

**Conference of European Parliamentarians  
Palace of Westminster  
London  
May 3-4, 1993**

**STATEMENT OF ACTION**

**GENERAL**

- 1) The Conference of European Parliamentarians agrees that measures must be taken urgently to safeguard the very existence of Tibet and to end its illegal occupation by China, which is the basis of all Tibet's problems.
- 2) The Conference totally rejects China's repeated assertions that 'Tibet is an integral part of the motherland', endorsing the conclusions of the Conference of International Lawyers held in London and the Strasbourg Permanent People's Tribunal, that Tibet prior to its occupation enjoyed independent status in International Law, a view expressed thirty years previously by the Legal Enquiry Committee of the International Commission of Jurists.
- 3) There should be powerful representations... authorities by National and European groups in respect of each of the action points endorsed by the Conference.
- 4) National and European Parliaments should urge their Governments' representatives to take effective action on behalf of Tibet at the UN Commission on Human Rights and other relevant international forums.
- 5) The Dalai Lama and the democratically elected Tibetan Government-in-Exile should be given the fullest international support and the opportunity to address the UN General Assembly, especially in recognition of the non-violent approach of the Tibetan people in expressing their desire for independence.
- 6) The Conference draws attention to Britain's unique relationship with Tibet reflected in various treaties prior to 1950, placing a particular responsibility on the British Government with regard to Tibet to persuade the Chinese Government to enter into negotiations in good faith with the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in Exile without any preconditions.

**TRADE**

- 7) While accepting that China should in no way be isolated in its international trade, National and European Parliamentary representations should urge that China's Most Favoured Nation economic status with the USA and its economically advantageous status with the European Community (the Trade Co-operation Agreement, GSP benefits, financial and technical co-operation etc.) be made conditional on the terms contained in Bill S. 806 currently before the US Senate introduced on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1993, which includes conditions both on Tibet and Hong Kong.
- 8) The use of forced labour by Chinese authorities, affecting many Tibetans, to gain a business advantage in world markets, is unacceptable.
- 9) Direct Parliamentary representations will be made to companies undertaking joint business ventures with China in Tibetan regions, requesting them to adopt the

Human Rights Business Ethics policies followed by, for example, the Royal Dutch Shell Company in China and the general principles embodied in the Tibetan Government-in-Exile's guidelines on aid and development.

#### ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AID

- 10) All economic and development aid to Tibet (including the programmes of the World Bank, the IMF, the World Food Programme and other international agencies) should be for the benefit of Tibetans, should not promote further population transfers of Chinese settlers and workers into Tibet and should refer to guidelines on aid and development in Tibet issued by the Tibetan Government-in-Exile.

#### CULTURE

- 11) The accelerating growth of Chinese settlers and workers, which threatens to reduce the Tibetan people to a minority, in their own country (as has already happened in Manchuria, Inner Mongolia and East Turkestan), must be halted. The current policy of enforced abortion on Tibetan women must cease forthwith.
- 12) The Conference deplores the massive destruction of Tibet's unique cultural heritage and urges that any restoration of that heritage should be in full consultation with local Tibetan people and the Tibetan Government-in-Exile, under the supervision of UNESCO

#### HUMAN RIGHTS

- 13) It is the disadvantage of the community of nations to allow China, soon to be a major economic power, to pursue unrestrained policies of oppression.
- 14) National and European Parliamentarians will call for the implementation of UN General Assembly Resolutions calling for the restoration of Tibet's Human Rights, including the right to self-determination; and for the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, and for the International Committee of the Red Cross (and other international Human Rights organizations) to be permitted to inspect prisons and other places of detention in Tibet.

#### ENVIRONMENT

- 15) The Conference expresses deep concern at the degradation of the Tibetan environment and the exploitation of its natural resources for the benefit of China alone, and condemns the siting within Tibet of nuclear installations, and calls on China to permit research by independent international organizations on the consequences of the continuing destruction of Tibetan's fragile eco-system.