



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 15 June 2012**

**11254/12**

**PE-RE 8**

**NOTE**

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from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND OPINIONS adopted by the European Parliament at its part-session in Strasbourg from 11 to 14 June 2012

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At the above mentioned part-session, the European Parliament adopted 35 acts as follows:

- 5 legislative resolutions;
- 25 resolutions; and
- 5 other acts.

This note contains a summary of those acts which are relevant to the Council.

## 1. Ordinary legislative procedure

### First reading

a) (i) Scheme of generalised tariff preferences

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 13 June 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council applying a scheme of generalised tariff preferences*

(ii) Stock of herring distributed to the west of Scotland

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 14 June 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1300/2008 of 18 December 2008 establishing a multi-annual plan for the stock of herring distributed to the west of Scotland and the fisheries exploiting that stock*

(iii) Food intended for infants and young children and food for special medical purposes

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 14 June 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on food intended for infants and young children and on food for special medical purposes*

For each of these acts the European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading;
- called on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intended to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text.

b) Extension of the geographic scope of the EBRD to the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 13 June 2012 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on amendments to the Agreement Establishing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) extending the geographic scope of EBRD operations to the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean*

The European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading.

c) Major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances

*European Parliament legislative resolution of 14 June 2012 on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances*

The European Parliament:

- adopted its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
- took note of the Commission statement annexed to this resolution;

- called on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intended to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text.

## 2. **Other procedures**

### a) European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) – application EGF/2011/020 ES/Comunidad Valenciana – Footwear, Spain

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/020 ES/Comunidad Valenciana footwear from Spain)*

The European Parliament:

- requested the institutions involved to make the necessary efforts to improve procedural and budgetary arrangements in order to accelerate the mobilisation of the EGF; appreciated the improved procedure put in place by the Commission, following Parliament's request for accelerating the release of grants, aimed at presenting to the budgetary authority the Commission's assessment on the eligibility of an EGF application together with the proposal to mobilise the EGF; hoped that further improvements in the procedure will be integrated in the new Regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (2014–2020) and that greater efficiency, transparency and visibility of the EGF would be achieved (para 10);
- recalled the institutions' commitment to ensuring a smooth and rapid procedure for the adoption of the decisions on the mobilisation of the EGF, providing one-off, time-limited individual support geared to helping workers who have been made redundant as a result of globalisation and the financial and economic crisis; emphasised the role that the EGF could play in the reintegration of workers made redundant into the labour market (para 11);
- regretted the decision of the Council to block the extension of the "crisis derogation", which allowed provision of financial assistance to workers made redundant as a result of the current financial and economic crisis in addition to those losing their job because of changes in global trade patterns, and which allowed an increase in the rate of Union co-financing to 65 % of the programme costs, for applications submitted after the 31 December 2011 deadline, and called on the Council to reintroduce this measure without delay (para 15).

b) Draft Amending Budget No 2/ 2012: EU Solidarity Fund appropriations to address flooding in Italy (Liguria and Tuscany) in 2011

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 2/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III – European Commission*

The European Parliament:

- approved the Council position on Draft amending budget No 2/2012 (para 4).

c) Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: EGF/2012/000 TA 2012 - Request for technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (EGF/2012/000 TA 2012 - Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission)*

The European Parliament:

- requested the institutions involved to make the necessary efforts to improve procedural and budgetary arrangements in order to accelerate the mobilisation of the EGF; appreciated, in this sense, the improved procedure put in place by the Commission, following Parliament's request to accelerate the release of grants, aimed at presenting to the budgetary authority the Commission's assessment on the eligibility of an EGF application together with the proposal to mobilise the EGF; hoped that further improvements in the procedure would be made within the framework of the upcoming review of the EGF and that greater efficiency, transparency and visibility of the EGF would be achieved (para 8);
- regretted the decision of the Council to block the extension of the "crisis derogation", which allowed provision of financial assistance to workers made redundant as a result of the current financial and economic crisis in addition to those losing their job because of changes in global trade patterns, and which allowed an increase in the rate of Union co-financing to 65% of the programme costs, for applications submitted after the 31 December 2011 deadline, and called on the Council to reintroduce this measure without delay (para 10).

