30.06.2003

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

BS-0353/03

(SEPPANEN) with request for inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by MORGANTINI, SEPPANEN, SCHMID H. on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on Cambodia, on the eve of the general elections of 27 July 2003

The European Parliament,

having regard to its previous resolutions on Cambodia;



- A. whereas National Assembly elections will be held in Cambodia on 27 July 2003, marking another important step in the country's democratisation process;
- B. alarmed at the violence perpetrated against political activists, mainly from the opposition;
- C. whereas Cambodia has ratified the Statute of the International Criminal Court and has signed on 13 May 2003 an agreement with the UN to prosecute former Khmer Rouge leaders;
- D. whereas during the past year human rights defenders, opposition journalists and the independent media have become increasingly subject to intimidation, arrests and killings, the perpetrators of which have never been brought to justice;
- E. whereas new electoral regulations limit the access of the political parties to the information;
- 1. Condemns the acts of violence and intimidation taking place during the pre-election period and urges the Cambodia authorities to guarantee free and fair elections;
- 2. Calls on the Cambodian authorities to fully respect the right to freedom of assembly, association and expression in the pre- and post-election period;
- 3. Calls on the government of Cambodia to ensure that the electoral campaign and the ballot take place in a peaceful atmosphere; calls on the Cambodian government to guarantee access to the broadcast media for all political parties;
- 4. Calls on the Council and the Commission to send an EU observer mission to monitor the general elections;
- 5. Insists on the fact that the UN-Cambodia agreement concerning the prosecutions under Cambodian law - of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea should be implemented quickly;
- 6. Calls for a proactive commitment by the Council, the Commission and by EU representatives in Phnom Penh to promote human rights and civil rights in Cambodia;
- 7. charge sa délégation pour les relations avec les pays ASEAN de suivre la situation au Cambodge et d'en discuter dans ses prochaines réunion;
- 8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Secretary-General of the UN, the government and parliament of Cambodia, the governments and parliament of the ASEAN countries.

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