

Brussels, 26 February 2014
BT/AF/sb/NI/ 1338 (2014)

***SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT ARLEM'S FIFTH PLENARY SESSION
HELD IN TANGIERS, MOROCCO, ON 24 FEBRUARY 2014***

**Approval of the minutes of ARLEM's fourth plenary session, held on 18 February 2013
in Brussels, Belgium**

The minutes were approved without amendment.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

1. Discussion and adoption of ARLEM reports
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- 1.1** The members adopted the **annual report on *The state of the territorial dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean*** (rapporteurs: Youssef Ali Abd El-Rahman and Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, ARLEM co-presidents) by consensus.
- 1.2** The members adopted the report on ***A cohesion strategy for the Mediterranean*** (rapporteur: Joana Ortega I Alemany, Vice-President of the Government of Catalonia, ES/CPRM - CIM) by consensus.
- 1.3** The members adopted the report on ***Sustainable urban mobility in the Mediterranean*** (rapporteur: Karim Bennour, President of the People's Assembly of the Wilaya of Algiers/DZ) by consensus.

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2. Adoption of the ARLEM work programme for 2014 and decision on the ARLEM mandate 2012-2015

2.1 Confirmation of the ARLEM Bureau

At the Bureau's proposal, the members decided to make changes in the composition of the Bureau. Consequently, as of 14 February 2014, the Bureau members will be as follows:

For the EU group:

- **Mr Valcárcel Siso** (Murcia, Spain), CoR president
- **Ms Bresso** (Piedmont, Italy), CoR first vice-president
- **Mr Costa** (Lisbon, PT), Chair of the CIVEX Commission
- **Mr Van den Brande** (Flanders, Belgium)

- **Mr de la Torre Prados** (Mayor of Malaga, Spain/Council of European Municipalities and Regions - CEMR) - was nominated by the European Associations

- **Mr Andersen** (Bornholm, Denmark) is in the process of being replaced.

- as observer **Ms Linda Gilham** (Runnymede, UK);

For the Mediterranean partners group:

- **Mr Abd El-Rahman** (Giza/Egypt)
- **Ms El Khiel** (Arbaoua/Morocco)
- **Mr Yaiche** (Constantine province/Algeria)
- **Ms Maty Mint Hamady** (Nouakchott/Mauritania - new member, replacing Hamza)
- **Mr Mohamed Samcha** (Kébili/Tunisia – new member, replacing Mr Toukabri);
- **Mr Luka** (Shkodra /Albania) is in the process of being replaced.

2.2 Selection of the topic to be addressed by the SUDEV commission in 2014 and appointment of the rapporteur

The members appointed **Mr Mohamed Boudra** (President of the regional council of Taza-Al Hoceima-Taounate, MA), as rapporteur on "**Waste management at the local and regional level in the Mediterranean**".

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2.3 Selection of topic to be addressed by the ECOTER commission in 201' and appointment of the rapporteur

The members appointed **Mr Antonio Costa** (Mayor of Lisbon, PT) as rapporteur on "**The role of local and regional authorities in the management of migrations in the Mediterranean**".

2.4 Adoption of the Work Programme 2014

The plenary session adopted the Work Programme 2014 submitted by the two co-presidents.

3. Date of the next ARLEM meetings

3.1 The members decided that in the course of 2014 the meeting of the **ECOTER Commission** will take place in Malaga, Spain, and the meeting of the **SUDEV Commission** will take place in Marseilles, France (dates to be confirmed).

3.2 In reply to an invitation from Ms Hande Özsan Bozatli, Vice-President of the Special Provincial Council of Istanbul and President of the Assembly of European Regions – the members agreed to held the sixth plenary session in Istanbul, Turkey, at the beginning of 2015.

4. Other Business

4.1 The members agreed to launch the **observatory for the monitoring and analysis of the decentralisation and regionalisation trends in the ARLEM countries**, on the basis of the chart of the current status of the decentralisation and regionalisation process in the countries of southern and eastern Mediterranean that will be inserted in the ARLEM's website on 30 March 2014.

4.2 The members agreed to consult with the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to finalise the **ARLEM's project on institutional capacity building**, in order to label by the UfM's Secretariat at end 2014 the project that was presented at this plenary session (for implementation in early 2015).