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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr COLLESELLI, Mr RUMOUR, Mr DALSASS, Mr LIGIOS, Mr FRÜH, Mr D'ORMESSON, Mr STELLA, Mr GIUMMARRA, Mr COSTANZO, Mr DIANA, Mr BARBAGLI and Mr GHERGO

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on special Community measures to revive agriculture and forestry in the mountain and dolomite area of the Region of Veneto, through the recovery of land subject to hydrogeological degeneration.

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the Commission is committed to using special funds to maintain the development of a number of disadvantaged mountain areas with a view to preventing a mass exodus of the local inhabitants, without whom it would be impossible to preserve the identity and the integrity of the environment and the region,
- B. whereas in recent years the mountain zones and in particular the dolomite zones of the Region of Veneto have been subject to irreversible degradation and consequent hydrogeological degeneration, owing to the exceptionally high rainfall and floods of 1965 and 1966, combined with the geomorphological features and the poor geomechanical properties of the area, with its attendant high susceptibility to erosion and landslips, which at times have had catastrophic consequences,
- C. whereas this situation has caused enormous damage to the area and to the mountain communities, whose agricultural, craft and economic activities have been drastically reduced,
- D. whereas, moreover, these disturbances have created special difficulties for the development of tourism in the area, by making even more precarious the already substandard and inadequate road network linking it with the rest of Veneto and with central Europe, to which it would naturally gravitate because of its geographical position and its vital trade and tourist interests,
- E. whereas this situation is accentuating the differences in income, social welfare provisions, production and marketing structures, infrastructures and services between the region concerned and the other regions of the Community,
- F. whereas forestry production is of key importance to the region both in economic and employment terms and as an essential means of land protection,

- G. whereas the only Community provisions from which the dolomite area of the Region of Veneto might benefit are those which concern rural infrastructures and mountain and hill farming in certain less favoured areas, and whereas those provisions cannot be effective unless they are coordinated with existing tourist activities and integrated into a more extensive programme of conservation and county-planning measures for the region and measures to strengthen agriculture and the economic activities related to and dependent on it,
- 1. Considers that the general situation in the dolomite zone of the Region of Veneto has deteriorated to such an extent that an emergency programme of reconstruction backed by adequate financial aid from the Community based on a suitable plan of action is essential;
- 2. Considers that the Commission should, on the basis of a suitable regulation, adopt an integrated programme to revive agricultural and non-agricultural activities in the area with a view to promoting employment and checking the exodus of the rural populations;
- Considers, moreover, that this programme should hinge on existing soil
 protection and afforestation schemes and schemes for improving existing
 woodland;
- 4. Considers that sufficient financial resources drawn from the relevant Community funds should be made available to cover the entire range of measures needed to restore and maintain stable hydraulic and hydrogeological conditions, which are essential to the life and the economy of the areas concerned;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council.