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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 Hans-Gert Poettering, Ilkka Suominen, W.G. van Velzen and Francesco Fiori

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the preparation of the European Council in Seville (21-22 June 2002)

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European Parliament resolution on the preparation of the European Council in Seville (21-22 June 2002)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Council and Commission statements on the preparation of the European Council (Seville, 21-22 June 2002),

on Justice and Home Affairs

1. Welcomes the high priority which the Spanish Presidency has accorded to the fight against terrorism and problems of illegal immigration and asylum; calls on the Council to redouble its efforts to work towards the establishment of a common European immigration and asylum policy in accordance with the conclusions of the Tampere European Council;
2. Welcomes the recent recognition by some governments of the slow progress on drawing up EU asylum measures; notes, however, that the biggest factor slowing real progress so far has been the Council itself;
3. Stresses the need for clear and coherent rules based on minimum standards for a common asylum and immigration policy, but points out that differentiation should be made between asylum seekers, temporary refugees and working migrants; considers it essential to introduce the EURODAC system as soon as possible;
4. Calls on the Council to step up the fight against organised crime, particularly in relation to trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration, including increased cooperation with countries of origin outside the European Union;
5. Supports the creation of integrated management of external borders with common training and a common standard for technical equipment and the creation of a European corps of border guards, financed from the EU budget, which will assist national external border guards at the request of the national authorities and will be employed for the surveillance of particularly sensitive parts of present and future external EU borders;
6. Reiterates its support for the war on terrorism and commends the Council and its Presidency for its initiatives and actions in this regard;

on the future of Europe, including reform of the Council

7. Welcomes the improvements of the reform of the Council in the line of the Maij-Weggen/Poos resolution;

8. Stresses, however, that all proposals that may be tabled in Seville should in no way interfere with the work of the Convention;

on sustainable development

9. Hopes that the fourth ministerial preparatory committee will be better managed and structured, so that the governments meeting in Johannesburg can deliver clear and positive global commitments;
10. Considers that the Johannesburg Summit should develop specific initiatives, especially concerning a global water strategy, and believes that there is a need to take full account in the various economic sectors of the limits of natural resources, which should be managed, used and conserved in a sustainable way and shared equitably;
11. Reiterates the need to take all necessary measures to ensure universal access to education, in line with Parliament's previous resolutions, since this is an essential step on the road to sustainable development;
12. Encourages cooperation at international level concerning monitoring, research and dissemination of scientific knowledge for effective disaster and risk reduction in the wake of the adverse effects of climate change; believes that the precautionary principle should be incorporated into all international agreements;

on the Lisbon Strategy

13. Acknowledges the role of the Spanish Presidency in enabling the Sixth Framework Research Programme to be adopted by Parliament and the Council by the June 2002 deadline laid down by the European Council;
14. Draws attention to the further warning from the Commission (in the 2000 European Competitiveness Report) that the Lisbon strategic goal will be missed unless Member States show more determination in pursuing economic reforms;
15. Calls on the European Council to take decisive measures to ensure that all Council formations work more expeditiously on delivering legislative and other commitments; takes as examples the proposals on occupational pension funds, on which agreement has only now been reached in ECOFIN, and those on energy liberalisation, which have been the subject of delaying tactics, notably for household users;
16. Regarding the various action plans and reports to be submitted to the meeting, supports the e-Europe 2005 Action Plan, and calls for a concerted action at national level within the e-Europe 2005 Action Plan and for early implementation of the 'impact assessment' element of the Better Regulation package;
17. Welcomes the resolution on 'Education and Lifelong Learning' adopted by the Education Council on 30 May, but regrets that, under the method of 'open coordination', it was not involved in drawing up this political reflection;

on security of energy supplies

18. Calls on the European Council to give proper emphasis to promoting renewable energy supplies, developing clean coal technologies and appropriate research spending for energy technologies of the future, while keeping nuclear energy as one element of the energy mix;
19. Emphasises the importance of completing the liberalisation of gas and electricity markets, in order to deliver greater energy and economic efficiency, full choice to all consumers, and fairness and reciprocity between Member States;

on fisheries

20. Reaffirms, in the current framework of the reform of the CFP, the need to achieve a new Common Fisheries Policy designed to consolidate a sustainable EU fishing sector that respects fishing resources and the fundamental principles of the EU Treaties, excluding all types of discrimination and set within the framework of the European single market, including the Community fishing sector;
21. Looks forward to the international presence of the Community fleet in the framework of commercial international fisheries agreements that respect natural resources and within the framework of its foreign policy and its policy on cooperation for development with third countries;

on enlargement

22. Encourages the Commission, the Member States and the applicant countries to accomplish their tasks during this crucial year of the accession process; stresses that the evaluation of the applicant countries has to continue to be carried out on the basis of merit and in line with the principle of differentiation, and with strict maintenance of the conclusions of the Helsinki Council and the Copenhagen criteria; urges the Member States to find a satisfactory agreement as soon as possible on the common position for the chapters on agriculture, regional policy and budgetary issues, so that these chapters may be completed in sufficient time to close the negotiations as provided for in the road-map;

on foreign affairs

23. Underlines the importance of the strategic partnership between the European Union and Russia, based on full adherence to the UN Charter, the obligations and commitments undertaken within the framework of the Council of Europe and the OSCE, as well as common values and mutual trust; welcomes the positive results of the EU-Russia summit held on 29 May in Moscow, especially in fields such as the establishment of a Common European Economic Space and the fight against international terrorism, drug production and trafficking, illegal migration and other manifestations of organised crime; notes with satisfaction the continued progress and dynamism of the EU-Russia energy dialogue; and expresses its strong determination to contribute to the further development of the Russia-

EU political dialogue and the first practical steps in developing cooperation on crisis management and security matters;

24. Expresses its concern that plans by the EU to conduct its first military operation in the context of the ESDP by taking over at the end of the year the operation 'Amber Fox' currently led by NATO in Macedonia look increasingly doubtful after NATO and EU diplomats failed to resolve the dispute over the 'Berlin Plus' arrangements; appeals to the Council to clinch agreement by the Seville summit, allowing these arrangements giving the EU assured access to NATO's planning, assets and capabilities to come into force;
25. Is appalled by the latest car bomb attack in Israel killing 17 people in Megiddo; encourages the organisation of an international conference to take place before the end of July, to revive the Middle East peace process and put an end to the violence in the region;
26. Aware of the risk of all-out war between India and Pakistan, calls upon both countries to show moderation and restraint; calls upon President Musharraf to implement his commitment to stop infiltration of terrorists across the Line of Control into Jammu and Kashmir; calls for the resumption of bilateral talks on the Kashmir question; welcomes and commends all efforts being deployed by the international community, including the EU, the US, Russia and the UN, to counter the present state of tension and prevent any escalation;

on Parliament's right to be informed on Title VI of the TEU

27. Calls on the Council to comply fully with its obligations to inform and consult Parliament, as defined under Title VI of the TEU;

on the ratification of the Nice Treaty

28. Hopes that the Irish government will find ways and means to see through the ratification of the Nice Treaty;
29. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, the Council, the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the applicant countries.