

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

3 October 2001

B5-0625/2001 }
B5-0631/2001 }
B5-0640/2001 }
B5-0648/2001 }
B5-0652/2001 }
RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

- Carlos Costa Neves and Carlos Coelho, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler, Margrietus J. van den Berg and Carlos Lage, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Lone Dybkjær and Bob van den Bos, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Didier Rod, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Ilda Figueiredo, Sylviane H. Ainardi, Laura González Álvarez and Armando Cossutta, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Luís Queiró and José Ribeiro e Castro, on behalf of the UEN Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- GUE/NGL (B5-0625/2001),
- PPE-DE (B5-0631/2001),
- UEN (B5-0640/2001),
- PSE (B5-0648/2001),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0652/2001),

on Timor

RC\450745EN.doc

PE 309.518}
PE 309.524}
PE 309.533}
PE 309.541}
PE 309.545} RC1

European Parliament resolution on Timor

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on East Timor,
 - having regard to the statement of 31 August 2001 on East Timor made by the Presidency on behalf of the Council of the European Union,
 - having regard to the report of the election observation mission in East Timor,
- A. whereas the New York agreement on East Timor was signed on 5 May 1999 by Portugal and Indonesia under the aegis of the United Nations,
- B. whereas the referendum of 30 August 1999, in which 98.5% of the registered population participated, despite the threats and the climate of intimidation generated at that time by the anti-independence militias, was universally regarded as free, and all have recognised as valid its outcome, which showed that a majority of 78.5% of the population was in favour of independence,
- C. whereas it has very closely monitored developments in the situation in Timor, particularly by means of the three delegations it sent, in August 1999 for the referendum, in April 2000 to support the territory's Administration in its task of reconstruction and in August 2001 for the first elections in East Timor,
- D. whereas elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in East Timor on 30 August 2001,
- E. whereas the conduct of the elections was peaceful, the problems encountered do not detract from the validity of the results and the elections have encouraged the process of transition towards democracy,
- F. whereas the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) has performed well both in relation to the process of consulting the people of East Timor, in line with the New York agreement, and in terms of making possible the elections to the Constituent Assembly,
- G. whereas the role played by the international community, and in particular the United Nations and its Security Council, is of vital importance for the emergence of the state of East Timor and for the process of consolidating democracy in that country,
- H. whereas everything has had to be created from scratch in the future state of East Timor, which is embarking on independence at a time when 70% of its infrastructure has been destroyed, and whereas the majority of its population is poor and illiterate and East Timor is still highly dependent on international aid,
- I. whereas East Timor has applied to join ASEAN,

RC\450745EN.doc

PE 309.518}
PE 309.524}
PE 309.533}
PE 309.541}
PE 309.545} RC1

- J. whereas the European Union is committed to supporting the people of East Timor and the development of democracy,
- K. whereas there is great disparity between the urban and the rural areas,
- L. whereas the Commission has adopted a new strategy in its relations with Asia,
1. Welcomes the emergence of East Timor as a new free, democratic and independent country;
 2. Congratulates the people of East Timor on holding of these historic elections, which had a very high turn-out, and on its determination to establish a sovereign State, which demonstrates its considerable political maturity;
 3. Congratulates UNTAET on the work it has accomplished and stresses its importance in giving practical effect to the democratic process into practice;
 4. Congratulates the Independent Electoral Commission on its excellent work and its contribution to making the elections a success;
 5. Calls for the democratic process to be continued and strengthened and calls on the political parties to continue to abide by the National Unity Pact;
 6. Notes the decision taken by all the political parties to support Xanana Gusmão as candidate for the presidency of the republic;
 7. Calls for the drawing up of a constitution that enshrines the values of peace, democracy, freedom and respect for human rights, without excluding any section of the political spectrum, particularly in the case of minority opinions, while respecting the will of all Timorese;
 8. Recognises East Timor's need for political, technical and financial support in rebuilding the physical and administrative structures that are essential for its development and calls on the international community to maintain and step up the support required to consolidate democracy in East Timor;
 9. Expresses the hope that it will be possible to find a permanent solution to the problem of refugees wishing to return to East Timor which takes into account the interests of the Timorese people;
 10. Restates its conviction that those responsible for human rights abuses who are in East Timor or neighbouring countries must not go unpunished;
 11. Calls for local administrators to receive training in preparation for the next elections;
 12. Calls for an election observation mission consisting of European observers, including representatives of the European Parliament, to be sent for the presidential elections in 2002;
 13. Calls on the Commission to continue existing development programmes, to make provision for the introduction of new programmes at the appropriate time and to pay particular

RC\450745EN.doc

PE 309.518}

PE 309.524}

PE 309.533}

PE 309.541}

PE 309.545} RC1

attention to the programmes relating to rural society;

14. Calls on the ASEAN countries to be favourably disposed to East Timor's accession;
15. Calls on the Commission to support East Timor's admission to the ACP group of states, should this be desired;
16. Calls on the Member States of the EU to take action in the UN to ensure that the UN's mandate is extended and that peacekeeping units and civilian police units remain in that country until East Timor's own armed forces and police can take over a large proportion of these tasks themselves;
17. Calls on the Commission and the Council, together with the second transitional government in East Timor and the other donors, to work out a master plan for the development of the country, to ensure that aid reaches its intended destination and is used for the benefit of the population;
18. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the elected Constituent Assembly and the future government of East Timor, the United Nations Security Council, the United Nations Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Nobel Peace laureates Mr Ximenes Belo and Mr Ramos-Horta, the Timorese Resistance leader, Mr Xanana Gusmão, the Council, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States.