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B7-0386/2011

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Annex IV of the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission

pursuant to Rule 35(3) of the Rules of Procedure

on the preparation of the Commission Work Programme for 2012

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

B7-0386/2011

European Parliament resolution on the preparation of the Commission Work Programme for 2012

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Annex IV of the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the European Commission which gives the European Parliament the right to suggest to the European Commission to list its proposals and comments for the Commission Work Programme for the following year,
 - having regard to the new element of the revised Framework Agreement of establishing a Summary Report which not only contains Parliaments priorities but also includes an evaluation of the Commission Work Programme of the actual year,
 - having regard to the Summary Report of the Conference of the Committee Chairs of 7 June 2011,
 - having regard to its previous resolution on the Work Programme of the European commission 2011 of 15.12.2010,
 - having regard to Rule 35(3) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas A. whereas the European Union faces a most critical situation with regard to its financial and economic stability following the dramatic consequences of the world economic and financial crisis for some of its members of the Euro-Zone, especially Greece, Portugal, Ireland, which are confronted with large budgetary deficits and speculation on the international financial markets on the solvability of their state finances,
- B. whereas all the measures so far of Council, Commission and European Central Bank for stabilizing the situation, especially the hardening of the Stability Pact , worsened the situation as they did not end the main cause, the financial speculation, but instead imposed a policy of severe austerity policy in the member states, with deep cuts in wages, social benefits and public spending in general as if the crisis would only be the consequence of wrong national policies,
- C. whereas there is an enormous and growing popular resistance against this austerity policy, with mass protests, general strikes and other different forms of resistance,
- D. whereas the already extraordinary high level of poverty in the EU was growing due to the deep economic and financial crisis since 2009 and reaching the unprecedented level of 84 million people, including 19 million children, and this in one of the richest areas of the world; whereas the volume of richness increased and is higher than before the world crisis but in parallel the uneven distribution also grew,
1. Criticizes that the Commission Work Programme 2011 worsened the neoliberal policy of the EU which did neither prevent the crisis and nor bring about the promised

improvements in employment, reduction of poverty, energy efficiency, development of R&D, but reinforces liberalization policies, reduces public services and weakens social security schemes under the pretext of reform; this path leading to growing social polarization, undermining the stability of our societies;

Growth and jobs

2. Rejects the principles and regulations of the EU Economic Governance which do not reflect adequately the profound imbalances within the EU; criticizes the fact that these proposals intend to strengthen the preventive and corrective arms of the discredited Stability and Growth Pact which is tending to sink the economies of many Member States into a deep recession and to create very negative implications for the majority of European economies;
3. Underlines the need to revoke the Stability and Growth Pact in parallel with the establishment of an Employment and Growth Pact which will foster public investment;
4. Reiterates its strong criticism of the new financial supervision framework in the Union; deplores that it leaves the real sources of financial risks untouched;
5. Criticizes the unwillingness of the EU to regulate and to cut back hedge funds and private equity which considerably contributed to the crises by increasing macro-prudential risks; pointed out that private equity are responsible for big asset stripping, for countless job-losses and for liquidations of many companies in the EU; strongly criticizes that the new EU regulation on hedge funds and private equity aims at standardizing and granting legal certainty of these harmful products instead of cutting them back;
6. Stresses the need to strengthen the rules on rating agencies and to improve the supervision of rating agencies worldwide; calls for the establishment of a European Public Authority in order to overcome conflicts of interest which impair the credit rating process;
7. Strongly criticizes that, in the framework of EU-IMF led 'rescue packages', the Commission and the Council adopted measures on making the pay out of funds conditional on cutting minimum wages, reducing wage 'rigidities', cutting pension entitlements, making labour markets more flexible and 'aligning wages more closely with firm-level productivity, including through reform of arbitration and collective bargaining systems'; points out that these policies constitute a severe violation of the rights to social dialogue and collective bargaining;
8. Emphasizes that any financial support to member states must be linked to European Social Model principles, strictly steer away from public sector cuts, deflationary wage freezes etc. and be sequenced in time so as to avoid pro-cyclical fiscal retrenchment;

