The Mediterranean addressing Climate Change in view of Copenhagen (COP15) and beyond

La Méditerranée faisant face aux changements climatiques en vue de Copenhague (COP 15) et au-delà
EDITORIAL

The present edition of “Sustainable Mediterranean”, which by the way marks also its 15th anniversary, is meant to be a concrete contribution to the burning issue of Climate Change and its specificities in the Mediterranean region in view of the 15th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP15s) to be held in Copenhagen in December this year.

Although the Mediterranean countries were rather late in understanding the implications of the impacts of climate change, the IPCC report - which represents adequately the international scientific consensus - indicates that the Mediterranean will be one of the most affected zones. Business as usual can not be any longer accepted if we wish to avoid major disasters, such as devastating floods and droughts.

Mediterranean Civil Society and MIO-ECSDE with its very wide membership in particular, has insisted in all regional fora and the European Union that ambitious objectives and agreements are urgently necessary in order to cope with the climate change challenges.

We are keen to observe the EU meeting its 20% reduction target by 2020 through correct implementation of all possible mitigation measures and means including its Emissions Trading System (ETS).

A strong reorientation of the European and the Mediterranean economy towards low carbon options with a combination and wide use of energy saving methods and renewable energies is in our point of view the proper solution which will encourage innovation and green jobs.

This should be very much encouraged by the Union for the Mediterranean (UEM) and all EU neighborhood policy schemes and initiatives.

From the Dialogues which are reported and reflected in this edition it is obvious that the Mediterranean Civil Society including NGOs, Parliamentarians, Journalists, etc., put a very high priority and emphasis on the adaptation measures to climate change.

It is a fact that at the moment only few of the Mediterranean countries have elaborated Adaptation Strategies but there is no doubt that particularly in addressing serious reductions in water availability, urgent regional and national action on this front is necessary. This could be facilitated by the new Mediterranean Water Strategy, currently under preparation, and by the relevant components of the Horizon 2020 Initiative.

Furthermore, Civil Society will need to be at the forefront, promoting alternative environment and socially friendly solutions.

Energy and water economy, promotion of waste recycling, water recycling and reuse, considerable improvements in agriculture, rainwater harvesting and of course consistent awareness raising and Education for Sustainable Development are necessary.

Mediterranean Civil Society organizations are committed to do their best. The authorities and relevant organizations, local, national, international, should effectively facilitate the meaningful participation of Civil Society and its efforts for the rapid reorientation of our “Culture” to more sustainable patterns.

In out, the Society Civil devrait être au premier plan dans la promotion de solutions alternatives bénéfiques pour l’environnement et la société.

L'économie dans l'utilisation de l'énergie et de l'eau, la promotion du recyclage des déchets, le recyclage et la réutilisation de l'eau, des améliorations considérables dans l’agriculture, la récolte des eaux pluviales et, bien sûr, une sensibilisation et éducation pour le développement durable à grand échelle sont nécessaires.

Les organisations de la société civile méditerranéenne se sont engagées à faire de leur mieux. Les autorités et les organisations pertinentes locales, nationales et internationales devraient faciliter efficacement la participation concrète de la société civile et ses efforts en vue d’une réorientation rapide de notre «Culture» à des modes plus durables.

Prof. Michael Sounes
Chairman of MIO-ECSDE

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The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) to the Marrakech Declaration "Making the Mediterranean a model region for combating climate change"

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The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, met in Cairo, Egypt from 28 to 30 September 2009, referring to one of the M SSD
seven priority fields of action "improved rational use of energy use and mitigation of and adaptation to climate change" and taking into account the conclusions of the
Almeria Declaration, 2008, International Solidarity Conference on Climate Change Strategies for the Africans and Mediterranean regions, held in Tunis in 2007 and
Rabat Declaration on Climate Change, 2007

Recognizes the importance of acting towards the implementa-
tion of adaptation measures in order to contrib-
ute to facing climate change challenges;
Notes that, at present the financial instruments made
available to Mediterranean countries by the interna-
tional community to facilitate their adaptation to cli-
mate change and for the reduction of their emissions
have been broadly underutilized;
Also notes that there is today consensus among the in-
ternational scientific community concerning climate
change. The work of the Intergovernmental Panel on
Climate Change (IPCC) has confirmed the existence of
abnormal global warming that is unprecedented in its
extent and rapidity, the principal cause of which is hu-
man activity;
Considers that the climate threat is compounded by
challenges in the fields of energy, the economy and de-
mography in a context of general population growth.
The combination of these various challenges is liable to
undermine the effectiveness and even the relevance of
economic investments made over recent years and to re-
result in unprecedented social problems;
Reaffirms the priority of compliance with international
commitments for the reduction of greenhouse gasses in
the context of the objectives of the Kyoto Protocol and the recommendations of the Bali Roadmap;
Considers it necessary to fully utilize the results of ex-
isting research and assessment on the extent of climate
change impacts on Mediterranean economies and soci-
eties, as well as a set of indicators to follow current de-
velopments;
In terms of the global combat against the aggravation of
the greenhouse effect, despite the low level of emissions
by countries in the South and East of the region, and in
terms of adaptation:

**The MCSD proposes an intervention in Copenhagen** by the President of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

The objectives of the project are:
- to predict and to quantify physical impacts of climate change in the Mediterranean area;
- to evaluate the consequences of climate change for the society and the economy of the populations located in the
  Mediterranean area;
- to develop an integrated approach to understand combined effects of climate change;
- to identify adaptation and mitigation strategies in collaboration with regional stakeholders.

The "MARRAKESH DECLARATION"

**C**ontacting Parties to the Barcelona Convention convene in
Marrakesh to adopt urgent adaptation measures to climate
change on 3 December 2009. Here is their declaration:

We, Ministers of the Environment and Heads of Delega-
tion of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for
the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal
Region of the Mediterranean (the Barcelona Conven-
tion) and its Protocols, meeting in Marrakesh, Morocco,
on 4 November 2009,

**Concerned** by the serious threats to the environment that
are confronting the Mediterranean, including the de-
struction of its biodiversity, adverse effects on the coun-
tryside, coastline and water resources, soil degradation,
desertification, coastal erosion, eutrophication, pollu-
tion from land-based sources, negative impacts related
to the growth of maritime traffic, the over-exploitation
of natural resources, the harmful proliferation of algae
or other organisms, and the unsustainable exploitation
of marine resources,

**Recalling** the regional cooperation framework estab-
lished through the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)
since 1975, which has enabled the countries in the re-

region to combine their efforts to improve the quality of
the marine and coastal environment and promote sus-
tainable development in the Mediterranean,

