European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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27 JUNE 1983

DOCUMENT 1-482/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BATTERSBY, Mrs PAUWELYN, Mr PRANCHERE, Mr LYNGE,
Mr PROUT, Mrs DESOUCHES, Mr MERTENS, Mrs HERKLOTZ,
Mr TOLMAN, Mr COLLESELLI, Mr CURRY, Mr DELATTE, Mr HORD,
Miss QUIN, Mr ABENS, Mrs LE ROUX, Mr WOLTJER, Mr FRUH,
Mr PROVAN, Mr d'ORMESSON, Mr THAREAU, Mr NIELSEN,
Mr EYRAUD, Mr HELMS and Mr HOWELL

with request for topical and urgent debate

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on the future role of the European Parliament in the implementation of the common fisheries policy

'The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the Council decisions of January 1983 establishing with definitive effect a common fisheries policy,
- B. having regard to Article 38 of the EEC Treaty, under which the common market shall extend to both agricultural products and fishery products.
- C. whereas in the period from 1976 to 1982, the European Parliament was regularly consulted on all the measures relating to the implementation of a common policy for the conservation and management of fishery resources (fixing of TACs, allocation of quotas, elaboration of technical measures and monitoring procedures), on temporary structural measures for the fisheries sector and on agreements with third countries,
- D. whereas the European Parliament has approved the budget for the common fisheries policy without now having the possibility to give its opinion on the use of that budget,
- E. whereas Regulation (EEC) 170/83 has removed the provision for consultation of the European Parliament on a number of these matters which are of vital importance to the fisheries sector,
- F. having regard to the threat to the democratic evolution of the Community which will arise if the European Parliament is no longer consulted on the subject of fisheries, to say nothing of the temptation which might then occur to adopt a similar approach in the case of the common agricultural policy and other common policies,
- G. whereas in addition it would be dangerous for the common fisheries policy to be drawn up in an excessively technocratic fashion without the active involvement of elected representatives who maintain close contacts with Community fishermen and consequently have an important role to play as a channel of communication between the fishermen and the Community institutions, to ensure the application of a fisheries policy founded on a consensus among all interested parties,
- 1. Points out that since 1976, Parliament has continually had to exert pressure to be consulted on TACs, quotas, technical and monitoring measures, structural measures and agreements with third countries;
- 2. Rejects any attempt on the part of the Commission or the Council to exclude the European Parliament from the discussions on the future evolution of the common fisheries policy;

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- 3. Insists therefore on the need for the Commission and Council to request the opinion of the European Parliament on matters on which it was traditionally consulted, without such requests for opinions assuming the form of 'ad hoc' consultations determined arbitrarily by the Council or Commission;
- 4. Calls on the Commission and Council to define the necessary procedures with the European Parliament so as to forestall any inter-institutional conflict;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and Council of the European Communities.'