

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

15 November 1999

10/99

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members: Ebner, Lucas, Banotti, Vattimo and Watts

on the adverse impact of the World Trade Organisation on animal welfare

**Declaration on the adverse impact of the World Trade Organisation on animal welfare**

*The European Parliament,*

- A. concerned about the damaging effect on animal welfare of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT),
- B. whereas two key Community welfare measures - the prohibition on the marketing of cosmetics tested on animals and on the import of furs from 13 species from countries using the leghold trap - have been severely diluted as a result of WTO fears,
- C. whereas the GATT/WTO rules unduly restrict the European Union's ability to adopt measures to improve animal welfare and, in particular, to prohibit cruel rearing systems and the import of products derived from animals reared in such systems,
  - 1. Calls on the Commission and the Council to seek reforms of the GATT/WTO with a view to enabling the European Union to adopt trade-related measures genuinely designed to achieve improved standards of animal welfare;
  - 2. Calls on the Commission and the Council, during the forthcoming WTO Round, to press vigorously for the GATT/WTO to be revised with a view to achieving a proper balance between trade liberalisation and animal welfare;
  - 3. Instructs its President to forward this Declaration to the Commission and the Council.