



MACROMED PROPOSAL

_ to be submitted to the General Assambly of the CIM _

Introduction

- The Political Bureau of the CPRM Intermediterranean Commission, following the positive experience of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, and the forthcoming strategies for the Adriatic and the Danube, on 5 February 2010 has launched the initiative for creating a Mediterranean Strategy based on the concept of macro-regional strategy asking to the RIM (Med-Governance project) a technical approach
- The reality of The Mediterranean basin is one of over twenty coastal States with uneven levels of economic development and administrative capacities and important political disagreements, including on the delimitation of territorial and maritime spaces. Unlike other semi-enclosed seas such as the Baltic or the Black Sea, a large part of the Mediterranean Sea remains High Seas waters, thereby raising specific governance issues. Nine of the coastal States are EU members, three are candidate countries and five are potential candidate countries covered by the EU's Enlargement Policy. The rest have strong and well-established relationships with the EU, mostly through the European Neighbourhood Policy. All MED countries but four (Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo, Libia) are members of the Union for the Mediterranean.
- The Mediterranean widespread conditions (highlight that the different mechanisms and tools mobilized by Europe are not able individually to achieve an integrated approach and define a coherent regional development policy of this area).
- It is vital to integrate the various sectorial actions that the EU and the other international actors promote in the Mediterranean area to give effectiveness to the co-operation between EU and non-EU Mediterranean partners of the different shores and to deal with the complex issues of the basin.
- The need to create an “all-inclusive” framework for the development policy is urgent to exploit all the potential of the Mediterranean regions.
- To this end, a multilevel consultation process is necessary to create a consensus and develop concrete strategies demanding the involvement of local and regional level as well as the institutional level of the European union, national governments and other multilateral organizations operating in the Mediterranean area (cooperation with territorial network, like “commission méditerranéenne”, and civil society actors)

Basic goals of the Med Regions

- The Political Bureau of the CPRM InterMediterranean Commission understands that their role is not to forward overall policy propositions for future priorities for an eventual Mediterranean macro-regional strategy. These need to be defined on a high political level between the EU Commission and the Member States.
- The CRPM-IMC Regions propose to contribute to the process analysing the potential links between the macro-regional strategy and both the mainstream Objectives (1 and 2) and the current transnational and crossborder cooperation instruments.
- This method can answers the questions of visibility and efficiency of regional/transnational/crossborder actions in the European strategy in the basin establishing a framework for coordinated and effective cooperation in the preparation and implementation of projects financed by the European Union funds.
- The MED regions will bring into the process their long experience of cooperation and the existing good-best practice and results in the field, in particular:
 - In the integrated approach to contemplation, planning and management of land and sea area, environmental protection, use of natural resources and sustainable development of the Mediterranean arealn the institutional, cultural, economic and transport connections in the Mediterranean area, with the aim of making a prosperous, accessible, attractive and safe area tending to a legal union.
 - in competitiveness of the knowledge, high technology and innovation through a systematically development of human resources and exchange of know-how and experience between regions.
- The MED Regions of the CRPM InterMediterranean Commission understand that their contribution to the macro-region objectives can be shown through the number of concrete actions implemented in cooperation at all levels—local, national and regional that are incorporating decentralized actors useful to these new dynamics.

Legal and institutional framework of the strategy

- The Political Bureau of the CPRM InterMediterranean Commission believes that planning a macro-regional MED strategy should follow the logic of a territorial integrated approach, targeted on the sustainable development and defined by the common objectives shared by countries and regions. This approach does not coincide neither with institutional or administrative borders, nor with one or more programmes funded by EU or national resources. This approach has to respect, as stated by the European Council, the criteria of the three NOS: no new funds, no new legislation, no new institutions, and has to be intended as one of the ways of implementing the territorial cohesion concept, by reinforcing the coordination among community and national policies, using the available financial resources
- The existing Cohesion Policy principles should then guide the current conception of macro-regional strategies.