**Considering** that climate change is a major challenge
that humanity will face over the next few decades and
that all regions of the world will experience effects on
human health, well-being and food security, habitable
areas, development of all communities, wetlands, wa-
ter and other natural resources,

**Considering** that, in the specific case of the Medi-
terranean, in which a great majority of the population is
concentrated on the coastline, these impacts will have
particularly significant consequences, especially in eco-
nomic, social and environmental terms,

**Concerned** at the scientific conclusions contained in
the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Pan-
el on Climate Change, and the most recent scientific find-
ing, particularly those relating to the impact of climate
change in the Mediterranean, which is considered to be
among the regions most vulnerable to climate change,

Also concerned at the effects of climate change on the
ecosystems and resources of Mediterranean coastal ar-
eas resulting, among other factors, from the rise in the
level of the sea, an increase in temperatures, the acidifi-
cation of marine waters and the modification of the eco-
nomic and social equilibrium of coastal communities,

Considering that it is necessary to continue research into
the extent of the environmental and socio-economic
impacts of climate change in the Mediterranean, while
making full use of existing evaluations,
Emphasizing the importance of the adoption by all countries of further measures to combat climate change as a matter of urgency, taking into account their shared but differentiated responsibilities, their respective capacities and the principle of equity.

Considering that climate change to climate change and its consequences is a high priority for all the countries in the Mediterranean region, and that the response should be such as to develop and implement the Millennium Development Goals and the objectives of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), taking into account in particular the capacities and needs of the developing countries, and

with concern that current financial instruments made available to Mediterranean countries by the international community to facilitate their adaptation to climate change and to protect them from the destruction of their emissions have been widely underutilized,

Further emphasizing that the current financial crisis needs to be considered as an opportunity and not an obstacle to the establishment of development strategies which create wealth, employment and social cohesion, and cannot be used as a pretext for inaction in the face of the economic, social and environmental challenges of climate change,

Aware that it is essential to reinforce regional cooperation to identify and assess the short-, medium- and long-term impacts of, and vulnerabilities to, climate change in the Mediterranean region and to design and implement the best adaptation and prevention options,

Considering that the pooling of the efforts of all the Contracting Parties in the Mediterranean could serve as an example for other regions of the world,

Recalling the recommendations of the 15th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD - Cairo, September 2009), which call on the Contracting Parties to continue the adaptation measures on an urgent basis with a view to strengthening the resilience of the Mediterranean region in the face of climate change,

Welcoming the Union for the Mediterranean, launched on 13 July 2008, which brings together, in its various aspects, the Council of Europe, the European Union and its ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) partners, and

Enhancing regional cooperation to combat the effects of climate change in the region and enhance the institutional mechanisms, particularly to provide a mechanism for early warning systems and the strengthening of capacities to identify the best options for making better and more rational use of resources and adopting alternative development models.

Noting the progress achieved in terms of the strengthening of MAP through the entry into force of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the amendments to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources of Pollution and the adoption of legally binding measures for the reduction of BOD5 and the elimination of persistent organic pollutants (POPs), the signature of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol in the Mediterranean and its ratification by two States, and the measures taken by the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Protocol and its Protocols, the MSSD and their national strategies for sustainable development, and the importance of the COP to the Contracting Parties, especially within the Convention and the need for better use to be made of these mechanisms to promote more effective implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols,

Hereby declare that we are resolved to:

• Work together to achieve an ambitious and balanced agreement on a new Climate Change Conference (Copenhagen, 7-18 December 2009) that is commensurate with the future challenges of climate change so as to limit the rise in temperature to less than 2°C in relation to pre-industrial levels and to achieve all the goals of the Bali Action Plan. In this context, we undertake to:
• Continue to implement the Bali Action Plan as well as the agreed measures on climate change at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, and cooperate to this end with the other Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
• Strengthen relations between the countries of the region on the negotiating themes in the context of the UNFCCC with a view to the convergence of viewpoints in order to raise awareness at the global level of the problems and challenges faced by the Mediterranean in the field of climate change;
• Promote Mediterranean cooperation to combat the effects of climate change in the region and enhance the institutional mechanisms, particularly to provide a mechanism for early warning systems and the exchange of experience with other regions of the world;
• Promote new mitigation technologies in the region so as to ensure a better evaluation of their impact on the Mediterranean ecosystem, taking into account the precautionary principle;
• Implement effective coordination to ensure the integration of climate change issues into development policies with the aim of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the objectives of the MSSD, and ensure the strengthening of cooperation for the sharing of experiences and the implementation of adaptation and risk-management strategies;
• Call for adaptation to climate change to be fully taken into account in the review of the MSSD during the next biennium: this review should be broadened to include an analysis of the structuring of the Strategy, in order to integrate adaptation into development policies, including at the regional level;
• Reinforce the implementation of the principle of participation and ensure that long-term concerns are taken into account in the MSSD and the diversity of its representation of all Mediterranean stakeholders;
• Promote the development of the carbon market in the Mediterranean region;
• Develop renewable energy through current regional initiatives, such as the Mediterranean Solar Plan and the Mediterranean Programme for Renewable Energy (MEDARE);

Promote better regional environmental governance in the Mediterranean by:

