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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council statement

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

by Arie M. Oostlander, Philippe Morillon, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, The Earl of Stockton, Elmar Brok, Ilkka Suominen, Concepció Ferrer and Christoph Werner Konrad

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the entry into force of the Rome Treaty of the International Criminal Court

European Parliament resolution on the entry into force of the Rome Treaty of the International Criminal Court

The European Parliament,

- strongly attached to the standards of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms as well as the European Charter,
- A. convinced of the importance of putting an end to impunity for terrorists and for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community and, thereby, of contributing to the prevention of such crimes,
- B. aware that, during the previous century, millions of children, women and men have been victims of horrific atrocities that deeply shock the conscience of humanity, including terrorist attacks on innocent civilians,
- C. whereas, on 17 July 1998, the Statute of the International Criminal Court to judge war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity was adopted in Rome,
- D. recalling that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which has world wide jurisdiction and is complementary to international criminal jurisdictions, is based on very high standards of justice and will constitute an effective deterrent to and a means of redress for the most serious crimes,
- E. convinced that the establishment of the International Criminal Court is a fundamental factor for reconciliation, justice, peace and security and that it will contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law, the international protection of human rights and international humanitarian law,
- F. noting that, as of 5 February 2002, 52 countries had ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and that 60 ratifications are required for the Statute to enter into force and for the Court to become effective,
- G. whereas the first Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute has been scheduled by the United Nations for September 2002, and whereas all countries that have ratified by June 2002 will participate as full members,
- H. whereas, however, some regions of the world are still severely under-represented within the group of countries that have ratified the Rome ICC Statute, and whereas further steps are necessary to ensure as broad as possible accession to the Rome ICC Statute,
- I. aware that the actual establishment of the Court will be a momentous process and that the steps that need to be taken over the next few months, leading to the entry into force of the Rome Statute, will be crucial for the long-term success of the Court,

- J. reiterating its firm conviction that the Geneva Conventions, as well as the standards and definitions set out in these conventions, must be revised to respond effectively to the new situations created by the development of international terrorism,
1. Welcomes the efforts made by the Council and the Member States to ensure the early establishment of the ICC and the full implementation of the Rome Statute, in accordance with the Common Position of 11 June 2001;
 2. Congratulates the 52 States that have already ratified or acceded to the Rome Treaty and welcomes the imminent entry into force of the Treaty;
 3. Commends the essential role played by the Commission, in cooperation with non-governmental organisations, in encouraging prompt and effective ratification by countries throughout the world;
 4. Urges those Member States and applicant countries that have not yet ratified the Rome Treaty to do so as soon as possible and to adopt any necessary implementing legislation;
 5. Urges all other states to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible in order to ensure the widest possible participation from all the regions of the world at the first Assembly of States Parties;
 6. Calls on the European Union and the Member States, in all their bilateral and multilateral contacts, to undertake the necessary steps to encourage ratification and adoption of implementing legislation by the largest possible number of States and, in particular, countries from regions that are under-represented;
 7. Calls upon the Spanish Presidency of the European Union to draw up a specific plan of action for adoption at the European Council in Valencia for the effective establishment of the Court and the ratification of its Statute by countries from all over the world, in cooperation with the United Nations Preparatory Commission and the host country;
 8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the parliaments of the Member States, the governments and parliaments of the applicant countries and the UN Secretary-General.