



*Deputy President of the National
Assembly*

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Marseille, July 22, 2014

Mr. Davide Strangis
Executive Secretary
of the Inter-Mediterranean
Commission of the Conference of
Peripheral Maritime Regions of
Europe
6 rue Saint-Martin
35700 RENNES

Mr. Executive Secretary and dear friend,

In response to the call for applications for the 2014-2016 Presidency of the Inter-Mediterranean Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR IMC) that you sent me in a letter dated May 16, I have the honour of presenting you with my candidacy.

Please find attached my program in support of this application as well as my resume. I would be grateful if you could send these to all member regions of the IMC, in accordance with the rules thereof.

Yours sincerely,

Former Minister
Michel VAUZELLE

Documents attached: -
Candidacy Program -
Curriculum vitae

Région



Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

**Candidacy for the presidency of the Intermediterranean
Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (IMC CPMR)
"With the Mediterranean Youth, let's master and shape our common destiny"**

"The Mediterranean issue" requires true responsibility of Europe, with the peoples of the Mediterranean. This geographical area, despite the crises and conflicts is increasingly interdependent. Indeed, Europeans are not only the neighbours of the Maghreb or and the eastern Mediterranean, they live in cohabitation with them, like a family half of whom live on the south shore and the other on the north shore . We have a duty to remove any notion of rejection of the other, of xenophobia, racism and fundamentalism.

Mediterranean Youth is the best watchword. It represents hope for young Mediterranean people who have often lost it. Each of our countries, each of our regions must be able to work together with the others to imagine, construct and manage a great common policy, coordinated with all European and national policies on shared objectives.

It is in this spirit and in the framework of the dynamics created by the previous presidency, brilliantly assumed by the Generalitat de Catalunya, in which I present the candidacy for the Presidency of the IMC in my capacity as President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, in close cooperation with the Languedoc-Roussillon region, who is already committed to the outgoing bureau of the IMC with its role as first vice-president. Both regions are deeply linked to the Mediterranean, simply because of their geopolitical situation but also by the strength of the relationships that link them to Mediterranean countries. The Mediterranean is not just a priority area for international cooperation for them but is also a land that is part of their history, their very identity and harmonious common development.

This candidacy, which echoes the parliamentary report on Mediterranean Projects asked of me in 2013 by the President of the French Republic, is based on the following main pillars:

1- Encourage the emergence of a macro-regional strategy in the Mediterranean area

Our work must first be part of a thinking process considering the issues of the Mediterranean basin to counter its weaknesses and to encourage its potential. Until now, the Mediterranean has seldom been thought of as an entity in itself, a coherent whole. However, there is real synergy, not just economic, between the North and the South of the sea. It is by the development of ties between the two shores that we can build a sustainable and united space for growth.

This development of ties requires real commitment of the European Union. The process of developing a macro-regional strategy in the Mediterranean, a project fully supported by the outgoing President of the IMC, has the advantage of an extensive consultation base that combines local authorities, socio-economic actors and civil society organisations. It also serves to put the Mediterranean priority back at the top of the European agenda. The Mediterranean Macro-regional strategy will create a major plan of action to identify large scale operations that meet the real needs of our territories. The launch of the Adriatico-Ionian strategy is an important first step that should be complemented by similar efforts in the Western and Eastern Mediterranean.

IMC, in this respect, must work closely with the various bodies and networks concerned with the Mediterranean: Union for the Mediterranean, 5 +5 Dialogue, ARLEM, APM, the COPPEM, Arc Latin, the Euro-regions, the UCLG Med Commission etc. There must also be a mobilisation of operators and donors around the thematic projects of the working groups, including engineering and funding essential to the realisation of our projects.

At the global level, a collective position must be adopted, for example, within the framework of the COP 21, dealing with climate and environmental challenges facing Mediterranean territories.

2- Meet the challenges of the Mediterranean basin by developing a Mediterranean of projects

Their proximity, their knowledge of the needs and challenges of their territory and their citizens, make regions the key actors to ensure the construction of a united space of exchanges promoting the development of the

Mediterranean and its inhabitants . The IMC must work on projects that have an immediate political and popular effect in our Mediterranean regions, through its working groups, and to create a new one focussed on the economy, which could be led by the Languedoc-Roussillon region.

As part of this interregional cooperation, certain priority issues should be considered:

1. Socio-economic development promoting employment, especially for young people;
2. Education and training, especially for the young people in each of our regions;
3. Accessibility, and relations between territories;
4. Sustainable development because the effects of climate change and population pressure on water resources affects us all.

Moreover, it is essential that the IMC can take a stand on different tenders in the framework of the European Union MED program, of which the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur is the managing authority, but also the ENPI program, whose managing authority is Sardinia, particularly on issues collectively considered as a priority.

Beyond that, it will be necessary for the Mediterranean regions to mobilise within the CPMR to defend their specificities in the context of the preparation of the next post 2020 budget framework, particularly on major issues such as the policy of economic, social and territorial coherence, TEN-T, the future of the common agricultural policy and the policy of R & D and innovation. EU budget negotiation cycles always anticipate these durations and these issues are of paramount importance in this area that is significantly affected by the economic and financial crisis.

