



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

1st Standing Committee
on Political and Security-Related Cooperation

Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East

Rapporteur: Mr. George Vella (Malta)

*Resolution of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East [endorsed by consensus by the
1st Standing Committee at the 3rd Session of the Standing Committees
18 September 2008, St. Julians (Malta)]*

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- Recognising its primary role towards enhancing parliamentary diplomacy in the Mediterranean;
- Aware that the situation in the Middle East is being exacerbated by Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and other occupied Arab territories in Syria and Lebanon as well as new challenges including energy, water, international and internal migrations, terrorism, money laundering, organized crime, environmental degradation and human trafficking;
- Aware that the lack of an overall peaceful settlement in the Middle East area continues to deprive the peoples of the Mediterranean region of security, stability and development;
- Convinced that a final and peaceful settlement in the Middle East would be secured through the establishment of two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side within secure and internationally recognised borders;
- Recalling the need to reach a long-lasting peaceful settlement in the Middle East based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

- Supporting all efforts and initiatives that, through constructive dialogue, lead towards a long-lasting peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian issue and other correlated issues;
- Affirming the Ad Hoc Committee's objective to monitor the political and humanitarian situation in the Middle East and to determine the manner in which the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean as a whole could contribute towards the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian dispute;

Resolves to:

- a) Monitor objectively and impartially, and examine all ongoing peace initiatives;
 - b) Act as a brainstorming forum in support of diplomatic efforts for the region;
 - c) Organise civil society seminars that raise awareness, encourage and consider cooperation on constructive initiatives;
 - d) Serve as catalyst for new approaches and hopefully to generate solutions, including on soft issues such as socio-economic and environment issues;
 - e) Promote the PAM to play a primary role through the integration of specific issues in relation to the Middle East, as these would bring value added to and complement other international initiatives.
- Welcomes the efforts and work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Middle East and encourages the Committee to continue monitoring developments.
 - Calls upon the Secretary General of PAM to persist in his endeavours to organise a visit to the region by a PAM delegation in 2009.
 - Decides to remain seized on the matter.