d) Development cooperation with Latin America

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on defining a new development cooperation with Latin America*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Commission and Council to maintain the volume of DCI cooperation for Latin America at one third of the total geographical amount for the period 2014-2020 (para 9);
- called on the Commission and Council to carry out an objective and transparent analysis within the framework of the differentiation principle with the aim of revising and broadening the indicators used to assess development, going beyond the income factor and interpreting the economic criteria in the light of other factors such as the poverty, vulnerability and ECHO crisis index, and the Gini and inequality coefficients; warned that the classification of countries according to level of income was based on calculations that conceal inequality and poverty (para 16);
- called on the Vice-President / High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the European External Action Service to ensure the unity, consistency and effectiveness of the EU's external action vis-à-vis Latin America, as stated in the Treaty of Lisbon (para 50);
- urged the Vice-President / High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to consult with and debrief the European Parliament on the existing human rights dialogues, and to cooperate, in the context of the bi-regional partnership, in the search for remedies to eliminate femicide and other forms of violence against women (para 59).

e) Cross-border voluntary activities in the EU

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on recognising and promoting cross-border voluntary activities in the EU*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Council and the Commission to continue to make progress in the negotiations towards easier visa regimes for non-EU citizens wishing to enter the EU for the purpose of volunteering, provided they fulfil the criteria to perform volunteering activities (para 8).

f) Energy policy cooperation with partners beyond our borders

*European Parliament resolution of 12 June 2012 on Engaging in energy policy cooperation with partners beyond our borders: A strategic approach to secure, sustainable and competitive energy supply*

The European Parliament:

- Called for closer coordination between the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service so that they may speak and act jointly on issues concerning a common foreign policy on energy; stressed the need to establish an energy policy desk within the EEAS and to involve EU delegations in the conduct of energy diplomacy on the ground (para 19);
- supported the Council proposal to analyse the functioning of the Energy Community Treaty as well as the establishment of a roadmap allowing the accelerated modernisation of energy sectors; called for more emphasis to be placed on the implementation of reforms and technologies such as smart grids to boost the integration of renewable energy and increase energy efficiency; hence supports ideas to give new impetus to the Energy Charter Treaty and proposes the introduction of strategic partnerships to this end; reiterated that the social dimension of the treaty had to be developed to tackle problems such as energy poverty and corruption effectively (para 22);
- took the view that regular discussions should be held on the challenges facing the EU's external energy policy during formal and informal meetings of energy ministers in the Council, with the involvement and strong support of the High Representative, the Energy Commissioner and their relevant services; such meetings should also be used to coordinate a common and consistent European position ahead of high-level meetings in international organisations such as the IEA, UN, IRENA, IPEEC and IAEA, where it was important that the EU plays a more active and influential role; Parliament should be regularly informed and consulted on all relevant issues (para 29);
- believed that where an infrastructure project of strategic importance affects the security of energy supply for the EU as a whole, the Council should consider granting the Commission a mandate to conduct the negotiations, and that such a mandate should also be considered in the case of other intergovernmental agreements considered to have a significant impact on the EU's long-term energy policy objectives, in particular its energy independence; called, in this regard, for proper consultation and communication with Parliament (para 30);

- called on the Council and the Commission to work with the United States and other allies to protect energy infrastructure from cyber-attacks; stressed that as we moved towards a ‘smart’ grid, this risk, which traditional security measures could not prevent, would become even more important in critical infrastructure protection (para 104);
- called on the Council and the Commission to set up, in cooperation with the European External Action Service, by the end of 2013, a precise roadmap based on the Commission communication ‘On security of energy supply and international cooperation; the EU Energy Policy: Engaging with Partners beyond our Borders’ (COM(2011)0539), leading to the formation of an effective foreign energy policy with short-, medium- and long-term objectives, targets and steps and a specific time-frame for their implementation (para 107).

g) Recommendation to the Council on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly  
*European Parliament recommendation to the Council of 13 June 2012 on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly*

The European Parliament:

- addressed the following recommendations to the Council:

