



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

1st Standing Committee on Political and Security related cooperation

"Strategies to Combat Public Sector Corruption in the Mediterranean"

Rapporteur: Hon. Giorgio Girgis Sorial (Italy)

Resolution unanimously adopted during the 8th PAM Plenary Session in Marseille, 21 January 2014

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *Conscious* that corruption is a rooted phenomenon on a global scale;
- b) *Deeply concerned* of its pervasiveness both in the private and in the public sectors;
- c) *Viewing with appreciation* that actions have been taken throughout the Mediterranean to effectively fight corruption;
- d) *Concerned* that perceived corruption levels in most Mediterranean States are excessively high;
- e) *Mindful* that instability and conflict at the national and regional levels provide opportunities for corruption, and encourage limited transparency in the shape of low level of democratic liberties;
- f) *Considering* that high levels of corruption reduce trade, and discourage foreign direct investment, the development and wealth of a country can be seriously hampered to the extent that some investment activities encourage, in their practices, the increasing of the phenomenon of corruption;
- g) *Conscious* of the need to promote and support anti-corruption efforts through parliamentary diplomacy, and cooperation with other international bodies in order to fully achieve the desired results against corruption;
- h) *Recalling* the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC), the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AU Convention), the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (OECD Anti-Bribery Convention), the Criminal Law Convention and Protocol on Corruption (CoE) and

the Civil Law Convention on Corruption (CoE);

1. **Calls on** all the PAM National Parliaments to ratify the anti-corruption Conventions, and actively implement them through their national Governments;
2. **Urges all** PAM parliamentarians to be more proactive to ensure transparency, accountability and the enforcement of anti-corruption measures;
3. **Strongly recommends** National Parliaments in countries with a high level of perceived corruption to prioritise anti-corruption actions at the top of their political agenda;
4. **Strongly encourage** all the Governments of PAM Member States to enhance cooperation, as a tool to contrast corruption and, in particular, to combat the phenomenon in the public sector;
5. **Invites** PAM Member States to take all the measures required to improve activities aimed at addressing the proliferation of the phenomenon;
6. **Affirms** the urgent need for national authorities to promote a change in culture through educational campaigns and other initiatives, designed to improve the understanding of the economic and social effects of the phenomenon itself;
7. **Stresses** the importance of awareness among national institutions and public officials;
8. **Supports** the initiatives of International Organisations, NGOs, national institutions and civil society to contrast the phenomenon, and stresses that the expansion of democratic liberties is an additional guarantee to actively combat against corruption;
9. **Requests** PAM parliamentarians to continue dedicating their efforts in preventing conflicts, which are one of the main reasons for the spreading of corruption and calls upon combining the political, parliamentary and civil efforts to combat the phenomenon of terrorism, which encourages its propagation;
10. **Confirms** its dedication to keep an open channel of communication and dialogue among international organisations and national authorities in order to adopt any helpful measure and action to contrast corruption in the Mediterranean region.