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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B6-0009/07

pursuant to Rule 108(5) of the Rules of Procedure

by Jean-Marie Le Pen, Petre Popeangă, Dimitar Stoyanov, Luca Romagnoli
and Lydia Schenardi

on behalf of the ITS Group

on a possible reform of EU trade policy instruments

European Parliament resolution on a possible reform of EU trade policy instruments

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the European Commission's Green Paper with its 32 questions, adopted on 6 December 2006, and the public consultation process launched on that occasion,
 - having regard to Rule 108(5) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. considering that the European Union's primary trade defence instruments (antidumping measures, anti-subsidy measures and safeguards) are either insufficient or poorly adapted to globalisation and the aggressive trade policy of certain states,
 - B. pointing out that corporate relocations are a daily reality which is starting to affect the countries of Central and Eastern Europe as their comparative advantages diminish,
 - C. pointing out that the European Union is the leading importer of agricultural products, with 70 % of its imports coming from developing countries, and that it imports from those countries more agricultural products than the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand put together,
 - D. considering that importers and distributors are not entitled to impose their economic logic either on the Member States or on producers, or even on consumers, who very often calculate in the short term,
 1. Considers it necessary for the European Union to pursue some form of protectionism, as do most of its competitors, in order to prevent the disappearance or relocation of its agriculture, its industries and, in the future, its services;
 2. Expresses its amazement that the European Commission has published its Green Paper a matter of months before the expiry in late June of the US (fast track) negotiating mandate granted to the President by Congress;
 3. Points out that WTO negotiations must be global negotiations and that in no circumstances can an agreement be found without concessions from the emerging economies on industrial and manufactured products (NAMA);
 4. Warns the Commissioner for External Trade, Mr Mandelson, against making any unilateral concession on agriculture that oversteps the negotiating mandate granted to him by the Member States on 28 October 2005;
 5. Considers that the introduction at world level of refundable, discountable and adjustable customs duties is the only solution to the problem of globalisation and of the difference in production costs;
 6. Takes the view that the onus is on the United States to make constructive proposals,

particularly as regards agriculture, for reducing its subsidies and for transparency in the granting of aid of various types;

7. Points out that Community preference is fundamental to the CAP and that it must be defended both by the European Commission and by the Member States;
8. Condemns the ultra-liberal policy pursued by the European Commission which, by abolishing customs duties and charges having equivalent effect, has condemned our producers, businesses and services to unacceptable and intolerable wage, social, fiscal and environmental dumping;
9. Emphasises that the principle of reciprocity as regards tariff and non-tariff concessions must be one of the basic working rules of the WTO;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.