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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure

on <Titre>the Democratic Republic of Congo: the case of Floribert Chebeya Bahizire</Titre>

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on behalf of the ALDE Group

European Parliament resolution on <Titre>the Democratic Republic of Congo: the case of Floribert Chebeya Bahizire</Titre>

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its former resolutions on RDC, in particular Resolution of 14.12.2009 on violence in RDC and Resolution of 17 January 2008;
 - having regard to the High Representative Catherine Ashton's spokesperson declaration on 3 June 2010;
 - having regard to Rule 122(5) of its Rules of Procedure;
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- A. chocked by the sudden assassination of Mr. Floribert Chebeya on 1 June 2010 a well known human rights defender in DRC;
 - B. recalling that Floribert Chebeya was the executive director of one of Congo's largest and most respected human rights organizations, the Voix des Sans Voix (Voice of the Voiceless), based in Kinshasa;
 - C. whereas Amnesty International has observed increased oppression of human rights defenders in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the past year, including illegal arrest, prosecution, phone threats and repeated summoning to the offices of the intelligence services;
 - D. recalling the killings of human rights defender Pascal Kabungulu Kibembi in 2005 and journalists such as Franck Ngyke, a journalist, and his wife, Hélène Mpaka, Serge Maheshe in June 2007, Didace Namujimbo in November 2008;
 - E. whereas the investigations and subsequent trials into each of these past killings were led by the Congolese military authorities and were marred by serious irregularities;
 - F. whereas the EU High Representative, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Philip Alston and Alan Dos and the Head of the UN Peacekeeping Force in the Democratic Republic of Congo have all issued statements condemning the murder of Floribert Chebeya Bahizire and have called for an independent investigation;

G. whereas the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Philip Alston, said the circumstances of the killing "strongly suggests official responsibility";

1. Condemns strongly the killing of Mr. Floribert Chebeya and believes that his death must be fully investigated to put an end to impunity;
2. Regrette que cet assassinat intervienne quelques semaines après la publication du rapport de HRW sur les atrocités commises par l'armée de résistance du Seigneur (LRA) en RDC, groupe rebelle qui n'est toujours pas pris comme une menace sérieuse par les autorités locales;
3. Welcomes that the authorities responded to the request made by Mr Chebeya's family to carry out an independent autopsy by inviting an independent Dutch forensics expert team led by Dr Franklin Van de Groot to determine the cause of death;
4. Demande de diligenter une enquête d'urgence concernant la disparition du chauffeur de M. Chebeya, Fidèle Bazana Edadi;
5. Calls for the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry under the auspice of the UN and with the participation of Congolese authorities as well as well as representatives of Congolese human rights organizations;
6. Demande aux Etats membres de l'UE, d'assurer un soutien logistique et technique en application des Orientations pour la protection des défenseurs des droits humains de l'UE de 2004 et de la Stratégie Locale de mise en oeuvre de ces Orientations pour la RDC adoptée par les Chefs de Mission le 20 mars 2010;
7. Demande aux autorités congolaises d'assurer une réparation effective aux ayants-droit des victimes ;
8. Calls on all actors to step up the fight against impunity and uphold the Rule of Law; calls on the Government of the DRC to ensure that those responsible for breaching human rights and international humanitarian laws are held to account and that the authorities cooperate fully with the International Criminal Court;
9. Calls on the DRC authorities to fully comply with the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1998;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the institutions of the African Union, the United Nations Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the United Nations Security Council, the United Nations Human Rights Council and the governments and parliaments of the Great Lakes region.