Convention on international civil aviation: limitation of the operation of aeroplanes (amend. Directive 92/14/EEC)

1996/0209(SYN) - 26/02/1997

Saudi-Arabian Boeings 737-200, built in 1976 and 1977, generate an unbearable amount of noise around EU airports, but are able to escape tough European noise limit regulations since they are registered under an exemption designed for poorer developing countries. Reporting on the Council proposal to amend a directive on the limitation of the operation of aeroplanes, Mr Leen VAN DER WAAL (ENS, Nl) found out that wealthy Saudi private individuals profit from this system. The Committee followed the rapporteur in his proposal that aircraft from Saudi Arabia should be deleted from the Annex of the proposal, applying to Third World countries like Kenya, Mauritania, Zimbabwe and Burkina-Faso. Mr VAN DER WAAL said that no special treatment should be given to rich countries like Saudi-Arabia and demanded a stricter definition of the term "developing nation".