15 December 1999 B5-0376/1999

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance

pursuant to Rule 50(1) of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members: Rovsing, Elles and Jarzembowski

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the hurricane disaster in Denmark, Germany and the UK

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Resolution on the hurricane disaster in Denmark, Germany and the UK

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the hurricane disaster which occurred on Friday 3 December 1999 in northern Germany, southern Denmark and parts of the United Kingdom,
- B. dismayed at the number of deaths caused by this natural disaster,
- C. concerned about the thousands of families and businesses who remained without any electricity for several days after the hurricane,
- D. worried about the severe damage to forests in southern Jutland which adversely affects living conditions for an incalculable number of animal and plant species and seriously jeopardises environmental protection measures taken by the Danish state over many years,
- E. whereas, in addition to the lives lost and the environmental damage, the hurricane caused direct damage to houses, cars, businesses, farms and regional infrastructure (roads, power supplies, etc.) estimated at EUR 135 000 000,
- 1. Extends its sincere condolences to the families of the victims and to all those affected by the hurricane;
- 2. Calls on the competent authorities to draw up thorough and rigorous assessments of the damage to forests and of all the other environmental consequences of the hurricane;
- 3. Calls on the Danish electricity suppliers to ensure that the power supply is made less vulnerable to similar natural catastrophes in future;
- 4. Is aware that substantial funding will be required to restore forests and remedy the damage caused to property; calls on the Commission, therefore, to support the regions concerned as far as possible in funding the requisite measures;
- 5. Calls on the Commission, in that connection, to support the regions and local authorities concerned, with particular regard to the targeted use of existing aid, and to grant them every possible assistance;
- 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the governments and regions of the Member States concerned.

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