• Conferring the need for an integrated approach that guarantees coherence between the various sectoral strategies and takes into consideration their impact on ecosystems;
• Call on the Contracting Parties that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps to ratify the MAP legal instruments, and particularly to expedite procedures for the ratification of the ICZM Protocol;
• Taking measures to make progress in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and to achieve the objectives of the MSSD;
• Fully supporting the process of the formulation and adoption of the agreed measures on climate change at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, and to achieve all five pillars of the Bali Action Plan. In this context, we undertake to:
• Implement the Bali Action Plan as well as the agreed measures on climate change at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, and cooperate to this end with the other Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
• Agree on the principles of the adaptation to climate change strategy and adopt a political declaration setting out the parameters of adaptation to climate change and its implementation on the basis of the agreed understandings contained in the Bali Action Plan;
• Take measures to enhance the implementation of the MSSD and its Protocols and to achieve all the objectives of the MSSD, as well as the adaptation actions taken in the context of the Convention and its Protocols, including the development of a climate change adaptation strategy for the Mediterranean region, and to elaborate the adaptation measures to be taken in light of the conclusions of the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen and the outcomes of the ongoing negotiations on climate change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
• Set up a regional mechanism to facilitate the development of adaptation actions, as well as the strengthening of capacities to implement adaptation actions, and prevent and mitigate the effects of climate change in the Mediterranean region and its coastal and marine areas;
• Promote the implementation of the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources of Pollution, and ensure that the measures adopted by the Contracting Parties to implement this Protocol and its Protocols and the MSSD and the adaptation actions taken within the framework of the MSSD are consistent with the objectives of the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources of Pollution and the adaptation actions taken within the framework of the MSSD;
• Promote the adaptation actions taken in the context of the Convention and its Protocols, and adopt a political declaration setting out the parameters of adaptation to climate change and its implementation on the basis of the agreed understandings contained in the Bali Action Plan; and take measures to enhance the implementation of the MSSD and its Protocols and to achieve all the objectives of the MSSD, as well as the adaptation actions taken in the context of the Convention and its Protocols, including the development of a climate change adaptation strategy for the Mediterranean region, and to elaborate the adaptation measures to be taken in light of the conclusions of the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen and the outcomes of the ongoing negotiations on climate change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
• Promote the implementation of the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources of Pollution, and ensure that the measures adopted by the Contracting Parties to implement this Protocol and its Protocols and the MSSD and the adaptation actions taken within the framework of the MSSD are consistent with the objectives of the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources of Pollution and the adaptation actions taken within the framework of the MSSD; and
• Promote the adaptation actions taken in the context of the Convention and its Protocols, and adopt a political declaration setting out the parameters of adaptation to climate change and its implementation on the basis of the agreed understandings contained in the Bali Action Plan; and take measures to enhance the implementation of the MSSD and its Protocols and to achieve all the objectives of the MSSD, as well as the adaptation actions taken in the context of the Convention and its Protocols, including the development of a climate change adaptation strategy for the Mediterranean region, and to elaborate the adaptation measures to be taken in light of the conclusions of the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Copenhagen and the outcomes of the ongoing negotiations on climate change at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

On 24 October 2009, people in 181 countries came together for the most widespread day of environmental action in the planet’s history. At over 3200 events around the world, people gathered to call for strong action and bold leadership on the climate crisis. The actions came in response to a call from 350.org (www.350.org), whose promoters have adopted the urgings of scientists such as Professor James Hansen that carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere is currently at near 390ppm, parts per million must be reduced as soon as possible to 350 ppm: if civilization as we know it is to survive. The 350ppm target is supported by nearly 90 developing nations, small island states, least developed countries and some middle income developing nations. This target is not supported by developed nations and could become a key controversy at the forthcoming UN climate change conference in Copenhagen in December.
1. The latest scientific findings have influenced over 20 developing countries (small island states, least developed countries and some others) to demand deeper emission cuts than those advocated for 2020 and 2050 in the 4th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. What is the view of the Commission and of the Member States?

The EU has based its position in the climate change negotiations on the findings of the IPCC’s Fourth Assessment Report which represents the closest thing to a global scientific consensus there is. This shows that average global warming needs to be kept below 2°C in order to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, and that this in turn requires global emissions to peak within 10 years and then be cut to at least 50% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Recent scientific reports seem indeed only to confirm or strengthen our worries. This underlines the urgency to achieve our targets. That is why the climate and energy package has been adopted in the middle of the financial and economic crisis.

1.1. To make Europe’s economy more energy-efficient and less carbon-intensive our 2020 emission target needs to be achieved mainly through domestic mitigation measures, and that actual domestic emission cuts will be far less than 20%, because of generous offsetting provisions.

The Climate and Energy package in fact has comprehensive and strict compliance mechanisms to ensure that the EU meets its 20% reduction target by 2020. Under the Effort Sharing Decision, Member States are subject to annual monitoring and reporting of emissions from sectors outside the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) and they have to follow a linear emission reduction path in the period 2013-2020. If a Member State fails to meet this path in any year it must make additional emission reductions in subsequent years. Under the EU ETS, the compliance provisions apply of course directly to companies rather than to Member States.

Each company participating in the EU ETS has to carefully monitor and report greenhouse gas pollution and to surrender allowances, which have to be independently verified. On this basis, and by April every year, companies have to surrender a number of allowances equal to their emissions during the previous year. If a company fails to surrender, not only does it have to pay a fine of €100 per missing allowance, but the obligation to surrender the allowances still remains.

1.2. How do you respond to NGO criticisms of the EU Climate and Energy Package adopted by the European Council in December 2008, in that it lacks compliance mechanisms, and that actual domestic emission cuts will be far less than 20%, because of generous offsetting provisions?

The EU ETS allows for the use of emissions reductions from other actions, such as Joint Implementation (JI) and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), to satisfy a certain percentage of the allowances required by the cap. In the broader sense for the spread of climate policies worldwide, the Climate and Energy package is also an important step.

The package is part of the solution both to the climate crisis and to the current economic and financial crisis. It represents a true “green deal” which will give Europe the chance to become the world’s leading economy in the post-industrial age. It will also improve Europe’s energy security, and strengthen its energy independence.

Whether the cap leads to a surplus of allowances in relation to actual verified emissions or not depends on a wide range of things, such as the weather, fuel prices and fuel use, investments in cleaner technologies, production levels, etc. Admittedly, in the first “learning-by-doing” period of the market in 2005 there was a surplus of allowances, because Member States and the Commission did not yet have access to verified emissions data per participating installation, and it was therefore difficult to calculate exactly where the cap should be. When the cap for the current trading period was calculated, however, such information was available. Consequently the cap was set at a level 6.5% lower than the level of verified emissions of covered installations in 2005.

In the current economic crisis, as production levels are reduced, so are emission levels. The scarcity of allowances in the market will therefore be affected temporarily, but as production picks up again, emission levels will rise and the price of allowances can be expected to go up accordingly. One must not forget that the cap for the third trading period will be tightened every year until 2020 and beyond. Member States and European industry can be sure about two things: the EU’s climate policies are here to stay, and other parts of the world are moving on this issue as well. Therefore, if EU industry wants to enjoy first-mover advantages by developing and using clean technologies, there are certainly incentives.

2. How do you respond to NGO criticisms of the EU Climate and Energy Package adopted by the European Council in December 2008, in that it lacks compliance mechanisms, and that actual domestic emission cuts will be far less than 20%, because of generous offsetting provisions?

2.1. In the package there is a review clause. This would make it possible to react to changes that provide even more long-term certainty to operators to be able to plan their investments in clean-economy. A regulatory certainty is crucial for operators to be able to plan their investments in clean-economy.

In the broader sense for the spread of climate policies worldwide, the Climate and Energy package is also an important step.

