

**Recommendations that have been approved on transferring the Facility
for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) to a
Euro-Mediterranean Development Bank**

During the Jordanian and the Tunisian Presidency and up till now, the Committee on economic and financial affairs, social affairs and education adopted the Tunisian proposal to transfer the Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) to a Euro-Mediterranean Development Bank, in order to push investment in the Southern Mediterranean, provide adequate funding for small and medium enterprises and provide employment opportunities and reduce the migration phenomenon.

Below are the recommendations presented by the EMPA Economic Committee and approved in the EMPA plenary session:

1) EMPA Resolution, Cairo, March 15, 2005:

Item (4)

- The Committee believes that financial, technical and technological assistance plays a key role in the process of reform and the economic and financial development of the Mediterranean region, in particular for the establishment of a genuine knowledge economy and to reduce the numerical gap between North and South. It calls for the funding priorities, which must be identified for the next few years to be determined by the time of the establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean free trade area in 2010.
- In this regard, the Committee supports the establishment of a working party for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP)), which will aim at promoting private sector development and improving the economic and social investment climate in the Mediterranean countries. The Commission has proposed that the EIB, other international financial institutions and representatives of the European Commission should be able to take part in its meetings (where the Committee deems this necessary), exchange views and answer questions from members. It calls on the EU to commit itself to assisting and supporting its partners in achieving their socio-economic sustainable development during the third phase of the MEDA program, which will begin in 2007. The Action Plans arising from the EU Neighbourhood policy have to play a key role in this regard.

2) Final Declaration of the Presidency, Tunis, 16-17 March 2007



- Demands to members' states and their Euro Mediterranean partners to take a new initiative whose objective is the transformation of FEMIP into an Euro-Mediterranean investment and development Bank; In order to reiterates the appeal to make the necessary studies relative to the transformation of FEMIP into an Euro-Mediterranean Development Bank in collaboration with the European Bank of investment owing to the importance of this Bank in the reinforcement of the private sector and the development of investment in the region;

3) Recommendation of the EMPA, Tunis 16-17 March 2007:

Item (42):

- Reiterates its call to undertake necessary studies with regard to the requirements to be met with a view to turning the Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP), in due course, into a Euro-Mediterranean Bank of Development, considering the importance of such a Bank in encouraging the private sector and developing investments in the region; and calls on Member States and Mediterranean partners to commit to a new initiative aimed at matching the required conditions and overcoming the obstacles in order to turn FEMIP into a Euro-Mediterranean investment and development bank;

4) Recommendation of the EMPA, ATHENS, 28 March 2008:

Item (12):

- Renews its request concerning the follow-up of the transformation of the Euro-Mediterranean Facility for Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) into a Euro-Mediterranean Development Bank; calls for the drawing-up of technical studies in collaboration with the European Investment Bank to be accelerated so as to transform this Facility into a bank and to ensure that projects are implemented more promptly and effectively and to create jobs in the region; recommends also the creation of a common technical working group (two members from the North and two members from the South belonging to the Economic Committee), in order to monitor implementation of the Road Map adopted by the EuroMed ECOFIN in June 2006 with various participants such as: the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the Euro-Mediterranean Facility for Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) and other experts in the field;

5) Final Declaration of the Presidency, ATHENS, 28 March 2008

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES

- Renews the request concerning the follow-up of the transformation of the Euro-Mediterranean facility for investment and partnership (FEMIP) to

a Euro-Mediterranean Bank of development, and calls for accelerating the achievement of technical studies in collaboration with the European Investment Bank to transform this facility into a bank;

6) Recommendation of the EMPA, Brussels, 16 March 2009

a- The Economic Committee:

Item (14):

- Stresses that supporting the Mediterranean Solar Plan requires taking into consideration the extensive experience that the EIB has gained in Europe through financing for solar energy technologies and more broadly in the fields of renewable energies and energy efficiencies, FEMIP has offered to play a key role, in close cooperation with the relevant actors involved, in the several investment-programmes and projects which are due to be implemented in the Mediterranean region in the years ahead;

Item (18):

- Welcomes the establishment of the Microfinance Facility, under FEMIP, to which 10 m EUR were allocated in 2007 and calls for an increase of this fund, according to successes obtained in supporting microfinance institutions from Southern Mediterranean partner countries; supports the FEMIP strategy of targeting very high value-added, smallscale operations, particularly by fostering the creation of properly managed microfinance institutions or by helping existing institutions to integrate fully into the local financial sector. It aims to involve the banking and financial sector to a greater extent in microfinance in order to increase awareness of the economic and social benefits of microfinance and develop it throughout the region;

b- The Culture Committee:

Item (20):

- Supports the proposal to create a Mediterranean Bank responsible in particular for facilitating the accumulation of savings through simple financial products (such as cash savings books, health savings books, pensions, housing and investments) and for ensuring the security of management, of conservation and above all the productive reemployment of these savings; stresses the importance of such a benchmark financial institution which would rapidly become a powerful lever for the creation of an area of common prosperity;

c- The Committee on Women's Rights:



EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



Item (20):

- **Recognizes that employment is a fundamental right for guaranteeing the decent living, and recommends to go in for financing mechanisms through direct micro-credits for the purpose to support private initiative and the creation of jobs and the creation of the banking institutions to facilitate investment and the Euro – Mediterranean partnership,**

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Chair of the EMPA Economic Committee