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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

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on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on North Korea

European Parliament resolution on North Korea

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas in October 2002 the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) reportedly confessed to running a secret uranium enrichment programme in blatant violation of the KEDO Agreement, the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and the 1992 Joint North-South Declaration on the Denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula,
- B. whereas the truth of this confession has now been disputed by the North Korean leadership,
- C. whereas in December 2002 North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), expelled the International Atomic Energy Agency's weapons inspectors and announced that it would restart a nuclear reactor and a reprocessing plant which could play a role in the production of nuclear warheads,
- D. whereas, however, North Korea's chief delegate in the talks with South Korea, Kim Ryong Song, confirmed on 23 January 2003 that his country has 'no intention of producing nuclear weapons at this stage',
- E. whereas the accusations concerning the uranium enrichment programme led Parliament, on 24 October 2002, to freeze the EU's EUR 20 million contributions to KEDO for 2003 and led the US Administration to halt its substantial oil supplies to North Korea, which are also covered by the KEDO Agreement,
- F. whereas, as a result of this, the serious energy crisis in North Korea is compounding the chronic malnutrition suffered by large sections of the population, which is particularly disastrous in the harsh winter conditions in the north of the Korean peninsula,
- G. whereas in July 2002 North Korea took drastic steps towards the introduction of a market economy by increasing prices for staple goods and ending rationing for some goods, devaluing its currency, legalising private farmers' markets and making state-owned companies responsible for their own profits and losses,
- H. whereas these measures may in the short run exacerbate the already extreme economic and humanitarian crisis, and whereas, without diplomatic recognition, particularly by the United States, North Korea has no possibility of obtaining funds from the Asian Development Bank, the IMF or the World Bank,
- I. whereas US President Bush branded North Korea as part of an 'axis of evil' along with Iraq and Iran after the September 11 attacks,
- J. whereas North Korea is apparently ready to accept international demands for a halt to all potential nuclear programmes and missile testing in return for a non-aggression treaty

with the USA,

- K. whereas the US Special Envoy, Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly, confirmed the US Administration's continuing willingness to hold talks,
1. Expresses its grave concern at the energy and food crisis which is causing severe suffering to most North Koreans and encourages all efforts by the European Commission and the Member States to come to the aid of the Korean people;
 2. Welcomes all efforts by the United States and North Korea's neighbours, South Korea, Russia, Japan and China, to negotiate a peaceful solution to the crisis and hopes that in this and other cases - notably Iraq - multilateral negotiations will prove to be the path to a solution;
 3. Welcomes the Russian-proposed settlement plan linking the abandonment by North Korea of its nuclear programme with security guarantees and financial aid for that country;
 4. Welcomes recent offers by the United States to supply food and energy aid to North Korea as an incentive to dismantle its nuclear programmes;
 5. Condemns all attempts by any country to develop or expand a nuclear arms programme and draws attention to the ruling of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 concerning the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, in which the Court stated that the threat or use of nuclear weapons 'would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict';
 6. Calls on the DPRK to immediately withdraw all threats to develop nuclear weapons, to reverse its decision to leave the NPT and to accept international verification to prove the sincerity of its intentions;
 7. Reiterates its strong condemnation of the Government of the DPRK for holding its people hostage to an extreme dictatorship and depriving them of all fundamental democratic and human rights, and calls on Kim Yong Il urgently to introduce not only economic but also democratic reforms, paving North Korea's way towards pluralist democracy and reconciliation with South Korea;
 8. Welcomes the European Commission's decision to allocate EUR 9.5 million of food aid to the DPRK, intended to offset the reduction in aid from Japan and the USA;
 9. Calls on the EU to cooperate with South Korea on a policy of international recognition of North Korea in return for assurances of non-aggression;
 10. Believes, in this respect, that KEDO was ill-designed from the start, in that it neither addressed North Korea's immediate energy needs nor delivered a technology tailored to the country's infrastructure, and points out that the KEDO framework agreement provided for the completion of the reactors in 2003;
 11. Calls on the Council and Commission and on all the other partners to cancel the KEDO

Agreement and to completely overhaul development cooperation with North Korea;

12. Recalls the EU's solemn undertaking, given at the UN Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, to support renewable energy in developing countries and insists that the financial provision for KEDO in the Community budget should be reallocated to measures to foster renewable energy sources in North Korea;
13. Draws attention to the Hyundai proposal on a gas pipeline from Irkutsk, Russia, to provide cleaner energy for North Korea's electricity plants, as well as to the great potential in North Korea for windmills, solar energy, small hydroelectric plants, biomass and geothermics;
14. Calls on the Commission, further, to present a more comprehensive proposal for enhanced cooperation on poverty alleviation with North Korea once it has withdrawn its nuclear threats;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the IAEO, and the governments of South Korea, Japan, Russia, the USA and the DPRK.