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# REPORT

on the Union for the Mediterranean  
(2009/2215(INI))

Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

### on the Union for the Mediterranean (2009/2215(INI))

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Barcelona Declaration adopted at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Barcelona on 27 and 28 November 1995, establishing a Euro-Mediterranean partnership,
- having regard to the Commission Communication to the European Parliament and the Council entitled ‘Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean’ (COM(2008)0319),
- having regard to the approval of the ‘Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean’ by the Brussels European Council of 13 and 14 March 2008,
- having regard to the Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, held in Paris on 13 July 2008,
- having regard to the final statement issued at the meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Union for the Mediterranean, held in Marseille on 3 and 4 November 2008,
- having regard to the statements issued by the Bureau of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA) at its meetings in Paris (12 July 2008), Cairo (22 November 2009) and Rabat (22 January 2010),
- having regard to the conclusions of the inaugural meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM), held in Barcelona on 21 January 2010,
- having regard to the final declaration of the Euro-Mediterranean Summit of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions, held in Alexandria on 19 October 2009,
- having regard to its previous resolutions on the European Union’s Mediterranean policy, in particular those of 15 March 2007<sup>1</sup> and 5 June 2008<sup>2</sup>, and its resolution of 19 February 2009 entitled ‘The Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean’<sup>3</sup>,
- having regard to the conclusions of the Second Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society, held in Marrakesh on 11 and 12 November 2009;
- having regard to its resolution of 15 November 2007 on strengthening the European Neighbourhood Policy<sup>4</sup>,
- having regard to the recommendations adopted by the committees of the EMPA at its

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 301 E, 13.12.2007, p. 210.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 285 E, 26.11.2009, p. 39.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 76, 25.3.2010, p. 76.

<sup>4</sup> OJ C 282 E, 6.11.2008, p. 443.

sixth plenary session, held in Amman on 13 and 14 March 2010,

- having regard to the recommendation of the EMPA adopted on 13 October 2008 in Jordan and forwarded to the First Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean, held in Marseille,
  - having regard to the statute of the secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean adopted on 3 March 2010,
  - having regard to Rule 48 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the opinions of the Committee on International Trade and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (A7-0133/2010),
- A. whereas the Mediterranean basin is an area of key importance for the EU and, in a multipolar and interdependent world, large regional integrations will be better positioned to play a leading role and to cope with social, cultural, economic, environmental demographic, political and security-related challenges,
- B. whereas the European Union must adopt a strategic view that takes into account all these challenges in its relations with its southern neighbours, giving priority to the social, economic and democratic development of the region,
- C. whereas, in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty on European Union, the Union shall develop a special relationship with neighbouring countries, aiming to establish an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness, founded on the values of the Union and characterised by close and peaceful relations based on cooperation,
- D. whereas the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) is a means of further strengthening the regional and multilateral dimension of Euro-Mediterranean relations, revitalising prospects for the establishment of an area of peace, security and prosperity for 800 million people, and offers the ideal framework for addressing the social and economic challenges, promoting regional integration and guaranteeing the co-development of the partner states,
- E. whereas the neighbourhood policy, by placing the emphasis on the deepening of differentiated bilateral relations, is unable, in itself, to contribute to a shared process of integration and significant reform in the region; having regard to the opportunity offered by the establishment of the UfM to strengthen complementarity between bilateral policies on the one hand and regional policies on the other, in order to achieve more effectively the goals of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, based on the mutual recognition of common values such as democracy, rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights; whereas Member States should be urged to commit themselves to implementing the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENO) in a coherent and credible manner in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty on European Union,
- F. having regard to the need to build on the achievements of the Barcelona Process, the goals and achievements of which must be reinforced by the UfM in accordance with the Paris Declaration of 13 July 2008, and to refrain from duplicating or overlapping existing

political instruments or institutional levels in order to ensure that the numerous instruments for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation are effective and consistent,

- G. whereas, for the last 15 years or so, Mediterranean countries have been rapidly developing new trading and economic relations (for example with Russia, China, Brazil and the Gulf states) and their societies have been undergoing substantial changes (in terms of consumption patterns, mobility, demographic transitions and so on) with implications for internal – in particular territorial – balances,
- H. whereas limited cultural exchanges cannot, by themselves, bring the peoples of the Mediterranean closer together; whereas Europe is gradually losing its cultural significance among its Mediterranean partners,
- I. having regard to the significant growing disparities between European Union Member States and Mediterranean third countries and the worrying structural problems of a socio-economic and institutional nature, which call for strong common responses in the shared interest of all the states participating in the UfM; whereas the potential for economic growth of the Mediterranean third countries encourages this view; having regard to the need for an improved South-South regional integration,
- J. whereas the regional context in which the UfM is taking shape continues to be characterised by conflicts and political tensions, which have undermined and slowed down its establishment since the Paris Summit of July 2008; whereas the Middle East Peace Process has come to a standstill,
- K. whereas the effects of the economic and financial crisis have come on top of the already existing political, economic and social challenges in the partner countries, particularly in relation to the problem of unemployment; whereas it is in the common interest of these countries and the EU to bring down unemployment rates in the region and to offer its people, particularly women, young people and the rural population, hope for the future,
- L. whereas the resumption of the peace process in the Middle East and the concrete prospects of a lasting comprehensive solution are of the utmost importance for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean relations and the functioning and the implementation of the projects of the UfM,
- M. whereas the UfM's two major innovations, namely its institutional set-up (co-presidency, joint permanent committee and secretariat) and operational focus (integration projects), must function effectively and transparently so that they improve the standard of living of citizens, who are the main beneficiaries of this project,
- N. whereas the UfM's secretariat needs to become the structure's linchpin, whereas its effectiveness will depend on the ability of its staff to work independently and whereas the presence of a senior Israeli official and a senior Palestinian official cooperating within an international organisation at regional level is unprecedented and gives grounds for hope,
- O. whereas Mediterranean regions are directly affected by transnational issues such as sustainable development, security of energy supply, migration flows, cultural exchange and tourism and also have to face transnational difficulties such as water management and

access to water, pollution and the development of transport networks; whereas, therefore, local and regional authorities play a key role in facilitating the development of sustainable spatial planning policies that are appropriate to local characteristics and the implementation of practical and inclusive projects,