2.2. The Commission has assessed the EU’s role within the search for global climate change solutions. By 7th December 2008, 175 countries had signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Why was the EU not among them?

The EU has put forward an outline for the climate package and has clearly stated its views on how the package should be structured. The EU’s position has been well prepared and is clear. The Climate Change package is now due to be presented to the 15th Conference of Parties (COP15) in Copenhagen on 8th December 2009. It is not up to us to decide where other countries are in the negotiations, it is only up to us to make our views be heard.

2.3. The Climate and Energy package is one of the key building blocks of Europe’s energy policy and has been developed as part of the climate and energy package.

3. What in your view are the most positive aspects of the package?

3.1. There are many positive aspects of the package both for the EU generally and industry in particular, and in a broader sense for the spread of climate policies worldwide.

3.2. The package includes market-based solutions to address climate change.

4. What in your view are the most positive aspects of the package?

4.1. There are many positive aspects of the package both for the EU generally and industry in particular, and in a broader sense for the spread of climate policies worldwide.

4.2. The package is based on the principle of the “polluter pays”.

5. How do you assess the EU’s role within the search for dangerous levels of climate change later this century if we continue with business as usual. But science also shows this can be avoided if the world takes the necessary action, which is to ensure global emissions peak before 2020 and then fall by at least half of their 1990s level by mid-century. Copenhagen is where we have to put global emissions on the right track. And as I’ve just mentioned there needs to be a review clause in the agreement so it can be adjusted if necessary.

6. It was recently announced that the Commission would retool its communications strategy to prioritise its work on climate change and would also collaborate with MTV, to increase young people’s awareness about climate change. Why weren’t such initiatives taken long ago, and what more should be done to ensure that the European public fully aware of the challenges ahead?

The collaboration with MTV is by no means the first but rather the latest in a series of such initiatives we have been taking.

7. So far only eight Member States have adopted Climate Change Adaptation Plans. What do you see as the major adaptation challenges for EU as well as the functioning of the EC up to 2020, and beyond that?

First of all, eight adaptation plans out of 27 Member States does not seem a satisfactory score. Adaptation Plans provide the necessary strategic approach to ensure that timely and effective adaptation measures will be taken to deal with the unavoidable impacts of climate change. In the policy document or White Paper on adaptation we issued last spring, the Commission calls for the development of both adaptation and vulnerability assessment strategies. We have also suggested making adaptation strategies mandatory from 2012. Over the coming years the Commission will work closely with the Member States to ensure that the adaptation plans are comprehensive, coherent, and cost-effective.
As far as the Mediterranean Partnership did not mention climate change at all. In subsequent years, there was very little regional co-operation or action under the EMP on climate change and often rather summary mentions of it in the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plans for south Mediterranean partners. As a Mediterranean, what is your comment?

That is why we systematically raise climate change and the need to adapt to it, the Mediterranean countries were not the centre of attention as their emissions are relatively low. The EMP Action Plans were negotiated five years ago and reflect the priorities of the partner countries at that time. However now that there is increasing political awareness of the implications of climate change and the need to adapt to it, the Mediterranean countries will have to face this challenge and the cost of climate change will hit hard. We are increasingly seeing Mediterranean countries themselves raising this issue as a concern because they are more and more aware that climate change will not just impact their environment but also hamper their economic growth.

Can you indicate the preliminary findings of the CIRCE project in 2009? The findings from CIRCE so far bear out what I’ve just said. They point among other things to more severe changes in the water cycle with greater frequency of droughts and floods. It is clear that climate change is having an impact on a range of economic sectors and activities including tourism, health and the provision of ecosystem services. Big changes are anticipated in agriculture and forests, for example. The project is developing so-called ‘social climate impact funnels’ to estimate impacts on things like economic growth and water management. The intention is that these can also serve as a tool to aid decision-making regarding adaptation to climate change. CIRCE is closely linked to our development of adaptation policy at EU level and discussion on how to integrate both adaptation and climate mitigation measures into our current water policies.

The Mediterranean region is a particularly vulnerable region as far as financial support is concerned, the Commission is currently carrying out the Mediterranean dialogue on the external assistance and through this we are trying to mainstream climate change, but we cannot increase overall funding or create new mechanisms as we are bound by the financing framework for 2007-2013. However, from 2014 there will be a new financial framework in place and in this perspective the Commission recently proposed to scale up climate financing by the EU, either through the EU budget or by setting up a special climate fund.

10. Can you indicate the preliminary findings of the CIRCE project in 2009? The findings from CIRCE so far bear out what I’ve just said. They point among other things to more severe changes in the water cycle with greater frequency of droughts and floods. It is clear that climate change is having an impact on a range of economic sectors and activities including tourism, health and the provision of ecosystem services. Big changes are anticipated in agriculture and forests, for example. The project is developing so-called ‘social climate impact funnels’ to estimate impacts on things like economic growth and water management. The intention is that these can also serve as a tool to aid decision-making regarding adaptation to climate change. CIRCE is closely linked to our development of adaptation policy at EU level and discussion on how to integrate both adaptation and climate mitigation measures into our current water policies.

The Civil Society Dialogue on Mediterranean Processes: UfM Ministerial on Environment - Climate Change COP Copenhagen - Long Term Strategy on Water in the Mediterranean League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009


League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009


League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009


League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009


League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009


League of Arab States, Cairo, 1 November 2009
The Mediterranean Environment Civil Society input on the Long-Term Strategy on Water for the Mediterranean (SWM) were finalised: By the end of the afternoon session the following documents to the UfM Ministerial on Environment - Climate Change, on the Climate Change COP Copenhagen, in English and French (www.mio-ecsde.org) from Civil Society representatives were presented and submitted to the Ministerial Conference on Environment. It has been confirmed that the agenda of the UfM Ministerial Meeting foresees the presentation of the document. 

Two key input presentations were made by Ms. Barbara Tomassini, Global Water Partnership-Med, on the European Water Governance (Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative), ISDR (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction), PME (President of Meteorology and Environment), IWA, RITSEC and Cedare. After the presentations an arduous discussion took place in Dubrovnik on 26-27 November by the Chairperson of Meteorology and Environment (UfM) Ministerial Conference on Environment to take place in Dubrovnik on 26-27 November 2009 by the MIO-ECSDE representative Dr. Tommie Vlachogianni. There is very clear reference to the intervention in the draft final report of the 16th COP. Furthermore, copies of the document were made available outside the conference room and all delegations and organizations were invited to examine it. When read out in the plenary, it was applauded genuinely. Also, a copy of this document will be sent to each delegation and organization present at the meeting.