***The EU at the UN***

- (a) to coordinate to the fullest extent possible, to put across unified positions and to strengthen the coherence and visibility of the EU as a global actor at the UN; to meet the expectations of UN members regarding the ability of the EU to act and deliver in a timely fashion; to adopt a broad and flexible approach to Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) positions at the UN level in order to give the EU the capacity to act in a swift and comprehensive manner on CFSP-related issues;
- (b) to enhance its contribution to the work of the UN by reaching a common interpretation of the UNGA resolution on the modalities of the EU’s participation in the work of UNGA and by working with partners towards its full implementation; to present a report to Parliament on its application in practice;
- (c) to work with EU Member States and the EU Delegation to the UN towards improving coordination, transparency and the exchange of information in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and the defence of the positions and interests of the EU in the UNSC by those Member States which are members of that body, or, alternatively, by an EU representative upon the invitation of the Chair; to reinforce the EU’s impact on UNSC decisions and to raise the profile of the EU at the UN on crucial UNSC matters;

- (d) to ensure strong EU representation throughout all UN institutions and specialised agencies;
- (e) to develop a long-term strategy targeting the UN's membership and to pursue stronger public diplomacy on UN affairs;

### ***The EU and global governance***

- (f) to advance effective multilateralism as an overriding strategic concern of the EU, by enhancing the representativeness, transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of the UN, with the aim of improving its delivery on the ground; to recalled the need to strike a new institutional balance between the emerging role of the G-20, the UN and its agencies and international financial institutions (IFIs); in this connection, to enhance global governance and to seek solutions with a view to further improving coordination between the G-formations and the UN system, insofar as the economic dimension could usefully be covered by these groups, provided that the UN maintains its central role and remains the legitimate body for global action;
- (g) to engage more actively with strategic and other bilateral and multilateral partners, especially the USA, in order to promote effective solutions to problems which affect both EU citizens and the world at large, including the poorest and most vulnerable;
- (h) actively to support a comprehensive and consensual reform of the UNSC in order to strengthen its legitimacy, regional representation, accountability and effectiveness; to recalled that an EU seat in an enlarged UNSC remains a central, long-term goal of the European Union; to ask the High Representative/Vice-President (HR/VP) to develop a common position of the Member States to that end; in order to achieve this goal in the future, to work on prior coordination of positions in the Council of the EU on the introduction of new members of the UNSC and on the reform of the UNSC's decision-making;
- (i) to engage in the reflection started in the UNGA on the role of the UN in global governance, with a view to improving transparency and cooperation; to promote greater cooperation between the EU and the UNGA;



- (j) to help revitalise the UNGA and to increase its efficiency, inter alia by supporting the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group, by facilitating more in-depth and result-oriented thematic debates on topical, important issues, and through closer engagement of the UNGA with other stakeholders, including civil society and other international and regional organisations and forums; to stress the need for further streamlining of the agendas of the UNGA and its main committees; to underline the fact that revitalisation can be ensured only if the UNGA takes relevant and appropriate action on issues of common concern to the international community;
- (k) to reconfirm its commitment to ensuring that UN financial resources are adequate and managed efficiently and effectively, according to the principles of budgetary discipline and coherence and in conformity with the highest international standards;

### ***Peace and security***

#### *Peace-keeping and peace-building*

- (l) to strengthen the operational partnership and to promote the strategic coherence and effectiveness of collective peace-building efforts, inter alia through the work of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations;
- (m) to advance cooperation and build partnerships in the area of conflict prevention, civilian and military crisis management, and conflict resolution with the UN, the OSCE, the African Union (AU), the Arab League and other international and regional organisations, as well as with civil society; to improve the peace-building capacities of regional organisations, inter alia through the proposed EU–UN–AU and EU–UN–ECOWAS tri-partnerships;
- (n) to promote the collaboration of different actors in the peace-building architecture, notably between the UN Secretariat, the UNSC, the UNGA, and the UN member states involved in peace-building missions; to pursue efforts to ensure that EU Member States contribute to UN peace missions with special capacities, such as transport and logistics, and training; to consider the option of launching a military operation under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), including the possible deployment of a battlegroup to precede a UN peace mission if requested by the UN, while paying special attention to the protection of all members of peacekeeping missions and of any battlegroups; to support the development of conflict prevention and management as well as mediation, peace-keeping and peace-building capacity at national and subnational levels; to promote the exchange of know-how and good practices among partners;

