



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

2nd Standing Committee on Economic, Social and Environmental Cooperation

Ad Hoc Committee on Energy

Energy-Securing Strategy in the Mediterranean

Rapporteur: Hon. Mohamed Abou El Enein (Egypt)

*Resolution endorsed by consensus by the 2nd Standing Committee
at its 4th meeting on 25 June 2009 in Lisbon*

Taking into consideration:

- The Barcelona Declaration of November 28, 1995, which establishes the Euro-Mediterranean partnership;
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol;
- The Mediterranean program for renewable energies in 2002, the aim of which is to provide rural areas of the Mediterranean with sustainable energy services, as well as to contribute to the climate change mitigation by increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy mix of the Region;
- The meeting of the Communications Committee (COM (2003) 262) on the development of the energy policy for the EU and its partners;
- The European Commission's Green Book titled "European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Safe Energy", COM (2006) 105) Brussels, March 2006;
- The Club of Rome's White Book "Clean Power from Deserts – The DESERTEC, 2007";
- The conclusions of the Ministerial Conference on 'Renewable energies and energy efficiency: Innovative policies and financing instruments for the EU's Southern and Eastern neighbors, adopted on 19 April 2007 in Berlin;

- The meeting held in Monaco from the 29-30 March, 2007 of the Mediterranean Observatory of Energy (Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie) on energy and sustainable development;
 - The decisions of the Euro-Mediterranean Forum on Energy held in September 2007;
 - The MEDREG's current and planned projects to interconnect infrastructures in Mediterranean countries in the field of electricity and gaz. Presented to PAM delegates on 1st April in Cairo;
 - The decisions taken and long term objectives approved during the third, fourth and fifth Euro-Mediterranean Conferences of Energy Ministers, which were held in Athens on 21 May 2003, in Rome on 1 December 2003 and in Limassol on 17 December 2007, respectively;
 - The joint statements of G8 Energy Ministers Meeting held in Rome on May 24-25 2009;
 - The Joint Declaration of the Summit of the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean (Paris, 13 July 2008);
 - The results of the G20 summit in Washington of 14-15 November 2008, and having regard to the proposals of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos in 2009 and to the results of the G7 meeting held in Rome on February 14, 2009;
 - The results of the Tangier Declaration issued in the 'South Forum for a New Mediterranean' (MEDays) on November 27, 2008;
- a. Whereas the Mediterranean countries are characterized by three clear disparities in energy consumption, energy sources and the emission of carbon dioxide;
 - b. Whereas, the energy consumption in the Mediterranean countries has increased more than double in recent decades;
 - c. Whereas, The role of energy and its strong contribution to sustainable economic growth, socio-economic development and the competitiveness of economies require a varied, affordable, reliable and sufficient energy supply;
 - d. Despite the entry of a new era of energy, the world is increasingly dominated by concerns regarding the security and increasing demand of energy, and the need to strike a balance between development, environment, food security and access to a secure supply of energy;
 - e. Whereas the global financial and economic crisis has hit all countries in the world and resulted in serious unfathomable political, economic, and social repercussions, the depth and range of which cannot be predicted nor fathomed; and whereas its impact has moved from the cash to the real economy, represented in slowdown of global economic growth, high world unemployment rates, and a global decline in the direct investment, in addition to a world decrease in energy demand and lower prices of oil and gas;

- f. Whereas market conditions have begun to respond to the actions taken by States, but the extent of this crisis is still not known, and thus will affect the energy sector in the Mediterranean region;
- g. Emphasizing that Euro-Med countries should work together; hence having confidence in the importance of expediting the implementation of the priority projects determined by the Heads of States and governments in the Paris Declaration and the establishment of the Union for the Mediterranean, as one of the mechanisms to overcome or reduce the negative effects of the global economic crisis, it is necessary to continue to follow up the progress made in implementing these projects;
- h. Whereas, the hardships posed by the crisis are therefore not entirely negative, since recession gives us an opportunity to retool our economy and corporations and the crisis provides governments with a unique opportunity to funnel public funds into developing green technologies and alternative energy;
- i. The problem of securing energy and the provision of energy resources must bring together the common goals and policies of Mediterranean countries;
- j. The existence of a common energy policy is not only a necessity for economic and social growth, but can be an opportunity to turn the Mediterranean into an area of prosperity and strength.