Employment and social affairs

9. Insists, in the context of the next treaty change, on the introduction of a Social Progress Clause in EU primary law;

10. Warns the Commission to propose a revision of the Working Time Directive again aiming at watering down its provisions along the line of its Communication on the second stage of the consultation of social partners;
11. Calls on the Commission to launch infringement procedures against those Member States without delay that did not fully implement the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice on on-call time and compensatory rest, and also against those Member States that do not respect EU legislation in the field of working time in road transport;
12. Emphasizes that the European Employment Strategy (EES) and the Integrated Guidelines for the next policy cycle 2013-2016 must not be based on the flexicurity approach, but instead start from the concept of ‘Good Work’ as its central reference point, with a strong focus on promoting quality in work, improved social security and social inclusion, enhancing existing and introducing new workers rights, promoting better social risk management and the reconciliation of work and non-work life; insists that Member States should take adequate measures to phase out precarious and atypical employment;
13. Insists that the development of skills and competences throughout the lifecycle is best served by a rights-based approach to active labour market policies and lifelong learning, comprehensive health and safety at work, universal and equal social and workers’ rights for everyone, a work/life balance and reconciliation of work and non-work life, improving the quality of employment and well-being at work instead of an approach of ‘boosting labour mobility’ and promoting flexicurity; insists that the EU skills and jobs agenda must be closely linked to robust supply and demand side measures to promote a green and social economy and respective industrial and regional policies for sustainable development, rather than a mere strategy of ‘anticipating change’; calls on the Commission to initiate a Community strategy proposing measures that encourage the creation of environmentally and socially sustainable jobs in the ‘green’ and ‘white’ economies;
14. Highlights the importance of social, health, care and education services in bridging skills gaps, in promoting the social integration of people and combating poverty and social exclusion; recalls their potential to create new employment and calls for a strong and sustainable investment in and development of these key services and infrastructures; looks forward to the Commission’s action plan to address the gap in the supply of health workers;
15. Calls on the Commission to submit a proposal on a European Youth Guarantee securing the right of every young person in the EU to be offered a suitable well-paid job in line with their qualifications and skills, an apprenticeship, additional training or combined work and training immediately upon facing unemployment, and a Community Action Plan to combat youth unemployment;
16. Suggests, with a view to the new European Social Fund (ESF) Regulation for 2014 - 2020, that the appropriation of financial resources for the ESF must be doubled so that the ESF’s increasing tasks as regards promoting the fight against poverty and for social inclusion, new skills and jobs, high quality education and training can be properly funded;

Transport

17. Rejects any further privatisation and liberalisation of the transport sector under the aim of completing a single market area while it is still unclear which will be the proposals in enhancing social issues in all the modes of transport avoiding social dumping;
18. Expresses concern at the Airport Package which intends to enhance competition by establishing provisions supporting functional air space blocks and SESAR programme; takes the view that the practice has shown that privatisation and competition do not lead to the improvement of safety, security and strengthening of passengers rights, but to less security and the worsening of social rights for people working in this sector;
19. Rejects the concept of the creation Single European Railway Area which, under the pretext of establishing an internal market by a recast of the existing directives, is intended to make public transport subject to competition, to promote privatisation and to decouple competences in the railway sector asking for concrete fragmentation of jobs and related rail safety knowledge;
20. Stresses that an extension of the competences of the European Railway Agency could improve safety issues, reliability of certification of rolling stocks only if based on best practices and provisions already adopted by national safety authorities harmonizing at high level standard their requirements, not to be intended as an obstacle to rail transport;

CAP reform

21. Believes that the current CAP reform needs to prioritize fair prices for small- and medium-sized farmers and family farms, it must also ensure a transparent food chain and work towards halting the abusive buying power of multi-national corporations; aid should be linked as closely as possible to production and distributed fairly among producers and countries, subject to ceilings and modulation; the main objectives of the CAP should be to increase food production throughout the territory of EU Member States with a view to food security and sovereignty whilst maintaining the highest possible animal welfare, environmental and food safety standards. In addition, any reform of the CAP should take care not to impede agricultural economies of third countries;

