



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

MINUTES

of the meeting held in Barcelona, Spain
12 June 2014

1. Opening of the meeting, adoption of the draft agenda and of the minutes of the meeting at the Dead Sea/Jordan on 8 February 2014, welcome address by Ms. Ribeiro

After the adoption of the draft agenda and of the draft minutes of the Committee Meeting at the Dead Sea/Jordan on 8 February 2014 Ms. Teresa RIBEIRO, Deputy Secretary General for Energy at the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, welcomed the participants. She referred to the recent Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change held in Athens on 13 May 2014 with the main topics the Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean, climate change, and sustainable consumption and production of energy resources. She underlined the importance of enhancing the visibility of UfM-projects.

2. Mediterranean Solar Plan – Information on current projects Climate Change 2014 – Mitigation of Climate Change

Mr. Michael KOUBA, CEO, IIE Investment in Energy, Platform for Industry, talked about sources of alternative energy and how to raise public awareness. He explained the regulatory frameworks and financial tools which are essential for energy efficiency projects and stressed the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in various contexts. Finally he introduced some of the UfM's best practice projects which are part of a vision of a more sustainable use and consumption of energy resources in the future.

Delegates from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, the European Parliament, Tunisia, Morocco, Italy, Turkey, Luxembourg and Morocco took the floor in the following discussion.

3. Climate Change 2014 – Mitigation of Climate Change

Mr. Stefan SCHLEICHER, Professor at the Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change at the University of Graz, presented a vision of a possible future mitigation of climate change which would depend on a variety of factors by discussing the latest IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report. Above all, immediate action from all regions of the world was required as well as an investment in, and a keenness for, the development of new, environmentally friendly technologies such as energy self-sufficient buildings, inter-modal mobility and new production technologies with 3D printing.

Delegates from the European Parliament, Morocco, Algeria, Jordan, Italy, Luxembourg and Tunisia took the floor in the following discussion.

Before adjourning the meeting the Secretary General of the UfM, Mr. Fathallah Sijilmassi, welcomed the Committee.

4. Status and Monitoring of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Mediterranean

Ms. Purificació CANALS, Chairwoman of MedPAN, gave a closer look at the current challenges, visions and objectives of her work. At present there are 170 designated MPAs and 507 Natura 2000 sites which constitute 4,56% of the total Mediterranean Sea area, although 10% was the international objective of the Convention for Biological diversity. She deplored in particular the uneven distribution of MPAs (84% in the Northern basin), the lack of MPAs in the open sea and the weak representation of some (or certain) habitats and species. This was due to insufficient management – only 42% of MPAs have a management structure – and to a lack of financial resources. Ms. Canals stressed that countries have already committed themselves at the international, Mediterranean and EU- levels in this regard. After discussing the strategic objectives of the Roadmap for 2020 she concluded by explaining the purpose, structure and activities of the MedPAN network.

Delegates from Jordan, Italy and Morocco took the floor in the following discussion.

5. Let's Do It! Mediterranean

Ms. Agni KALDMA, Let's Do It! Mediterranean core team member (or leader, or...) and Ms. Zeynep TARHAN, Let's Do It! Turkey, project coordinator gave a presentation on "Let's Clean the Mediterranean Together!", a countrywide land and sea cleanup that took place on 10-11 May in 15 countries surrounding the Mediterranean Sea when more than 60.000 people cleaned beaches and the shallow seabed of illegal waste. The two keynote speakers provided an overview of a variety of international volunteer cooperation initiatives that aim to bring people together with the common goal of cleaning the Mediterranean in a sustainable way. A [video](#) on activities in 2014 was presented, now available on the internet. The "Let's Do It!" movement started in Estonia in 2008, when a country with a population slightly over 1 million brought together 50,000 people to clean up the entire country in just five hours. Up to now, almost 10 million people and over 100 countries have joined the Let's Do It! network.

Delegates from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Estonia and Morocco took the floor in the following discussion. The Chair drew attention to the report "Let's Do It" of this Committee, presented by co-rapporteurs from Austria, Estonia, Israel and the Palestinian Authority in 2012.

6. Cleaner Energy Saving Mediterranean Cities (CES-MED)

Mr. Naguib AMIN, Team Leader of the EU funded CES-MED Project, talked about this capacity building project with the purpose of implementing more sustainable local policies in cities/municipalities in Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Israel, Palestine and Lebanon. He went on to explain the various working partners, the core activities of CES-MED - such as developing SEAPs (Sustainable Energy Action Plans) - and concluded by describing the predominantly positive results of the projects. In this regard a national coordination group has been established in each country and 21 cities have joined the project so far.

Delegates from Luxembourg and Turkey took the floor in the following discussion.

7. Any other business

The Chair together with his Vice-Chairs from Algeria and the Palestinian Authority were received by the City Councilor for the Environment of Barcelona, Mr. Joan PUIGDOLLERS.

The day after the meeting the Committee visited a waste treatment plant and a water treatment plant in the city of Barcelona.

The **next meeting** of the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water will take place in Zagreb on 6-7 October 2014, hosted by the Croatian Parliament.