The Civil Society Dialogue was organized back-to-back with the Joint Egyptian-Dutch Water Conference "Towards the new Long-Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean" that took place on 2-3 November in Cairo. At this Conference which aimed at contributing to the development of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean as well as to the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen, the "Input of the Mediterranean Environmental Civil Society on the Long-Term Strategy on Water for the Mediterranean (SWM)" was presented by Ms. Barbara Tomassini (MIO-ECSDE Project Officer) and well accepted.

3) This document as also presented by Ms. Anastasia Roistides, Head Officer of MIO-ECSDE, to the 2nd Meeting of the Water Expert Group (WEG) that guides the elaboration of the SWM and which took place on the 4th of November again in Cairo. The WEG acknowledged the document and mentioned it in its final conclusions.

4) The "Input of Mediterranean Environmental Civil Society to the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment (Dubrovnik 26-27 November 2009)" will be finalized in the following days at regional level through further deliberation as the preparation for the Ministerial Meeting is progressing. The final document will then be presented and submitted to the Ministerial Conference on Environment. It has been confirmed that the agenda of the Ministerial Meeting foresees the presentation of this document.

All of these documents are available in English and French at www.mio-ecsde.org and sub-regional policy processes for integrated water resources management as well as the UfM Strategic Partnership for the Large Marine Ecosystem.

The Civil Society Dialogue also provided the background of the 7th Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) and the Circle of Mediterranean Journalists for Environmental and Sustainable Development (COMJESD) Each of the Circles held their own closed sessions after the conclusion of the Civil Society Dialogue. Furthermore, the Dialogue was intrinsically linked with the National Workshop on Climate Change organized on the previous day by RAED with the support of the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt, ABRI (Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative), ISDR (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction), PME (President of Meteorology and Environment), IWA, RITSEC and Cedare.

Three years have passed since that meeting and the launch of Horizon 2020. Much has happened along the way, and later this month Mediterranean Environment Ministers will meet in Dubrovnik to review the progress made so far. This summer saw the publication of a Horizon 2020 progress report, demonstrating that the actions from the Cairo roadmap, agreed by environment ministers three years ago, are well underway. There is positive news to report on efforts to reduce Mediterranean pollution, but the report also underlines that there is no room for complacency, as much remains to be done. I am sure that your meeting today and your continuing activities are helping address these concerns. This meeting comes at an important moment for the Mediterranean. Climate change is now a reality, and the Mediterranean is one of the areas most affected in Europe.

This week sees a Conference of the Parties of the Barcelona Convention, and later this month comes the Ministerial Meeting in Dubrovnik. The last official climate talks before Copenhagen start in Barcelona tomorrow, and of course ministers from around the globe will gather in Copenhagen in December. The unique vulnerability of the Mediterranean should be underlined at all of these meetings, as they provide tangible opportunities to do something about it. But environment ministers, and even governments, cannot hope to tackle the problems facing the Mediterranean alone. We need to go much wider - we need to involve all of society. Your input is vital to shaping solutions, in developing ownership from the bottom-up.

So my first message to you is - please keep up the pressure on the people who work in administrations. Your scrutiny and comments are extremely valuable. We need to constantly question and evaluate our actions and their results, and your pressure helps us do that.

My second message is to welcome your influence on the outcome of the international processes. Three years ago your suggestions played a key role in devising the Cairo roadmap. Today, whether it be influencing the Mediterranean Water Strategy or identifying regional actions for adapting to climate change, I am looking forward to more concrete contributions.

Once again, my apologies for not joining you at the meeting - I wish you every success, and I am sure the outcome will be very fruitful.
All climate change scenarios predict that the Mediterranean will be one of the most severely affected regions, with an increase in the intensity and frequency of floods and particularly of droughts and repercussions on the quality of life and of natural resources. Representatives of Mediterranean Civil Society working on environment and sustainable development, gathered in Cairo on the 1st of November 2009, propose herewith appropriate approaches and measures in order to tackle adaptation - and to a certain extent also mitigation - challenges in the Mediterranean region. The measures suggested for the areas mentioned below should be aligned with the principle of common but differently recognized responsibility and must be complemented by horizontal, cross-cutting good governance, appropriate awareness raising, information and capacity building, research, education for sustainable development, meaningful public participation/ stakeholder involvement and the wide use of financial instruments. Robust regulatory frameworks will need to be developed and enforced while institutional set-ups might also be reformed so as to respond to emerging climate risks in a holistic approach. The adaptive capacity of individuals, communities and authorities needs to be enhanced. Furthermore, current production and consumption patterns and trends need to be reversed.

Water resources

- Mainstream adaptation measures into national IWRM planning/policies
- Promote water efficiency and demand management (i.e. sustainable irrigation techniques; water savings in agriculture and industry; socially sensitive water pricing policies for households; rationalize virtual water balances)
- Use conventional and non conventional water resources appropriately so as to match increased demand, such as rainwater harvesting, water retention and collection systems, appropriate wastewater treatment and reuse (‘regenerated’ water), desalination via renewable energies, groundwater recharge.

Traditional water collection and distribution mechanisms should be reintroduced

Civil protection from extreme weather events

- Develop early warning systems for extreme weather events (i.e. heat and cold waves, floods, droughts, forest fires and tornados) and regional cooperation in this field
- Promote knowledge and good practices at community and individual level
- Promote related research and strengthen information systems on climate change creating co-ordinated, transversal and inter-sectoral mechanisms
- Increase public awareness on climate change impacts, including the implications on human health
- Discourage new construction in areas prone to floods and landslides

- Develop flood protection systems up-stream and protection systems against sea-level rise on the coastline accordingly

- Invest more efforts to research the interlinks between climate, extreme phenomena and migration and address them effectively taking measures for the human rights of people escaping environmental deterioration.

