



EUROPEAN LIBERAL DEMOCRATS
LES LIBERAUX DEMOCRATES EUROPEENS
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPEEN

Strasbourg, 4 February, 2002

B5-93/02

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marieke Sanders-Ten Holte, Bob van den Bos and Lone Dybkjaer on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the elections in Madagascar

The European Parliament,

- A. Whereas a presidential election dispute has led to weeks of massive protests and a crippling, indefinite national strike, aimed at forcing the government from power;
- B. Whereas opposition parties have alleged that the election was rigged;
- C. Whereas Madagascar's High Constitutional Court has defied vast opposition protests and ordered a run-off second round of voting on 24 February;
- D. Whereas Ratsiraka's government did not allow international observers during the first round of elections;
- E. Noting that the church was proposing that both candidates accept the court's ruling and that the national electoral commission be restructured and made more independent;
- F. Whereas the United Nations Security Council and the African Union have appealed to the opposition leader to stand in a second round, monitored by international observers;

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G. Concerned at the island's rapid impoverishment;

1. Calls on all parties to refrain from violence;
2. Calls on both candidates to comply with all constitutional, electoral and legal requirements;
3. Notes the recent comments of the opposition candidate that he would consider standing in the second round if international observers were present and an international enquiry into the results of 16 December 2001 was to take place;
4. Calls on the European Commission, Council and Member States to send an international election-monitoring team to Madagascar if the Troika reports back that a second round will take place;
5. Requests that a second round of voting be conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner, in the presence of international observers;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the African Union, the Government of Madagascar and the UN Secretary General.

*pp. Mrs Sanders - Ten Halle
Mr Van den Bos
Mrs Dybkjer*

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