

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

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*Session document*

7 October 2002

B5-0519/2002

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

further to the Commission statement

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

by Charles Pasqua, Jean-Charles Marchiani and Isabelle Caullery

on behalf of the UEN Group

on the Commission statement on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire

**European Parliament resolution on the Commission statement on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the attempted coup d'état in which a mutinous section of the Ivorian army has been engaged since 19 September 2002,
  - having regard to the official request made by the Ivorian Government to France for logistical military support,
  - having regard to the historical, cultural and political ties between Côte d'Ivoire and France,
  - having regard to the formal agreements on defence and assistance signed between France and Côte d'Ivoire on 24 April 1961,
  - having regard to the presence of many foreign nationals, including 20 000 French citizens, in Côte d'Ivoire,
  - having regard to the threat that the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire poses to political stability in West Africa,
- A. whereas, following the military coup by General Guei in December 1999, the democratic election of President Laurent Gbagbo in October 2000 played a crucial role in restoring the rule of law in Côte d'Ivoire,
- B. whereas, however, the regime of President Gbagbo has not fully managed to assert complete authority over the police and armed forces, certain elements of which have been behind several attempts at destabilisation,
- C. whereas the uprising by a section of the armed forces against the democratic regime of President Gbagbo has resulted in many casualties amongst the Ivorian population,
- D. mindful of the need to guarantee the safety of foreign nationals in Côte d'Ivoire,
- E. whereas this conflict risks endangering political stability in the region,
1. Condemns the rebellion incited by a section of the armed forces, and calls on those behind the uprising to seek to achieve their demands by peaceful means;
  2. Strongly condemns any unilateral outside intervention not requested by the Ivorian Government and any move to exploit the situation that might obstruct the search for a peaceful solution;

3. Supports President Gbagbo's efforts to employ every possible means to restore law and order, peace and democracy in Côte d'Ivoire;
4. Believes that its ties with Côte d'Ivoire are such that France has a key role to play in resolving this crisis;
5. Congratulates the French armed forces for efficiently handling operations to protect and evacuate foreign nationals and assisting the legitimate authorities of Côte d'Ivoire;
6. Is confident that French diplomacy can facilitate an African solution to the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire;
7. Welcomes the efforts by the Economic Community of West African States to seek a peaceful solution;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the French authorities, the Ivorian authorities and the governments of the ECOWAS member states.