



# EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



## **Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

At its extraordinary meeting of 7 June 2006 in Brussels, the Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights expressed its deep concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian, economic and financial situation in the Palestinian territories caused by the suspension of aid; the Committee calls for the continuation of this aid in its entirety. Provision of aid should be linked to the principles of transparency and democratic scrutiny.

At the same time, the Committee calls for the restitution of customs duties and taxes collected by Israel on behalf of the Palestinian Authority.

The Committee echoes the call made by the Quartet to the European Union for the rapid establishment of a temporary aid mechanism covering, without restriction, all aspects of Palestinians' daily life, including expenditure relating to the payment of salaries to administrative employees.

During this provisional period, which should be as brief as possible, any developments must be observed and all efforts made towards an effective resumption of genuine negotiations based on the Roadmap, which rejects unilateral plans of any kind.

The Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights is prepared to look at any initiative in order to make progress on the road to peace. The Committee proposes to send a delegation to the region to examine the current situation.