Common Fisheries Policy reform

22. Reiterates that the new Common Fisheries Policy should promote the modernization and sustainable development of the fisheries sector, ensuring its socio-economic viability, the sustainability of resources, the maintenance and creation of jobs and the improvement of living conditions of fisheries workers;
23. Insists on measures to increase the price of the first sale of fish and the income of fisheries workers, on subsidy or compensation mechanisms for fisheries workers affected by the economic and social repercussions of the recovery plans, multi-annual management and measures for the protection of ecosystems;

24. Reaffirms the need for the CFP to recognize the specific characteristics of small-scale and coastal fishing and to analyze to what extent the existing instruments are suited to the sector's needs, adapting them accordingly;
25. Calls on measures to ensure national sovereignty over the Exclusive Economic Zone of Member States and their fisheries resources, allowing proximity management; takes the view that 12 miles should be maintained as a zone of exclusive access for the national fleet of each Member State and proposes to consider the possibility of its extension to adjacent areas, conforming to the continental shelves;
26. Rejects any form of privatization of fisheries resources, including the transferability of fishing quotas, leading to the creation of quota markets in the Member States, which would severely hinder traditional fishing;

Climate change

27. Underlines that the global economic crisis cannot and must not be used as an excuse for inaction or for denying climate justice; reiterates that developing a sustainable economy is a fundamental part of a path out of the present crisis; calls therefore for Green innovation as the basis of transforming industry for sustainable growth, promoting environmentally friendly technologies, reducing energy dependency and securing employment and social and economic cohesion in both developed and developing countries;
28. Calls for the urgent adoption of ambitious measures regarding climate and energy so as to avoid further costs of climate change; asks therefore the Commission to step up beyond 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020 and at least a 95% reduction by 2050 compared to 1990 levels, in order to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels;
29. Calls for a EU by 2020 mandatory target of 20% of EU energy consumption to come from renewable resources; calls for concrete binding measures setting guidelines to implement enhancing energy efficiency from renewable sources;
30. Calls for a Commission initiative in order to review the Clean Development Mechanism and the Emission Trade system, actually undermining seriously the target of reducing CO₂ emissions in the EU and worldwide; insists that effective domestic reductions should be pursued, without relying on market instruments or on flexibility mechanisms;
31. Urges the Commission to present projects through which the EU and the developed world will assist developing countries in their deployment of sustainable and efficient technologies by means of adequate financial, technical, technological capacity building support without binding them to acquire expensive patents, in addition to adopting ambitious mitigation targets;
32. Regrets that the proposal for revision of the Regulation on fluorinated greenhouse gases, initially listed as a legislative proposal for December 2011, was down-graded to the non-legislative part of the Commission's rolling programme; urges the Commission to come forward with a revision of fluorinated-gas regulations and make proposals to rapidly phase down the production and consumption of HFCs, accelerate the phase-out of

hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) in different products and applications, and recover and destroy stratospheric ozone-depleting GHGs in discarded products and equipment;

33. Asks the Commission to come forward with legislative proposals addressing non-CO2 emissions from aviation as well as legislative proposals tackling CO2 emissions from maritime transport, in particular in the form of measures to include maritime transport emissions in the EU's greenhouse gas reduction commitment;

Environmental policy

34. Requests an evaluation of the REACH regulation, which should lead to legislative proposals under the co-decision procedure, including a review of scope of the REACH regulation (by 2012), a review concerning the extension of the scope of stricter authorization requirements to endocrine disruptors (by 2013), a review as to whether the obligation to perform a chemical safety assessment and to produce a chemical safety report on certain substances which are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (by 2014);
35. Calls on the Commission to present a proposal for an asbestos decommissioning directive, including the controlled disposal of asbestos fibres and the decontamination or disposal of equipment containing asbestos fibres in order to eliminate them completely; recalls to this effect its resolution on REACH of 7 May 2009 and more specifically paragraph 8 of the resolution;
36. Expresses its concern because the proposal to revise Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption which was initially foreseen in the CWP 2011, was deleted from the rolling programme, without indication of any new date;
37. Insists on an urgent follow up of the Communication on Water Scarcity and Droughts and a more ambitious approach than commented in CWP 2011; in view of the interconnections between drought, forest fires and desertification, calls on the Commission to present a proposal for a directive similar to the directive on floods, to promote the adoption of an EU policy on water scarcity, drought and adaptation to climate change; calls on the Commission to present and to carry out, together with the Member States, legislative proposals and initiatives in the area of forest protection and fire protection; calls on the Commission to present a directive on Water Efficiency of Buildings in connection with the Blue Print to safeguard Europe's water resources;
38. Underlines that the EU 2010 biodiversity targets have never been met and that the negative social and economic impacts of biodiversity loss and declining ecosystem services are already been felt; stresses that in the EU, only 17% of habitats and species and 11% of key ecosystems are in a favourable state; considers that the EU's 2020 biodiversity strategy does not offer fundamental solutions to protect biodiversity and it is missing its target by a lack of concrete commitments; reaffirms the importance of halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020 and asks for the integration of biodiversity protection in other EU policies and adequate funding;

