EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999 **** 2004

Session document

29 March 2004 B5-0161/2004

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

pursuant to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Niall Andrews

on behalf of the UEN Group

on the World Bank-commissioned Extractive Industries Review

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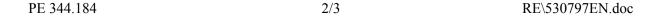
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European Parliament resolution on the World Bank-commissioned Extractive Industries Review

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 37(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the final report of the Extractive Industries Review commissioned by the World Bank Group has implications not only for the World Bank but also for other stakeholders in extractive industries, including the EBRD and the EIB, as well as Export Credit Agencies of EU Member States,
- B. whereas the Extractive Industries Review aims to engage all stakeholders, including governments, NGOs, industry, labour unions and international organisations, in a dialogue leading up to a report,
- C. whereas the report concludes that the World Bank role in extractive industries could be compatible with its goals of sustainable development and poverty reduction on certain conditions if it promotes respect for human rights, pro-poor public and corporate governance and improved social and environmental policies,
- D. whereas EU Member States hold an important share of votes on the World Bank and IMF Boards and can therefore be an important player when acting together,
- 1. Welcomes the final report of the Extractive Industries Review as an important contribution to the debate on the benefits and risks of projects promoting this sector in developing countries;
- 2. Supports the objectives of the EIR to promote sustainable development, poverty alleviation and human rights;
- 3. Endorses, in regard to pro-poor governance, recommendations to promote transparency and good governance in public as well as private undertakings in the extractive industries;
- 4. Calls for a comprehensive dialogue between extractive industries and local communities prior to new projects, and acknowledges the need for due compensation for infringements on their livelihoods and rights;
- 5. Disapproves, however, the recommendation to require companies to share their revenues with local communities, as this would have a negative effect on investment and may disregard national and local law;
- 6. Welcomes, in general terms, recommendations promoting a better social and environmental impact assessment prior to new projects and the protection of natural habitats;



- 7. Acknowledges that indigenous peoples have in some cases been pressured to resettle as a consequence of industrial undertakings; supports, therefore, efforts to better protect their interests and rights;
- 8. Supports and welcomes recommendations on the promotion of renewable energy and on endorsing natural gas as a 'bridging fuel' but is concerned about the possible consequences for small and poor countries for which oil revenue is an important development factor;
- 9. Calls on the Irish Presidency to consult with relevant ministers of Member States on the Extractive Industries Review with a view to reaching a common EU position prior to the World Bank Group Board meeting on 15 April;
- 10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.