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RESOLUTION OF THE 13th STANDING COMMITTEE
(Territory, Environment, Environmental Assets)

(Rapporteur: DELLA ZUANNA)

Approved at the meeting of 3 December 2013

CONCERNING

**THE PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)
No. 2012/2002 ESTABLISHING THE EUROPEAN UNION SOLIDARITY FUND
(COM (2013) 522 final)**

Pursuant to Article 144(1) and (6) of the Regulation

Submitted to the Office of the President on 5 December 2013

The Committee,

Having examined the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF) – (COM (2013) 522 final), pursuant to Article 144 of the Regulation;

Having concluded that the proposal for a Regulation is compatible with the principle of subsidiarity and the principle of proportionality, in that it is limited to what is strictly necessary in order to achieve the objectives set out in the current instrument,

Expresses a favourable opinion, subject to the following observations:

In order to qualify for financial support from the Cohesion Fund, the threshold for quantifying damage caused by major disasters, which has been fixed in absolute terms, at 3 billion euro, appears excessive, whereas it would be more reasonable to quantify such damage as a percentage (1.5%) of the gross domestic product of the affected region;

It would also be opportune to specify that the restoration to working order of water infrastructure and plant (to which reference is made in the proposed amendment to Article 3(2.a)) relates to plant for the supply of drinking water.