



CPMR Intermediterranean Commission

Summary of the main conclusions and decisions of the General Assembly

26-27 June 2014 – Venice (Veneto)

1. POLITICAL MESSAGES

After a debate among its members, the General Assembly of the Intermediterranean Commission approved and adopted:

- **the Final Declaration of Venice**
- The “**Road Map for macro-regional strategies in the Mediterranean**”

It also ratified:

- **The Ljubljana Declaration:** “*Responses to energy efficiency and renewable energy challenges in housing*”¹

Several political members of the IMC and the European Commission discussed about the Intermediterranean Commission proposals as on the specific perspectives for the EUSAIR, the EUSALP and the emerging strategies in the Med (see the [presentations of the speakers](#)). The debate was also enriched and deepened by the valuable contribution of representatives of several territorial cooperation programmes as ENPI CBC Med, MED, CBC Italy-France Maritime and Interact. The need for exchange, capitalization and synergies for the future definition of the MRs in the Mediterranean in this new programming period were thus underlined.

The Declaration of Venice and the Road map proposal will be sent to more than 2.000 contacts of the EU and local, regional and National Institutions. In particular, the Region Veneto will deliver the political documents to the “Italian Conference of the Regions and the Autonomous provinces” asking for their support *vis a vis* of the Italian State. Further meetings will be organized by the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission during the Italian semester in 2014, in synergy with key Med projects, actors and the Members States, in order to deepen the discussion, gather views, consensus and get the proposals and the strategy “from the theory to the action”.

2. INTERNAL ISSUES

The Intermediterranean Commission General Assembly approved:

- **The summary and main conclusions of the Plenary Meeting** of Saint Malo (25th of September 2013)
- **The financial documents** of the Intermediterranean Commission: 2013 accounts and the progress report on the budget for 2014.
- **The new membership of two Moroccan Regions: Garb-Charda-Beni-Hsen and Taza-Al Hoceima-Taounate.** Both regions formally requested to become members of the CPMR and of its Intermediterranean Commission. Their request was approved by the last Political Bureau of the CPMR (2/2014 Leiden) and then approved by the Intermediterranean Commission Political Bureau in Patras.

¹ Already approved by the Political Bureau of Patras in March 2014

The approval has been ratified by the General Assembly of the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission.

Based on the current contacts of the CPMR and the Intermediterranean Commission, some new authorities of different Euro-Med countries could request to become members of the CPMR and its IMC in 2014/2015.

• **The report of activities and results 2013-2014**

In addition, the Regions were informed of the prospects for implementing the action plan for 2014. In terms of the **calendar** the next meetings of the decision-making bodies of the Intermediterranean Commission will be:

- Plenary meeting of the Intermediterranean Commission in Umeå (Västerbotten, Sweden) – 24 September 2014
- Meeting of the Intermediterranean Commission Political Bureau in Marseille (Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France) – 10 December 2014

The first meeting will be held in the frame of the General Assembly of the CPMR (24-26 of September 2014). For the second meeting the hosting region and the Intermediterranean Commission Secretariat will study the possibility to organize the meeting "back to back" with a Capitalization seminar of the project COM&CAP MarInA-Med on Blue Energies in the Mediterranean as with a joint event with the Mediterranean Commission of UCLC and its Political Council about the Mediterranean contribution to the strategic reflection on the Sustainable Development Goals, the climate challenges and the agenda post 2015 (in view of the COP 21).

The Intermediterranean Commission's change of mandate will be made during the General Assembly in September 2014. The Intermediterranean Commission Secretariat has already sent – in May - to the Intermediterranean Commission members the request of candidacy. The deadline for receiving **candidatures** for the presidency as the lists of the members from each national component of the Intermediterranean Commission is the 24th of July 2014.

The rest of the relevant meetings, initiatives and event are included in the provisional calendar sent to the members of the IMC by the Secretariat and periodically updated on the Intermediterranean Commission website as on the Road Map for the Macro-Regional Strategies in the Mediterranean.

3. WORKING GROUPS OF THE IMC AND PROJECTS

The Intermediterranean Commission Working Groups are developing their tasks on the basis of the specific action plans that were approved during the 2013 General Assembly in Barcelona. The calendars and specific meetings for 2014 are being sent on an ad-hoc basis by the Intermediterranean Commission Secretariat in coordination with the Working Groups' leaders.

During the meeting of the General Assembly, the Regions were informed about the state of the art of the main activities of all the WGs (refer to the presentation of the Executive Secretary and the WGs leaders) as on its possible present and future concrete actions (policy documents, surveys, European projects, relations with external stakeholders).

Moreover, three short meetings of the groups Youth Policies, Territorial Cooperation and Macro-Regional strategies and Sustainable Tourism and Culture took place the 26th in the afternoon. The main documents of the working groups are available on the web site of the IMC: [Intermediterranean Commission Working Groups](#). More information will be given during the following months by the Working Groups leaders and the Intermediterranean Commission Secretariat.

In the frame of the General Assembly, some key projects were also presented, [COM&CAP MarInA-Med \(Med programme\)](#), [Vasco da Gama \(DG Move\)](#).

4. MED SPRING SESSION ON STI COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

With the support of the MedSpring project, the Med Regions debated for the first time with representatives of Med Partner Countries on the ways for strengthening the cooperation in the fields of science, technology, research and innovation (STI) in the basin.

After a presentation by the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission on the preliminary results of its first survey that gathered 32 experiences (projects and agreements) of 15 regions from 6 Med countries on several themes concerning STI, the audience underlined the need to explore how to better integrate the STI cooperation with the (south) Mediterranean countries in the Regional Cooperation Policies and Planning, and to better understand and define what is also expected from the south of the Mediterranean, especially when considering the expressed will of the countries for co-decision, co-ownership and co-funding of their STI activities with EU.

The content of the debates will be integrated in the final documents of the survey developed by CPMR and used for reflecting on the future perspectives of STI cooperation in the Med.