

Resolution
Congress of EPP- Women, Berlin 8 October 2004

- a. Noting that gender equality has not yet been achieved;
That gender mainstreaming as a tool to achieve gender equality at all levels and in all areas, until now not has met its goals.
- b. Concerned about the continuing impoverishment of women, meaning a huge injustice to women and their families.
- c. Aware that in realizing the Lisbon-agenda, women are not seen as a major contributing factor.
- d. Welcoming the new Directive as an important step reached by consensus, on 'implementing the principle of equal treatment between women and men in the access to and supply of goods and services'.
- e. Regretting that the consensus reached by the Council of Ministers, with regard to the compromise proposal on Article 4, leaves out the equal treatment of men and women in the area of insurances and pensions.
- f. Underlines the necessary compatibility of family and profession against the background of limited institutions for the care of children.
- g. Concerned that violence against women in various forms still is a major problem in the European Union and the accession countries.

EPP WOMEN:

1. *Asks for continued awareness-raising and gender sensitivity at all decision-making and executive levels of policy-making and legislation.*
2. *Urges the European Commission and the Member States to enforce their attempts to close the growing gap in the income, employment and social security areas between men and women and especially migrant women.
Thus, the contribution of women to the economy will be stronger, the participation of women in decision-making, in society and in politics will be more effective and the Lisbon-agenda is more likely to be achieved.*
3. *Calls for the removal of obstacles which generally cause difficulties for the professional activity by women*
4. *Requests the European Commission to scrutinize the reports of the member States on the application of the Directive on equal treatment, to report on a yearly basis on the effects and to support stakeholders in their opposition against the continuing of this unequal treatment.*
5. *Urges the European Commission to extend programmes on women, like the Dahpne Programme, and urges the Member States to reinforce their legislation and strictly enforce the existing laws on combating violence against women.*