Fundamental EC instruments to converge to the Strategy

- The new European Neighbourhood Policy and of its financing instrument (ENPI) for the 2007–2013 period
- The Euromediterranean process, Mediterranean Union, since 1995
- The multilateral transnational cooperation “MED programme” and cross–border cooperation “Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme” is part of: it includes the European Union and partner countries regions placed along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea.
- Integrated MED Maritime Policy

Key policies

The Political Bureau of the CPRM Intermediterranean Commission believes that the macro–regional strategies should be conceived on a place–based approach, interpreting the territorial needs and potentials of the area in the following issues (see note in annex):

- **Managing integrated Maritime Space;**
- **Tackling Climate Change;**
- **Environment;**
- **Increasing Accessibility and Attractiveness; Transport;**
- **Promoting excellence;**
- **Innovation and Research;**
- **Employment and Education;**
- **Immigration; Security;**
- **Sustaining liveable territories;**

ANNEX 1 – KEY-POLICIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

- **Managing integrated Maritime Space;** The Mediterranean area is a very complex and open marine ecosystem, providing a nursery for fish and a migratory and wintering area for many species of birds. It is also one of the most heavily-used seas, supporting fishing, shipping, trade, energy, sand mining, defense and recreation. Increasing economic activity in the sea, is leading to more and more competition between users of the sea.
- **Tackling Climate Change;** One of the main challenges facing the Mediterranean sea is **climate change**, with adaptation and mitigation measures required. Falled precipitation and flooding in the North and South of the Mediterranean sea , coupled with increased temperatures and aridity in the South will cause significant changes to both physical and human geography.
- **Environment;** ever-growing human and economic development has resulted in increased environmental degradation. The vulnerable marine environment in the Mediterranean faces a worrying combination of pollution from land sources and ships, litter, impacts on biodiversity, overfishing and coastal degradation. The Mediterranean Sea has been classified, under MARPOL, as 'special areas' for oil since 1983 and for garbage since May 2009.
 - Some figures on pollution in the Mediterranean: 60% of urban wastewater still flows untreated into the Mediterranean, 48% of major coastal cities have no sewage works, and less than half of liquid industrial waste is purified) and the response to it are still insufficient despite national efforts. There are difficulties in adequately mobilising the various players and the necessary financial resources.
 - Important: note that pollution is free to move across the Mediterranean region even if it is related to the demographic dynamics and the economic development issues, (and therefore there are differences on pollution between regions) . This freedom to move across all the region makes environmental challenges a major common challenge.
 - Also waste management and marine pollution are crucial environmental issues for the region.
- **Increasing Accessibility and Attractiveness;** Mediterranean ports are important hubs for the export/import of goods and provide access to business locations and Europe's hinterland, stimulating **economic development** in our region. Further globalization of the economy and an increase in the global population is likely to increase traffic. It is essential to ensure free passage in the Mediterranean and a good flow to the hinterland, for tourist cruise traffic too.
 - **Transport;** the setting-up of an integrated multimodal Euro-Mediterranean transport network is a key target for sustainable economic and social development in the region. By increasing the efficiency of trade logistics, Mediterranean Partners Countries (MPC will improve their competitiveness in the global market through a strategy based on their proximity to America, Afica, Europa and withstand increasing Asian competition, by offering shorter delivery times and on-demand supply. The potential of the strategic situation of the Mediterranean must be exploited.
 - **Promoting excellence;** The North Mediterranean area is a European stronghold in relation to other regions when it comes to innovation capacity and performance.

The progression towards a knowledge based society and a strong research base have enabled excellence in sectors such as ICT, renewable energies, marine technologies and creative industries. The future challenges in this context will be to capitalise on the regions excellence and to promote and maintain innovation in existing and upcoming sectors on the South too.

