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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

pursuant to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure

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on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the situation in Iraq

European Parliament resolution on the situation in Iraq

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions of 16 May 2002¹, 30 January 2003², 24 September 2003³ and 12 December 2003⁴,
 - having regard to UN Security Council resolutions 1483⁵, 1500⁶, 1502⁷ and 1546⁸,
 - having regard to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. welcoming the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1546 confirming the sovereign status of the Iraqi Interim Government from 30 June 2004, and supporting its implementation,
- B. welcoming the restoration of Iraqi sovereignty on 29 June 2004 and the formation of a fully sovereign Iraqi Interim Government, which assumes full authority from that day, upon the end of the occupation and the dissolution of the Coalition Provisional Authority; welcoming the convening of a National Conference reflecting the diversity of Iraqi society and the designation of an Interim Parliament as a further way of increasing political representation in Iraqi political institutions before the holding of elections,
- C. whereas, at its meeting of 17-18 June 2004, the European Council reaffirmed its commitment to establishing a secure, stable, unified, prosperous and democratic Iraq,
- D. welcoming the European Commission communication on the European Union and Iraq and the framework for engagement proposed therein,
- E. whereas the EU and its Member States, the US and many neighbouring countries in the region share a common strategic interest in the early achievement of security and stability in Iraq and should therefore work closely together to achieve this outcome,
- F. whereas the political and security situation in Iraq remains unstable, due to the murderous activities of insurgents, whose actions deliberately undermine the efforts of the Iraqi Interim Government and the international community to stabilise and deliver

¹ OJ C 180 E, 31.07.2003, p. 499.

² OJ C 039 E, 13.02.2004, p. 67.

³ P5_TA(2003)0401.

⁴ OJ L 054, 23.02.2004, p. 1.

⁵ UNSCR 1483 of 22 May 2003 on the 'Authority' in Iraq after the war and the competence of the UN Special Representative.

⁶ UNSCR 1500 of 14 August 2003 on the establishment of the Representative Governing Council of Iraq and the establishment of the United Nations Assistance Mission.

⁷ UNSCR 1502 of 26 August 2003 calling for the protection of the UN and all humanitarian personnel.

⁸ UNSCR 1546 of 8 June 2004 .

improved living conditions, security and economic prosperity to the Iraqi people, causing numerous deaths and injuries among international personnel, including the peace-making multinational force and Iraqi people,

- G. whereas the United Nations under these circumstances considered it did not have the necessary conditions for assuming the key role it should play in the democratisation process,
- H. whereas the highly critical humanitarian situation is due to the problems resulting from years of neglect under the Saddam Hussein dictatorship and the continued insurgency as well as the destruction of elements of the country's basic infrastructure, in particular the energy and water supply, sanitation and health care,
- I. whereas the social situation remains highly critical because of high unemployment and dependence of the majority of the population on assistance for food supplies,
- J. convinced that it is important that allegations of human rights violations and war crimes committed during the last three decades are investigated by the Iraqi authorities as quickly as possible and that those responsible are punished,
- K. aware of the great importance of participation of women in the political processes,
- L. underlining the principles set out in the EU Strategic Partnership with the Mediterranean and the Middle East,
- M. convinced that the emergence of a new political order in Iraq is perceived positively by neighbouring states and that it fosters a community of views on how the countries of the region should tackle common political and economic challenges,
 - 1. Reaffirms the determination of the European Union to assist the transformation of Iraq and its reintegration into the international community as a sovereign, independent and democratic partner country; strongly supports the medium-term strategy issued by the European Commission in line with these principles;
 - 2. Reiterates its condemnation of terrorist attacks against civilians, religious minorities, police forces and soldiers of the multinational force, the taking of hostages, including journalists and NGOs personnel, and the atrocious murders which have been committed and still left unpunished;
 - 3. Emphasises that under UN Security Council Resolution 1546 all parties have committed themselves to act in accordance with international law, including obligations under international humanitarian law, and calls on them to ensure observance of these obligations;
 - 4. Recalls that the multinational force will have the authority to take all necessary measures to contribute to the maintenance of security and stability in Iraq, in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution and in coordination with the sovereign Government of Iraq;

