

Tuesday, 16 May 1995

19. Calls on the Commission and the Council to adopt the priorities set out in this resolution when preparing and adopting respectively the negotiating mandate for the interregional framework agreement for economic and trade cooperation between the European Union and Mercosur;

20. Welcomes the fact that, within the context of EU-Mercosur cooperation, the general interests of the indigenous communities living in the Mercosur countries are to be respected, particularly in the case of those in the Amazon region;

21. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments of the Member States, the Mercosur Council, the governments of Chile and Bolivia and the Latin American Parliament.

#### 4. Amendment of Rule 159

A4-0094/95

##### Rules of Procedure

FORMER TEXT

NEW TEXT

(Amendment 1)

*Rule 159(1)*

1. At the start of each parliamentary term the President shall, immediately after his election, call for nominations for the office of Ombudsman and set a time limit for submitting nominations.

1. At the start of each parliamentary term, immediately after his election **or in the cases referred to in paragraph 10**, the President shall call for nominations for the office of Ombudsman and set a time limit for submitting nominations. **A notice calling for nominations shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.**

(Amendment 2)

*Rule 159(2), subparagraph 1*

2. Nominations must have the support of *at least twenty-nine Members of the European Parliament and must demonstrate that the nominee fulfils the conditions required for the performance of the duties of Ombudsman.*

2. Nominations must have the support of **a minimum of twenty-nine Members who are nationals of at least two Member States.**

**Each Member may support only one nomination.**

(Amendment 3)

*Rule 159(2), subparagraph 2*

Nominations shall *also include a solemn undertaking by the nominee not to engage in any other occupation, whether gainful or not, during his term of office in the event of his being appointed.*

Nominations shall include **all the supporting documents needed to show conclusively that the nominee fulfils the conditions required by the Regulations on the Ombudsman.**

(Amendment 4)

*Rule 159(3)*

3. *They shall be forwarded for consideration to the committee responsible, which may ask to hear the nominees.*

3. **Nominations shall be forwarded to the committee responsible, which may ask to hear the nominees.**

**Such hearings shall be open to all Members.**

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FORMER TEXT

NEW TEXT

(Amendment 5)

*Rule 159(4)*

4. *The committee responsible shall submit its choice of candidate to Parliament for a vote.*

4. **A list of admissible nominations in alphabetical order shall then be submitted to the vote of Parliament.**

(Amendment 6)

*Rule 159(5)*

5. *Parliament shall place the vote on the agenda for the part-session following the submission of the proposal by the committee responsible.*

**Deleted**

(Amendment 7)

*Rule 159(6)*

6. *The vote shall be held by secret ballot on the basis of a majority of the votes cast.*

6. *The vote shall be held by secret ballot on the basis of a majority of the votes cast.*

**If no candidate is elected after the first two ballots, only the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the second ballot may continue to stand.**

**In the event of any tie the eldest candidate shall prevail.**

(Amendment 8)

*Rule 159(8)*

8. *Should the vote be negative, the President may either ask the committee responsible to submit another proposal or alternatively issue another call for nominations.*

**Deleted**

(Amendment 9)

*Annex VIII (new)***ANNEX VIII****Transitional provisions for election of the first Ombudsman**

**Nominations fulfilling the requirements laid down in the call for nominations for the office of Ombudsman, published on page 21 of OJ C 210 of 30 July 1994, shall automatically be considered, unless expressly renounced by the person concerned.**

**Such nominations shall comply with the provisions of Parliament's Rules of Procedure with regard to the number of Members required to support them and the conditions of such support.**

Tuesday, 16 May 1995

**Decision amending Rule 159 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure concerning appointment of the Ombudsman***The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the letter of 14 November 1994 from its President,
  - having regard to Rules 162 and 163 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities (A4-0085/94),
  - having regard to the second report of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities (A4-0024/95),
  - having regard to the third report of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities (A4-0094/95),
1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as indicated above, with immediate effect;
  2. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Council and Commission, for information.
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