

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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28.11.2007

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Koenraad Dillen, Philip Claeys and Frank Vanhecke

on the setting up of drug outlets ('coffee shops' and 'coffee shop boats') in the Netherlands at the border with Belgium, targeted at Belgian and French drug users

Lapse date: 13.3.2008

**0106/2007**

**Written declaration on the setting up of drug outlets ('coffee shops' and 'coffee shop boats') in the Netherlands at the border with Belgium, targeted at Belgian and French drug users**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. having regard to the recent decision by the Netherlands to relocate 'coffee shops' and 'coffee shop boats' from the centre of the city of Maastricht to a motorway exit point near the Belgian border, in order that Belgian and French citizens may be supplied unhindered and in huge quantities with drugs;
- B. having regard to the consequent threat of violation of Article 71(2) of the Final Act of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, pursuant to which the Netherlands declared that it would adopt the necessary penal and administrative measures to prevent and punish the illegal export of narcotic drugs to the territory of other contracting parties;
- C. having regard to the incompatibility of the planned 'coffee shops' and 'coffee shop boats' at the Belgian border with the EU drugs strategy (2005-2012) and the EU drugs action plan (2005-2008);
- D. having regard to the decision by a number of municipal authorities at the Belgian border to condemn this plan by the Netherlands and take legal action against it;
  1. Condemns the Netherlands' plan to set up 'coffee shops' and 'coffee shop boats' at the border with Belgium;
  2. Calls on the Netherlands Government to comply with all of its international obligations and not to set up 'coffee shops' and/or 'coffee shop boats' near the Belgian border;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Netherlands Government.