

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-81/84

## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Development  
and Cooperation

on the financing of training projects for women  
submitted by the ANC and SWAPO

Rapporteur: Mrs L. CASTELLINA

PE 88.786/fin.

Or. Fr.



At its sitting of 7 March 1983, the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs CIANCIARI RODANO and Mrs CARETONI ROMAGNOLI (Doc. 1-1291/82) pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee on Development and Cooperation as the committee responsible and to the Political Affairs Committee for its opinion.

On 16 June 1983, the Committee on Development and Cooperation appointed Mrs CASTELLINA rapporteur.

The committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 25 January and 3 February 1984. On 21 March 1984, it adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by 12 votes to 10.

The following took part in the vote: Mr PONIATOWSKI, chairman; Mrs FOCKE, vice-chairman; Mrs CASTELLINA, rapporteur; Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO CERRETTI, Mrs CARETONI ROMAGNOLI, Mr COHEN, Mrs DURY, Mr DESCHAMPS (deputizing for Mr NARDUCCI,) Lady ELLES (deputizing for Mr de COURCY LING), Mr ENRIGHT, Mr FERRERO, Mr HABSBURG (deputizing for Mr LUSTER), Mr HARRIS (deputizing for Mr SHERLOCK), Mr C. JACKSON, Mr LEZZI, Mr LOMAS (deputizing for Mr FELLERMEIER), Mr d'ORMESSON (deputizing for Mrs RABBETHGE), Mr PEARCE, Mr SIMPSON, Mr VANKERKHOVEN, Mr VERGEER, Mr VERGES and Mr WEDEKIND.

The opinion of the Political Affairs Committee is attached.

The report was tabled on 26 March 1984.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.

C O N T E N T S  
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	<u>Page</u>
A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION .....	5
B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT .....	7
ANNEX: Motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-1291/82) .....	10
Opinion of the Political Affairs Committee .....	11

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

The Committee on Development and Cooperation hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement :

on the financing of training projects for women submitted by the ANC and SWAPO

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the motion for a resolution (Doc. 1-1291/82) tabled pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure,
  - recalling its resolution of February 1983<sup>1</sup> (Doc. 1-657/82) in which it condemned the policy of apartheid pursued by the Republic of South Africa and the illegal occupation of Namibia by Pretoria,
  - bearing in mind the position on the situation in southern Africa adopted at the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly meeting in Rome in November 1982,
  - having regard to the results of the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women held in July 1980,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Development and Cooperation and the opinion of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-81/84),
1. Reasserts the importance for development of basic education and vocational training for women;
  2. Appreciates particularly the efforts made by non-governmental organizations to implement basic and vocational training programmes designed to meet the fundamental needs of the peoples concerned;
  3. Stresses the need to take action on its resolution on assistance to refugees in developing countries (Doc. 1-929/83), in which one of its requests was that the Commission should take urgent measures to help refugees from countries in a state of war;
  4. Reaffirms its conviction, in the light of the proposals that have been made, that the European Community must grant its aid through recognized apolitical organizations involved in humanitarian and development activities;

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No. C 68, 14.3.1983

5. Calls on the Commission to consider these projects with a view to their joint financing by the Commission and the non-governmental organizations already operating in the African regions concerned;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The projects submitted by the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) to the United Nations special committee against apartheid concern:
  - (a) the publication and distribution of the quarterly publication 'Voice of Women' (VOW) which provides information on the situation of black women and children oppressed by the system of apartheid in South Africa. The publication was financed from 1975 to 1978 by the Canadian University Service Overseas and from then until 1981 by the International Centre of the Swedish Workers' Movement;
  - (b) technical and vocational training courses designed to offer black women the opportunity to qualify for a more dignified role in society than that offered by 'Bantu education' (preparation for a life of servitude).  
Such training courses in various subjects could be organized in the countries which take in South African refugees: Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia, Botswana etc;
  - (c) short and long-term courses to provide basic qualifications, to be held preferably in neighbouring countries (Kenya and Zambia) in order to avoid the necessity of using a foreign language;
  - (d) the plan to build a nursery school at Emmasdale, to the north of Lusaka (Zambia) with room for 80 children;
  - (e) the plan to build a kindergarten at Morogoro in Tanzania;
  - (f) the 'Masupatsela' project, a South African youth organization for which structures are required to enable it to carry out cultural and sporting activities around Lusaka, in Mozambique, Botswana, Tanzania, Lesotho and Swaziland.
2. The project submitted by the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) as part of the United Nations development programme concerns training and information programmes designed to improve the role of women in the development process.

Provision is also made for technical assistance by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as well as participation by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The project covers courses in literacy, the English, French and Portuguese languages and specialized courses in the agricultural sector.

3. Both the European Parliament and the ACP-EEC Consultative Assembly have defined their positions on the situation in South Africa and Namibia several times.

The European Parliament adopted the resolution tabled by the Political Affairs Committee on 9 February 1983<sup>1</sup>, and the Consultative Assembly adopted a resolution in Rome in November 1982.

