EP Rules of Procedure, Rules 117 and 139: precautionary measures to apply general rules of multilinguism

2003/2227(REG) - 01/04/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Gianfranco DELL'ALBA (IND, I), the European Parliament approved the resolution on Parliament's Rules of Procedure relating to precautionary measures for the application of the general arrangements on multilingualism. Parliament decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as shown below and it states that the amendment will enter into force on 1 May 2004 when 10 new Member States will accede to the European Union. Parliament adopted the following amendments : - where such meetings are authorised, the language arrangements shall be determined on the basis of the official languages used and requested by the members and substitutes of the committee concerned. The same shall apply in the case of the delegations, except where the members and substitutes concerned agree otherwise; - to Rule 117, paragraph 3 : interpretation shall be provided in committee and delegation meetings from and into the official languages used and requested by the members and substitutes of that committee or delegation . At committee and delegation meetings away from the usual places of work interpretation shall be provided from and into the languages of those members who have confirmed that they will attend the meeting. These arrangements may exceptionally be made more flexible where the members of the committee or delegation so agree. In the event of disagreement, the Bureau shall decide; - a new Rule 117a has been inserted which stipulates that exceptionally, in applying Rule 117, account shall be taken, with regard to the official languages of the countries which acceded to the European Union on 1 May 2004, as of that date and until 31 December 2006, of the availability in real terms and sufficient numbers of the requisite interpreters and translators. The Secretary-General shall each quarter submit a detailed report to the Bureau on the progress made towards full application of Rule 117, and shall send a copy thereof to all Members. On a reasoned recommendation from the Bureau, Parliament may decide at any time to repeal this Rule.