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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Carlos Bautista, Alima Boumediene-Thiery, Hélène Flautre, Monica Frassoni and Yves Piétrasanta,

on behalf of the Green/EFA group

on the conclusion of the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Conference held in Valencia
on 22-23 April 2002

European Parliament resolution on the conclusion of the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Conference held in Valencia on 22-23 April 2002

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Barcelona Process, particularly that of 11 April 2002,
- A. whereas the development of a genuine Euro-Mediterranean Partnership is of strategic importance with a view to creating an area of shared prosperity and democracy in the area based on dialogue and mutual confidence, respect for human rights and the rule of law and the consolidation of peace, stability and security,
- B. regretting that the potential effects of the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Conference have been largely undermined by the dramatic events taking place in the Middle East,
- C. pointing out, in this regard, the boycott of this conference by Syria and Lebanon and the strained tensions between the Arab countries and Israel which affected negatively the climate of the meeting,
- D. underlining that compliance with international and humanitarian law, with regard in particular to UN Security Council Resolutions, is a precondition for the development of a real partnership,
- E. emphasising that there cannot be security without peace and dialogue without shared common values upon which to build mutual confidence,
- F. highlighting the efforts of the Presidency to make the most of this conference in spite of such a difficult situation,
- 1. Welcomes the conclusions of the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the adoption of the Valencia Action Plan and endorses the principles of co-ownership visibility, efficiency and credibility of the Barcelona Process;
- 2. Believes, nevertheless, that the Valencia meeting has been a missed opportunity to give new impetus to the Euro-Mediterranean partnership due to the ongoing crisis in the Middle East which casts a dark shadow on the future of the whole process;
- 3. Calls on all parties to make all efforts to abide by the principles of the Barcelona declaration, integrating them fully in mutual relations, policies and actions;
- 4. Regrets, in this respect, that so little attention has been dedicated to human rights and democracy issues; deplores that the political dialogue has brought about no tangible improvements in this matter and reiterates its call on the Commission for an annual

report on human rights in the Mediterranean upon which to base the further developments of the partnership;

5. Urges Israel and the Palestinian National Authority, in the spirit of the Barcelona declaration, to implement without delay UN Security Council resolutions 1397, 1402, 1403 and 1405;
6. Welcomes the decision to free President Arafat but calls on Israel not to put obstacles and cooperate fully with the UN Fact Finding Mission on Jenin;
7. Stresses that the respect for Article 2 of all the bilateral Association Agreements is a fundamental element of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership as well as a founding principle enshrined in the Barcelona declaration;
8. Calls, in this respect, on the Council and the Commission to apply it consistently and start officially the procedures to suspend the Association Agreement with Israel;
9. Welcomes the step forward as to the management of MEDA funds with the relevant increase of the payment-commitment ratio which shows some real improvement in project implementation through the gradual deconcentration and devolution of Programme management to the Commission delegations;
10. Expresses its support for all processes of South-South integration; believes that the Agadir process is a good starting point and calls on the Council and the Commission to make all efforts and contribute effectively so that this process can be successful as well as other sub-regional initiatives;
11. Supports the proposal by the Commission to develop environmental integration strategies for all sectors;
12. Strongly encourages the Commission to take the steps needed in order to create the necessary provisions for an explicit, much stronger sustainability component for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership;
13. Believes that all countries of the Mediterranean should be incorporated into the Euro-Mediterranean political process, as the Barcelona Convention and other bodies do;
14. Expresses its concern about the slow progress in the Strategic Impact Assessment of the Mediterranean free trade zone;
15. Urges the Council and the Commission to include support for the participation of civil society as a prerequisite for sustainable development in the region;
16. Proposes to give complementary funding to establish and develop capacities of genuinely independent South NGOs and reinforce the dialogue between NGOs and institutions;

17. Encourages the Council and the Commission to further develop synergies with existing regional schemes (UNEP/MAP, GWP-Med etc.);
18. Welcomes the proposal to create a Euro-Mediterranean Foundation to promote the dialogue between cultures and civilisations; believes, nevertheless that it should not be a duplication of similar experiences but rather coordinate, facilitate the networking and make the most of existing foundations, research institutes and universities already working in the same field;
19. Endorses the recommendation to strengthen the parliamentary dimension through the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly and calls on its President to set up immediately a working group so as to define rules and procedures and convene its first constituent meeting by the end of the year;
20. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and the parliaments of Member States and candidate countries and Mediterranean partner states which are signatory of the Barcelona Declaration.