- (o) to provide support to the UN Civilian Capacity Review in identifying practical ways of matching demand with supply in critical civilian capability areas; to expedite recruitment, eliminate operational incompatibilities and avoid overlapping when deploying civilian CSDP capabilities in support of UN actions; to explore options for the joint deployment of crisis response teams within a UN operation in cases where rapidly deployable capacities are required;
- (p) to ensure the participation of women at all stages of peace processes and systematically to engage them in preventive diplomacy, early warning and security monitoring; to focus, in line with UNSC Resolution 1325/2000 on Women, Peace and Security, on the need to mainstream gender perspectives in conflict prevention, peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance, post-conflict reconstruction and DDR<sup>1</sup> initiatives; to work actively to ensure the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 by all UN member states;
- (q) to cooperate with the UN to tackle the current global threats, such as climate change, nuclear weapons proliferation, organised crime and terrorism, and pandemics;
- (r) to contribute to the successful outcome of and follow-up to the 2012 UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty and the 2012 Review Conference on the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons;

*Responsibility to Protect (R2P)*

- (s) to assist states in fulfilling their responsibility to protect their populations; to stress the need for timely and adequate international action to prevent and halt genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity;
- (t) to generate further political and institutional progress on the implementation of the R2P concept in UN organs, particularly in the UNSC, the UNGA and the UNHRC, drawing conclusions and learning lessons both from the intervention in Libya and from the inability to take swift action in the case of Syria; to facilitate the debate on how the UN bodies, in particular the UNSC, could utilise this concept to ensure greater cooperation between UN member states during crises; to advance the positive role of regional organisations, in developing and applying an operational approach to R2P;

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<sup>1</sup> Disarmament, demobilisation, reinsertion and reintegration.

- (u) to work with partners to ensure that this concept focuses on prevention, protection and post-conflict reconstruction, in line with the tripartition of R2P into responsibility to prevent, to protect and to rebuild; to assist states in building capacities to this effect, inter alia by strengthening early warning mechanisms and relevant UN mediation capacities; to encourage, in cooperation with UN member states, the establishment of focal points to monitor emerging conflict situations, and to build relevant capacities in EU delegations;
- (v) strongly to reconfirm the EU's commitment to the concept of R2P and to initiate the development of an inter-institutional consensus on R2P between the European Parliament, the EEAS and the EU Member States that could ensure more consistent EU action on such issues in UN forums;

#### *Mediation*

- (w) to promote mediation as a cost-effective tool in the peaceful prevention and resolution of disputes, as well as in preventing post-conflict countries from relapsing into conflict; to develop more effective mediation guidelines in the field of the rule of law and democratic accountability;
- (x) to prioritise and develop the implementation of this tool and further to develop mediation capacities within the EEAS, based on the Concept of Strengthening EU Mediation and Dialogue Capacities;
- (y) to cooperate closely with the UN and other actors in mediation; to strive for synergies in mediation activities with the UN Department for Political Affairs (DPA); to advance partnerships and cooperation by international, regional and subregional organisations with the UN, with each other and with civil society, for example through an EU-UN joint partnership on mediation capacities; to improve information-sharing, cooperation and coordination in order to ensure the coherence and complementarity of the efforts of actors involved in specific mediation;

#### *International justice*

- (z) to strengthen the international criminal justice system; to highlight the role of the ICC in fighting impunity and further to promote the ICC as the only permanent judicial body with jurisdiction over individual perpetrators for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, when national courts are unable or unwilling to do so;

- (aa) to strengthen the ICC by providing political, diplomatic, financial and logistical support; to encourage all UN member states to join the Court by ratifying the Rome Statute; to foster strong cooperation with the Court by the UN and its bodies and agencies;

### ***Human rights***

- (ab) to strengthen international efforts aimed at ensuring that all human rights agreed under UN conventions are considered universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated; to help strengthen national capacities for the fulfilment of international human rights obligations; in this connection, to stress the need to secure the right of freedom of religion and belief for all;
- (ac) actively to support the African-led initiative and the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women by working towards the adoption of a UNGA resolution in 2012 with a view to banning female genital mutilation (FGM) worldwide; to call on the HR/VP and the Commission to give the utmost priority to ensuring the success of this process;
- (ad) further to promote the mainstreaming of human rights in all aspects of the UN's work, reaffirming the fact that human rights are inextricably linked to the UN's other goals on peace and security, and development;
- (ae) to participate proactively in the work of the UNHRC by co-sponsoring resolutions, issuing statements and taking part in interactive dialogues and debates in order to ensure greater balance in the UNHRC's work;
- (af) to enhance the early warning capacity of the Special Procedures by providing for a mechanism allowing them to automatically trigger the consideration of a situation by the UNHRC; to reinforce the follow-up process for the implementation of the recommendations of Special Procedures;
- (ag) to seek to strengthen the process of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by embedding recommendations in bilateral and multilateral dialogues with UN member states, and by basing these dialogues on and around international norms and standards;
- (ah) to continue its endeavours in the UNGA and its committees in relation to the call for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, which continues to receive increasing support from an ever-larger number of countries, and in relation to the rights of the child, free media and religious tolerance; to support all efforts to eradicate torture; particularly to encourage the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on Torture;

