Resolution on the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation KEDO

2002/2599(RSP) - 07/11/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the nuclear sector in North Korea1. It called on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to take immediate steps to comply with its non-proliferation commitments and dismantle its uranium enrichment programme in a verifiable manner, and condemned North Korea's new threat to resume missile testing. Parliament asked the DPRK to cease production of other weapons of mass destruction, since such a programme is a serious breach of the North Korean commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguard Agreement (IAEA), amongst others. The new situation may require a re-evaluation of the whole KEDO (Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation) project. Parliament expects the EU to be invited as a full member to all meetings discussing KEDO. It condemned Pakistan for supplying technology for the development of this nuclear programme, if this proves to be the case. Parliament went on to state that it is necessary to negotiate constructively with the DPRK towards ending its missile exports. It welcomed the seemingly irreversible recent moves made by North Korea towards establishing a market economy. It asked the Council and the Commission to confirm the importance of engaging the DPRK in the international community through constructive dialogue delivering concrete progress, which would greatly enhance the prospects for peace and security not only in North East Asia but in the world as a whole. All institutions, and particularly ECHO, must continue, in any case, to provide children and other vulnerable sections of the population with sufficient humanitarian aid by delivering medical supplies and more than 100 000 tons of cereals as quickly as possible to cover World Food Programme requirements. In the absence of formal diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the Republic of Korea, Japan and the US, the Council and Commission should initiate contacts with the Government of North Korea, if possible in conjunction with China, in order to start negotiations for a comprehensive solution to all outstanding problems. Members propose to send a small ad hoc delegation from the European Parliament to assess the new situation.