Activities of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in 1995

1995/2294(INI) - 14/03/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Adopting the report by Mr Blaise ALDO (UPE, F), the European Parliament highlighted the importance of the role and work of the Joint Assembly in 1995, especially the proposals put forward by the Joint Assembly at various stages of the negotiations on the mid-term review of Fourth Lomé Convention, which it had attended with observer status, its unstinting efforts to promote human rights and democracy and the constructive role which it had played in serious conflicts by sending delegations on missions to Burundi Zaire, Rwanda, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Mali and considered, in this context, that a delegation should be sent to Nigeria. The Joint Assembly had also adopted a number of important resolutions: - on infrastructures, which were prerequisite to the economic and social development of the ACP countries; - on the Cairo and Beijing conferences and on the Copenhagen social development summit. The report also stressed the need, in the event of disasters in the ACP countries, for reconstruction aid to be implemented alongside humanitarian aid and emergency action, highlighted the importance of promoting a general policy of health education and prevention, especially with regard to AIDS and hoped that the Joint Assembly would look more closely at problems linked to the production and use of drugs in certain ACP countries. It called on the Union to ban the manufacture and sale of anti-personnel landmines on its territory and supported the request for the creation of a specific fund to continue financing mine clearing and the rehabilitation of victims. Finally, the report reiterated its call for recognition of the institutional autonomy and, consequently, the financial autonomy of the Joint Assembly.