

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

*Session document*

13 December 2000

B5-0910/2000 }  
B5-0916/2000 }  
B5-0925/2000 }  
B5-0931/2000 }  
RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50(5) of the Rules of Procedure by

- John Alexander Corrie and Jürgen Zimmerling, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Enrique Barón Crespo, Glenys E. Kinnock and Luis Marinho, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Bob van den Bos and Lone Dybkjær, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Didier Rod and Nelly Maes on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PPE-DE (B5-0910/2000),
- PSE (B5-0916/2000),
- Verts/ALE (B5-0925/2000),
- ELDR (B5-0931/2000),

on Mozambique

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PE 298.942}  
PE 298.948}  
PE 298.957}  
PE 298.963} RC1

## European Parliament resolution on Mozambique

*The European Parliament,*

- recalling its previous resolutions on the situation in Mozambique,
- having regard to the declaration by the presidency on behalf of the European Union on Mozambique,
- A. deploring the violent clashes of 9 November which caused at least 41 deaths, after the demonstrations organised by the main opposition party, RENAMO, degenerated into battles with the police in a number of towns and cities in northern and central Mozambique,
- B. pointing that these demonstrations are being organised against the current government, calling into question the outcome of the presidential and general elections held in December 1999, although they were defined by international observers as free and fair,
- C. whereas it is alleged that in many instances the police opened fire on the demonstrators and whereas many of the dead were members of RENAMO,
- D. whereas a further tragedy followed these clashes when at least 80 people, of those arrested during or after the demonstrations, died in custody in Montepuez on the night of 21-22 November, allegedly of asphyxiation, after 96 people had been crammed into a cell which should have held nine at most,
- E. whereas according to information provided by the team of experts instructed to investigate the circumstances of the incident – consisting of three Mozambican doctors and foreign experts, including four South Africans – the detainees died of asphyxia, as a result of blatant carelessness and negligence on the part of the Mozambican authorities,
- F. having regard to the arrest of 11 policemen considered to be responsible for these deaths,
- G. having regard to the setting up of a parliamentary committee of inquiry, including representatives of the opposition, in order to throw light on this tragedy,
- H. whereas the government requested the assistance of international experts in carrying out investigations, including those into the violent incidents which took place on 9 November,
- I. appalled by the cowardly assassination of the well-known and highly respected Mozambican journalist, Carlos Cardoso, allegedly as a result of his tenacious investigation of corruption arising out of the country's privatisation programme,
- J. whereas Mozambique was devastated by sixteen years of civil war before the return of

comparative peace following a peace agreement signed in 1992,

- K. having regard to Mozambique's efforts in favour of sustainable development, with the aid of the international community, in particular the European Union, which supports the process of political and socio-economic transition,
1. Expresses its sympathy for the families of the victims, since these deaths have been a cause of grief and pain for the Mozambican people;
  2. Strongly condemns the recent violent clashes which accompanied the demonstrations in the centre and north of Mozambique;
  3. Condemns any use of violence in political disputes and calls for respect for the rule of law;
  4. Calls on all the democratic forces in the country to consolidate peace and the democratic process;
  5. Calls for respect for political elections and their outcome;
  6. Calls on all parties to strictly abide by their obligations under the Rome peace agreement of 4 October 1992 and in particular on the Government to recognise the legitimate right of the RENAMO opposition party to organise peaceful rallies;
  7. Welcomes the recent setting up of a committee of inquiry by the Mozambican parliament and urges all parties to cooperate fully in this inquiry;
  8. Calls for a committee of inquiry to be set up to identify the killers of Mr Cardoso, and considers that the death of this journalist, famous for his independence, is a grave loss as far as the democratic process in this country is concerned;
  9. Calls on the EU to continue its support of the process of political and socio-economic transition in Mozambique;
  10. Calls on the Member States of the European Union to step up diplomatic moves to exert influence and bring about peace in Mozambique;
  11. Calls on the international community to consider, as a matter of urgency, the problem of Mozambique's debt;
  12. Recommends that the Council and the Commission, in the context of their respective competences, should remain vigilant in upholding human rights and the consolidation of the democratic process in Mozambique;
  13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity and the authorities of Mozambique.

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