Basic information

2006/2009(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Perspectives of women in international trade **Subject** 4.10.09 Women condition and rights	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	BREYER Hiltrud (Verts/ALE)	24/01/2006
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	Trade and Economic Security	MANDELSON Peter	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/01/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/06/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
20/07/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0254/2006	
27/09/2006	Debate in Parliament		
28/09/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0389/2006	Summary
28/09/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
28/09/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2006/2009(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/6/33016

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	**Committee**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Committee draft report		PE371.992	05/04/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE374.266	29/05/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE374.364	06/06/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0254/2006	20/07/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0389/2006	28/09/2006	Summary

Perspectives of women in international trade

2006/2009(INI) - 28/09/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report by Hiltrud **BREYER** (Greens/EFA, DE) on perspectives of women in international trade. Pointing out that 70% of the 1.3 billion people living in poverty in the world are women, Parliament stressed the need for coherence between the objectives of European policy for gender equality and the objectives of trade, development and aid policy. Whilst many women had also benefited from trade liberalisation and foreign direct investment, liberalisation had contributed to the informalisation of labour relations, the decline in working conditions and the feminisation of employment in several sectors of the economy.

Parliament called for the following:

- prioritising the lifting of all reservations to the CEDAW and ratification of its Optional Protocol by all partner states;

- studies on the way in which women could benefit from trade liberalisation and for systematic collection of gender disaggregated data in order to remedy the gender blindness of current trade policies and policies of global economic institutions;

- gender impact assessments before the conclusion of trade agreements with third countries and effective conditionality clauses with those countries in which violation of human rights, particularly women's rights, are wide-spread;

- the formal establishment of a trade and gender desk within its DG Trade;

- ensuring that companies profiting from EU market access programmes in the framework of EU cooperation policy do not contribute to the spread of practices such as the inhuman exploitation of employees, in particular women;

- the submission to Parliament of a report co-signed by the donors and beneficiaries of aid, in order to prove that specific funding has not been used for purposes other than those initially intended;

- special attention to the legal restrictions on women's access to means of production such as credit, land rights and capital, in the Commission’s discussions with third countries;

- the "aid-for-trade" programmes should be designed to promote gender equality and sustainable development, and be financed through additional funds;

- Member States must do their utmost to ensure that a gender perspective is taken into account in world trade negotiations.