- P. having regard to the major issue of agriculture in Mediterranean countries, by dint of its socio-economic influence, its effects on the environment and its implications in terms of territorial balance,
  - Q. whereas 60% of the world population with little water is concentrated in the southern part of the Mediterranean region and in the Middle East and whereas, by 2025, 63 million people could, according to UNDP reports on the Arab world and the Blue Plan, be affected by water shortages,
  - R. recalls the decision taken by the Ministerial Conference for the UfM of 4 November 2008 in Marseilles to reduce the digital divide between the two shores of the Mediterranean which resulted in the BB-MED (broadband for the Mediterranean) proposal,
  - S. whereas, since the Paris Summit, the projects announced by the UfM have so far been suffering from general underfunding, which risks delaying their implementation,
  - T. having regard to the importance of migration flows and the various challenges they create on both sides of the Mediterranean in human, social, cultural and economic terms,
  - U. having regard to the crucial importance of the capital flows represented by the funds migrants send to people of countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean,
  - V. having regard to the recent entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty and the institutional changes it has produced, on the one hand, and the ongoing debate about the operation and financing of the UfM, on the other, which make it essential for the European Parliament to monitor developments connected with the UfM as closely as possible in order to help ensure the outright success of the Barcelona Summit,
1. Calls on the heads of state and government within the UfM, who will meet in Barcelona on 7 June 2010, to do their utmost – after two difficult years – to make this meeting a success, with a view to setting up the UfM’s institutions, implementing major projects and making progress on all the components of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation;
  2. Remains concerned by the absence of a clear definition of the EU’s Mediterranean policy or of a long-term strategic vision for the development and stabilisation of the region, despite the creation of the UfM; calls for the Euro-Mediterranean integration process to become a political priority for the EU once more;
  3. Calls on the governments of the UfM member countries to deeply revise and step up political dialogue; emphasises that mutual respect and understanding are essential elements of that dialogue and reaffirms that the promotion of and respect for democracy, the rule of law and human rights, be they civil, political, economic, social, cultural or collective rights, must be clearly enshrined in the objectives of this new initiative, in particular through the strengthening of existing mechanisms; underlines, in this regard, the

importance of respecting the freedoms of expression, thought and religion, in addition to the need to ensure the protection of minorities, including religious minorities; stresses that women's rights, gender equality and the fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation require particular attention; reiterates its support for democratic political organisations and civil society on the southern shores of the Mediterranean and pays tribute to the valuable work done by women's organisations;

4. Takes the view that political tensions and regional conflicts in the Mediterranean basin must not hinder tangible progress towards multilateral cooperation in specific sectors, and that it is through the implementation of major integration projects and open political dialogue that the UfM will help to develop a climate of trust conducive to pursuing common justice and security goals in a spirit of solidarity and peace; stresses, however, that the UfM will not be fully successful unless the various regional conflicts are settled, in accordance with international law, making the Mediterranean a single shore of peace;
5. Stresses the urgency of achieving a fair and lasting solution to the conflict in the Middle East and calls for the firm commitment in this regard of the EU and of all UfM member countries; reiterates its call for the immediate resumption of meaningful negotiations in the context of the peace process, with a view to achieving a two-State solution – an independent, democratic and viable Palestinian State and the State of Israel, living side by side in peace and security and with internationally recognised borders; encourages the important contribution that the UfM can make to the improvement of relations between Israel and the Palestinian National Authority, also thanks to the cooperation between the Israeli and Palestinian representatives within it;
6. Welcomes the appointment of the Secretary General and the adoption of the statute of the secretariat and recommends that, in preparation for the Barcelona Summit, the UfM's institutional and operational structure be completed by taking the following steps:
  - providing the secretariat with the necessary resources, both financial and statutory, to operate effectively and independently; stressing the urgency of making the secretariat fully operational and the need for its staff to be selected on the basis of merit, with due attention to the principles of geographical distribution and gender equality;
  - clarifying the criteria for approving, funding and implementing major projects and specifically setting the priorities for the next 3 years;
  - ensuring joint representation of EU participants (Member States, the Council and the Commission) in accordance with the Lisbon Treaty, while at the same time fostering active participation by all Mediterranean third countries;
  - ensuring the democratic legitimacy of the UfM by confirming the EMPA as an integral part of the institutional structure;
  - stepping up coordination with EU projects and programmes approved by the specialised ministerial conferences, with a particular focus on possible synergies;
  - allowing 'variable-geometry' cooperation arrangements open to countries and

- multilateral institutions wishing to work together on projects of common interest;
- ensuring smooth cooperation between the secretariat and the Commission, and clearly defining their respective remits; calling on the Commission to play an active role in the UfM and asking for greater clarity regarding its participation in this new institutional structure;
  - developing communications to ensure the visibility of the UfM’s activities; informing citizens on the UfM’s major projects and progress, in particular via a comprehensive website;
  - ensuring the UfM’s democratic legitimacy in such a way that decisions are taken in a transparent manner, and that the European Parliament, the EMPA and the national parliaments are involved in the decision-making process; emphasises that, as its parliamentary wing, the EMPA must be recognised as an integral part of the UfM;
  - ensuring dialogue with all the stakeholders (local authorities and Civil Society Organisations) and making sure they are involved in the decision-making process concerning the major projects;
7. Recalls that the Paris Summit identified six main horizontal strategic sectors (civil protection, maritime and land highways, de-pollution of the Mediterranean, the Mediterranean solar energy plan, the Mediterranean Business Development Initiative and the Euro-Mediterranean University), in most of which projects have already been undertaken as part of the EuroMed partnership; underlines, therefore, the importance of carrying out a highly detailed assessment of the regional programmes and of the resources already used within the framework of the EuroMed partnership and hopes that the selection of projects funded under the UfM will be based on the added value criterion at both regional and local level; calls for the swift implementation of these priority projects;
8. Considers it essential to guarantee, increase and mobilise project funding through a combination of public and private funds; in this context:
- calls on the UfM’s members to allocate project funding commensurate with the issues at stake, and expects an historic commitment from participants at the Barcelona Summit;
  - emphasises that, in the period leading up to the end of the 2007-2013 financial perspective, any financial contributions made by the Union should not affect existing or planned Euro-Mediterranean regional projects; underlines the need to increase substantially the funds allocated to the southern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy and EU contributions to UfM projects in the EU’s forthcoming financial perspective for 2014-2020;
  - welcomes the steps taken by financial institutions at national, European (EIB-FEMIP, EBRD) and international (World Bank) level which are already active in the region, emphasises the need to identify synergies in connection with major projects, and proposes that a Euro-Mediterranean investment and development bank be set up to

consolidate the North-South parity basis on which the UfM operates;