Consequently, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

- 1. Emphasizes the importance of supporting the trend towards the joint exploration of the riches available in the Mediterranean region, such as the Sahara, which can play an important role in the production of new and renewable energy sources, and can help to maintain a balance between the need to produce these energies and achieve food security;
- 2. Refers to the benefits for all by expanding the integration of energy markets in the Mediterranean region and ending infrastructure projects necessary for energy;
- 3. Calls upon the Mediterranean countries and the developed industrial countries to apply the Kyoto Protocol, encouraging them to build environmentally friendly renewable energy plants, which depend on wind and sun and other Renewable Energy Sources;
- 4. Supports the adoption of regulation and the creation of sufficient levels of energy security as a guarantee of the supply quality in a Mediterranean market;
- 5. Recommend that all APM member States conduct a review of their Energy policies and identify whether the appropriate legislative apparatus regarding alternative energies is in place;

6. Calls for supporting investment in renewable energy and developing educational programs. This can be achieved through the adoption of policies and legislation and working to drive the private sector to invest in renewable energies;
7. Encourages all PAM countries to follow the example given by the EU's decision to increase the share of renewable energies to at least 20% in 2020 and, subsequently to reach a high percentage of production of renewable energy for total energy consumption, according to the capabilities of each country; and calls upon northern Mediterranean countries to provide technical assistance to partner countries with regard to solar energy, wind energy, biomass energy, geothermal energy and other types of renewable energy;
8. Supports the promotion of investments in the diversification of energy sources (energy mix) to fight the dependence and inefficiency and reach safety in the offer, competitiveness and environmental sustainability;
9. Stresses that supporting the Mediterranean Solar Plan launched within the Union for the Mediterranean requires taking into consideration 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-programs and projects which are due to be implemented in the Mediterranean region in the years ahead ;
10. Emphasizes that the Euro-Mediterranean solar power plan is to be integrated the in all national action plans related to European Neighborhood Policy, and better finance should be encouraged through the EU and European Investment Bank recovery plan;
11. Calling upon the European Commission and Governments of the Mediterranean countries to integrate solar energy projects as a key element for economic recovery plans that are being implemented to face the current economic crisis;
12. Calls for the Promotion of solar energy and other energy sources (such as wind energy and energy produced by rivers) through supportive plans, and renewable energy tariffs in many countries, both in Europe and North Africa; calls for encouraging production in order to ensure that renewable energy can be relied upon in a larger part of the total energy consumption, according to the capabilities of each country; and calls European Commission and the private sector to cooperate with other countries to provide technical assistance for the promotion of solar energy small and large projects;
13. Refers to the importance of motivating the establishment of a heating/cooling market, which depends on renewable energy sources, where using solar energy in this field is very effective, inexpensive and can significantly save electricity consumption, especially in light of the increasing demand for cooling;
14. Stresses the importance of finding technical solutions to the energy stocking issue;
15. Stresses the importance for University researchers working on renewable energies to link up with actors from the private sector;

16. Recognizes the importance of the EU financial aid initiatives to facilitate access via networks and the possible link between the transport networks with Europe to integrate renewable energy in the European energy markets;
17. Stresses the need for enhanced cooperation with international organization dealing with climate change, energy efficiency, promotion of RES, energy security such as IEA, BSEC and the newly founded IRENA;
18. Indicates that the success of a renewable energy policy requires the development of an actual technology transfer policy; and refers to the importance of reaching a Mediterranean treaty for organizing, implementing, transferring and promoting renewable energy technologies in the Mediterranean; and encourages all PAM countries to achieve compatibility of laws related to renewable energy;
19. Stresses the importance for the establishment of a structured dialogue among Research Institutions and Universities for the promotion of new technologies in the fields of RES and Energy Efficiency;
20. Calls for a broad policy for expanding the scope of scholarships and student exchange programs in this area, and the total integration of renewable energy in the European Neighborhood Policy action plans, and all bilateral agreements between the EU and partner countries in the southern Mediterranean;
21. Stresses developing the work of regional, national and local renewable energy structures in the Mediterranean region (e.g; Regional center of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Cairo, National Institute for Engineering, Technology and Innovation (INETI), National Laboratory for Energy and Geology (LNEG) and Energy Services Regulatory Authority (ERSE) in Portugal;
22. Calls for the establishment of a Mediterranean Institute for Energy;
23. Supports the establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean Energy Community;
24. Stresses the concept of adapting to climate change in national policies, and developing plans to prevent expected risks in the Mediterranean;
25. Recommends to make use of finance mechanisms, globally available for restricting pollution resulting from conventional power sources, including: an ambitious trade plan to make the Mediterranean region a global market for Carbon should be developed. National and regional plans for emissions should be encouraged and linked together. It is also important to develop and deploy new commercial techniques; to provide incentives for private sector investments, to support directly the development of new technologies, and to provide funding for increased investment in low carbon energy systems;
26. Views that if we work together, unify our efforts, share our experiences and coordinate our policies and markets, it will be possible to build a strong, effective and long-term Mediterranean strategy.