

Thursday 17 December 1998

1. Reiterates its condemnation of the Sudanese Government for its repeated violations of human rights and international humanitarian law;
2. Condemns the supply of arms to the parties to the Sudan conflict and calls on EU Member States and associated countries to promote, in the Security Council, a UN embargo on the supply of weapons, ammunition, spare parts, repairs, maintenance and transfer of military technology and assistance to all parties to the Sudan conflict;
3. Calls on the EU associated countries to adhere to the EU embargo, support a UN arms embargo and abide by the principles and criteria of the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports, as stated in the declaration of 3 August 1998 by the European Union and the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Cyprus and EFTA members;
4. Calls on the Member States and associated countries to develop mechanisms to monitor the EU embargo, investigate reported violations and hold those perpetrating them accountable;
5. Calls on the Sudanese Government to ratify and strictly comply with the 1997 Mines Ban Treaty, to sign and accede to the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention, and to accede to the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention, the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the 1997 Protocols I and II Additional to the 1949 Geneva Convention;
6. Supports the mediation efforts undertaken by the IGAD with the aim of establishing the conditions for a lasting peace and lasting stability for Sudan and its neighbours, and calls on each of them to refrain from any action likely to impede or harm the peace process;
7. Urges all the parties to consolidate the provisional ceasefire agreement operating in Bahr al Ghazal by making it permanent and general;
8. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to continue sanctions and the suspension of development aid until the Sudanese Government puts an end to human rights violations;
9. Urges all the parties not to impede the movement of humanitarian personnel or the transport and distribution of aid, to cease diverting food and medical aid, and to cooperate unreservedly and unconditionally with the delivery of humanitarian aid in the areas concerned;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Assembly, the UN Secretary-General, the OAU, the IGAD Member States and the Government of Sudan.

(c) **B4-1085, 1090, 1103, 1135 and 1142/98**

Resolution on religious intolerance and authoritarianism in Pakistan

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the United Nations Charter on Human Rights,
 - having regard to the cooperation agreement currently being negotiated between the European Union and Pakistan and its references to human rights and democratic principles,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on human rights in Pakistan, especially its resolution of 18 June 1998 on the blasphemy laws in Pakistan⁽¹⁾,
- A. deeply concerned at the murder on 18 November 1998 of nine Christians in the city of Noshehra, the latest of many acts of violence perpetrated against religious minorities,
- B. disturbed by the discrimination practised against members of the Ahmadi and Shia Muslim minorities,

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 210, 6.7.1998, p. 211.

Thursday 17 December 1998

- C. concerned that such acts of violence and intolerance are in practice favoured by existing legal provisions such as the much-abused blasphemy laws,
- D. alarmed by reports of escalating violence and the invocation of Article 245 of the Constitution on 21 November 1998 in Karachi, calling on the army to assist the police and suspending the High Court's jurisdiction over basic human rights in areas where the army is deployed,
- E. regretting the detention and ill treatment of two parliamentarians belonging to the Muttahida Quami Movement, following a raid on that organisation's head office in Karachi on 21 November 1998,
- F. concerned at the many arbitrary arrests, the ill-treatment of detainees and deaths of detainees in police custody in Pakistan,
- G. profoundly disturbed by the content of Amendment 15 to the Pakistani Constitution, passed by the National Assembly on 9 November 1998 and awaiting a decision by the Senate,
- H. having regard to the statements made by several opposition politicians and human rights activists in Pakistan, who expressed their deep concern at the possible adoption of this amendment to the Constitution and the consequences in terms of restrictions on the basic freedom of women and religious minorities,
- I. concerned that whilst this bill also contains the guarantee that the status and laws of non-Muslims will not be affected, its other provisions effectively abrogate this guarantee by establishing the very conditions wherein hostility towards religious minorities is liable to increase,
- J. whereas Pakistan, together with Saudia Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, are the only countries which officially recognise the Taliban regime,
 - 1. Appeals to the Pakistan Senate to reject amendment 15 to the Constitution, and calls on all those who wish to uphold basic human rights and freedoms, to work for its rejection;
 - 2. Reiterates its call for the revision of the blasphemy law, which continues to be grossly abused to oppress religious minorities, and calls for action to prevent abuse as long as the present law remains in force;
 - 3. Calls on the Pakistan Government to take effective measures to improve human rights, including conditions in prisons;
 - 4. Requests that consideration be given to a policy of greater consultation and dialogue in Sindh and especially in Karachi in recognition of the fact that more repression can only compound the acute problems afflicting the city;
 - 5. Calls on Pakistan to stop supporting the Taliban regime in Afghanistan and end the spread of fundamentalist Taliban schools and centres in Pakistan;
 - 6. Reminds Pakistan of the importance the EU attaches to respect for human rights which forms an integral part of the cooperation agreement currently under negotiation;
 - 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the SAARC, and the Government, National Assembly and Senate of Pakistan.

(d) B4-1125, 1134, 1145 and 1156/98

Resolution on human rights in Iran

The European Parliament,

— having regard to its previous resolutions on human rights in Iran,

- A. whereas in Iran there is an intensified wave of persecution and repression of dissident intellectuals and in particular writers and journalists,