Food safety

39. Asks the Commission to come forward with a legislative proposal to prohibit the placing on the market of foods derived from cloned animals and their descendants;
40. Insists on the review of Regulation 882/2004 on official controls along the food chain; regrets that the Commission has not announced any legislative proposal since the publication of the report on the overall operation of official controls (COM(2010)441);

Putting the citizen first

41. Takes note of the success of the current programmes in the field of education, youth and citizenship and calls on the Commission to allocate substantial budgetary resources in order to respond to the growing demand in participation with respect to a more equal access to these programmes by all socio-economic categories;
42. Stresses the fact that substantial public funding is essential in order to ensure a high quality education to which all citizens have access on an equal basis and thus encourages the Member states to invest abundantly in the field of public education; notes that this investment should be coupled by equally important investments in social policies in order to eliminate discrimination of access and guarantee equal results for all citizens notably in terms of employment;
43. Observes that the implementation of the Bologna Process by Member states resulted in a downgrade of the quality of University diplomas that is followed by the non satisfactory professional integration of the graduates; strongly believes that the modernization of higher education should focus on quality with respect to scientific knowledge that is global, efficient and easily updatable through the tool of life-long learning; considers in this sense that substantial public funding is essential to which all citizens have access on an equal basis and thus encourages the Member states to invest abundantly in the field of public education; notes that this investment should be coupled by equally important investments in social policies in order to eliminate discrimination of access and guarantee equal results for all citizens notably in terms of employment;
44. Notes the importance of the current programmes in the field of audiovisual policy and culture in terms of creativity and innovation capacities; regrets the important budgetary cuts in these fields undergone in several Member states and considers that the strong tradition of public funding of the arts across Europe makes a difference to the diversity, accessibility and quality of the arts available to citizens;
45. Considers cultural diversity as an inherent global good and strongly believes that culture should be exempt from the norms of free trade as cultural goods often embody externalities that market pricing fails to capture; calls on the Commission to see for the implementation and respect of the principles of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural expressions (2005);
46. Regrets the strong commercialization of sports and emphasizes that a European dimension of sport should be focused on sport as a tool for personal development, the promotion of a

healthier lifestyle and the promotion of mutual understanding and social inclusion;
considers equally essential the role of volunteering in the field of sports;

Civil liberties

47. Deplores the fact that measures adopted and implemented under the AFSJ and the Stockholm Programme have led to the establishment of an excessive approach to security, restricting fundamental rights, including privacy and freedom of expression; rejects the disproportionate character of security measures that lead to ever more surveillance and profiling, violations of human integrity- both personal and collective- and that do not tackle the root causes of violent actions;
48. Reaffirms its opposition to the repressive approach of EU immigration policies; asks therefore for new initiatives that should focus more on legal entry channels for migrants and on the establishment of a charter of rights of all migrants, while supporting the regularisation of migrants already residing and working in the EU;
49. Welcomes the proposal for a new comprehensive EU legal framework for protection of personal data and stresses that it should do away with the current incoherence of data protection regimes between the former pillar structures while reaffirming the core principles of data protection like purpose limitation, proportionality, transparency, informational self determination, data minimisation, data retention and right to access;