5. Insists Iraq now has an opportunity to set aside its history of authoritarian control and to build stable democratic secular institutions that guarantee the rights of all Iraqis, including women, ethnic and religious minorities; expresses its conviction that the precondition for improvement of the security situation is an end to insurgency and the resolution of political problems;
6. Reiterates that the EU, given its own successful experience in supporting processes of transition from authoritarian systems of government to systems based on democracy, should provide further political support for the process of transition and the restoration of political power to Iraq and the Iraqis, with the UN in a leading role; restates the utmost importance of ensuring that, in implementing actions, the EU Member States, the European Commission and the High Representative work in full coordination with the UN, as well as with international financial institutions, both on the ground and in international fora;
7. Calls on the EU to engage with the new Iraqi administration and Iraqi society in discussing the role they see the EU playing in Iraq; recalls the important contribution that the EU could make in launching informal dialogue with broader Iraqi civil society, including NGOs, religious groupings, trade unions, and nascent political parties;
8. Calls on the EU to offer its assistance and expertise for the drafting of a new Iraqi constitution that guarantees respect for the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms and the integral territoriality of the country; calls on the new Iraqi authorities to ensure that due attention is paid to women's rights, particularly in the family and personal status laws;
9. Urges the Council and the Commission to reiterate the condemnation of the use of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of prisoners; calls for thorough, impartial, public and transparent investigation of allegations of torture and ill-treatment; asks for appropriate sanctioning through appropriate channels; insists on the right of every detainee to fair legal treatment in accordance with international law;
10. Welcomes the prospect of the elections to the Transitional National Assembly by January 2005 as a major step towards the establishment of a democratic Iraq; welcomes the formation of the Independent Electoral Commission for Iraq, and the UN's leading role in advising the Iraqi Interim Government on the electoral process; asks for concrete action from the EU in helping provide security and a peaceful atmosphere for the electoral process;
11. Welcomes ongoing efforts by the Interim Government of Iraq to develop Iraqi security forces, including the Iraqi armed forces; calls on the EU to offer its assistance to improve the security situation in Iraq, e.g. in the area of police training; emphasises its deep concern about insecurity on the ground and calls for further action to ensure regional security and stability in the area as part of the EU strategy for its neighbourhood; calls on the EU to play a special role in that respect, which could include the sponsoring of regional confidence-building measures and arrangements; considers that the prohibitions related to the sale or supply to Iraq of arms and related

materiel should not apply to arms or related materiel required by the Government of Iraq or the multinational force to serve the purposes of UN Security Council Resolution 1546 and in line with it; welcomes the Council common position 2004/553/CFSP, which partially lifts the embargo on arms to Iraq;

12. Welcomes the decision by NATO, taken at its Istanbul Summit of 28 June 2004, to offer assistance to the Government of Iraq with the training of its security forces and to support the nascent Iraqi security institutions;
13. Welcomes the possibility of an international meeting to support the Iraqi political transition and Iraqi recovery, to the benefit of the Iraqi people and in the interest of stability in the region; calls on the EU, in coordination with the Iraqi Government, to examine the idea of co-sponsoring an International Conference on Iraq;
14. Calls on the EU to firmly seek to engage in longer-term relations and continuous political dialogue with the Iraqi Interim Government, which would be embedded in a broader regional strategy and partnership; welcomes in that respect the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Iraq and Saudi Arabia; calls on the EU to use the instruments at its disposal to stop interference from Iran and others in political developments in Iraq;
15. Calls for the progressive establishment of a regional politico-economic cooperative framework, reducing tensions and moving gradually to involve security cooperation, and which could provide a mechanism for improving stability in the broader region and tackle the legacy of unresolved regional disputes;
16. Calls on the EU to actively contribute, through its expertise and substantial record of working with the transition economies as well as combining social cohesion with building strong market institutions, liberalisation and integration, to the establishment of an open, sustainable and diversified Iraqi market economy;
17. Encourages continuous EC assistance to build the capacity of Iraqi administrative and economic institutions, in particular the creation of a functioning customs administration, efficient tax-raising authority, as well as to develop judicial capabilities and regulatory and legal frameworks;
18. Restates that oil and other natural resources must be administered fully and independently by the Iraqi authorities;
19. Urges the Council to increase humanitarian aid, in particular by providing the people of Iraq with the food and medical assistance they require;
20. Supports the European Commission proposal to allocate a further € 200 million EU contribution to Iraq's reconstruction in 2005, and urges the Council to use the flexibility instrument to implement that commitment without reducing expenses in other areas of EU external action; insists that the reconstruction process should be transparent in all its aspects, in particular political, economic and financial;

21. Calls for the opening of a full European Commission delegation in Iraq as soon as the security situation is adequate;
22. Instructs its Foreign Affairs Committee to draft a report on the situation in Iraq which takes into account developments as regards both reconstruction and political reforms;
23. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the parliaments of the Member States, the Iraqi Interim Government, the Iraqi Interim Parliament, the UN Secretary-General and the UN Security Council.