to the conclusion of a UN Convention on the Law of the Sea;
 2. Recommends that the Member States give the Commission of the European Community a joint negotiating mandate for the ninth plenary session of the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea in New York and allow the Commission to sign the Convention on behalf of the Community;
 3. Emphasizes the need for close cooperation between the delegations of the European Community and the United States at the negotiations;
 4. Advocates a demarcation of the continental shelf to create exclusive economic zones for the exploitation of natural resources by coastal states without such measures implying any limitation of the freedom of the seas;
 5. Demands that the right of transit through straits of an international nature be assured;
 6. Emphasizes the need to protect the free exploration of the sea and the marine industry in general;
 7. Considers that there must be uniform application of the minimum working standards laid down by the International Labour Organization in all areas falling within the competence of the Seabed Authority;
 8. Recommends that an arbitration body be set up to deal with disputes, the ships and crews concerned being subject to no further hindrance once they have deposited a security.