Ecosystems

- Protect systems, in particular wetlands, from over-extraction of water especially during drought periods, ensuring adequate water for their ecological functioning
- Protect wetland systems (i.e. flood plains, river del tas) useful as buffer zones for flood protection
- Protect forests and maquis-covered areas from wildfire risks (through monitoring and early intervention)
- Promote the protection of soil as a complex and crucial ecosystem which when healthy can efficiently contribute to climate change regulation
- Calculate and introduce the valuation of ecosystem services as an integral part of IWRM, adaptation and sustainable development strategies
- Protect marine biodiversity from the implications of climate change, the resulting acidification of the seas and its impact on marine biota. The establishment of Marine Protected Areas is crucial

Agriculture/forestry/land use/coastal zones

- Encourage the use of drought resistant crops especially in arid zones
- Promote efficient irrigation techniques
- Maintain or reintroduce soil retention and water harvesting techniques
- Protect arable land in coastal zones from saltwater intrusion by avoiding groundwater over-extraction, by developing sound groundwater recharge practices and barriers to saltwater intrusion, when appropriate
- Protect forests from wildfires through increased awareness raising, monitoring and on-site infrastructures to retain water in order to prevent soil erosion and the risk of flood, landslides and desertification as well as further warming
- Avoid the development of settlements, infrastructures (i.e. industry and activities in zones prone to sea-level rise in the next 20-30 years

Energy/industry/transports

- Promote bio-climatic architecture (incl. passive cooling and heating techniques, retrofitting of buildings) to cope with increased temperature variability and avoid further warming
- Encourage and support saving measures and techniques – inter alia through pricing policies - for households, industry, transports, etc.
- Foster the development of renewable sources of energy, in particular solar (photovoltaic, thermal), wind, wave and geo-thermal
- Envisage the use of small hydropower systems in such a manner that they can be combined with water storage and flood protection and minimize undesirable side-effects for ecosystems.

Tourism

- Promote water efficiency measures and use of non conventional water resources (i.e. waste water reuse) in the tourism sector
- Avoid the development of large-scale and/or water-intensive tourism activities in arid areas (i.e. golf complexes)
- Promote alternative/sustainable tourism activities during seasons less prone to drought and heat waves

Financing

- Additional, coordinated and accessible funds are needed as are transparent and effective financing mechanisms, especially for less developed and vulnerable countries and communities
- These funds need to be appropriately blended in order to adequately address the needed measures (% GDP, grants, loans, etc.)
- The CEF contribution to climate change adaptation activities should be increased, while the Adaptation Fund should include North African countries

Tous les scénarios des changements climatiques prévoient que la Méditerranée sera l’une des régions les plus durement touchées par ce phénomène, avec une augmentation de l’intensité et de la fréquence des inondations, et particulièrement des sécheresses et de leur répercussions négatives sur la qualité de vie, de la sécurité et des ressources naturelles. Des représentants de la société civile méditerranéenne, opérant dans les domaines de l’environnement et du développement durable, réunis au Caire le 1er Novem bre 2009, proposent des approches et des mesures adaptées pour faire face à la question des changements climatiques, notamment en ce qui concerne les mesures relatives à l’adaptation, et dans une certaine mesure, les actions à mener pour atténuer les impacts des changements climatiques dans la région méditerranéenne. Les mesures proposées pour les domaines mentionnés ci-dessous, devraient être appliquées sur la base du principe de responsabilité commune mais différenciée et complétées par la bonne gouvernance, en tant...
nelles pour répondre à la demande accrue: la collecte des eaux de pluie, la rétention d’eau, le traitement approprié et la réutilisation des eaux usées pour l’agriculture, en tant que ressource d’eau régénérable, le dessalement par le recours aux énergies renouvelables et la recharge des eaux souterraines. Les mesures traditionnelles de collecte et distribution de l’eau devraient également être réinventées.

ii) La protection civile des phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes
a. Développer des systèmes d’alerte précoces pour affronter les phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes (chaleur, vagues de froid, inondations, sécheresses, incendies de forêts) en plus de la coopération régionale dans ce domaine.
c. Promouvoir la recherche et renforcer les systèmes d’information sur les changements climatiques en créant des mécanismes coordonnés, transversaux et inter-sectoriels.
d. Sensibiliser le public aux impacts des changements climatiques, notamment les incidences sur la santé publique.
e. Découvrir la nouvelle construction des établissements humains, logements et infrastructures dans les zones exposées aux risques des inondations et du glissement de terrain.
f. Développer des systèmes de protection contre les inondations en amont et intensifier les systèmes de protection contre l’élévation du niveau de la mer dans les zones côtières.

g. Déployer davantage d’efforts pour mieux apprécier les inter-relations entre les changements climatiques, les phénomènes extrêmes et la migration et pour y remédier efficacement.

iii) Ecosystèmes
a. Protéger les écosystèmes importants, comme les zones humides, de la surexploitation de l’eau, notamment pendant les périodes de sécheresse, en veillant à assurer leur approvisionnement en eau suffisant afin de permettre leur fonctionnement écologique.
b. Conserver les systèmes des zones humides (par exemple les plaines d’inondation, les deltas des rivières) qui servent comme des zones tampons, utiles pour la protection contre les inondations.
c. Protéger les forêts et les zones couvertes de maquis contre le surpâturage et les risques d’incendie (à commencer par le suivi précoce.
d. Promouvoir la protection du sol comme un écosystème complexe et crucial qui, lorsqu’il est en bonne santé, peut contribuer efficacement à la réglementation des changements climatiques.
e. Calculer et intégrer l’évaluation des services des écosystèmes en tant que partie intégrante de la GIRE, des stratégies d’adaptation et de développement durable.
f. Protéger la biodiversité marine contre les conséquences des changements climatiques et de l’acidification résultante des mers avec ses effets négatifs sur le milieu marin. La création d’aires marines protégées se rattait à cet effet une action essentielle.

g. Agriculture / Forêts / utilisation des terres / zones côtières
a. Encourager l’utilisation de cultures résistantes à la sécheresse dans les zones arides.
b. Promouvoir des techniques d’irrigation efficaces.
c. Maintenir ou réintroduire la réhabilitation des sols et les techniques de récupération de l’eau.
d. Protéger les terres arables dans les zones côtières contre l’intrusion d’eau salée, en évitant la surexploitation des eaux souterraines et en développant de bonnes pratiques d’alimentation des eaux souterraines, et des barrières à l’intrusion d’eau salée, si possible.
e. Protéger les forêts contre les incendies au moyen de la sensibilisation accrue du citoyen, le suivi et la mise en place des infrastructures appropriées pour retenir l’eau afin de prévenir l’érosion des sols, les risques d’inondations, le glissement des terrains, la désertification et le réchauffement climatique.
f. Éviter le développement d’établissements humains, d’infrastructures (industrie) et d’activités humaines dans les zones menacées par la montée des niveaux des océans durant les 20-30 prochaines années.

h) l’énergie / l’industrie / le transport
a. Promouvoir l’architecture bio-climatique pour faire face à la vulnérabilité de la température accrue et éviter le réchauffement supplémentaire (les techniques de refroidissement et de chauffage passifs, réfection des bâtiments).
b. Éviter les techniques et mesures d’économie d’énergie, inter alia par la baisse des politiques adéquates des prix (dans les usages de ménage, de l’industrie, du transport, etc.).
c. Favoriser le développement de sources d’énergie renouvelables: solaire (photovoltaïque, thermique), éolien, géothermique.
d. Envisager l’utilisation de petits systèmes hydroélectriques de telle manière qu’ils puissent être combinés aux fins du stockage d’eau, de la protection contre les inondations et de la prévention contre les effets secondaires et indésirables, nuisibles pour les écosystèmes.