3- Engage partners of the Southern Mediterranean

So that there is a unique voice and response to common challenges in the Mediterranean, the participation of communities in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean is essential: the European and global legitimacy and recognition of our network requires enhanced cooperation between the three shores of the Mediterranean. The involvement of partners in the South of the Mediterranean is also essential to ensure that development policies are appropriate to the needs and aspirations of these countries.

In this regard, I welcome the work of the Presidency of Catalonia, which attracted several regions of the southern Mediterranean to become members of the IMC, and I am certain that our network shall continue to develop.

4- Favoriser l'émergence d'une citoyenneté méditerranéenne.

Following the Arab Spring, civil society has been mobilised to share its commitment to democracy and to freedom of expression. The IMC must sustain this momentum by encouraging the active participation of young Mediterranean people in the action of civil society but also in politics.

Support for the assertion of a Mediterranean citizenship must drive us to promote the Mediterranean identity, essential to help build a sustainable space of peace, development, solidarity and shared prosperity.

Mediterranean media including citizen journalism are powerful, innovative and even alternative tools for a free and united expression. The IMC must support them.

The reconciliation of the Mediterranean peoples is a struggle for which my political commitment has never wavered. Today, as President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, Vice-President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly and soon, I would hope, as President of the IMC, I intend to devote all my efforts to make the Mediterranean a priority at national, European and global levels.

Should I be elected as president, I will strive to ensure that the IMC continues to operate in a collegial manner, promoting the expression of all and aiding the most dynamic regions to provide their expertise for the benefit of all.

The biography of Michel VAUZELLE



Michel VAUZELLE was born on August 15, 1944 in Montelimar, in the Drôme department. His parents were from Provence. He married Sylvie FAUVET and is the father of three children: Marie, Sebastien and Romain.

He completed his secondary education at St. Joseph's college in Lyon and then continued his education in Paris with a law degree, followed by a diploma from the Institute of Political Science.

Lawyer at the Paris Bar, in 1967, he became first Secretary of the Paris Conference of Attorneys.

From 1969 to 1972 he was Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, Mr Jacques Chaban-Delmas.

In 1972 and 1973 he was a member of the Finance Section of the Economic and Social Council. In 1976, he joined the Socialist Party in Arles (Bouches-du-Rhône).

In 1977, he was elected city councillor of Arles and re-elected in 1983, 1989 and 1995, when he became Mayor of Arles.

From 1978 to 1981 he was national delegate of the Socialist Party for Justice and Freedom.

In 1981, he was appointed deputy director of the Cabinet of François Mitterrand, then candidate for the Presidency of the Republic.

From 1981 to 1986, he was spokesman for the President of the Republic, François Mitterrand.

From 1982 to 1986, he was President of the National School of Photography in Arles of which he is among the founders.

On March 16, 1986, he was elected Socialist deputy of the Bouches-du-Rhône and was re-elected June 12, 1988.

In 1989, he was elected President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly. At the request of François Mitterrand, he went on a last chance a mission to visit Mr. Saddam Hussein, just before the outbreak of the Gulf War. He went to Moscow during the coup in 1991 to meet Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Yeltsin.

In 1992 and 1993, he was Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice and in particular led the reform of the Criminal Procedure Code.

In 1992, he was elected General City Councillor of Arles and Vice-President to the General Council of the Bouches-du-Rhône.

In June 1995, he was elected Mayor of Arles.

During the legislative elections of 1997, he was elected MP for the 16th district of Bouches-du-Rhône. He is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly and President of the French group of the Inter-parliamentary Union.

In March 1998, he was elected President of the Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur. According to the draft law prohibiting multiple mandates, he resigned his office as Mayor.

From 1998 to 2004 he was President of the Camargue Regional Natural Park. He is President of the Canal de Provence Society, the Regional Health Observatory and Regional Public Property Body.

From 2006 to 2011, he was President of the Mediterranean Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe.

Since 2007, he has been Co-President of the Mediterranean Commission of the UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments).

Since November 2006, he is President of the National Monitoring Committee for Decentralised Franco-Brazilian Cooperation.

He was Vice-President of the Regional and Local Euro-Mediterranean Assembly (ARLEM) from 2010 to 2012 and is still the Co-President of the SUDEV Commission (Sustainable Development).

He was re-elected President of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region in 2004 and 2010.

On his initiative, the Region built the *Villa Méditerranée*, inaugurated in 2013 and is Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In the parliamentary elections of June 2007, he was elected MP for the sixteenth constituency of the Bouches-du-Rhône and re-elected in June 2012.

In January 2008, he was elected first president of the Alps-Mediterranean Euroregion (composed of the Piedmont, Liguria, Valle d'Aosta, Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur regions).

In 2010, he chaired the United Regions Organisation - FOGAR, of which he was one of the founders. Since 2012, he is the Vice-President.

In 2010 and 2012, he was elected Vice-President of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly and President of the France-Mexico friendship group.

Since October 2012, he is Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean.

In 2013, President François Hollande appointed him a member of the Franco-Mexican Strategic Council.

In 2013, he submitted to President François Hollande, upon his request, a parliamentary report on Mediterranean projects.