- emphasises the role of the European Investment Bank (EIB), which is coordinating three of the six priority projects (de-pollution of the Mediterranean, the Solar Plan and the maritime and land highways);
  - underlines the need to pave the way for greater cooperation and better financial and economic integration between the UfM member countries, particularly between the countries on the southern shore;
  - welcomes the recent launch of investment funds for the financing of UfM projects, including the InfraMed fund for infrastructure projects, and calls on the various stakeholders to encourage the development of similar initiatives and to promote cooperation between investors, in particular long-term investors;
  - is keen to see the establishment of investment funds intended to finance sustainable development projects by local and regional authorities;
9. Encourages efforts to improve the economic and legal environment in third countries, making it a priority to set up viable and credible sub-regional financial institutions able to attract foreign investment; also calls for:
- the drafting of a common investment protection charter for Mediterranean third countries in order to harmonise and enhance such protection and encourage investment;
  - the establishment of an insurance and financial guarantee system for investors, based on the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and tailored to the Euro-Mediterranean context;
  - reforms designed to reduce red tape and in particular to improve and simplify the performance of contracts;
  - the promotion of gradual and real harmonisation of labour laws, respecting the rights of workers in UfM member countries;
  - the improvement of access to credit for SMEs and of the provision of credit options and microcredit;
10. Hopes for an improvement in the economic and legal environment in the region, an essential guarantee for future investment; insists on the objective of favouring the development of human resources and employment in line with the Millennium Development Goals for fighting poverty; underlines that the preservation and the development of strong public services is another important precondition to guarantee sustainable development in the region;
11. Believes that increased South-South bilateral and multilateral economic cooperation would result in tangible benefits for the citizens, as well as improve the political climate

in the region;

12. Stresses the vital need to develop South-South trade, which accounts for just 6% of world trade, and thus to take action to extend the Agadir Agreement; draws attention to the interest these countries have in stepping up their relations and their trade so that they form a united, strong economic area which is attractive to investors and capable of defending the region's interests and boosting its development; emphasises that the UfM must make it easier to respond to requests for technical and financial assistance with a view to promoting South-South economic integration; considers that extension and simplification of the pan-Euro-Mediterranean system of cumulation of origin might help in this regard;
13. Highlights the importance of the current negotiations on the Europe-Mediterranean Free Trade Area and encourages the UfM member countries to work on harmonising their positions in the context of WTO negotiations;
14. Calls on the Commission to take account in trade negotiations of the results of existing impact assessments and to assess the effects of the liberalisation process, in the light of climate change and the economic and social crisis, and to enable this to be applied gradually and asymmetrically, as necessary, while protecting comparable production sectors on both shores of the Mediterranean, which are more likely to face competition as a result of greater liberalisation; calls on the UfM to select projects mainly according to social and economic and environmental mitigation needs;
15. Hopes that the association agreements will be reviewed in the light of the new requirements deriving from the financial, economic and social crisis and the food and energy crises; points out that one of the main objectives of creating a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area must remain that of boosting trade in the service of development and poverty reduction, and hopes that the Road Map adopted at the ministerial summit of 9 December 2009 will help to achieve this objective;
16. Views it as regrettable that socio-economic, commercial and energy aspects, such as direct foreign investment, employment, energy efficiency, the informal economy and poverty reduction, were overlooked in the Paris declaration, and calls for this to be remedied at the Barcelona Summit;
17. Points out that migration policies are one of the priorities of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and calls on the member countries and institutions of the UfM to pay special attention to the coordinated management of migratory flows; stresses that the construction of the UfM is inseparable from a harnessing of human resources and strengthening of exchanges between the peoples of the Mediterranean, and encourages, in addition to the regulation of flows and combating of illegal immigration, the gradual facilitation of freedom of movement between the two shores, the strengthening of integration arrangements for migrants, the drafting of active policies to promote employment and the improvement of conditions for exercising of the right of asylum; considers that the Euromed Ministerial Conference on Migration, held in Albufeira on 18 and 19 November 2007, should be continued;
18. Invites UfM member countries to simplify transfers of funds from migrants to people in

- their home countries, in particular by endeavouring to reduce the costs incurred;
19. Recalls the importance of what is known as the fourth chapter of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation (on migration, social integration, justice and security) and highlights the need for the UfM to drive forward cooperation on this chapter;
  20. Emphasises the strategic importance of issues such as agriculture, rural development, adaptation to climate change and rational water and energy use in Mediterranean countries and calls for cooperation in the farming sector to be made a political priority; encourages the UfM member countries to work towards aligning as far as possible their positions in the context of WTO negotiations and to move towards a greater convergence of Euro-Mediterranean agricultural policies, particularly in relation to compliance with appropriate social standards, food, phytosanitary and environmental safety, and product quality; takes the view that these policies should include the requirements of sustainable development (including the conservation of natural resources), enabling regional markets to emerge eventually, whilst taking into consideration the specific competitive situation of Mediterranean farmers and the need to retain a strong agricultural sector;
  21. Underlines the need to establish a regional agricultural policy in line with the Euro-Mediterranean Road Map for Agriculture, to preserve local food production and food security, and to promote production, distribution and diversification of typical Mediterranean products and the development of small and middle farming adapted to sustainable development; in the light of growing food insecurity in many Mediterranean partner countries, calls on the Commission to accept partner requests regarding extended safeguards and quick procedures to implement them in times of food crises;
  22. Reaffirms its support for the environmental dimension of the UfM and stresses the importance of the Euro-Mediterranean initiative for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean; welcomes, in this regard, the launch of the second phase of the Mediterranean Hot-Spot Investment Programme - Project Preparation and Implementation Facility (MeHSIP PPIF); considers that progress in the specific area of prevention of sea pollution is a matter of urgency and that particular attention should be paid to the Mediterranean, given that it is an enclosed sea; points out that all UfM projects should be planned and carried out in cooperation with existing programmes with regard, in particular, to the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan for the Barcelona Convention;
  23. Calls on the partner states, as part of the UfM's major land and sea transport projects, to improve infrastructure in order to aid the movement of people and goods in the Mediterranean and to encourage a sustainable transport policy, taking into consideration the requirements of sustainable development, greenhouse gas reductions, energy efficiency and intermodality; emphasises that such efforts must be carried out in connection with environmental, industrial, public health and land planning policy; stresses the need to develop maritime highway projects in order to encourage modal shifts and create safe, clean and sustainable commercial shipping routes;
  24. Takes the view that enhancing port and land transport infrastructure may help to promote economic growth and trade between Euro-Mediterranean countries;

