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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth
Survey 2018
(2017/2226(INI))

Rapporteur: Nuno Melo

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses that the European Semester debate is of particular importance in view of the need to find a new development model for structural reforms and selective investments, investing in strategic areas;
2. Welcomes the proclamation of the European Pillar for Social Rights at the Social Summit for Fair Employment and Growth in Gothenburg, based on 20 principles, such as the establishment of health care concerning the right to access in preventive and curative quality health care at affordable prices;
3. Calls on the Commission and Member States to enhance efforts in developing, reforming, and implementing effectively policies that address health promotion and disease prevention, including with technical support from the European Commission's Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP);
4. Welcomes the initiative of the European Commission in launching the web portal on health promotion and disease prevention which provides up-to date information on topics related to the promotion of health and well-being, an important source of clear and reliable information for citizens;
5. Stresses the need, in the context of the review of the European Civil Protection Mechanism, to effectively create an EU civil protection response reserve of civil protection assets complementary to national resources, strengthening the European common response capacity to disasters such as forest fires;
6. Calls for greater coherence with other EU policies in the field of disaster prevention and preparedness, such as the EU strategy for climate change adaptation, the European Structural and Investment Funds, the Solidarity Fund, the environmental legislation, research or innovation policies;
7. Stresses that extreme events, such as drought in southern European countries, hurricanes or catastrophic floods, require the signatories of the Paris Agreement to increase their ambition to meet the targets established;
8. Calls on the European Commission to create a real sustainable management and protection strategy for forests to help to fight the effects of climate change.