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## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

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

by Marie-Hélène Aubert, Bernat Joan i Marí, Alain Lipietz, Raül Romeva i Rueda and Carl Schlyter

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on the 2005 World Social Forum in Porto Alegre and the 2005 World Economic Forum in Davos

**European Parliament resolution on the 2005 World Social Forum in Porto Alegre and the 2005 World Economic Forum in Davos**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the call by worldwide social movements at the end of the 2005 World Social Forum,
  - having regard to the final declaration of the 2005 World Parliamentary Forum and the declaration on its future programme,
  - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, since its inception in 2005, the World Social Forum has been an 'open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action' against the neoliberal, free-market economic model, as spelled out in the Charter of Principles in 2001, with a horizontal nature, lack of hierarchies and broad diversity of participants,
- B. whereas the World Social Forum has been an ever growing space hosting this year some 2500 autonomously organised events including a World Parliamentary Forum, a Forum of Local Authorities, a World Forum of Judges, a World Forum on Education, a World Forum on Migration and a World Dignity Forum of excluded people and victims of discrimination, with a total of 155 000 registered participants from 135 countries and inaugurated by a huge March for Peace,
- C. whereas the new decentralised format of the WSF has permitted a strengthening of worldwide networking and the elaboration of common strategies and a common agenda for action,
- D. whereas the main recommendations made at the WSF included the cancellation of the public debt owed by countries of the developing South; the taxation of financial transactions and weapons sales; full employment and social protection; the dismantling of tax havens; fair trade; food sovereignty and security through small-scale agriculture; the prohibition of patents on knowledge and living organisms; an in-depth democratisation of international organisations; guaranteeing the right to information and the right to inform; the dismantling of foreign military bases; fighting for public policies against all forms of discrimination; and putting an end to destruction of the environment, especially in the area of climate change,
- E. whereas the 2005 World Economic Forum in Davos, held in parallel with the WSF, had some 2250 participants and was initiated by the business sector, who were joined by 20 heads of state, 70 cabinet ministers, some labour and religious leaders, and a limited number of NGOs, under the title 'Taking Responsibility for Tough Choices',
- F. whereas, according to the 2005 WEF, 'the analysis of 2004 shows that few in either the

public or the private sector are doing anywhere near what is necessary to get the world on track to achieve its most important goals',

- G. whereas the issues discussed at the 2005 Davos meeting echoed a number of key problems identified with the main concerns of the World Social Forum, such as overcoming poverty and limiting climate change, and led to a number of proposals which should be realised in the near future,
- H. whereas the Davos venue was used for a number of side events, in particular an informal WTO meeting to which the Swiss Government invited selected WTO member countries,
  - 1. Welcomes the increased worldwide networking of social movements, peasants' movements, trade unions and non-profit NGOs as a result of the WSF 2005;
  - 2. Supports, among the many proposals for action made at the WSF 2005, in particular the call to declare access to drinking water a human right, proposes to send a delegation to the 2nd Alternative World Water Forum (FAME 2005) from 17 to 20 March 2005 in Geneva, and to participate in World Water Day, 22 March 2005, giving firm support to this initiative;
  - 3. Welcomes the Porto Alegre initiative to hold two worldwide action days against war and occupation and for peace and disarmament, on 19 and 20 March 2005;
  - 4. Supports the proposal made at Davos to implement a tax on speculative cross-border capital flows (currency transaction tax TCC, 'Tobin tax', as well as an international kerosene tax, which could help to achieve the MDG (Millennium Development Goals), and calls on the G7 members to present as soon as possible concrete mechanisms, figures and deadlines;
  - 5. Agrees however to the call made at Porto Alegre at the WSF and at the WPF to restructure the world economic system, so that poverty reduction is not a gift given by the rich, but that poverty elimination is a consequence of fair economic and trading rules and supported by reformed international institutions;
  - 6. Welcomes the proposal made in Davos that the seven richest countries (G7) should grant poor countries 100% debt relief and insists that unconditional debt relief is a key issue in tackling the poverty problem; calls on the EU members of the G7 to present a proposal for a decision for the G7 meeting in Glasgow in July this year, and insists that not only bilateral but multilateral debt relief, including relief from debt to the IMF and the World Bank, is a necessary precondition for the recovery and sustainable development of developing countries;
  - 7. Draws attention to suggestions made by civil society platforms and farmers' organisations at the WSF, like the 'Call of Chapeco' and the 'Dakar Declaration', urging governments to assume their responsibilities to implement agrarian reforms and agricultural policies and to reinforce supply management policies against all forms of dumping practices so as to ensure remunerative levels of farm-gate prices worldwide;
  - 8. Welcomes the call made by the WPF concerning the ongoing negotiation of a UNESCO

Convention on cultural diversity, which should protect culture, languages and cultural expressions from commercial rules and GATS and WTO sanctioning mechanisms, so that cultural richness can be preserved and promoted worldwide as a backbone of identity, against xenophobia and fundamentalism;

9. Expresses its disagreement with the invitation by the Swiss Government to a so-called Mini-Ministerial meeting during the WEF limited to certain WTO member countries, and calls on WTO members to respect the officially established fora in which all WTO members can participate so as to avoid an undemocratic pre-cooking of WTO decisions;
10. Calls on all social and parliamentary movements to prepare for 2006, when decentralised World Social Fora will take place in different parts of the world, and for 2007, when the World Social Forum will be hosted by an African country, according to the agenda drawn up in Porto Alegre;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.