25. Stresses the need to strengthen cooperation in the field of energy and calls for the immediate promotion of development plans to encourage the diversification of energy supply sources and routes, thus making a decisive contribution to energy security in the Mediterranean region;
26. Recalls the high potential of sources of renewable energy – in particular wind and solar energy – in the Euro-Mediterranean region; supports the swift, coordinated implementation of the Mediterranean Solar Plan, the main aim of which is to establish, by 2020, 20 GW of new renewable energy production capacity in the Mediterranean, and industrial initiatives such as DESERTEC, in addition to the adoption of a Euro-Mediterranean energy efficiency strategy; hopes that the projects will, as a matter of priority, meet the needs of supplier countries and stresses the effects that the strengthening – particularly on the southern shore – of the network infrastructure, the gradual establishment of an interdependent regional market and the creation of a new industrial sector, such as that of solar components manufacturing, will have on the economic development of partner countries;
27. Calls for further promotion of, and support for, the ‘Solar for Peace’ initiative within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Energy Market Integration Project (MED-EMIP);
28. Recommends that the countries participating in the Euro-Mediterranean process join the ‘smart cities’ initiative envisaged under the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan;
29. Supports the promotion of trans-Euro-Mediterranean interconnections in the electricity, gas and oil sectors in order to improve energy supply security; emphasises the importance of completing the Mediterranean electricity loop and supports the development of a southern gas corridor; encourages the use of reverse flows where it is justified in terms of security, cost-effectiveness and viability;
30. Stresses that the 20-20-20 climate objectives will affect gas demand significantly, therefore the creation of an LNG action plan for the UfM member countries would improve diversity and security of supply, especially for countries relying on sole suppliers;
31. Stresses the importance of progress in LNG technology and investments in LNG vessel transportation capacity and LNG re-gasification terminals; points out that, alongside infrastructure development, maritime security is also a necessity;
32. Emphasises the urgency of developing stronger cooperation in the field of civil protection in the Mediterranean region to combat natural disasters, particularly earthquakes, floods and forest fires; encourages the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean forest fires institute;
33. Stresses the importance of developing, within the UfM framework, new projects focusing on education, school and university exchanges and research as ways of bringing the peoples on both sides of the Mediterranean closer together and fostering development; considers that priority should be given, with the active involvement of civil society, to the creation of a genuine Euro-Mediterranean higher education, science and research area and, in this regard:

- welcomes the creation of the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) and calls on partner institutions to deepen their commitment to the development of its activities;
  - calls for increased funding to be devoted to academic exchange programmes such as ‘Erasmus Mundus’ and for better information to be provided on existing exchange programmes; more specifically, calls for inspiration to be drawn from the experience of the ‘Averroës’ European programme;
  - calls for an ambitious Euro-Mediterranean junior Erasmus programme to be set up, as a way of stepping up school exchanges between UfM member countries;
  - calls for more structured cooperation in the field of higher education and research in order to encourage the mutual recognition of qualifications, the introduction of joint qualifications and common graduate schools, with a view, in particular, to increasing mobility for researchers, backed up by measures to combat the brain drain;
  - would like special attention to be paid to bringing training, research and innovation closer together, with emphasis placed on dialogue between universities and enterprises and on public-private partnerships in the field of research;
34. Calls for new projects designed to promote cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between societies to be put on the UfM’s agenda in the very near future, in particular through the adoption of a Euro-Mediterranean strategy for cultural affairs and the development of intercultural and interreligious dialogue; encourages the implementation of projects by the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audiovisual Operators (COPEAM), in particular that of a Euro-Mediterranean TV channel, and the repetition of successful initiatives such as the Arab Week and EuroMedScola; welcomes the action of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the Arab World Institute and the Anna Lindh Foundation, in particular the latter’s organisation of the Forum for intercultural dialogue in Barcelona in March 2010; calls on the countries and institutions that are members of the UfM to continue their commitment to the UN Alliance of Civilizations;
35. Welcomes the choice of Marseille-Provence as European Capital of Culture in 2013: the project has a strong Euro-Mediterranean dimension intended to bring together the peoples on both sides of the Mediterranean; emphasises that the purpose of this highly symbolic cultural project is to drive concrete, innovative action to improve the dialogue between the cultures of Europe and the Mediterranean;
36. Underlines the importance of establishing industrial policies to improve economies of scale, while supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and strengthening high-technology sectors; calls on the UfM member countries and institutions to play an active role in supporting SMEs, with particular emphasis on efficient financial services and technical and administrative assistance, thereby creating a strong entrepreneurial base, especially in sectors that contribute to economic growth in the Mediterranean countries;
37. Stresses that the purpose of the EMPA is to become the parliamentary assembly of the UfM, which will guarantee its democratic legitimacy, and supports the proposal of the 6th plenary session of the EMPA held in Amman on 13 and 14 March 2010 that the name of

the EMPA should be changed to Parliamentary Assembly – Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM);

38. Recalls its remit within the EU's budgetary procedure, and emphasises the need for the EMPA to immediately take on more significant responsibilities by being involved in consultation and democratic supervision in respect of defining the areas of work, regularly monitoring the projects undertaken, and budget implementation; calls on the various relevant EMPA committees to carry out regular hearings of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretaries General; takes the view, however, that this higher level of responsibility must go hand in hand with improvements in the operation and working methods of the EMPA, including granting the necessary human and financial resources and bringing the EMPA's work more into line with that of the other UfM institutions; welcomes the decisions taken to this end at the 6th plenary session of the EMPA held in Amman on 13 and 14 March 2010;
39. Welcomes the recent establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) and calls for efforts to ensure proper coordination between the ARLEM's activities and those of the EMPA, in particular through joint meetings or reciprocal invitations for members of their respective bureaux to attend working meetings; emphasises the need for these assemblies that bring together elected representatives from both sides of the Mediterranean and promote the exchange of best democratic practice;
40. Calls for civil society, the social partners and the numerous professional and socio-professional networks developed as part of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership to be consulted regularly and involved in the UfM's activities and projects, and encourages:
  - the general assembly of economic and social councils, and similar institutions, to consider establishing a Euro-Mediterranean economic and social council;
  - the development of projects to facilitate business relations, investments and business partnerships between both sides of the Mediterranean, such as the Invest in Med Programme;
  - the establishment of a network of Euro-Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Euro-Mediterranean industrialist and trade union associations;
  - the extension of the industrial cooperation group for implementing the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise to include representatives of SMEs so that it can become the tool which will enable the removal of obstacles to growth and to the development of SMEs;
41. Welcomes the commitment, reaffirmed during the 2nd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society (Marrakesh, 11-12 November 2009), to promote de jure and de facto equality between women and men, to combat violence against women and to respect the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of women as well as men; calls urgently for concrete steps to be taken in this direction and recommends the adoption of a UfM project on women's entrepreneurship and enhancement of their involvement in public life; recalls its consistent position that

