## **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

2004



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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marie-Arlette Carlotti, Philippe Busquin, Joseph Daul, Mario Mauro and Bogusław Sonik

on supplying approved charities working to implement the European food aid programme for the most deprived citizens

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## Written declaration on supplying approved charities working to implement the European food aid programme for the most deprived citizens

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas at least 40 million Europeans in the 25 Member States of the European Union do not have enough to eat,
- B. whereas meeting the food needs of all Europeans is one of the priorities of the common agricultural policy and one of the founding principles of the Treaty of Rome,
- C. whereas the European food aid programme for the most deprived has proved its worth and is now vital for millions of Europeans,
- D. concerned about the future of this operation because Community public intervention stocks are disappearing physically and legally,
- 1. Calls on the Commission and Council to
  - a. recognise the fact that there are undernourished people in the European Union and acknowledge the need to meet their food requirements,
  - b. put the European food aid programme on a permanent footing and provide a global multiannual budget allocation,
  - c. open the measure up to new sectors such as pork, poultry and eggs,
  - d. include in the European food aid programme innovative measures to ensure distribution of balanced food rations,
  - e. see food aid as part of the aim of reducing poverty,
  - f. modify the rules so as to allow:
    - for stocks to be built up especially, i.e. set aside for and allocated to those most in need.
    - for the bartering procedure to be extended,
    - for products that are not available as part of intervention stocks to be bought on the Community market;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Member States of the European Union

