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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 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by Pasqualina Napoletano, Glenys Kinnock, Marie-Arlette Carlotti

on behalf of the PSE Group

on the situation in Madagascar

European Parliament resolution on the situation in Madagascar

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its former resolutions on Madagascar;
- having regard to the Declarations by the Presidency on behalf of the EU of 17 and 20 march 2009;
- having regard to Rule 115 of its Rules of Procedure;
- A. whereas following two months of bitter struggle, an army-backed coup d'état was carried out in Madagascar by Mr Andry Rajoelina, ex-Mayor of the capital city on March 17, 2009;
- B. whereas a self-proclaimed High Authority of Transition, chaired by Mr Andry Rajoelina, suspended the National Assembly and the Senate and under pressure from the mutineers, the democratically elected President, Mr Marc Ravalomanana was forced to leave Madagascar;
- C. whereas Andry Rajoelina arrested Manandafy Rakotonirina, Mr. Ravalomanana's chosen prime minister;
- D. whereas the United Nations Security Council and the international organisations of which Madagascar is a member do not recognise this de facto regime and call to restore constitutional governance;
- E. whereas the African Union (AU) is opposed to the transitional plan agreed upon at an April 1-2 national conference in Madagascar, according to a statement by Jean Ping, the chairman of the AU Commission;
- F. whereas Madagascar is suspended from the regional organisations - African Union, SADC (Southern African Development Community) - as well as from the International Organisation of the French-speaking countries and the Inter-parliamentary Union; whereas the European Union, the United States of America, Norway and France condemned the violation of the rule of law and the constitutional order and suspended assistance;
- G. whereas the 12th Africa-EU Ministerial Troika meeting has called for a rapid holding of national elections and a return to the constitutional order;
- H. whereas since Mr Andry Rajoelina has installed himself as the Head of State peaceful

protests attended by several tens of thousands of people were bloodily repressed by the military forces;

- I. whereas Rajoelina's administration is planning electoral and constitutional reforms between now and elections it has set for October 2010;
 - J. whereas the UN launched an appeal for 35.7 million dollars in humanitarian aid for the country, in anticipation of food shortages later this year as a result of the disruption caused by the political stand-off;
 - K. whereas with the majority of the population living on less than 1 USD a day, rising food prices and limited income have curtailed the ability of most households to have access to food, water and sanitation services, health and education;
 - L. whereas the country has been hit by three consecutive years of drought and meagre harvest, soaring food prices and chronic food insecurity as well as by cyclones;
- 1. strongly condemns the coup d'état and all attempts to seize power through undemocratic means;
 - 2. calls for an immediate restoration of constitutional legality in the country and urges the Malagasy parties to comply fully with the provisions of the Constitution of Madagascar in resolving the crisis;
 - 3. calls on the international community to increase efforts to contribute to bringing an end to the political violence in Madagascar;
 - 4. believes that stability, prosperity and democratic freedoms can be ensured only through a consensual and inclusive dialogue process that would address the root causes of the crisis and would be accepted by all parties;
 - 5. is strongly concerned by the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the country, and calls for a considerable increase in the currently insufficient humanitarian aid; stresses that the population of Madagascar is not to be punished by the consequences of the political crisis;
 - 6. instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Member States, the legitimate Authorities of the Republic of Madagascar, the High Authority of Transition, the Secretary General of the UN, the African Union, SADC, ECHO, the Central Emergency Relief Funding (CERF) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).