respect for traditions and customs must not be a pretext for the infringement of women's fundamental rights;

42. Calls on the Council, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Commission and the newly-established European External Action Service to take the necessary steps to ensure coherent EU participation in the UfM, and to involve Parliament in framing EU policy;
43. Welcomes the recent accession to the UfM of countries of the Western Balkans, which are applicants for accession to the EU;
44. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the President of the Council of the European Union, the President of the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the co-presidency, the Secretary General of the UfM, and the governments and parliaments of the partner states.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### I/ Background

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Over the last two decades the European Union has put a great deal of energy into its eastward expansion. It is to be congratulated on having completed the historic task of reunifying the continent, but – in an era in which the world’s geopolitical and geo-economic balances are shifting, with the notable emergence of Asia – it is now time for the Union to **rethink its foreign policy priorities and rediscover** its southern neighbours.

It is crucial **for the European Parliament to monitor developments in relation to the latest regional initiative, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), as closely as possible.** Accordingly, this report, which follows on from the previous report adopted in February 2009, sets out to continue the process of political reflection in the light of the EU’s new institutional environment and the uncertainties still hanging over the UfM in terms of both operational aspects and funding.

Following a controversial start and two successive years of relative deadlock, the UfM’s second summit of heads of state and government will take place in Barcelona in June 2010. **The European Parliament is keen to help ensure the outright success of this summit, which will shape the UfM’s future.**

### II/ Guiding principles

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In the run-up to the Barcelona summit, our reflections on the UfM are structured around four guiding principles.

#### **a. Building on the achievements of the Barcelona Process**

Although the concept of the UfM emerged outside the EU framework, **the final decision that it should follow on directly from the Barcelona Process, despite the latter’s weaknesses, was the right one**<sup>5</sup>.

Notwithstanding the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership’s disappointing track record, particularly at multilateral and sub-regional level, this cooperation structure was familiar to our partners, unlike the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) launched in 2004.

Although the Barcelona Process was politically deadlocked, it was active at a technical level. A number of states’ economies received a considerable boost from its financial instruments (MEDA, ENPI, FEMIP), cooperation and micro-cooperation programmes and bilateral association agreements. In terms of culture and education, programmes were set up in areas such as cultural heritage conservation (EuroMed Heritage), the promotion of youth exchanges (Erasmus Mundus), the exhibition of Euro-Mediterranean audiovisual productions (Euromed

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<sup>5</sup> European Council conclusions of 13 and 14 March 2008.

Audiovisual II) and dialogue between cultures (Anna Lindh Foundation). In addition, efforts – albeit cautious – were made in the area of sub-regional integration, with the signing of the Agadir agreement. On the political front, the partnership's regional dimension was maintained through ministerial meetings (on foreign affairs and specific sectors) and meetings of senior officials, which made it possible to establish regular dialogue.

Accordingly, it is understandable that the launch of the ENP, with its accepted bilateral dimension and its three stated concepts (conditionality, ownership and selective differentiation), may have been perceived – and not only on the southern shore of the Mediterranean – as diluting the European Union's commitment to partnership and abandoning Euro-Mediterranean regional goals<sup>6</sup>.

**The UfM consequently offers a second chance in terms of the regional and multilateral dimensions of Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, provided that it builds on the achievements of the Barcelona Process.**

**b. Political tensions and regional conflicts in the Mediterranean must not hinder tangible progress towards sectoral and multilateral cooperation.**

The regional context in which the UfM is taking shape continues to be characterised primarily by political conflicts and tensions, compounded by the events of 11 September 2001 and the war in Iraq, which have fuelled a crisis of confidence on both sides.

These conflicts have done a great deal to hinder the establishment of the UfM since the Paris Summit of July 2008, contributing to the cancellation of ministerial meetings and to institutional paralysis.

An immediate lesson must be drawn from these difficulties: **the UfM's main purpose is not to resolve long-standing conflicts between some of its members.** Unless a responsible and constructive spirit is shown by the various stakeholders, it will be difficult to establish the UfM and ensure its subsequent development. It is through the implementation of major integration projects that the UfM will help to develop a climate of trust conducive to pursuing common security goals in a spirit of solidarity and peace. Blocking such projects, on the other hand, would lead to a failure with far-reaching implications.

**c. The UfM's two innovations – its institutional set-up (co-presidency, joint permanent committee and secretariat) and operational focus (integration projects) – must function effectively and transparently.**

One of the prerequisites for the UfM's future success is to ensure that its operation is easily understood by as many players as possible (businesses, universities, trade unions, local and regional authorities, civil society), and that they can see tangible results. Its institutions must therefore start work as soon as possible on the basis of **simple, effective and transparent processes.**

In practical terms, this requirement for effectiveness could take the form of **variable-**

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<sup>6</sup> See the Jäättinenmäki, Tannock and Napoletano reports.

**geometry cooperation arrangements** open to countries wishing to work together on projects of common interest, without closing the door to those that may subsequently wish to join them.

In addition, the selection, progress and funding of projects must be subject to **regular evaluation and monitoring**, including by Parliament, the **findings of which must be made available to the general public**.

**d. Funding has become a central issue.**

Since the Paris Summit, the Commission has made a financial contribution to the initial projects announced by the UfM. This is only the first step, which must be re-evaluated in the near future in the context of actually developing the projects in question. Notwithstanding the economic and social crisis, the actual establishment of the UfM requires **a more significant financial contribution from the various partners, and the European Union in particular**.