i) Tourisme
a. Promouvoir des mesures efficaces d’utilisation de l’eau ainsi que les ressources non conventionnelles (notamment la revalorisation des eaux usées dans le secteur du tourisme).
b. Éviter l’usage intensif de l’eau dans les activités touristiques, particulièrement dans les zones arides (ex complexes de golf).
c. Promouvoir des activités touristiques alternatives et durables durant les saisons moins caractérisées par la sécheresse et les vagues de chaleur.

j) Financement
a. Assurer des fonds supplémentaires, coordonnés et accessibles ainsi que des mécanismes de financement transparentes et efficaces particulièrement pour les communautés et les pays moins développés et plus vulnérables.
b. Ces fonds doivent être convenablement mélangés afin d’aborder correctement les mesures nécessaires (s du PIB, subventions, prêts, etc).

c. La contribution du FEM aux activités d’adaptation aux changements climatiques devrait être augmentée, et le Fonds d’Adaptation devrait inclure les pays du Nord de l’Afrique.

The Cairo Message:
Coping with climate change is managing water for life

Adopted by the Joint Egyptian-Dutch Water Conference “Towards the new Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean”, that took place in Cairo, Egypt 2 and 3 November, 2009. It was organised by Egypt, the Netherlands, CPMH, ACP, CWP, Med and MED EDWI.

A strong and fair agreement in Copenhagen at the fifteenth Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change is crucial for water resources, water services, peace and for life.

In recent years and months several global and regional conferences on water have addressed the challenges that climate change and increased climate variability pose to water management. These changes present an additional challenge to the Mediterranean region, which suffers and aggravates the already existing serious water scarcity and drought problems. These circumstances request further elaboration and urgent implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures applying prevention and precautionary principles in order to address increasing uncertainties.

The following messages are conveyed to the negotiators for the COP-15 from the Joint Egyptian-Dutch Water Conference “Towards the new Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean” held in Cairo, Egypt on 2 and 3 November, 2009. The messages express the understanding and the commitment of the participants of the Joint Egyptian Dutch Water Conference on the actions to be taken at all levels and functions of governance in the region.

Adapting to increasing climate variability and change through better water management and water services requires significant additional efforts within water management and the areas of spatial planning and energy management guided by the following principles:

1. Governance of water resources management and water services should be strengthened within the water sector as well as beyond the water sector by addressing the water-energy, and water and food nexus and other complex cross-cutting aspects. Appropriate operational plans, projects and robust institutions should be in place to effectively manage future challenges and risks at local, national and regional level;

2. Knowledge, monitoring and information on climate and water as well as on adaptation measures should be produced and shared, enhanced data collection and monitoring systems set up and improved access to information and technology transfer guaranteed;

3. Resilience and defense measures to increased climate variability and climate change should be enhanced through the application of holistic concepts that consolidate structural measures with natural ecosystems under appropriate risk management. Particular emphasis should be given to water efficiency in water services. A high priority should be given first to improve and rationalize current surface and groundwater resources management. Current demand management measures should be seconded by the mobilization of water supply measures (conventional measures such as retention reservoirs, hills lakes as well as non-conventional options as re-use of properly treated waste water, desalination, rainwater harvesting, capture of sub-marine freshwater), once the projected impact of water saving measures prove insufficient. Other necessary multi-annual regulatory and supply methods and infrastructures in order to address the needs of human societies and ecosystems should be taken into account;

4. Impact and vulnerability assessments, based on appropriate monitoring, including to identify “hot spots” and risk management approaches are critical to sound adaptation practice;

5. Additional and accessible funds are essential as well as coordinated, transparent and effective financing mechanisms in particular for vulnerable countries and communities in the Mediterranean. Leveraging of additional sources of funds beyond grants should be sought, the appropriate blending of loans and grants and effective targeting of grant resources should be encouraged. These fund(s) should be defined in relation to the context and the overall public finance needs for mitigation and adaptation in these countries. Fast-start financing will be required pre-2013, in particular to enable capacity building and early actions.
With a sense of urgency these principles need to be ad-
hered in national plans and investment portfolios in the
region. The participants of the Joint Egyptian-Dutch Water Con-
ference “Towards the new Long Term Strategy for Wa-
ter in the Mediterranean” express their commitment to
strengthen institutional cooperation at all levels among
the climate, water, and wider development communi-
ties, and commit themselves to develop appropriate
mechanism and institutional arrangements in order to
work more collectively to address the immense develop-
ment challenges ahead. We, gathered at our meeting in Cairo on the 2nd and the
3rd November 2009, urge the COP-15 negotiators, as well as
the national and regional water and climate com-
munities, to look beyond the COP-15 and work through
dialogue on strengthening global and local mechanisms
and practices to enhance collective and local action on
water and adaptation.

The Water Expert Group for the new Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean that met in Cairo, Egypt on
November 4, 2009 welcomed the Cairo message and will present it to the Ministerial Conference on the Environment,
Dubrovnik (Croatia), 26-27 November 2009.

Mediterranean Symposium:
Perspectives for Water, Solid Waste & Energy management
in view of the Copenhagen Conference (COP 15)
23-24 October 2009, Athens, Greece

During the period of 21-25 October 2009, in Pa-
nia Athens, the Mediterranean Symposium: Perspectives for Water, Solid Waste & Energy management was co-organized MIO-ECSDE, CWP-Med, the University of Athens and LEADER EXPO. The Sym-
posium was organized in conjunction with the parallel Leaderexpo exhibitions: Envirotech ’09 (5th Interna-
tional Exhibition on Water and Environment Technolo-
gies) and Photovoltaic ’09 (4th International Exhibition
on Energy). The overall thematic structure of the Symposium was
linked to issues such as sustainable development, envi-
ronmental integration and natural resource protection. More specifically, the three sessions were a contribution to the international effort to address climate change, which will culminate with the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 15) in Copenhagen, December 2009 as well as to the Horizon 2020 Initiative which aims to
tackle the top sources of pollution in the Mediterranean
by the year 2020 i.e. urban waste water, municipal
waste and industrial emissions responsible for up to 80%
of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea.

