

APROBAT

În sedința Biroului permanent al
Camerei Deputaților

din data de 14.02.2008



INFORMARE

Parlamentul României
Camera Deputaților

B.P. Nr. 55 din 102.2008

**privind participarea la
reuniunea Comisiei pentru mediu agricultură, probleme locale și regionale
a Adunării Parlamentare a Consiliului Europei
(Paris, 29-30 noiembrie 2007)**

În perioada 29-30 noiembrie 2007, s-a desfășurat, la Paris, reuniunea Comisiei pentru mediu, agricultură, probleme locale și regionale a Adunării Parlamentare a Consiliului Europei (A.P.C.E.), la care, din partea Delegației Parlamentului României la A.P.C.E. (Camera Deputaților), au participat domnii deputați Cezar Preda, Laurențiu Mironescu și Tamas Sandor, membri ai Comisiei, precum și doamna Nadia Ionescu, secretara Delegației Parlamentului României la A.P.C.E.

În prima zi a lucrărilor Comisiei, a avut loc audierea privind „Încălzirea globală și dezastrele ecologice”, în contextul pregătirii raportului cu același titlu de către parlamentarul britanic Alan Meale, la care au participat experți în domeniu precum domnul Pierre Friedlingstein, reprezentant al Centrului Național Francez de Cercetare Științifică și doamna Elena Manaenkova, reprezentant al Organizația „Fondul Mondial pentru Natură”.

Experții prezenți au anunțat că, în viitor, anul 2007 nu va mai fi considerat anul cu cele mai ridicate valori termice, datorită creșterii gazelor cu efect de seră, responsabile pentru creșterea temperaturilor și au declarat că, pentru comunitatea științifică, „încălzirea climatică este inevitabilă”.

La încheierea audierii, parlamentarul britanic Alan Meale și-a exprimat speranța că se va ajunge și la un consens politic, cel științific existând deja, cu privire la măsurile post-Kyoto. Totodată, parlamentarul britanic Alean Meale a accentuat faptul că, așa cum prognozează și Organizația „Fondul Mondial pentru Natură”, omenirea mai are la dispoziție cinci ani pentru a mai schimba ceva –

ceea ce presupune ca principalele schimbări în domeniul energiei să se realizeze până în anul 2012.

În cea de a doua zi a lucrărilor a avut loc audierea pe tema „Mediul înconjurător și sănătatea”, la care au participat experți în domeniu, precum domnul C. Vyvyan Howard, profesor la Universitatea din Liverpool, domnul Peter Ohnsorge, Președintele Academiei Europene pentru Medicină Ecologică, doamna Lisette van Vliet, reprezentanta Alianței „Sănătatea și Mediul”.

Dezbaterile s-au concentrat asupra rolului organizațiilor neguvernamentale în asigurarea unui mediu sănătos și asupra evaluării riscurilor substanțelor chimice periculoase, etc.

Parlamentarul luxemburghez Jean Huss, raportor A.P.C.E. pe tema „Mediul înconjurător și sănătatea”, a afirmat că 30% dintre europeni suferă din cauza unui mediu înconjurător poluat, iar 4 până la 9 % dintre aceștia, de boli cauzate de alimente contaminate din cauza mediului înconjurător poluat. „Aceste aspecte se repercutează asupra costului asigurărilor de sănătate, constituind poate un bun argument pentru sensibilizarea guvernelor asupra necesității prevenirii timpurii și asupra unei strategii pentru asigurarea unui mediu înconjurător sănătos”

Experții prezenți la audiere au subliniat că poluarea mediului are multe cauze, printre care și mercurul utilizat în plombele dentare, azbestul utilizat în diverse produse de tip casnic, etc. Bolile generate de acești poluatori sunt la rândul lor diverse, de la alergii și probleme de respirație, până la probleme reproductive și anumite forme de cancer. Experții s-au pronunțat pentru introducerea unui sistem de avertizare pe scară europeană, care să permită o intensificare a consultărilor între cadrele medicale, comunitatea științifică și mediul politic.

În continuarea dezbaterii, parlamentarul român Laurențiu Mironescu a susținut o prezentare pe tema Mării Negre, în contextul elaborării raportului „Lupta împotriva amenințărilor asupra mediului în Marea Mediterană și în

Marea Neagră” și, în numele Delegației Parlamentului României la A.P.C.E., a adresat invitația ca Subcomisia pentru Dezvoltare Locală și Regională să se întrunească în anul 2008, în România, la o dată și într-o locație ce se va stabili prin intermediul secretariatului Delegației Parlamentului României.

