

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

20.4.2005

21/2005

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Albert Jan Maat, Camiel Eurlings, Niels Busk, Edith Mastenbroek and Struan Stevenson

on the choice of a single seat for the European Parliament

Lapse date: 20.7.2005

20/2005

Written declaration on the choice of a single seat for the European Parliament

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. noting that Parliament continues to hold its meetings in two different places,
 - B. pointing out that the current system is contrary to the Union's financial interests, resulting in additional costs of more than € 200 million per year,
 - C. concerned about the negative effects on the EU's democratic accountability and public image,
1. Calls on the European Council to
 - express at its next summit in June, for reasons of cost efficiency and democratic accountability, its adherence to the principle of one single seat for the European Parliament;
 - initiate the necessary changes to this end in the existing Treaty;
 - associate Parliament fully by seeking its opinion,
 - express its opinion that, in the event of an absolute majority of the Members of the EP agreeing on both the principle of a single seat and the seat itself, Member States should respect this agreement and incorporate it into the Treaty;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Member States.