

10/6/02

hidd

Proposal for a resolution

pursuant to Rule 50

tabled by Maria MARTENS, Mary BANOTTI and Th MANN

in the name of the EPP Group

BS-360/02

on Child Labour in sports goods industries

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children in New York, 19-21 September 2001

- having regard to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work of June 18, 1998,

- having regard to the ILO having chosen 12th June as World Day against Child Labour,

A. whereas according to recent reports evidence exists of many children still producing footballs outside the main stitching areas in several countries, including India and Pakistan

B whereas, in the case of football production, FIFA and certain sporting goods companies committed themselves in 1998 to prohibit the use of child labour for its licensed products, but FIFA admits it cannot make sure that its 2002 World Cup "premium balls" are exclusively sourced from such official licensees

1. Condemns all forms of child exploitation and calls for the eradication of child labour, where still practiced in the sports goods industry, including football production

2 Calls on FIFA and sporting goods companies concerned to agree on and implement a Code of Behaviour aimed at putting an end to child labour while offering to cooperate with the relevant State authorities to ensure rehabilitation for any children removed from such labour

3. Urges the ILO to closely monitor the application of agreed to ILO labour standards in the sporting goods industry world-wide

4. Calls on FIFA and the national football teams, where still possible, to make the World Cup 2002 championship, the first international event free of child labour and in compliance with agreed labour standards;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, the FIFA and the ILO