### ***Democracy support***

- (ai) to help ensure local ownership of the democratic process and the development of a culture of democracy and the rule of law; to expand democracy support beyond the election process in order to sustain it in the long term and be able to deliver tangible results to citizens; to ensure the inclusion to a greater extent of parliaments and political parties in programmes supporting democracy; to emphasise the importance of independent NGOs that can function freely for the development of a strong civic culture;
- (aj) to focus on social and economic inclusion, democratic transition and political/electoral processes, capacity-building, the strengthening of civil society, the participation of young people in parliamentary democracy, the protection of freedom of expression, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion and the protection of women's rights, including in terms of their participation in public and political life, at the level both of social practices and of legislation;
- (ak) to better integrate democracy support into European external action; to support democratic governance through its different financial instruments, using the resources of the EU delegations whenever possible; to work with the UN and other partners globally and locally to enhance the rule of law, foster independent media and build and strengthen democratic institutions that can deliver;
- (al) to ensure that the mandates of peace-keeping missions reflect the need to support electoral observation missions and to provide them with the necessary means to ensure the safety of the observers on the ground;

### ***Development***

- (am) to mainstream EU development-related policies at all levels, in order to avoid contradictions between pro-development policies, on the one hand, and obstacles to partner countries' development in bi-, pluri- and multilateral agreements and forums, on the other; to pay particular attention to human rights and development implications in free trade agreements and during negotiations at WTO level;
- (an) to continue working towards putting people at the centre of the development process; to follow up the UN Declaration on the Right to Development, focusing on practical steps towards its implementation;

- (ao) to ensure that the share of overall European aid channelled through the EU budget is not reduced and retains a poverty and hunger focus; to consider earmarking 20 % of all EU assistance for basic social services as defined by the UN, with a special focus on free and universal access to primary health care and basic education, taking into account the EU's support for the 'Education for All' initiative and its commitment to playing a role in global health;
- (ap) to contribute to enhancing policy coherence for development and to improving the effectiveness of development aid, since these remain key issues for achieving the MDGs;
- (aq) to lead and speed up the effort in the UN to achieve the MDGs by focusing particularly on those goals for which the least progress has been achieved so far;
- (ar) while remaining committed to ending poverty in collaboration with the international community, to work towards the definition of the ambitious post-2015 MDG Agenda, taking into account the progress made but also the remaining challenges;
- (as) to follow up on, and work towards the full implementation of, the outcome of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, inter alia by promoting sustainable development as the guiding principle for long-term global development;
- (at) to create a UN panel of eminent persons;
- (au) to follow up actively the conclusions adopted in Busan;
- (av) to make a decisive contribution to the fight against food speculation and to solving the urgent problem of poverty and hunger;
- (aw) to give priority to food security, productive capacity in agriculture, infrastructure, capacity-building, inclusive economic growth, favourable markets and new businesses, access to technologies, and human and social development in the LDCs, in accordance with the Istanbul Programme of Action and the conclusions adopted at the 13th UNCTAD session in Doha on 26 April 2012;
- (ax) to reiterate its commitment to the Rome principles for food security; to deplore the consequences of speculation on food commodities;
- (ay) to encourage developing countries, with the support of international donors, to take long-term measures to ensure that drought does not inevitably lead to famine; to implement disaster risk reduction strategies and early warning systems;
- (az) to support fully the core role played by the UN, and particularly by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

- (ba) to reaffirm the EU's long-term commitment to supporting the welfare of the people in the Horn of Africa and addressing the underlying causes of structural food insecurity and conflict;

