



Intermediterranean Commission of the CPMR ACTIVITY AND OUTCOME SUMMARY REPORT

(Report and outcomes for the period October 2012 - June 2014)

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I. MEETINGS OF THE INTERNAL BODIES OF THE IMC AND MAIN POLITICAL OUTCOMES

❖ **Plenary Meeting, Bialystok - October 2012**

Main political outcomes: election of the new presidency of IMC (Catalunya) and update of the Political Bureau list. Approval/support of: two resolutions on coastal and maritime and coastal tourism, the Adriatic- Ionian strategy¹).

❖ **Political Bureau, Florence – March 2013**

Main political outcomes: approval of the IMC action plan 2013-2014 and reshaping of the working groups, the political messages of Maremed, the guidelines for the working groups.

❖ **General Assembly, Barcelona – June 2013**

Main political outcomes: approval of a political declaration on the governance for the Mediterranean, the Bologna Charter; signature of an agreement with the Union for the Mediterranean, approval of the updated Action Plans of the IMC Working Groups, approval of the Arlem Ecoter Orientation Report on a “Cohesion Policy for the Mediterranean”.

❖ **Plenary Meeting, Saint Malo – September 2013**

Main political outcomes: approval of the general lines of the “Ljubljana Declaration: Answers to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies challenges In Mediterranean buildings”; participation in the definition of the draft final ARLEM Ecoter Report on a “Cohesion strategy for the Mediterranean”.

❖ **Meeting of the technical representatives of the Political Bureau, Barcelona – December 2013**

Main agenda: debate and preparation of the next Political Bureau and General Assembly

❖ **Political Bureau, Patras and international seminar on Integrated Maritime Policies – March 2014**

Main political outcomes: approval of the Declaration of Patras, the “Ljubljana Declaration” and the “Draft road map for macro-regional strategies in the Med”; endorsement of the ARLEM final report on a “Cohesion Policy for the Mediterranean”; debate on the investments to foster the Blue Growth in the maritime sector and the Integrated Maritime Policies.

❖ **General Assembly, Venice – June 2014**

Main political expected outcomes: approval of the Declaration of Venice, ratification of the “Ljubljana Declaration”, approval of the updated version of the “Draft road map for macro-regional strategies in the Med”; debate on Science, Cooperation and Technology (STI) cooperation in the Mediterranean.

II. INTERNAL COORDINATION WITH CPMR

Participation of the Presidency and the Secretariat in the following CPMR meetings:

❖ **Political Bureau CPMR, Alexandropolis – March 2013** (Coordination by the IMC Presidency of the IMC of the session on Macro Regions and presentation of the IMC Draft action plan)

❖ **Task force Macro Regions, Bruxelles – April 2013** (Coordination by the IMC Presidency)

❖ **Political Bureau CRPM Malmo – June 2013** (Coordination by the IMC presidency of the IMC of the session on macroregions and contribution to the CPMR policy paper on MRs)

❖ **General Assembly Saint Malo – September 2013** (Participation and coordination with Intergroups and other Geographical Commissions)

¹ Proposal of the Balkans and Black Sea Commission.

- ❖ **Political Bureau Leiden – February 2014** (Participation and coordination with Intergroups and other Geographical Commissions)
- ❖ **Intergroup Transport Bruxelles - February 2014**
- ❖ **Political Bureau Inverness – June 2014** (Participation and coordination with Intergroups and other Geographical Commissions, IMC Presidency involved in the session on Macro-Regional strategies)
- ❖ **Steady and consistent coordination** between the IMC Presidency, the Executive Secretary, the CPMR General Secretary and the Directors of the CPMR Secretariat (meetings, email-video-conferences, participation of the Executive Secretary to the CPMR extended management committees etc.)

III. ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING GROUPS

- ❖ **Contribution** of the IMC members, especially the leaders of the working groups, **to the elaboration of the IMC Action Plan for 2013-2014.**
- ❖ **Sum up of the outcomes of the WG activities in 2011-2012 for the Political Bureau of Florence and drawing of new perspectives** of work for the future.
- ❖ **Update of the working groups, of the coordinators and creation of a new one:**
 - a. Territorial Cooperation and Macroeconomic Strategies – Generalitat de Catalunya
 - b. Water – Generalitat Valenciana
 - c. Transport - Murcia
 - d. Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)- PACA
 - e. Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency (REEE) - Sardegna
 - f. Sustainable Tourism and Culture – East Macedonia and Thrace
 - g. Youth Policies – Toscana (new group)
- ❖ **Update of the action plans of each group and monitoring** with the support of the IMC Secretariat:
 - Adaptation of the plans to the IMC guidelines (task and finish approach) approved in Florence, definition of the new lobbying and project actions, survey on new contacts and expertise to capitalize etc...
- ❖ **Meetings, seminars and works** (debates, surveys, projects), with the participation of the IMC Secretariat, IMC members, and external stakeholders²:
 - **Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) Group**
 - Maremed International seminar in the European Parliament, Bruxelles – March 2013
 - Seminar on marine data with the EC, Brussels – March 2013
 - International Workshop on Climate Change, Gaeta – April 2013
 - Maremed Final Steering Group meeting, Arles – May 2013
 - Coast Gap kick-off Meeting, Ferrara – September 2013
 - Launch of the Bologna Charter Coordination Board and IMP Group, Bologna – February 2014
 - IMP meeting with the CE on the Bologna Charter, Bruxelles – May 2014
 - Bologna Charter Coordination Board and IMP Group (COASTGAP-MEDSANDCOAST event) – June 2014

² Examples, non exhaustive

➤ REEE Group

- Steering committee and International seminar ENERMED Project, Cagliari – May 2013
- 1st meeting of the renewed working group, Cagliari – May 2013
- Joint Capitalization meeting “Energy Efficiency in buildings: ELIH-Med – MARIE – PROFORBIOMED, Ljubljana- September 2013
- Capitalisation event Proforbiomed- MARIE- ELIH-Med and REEE Group, Valencia – November 2013
- International Conference MARIE and Capitalisation event on a multilevel governance model on REEE in the Mediterranean and REEE Group, Malta – March 2014

➤ Territorial Cooperation and Macroregional Strategies

- Meeting of the group in Barcelona, December 2013
- Coordination works on the Med Macro-Regions and new ETC projects, December – June 2014

➤ Transport Group

- Meeting of the group in Murcia, January 2014
- Coordination works on the Med Corridor, February – June 2014

➤ Meetings of all the IMC renewed Working Groups in the frame of the General Assembly of the IMC, Barcelona – June 2013.

➤ Forthcoming meetings in Venice of the WGs: Tourism and Culture, Youth policies and Territorial Cooperation and Macro-Regional Strategies

➤ Other meetings related with the WG’s Activities where the IMC has participated:

- OPEN DAYS (several seminars) – October 2013
- OTREMED (Observatory Network for the Competitiveness of the Mediterranean) project final Forum, Rome - July 2013.
- MEDSANDCOAST (Enpi CBC Med project) launch conference, Rome – April 2014

❖ Coordination of the WG leaders with the IMC Secretariat and dissemination of the information to the members.

IV. EU PROJECTS

❖ Participation in the projects where the CPMR has a specific role (partner/associate) and capitalisation activity: Maremed and others projects already concluded, ELIH-Med and Coastgap (MED Programme), Med Spring (FP7).

❖ Submission, approval and kick-off of new projects: COM&CAP MarInA-Med (Med programme)

❖ Development of new projects: ARLEM Capacity building project on urban-territorial integrated development

❖ Support of pilot initiatives: MIPEX-R (Integration policies at local level)

V. INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS AND LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

❖ Bilateral contact of the Presidency and the Secretariat with:

- Potential new members of the IMC (several contacts. New members confirmed in 2014: Veneto, Gharb-Chrada, Taza Al Hoceima) and old members rejoining the IMC CPMR.
- Current members of the IMC.
- External partners: Arco Latino, Euro-Region Pireneos-Mediterraneo, Com Med CGLU, ARLEM, UPM, Med Solution Network (SDIMED – Unep), Plan Bleu, EU Topic Centre for Territorial analysis etc ...

❖ Ad hoc meetings with IMC members and external partners³:

