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Committee on Development

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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on promoting decent work for all
(2006/2240(INI))

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the Commission Communication of 24 May 2006 and the decisions taken by the Council (Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Protection) at its meeting of 30 November and 1 December 2006 in Brussels;
2. Calls for the inclusion of a more thorough analysis of employment and other aspects of decent work in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs);
3. Calls for employment ministries, employers' associations and workers' organisations to be strengthened and more systematically integrated into the participatory process underpinning the design and implementation of PRSPs;
4. Emphasises that child labour is one of the main causes of poverty in future generations and that child and forced labour constitute violations of fundamental rights;
5. Calls for a renewed effort to combat breaches of human and trade union rights and to monitor the activities of multinationals operating in developing countries, with the possibility of excluding them from public procurements funded or supported by the EU and its Member States in the event of breaches of these rights;
6. Stresses that the possibility of reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and strengthening the concept of decent work through sustainable development aid requires a fair and innovative tax policy, e.g. a transaction currency tax;
7. Calls for all Commission programmes in the areas of development cooperation and trade policy to make financial provision for measures to foster decent work;
8. Emphasises the need for the concept of decent work to be put into practice by local actors in developing countries, with particular emphasis being placed on rural areas and the informal sector;
9. Emphasises the need to establish a demand-driven global knowledge sharing network on decent work and local development based on primarily national research, capacity and institution building.