Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Resolution 550 (1973)[1]

Reply to the 18th report on the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having examined the 18th report on the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) (Doc. 3269) and the report of its Committee on Population and Refugees in reply thereto (Doc. 3311) ;

2. Noting that in 1971 and 1972 ICEM again assisted in transporting and resettling numerous refugees, especially from East Pakistan, the Sudan and Uganda, and congratulating this organisation on the humanitarian work it has accomplished ;

3. Considering that migration movements have continued to grow in recent years, and that many of the problems involved could have been avoided by making more accurate medium-term forecasts on the trends of these movements, in order to enable the competent authorities in the countries concerned to take the necessary measures in time ;

4. Being of the opinion that, according to the foreseeable migratory trends and the possibilities for work and reception in the immigration countries, or in the event of return to the emigration countries, detailed information should be transmitted to the persons concerned in order to achieve a more balanced and rational migration ;

5. Noting that the European Community's plan to modernise agriculture will encourage several millions of workers to leave the agricultural sector, and assuming that certain of them would probably want to emigrate overseas to avoid having to change their occupation ;

6. Considering that qualified European farmers could, by emigrating on a medium and long-term basis to developing countries, contribute to rationalising and modernising agriculture in these regions, whilst at the same time supplementing the financial and technical aid granted by developed countries by means of their activities,

7. Invites ICEM to consider the implementation of the following projects :

a. the drawing up of a selective intercontinental migration plan, Europe - developing countries, with specific reference to the agricultural sector

b. the establishment, in conjunction with the Council of Europe, of medium and long-term forecasts on migration within Europe, also covering the non-European emigration countries in the Mediterranean basin ;

c. the creation, in consultation with the other international organisations concerned, of an information centre on European and particularly overseas migration and on the possibilities for work and reception in the countries concerned ;

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1. SeeDoc. 3311, report of the Committee on Population and Refugees. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 4 July 1973.

8. Invites European governments which are Members of ICEM and the Council of Europe to give political, moral and financial support to the Intergovernmental Committee, so that it may intensify its humanitarian activities which frequently have economic consequences.