

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

8 May 2002

B5-0283/2002

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Commission statement

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

by Marieke Sanders-ten Holte and Colette Flesch

on behalf of the ELDR Group

on the World Food Summit, Rome (10-13 June 2002)

European Parliament resolution on the World Food Summit, Rome (10-13 June 2002)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the 1996 Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,
 - having regard to the Marrakesh Agreement on agriculture, the new agricultural negotiations begun in January 2000 and the Doha Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Fourth WTO Ministerial Conference,
 - having regard to the Monterrey Consensus on financing for development, 21-22 March 2002,
- A. having regard to the daily hunger and deprivation of more than 800 million people,
- B. whereas at the 1996 World Food Summit representatives of 185 nations and the European Community set a goal of cutting by half the number of hungry children, women and men by 2015,
- C. whereas in order to reach this target the number of hungry people must decrease by 20 million each year, which is far above the current rate of 8 million,
- D. recalling the international community's commitment to the eradication of poverty,
1. Reaffirms its commitment to the objectives of the 1996 World Food Summit, and to the need to intensify efforts to reach the Summit's target by 2015 in order to improve the livelihood of around 800 million people in developing countries, many of them children;
 2. Regrets that there has been a conspicuous lack of focus within poverty reduction strategies on food security issues;
 3. Calls on the international community to recognise that the whole of humanity enjoys the right to food in the context of international human rights legislation;
 4. Stresses its commitment to the UN's fundamental development goals, but requests a review of the World Food Programme;
 5. Calls on international institutions to include hunger reduction as a central element in their development objectives and on the G-78 and G-77 countries to address the hunger problem;
 6. Stresses the particular responsibility of the EU and the United States towards the developing world and calls on all developed countries to open their markets, especially for agricultural exports from developing countries, to put an end to dumping and to share

technology; in the context of food security, insists on the necessity for an improved price policy to ensure adequate supply, and stresses the importance of food stocks;

7. Considers that Community-based action to improve agricultural productivity on a sustainable basis can lead to significant income gains and substantially reduce or eliminate food insecurity;
8. Deplores the cases in which the governments of food-insecure countries have let military expenditure prevail over the acute nutritional needs of their populations;
9. Considers that continued trade liberalisation will enhance global food security, while due regard must be given to the specific requirements of that issue;
10. Calls for a trade dimension in development policy, as in a globalised international system only trade will make poverty alleviation sustainable;
11. Considers that in emergency situations, particularly where refugees and displaced persons are concerned, food aid will remain an integral tool for providing humanitarian relief;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the FAO and the WTO.