Overall, the Symposium was attended by more than
160 of wide ranging participants from local authorities,
NGOs, energy and water related public and private en-
terprises as well as educators.

The three Sessions targeted the following priority themes:

Session 1: Non Conventional Water Resources (treated wastewater, rainwater harvesting, seawater desalination, virtual water, etc.)
- Ass. Prof. George Papadakis, Agricultural University of Athens, “Water desalination using renewable energy sources”
- Dr. Tchomi Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE, “Rainwater Harvesting: A key climate adaptation opportunity for the Mediterranean countries”
- Dr. Chrysochoumos A. Kambanellas, Ministry of Ag-
lulture - Water Development Department, Cyprus, “Grey water recycling in Cyprus”,
- Prof. Nikitas Nikitakos, University of Aegean, Dpt of
environmental Research and Sustainable Development, “Food security in Cyprus: Towards the new Long Term Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean”
- Prof. Evgenia Flogazi, University of Athens (NKUA) “Presentation of the educational material on Energy”
- Ms. Susanne Abreu, LIPOR (Portugal) and ACR+ (Asso-
- Mr. Panagiotis Christodoulakis, PAKOE (Greek NGO Federation), “Air pollution caused by illegal solid waste practices - Impacts on climate change”,
- Mr. E. Kohyfetis, HALYPs cement company, “Waste as an energy source in the cement industry and climate change emissions”
- Mr. Giorgos Pappas, Veliotiki company, “How house-
hold composting contributes to reducing GHG emis-
sions”

Session 2: Urban Solid Waste management with emphasis on Re-
use, Recycling, Composting, etc.
- Mr. Mixalis Petrakis, Director of the Institute for En-
vironmental Research and Sustainable Development, National Observatory of Athens “Climate Change im-
pacts in the Mediterranean Region”
- Dr. Diamandis Skordilis, Hellenic Ministry for Envi-
rionment, Physical Planning and Public Works, “Re-
ducing GHG emissions through Sustainable urban waste management”
- Dr. Vangelis Terzis, WWF Greece, “Climate Change and Waste - Greenhouse Gas emissions from waste management options”
- Ms. Foteini Zogianeni, Piraeus Bank, “Managing environmental impacts in the Financial Institutions: The case of Piraeus Bank”
- Ms. Susanne Abreu, LIPOR (Portugal) and ACR+ (Asso-
ciation of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustain-
able Resource management), “LIPOR against Climate Changes”
- Mr. Panagiotis Christodoulakis, PAKOE (Greek NGO Federation), “Air pollution caused by illegal solid waste practices - Impacts on climate change”
- Mr. E. Kohyfetis, HALYPs cement company, “Waste as an energy source in the cement industry and climate change emissions”
- Mr. Giorgos Pappas, Veliotiki company, “How house-
hold composting contributes to reducing GHG emis-
sions”
- Prof. Ouindi Mohamed, University of Rabat “Eduquer pour prévenir contre les causes des changements cli-
matiques”
- Ms. Mariza Koulou, Hellenic Ministry of Education Lifelong learning & Religious Affairs “On the ESD the-
matic year devoted to Energy”
- Prof. Evgenia Flogazi, University of Athens (NKUA) “Presentation of the educational material on Energy”
- Mr. Dimitris Dikaikos, University of Athens (NKUA), “Survey on the level of knowledge and atti-
dudes of secondary school Greek students on issues relating to Energy”
- Dr. Charalampos Malamatouzos, Hellenic Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, “The Policy on RES (Renewable Energy Sources) and ener-
gy saving at national and European level, and relat-
ing programmes & The educational Programmes of CRES”,
- Mr. Dimitris Kanellopoulos, Greek Public Power Com-
pany (DEI), “The educational programmes of DEI re-
lating to Energy”
- Ms. Katerina Stilogianni, ECOCITY, “The educational programmes of ECOCITY relating to Energy”
- Ms. Vicky Malotidi, MIO-ECSDE, MEdIES, “Educational material of MEdIES relating to Energy”

Session 3: Educating on Sustainable Energy Options and Lifestyles
- Prof. Ouni Mohamed, University of Rabat “Eduquer pour prévenir contre les causes des changements cli-
matiques”
- Ms. Mariza Koulou, Hellenic Ministry of Education Lifelong learning & Religious Affairs “On the ESD the-
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- Prof. Evgenia Flogazi, University of Athens (NKUA) “Presentation of the educational material on Energy”
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Find more information at: http://www.mio-ecsde.org/article.php/story-20091110150104963
The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, is a Federation of Mediterranean Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for the Environment and Development. MIO-ECSDE acts as a technical and political platform for the intervention of NGOs in the Mediterranean scene. In cooperation with Governments, International Organizations and other socio-economic partners, MIO-ECSDE plays an active role for the protection of the environment and the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region.

Background
MIO-ECSDE became a federation of Mediterranean NGOs in March 1996. Its roots go back to the early 80s, when the expanding Mediterranean membership of the European Community encouraged the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) to form its Mediterranean Committee supported by Elliniki Etairia (The Hellenic Society for the Protection of the Environment and the Cultural Heritage). The Mediterranean Information Office (MIO) was established in 1990 as a network of NGOs, under a joint project of EEB and Elliniki Etairia and in close collaboration with the Arab Network of Environment and Development (RAED). The continuous expansion of MIO-ECSDE’s Mediterranean NGO network and the increasing request for their representation in Mediterranean and International Fora, led to the transformation of MIO-ECSDE to its current NGO Federation status. Today it has a membership of 112 NGOs from 26 Mediterranean countries.

Our Mission
Our mission is to protect the Natural Environment (flora and fauna, biotopes, forests, coasts, natural resources, climate) and the Cultural Heritage (archaeological monuments, and traditional settlements, cities, etc.) of the Mediterranean Region. The ultimate goal of MIO-ECSDE is to promote Sustainable Development in a peaceful Mediterranean.

Major tools and methods
Major tools and methods used by MIO-ECSDE in order to achieve its objectives are the following:

- Promotion of the understanding and collaboration among the people of the Mediterranean, especially through their NGOs, between NGOs and Governments, Parliaments, Local Authorities, International Organizations and socio-economic actors of the Mediterranean Region.
- Assistance for the establishment, strengthening, co-operation and co-ordination of Mediterranean NGOs and facilitation of their efforts by ensuring the flow of information among relevant bodies.
- Promotion of education, research and study on Mediterranean issues, by facilitating collaboration between NGOs and Scientific and Academic Institutions.
- Raising of public awareness on crucial Mediterranean environmental issues, through campaigns, publications, exhibitions, public presentations, etc.

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