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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 Margrete Auken

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on Madagascar

**European Parliament resolution on Madagascar**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 115 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. Whereas the political crisis, which pitted Andry Rajoelina against the country's former president Ravalomanana, forced the democratically elected president to resign and plunged the country in political uncertainty,
- B. Recalling that after month's tension, Mr Rajoelina has been self-proclaimed as president of the country in March 2009 with the support of the army,
- C. Whereas Mr Rajoelina was elected in December 2007 as mayor of Antananarivo, the capital city, and was sacked by the former government last February,
- D. Whereas violence surrounding the dispute led nearly to 100 deaths and recalling that over 28 civilian protestors were killed when the army was ordered to open fire on anti-government protestors in February,
- E. Whereas critics accused Mr. Ravalomanana of mixing his business and political interest, and whereas Mr Ravalomanana and Mr. Rajoelina have similar career trajectory,
- F. Whereas about 70% of Madagascar's 20 million population live on less than 1 dollar a day and are confronted with price increases in food and fuel,
- G. Whereas the public anger was exacerbated by a plan to lease one million acres in the south of the country to a Korean firm for intensive farming, which was seen by many as a betrayal by Ravalomanana,
- H. Whereas several UN agencies appealed for 36 million dollars to prevent deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the country, which has been hit by drought and cyclones,
- I. Where the UN is involved in bringing political actors to an inclusive dialogue to achieve a peaceful, consensual solution to the current crisis,
- 1. Condemns the use of force, an undemocratic and unconstitutional method of bringing about political change,
- 2. Supports the UN initiative to solve the current crisis by means of a peaceful path to stabilize the country and bring an agreed transitional arrangement, reached by consensus and enjoying wide support,

3. Believes that political pluralism, basic democratic freedoms, respect for human rights and the rule of law can only be ensured as a result of consensual and inclusive dialogue addressing the root causes of the country's wide range of problems: economic, social, political, environmental,
4. Calls on all political actors to put the fight against poverty at the top of their agenda, and to aim at improving the standard of living of the population by putting in place a sound sustainable development policy in terms of basic health care service, education, job creation, etc.,
5. Calls on the Commission to increase its humanitarian aid to help Madagascar's poor population living mainly in main cities as well as in the drought-affected south.
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the UN Secretary-General and the African Union.