

Strasbourg, 15 November 1999

SECRETARIAT

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15.11.99

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Bob Van den Bos on behalf of the ELDR Group

on Pakistan

BS-269/99

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Pakistan and Afghanistan;
 - A. Whereas the Pakistan military, led by army chief Gen. Pervez Musharraf overthrew democratic structures, suspended the Constitution and issued a Proclamation of Emergency;
 - B. Whereas recent democratic governments in Pakistan have failed to take steps to tackle corruption, to stop grave human rights abuses and practice of bonded labor and to provide security in the country;
 - C. Noting that Gen. Musharraf announced that the Pakistani military would unilaterally de-militarize the border with India by withdrawing all forces moved to the borders in the recent past but did not mention any de-escalation effort along the contested Line of Control in Kashmir;
 - D. Whereas the Pakistan army has been supporting the hard-line fundamentalist regime of the Taliban in Afghanistan and whereas Pakistan is one of only three countries to have recognized the Taliban government;
 - E. Whereas fundamentalist militants, supported also by the Taliban, are active in Pakistan and pose a serious threat to the stability of the country and the respect of human rights, in particular of those women and religious minorities;
 - F. Whereas Pakistan, which is characterized by extreme poverty and severe social inequality, is thus continuing to suffer the effects of a long period of political instability which is preventing any economic development and social progress and is still affected by massive use of child labor and bonded labor;
 - G. Whereas Pakistan urgently needs a stable government to sustain its economic reform program and to improve the living conditions of its citizens;
- 282.295

- H. Having regard to the geographical importance of Pakistan for the stability of the region;
1. Condemns the military coup in Pakistan and urges the Pakistan Army to take urgent steps to re-establish the rule of law in Pakistan by transferring power to a civilian caretaker government and announcing a detailed timetable for new elections;
 2. Stresses that fight against corruption in the country should be a priority for Pakistan and believes that international financial co-operation with Pakistan should be subjected to actual progress in this sector;
 3. Believes that Pakistan urgently needs to adopt measures to improve social justice, in particular by ending the practice of child and bonded labor and by improving access to education and health facilities;
 4. Calls on the new authorities to upgrade dialogue with India and to resolve the tensions in the sub-continent by peaceful means; reiterates its call on Pakistan and India to adhere to the global non-proliferation regime;
 5. Calls also on the military junta to stop all forms of support to the Taliban regime in Afghanistan and to fight against fundamentalist groups in Pakistan, by providing also security and equal treatment to religious minorities and women;
 6. Calls the Commission to actively support special aid programs to improve conditions of children and to support access to micro-credit;
 7. Calls also on the Commission to establish co-operation programs to actively supports local human rights NGOs and civil society groups;
 8. Calls on the Council to review the future of EU/Pakistan development assistance at its next meeting;
 9. Instructs its President to forward the present resolution to the Commission, the Council, the government of Pakistan, the SSARC and the United Nations.

Jp. M. Van den Bos

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Van den Bos'.