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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure on women and ICT

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on women and ICT

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 120 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas of the circa 7 million people working in the information and communications technology (ICT) sector, only 30 % are women;
- B. whereas the ICT sector is growing rapidly and creates some 120 000 jobs per year in the European Union;
- C. whereas, according to data published by the Commission, there may be a shortage of 700 000 skilled workers in the ICT sector by 2015;
- D. whereas women are under-represented at all levels in the ICT sector, especially in decision-making positions;
- 1. Underlines the need to exploit the opportunity of growth and jobs in the sector and to encourage young people, particularly women, to take up ICT-related careers;
- 2. Stresses that the EU needs to attract more women into ICT jobs in order to ensure equality of opportunity and to empower them to participate fully in the information society;
- 3. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to establish education and training programmes and to encourage girls and women to develop careers in the MINT professions (mathematics, computer science, new technologies);
- 4. Calls on the Member States to promote vocations and professions requiring scientific, technical, engineering and mathematical skills among women from an early age for better employability.