***Climate change, global environmental protection and sustainability***

- (bb) to take the lead in global climate governance and international cooperation on climate change; to contribute to an institutional architecture that is inclusive, transparent and equitable and provides for balanced representation of both developed and developing countries on relevant governing bodies; further to develop a dialogue with key actors, such as the BRICS countries and developing countries, given that climate change has become a key element of international relations; further to develop the EEAS's capacities to build up an EU climate diplomacy policy;
- (bc) to continue to empower citizens in environmental governance through the effective global implementation of Rio Principle 10; in this connection, to expand the provisions of the Aarhus Convention beyond the United Nations Commission for Europe (UNECE) through a global convention or by opening the Aarhus Convention to parties outside the UNECE; to promote improved governance in sustainable development, inter alia by strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); actively to cooperate with partners on better global enforcement of environmental laws;
- (bd) to push the joint AU and EU position in favour of upgrading the UNEP to a specialised UN agency with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya; to address, within this new institutional framework, the issues of financing, technology transfer and capacity-building for sustainable development;
- (be) to support biodiversity and climate protection in the developing countries in line with the objectives set under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity; to make seas and oceans one of the key pillars of the Rio Framework, alongside climate and biodiversity protection;
- (bf) to support the Commission's active participation in the ongoing debate on Protection Gaps and Responses launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as part of the 2010 High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges, which aims to improve the existing international protection framework for forcibly displaced and stateless people; to participate actively in the debate on the term 'climate refugee' (intended to describe people who are forced to flee their homes and seek refuge abroad as a consequence of climate change), including a possible legal definition of this term, which is not yet recognised in international law or in any legally binding international agreement;

## *Miscellaneous*

(bg) to promote interaction on global issues between governments and parliaments and foster debate on the global role of parliaments; to strengthen the democratic nature, accountability and transparency of global governance and allow for greater public and parliamentary participation in the activities of the UN.

h) Multiannual financial framework and own resources

*European Parliament resolution on the Multiannual Financial Framework and own resources*

The European Parliament:

- strongly demanded that political positions agreed by the European Council be negotiated between Parliament and the Council, as represented by the General Affairs Council, before the Council formally submitted its proposals with a view to obtaining Parliament's consent on the MFF regulation pursuant to Article 312 TFEU; stressed that the negotiations on the legislative proposals relating to the multiannual programmes would be pursued under the ordinary legislative procedure and would be finalised once an agreement on their financial envelopes is reached; was determined to make full use, as appropriate, of its consent and ordinary legislative powers, as enshrined in the Treaty (para 5);
- emphasised that the goals and policies of the MFF should be agreed before figures were assigned to them, and stressed that Parliament and the Council should hold fully fledged negotiations on all MFF-related aspects prior to assigning figures and making final adjustments to the entire MFF package; adhered to the principle that 'nothing is agreed until everything is agreed' as an appropriate working method (para 6).

i) EU trade negotiations with Japan

*European Parliament resolution of 13 June 2012 on EU trade negotiations with Japan*

The European Parliament:

- asked the Council not to authorise the opening of trade negotiations until Parliament had stated its position on the proposed negotiating mandate, on the basis of a report by the committee responsible (para 1).



j) Guinea-Bissau

*European Parliament resolution of 13 June 2012 on the military coup in Guinea-Bissau*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Council to provide advice and assistance in support of the urgent defence and security sectors reform in Guinea-Bissau and to consider effectively supporting the deployment of an international stabilisation operation within the framework of the CSDP (para 22);
- invited the HR/VP and the Council to study the possibility of sending a new SSR mission to Guinea-Bissau, with a strengthened mandate to help reform the security and defence sectors, promote capacity-building, reform public administration and support the rule of law, as soon as the legitimate authorities recovered the full exercise of governance in Guinea-Bissau and request such a mission (para 26);
- urged once more the Council and the VP/HR to consider new ways to help the legitimate government of Guinea-Bissau to fight drug trafficking and organised crime, thereby preventing that country from becoming another failed narco-state (para 27).

k) EU Special Representative for Human Rights

*European Parliament recommendation to the Council of 13 June 2012 on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights*

The European Parliament:

- addressed the following recommendations to the Council:
  - (a) while the appointment of the EUSR for HR and the establishment of his/her mandate is formally a Council decision based on a proposal by the EU High Representative, the EUSR for HR should act and speak on behalf of the Union, reflecting the shared and indivisible responsibility of all EU institutions and Member States to protect and promote human rights worldwide; the appointment of the first ever thematic EUSR should enhance the visibility, effectiveness, coherence and accountability of the EU's human rights policy; in particular, the European Parliament should play its appropriate role in the appointment procedure and the oversight of the mandate during its entire term;
  - (b) in order to strengthen the transparency and accountability of the mandate of the EUSR, an exchange of views/hearing with the EUSR for HR nominated by the High Representative should take place in the relevant committee of the European Parliament;

- (c) the implementation of the mandate and its consistency with other contributions from the Union in this domain should be kept under regular review; the EUSR should provide the Council, the High Representative, Parliament and the Commission with an annual progress report and a comprehensive implementation report on the mandate at the end thereof;
- (d) the policy objectives of the EUSR for HR should include enhancing the coherence, effectiveness and visibility of EU action in the protection and promotion of human rights and democracy; the EUSR HR should work in close cooperation with the Council Working Group on Human Rights (COHOM); the EUSR for HR should be a high-level interlocutor for his/her counterparts in third countries and at international organisations, also able to engage with the UN (UNGA, UNHRC, etc.) as well as relevant regional organisations; the EUSR for HR should chair high-level human rights dialogues and lead the consultations with third countries on human rights issues;
- (e) in order to achieve these objectives, the EUSR, while acting under the authority of the High Representative, should be granted a strong, independent and flexible mandate not defined by narrow and specific thematic responsibilities but rather allowing the EUSR to act swiftly and effectively; in line with the actions and priorities set out in the Action Plan, the EUSR for HR should also address different horizontal issues contributing to more effective and coherent action in EU external policies; the scope of the EUSR's mandate should be fully in line with the principles of universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms and with the policy objectives laid down in Article 21 of the TEU, and should cover the strengthening of democracy, the rule of law and institution building, international justice and international humanitarian law; the mandate should include, *inter alia*, abolition of the death penalty, human rights defenders, the fight against impunity, the fight against torture, freedom of expression (including on the internet), of association, of assembly, of religion and of belief, minority rights, child protection, women's rights, peace and security, gender issues, and the fight against discrimination in all its forms, whether based on disability, racial or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity;

- (f) the mandate should be based on the principles guiding the EU's HR policy and, in particular, on the EU guidelines on the death penalty (2008); torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (2008); human rights dialogues with third countries (2009); children and armed conflict (2008); human rights defenders (2008); promotion and protection of the rights of the child (2008); violence against women and girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them (2008); international humanitarian law (2009), the LGBT toolkit (2010) as well as the EU's annual reports on human rights in the world; moreover, the mandate should include supporting the High Representative and the EU institutions in the promotion of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;
- (g) the EUSR for HR should have the necessary professional qualifications, extensive experience and proven track record in the field of human rights, as well as personal and professional integrity and an international reputation;
- (h) the EUSR for HR should be appointed for 2,5 years; in order to ensure continuity, coherence and democratic accountability, the mandate should be renewable and the Parliament should be properly consulted in a timely manner during the renewal process;
- (i) the EUSR for HR should work closely with the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the President of the European Parliament to ensure coherence and mainstreaming of human rights across all policy areas in the work of all EU institutions; the EUSR should interact closely with the EEAS Human Rights and Democracy Directorate and all the multilateral EU delegations (New York, Geneva, Vienna, Strasbourg), as well as with all EU delegations in the world, in order to facilitate contacts on human rights issues with all EU services, EU delegations in third countries and international organisations; the EEAS Human Rights and Democracy Directorate should provide all necessary services and facilitate the implementation of the EUSR's mandate;
- (j) while maintaining close links with the Council's Political and Security Committee, the EUSR for HR should regularly report to the relevant committee of the European Parliament on the situation of human rights in the world and the state of play of the implementation of the mandate, including the results of the UNHRC and UNGA sessions and human rights dialogues with third countries and the implementation of Human Rights Country Strategies;

- (k) the EUSR for HR, while implementing his/her mandate, should cooperate with representatives of local, regional and national civil society, NGOs, experts, and regional and international organisations acting in the field of protection of human rights and democracy;
- (l) the EUSR for HR should be provided with adequate financial and human resources in order to guarantee the effective work of the Special Representative and his/her team; the budget of the EUSR for HR should be reviewed annually;
- (m) the EUSR for HR should be responsible for constituting a team, covering the necessary policy expertise in line with, and acting in the interest of, his/her mandate; in view of the scope and cross-sectoral nature of the mandate, it is important to assign sufficient staff to work under the direct supervision of the EUSR for HR; the team may include seconded staff from Member States and EU institutions, reflecting also the need to ensure coherence and the mainstreaming of human rights across the activities of all EU institutions and Member States;
- (n) a reference to this recommendation should be included in the mandate of the EUSR for HR.