In defining their positions, they included reference to the following points:

- unreserved condemnation of the policy of racial discrimination and the occupation of Namibia in flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter;
  - recognition of the role played by SWAPO and the ANC which, in Namibia and South Africa respectively, are striving for a totally non-racist society and respect for fundamental human rights;
  - the need to create a class of skilled technicians and managers, in order to pave the way for a government representing the majority of the people in Namibia and South Africa, and to ensure that aid from the European Community in this field is increased.
4. The projects under discussion deal with two strategic aspects of the development process: training and the role of women.

The Committee on Development and Cooperation and the European Parliament has constantly stressed that basic and vocational training and the participation of women are of decisive importance for development.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 68, 14.3.1983

Furthermore, at the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Copenhagen from 14-30 July 1980, the urgent need to adopt practical measures to help black women in southern Africa was recognized, for they are victims of twofold discrimination as far as equal rights are concerned.

Another appeal to help the most oppressed section of the black population suffering under the South African racist system was made at the International Conference on Women and Apartheid held in the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels from 17-19 May 1982.

5. For all these reasons, the projects submitted by the ANC and SWAPO are a practical and positive means of intervention along the lines suggested by Parliament.

It would therefore be appropriate for the European Community to support the projects in a suitable way.

Bearing in mind the special role played by non-governmental organizations in the implementation of projects of this kind, it would appear that joint financing is the most appropriate form such support might take.

In this connection, it should be recalled that at a recent meeting of the Committee on Development and Cooperation attended by a delegation from the European NGOs, the need to increase aid to such organizations was recognized because of the highly valuable work they undertake.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (Doc. 1-1291/82)

tabled by Mrs CINCIARI RODANO  
and Mrs CARETONI ROMAGNOLI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the request for financial support for the  
ANC and SWAPO projects

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the Convention on Human Rights,
- B. having regard to the consideration given to women in the developing countries at the Conference in Copenhagen, in the European Parliament's resolution of 19 September 1980, which recognizes the essential tasks performed by women in the dcs, and in the European Parliament's resolution of 11 February 1981, with particular reference to paragraphs 48, 49 and 50,
- C. having regard to the official position stated by the President of the European Parliament, Pieter Dankert, at the International Conference on Women and partheid held on 17 May 1982 in Brussels,
  1. Requests that adequate financial support be provided for the INF/F/5 projects presented by the ANC and SWAPO to the delegation of the United Nations Special Committee against partheid, since these projects are aimed at improving the position of women in matters of education, literacy, vocational training, employment and social infrastructure;
  2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission of the European Communities.

OPINION OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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Letter from Mr Niels Jørgen HAAGERUP, acting chairman of the Political Affairs Committee, to Mr Michel PONIATOWSKI, chairman of the Committee on Development and Cooperation

Dear Mr Poniatowski,

At its meeting held in Paris from 28 February to 1 March 1984, the Political Affairs Committee considered the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs CINCIARI RODANO and Mrs CARETONI ROMAGNOLI (doc. 1-1291/82) on the request for financial support for the ANC (African National Congress) and SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organization) projects for which your committee is responsible.

Following a statement by the draftsman of the opinion, Mr Olivier d'ORMESSON, the committee adopted the following conclusions by 18 votes to 9 votes with 1 abstention.

These projects have been submitted to the delegation of the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid.

The Political Affairs Committee is not competent to decide on the nature and usefulness of these projects.

However, the committee would point out that the European Community provides financial aid in the form of subsidies or loans only to states, through the intermediary of legitimate organizations, to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and to special United Nations organizations recognized by the Member States.

It seems that the two organizations mentioned above do not fit these criteria because they pursue political objectives.

The Political Affairs Committee is not aware that the European Community has ever contributed directly or indirectly to the financing of political organizations either inside or outside the European Community, and it considers that any exception to this rule would constitute a dangerous precedent liable to harm the standing of the European Institutions. It therefore recommends that the requests presented by the ANC and SWAPO be rejected.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Niels Jørgen HAAGERUP  
Acting Chairman

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<sup>1</sup> The following took part in the vote: Mr Haagerup, acting chairman and first vice-chairman; Mrs Charzat, second vice-chairman; Mr Fergusson, third vice-chairman; Mr d'Ormesson, draftsman; Mr Antoniozzi, Mr Baillot (deputizing for Mr Marchais), Lord Bethell, Mr Bournias, Mr Cariglia, Mr Croux (deputizing for Mr Deschamps), Mr Denis (deputizing for Mr Piquet), Mr de Pasquale (deputizing for Mr Pajetta), Mr Ephremidis, Mr Fellermaier (deputizing for Mr B. Friedrich), Mr Gerokostopoulos (deputizing for Mr Barbi), Mr von Hassel, Mrs Van den Heuvel, Mr Israël (deputizing for Mr de la Malène), Mr Klepsch, Mr Lalor, Mr Mommersteeg (deputizing for Mrs Lenz), Mr Penders, Mr Plaskovitis, Mr Romualdi, Mr Segre, Mr Seitlinger (deputizing for Mr Rumor), Mr Simonnet (deputizing for Mr Habsburg), Mr J.M. Taylor (deputizing for Lady Elles) and Mr Zagari