Accordingly, it is important to ensure that **the funds allocated to the UfM's budget by the EU and its Mediterranean partners are commensurate with the issues at stake**. The action taken by the partner countries must not be confined to granting loans or asking the UfM to lend its name retrospectively to projects already financed by other institutional programmes, including EU programmes.

Lastly, **the secretariat must be provided with the necessary resources to operate effectively and independently**.

### **III. The Barcelona Summit: a critical stage for the UfM**

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The heads of state and government within the UfM will meet in Barcelona in June 2010. **The European Parliament is keen to help ensure the outright success of this summit, the outcome of which – after a difficult first two years – is a crucial challenge that will shape the UfM's future.**

Accordingly, the European Parliament will pay particular attention to the tangible progress achieved in **three key areas: the UfM's institutional set-up, projects and sources of project funding**.

**a. Institutional set-up: effectiveness and democracy**

In preparation for the Barcelona Summit, progress must be made in **deciding on the UfM's institutional and operational set-up**, in keeping with the requirements for effectiveness and transparency; in particular, the criteria for decision-making, funding and the implementation of major projects must be clarified.

The UfM's secretariat needs to become **the structure's linchpin**. Its effectiveness will depend on the ability of its staff to work independently. **It must be emphasised that the presence of a senior Israeli official and a senior Palestinian official cooperating within an international organisation at regional level is unprecedented and gives grounds for**

**hope.** Lastly, it is essential to ensure smooth cooperation between the secretariat and the European Commission, and to define their respective remits clearly.

While the European Parliament's powers as part of the EU's budgetary procedure must be highlighted, in the context of the new institutional balance it is crucial for the **EMPA** to take on more significant responsibilities by being involved in consultation and democratic supervision in respect of project budget implementation. Regular hearings of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretaries General by the various relevant EMPA committees would enable projects and activities to be monitored on a regular basis. **However, this higher level of responsibility must go hand in hand with improvements in the operation and working methods of the EMPA, including granting the necessary human and financial resources.**

It is also essential to involve **local and regional authorities**. Mediterranean regions play a key role in facilitating the development of new spatial planning policies and the implementation of practical projects. The recent establishment of the **Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM)** is an excellent initiative.

Lastly, the UfM must not forget to do its utmost to involve **civil society, the social partners and the numerous professional and socio-professional networks** developed as part of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership in its activities and projects. The establishment of a **Euro-Mediterranean economic and social council** and a **Mediterranean business leaders' forum** must therefore be encouraged.

## **b. Projects**

The Paris Summit identified six main horizontal strategic sectors that tie in with a number of major challenges facing the region: cleaning up the sea, transport, renewable energies, education, small and medium-sized enterprises and civil protection.

It will be up to the secretariat to select, propose and approve 'UfM projects'. A number of projects are already under way as part of the EuroMed partnership. For pragmatic reasons, therefore, it is important to work on a complementary basis and to achieve the right degree of coordination and political mobilisation between the European and Euro-Mediterranean levels.

As well as the six major projects identified, **new projects** should also be put on the agenda in the very near future by the secretary general and sector-specific ministerial meetings. The European Parliament proposes, inter alia, that the projects to be set up under the auspices of the UfM include a **Euro-Mediterranean junior Erasmus programme** called 'Averroës', making it possible to step up exchanges between secondary school pupils in UfM member countries, and the addition of a **cultural component**. Cooperation in the **food and agriculture** sector, which is of strategic importance, should now be one of the UfM's priorities, with a view to moving towards greater convergence among Euro-Mediterranean agricultural policies.

## **c. Increasing and guaranteeing funding**

The Barcelona Summit must **put an end to the underfunding of projects announced by the UfM.**

The funding of planned projects must rely on a combination of public and private funds, which must be developed and established on a permanent basis:

- in the period leading up to the end of the 2007-2013 financial perspectives, the Union's financial contribution – which is essential – must not affect existing or planned Euro-Mediterranean regional projects; the EU's forthcoming financial perspectives for 2014-2020 must substantially increase the funds allocated to the UfM;
- financial institutions at national, European (EIB-FEMIP, EBRD) and international (World Bank) level are already active in the region. Synergies must be identified in connection with major projects. This will be a task for the secretariat;
- consideration must be given to setting up a Euro-Mediterranean investment and development bank, inter alia in order to consolidate the North-South parity basis on which the UfM operates;
- the recent launch of investment funds for the financing of UfM projects is a positive step. The development of similar initiatives must be encouraged.

It is also important to work on improving the economic and legal environment in third countries, making it a priority to set up viable and credible sub-regional financial institutions able to attract foreign investment. Existing investment protection agreements are bilateral, and vary widely. A common investment protection charter for countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean and the establishment of an insurance and financial guarantee system for investors would harmonise and enhance such protection.

Lastly, the capital flows represented by the funds migrants send to people in countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean are crucially important for the economic development of the recipient countries. Consideration must be given to ways of simplifying such transfers, in particular by endeavouring to reduce the costs incurred.

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Europe and its neighbours south and east of the Mediterranean are now at a crossroads in their shared history. There is virtually no other option but to join forces in a spirit of solidarity in order to address the major global challenges whose effects are being felt on a daily basis on the shores of the Mediterranean.

In Barcelona, the heads of state and government will have to show pragmatism and vision in order to use the region's current complexity as a starting-point for building a common Euro-Mediterranean future for more than 800 million people. They must fulfil citizens' legitimate aspirations for peace, stability and prosperity and their desire to live in a society based on the rule of law and mutual respect.

Complementarity and joint responsibility are the best tools for enabling Mediterranean diversity to flourish in such a way as to contribute to a prosperity in which all citizens can share.

