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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

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the situation in Angola

Resolution on the situation in Angola

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Angola,
 - having regard to the relevant resolutions of the UN,
- A. having regard to the brutal attack perpetrated by UNITA in Caxito, which resulted in dozens of deaths and the abduction of dozens of children and adolescents, as well as substantial destruction of property,
- B. deeply concerned at the continuation of the state of war provoked by Jonas Savimbi's UNITA movement, whose military actions have primarily targeted the civilian population, leaving hundreds dead or wounded and thousands displaced, and creating a major humanitarian crisis,
- C. whereas Parliament's resolution of 14 January 1999 states that 'UNITA bears the main responsibility for this grave setback in the peace process, through its failure to demilitarise its forces and to facilitate the extension of state administration, and through its defiance of the pressing demands of the Security Council and the international community',
- D. having regard to the resolutions of the UN Security Council which blame and condemn UNITA for failing to comply with the Lusaka Protocol and for the resultant deterioration of the situation in Angola, as is made clear in Resolution 1213 (1998), which roundly condemns the failure of UNITA to meet its obligation to discharge its remaining responsibilities under the Lusaka Protocol, notably total demilitarisation of its forces and full cooperation in the immediate and unconditional extension of the state administration to the entire territory of Angola, and in Resolution 1269 (1999), which reiterates that the main cause of the present crisis in Angola is the refusal of Jonas Savimbi's UNITA movement to discharge its obligations under the 'peace agreements', the Lusaka Protocol and the relevant Security Council resolutions, as well as in Resolutions 1202 (1998) and 1229 (1999),
- E. having regard to the decisions of the UN Security Council aimed at the political, military and economic isolation of Jonas Savimbi and UNITA,
- F. whereas UNITA is only able to continue its armed actions thanks to the connivance and support of sections of the international community,
- G. whereas Portuguese citizens have been held hostage for several months now by the self-styled FLEC/FAC, a separatist group operating in the Angolan province of Cabinda, and whereas this act, which is not without its precedents, is obviously jeopardising the safety, the health and the very lives of those Portuguese citizens and generating enormous anxiety for their relatives, especially since the FLEC is insisting on totally unacceptable demands arising from that organisation's unsustainable objectives,

- H. whereas, nonetheless, certain Portuguese citizens have now been released,
- I. having regard to the recent statements by President José Eduardo dos Santos to the effect that the Government of Angola is ready to launch a dialogue on the means of achieving peace on the basis of the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol,
- J. having regard to the amnesty law, the establishment of a permanent committee for peace of the Angolan National Assembly, and the government's decision to set up a fund for peace and national reconciliation with a view to the social reintegration of ex-combatants,
- K. concerned at the renewed laying of mines in Angola, especially by UNITA,
1. Condemns unequivocally UNITA's terrorist attack in Caxito, and holds UNITA responsible for the state of war existing in Angola, thanks to its systematic disregard of all the agreements signed;
 2. Endorses the main points of the Swedish Presidency's declaration of 29 May 2001 on Angola, especially its firm condemnation of the attack perpetrated by UNITA near the town of Caxito and the abduction of children;
 3. Calls on UNITA to cease its military activities and to carry out full demilitarisation, since this is an essential condition if any peace process is to succeed;
 4. Reaffirms its commitment to a settlement based on implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, on the UN Security Council's resolutions and, in a context of full respect for the sovereignty of the Angolan state, on the pursuit of a cooperation policy capable of providing effective solutions for the Angolan people's real and urgent needs;
 5. Reaffirms the importance of keeping up strong international pressure on UNITA, notably through the effective and universal implementation of the measures repeatedly decreed by the UN Security Council; calls on the EU Member States, in this connection, to promote firm measures aimed at the political, military and economic isolation of Jonas Savimbi and UNITA and at preventing them from perpetrating any more acts of violence and destruction;
 6. Calls on the EU Member States and on the UN and all its members to step up humanitarian aid to Angola as a matter of urgency;
 7. Condemns the taking of hostages by the self-styled FLEC/FAC and demands their immediate and unconditional release;
 8. Expresses its solidarity with the Portuguese citizens taken hostage and their relatives;
 9. Calls on the Swedish Presidency to consider, jointly with the Member State governments, the adoption of measures which, on the basis of close cooperation with the Portuguese and Angolan governments, can lead or contribute to the swift release of the hostages; calls, in general, on the international organisations to cooperate in this sense;

10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Republic of Angola.