l) Negotiations on the UN Arms Trade Treaty

*European Parliament resolution of 13 June 2012 on the negotiations on the UN Arms Trade Treaty*

The European Parliament:

- called on the VP/HR and the EU Member States to promote the inclusion of strong anti-corruption mechanisms in the future treaty as laid down in paragraph 3 of the EU statement of 12 July 2011; recalled the need to include a reference to corruption consistent with relevant applicable international instruments and to take adequate measures to prevent such crimes (para 13);
- urged the VP/HR to engage in intensive consultations and coordination efforts with all EU Member States in order to ensure that the EU spoke with one voice and promotes a strong position (para 28);
- urged the VP/HR and Member States to favour robustness with regard to the content and membership of the future treaty; urged the US to step aside from its position that the Arms Trade Treaty needs to be negotiated on the basis of consensus (para 30);

- welcomed the VP/HR's statement, in line with Article 34(1) of the Treaty on European Union, in which she would present to Parliament the EU's position ahead of the Conference (para 31).

m) Situation in Tibet

*European Parliament resolution of 14 June 2012 on the human rights situation in Tibet*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the EU to increase and intensify efforts to address the human rights situation of the Tibetans in the framework of the EU-China Human Rights Dialogue (para 2);
- regretted, in this respect, the unwillingness of the Chinese authorities to hold the dialogue twice a year and their stance concerning the modalities and frequency of the meetings, with regard in particular to the strengthening of the civil society segment and the involvement of civil society in the dialogue; urged the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union to make every effort to ensure that the human rights dialogue is more effective and result-oriented (para 3);
- urged the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the EU to appoint a special coordinator with a mandate to report regularly on Tibet in order to advance respect for the human rights of the Tibetan people, including their right to preserve and develop their distinctive identity and its religious, cultural and linguistic manifestations, to support constructive dialogue and negotiations between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and to provide assistance to Tibetan refugees, in particular in Nepal and India (para 19);
- called on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the EU to address the human rights situation in Tibet at every meeting with the representatives of the People's Republic of China (para 20).

n) Towards a job-rich recovery

*European Parliament resolution of 14 June 2012 on 'Towards a job-rich recovery'*

The European Parliament:

- urged the Heads of State or Government of the EU to commit to a European investment package before the end of 2012; believed that such a package could push Europe out of the crisis if it includes concrete commitments at national and European level for investment to create sustainable growth and jobs in key sectors such as resource efficiency and management, renewables, energy efficiency or recycling/reusing; pointed to the Energy Efficiency Directive as a concrete example of European legislation which could create up to 2 million new jobs (para 5);
- called on the Member States, the Commission and the Council to use, in close cooperation with social partners, every opportunity to ensure that every young EU citizen could start work or training after a maximum period of four months of unemployment by implementing the European Youth Guarantee; believed that Member States should make the Youth Guarantee legally enforceable in order to effectively improve the situation of young people who were neither in employment nor in education or training and to gradually overcome the problem of youth unemployment in the EU; stressed that the Youth Guarantee needs specific European financial support, especially in the Member States with the highest youth unemployment rates (para 26).

o) Human rights and the security situation in the Sahel region

*European Parliament resolution of 14 June 2012 on human rights and the security situation in the Sahel region*

The European Parliament:

- urged the Vice-President / High Representative to speed up the implementation of the various components of the EU Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel; supported the commitment of the Council to contribute to the development of a peaceful, stable region where food self-sufficiency is secured (para 4).

p) European cardiac arrest awareness week

*Declaration of the European Parliament of 14 June 2012 on establishing a European cardiac arrest awareness week*

The European Parliament:

- called on the Commission and the Council to encourage:
  - the adoption of common programmes for implementing AED in public places and training lay people in all Member States,
  - the adjustment of legislation in order to facilitate CPR and defibrillation by non-medical persons,
  - systematic data collection for feedback and quality management in every programme (para 1).

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