

Brussels, 18 November 2002

## **ANTI-WAR APPEAL**

On 8 November 2002, the UN Security Council voted unanimously in support of Resolution 1441 on the disarmament of Iraq. It is now in the hands of Saddam Hussein, the weapons' inspectors and the members of the Security Council to prevent a war. We, European Parliamentarians, call on all sides and particularly on Tony Blair and Jacques Chirac as Members of the UN Security Council, to genuinely invest all their efforts to bring the Iraq crisis to a peaceful solution.

The lives and well being of millions of people is at stake. We are gravely concerned that a war with Iraq would have devastating social, economic and environmental consequences. It would further destabilise the region and could even lead to a full-scale regional war. It would contribute to heighten tension worldwide and foster international terrorism, under which the United States and Europe would be bound to suffer.

We are very concerned that any error or minor deviation from the rules laid down in resolution 1441 could be used as a pretext for war. We appeal to all the decision-makers concerned: take your responsibility seriously.

The United Nations is founded on the principle that "all members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means". We understand the feelings of vulnerability to outside threats motivating the policy of the United States after 11 September. However, no country, as powerful as it might be, should be allowed to set its own rules and have the monopoly of their interpretation. We firmly believe that the only reasonable hope to reduce the worldwide risks of conflict in the future remains an active policy of multilateral arbitration through democratic means, on the local, regional and international level.

We call on all Members of the UN and particularly on those voting in the UN Security Council to:

**STOP THE WAR ON IRAQ  
NEGOCIATE A GLOBAL PEACE PLAN FOR THE MIDDLE EAST  
PROMOTE FURTHER STEPS OF WORLDWIDE DISARMAMENT  
STRENGTHEN UN CAPACITIES FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND NON-VIOLENT  
CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**WE CALL FOR A PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO BE SENT TO IRAQ AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN MORAL SUPPORT FOR THE INSPECTION MISSION AND IN ORDER TO UNDERLINE OUR DESIRE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

### **Signatories of anti war in Iraq appeal**

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