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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

by Hans-Gert Poettering, Francesco Fiori, Elmar Brok and Iñigo Méndez de Vigo

on behalf of the EPP-DE Group

on the outcome of the Intergovernmental Conference

European Parliament resolution on the outcome of the Intergovernmental Conference

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe of 18 July 2003 drawn up by the European Convention,
 - having regard to the Italian Presidency proposals (CIG 60/03),
 - having regard to Rule 37(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) was not able to reach an overall agreement on a draft Constitutional Treaty at this stage,
- B. whereas progress had been made since the opening of the IGC on 4 October 2003 on the basis of the text of the draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe,
- C. whereas a functioning Europe is needed before the next round of accessions and further enlargements,
1. Deplores the breakdown of the negotiations on a Constitution for Europe involving the Heads of State or Government on 13 December 2003;
 2. Notes the sharp discrepancy between the diplomatic negotiations of Heads of State or Government and the way in which consensus was achieved by the Convention following 16 months of intense, democratic and transparent discussions;
 3. Insists that the draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe, as it resulted from the Convention, must remain the basis for the final and overall IGC agreement;
 4. Warns that failure to resolve the issue of the enlarged Union's capability to act could result in a 'variable-speed Europe', in a return to the intergovernmental method or even in the fragmentation of the Union;
 5. Reaffirms the need to work on the basis of the 'Community method' and with democratic, transparent and efficient EU institutions;
 6. Calls, therefore, on the forthcoming Irish Presidency to reconvene the IGC at the level of the Foreign Ministers in January 2004 in order to discuss a consensual procedure for progress and to consolidate and adopt all the texts approved so far at the IGC;
 7. Calls on the Irish Presidency to propose a date - before the next round of accessions takes place - for an IGC meeting at the level of the Heads of State or Government in order to determine the remaining institutional issues;

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the IGC, to the Council, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States and of the accession and applicant countries.