Women's rights and gender equality

50. Calls for a comprehensive strategy on violence against women, a directive against violence against women, and a European Year against violence against women, as already requested by the European Parliament. This strategy should include all forms of violence against women. There should be no separate action plan around for example female genital mutilation, but all different forms of violence against women should be framed with an overarching and effective strategy, based in a women's rights perspective, taking as its point of departure the Beijing Platform for action and other relevant UN documents. emphasizes the need to safeguard and increase the funds of the Daphne programme in the future;
51. Considers that there are severe lacks in EU migration and asylum policy from a gender perspective, and that several issues need to be addressed, such as the right to family reunification, and the right to asylum on the grounds of gender-based persecution;
52. Points out that, as a consequence of the economic crisis and the austerity measures targeting the public sector, unemployment and social hardship are still increasing in a number of Member States and affect young and old people, men and women and their families differently, and therefore calls on the European Union and Member States to reinforce their commitment and take specific measures to eradicate poverty and combat social exclusion, particularly poverty among women and its direct impact on children, as poverty and social exclusion constitute a violation of human rights and affect at least one in six European citizens;

53. Recalls the necessity of the EU to more firmly commit to the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 1325, 1820, which are two key instruments on gender issues in war and peace. These must be implemented at all levels of EU policy, and in particular in the development of instruments and actions within the framework of the EEAS, and the common security and defence policy.

Intellectual Property Rights

54. Calls on the Commission to present a comprehensive IPR strategy addressing all aspects of IPRs, including their implementation; stresses that any measures taken to enforce IPR must respect the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, including Article 10, Article 8, and Article 6, and be necessary, proportionate, and appropriate within a democratic society;

55. Calls on the Commission to draw up the report on the application of Directive 2004/48/EC, including an assessment of the effectiveness of the measures taken, as well as an evaluation of its impact on innovation and the development of the information society, in accordance with Article 18(1) of that Directive;

56. Asks the Commission to recognize the non-commercial file sharing associated with alternative reward systems, including the creation of a new exception or limitation to the making available and reproduction rights;

Foreign affairs

57. Criticizes the fact that following the establishment of the European External Action Service, the programming of the external actions became even less transparent, as the EEAS undergoes no parliamentary control; calls on the Commission to present to the European Parliament from next year on in parallel to the Work Programme of the Commission the detailed policy agenda for the Common and Security Policy;

58. Notes with concern that 2010 has shown that there is no improvement in democratic scrutiny and prior consultation of the European Parliament on external actions of the EU; calls on the Commission to make all relevant information fully accessible;

59. Welcomes the movements for democracy in North Africa and the Middle East, in the light of those movements calls on the Commission to fundamentally review its approach towards those regions and engage in trade supporting measures with those regions that are based on the needs of the majority of the population;

Security and defence

60. The EU shall have a civilian nature, therefore it should be strictly separated from NATO, the civil-military cooperation has to be terminated immediately and all the military expenditure should be used for civilian purposes;

International trade

61. Notes that the Commission has finally presented a proposal for a revised regulation on the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and that Commission respected the compromise that led to the establishment of the rollover regulation with regard to Parliament's co-decision rights and has included the respective delegated acts provisions in the new proposal; deplors that the draft new regulation does not meet Parliament's demands regarding revised rules of origin and in particular complementary technical assistance; insists on an enhanced role of the Parliament in decisions regarding beneficiary countries; stresses that contrary to the Commission's proposal the EU's GSP should keep an ambitious dimension, and that no developing country should be excluded from the GSP simply because it has achieved an average annual income per head of 4000 Dollars or more;
62. Points out that in respect of Public Procurement abroad, Parliament expects that the Commission will present a new instrument which ensures symmetry and transparency, in particular for SMEs, in public procurement procedures with industrialised countries and major emerging economies, while fully respecting the need for special and differential treatment for developing countries and the multi-functionality of procurement policies; stresses the importance to exclude any provision that can undermine access to public services or limit the development of public services in public procurement chapters of international trade agreements;
63. Notes the announcement of the Commission to present a communication on trade and development; insists that the main objectives of the EU's international trade policy should be to contribute to sustainable social, ecological and economic development in the interest of all citizens - based on fair trade and economic development in correspondence with highest levels of health and environmental standards, decent job creation, social standards, human rights and cultural diversity;
64. Supports the efforts of the European Commission to include sustainability chapters in all currently negotiated trade agreements; calls for the suspension of trade agreements and negotiations of such with countries violating basic democratic, human and labour rights; strongly insists that Parliament and civil society should be further involved in ongoing negotiations and in the definition of negotiating mandates for investment agreements with China, Mercosur, Russia and Ukraine;
65. Calls on the Commission to include into its work programme to act decisively against the increased speculation on food and other essential commodities as well as against the resulting volatility of food prices and other staple goods; recalls that the right to food and food sovereignty must be respected;

