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Session document

3 July 2002

B5-0408/2002 }
B5-0409/2002 }
B5-0410/2002 }
B5-0414/2002 }

RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 37(4) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Vitaliano Gemelli and John Bowis, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Margrietus J. van den Berg and Fiorella Ghilardotti, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Marieke Sanders-ten Holte, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Didier Rod, Nelly Maes and Marie Anne Isler Béguin, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Luigi Vinci, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- Verts/ALE (B5-0408/2002),
- PPE-DE (B5-0409/2002),
- ELDR (B5-0410/2002),
- PSE (B5-0414/2002),

on the situation in Somalia

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PE 319.843}
PE 319.844}
PE 319.845}
PE 319.850} RC1

European Parliament resolution on the situation in Somalia

The European Parliament,

- A. concerned about the continuous conflict in Somalia that has resulted in an exodus of refugees to neighbouring countries and has contributed to illicit trade in, and proliferation of small arms, leading to insecurity, despite the arms embargo against Somalia imposed by UN Security Council Resolutions 733, 751 and 1356,
 - B. whereas the security situation in Somalia has deteriorated in recent weeks and several armed clashes, notably in Bulo Hawa, Mogadishu and in the Middle Shabelle region of south-central Somalia, have left several people dead, many of them civilians, and have caused new waves of refugees and displaced persons,
 - C. having regard to the appeal launched by the UN World Food Programme and the humanitarian organisations to come to the aid of hundreds of thousands of people threatened by famine,
 - D. whereas the persistent instability in Somalia could have a disastrous impact on the precarious humanitarian situation in the country and in the region,
 - E. noting the delays in the establishment of the authority of the Somali Transitional National Government in different parts of Somalia and the establishment of three regional administrations in Somaliland, Puntland and South West State, which calls into question the national unity and territorial integrity of the country,
 - F. whereas the UN has decided that the security conditions were not met to enable a peace-keeping office to be opened,
 - G. noting that the Transitional National Government has called for the deployment of foreign troops to disarm and demobilise armed militias,
 - H. whereas the Somali reconciliation conference due to be held under the auspices of IGAD in Nairobi last April was postponed and is now expected to convene in July,
 - I. whereas Somalia requires the urgent attention and assistance of the international community, in particular of the EU, in order to consolidate the peace process and assist the transitional institutions in the restoration of the State and the preservation of the national unity and territorial integrity of the country,
1. Deplores and condemns unreservedly the use of violence and the banditry of the armed militias in Somalia and urges the various faction leaders to refrain from using violence against the population of their own country and to address the social and economic issues facing the country together;

2. Demands that all the parties concerned show full respect for human rights and international humanitarian law and also guarantee the safety of humanitarian aid workers and United Nations staff working in Somalia, and participate in the IGAD-facilitated dialogue without preconditions;
3. Calls on all Somali opposition leaders to commit themselves firmly to peace and to a genuine process of national reconciliation by establishing constructive relations with the Somali transitional institutions;
4. Considers that Somalia needs a broad-based political dialogue aimed at securing a general improvement of its political situation and implementing a comprehensive peace agreement;
5. Welcomes the IGAD initiative to organise the Nairobi Somali reconciliation conference, welcomes the decision of the Transitional National Government of Somalia to participate in this conference and urges all other Somali parties to do likewise without preconditions and with a genuine resolve to broaden and complete the national reconciliation process;
6. Calls on the EU to examine ways and means of supporting IGAD's efforts to assist the Somalis to achieve peace and national reconciliation and to put an end to a situation which is causing much distress and suffering among the civilian population;
7. Urges all countries to refrain from any form of interference in the Somali conflict and not to lend their support to activities which jeopardise the stability of the subregion;
8. Calls on the EU to assist the Somali Transitional National Government in establishing its authority throughout Somalia, in particular by contributing to the UNDP Somali Civil Protection Programme, which is aimed at improving standards and practices within the judiciary, promoting law enforcement, supporting civil society, effecting the demobilisation of armed militia groups, and enhancing landmine action;
9. Calls on the EU, in close cooperation with UN agencies, to step up its humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons and to implement aid and rehabilitation programmes through the intermediary of NGOs and local civil society organisations;
10. Stresses the need for absolute vigilance to avoid Somali territory being used for criminal activities;
11. Urges strict application of the arms embargo against Somalia imposed by UN Security Council Resolutions 733, 751 and 1356;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, IGAD, the OAU and the Transitional National Government of Somalia.