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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Margrete Auken

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on HIV/AIDS

European Parliament resolution on HIV/AIDS

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the UN General Assembly Special Session High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS of 2 June 2006 and the political declaration adopted at that meeting,
 - having regard to the UN Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, 'Global Crisis – Global Action', adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 27 June 2001, at its 26th Special Session,
 - having regard to the forthcoming International Conference on 'HIV/AIDS: Time to Deliver', to be held in Toronto in August 2006,
 - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas more than 65 million people in the world have been infected with HIV, more than 25 million people have died, 15 million children have been orphaned by AIDS and, of the 40 million people currently living with HIV, over 95% live in the developing world, with over 70% in Sub-Saharan Africa alone,
- B. whereas women now represent half of all people living with AIDS and 60% of those living with AIDS in Africa, with women being between two and four times as susceptible to catching the disease as men,
- C. whereas over half of all new HIV infections are young people under the age of 25,
- D. whereas the Doha Declaration placed the protection of public health above the protection of private commercial interests and confirmed the right of developing countries to use TRIPS Agreement safeguards, such as compulsory licences, to overcome patents when necessary in order to protect public health and promote access to medicines for all,
- E. whereas the current pricing system based on companies giving voluntary discounts on medicines to developing countries does not guarantee the affordability of medicines, with some single-source drugs being too expensive even with a discount, some discounts not being available because manufacturers have not registered or are not marketing their drugs in certain countries, and some companies not offering discounts at all to middle-income countries,
1. Welcomes the declaration of the UN General Assembly Special Session of 2 June 2006, in particular its references to promoting access to medicines for all, which includes production of generic antiretroviral drugs and other essential drugs for AIDS-related infections;
 2. Regrets, nevertheless, the fact that international HIV/AIDS targets have thus far not been met, and the lack of firm commitment on where the extra \$ 20-23 billion which is needed

by 2010 will come from;

3. Reaffirms that access to health care forms part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and that governments must fulfil their obligation by providing a public health service for all;
4. Calls on the international community to deliver on its promises during the Toronto Conference in August, and calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure that health spending in developing countries reaches levels commensurate with the political commitments made, both in terms of the Millennium Development Goals in general and combating HIV/AIDS in particular;
5. Criticises bilateral and regional trade agreements that include provisions which go beyond the WTO's TRIPS Agreement ('TRIPS-plus') in order to restrict, if not eliminate, the safeguards established by the Doha Declaration in order to ensure the primacy of health over commercial interests; points out the responsibility of those countries, in particular the United States, that put pressure on developing countries to sign such free-trade agreements;
6. Underlines that compulsory licensing and differential prices have not fully solved the problem, and calls on the Commission to propose new solutions to ensure genuine access to HIV/AIDS treatments at affordable prices;
7. Emphasises that sexual and reproductive health rights are crucial to combating HIV/AIDS, and urges the Commission and partner countries to prioritise broad prevention strategies in Country Strategy Papers, including programmes promoting the use of condoms and HIV/AIDS education geared towards young people;
8. Recognises the importance of country ownership, calls on developing countries to prioritise health spending in general and combating HIV/AIDS in particular, calls on the Commission to provide incentives to partner countries in order to encourage prioritising health as a key sector in Country Strategy Papers, and insists that health spending become a priority for the EU side in negotiations;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Member States, the UN Secretary-General and the World Health Organisation.