



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

2nd Standing Committee on Economic, Social and Environmental Cooperation

**“Activities of the PAM Panel on Trade
and Investments in the Mediterranean - 2013”**

Rapporteur: Hon. Nevena Stojanovic (Serbia)

Resolution unanimously adopted during the 8th PAM Plenary Session in Marseille, 20 January 2014

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *convinced* that economic growth is fundamental to achieve social peace and political stability in the Mediterranean region;
- b) *underlining* the importance of economic integration in order to stimulate investments and generate employment;
- c) *considering* the Energy Sector as critical for economic development and stability of the region, and *convinced* that PAM has to play a key role in the Energy Sector, in close cooperation with MEDREG and other regional players;
- d) *concerned* by the high unemployment rates – especially for the youth – in most of the Mediterranean countries;
- e) *considering* the phenomena of vulnerable employment, discouraged youth and segregation, as obstacles to employment and job creation;
- f) *having regard* to the outcome of the Meeting of the Steering Committee and that of the Executive Members of the Energy Group of the PAM Panel on Trade and Investments in the Mediterranean, held in Rabat, Morocco, on 3 and 4 May 2013, respectively;
- g) *considering* the recommendation resulting from the high-level UN-PAM international conference “Harnessing trade for growth in the Mediterranean region”, held in Geneva on 30-31 May 2013;
- h) *welcoming* the strengthened and increased cooperation of PAM with the most relevant international institution in the economic sector, such as the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding between PAM and the EBRD;
- i) *convinced* that the activities of the PAM Panel could greatly contribute to other sub-regional initiatives, such as, among others, the 5+5, West Mediterranean Dialogue;
- j) *having regard* to the outcome of the “International conference on productive work for youth in Tunisia and the MENA region”, organised by UNIDO in Tunis on 28-29 November 2012, to which PAM contributed;

- k) *considering* support to SMEs as a priority for the entire Mediterranean region;
 - l) *considering* waste, water, maritime infrastructure, and vocational training as issues to be tackled, discussed and addressed;
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- I. **Remains** committed to further support all initiatives focusing on economic growth and integration, through the action of the PAM Panel on Trade and Investments in the Mediterranean.
 - II. **Reiterates** its call to all national parliaments to study the adoption of specific legislation in order to boost the SMEs' ability to generate employment and to work to harmonize the set of rules at the regional level;
 - III. **Reiterates** its commitment to continue working in close cooperation with the UN, particularly the UNECE, the EBRD, the WB and the other major economic and financial institutions to contribute to address the economic challenges faced by the region;
 - IV. **Reaffirms** the importance of education and training in the transition from school to the labour market;
 - V. **Calls** on governments of member states to increase their efforts in support of the SMEs, in terms of financing, investments and bureaucratic procedures, as well as to promote entrepreneurship and self-employment;
 - VI. **Urges** member parliaments to focus on targeted labour market policies in order to better integrate and protect the youth workers;
 - VII. **Invites** all member parliaments to start the legislative procedures to implement the recommendations emerged in the occasion of the PAM Panel meetings;
 - VIII. **Calls** all member Parliaments to seek the active involvement of all relevant national economic and financial actors, such as Trade and Investment Promotion Agencies, banking institutions, Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations in the activities of the PAM Panel;
 - IX. **Invites** national member parliaments to involve the relevant national parliamentary committees in the work of the PAM Panel;
 - X. **Invites** the PAM Secretariat to monitor all relevant sub-regional initiatives on economic matters;
 - XI. **Invites** the PAM Panel on Trade and Investments in the Mediterranean to organize meetings – at the sectorial group level – to tackle specific issues of concern for the economic development of the region;
 - XII. **Requests** the PAM Panel to continue working in cooperation with all relevant players, in order to facilitate the exchanges of best practices and to support the economic process at large, particularly through legislative action.