**More fathers should take parental leave to improve equality between men and women (FR/EN)**

**Original Script Date:** May 12, 2016

**Script Version:** 1

**Locations:** European Parliament, Strasbourg

**Dates Shot:** May 11, 2016; May 12, 2016

**Sound:** natural with English speech

**Duration:**  02:14

**Source:** S&D group

**Restriction:** none

**Intro**

*Strasbourg, 12th of May.* S&D Euro MP Marie Arena today won a majority in the European Parliament on a progressive proposal to extend the minimum duration of parental leave from four to six months and to extend it to parents with children over eight years old. Parental leave is defined as time off work after maternity/paternity leave which can be taken by both parents and entered into force in April 2010.

**This broadcast-quality package contains 2 b-roll videos. View package details:**

* Extracts of the plenary vote in the European Parliament, Strabourg
* Interview with **S&D MEP Maria Arena**, who drafted the EP resolution on parental leave (audio FR, English subtitles)
* Stock shots on parental leave

**Shotlist**

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (MAY 12, 2016) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

1. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF THE VOTE IN THE HEMICYCLE

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (MAY 11, 2016) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

1. MARIE ARENA (S&D MEP, BE) SAYING (FRENCH):

FR: “La plupart du temps, lorsqu’il y’a un congé parental, c’est à dire remplir des taches familiales, ce congé est pris par les femmes. Hors, cela génère des discriminations : des discriminations à l’emploi – l’employeur voit souvent une femme comme étant celle qui devra répondre à la charge familiale - et donc ça la discrimine. Mais cela discrimine aussi les hommes dans la mesure où ils ne peuvent pas prendre part à l’éducation de leurs enfants. Il y’a donc une vraie frustration aujourd’hui en Europe.”

EN: " Today in Europe, current parental leave rules reinforce traditional stereotypes. Most of the time, when there is parental leave taken to deal with family tasks, the leave is taken by women. This causes discrimination; job discrimination as the employer sees women as the ones who will have to respond to family constraints, but it also discriminates against men as they cannot take part in their children's education. This is causing real frustration in Europe today.”

1. CUTAWAY: MARIE ARENA IN HER OFFICE LOOKING AT HER IPAD AND TALKING WITH HER ASSISTANT
2. MARIE ARENA (S&D MEP, BE) SAYING (FRENCH):

FR: “Il faut que ce congé puisse être payé correctement, il faut que la durée soit une durée suffisante. Le congé parental ce n’est pas après la naissance, c’est jusqu’à un certain âge de l’enfance. Il est important de prendre en considération à la fois le temps que l’on peut y consacrer mais aussi jusqu’à quel âge on doit accompagner ses enfants.”

EN: " Parental leave has to be decently paid and it should be long enough, not only just after the birth, but up to a certain age of the child. It is important to take into consideration the amount of time but also how long each child needs to be with their parents.”

1. CUTAWAY: MARIE ARENA TALKING WITH HER ASSISTANT
2. MARIE ARENA (S&D MEP, BE) SAYING (FRENCH):

FR: “On doit traiter ensemble le congé maternité, le congé parental et ajouter un nouveau congé qui est celui de paternité. Il est difficile pour un homme d’assumer son rôle dans le congé parental si dès la naissance il n’a pas eu l’occasion d’être aux côtés de son bébé, très vite il est distancé de cette réalité là. Pour nous il est important que l’on ait également un congé de paternité.”

EN: " We need to handle maternity leave and parental leave together and add paternity leave. It is difficult for a man to play his part in parental leave if he did not have a chance to be by his baby side since he or she was born, as men are then very quickly distanced from the reality of the situation. Therefore, for us, paternity leave is very important.”

1. CUTAWAY: MARIE ARENA TALKING WITH HER ASSISTANT

**Story**

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