

17/01/00

Strasbourg, 17 January 2000

Motion for urgency resolution (Rule 47)
tabled by *MR. NOVELLI*
on behalf of the EPP Group
on the human rights situation in Chad

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85-88/00

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in Chad,

- A. Whereas the Chad - Cameroun oil extraction and pipeline project, which is led by an International Consortium, is still pending World Bank approval;
 - B. Whereas the environmental impact assessment of the project has been re-done, on the demand of the World Bank, in consultation with local communities and NGOs;
 - C. Whereas the International Consortium has publicly declared that it will not proceed with this project without World Bank involvement;
 - D. Whereas Chad is one of the world's poorest countries and whereas it is estimated that this project by itself will increase the GNP of Chad by up to 10%;
 - E. Noting the vulnerability of the local communities in the area covered by the project due to the persistent political instability and human rights violations and also noting the importance of this region for the country's agriculture;
1. Urges the European Commission and the Member States to put pressure on the Chad government to respect human rights and the rule of law throughout the country;
 2. Urges the Chadian Government to respect democratic discussions on the situation in the country as well as on the planned oil project in the Doba region;
 3. Calls on the Chad Government and the International Consortium not to proceed with the oil extraction project in case the World Bank assessment is negative;
 4. Calls on the Chad Government and the International Consortium, in case of a positive assessment by the World Bank, to provide among others the following guarantees:
 - protection of indigenous peoples and adequate compensation for displaced local populations in strict respect for human rights;
 - the most stringent environmental protection rules, including oil spill prevention, pipeline routing, air quality, disease control and accident prevention;
 - local re-investment of an adequate share of the revenues from the project;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Member States, the Chad and Cameroun Governments and Parliaments and the World Bank.

H. Novelli
(NOVELLI)

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