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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on the fight against breast cancer in the European Union

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on the fight against breast cancer in the European Union¹

1. It is important to implement nationwide mammography screening and multidisciplinary specialist breast units (SBU) by the 2016 deadline, as called for in the European Parliament resolutions of 2003 and 2006 and required by the European Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Breast Cancer Screening and Diagnosis (4th edition) so as to reduce the mortality rate for breast cancer patients – 91 495 women in the EU died from breast cancer in 2012.
2. Among the hundreds of thousands of women diagnosed with breast cancer every year – 367 090 in 2012 – those with metastatic breast cancer should have access to, and be treated in, an SBU, and their ongoing needs for care and psychosocial services should be coordinated and supported by the SBU as per the EU Guidelines.
3. The Commission is hence called upon to ensure that the ECIBC (European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer) project delivers an accreditation protocol for breast cancer services by 2016; this protocol must ensure that mammography screening programmes and SBUs meet the requirements of the current EU Guidelines and those of the updated version to be undertaken by the ECIBC in 2015.
4. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.