- Meeting between the Presidents and the vice-presidents of: Toscana – Catalunya – PACA, in the frame of the III FALR Forum in Marseille – April 2013
- Bilateral meeting on the IMC internal coordination between Catalunya (IMC Presidency) – Languedoc Roussillon (1st Vice-Presidency). Barcelona – April 2013
- Bilateral meeting between the IMC Presidency – Union for the Mediterranean General Secretary (in the frame of the ARLEM enlarged Political Bureau) – Barcelona, May 2013
- Bilateral IMC Presidency - President of the Committee of the Regions, Arlem, and Presidency of Murcia (in the frame of the ARLEM enlarged Political Bureau). Barcelona, May 2013
- Bilateral IMC Presidency – President of the Rabat Region. Rabat, May 2013
- Meeting at technical level between Catalunya – Toscana – Union for the Mediterranean on the Fund of Guarantee initiative. Barcelona - June 2013
- Bilateral technical meetings of the Executive Secretary with IMC members: Tuscany (meeting with the RI Department and presidency); PACA (meeting with the Bruxelles Office); Puglia (meeting with the Bruxelles Office), Sardinia (meeting with several departments and presidency), Catalonia (meeting with several departments, agency for development cooperation and presidency), Lazio (meeting with several departments), Emilia Romagna (meeting with several departments), etc. February 2013 – June 2014
- Meetings with political representatives of Arco Latino. Rabat, October 2013
- Meeting with the governor of Monastir. Rabat, October 2013
- Meeting with the president of Taza Al Hoceima Taounate, October 2013 and Tangier, February 2014
- Meeting of the IMC Presidency and Secretary with representatives of the Italian representation in Brussels – April 2014

❖ Exploratory meetings of the Executive Secretary, in coordination with the CPMR General Secretariat, with:

- EU Commission (DG Devco and DG Regio, Mare), CDR and ARLEM Secretariat, EU Parliament (promotion of the IMC macroregional approach and search of synergies concerning the future implementation of the IMC action plan). Bruxelles - February 2013 – June 2014
- Participation in Task force of the Programme Med (presentation of suggestions for the new programming period according to the IMC action plan). Bruxelles - May 2013

3 Non exhaustive list

- Bilateral meeting with the managing authority of the ENPI CBC Programme (presentation of suggestions for the new programming period according to the IMC action plan). Cagliari – May 2013
- ❖ **Active participation of the Presidency and the Secretariat in the activities of the CPMR External partners** (examples, among others):
 - **ARLEM**
 - Participation of the Presidency to the ARLEM Plenary meeting. Bruxelles – February 2013 and designation of Joana Ortega, VP of the Region Catalonia, IMC Presidency, as rapporteur of the ECOTER Commission for a report on the “Cohesion Policy in the Mediterranean”.
 - Bilateral meetings at technical level with the ARLEM Secretariat for the elaboration of the report and the possible participation of the IMC in the ARLEM Capacity building project for LRAs in the Mediterranean. February - May 2013.
 - Elaboration of the “orientation document” for the final report with IEMED Institute and sharing with ARLEM Secretariat, PB and IMC Members. May 2013
 - Presentation of the “orientation document” by IMC Presidency to the extended ARLEM Political Bureau. Barcelona, May 2013.
 - Preparation of the draft final report and organization of the debate during the IMC GA – June - July 2013 and the IMC Plenary in Saint Malo, September 2013.
 - Discussion of the report in the ECOTER Commission. Rabat, October 2013. Production and diffusion of the last version of the report.
 - Approval of the ECOTER report in the ARLEM Plenary 2014. Participation in the Plenary (selection of the new themes for the ARLEM commissions etc.) and the meeting on the capacity building project
 - Participation in the coordination group for the drafting of the ARLEM project on capacity building (February-April 2014)
 - **MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION UCLG**
 - Participation of the Executive Secretary in the Med Commission meeting in Istanbul (preparation of the III FALR), February 2013.
 - Contribution to the report of the Forum of Local and Regional Authorities of the Mediterranean (FALR) on the democratic governance in the Mediterranean. March 2013.
 - Contribution to the FALR Final Declaration on the Democratic Governance in the Mediterranean. March-April 2013.
 - Participation of the Presidency and the ES in the FALR. Marseille, April 2013.
 - Organization of a joint workshop within the FALR, with the CCRE on the “Development Agenda post 2015, the future Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda for the Effective Cooperation in the Mediterranean”. Marseille, April 2013.
 - Participation of the Presidency in the first inaugural meeting of the new Political Council of the Mediterranean Commission of the UCLG. Marseille, April 2013.
 - Participation of the Presidency in the second meeting of the new Political Council of the Mediterranean Commission of the UCLG. Rabat, October 2013.
 - Contribution and support to the charter on democratic governance.
 - Renewal of the membership to the MED Commission and the Political Council.
 - Steady coordination between the IMC Secretariat and the UCLG Med Commission Secretariat. February – June 2014.
 - **ARCO LATINO**
 - Several coordination meetings for EU Lobbying on themes of mutual interest and joint projects – February 2013- June 2014

- ESPON

- Participation of the Executive Secretary to the Seminar “Stepping into the SEA”. May 2013

- PLATFORMA

Monitoring and participation in the activities of the network in coordination with the CPMR General Secretariat:

- Forum Platforma. Bruxelles - March 2013,
- Assises of the Decentralized Cooperation. Bruxelles - April 2013
- EU Policy Forum on Development. Bruxelles, June 2013
- Monitoring and participation in the new phase of Platforma (Strategic Partnership, Political Council..) February 2013 – June 2014 (e.g. meeting with Angelo Baglio in Rabat, October 2013; meeting with the new coordinator of Platforma in January 2014 etc.)

