Resolution 123 (1957)[1]

Rationalisation of European parliamentary activities

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

Considering that there is an unanswerable case for greater concentration so far as possible of European deliberative assemblies;

Having noted, first, that by their Resolution adopted in Rome on 25th March 1957 the six Foreign Ministers have instructed the Interim Committee for Euratom and the Common Market to examine ways and means of establishing organic links between the Assembly of the Six and the Assembly of the Fifteen and, secondly, that the Council of Western European Union is in process of studying the British and Italian plans for closer association and possible unification of European assemblies,

Takes note of the intention of the Committee of Ministers to consult the Assembly in due course on these proposals and earnestly hopes that this consultation will take place before the position of the Governments has become final ;

Considers that, meanwhile, the appointment of at least partially identical delegations to both the Assembly of the Six and the Assembly of the Council of Europe is the most important step that can be taken to ensure a close relationship between the Six and the Fifteen at parliamentary level;

Pledges its members who are nationals of the six countries to use their influence so that "the procedure to be determined by each Member State whereby the Parliaments shall be called upon to appoint from among their own membership their delegations to the Assembly of the Six" ensures at least partial identity of membership between the three European assemblies ;

Invites the six Governments to sign a protocol or other agreement providing that their delegations to the Assembly of the Six and to the Assembly of the Fifteen shall be at least partially the same ; this identity of membership should be made easier by providing for substitutes in the Assembly of the Six ;

Further requests the Bureau of the Assembly to arrange with the Interim Committee for Euratom and the Common Market and with the Council of Western European Union for a delegation from the Consultative Assembly to be received at an appropriate time to explain the point of view of the Assembly in the matter of rationalisation of European assemblies;

And invites the Bureau to continue meetings with the Bureaux of the other two European Assemblies so that, if possible, a joint attitude can be reached for consideration by the Governments.

1. (see Doc. 671, Report of the Political Committee). This Resolution was adopted by the Assembly at its 8th Sitting, on 3rd May 1957