

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1974-1975

17 February 1975

DOCUMENT 499/74

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION¹

on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy
and Transport

with request for treatment by urgent procedure
pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on the /channel tunnel project

¹ Adopted by the Committee on Regional Policy
and Transport unanimously with one abstention
on 11.2.1975.

Present : Mr James Hill (Chairman), Mr Seefeld
(Vice-Chairman), Mr de Clerq, Mr Fabbrini, Mr
Herbert, Mr Johnston, Lord Mansfield, Mr Mursch,
Mr Nyborg, Mr Pêtre, Mr Scholten, Mr Schwabe
and Mr Zeller.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the decision of the United Kingdom Government to abandon, for the time being at any rate, any further work on the Channel Tunnel project,
 - recalling the terms of the Resolution which it agreed unanimously on 12 December 1974¹ when it considered the Report drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Transport by Mr James Hill (Doc. 319/74),
 - re-asserting the importance it then attached to the Channel Tunnel, among other permanent links across sea-straits, as a step towards economic and social development within the Community,
 - recalling the emphasis the European Parliament placed, not only on the need for coordination at Community level, but also on the need for active financial participation from the Community, in the research studies and development of such projects, including the Channel Tunnel,
 - considering that, in the absence of clear information having been made available demonstrating that the Channel Tunnel is no longer an economic or commercially viable proposition, it is difficult to assess whether or not the abandonment of the project was justified,
 - emphasizing that in its opinion the importance of the Channel Tunnel is to the Community as a whole and not merely to the two Member States directly concerned,
1. Calls upon the Commission to give consideration to ways and means by which, if the United Kingdom and French Governments so wish, aid or financial guarantees might be advanced from Community sources, for example the European Investment Bank, with a view to the resumption of the project,
 2. Urges the Governments of the United Kingdom and France to approach the Commission with a view to examining various types of financial assistance which would enable them to resume active participation in the Channel Tunnel project,
 3. Instructs its President to forward this Resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States.

¹OJ No C 5, 8.1.1975, p. 43