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B5-0397/2000

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Oral Question B5-0217/00

pursuant to Rule 42(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members: Ainardi, Fiebiger and Jové Peres

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the forestry industry in the wake of the storms of December 1999

B5-0397/2000**Resolution on the forestry industry in the wake of the storms of December 1999***The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its resolution of January 2000,
- A. having regard to the hurricanes which devastated numerous European regions on 26 and 27 December 1999,
- B. concerned by the exceptional seriousness of the damage done to the forestry sector,
- C. having regard to the important role played by forests in the economy of many regions, the quality of life and the maintenance of biological diversity,
- D. having regard to the significant number of jobs both directly and indirectly dependent on the forestry sector,
- E. having regard to the impact on the price of wood of the huge quantities of timber destroyed,
- F. concerned by the frequency of climatic disasters which could be linked to the climate change caused by the impact of human activities on the environment,
- 1. Renews its call for exceptional aid to the forestry sector to compensate it for the losses suffered and to contribute towards the reafforestation of the affected areas;
- 2. Renews its call for the restoration of the budget heading covering emergency aid in the event of natural disasters in the EU;
- 3. Calls on the governments of the Member States and on the European Community to promote sustainable forest development through the use of suitable, and in particular local, species and respect for the diversity of ecosystems;
- 4. Calls on the Commission to increase structural appropriations for rural development, agri-environmental measures and forestry;
- 5. Calls on the Commission to submit proposals without delay with a view to regulating the timber market, particularly by supporting timber processing and by encouraging the export of timber to third countries;
- 6. Calls on the governments of the Member States and the European Community to make the utmost effort to fulfil the undertakings set out in the Kyoto Convention on climate change and to further research on the links between pollution and climatic disturbances;

7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.