

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Commission statement

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

by Mr Dominique Souchet

on behalf of the Union for a Europe of Nations Group

winding up the debate on the statement by Mr Romano Prodi, President-designate of the Commission

B5-0061/99

Resolution winding up the debate on the statement by Mr Romano Prodi, President-designate of the Commission

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the letters forwarded to the Conference of Presidents on the hearings of the Commissioners-designate,
 - A. having regard to the reasons which led the Commission headed by Mr Santer to resign en bloc,
 - B. having regard to the conclusions as a whole in the first two parts of the report of the Committee on Independent Experts, in particular those stressing the widespread climate of non-accountability within Commission departments,
 - C. having regard to the replies by the Commissioners-designate to the questions on transparency and political accountability,
1. Calls on the new Commission to give a firm undertaking to set in train a genuine radical reform giving top priority to transparency, sound management and accountability, rather than an increase in its own powers, which, within the framework laid down by the Treaty, involves the European Parliament and the national parliaments to a greater extent in the various stages of drafting legislative proposals;
 2. Calls for the Commission as a body, should it not succeed in carrying through such a reform, to shoulder its responsibilities and undertake to resign en bloc;
 3. Calls in particular for the new Commission to undertake to forward any documents which the European Parliament or its portfolio committees may ask it to produce in connection with its role in drawing up the budget and exercising oversight over its implementation;
 4. Calls also for the Council to be more resolute in checking compliance by the Commission with the negotiating briefs it gives the Commission, in particular in connection with negotiations on trade agreements and co-operation agreements;
 5. Insists that the Commission take a firm and determined stance in the Millennium Round trade negotiations opening shortly;
 6. Insists in particular that the Commission champion, before the WTO, the fundamental principle that world trade is subject to the demands of social rights, the environment, consumer protection, protecting the European farming model and safeguarding and extending the influence of European culture;
 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.