- UNEP

- Participation of the Executive Secretary to the launching event of the UN Med Solution Network. Siena, July 2013.
- Participation in the consultation for the new Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy, April 2014.

- MED PROGRAMME

- Participation in the annual event of the programme in Lisbon, October 2013
- Participation in the consultation for the new Operational Programme, October 2013
- Coordination with the Joint Technical Secretariat on activities of mutual interest. 2013-2014

- IPA ADRIATIC PROGRAMME

- Exchange of information on the present and future strategic projects

- UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

- Several coordination meetings at political level and signature of a MoU, June 2013
- Seminar on Youth Mobility in the Med, November 2013
- Coordination meetings on Energy, November 2013 -March 2014 and exchange of information

- WCO – World Ocean Council

- Coordination meetings, July-September 2013

- SOLARTIS-SECARTIS

- Coordination meetings on Energy, March-April 2013

- IESMED

- Coordination meetings on social productive economy, December 2013

- TCI – World cluster innovation network

- Coordination meetings, January 2014

VI. ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

- Support of the Secretariat to the organization of the General Assemblies, Political Bureau and Working group meetings – October 2012/June 2014
- Update of the web site and dissemination of ad hoc information to the members – October 2012/June 2014

- Dissemination of the Political messages of the Association (Maremed Political Messages, Political Declaration of Barcelona, Patras etc). – April, July, September 2013; April 2014
- Support to the networking among the members - October 2012/June 2014
- Specific participation in the CPMR Communication activities (diffusion of press release, news to include in the CPMR newsletter etc).

VII. SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE INTERMEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION IN 2013-2014 AND PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

Main achievements:

- **Boosting the activities of the Intermediterranean Commission and its Working Groups** (capitalisation/follow up of lobbying activities and European projects, presentation and development of new initiatives etc):
- **Creation of high level forums for political debate on issues of crucial interest for the Mediterranean regions (Political Bureau, General Assemblies, ad hoc/back to back seminars), and production, endorsement, support and dissemination of several policy and programming documents** (IMC Action, Political declarations of Barcelona, Patras, Venice, Arlem report, Maremed political messages, Ljubljana Declaration, Bologna Charter, FARL declaration, Charter COM Med CGLU etc.)
- **Designation of the Intermediterranean Commission Presidency as:** Member of the Political Council of the Mediterranean Commission of CGLU; Rapporteur for the ARLEM ECOTER Commission on a cohesion strategy for the Mediterranean; Coordinator of the CPMR's Macro Regions task force
- **Fostering the relations with key external actors of the Euromediterranean area including ARLEM, the Union for the Mediterranean (through a Memorandum of Understandings), the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions, specific external partners (Arco Latino, Euroregion Pyrenées Méditerranée, Adriatic-Ionian Euro Region, CGLU, Plan Bleu, Med Solutions, Med Cities, and other networks), the European cooperation programmes (MED, ENPI, IPA...)**
- **Establishing the bases for:** the adaptation of the macroregional approach to the Mediterranean (Road Map for Macro-regional strategies), the future set up of specific pilot and strategic project, the enlargement of the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission partnership in the north, the south and the east of the Mediterranean (Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, Balkans, Turkey etc...)

Main priorities for the future:

The Intermediterranean Commission will continue its efforts for implementing and accomplishing the objectives set out in the framework of its Action Plan and its Working Groups, mainly through:

- **Follow-up of the main political messages approved during the two years of mandate and periodical update.**
- **Concrete European cooperation projects:** capitalisation on completed European projects (e.g. Maremed, Otremed), implementation of European projects already running (COM&CAP MarInA-Med, Elihmed, Medspring, Coast gap), drafting and presentation of new projects under European programmes of interest (Med, Enpi Cbc Med, Adriatic-Ionian Programme, Horizon 2020, CsO&LA, Interreg Europe, Union for the Mediterranean etc.).
- **Fostering the relations with the European Institutions and external Euromediterranean stakeholders** (implementing previous cooperation agreements, setting up the bases for new ones, organising joint events, initiatives, drafting common projects etc...)
- **Improving the communications strategy and consolidating the membership of the Intermediterranean Commission** through specific contacts with new potential members and the organisation of specific missions and seminars in these territories.