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02 May 1957

Treaty instituting the European Economic Community

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr François de MENTHON and other members of the Assembly

The Assembly,

Reaffirming its frequently expressed conviction that it is only by combining their human and material resources that the countries of Western Europe can ensure the stability and growth of their economies and play an effective role in world affairs;

Believing also that the new European Economic Community is the most important step so far made in the direction of the unity of Europe,

1. Congratulates the six Governments participating in the Intergovernmental Committee upon the conclusion of the Treaty instituting the European Economic Community;
2. Draws the attention of other member countries to the economic strength which they would gain from joining the new Community, wherever possible, and stresses the fact that they would in this way contribute to the political, economic and social unity of free Europe;
3. Expresses its confidence that the Treaty will be carried out in such a way as to promote the economic integration of free Europe as a whole within an increasingly interdependent world economy;
4. Urges that in preparing the implementation of the Treaty all possibilities be explored that may facilitate the association of other Members of the Council of Europe, whether within the framework of a European Free Trade Area or by any other arrangement; and that account should be taken of differences in degree of economic development;
5. Emphasises the acute need for vigilance to avoid tendencies towards a closed protectionist economy by the increase of restrictions vis-à-vis non-member countries;
6. Notes with satisfaction that the Community extends in principle to all sectors of the economy, including agriculture; and emphasizes that in this particular sector the very elastic provisions of the Treaty call for determined implementation with the object of achieving a more efficient use of European agricultural resources;
7. Emphasizes, in regard to agriculture, that it will be necessary to set up at the outset of the initial period a permanent Working Party, first to prepare and then to supervise the progressive implementation of a common agricultural policy based on common organisations; this Working Party to be headed by six political figures appointed by their Governments with the consent of parliaments; the conclusions of this Working Party might, if approved by the European Commission, serve as a basis for the proposals which the latter is required by the Treaty to submit to the Council of Ministers, after obtaining the views of the Consultative Committee and the parliamentary Assembly;
8. Requests that the professional organisations should be given their rightful place in the Economic and Social Committee and that their representatives should be appointed with their consent;



9. Expresses the wish that migrant workers be able to transfer an adequate part of their salary, to have proper accommodation, and to have their families with them;

10. Invites the Governments of the Six to allow only a small number of exceptions to the application of the right of establishment and to take advantage of the work already carried out within the Council of Europe for the mutual recognition of degrees and diplomas;

11. Asks that social legislation in the different countries be brought into line as rapidly as possible, in agreement with employers' and workers' organisations, and that, in the social field, regard be had to the content of the European Social Charter which the Council of Europe is in process of working out;

12. Asks that national legislation relating to unemployment benefits provide workers with the most effective protection possible, with the help of the Social Fund.

13. Invites the Governments of the Six to ensure that qualified representatives of industry and agriculture and of the distributive trades will be among the persons chosen for the management of the Community, thereby helping to ensure the maximum efficiency of its operations;

14. Notes the association with the Community of the overseas countries and territories with which participating countries are linked and calls attention to the necessity for finding ways and means of reconciling this association with the creation of a Free Trade Area including the Community;

15. Declares, with regard to the association of overseas territories, that in the implementation of the Treaty the views, requirements and preferences of these territories should be the subject of joint consultations between Europeans and Africans on a footing of equality.

Emphasizes its interest in the Applicable Convention which is calculated to ensure the full co-operation of the representatives of the peoples of overseas countries and territories in the Community's investment policy in these countries, and guarantees in this way that it will contribute to the economic, social and political development of these peoples;

16. Urges the Governments and parliaments of the six countries to make every effort to secure the speedy ratification of the Treaty.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed:

MENTHON François, de, France