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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on statements by the Council and Commission

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

by Werner Langen

on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on improving the method for consulting Parliament in procedures relating to enlargement of the euro zone

European Parliament resolution on improving the method for consulting Parliament in procedures relating to enlargement of the euro zone

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 1 June 2006 on the enlargement of the euro zone¹,
- having regard to Article 122(2) of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0150/2007),
- having regard to the letters of 6 June 2007 from the President of the European Parliament to the President of the Commission and the President of the Council,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (A6-0000/2007),
- having regard to Rules 51 and 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,

1. Calls on the Commission and Council, regarding the future enlargement of the euro zone:

1.1. to reach an interinstitutional agreement on a future timetable for and approach to cooperation with other countries wishing to accede to the euro zone, including:

- (a) a dialogue with Parliament at an early stage, in order to ensure that at least two months is available for consultation of Parliament, thus respecting the prerogative of Parliament to duly consider the proposals tabled by both the Commission and the ECB;
- (b) a commitment from candidate countries to announce their intention to make an official request by the autumn of the year before the official request is submitted, in order to facilitate the overall process of introducing the common currency;
- (c) an interim convergence report by the Commission, to be drafted at the beginning of the next year following the pre-announcement by the accession country;

1.2. to ensure that the future European Statistical Governance Advisory Board and the future European Committee on Statistical Information closely monitor the preparation of the enlargement of the euro zone for the accession country; is convinced that the quality of the data available to the Commission is still wanting and that the Commission should be assigned additional powers to verify data; recommends that the Commission check data forwarded by the national central banks against data received in the framework of the quarterly general government accounts in order to improve confidence in statistics through cross-checking;

1.3. to adopt the position that any deficit procedure concerning a Member State must have

¹ OJ C 298 E, 8.12.2006, p. 249.

been closed before compliance with the Maastricht criteria is assessed;

2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.