

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0227/05
by Marie-Line Reynaud (PSE)
to the Council

Subject: Public Development Aid (PDA) - the fight against poverty

The so-called 'Millennium' objectives to 2015 are intended to help over 500 million people suffering from utter destitution world-wide. In 1970, countries decided to devote 0.7% of their GDP to Public Development Aid (PDA). In 2003, the real figure for this aid was 0.25%, taking account of all moratoria on interest on external debt decided by the 'Club de Paris', i.e. circa 68 billion dollars, instead of the 195 billion which the 0.7% of GDP would represent.

To agree on moratoria is not to pump in fresh funding.

To include moratoria in the calculations is to take a purely accountancy-based approach to PDA, and not a political one.

How does the Council intend to turn the purely accountancy-based equation into a genuine political success, by putting fresh funding into PDA commitments instead of hiding behind the Stability Pact to justify nothing more than additional moratoria?