

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

12 January 2004

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Philip Claeys and Koenraad Dillen

on the lack of a response from the Government of South Africa to the attacks on and murders of white farmers

Expiry date: 12 April 2004

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the report of an ad hoc committee of inquiry of the Government of South Africa states that some 15 000 attacks on farms ('plaasaanvalle') have occurred over a period of ten years,
- B. whereas approximately 1500 Boers have been murdered in such attacks, often in horrific ways,
- C. whereas in Europe an average of 3 people per 100 000 are murdered per annum, as against 61 per 100 000 in South Africa, and the corresponding figure for Boers in that country is 274 per 100 000 (statistics quoted by the farmers' organisation Agri SA),
- D. whereas these figures indicate that one particular population group is being singled out and whereas such slogans as 'Kill the Boer, kill the farmer' are widespread,
- E. whereas the Government of South Africa denies this evidence and refuses to take the necessary measures,
- F. having regard to the European origin of most Boers in South Africa and the indifference towards their fate displayed within the international community,
- 1. Calls on the European Council to take political steps vis-à-vis the Government of South Africa, calling on it to recognise the problems and take the necessary measures to protect the whole population;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council, and the Government of South Africa.