Resolution on the satisfactory implementation of environment directives

2001/2501(RSP) - 17/01/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament endorsed the resolution calling on the Member States to develop the means to enforce three environmental directives - on PCBs, habitats and nitrates. The Parliament considers that its reports on the implementation of the three directives have shown that there have been serious problems in implementation and excessive delays in enforcement and implementation in the majority of Member States. Moreover, it notes that the Member States have an appalling record of failing to produce the necessary reports and information on time, if at all, and it calls on them to develop the necessary infrastructures and procedures for this to be remedied in the future. The Parliament further believes that this illustrates the need for a binding directive on environmental inspections. The Parliament calls on the Commission to carry out a detailed examination of the implementation and observance of Community environment legislation in all works and projects requiring public and/or private and/or Community funding which fall within the scope of the habitats directive. In addition, the Commission is called upon to regularly publish in a clear and accessible form, to the general public, using the internet for example, an updated scoreboard containing all current cases of infringement of EU legislation by Member States and the steps taekn by the Commission to ensure compliance. The House considers that the Commission must take recourse to Article 228 of the Treaty in all cases where Member States have not complied with a judgement of the European Court of Justice under Article 227 within two years and it requests the Commission to draw up a schedule for payments to be applied to all Member States which have been found by the ECJ not to have complied to its earlier judgement.