

2/5/03

*Widdell*

BS-249/03

② *Morillon*

③ *[Signature]*

Motion for a resolution  
tabled by Thierry Cornillet <sup>①</sup>  
MORILLON, POSSELT  
on behalf of the EPP-ED Group

**on the human rights situation in the Ituri region of the DRC**

The European Parliament,

having regard to its previous resolutions regarding the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

having regard to the declarations by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the withdrawal of Ugandan People's Defence Forces from the Ituri region of the DRC (30 April 2003), on the massacres in and around Drodro in the Ituri region of the DRC (14 April 2003) and on the conclusion of the inter-Congolese dialogue (9 April 2003),

having regard to the UN Security Council resolution 1468 (2003) of 20 March 2003,

A. Whereas warring Congolese, Rwandan and Ugandan parties are responsible for mass killings of hundreds of thousands of Congolese civilians, large-scale plundering of natural wealth and widespread destruction of habitations in Ituri and other Eastern Congo regions during the past few years,

B. Whereas the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in its eastern part, continues to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region,

~~C. Recalling the obligation of the Democratic Republic of Congo as a State Member to the United Nations to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms within its territorial sovereignty,~~

C. ~~B.~~ Commending the Government of Angola for its efforts in ensuring the implementation, by the parties, of the Luanda Agreement of 6 September 2002, which establishes the basis for a settlement in the Ituri area, and expressing its gratitude to the Government of Angola for their readiness to continue these efforts,

1. Welcomes the agreement reached by the Congolese parties in Pretoria on 6 March 2003 on the transitional arrangements and the conclusion of the inter-Congolese dialogue in Sun City, South Africa on 2 April 2003, commends the Congolese parties, whose responsibility it is to implement fully the commitments they have taken, for their efforts in settling the outstanding issues,

2. Welcomes the recent promise by South African President Mbeki to mobilise the African Union to support the DRC peace process;

3. Condemns the massacres and other systematic violations of International Humanitarian Law and human rights perpetrated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular sexual violence against women and girls as a tool of warfare and atrocities perpetrated in the Ituri area by the Mouvement de Libération du Congo (MLC) and the Rassemblement

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Congolais pour la Démocratie/National (RCD/N) troops, as well as the acts of violence recently perpetrated by the Union des Patriotes Congolais (UPC) forces, and reiterates that there will be no impunity for such acts and that the perpetrators will be held accountable;

4. Stresses that the military officers whose names are mentioned in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in connection with serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights should be brought to justice, through further investigation;
5. Strongly encourages the Congolese parties forming the transitional government to establish as soon as possible a Truth and Reconciliation Commission charged with determining responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, as set forth in the resolutions adopted in the framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in Sun City in April 2002;
6. Expresses its deep concern over the heavy fighting in Bunia, demands that all parties to the conflict in Ituri immediately cease the hostilities and that all parties sign an unconditional ceasefire agreement, stresses that they must cooperate with MONUC to set up without further delay the Ituri Pacification Commission, and also stresses that the necessary steps must be taken to restore public order in Bunia, in accordance with the agreements reached among Congolese parties and within the framework of the Ituri Pacification Commission;
7. Calls for an increase in MONUC's presence in the Ituri area, in particular military observers and human rights personnel, to monitor developments on the ground;
8. Requests MONUC to provide further support and assistance to humanitarian efforts as well as to facilitate the formation of the Ituri Pacification Commission and assist the work of this commission as consistent with MONUC's current mandate, in consultation with all the Congolese parties to the conflict;
9. Demands that all governments in the Great Lakes region immediately cease military and financial support to all the parties engaged in armed conflict in the Ituri region, and reiterates that all foreign troops must be withdrawn from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
10. Calls on the Government of Uganda to complete the withdrawal of all its troops without further delay and in full coordination with MONUC, expresses its concern that that Government's commitment to withdraw by 20 March 2003, subsequently adjusted to April 24 2003, has not been met;
11. Calls on the Government of Rwanda not to return any forces to the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and stresses that any renewal of strengthening of foreign military presence on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo would undermine the progress achieved thus far in the peace process;
12. Demands that all the parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in particular in Ituri, ensure the security of civilian populations and grant to MONUC and to humanitarian organizations full and unimpeded access to the populations in need;

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13. Calls upon all parties to the conflict to provide information without delay on steps they have taken to halt their recruitment or use of children in armed conflict in violation of the international obligations applicable to them;
14. Calls for unimpeded access to be granted to MONUC and the Third Party Verification Mechanism so that it could verify the implementation of the Pretoria Agreement of 30 July 2002, stresses that any ongoing military activity in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo has a detrimental effect on MONUC's operations of disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, reintegration or resettlement (DDRRR) of armed groups;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the UN and AU Secretaries- General, and the Governments of Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.