- **Innovation and Research;** innovation is a key target for all Mediterranean countries. Innovative activity and capabilities are essential for economic growth and development, while new technologies create new opportunities for developing countries to participate in global knowledge networks. As a result, innovation is both a key element in the EU Lisbon strategy and a key target for the socio-economic development of MPC. There is emerging potential for cooperation in this field between EUMC and MPC, through interconnections or other links between technological poles and parks, incubators of innovative activities, R & D centres, etc. Innovation projects may have also a strong local aspect, supporting territorial development.
- **Employment and Education;** The demographic dynamics have very different effects on the Northern and the Southern shores of the MED Basin. ON the north, future challenges will be related to an ageing population, with its unfavourable impact on economic growth, innovation, public budgets, etc. On the other hand in MPC a young population will enter the job market. Unemployment is already a major development challenge in a number of MPC. Moreover, the different demographic and employment trends on the two shores of the Basin tend to widen the migration flows across the Mediterranean. The need for an improvement in human capital emerges on both shores of the Mediterranean.
- **Immigration;** Seaborne irregular immigration is a major concern in the region, calling for co-operation with Mediterranean partners to counter the phenomenon and prevent losses of human lives. Migration and social integration of migrants area shared challenge, which calls for a strategic approach aimed at optimising the benefits of migration for all partners.
- **Security;** Co-operation against organized crime, illegal immigration and to enhance maritime security.
- **Sustaining liveable territories;** The Mediterranean basin is a diverse region offering both attractive natural cultural and urban environments. One challenge will be to continue to support and enhance the strengths of urban and rural areas and their mutual links on the macro regional level. In this way economic growth and attractiveness of the regions communities need to be promoted to sustain liveability in a very turistical places

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN MACRO-REGION STRATEGY

Mediterranean Macro-Region. Calendar

- **5 February 2010** ♦ **IMC Political Bureau IMC_CPRM** launch of the initiative for the creation of a Mediterranean Macro-Region, and mandate the Mediterranean Research Institutes to prepare the scientific methodology for the operation

- **13 April 2010 ♦ Europe’s Macro–Regions Forum: Integration through territorial co-operation”.**
Hosted by the CoR in Brussels. A high level political seminar, organized in joint co-operation of the CoR Intergroup.. The seminar will also discuss strategies for the Danube and Baltic Sea.
The President of Murcia, Mr Valcarcel Siso, Vice_President of the CoR and of the IMC, will introduce the 5th February IMC Political Bureau mandate to start a Mediterranean Strategy, refers to the creation of a Mediterranean Macro–Region
- **6 May 2010, BX_ GT CT CIM_ Campania Region**
- **15 May 2010, Palermo, Unit for the Mediterranean**
- **18 May 2010_ Roma(Comitato IT__MacroMED)**
- **21 May 2010_ Gijón (MEDStrategy), “ Sea Bassin approaches and European Neighbourhood”**, starting the consultation process as to whether we need a Mediterranean Strategy, what would be the added benefit **Workshop in Gijón** during the Maritime Day.
- **25 May 2010_Valencia (CT and Neighborhood)**
- **11 June_ Inform the MED STRATEGY progress to the PB CPRM by the IMC Presidency**
- **14–15 2010 June_Sevilla Master Class MedGovernance**
- **16 June 2010_Bruxelles_EU2020+MacroMed (Arco Latino)**
- **17 June 2010_Bari. ENPI+MED_Comitato IT)**
- **1 July 2010_BX_Regional Policy+Neighborhood_Macro approach CIM+CRPM. 1st July_ Stakeholder Conference** ... supported representatives of all users, EU Institutions, Member States, Local and Regional Authorities can come together to find the most appropriate method of Managing the Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and tha added benefit.
- **13 September 2010_loannina, General Assambly Ioannina_Epiros**, Meeting about Mediterranean Strategy, working title “looking for the real world place of the MED”
- **October 2010_ DG MARE; PMIME. Conerence with DG MARE about Integrated Mediterranean Maritime Policy**

Timetable for Mediterranean Sea Strategy activities in 2010/2011

The Political Bureau of the CPRM Intermediterranean Commission

- asks the Executive Secretary for drawing up a IMC annual programme focused on these themes
- asks the MEDGOVERNANCE RIM for technical support to the IMC regions
- asks the Assembly for gathering European and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries to discuss and share priorities and actions involving local and regional governments;
- decides to meet again on Valencia, the 25th May 2010 for analysing the CIM proposal

Updated information will be available on www.medregions.com