Development

66. Urges the Commission to include in his legislative proposal for the reinforcement of the European disaster response the needs to maintain a formal distinction between the remits of military and humanitarian bodies; urges that only civilian disaster protection and humanitarian aid capabilities should be developed and expanded with a view to optimizing the coordination and implementation of EU disaster management, so that

effective civilian disaster and emergency aid can be provided; calls for an increase of funding and the development of capabilities and resources in order to ensure that humanitarian aid and civil protection remains purely civilian tasks;

67. Welcomes the two Commission's communications on food security and food assistance; recalls the need for a EU framework for action on food and nutrition security, with as cornerstone the 'right to food', to be implemented in a coherent and coordinated way to better address the root causes of hunger and food insecurity; calls for recognition in the EU framework for action of the concept of food sovereignty, defined as the capacity of a country or region to democratically implement its own agricultural and food policies, priorities and strategies; urges concrete action to effectively tackle financial speculation on grain and food;
68. Urges the Commission for a legislative initiative to bring transparency to the extractive industries through legally binding measures at EU level, complying with EU's commitments on policy coherence for development; emphasizes that the EU Raw Material Strategy should not hinder the legitimate rights of developing countries; calls on the Commission to include in his legislative proposal binding measures to strengthen European companies' direct liability and duty of care in respect of their actions in developing countries;

Budget

69. Deplores that the Commission proposal does not prioritize social and territorial cohesion to adequately address the needs raised by the current social economical and financial crisis nor does it address effectively the difficult situation lived by several member states; in this context, insists on the need to enhance the synergies between the different EU programmes and actions aiming at tackling the effects of the crisis and promoting employment and growth with the development of resource-efficient technologies;
70. Reiterates its position that the drop in public investment, disintegration of crucial public services are the consequence of the austerity policies of the EU and the members states; insists that this trend has to be reversed and firmly believes that the reinforcement of investments have to be guaranteed at EU and national level; takes the view that an agreement has to be found for a revision of the MFF, if it is to accommodate the additional financing needs of ITER; emphasises that the financing of ITER must not jeopardise the delivery of the multiannual research and development programs nor the financing of actions aiming at tackling the effects of the crisis and promotion of growth and employment, namely of the youth;
71. Deeply regrets that the commission is sending a message of rejection to the refugees by substantially increasing appropriations for the External Border Fund and the European Return Fund; reiterates that the EU must reinforce the support and adopt a welcoming stance towards the mobility of the people on the south of the Mediterranean, especially in light of the popular uprising, the hope of revolution and modernity in the Arab world , namely through a substantial increase of the support for the Refugee Integration Fund and for the Cooperation and Development Fund;

72. Recalls that the EU needs a strong parliamentary dimension which can improve the democratic nature and transparency of the EU budget procedure and underlines that the European Parliament must be involved in the future MFF procedure negotiations both on the expenditure and on the broad debate for the review of the resources system;

Constitutional affairs

73. Welcomes as a first step the outcome of the negotiations between the Parliament and the Commission on the Transparency register and the prospects for its rapid introduction with the hope of a future participation by the Council; Calls on the Commission to focus on making the register mandatory for all interest representatives and introduce stronger rules on financial disclosure in the upcoming revision of the register;

74. Reminds the Commission of the need to revise its Code of Conduct for Commissioners and in particular to address the problem of the 'revolving door' effectively; furthermore calls on the provisions concerning financial declarations by Commissioners to be tightened;

75. Once again reminds the Commission of its commitment to develop greater transparency and access to documents and without delay come up with a new proposal for changes to Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001;

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