8.4.2010

# OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on Union for the Mediterranean  
(2009/2215(INI))

Rapporteur: Niki Tzavela

## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

### Introduction

1. Wishes the Union for the Mediterranean Summit on 7 and 8 June 2010 in Barcelona to show the EU's continuing support for closer cooperation with its Southern Mediterranean partners on the optimisation of national support schemes; the development of common positions on regulatory issues in the energy field, with the help of the Association of Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Gas (MEDREG) and the Euro-Mashreq Gas Centre; trans-Mediterranean cooperation on renewable energy; and the exchange of best practices and technological progress through initiatives and partnerships such as the Barcelona Process, the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Euro-Maghreb Energy Community Treaty and the MED-ENEC programme on energy efficiency in the construction sector;

### Infrastructure and supply

2. Supports the promotion of trans-Euro-Mediterranean interconnections in the electricity, gas and oil sectors in order to improve energy supply security; emphasises the importance of completing the Mediterranean electricity loop and supports the development of a southern gas corridor; encourages the use of reverse flows where it is justified in terms of security, cost-effectiveness and viability;

### Solar and wind energy

3. Underlines the fact that the Mediterranean has enormous, and largely untapped, potential in the field of renewable energies such as solar energy, wind energy and hydropower;

4. Calls for strong support for the Mediterranean Solar Plan (MSP) as it aims to increase the use of solar energy and other renewable energy sources for power generation to an ambitious target of 20 GW of additional installed capacity by 2020 and to bring about energy savings of 20% around the Mediterranean;
5. Emphasises the further significance of the MSP for the Southern Mediterranean countries' economic development, in terms of providing additional domestic electricity capacity, reinforcing grid infrastructures and underpinning the creation of a new industrial sector of solar components manufacturing (with associated jobs), and calls, in this regard, for a practical action plan to be produced on the basis of the strategy paper;
6. Notes that a number of industrial initiatives in the Mediterranean region (such as DESERTEC) have the potential to impact positively on energy security, the environment, sustainable development and the growth of energy networks, and calls for practical steps to be taken towards their realisation; emphasises, at the same time, that such projects should generate direct added value for the local societies in which they are based by activating local stakeholders, facilitating technology transfer and enabling the development of efficient networks and infrastructures that also lend themselves to local use, thus boosting the local economy, contributing to social cohesion and supporting further development in the regions concerned;
7. Underlines the importance of projects in the renewable energy sector that not only contribute to economic development in UfM member countries, especially those on the southern shores of the Mediterranean, but also constitute a structural element of cooperation within the UfM;

#### Industrial cooperation

8. Calls for the setting up of a regulatory and institutional framework based on transparency and predictability across the Euro-Mediterranean region in order to encourage industry, trade and research and development, with the aim of achieving coherent economic growth;
9. Underlines the importance of establishing industrial policies to improve economies of scale, while supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and strengthening high-technology sectors; calls on the UfM member countries and institutions to play an active role in supporting SMEs, with particular emphasis on efficient financial services and technical and administrative assistance, thereby creating a strong entrepreneurial base, especially in sectors that contribute to economic growth in the Mediterranean countries;
10. Highlights the importance of the current negotiations on the Europe-Mediterranean Free Trade Area and encourages the UfM member countries to work on harmonising their positions in the context of WTO negotiations;

#### Scientific and technological cooperation and training

11. Underlines the importance of research and development as part of a recovery and competitiveness strategy for the southern-shore Mediterranean countries and calls for scientific and technological cooperation between the states of the Mediterranean region to be stepped up and better coordinated; supports the European Mediterranean University initiative and the creation of a 'Euro-Mediterranean Area of Higher Education and Research', as envisaged in the Catania Declaration of 29 January 2006;
12. Underlines the need to promote exchanges of best practice and researcher mobility and calls for joint programming of research in various fields – including marine research and civil protection research (e.g. with regard to natural disasters) as well as research into health, social and environmental issues – with the involvement of local stakeholders and civil society; expresses support for the idea of establishing and developing a Euro-Mediterranean institute for forest fires;
13. Calls for further promotion of, and support for, the 'Solar for Peace' initiative within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Energy Market Integration Project (MED-EMIP);
14. Recommends that the countries participating in the Euro-Mediterranean process join the 'smart cities' initiative envisaged under the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan;

#### LNG

15. Stresses that the 20-20-20 climate objectives will affect gas demand significantly, therefore the creation of an LNG action plan for the UfM member countries would improve diversity and security of supply, especially for countries relying on sole suppliers;
16. Stresses the importance of progress in LNG technology and investments in LNG vessel transportation capacity and LNG re-gasification terminals; points out that, alongside infrastructure development, maritime security is also a necessity;

#### ICT

17. Recommends that the BB-MED action plan (satellite and broadband technology) be supported.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	7.4.2010
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 44 -: 0 0: 4
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Jean-Pierre Audy, Zigmantas Balčytis, Jan Březina, Maria Da Graça Carvalho, Giles Chichester, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Lena Ek, Ioan Enciu, Adam Gierek, Norbert Glante, Fiona Hall, Jacky Hénin, Edit Herczog, Sajjad Karim, Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš, Bogdan Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz, Marisa Matias, Judith A. Merkies, Jaroslav Paška, Aldo Patriciello, Miloslav Ransdorf, Herbert Reul, Michèle Rivasi, Jens Rohde, Paul Rübig, Amalia Sartori, Francisco Sosa Wagner, Konrad Szymański, Patrizia Toia, Evžen Tošenovský, Ioannis A. Tsoukalas, Claude Turmes, Niki Tzavela, Vladimir Urutchev, Adina-Ioana Vălean, Alejo Vidal-Quadras
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Lara Comi, António Fernando Correia De Campos, Rachida Dati, Jolanta Emilia Hibner, Yannick Jadot, Oriol Junqueras Vies, Bernd Lange, Marian-Jean Marinescu, Ivari Padar, Mario Pirillo, Silvia-Adriana Țicău, Lambert van Nistelrooij

27.4.2010

## OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on the Union for the Mediterranean  
(2009/2215(INI))

Draftsman of the opinion: Marielle De Sarnez

### SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on International Trade calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Reiterates the importance of a Euromed free trade area, which will significantly contribute to peace, prosperity and security in the entire region, and to greater economic and regional integration promoting economic growth in the region; calls for negotiations on the free trade area to be conducted on a concerted, gradual basis in the context of a rational, predictable partnership reflecting the socioeconomic realities of each of the countries; underlines that the UfM has to be seen as an initiative complementary to the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership inaugurated in Barcelona in 1995, by addressing some of its shortcomings;
2. Underlines the importance of relations between the European Union and the Mediterranean region, not just in terms of trade but also politically, socially, academically and culturally and also in terms of development and protection of the environment; considers that the development of a regionally complementary market would boost industrial policy in the southern regions of the EU;
3. Urges the Commission to strengthen its role as an investor and partner and develop specific guidelines for responsible investment to reduce social inequalities and promote diversification of the local economies, particularly with regard to industrialisation, sustainable development of agriculture, maintenance of local food production and food security; stresses in particular the need to support foreign direct investment and promote research and development;
4. Urges the Commission to strengthen its role in the UfM project and calls for greater clarity regarding its participation in the new institutional structure;
5. Welcomes the selection of six main strategic projects: the de-pollution of the sea, the solar

energy plan, transport, education and research, SMEs and business development and civil protection, and hopes that these major projects will receive adequate support from European and international financial institutions; considers that the new UfM projects should endeavour to involve as many Euro-Mediterranean partners as possible;

