

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

6 April 2000

B5-0327/2000

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council statement

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

by the following Members: Le Pen, de Gaulle, Gollnisch, Lang, Martinez and Vanhecke

on behalf of the TDI Group

the European Union/African summit

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Resolution on the European Union/African summit

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the leaders of 52 African countries and the 15 Member States of the European Union, meeting in Cairo on 3 and 4 April, have put forward not one specific proposal on improving relations between Africa and Europe,
- B. aware of the importance to the nations of Europe of relations with the African continent, separated as they are only by the Straits of Gibraltar,
- C. whereas today's 800 million Africans, who will be twice that number in 25 years time, the bulk of them living in dire poverty, are emigrating in ever larger numbers to European countries with falling birth rates,
- D. whereas this uncontrolled mass immigration is damaging to:
 - the host countries, for which the presence of several million jobless and unqualified immigrants represents an increasingly heavy financial and social burden, and whose own inhabitants feel like foreigners in certain cities,
 - the uprooted immigrants,
 - the African states, which are deprived of the dynamic and go-ahead elements they require for their own development;
- E. whereas the beginning of this wave of immigration coincides with the botched decolonisation of the 1960s, which threw many African countries into dire poverty and ethnic warfare, with the emergence of corrupt and generally socialist dictatorships,
- F. whereas during the 1990s, those African states which remained linked to France by economic, monetary and military agreements, such as Côte d'Ivoire, constituted a haven of stability and relative prosperity,
 - 1. Denounces the recommendation made by the United Nations on 4 January, whereby Europe should counteract its falling birth rate by taking in 159 million immigrants, particularly from Africa, over the next 25 years;
 - 2. Condemns the suicidal immigration policy followed by European governments, which threatens to leave our countries completely overwhelmed;
 - 3. Believes that the genuine solution is to be found for Europe in implementing a major new policy on the family to get the birth rate rising, and for Africa, in a genuine development policy which will allow Africans to live in their countries;

4. Denounces the European development policy followed by Brussels-led Europe, particularly in the shape of the Lomé Convention, which, despite the 85 billion francs earmarked between 1995 and 2000 for the European Development Fund, has failed;
5. Expresses its alarm at the rolling-back of French influence in Africa to the benefit of the United States, with the consequent destabilisation of countries like Gabon, not to mention the collapse of countries like Congo Zaire into total anarchy;
6. Denounces the opinions of Mr Chirac, President of the French Republic and therefore guardian of the integrity of French national territory, who, in speaking to foreign journalists in Cairo about abandoning the French Overseas Departments and Territories, is betraying the duties incumbent on him as President, namely the interests of France and of overseas Frenchmen;
7. Recommends a new cooperation policy founded on the following three principles:
 - a policy negotiated with the African states on the return of their citizens who have emigrated to Europe,
 - the on-the-spot management of aid by European specialists, who would also have the remit of training African specialists,
 - this policy must be implemented, not by the Eurocrats of Brussels, but by those Member States like France, the UK, Portugal, Spain, Belgium and Italy which have historic links with African countries;
2. Instructs its President to forward this motion for a resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.