6. Acknowledges the administrative and operational contribution that the new secretariat will be able to make to the UfM's work in pursuing Euro-Mediterranean priorities and objectives, on the basis of adequate, specified resources;
7. Stresses the vital need to develop South-South trade, which accounts for just 6% of world trade, and thus to take action to extend the Agadir Agreement; draws attention to the interest these countries have in stepping up their relations and their trade so that they form a united, strong economic area which is attractive to investors and capable of defending the region's interests and boosting its development; emphasises that the UfM must make it easier to respond to requests for technical and financial assistance with a view to promoting South-South economic integration; considers that extension and simplification of the pan-Euro-Mediterranean system of cumulation of origin might help in this regard;
8. Takes the view that enhancing port and land transport infrastructure may help to promote economic growth and trade between Euro-Mediterranean countries;
9. Hopes for an improvement in the economic and legal environment in the region, an essential guarantee for the security of future investment, in particular as regards foreign direct investment (FDI), which remains very weak, and to encourage funding for major strategic projects; calls, further, for greater harmonisation in this area, given the wide variations between one country and another;
10. Hopes for an improvement in the economic and legal environment in the region, an essential guarantee for future investment; insists on the objective of favouring the development of human resources and employment in line with the Millennium Development Goals for fighting poverty; underlines that the preservation and the development of strong public services is another important precondition to guarantee sustainable development in the region;
11. Stresses the importance of the role of and dialogue between businesses on both shores of the Mediterranean in boosting trade and investment;
12. Calls on the Commission to take account in trade negotiations of the results of existing impact assessments and to assess the effects of the liberalisation process, in the light of climate change and the economic and social crisis, and to enable this to be applied gradually and asymmetrically, as necessary, while protecting comparable production sectors on both shores of the Mediterranean, which are more likely to face competition as a result of greater liberalisation; calls on the UfM to select projects mainly according to social and economic and environmental mitigation needs;
13. Underlines the need to establish a regional agricultural policy in line with the Euro-Mediterranean Road Map for Agriculture, to preserve local food production and food security, and to promote production, distribution and diversification of typical

Mediterranean products and the development of small and middle farming adapted to sustainable development; in the light of growing food insecurity in many Mediterranean partner countries, calls on the Commission to accept partner requests regarding extended safeguards and quick procedures to implement them in times of food crises;

14. Recognises the importance of strengthening cooperation in the field of energy between the Euro-Mediterranean partners and the need to develop a regional energy market, with a view to the implementation of renewable energy and energy infrastructure projects in the Mediterranean region; urges that sustainable energy and development policies such as the Desertec project should be geared first and foremost to the region and thus contribute to its development; welcomes the UfM's regional project 'Mediterranean Solar Plan', since as well as contributing to the development of infrastructure it will boost the development of the components industry and corresponding engineering and technology in all the countries covered by the plan;
15. Hopes that the association agreements will be reviewed in the light of the new requirements deriving from the financial, economic and social crisis and the food and energy crises; points out that one of the main objectives of creating a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area must remain that of boosting trade in the service of development and poverty reduction, and hopes that the Road Map adopted at the ministerial summit of 9 December 2009 will help to achieve this objective;
16. Urges the Commission in its trade negotiations to keep up its demands for further development of democracy and human rights from both Libya, which participates in the UfM as an observer State, and from all the member countries of the Union for the Mediterranean;
17. Calls on the Commission to contribute towards regional stability and crisis prevention with a view to consolidating a single shore of peace, development, justice, equality, freedom, plurality, democracy and respect;
18. Reiterates the importance of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly as a natural forum for political, economic and social dialogue between the democratically elected representatives of Euro-Mediterranean countries.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	27.4.2010
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 23 -: 0 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Daniel Caspary, Marielle De Sarnez, Christofer Fjellner, Joe Higgins, Yannick Jadot, Metin Kazak, Bernd Lange, David Martin, Emilio Menéndez del Valle, Vital Moreira, Cristiana Muscardini, Tokia Saïfi, Helmut Scholz, Peter Šťastný, Gianluca Susta, Jan Zahradil, Pablo Zalba Bidegain, Paweł Zalewski
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	George Sabin Cutaș, Elisabeth Köstinger, Michael Theurer, Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Lara Comi, Sylvie Guillaume

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	28.4.2010
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+:           58 -:           6 0:           0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Gabriele Albertini, Dominique Baudis, Frieda Brepoels, Elmar Brok, Arnaud Danjean, Michael Gahler, Marietta Giannakou, Takis Hadjigeorgiou, Anna Ibrisagic, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Jelko Kacin, Maria Eleni Koppa, Andrey Kovatchev, Eduard Kukan, Krzysztof Lisek, Sabine Lösing, Barry Madlener, Mario Mauro, Kyriakos Mavronikolas, Jean-Luc Mélenchon, Willy Meyer, Alexander Mirsky, Andreas Mölzer, María Muñoz De Urquiza, Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck, Norica Nicolai, Raimon Obiols, Kristiina Ojuland, Justas Vincas Paleckis, Pier Antonio Panzeri, Ioan Mircea Pașcu, Vincent Peillon, Hans-Gert Pöttering, Cristian Dan Preda, Fiorello Provera, Libor Rouček, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Nikolaos Salavrakos, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, Werner Schulz, Marek Siwiec, Zoran Thaler, Inese Vaidere, Johannes Cornelis van Baalen, Kristian Vigenin
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Laima Liucija Andrikiienė, Elena Băsescu, Emine Bozkurt, Véronique De Keyser, Hélène Flautre, Charles Goerens, Elisabeth Jeggle, Evgeni Kirilov, Georgios Koumoutsakos, Barbara Lochbihler, Norbert Neuser, Judith Sargentini, Alf Svensson, Indrek Tarand, László Tőkés, Ivo Vajgl, Luis Yáñez-Barnuevo García, Janusz Władysław Zemke
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Georgios Papanikolaou