Menționăm că atât domnul Cezar Preda, cât și domnul deputat Laurențiu Mironescu sunt raportori ai Comisiei pentru mediu agricultură, probleme locale și regionale a A.P.C.E.

Cezar Preda, deputat PD

Laurențiu Mironescu, deputat PD

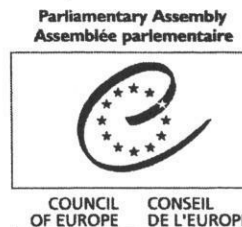
Tamas Sandor, deputat UDMR

The block contains two handwritten signatures. The first signature, for Cezar Preda, is written in black ink and is a stylized, cursive script. The second signature, for Laurențiu Mironescu, is also in black ink and is a more fluid, cursive script. Both signatures are positioned to the right of their respective printed names.

Red. Nadia Ionescu, director, secretara Delegației Parlamentului României la A.P.C.E.

Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire

Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs
Commission de l'environnement, de l'agriculture et des questions territoriales



AS/ENA (2007) 41
5 October 2007
aena07_41

The fight against harm to the environment in the Black Sea

Contribution by Mr Laurentiu Mironescu, Romania, EPP/CD to the report by Mr de Puig, Spain, SOC, rapporteur on "The fight against harm to the environment in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea"

I. Brief description of the Black Sea region and key issues

The Black Sea is an area of crucial importance for Europe, considering its geographical location, its socio-economic, cultural and environmental attributes: it is located at the frontiers of both geographical Europe (Council of Europe) and the European Union and represents a bridge between different cultures and religions. Cooperation can and should be increased both among the countries and among the local and regional authorities around the Black Sea, in order to improve the well-being of the inhabitants of the region, in particular from the environmental point of view, but also to increase stability and contribute to the general economical growth.

i. General environmental issues

The Black Sea is the world's largest land-locked and anoxic sea. It has a surface area of 461 000 square kilometres and its average depth is of 1240 meters, but about 25% is less than 200 meters deep. It is linked to the Mediterranean by the Dardanelles, which is a very shallow and very narrow strait.

The surface water temperature in the Black Sea varies seasonally and geographically between 0 degrees C and 25° C, while the deep water (1000 meters) remains a constant 9° C. The water below 150 meters in depth contains no oxygen and contains high concentrations of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S).

The Black Sea was once one of the most bountiful fisheries, easily supporting the many civilizations that grew up on its shores. Industrialization and regional population explosion have caused overfishing, eutrophication (the introduction of excessive nutrients into a body of water, encouraging increased algal growth and further decreasing the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the water), and the flow of chemical and radioactive poisons into the sea. Now this body of water, once an important source of food and recreation, is in danger of becoming a toxic and nearly lifeless place, an ecological disaster with few peers.

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The sources of the Black Sea's problems are myriad. The rivers that drain into the Black Sea bring with them heavy metals, synthetic organic compounds, oil, nutrients, untreated sewage, and radionuclides from Chernobyl. The dams on these rivers, as well as the need for freshwater for agriculture and domestic purposes, have drastically reduced the amount of freshwater flowing into the sea, which compounds the existing problems and alters the sea's salinity. Seaside cities are an additional source of untreated sewage, while their ports are a large source of both oil contamination and the importation of non-native species. Overexploitation of the Black Sea's fisheries have led to the commercial extinction of 21 of 26 species of fish.

The Danube River alone spews up to 280 tons of cadmium, 60 tons of mercury, 900 tons of copper, 4500 tons of lead, 6000 tons of zinc, 1000 tons of chromium and 50,000 tons of oil annually. The other main rivers that feed into the Black Sea, (the Dniepr, Dniestr, Don, Kuban, Yuzhnyy and Belaya), deposit another 87 tons of cadmium, 1500 tons of copper, 825 tons of lead and 2600 tons of zinc annually. These rivers are also the source of huge amounts of nitrates and phosphorus, which are the cause of increased algal and plankton blooms, reduction on dissolved oxygen concentrations and severe reductions in the fishery populations leading to changes in the food chain.

The coastal cities and ports ringing the sea are also a huge source of pollution with some cities like Odessa pumping raw sewage directly in to the sea. The largest port on the Black Sea, Sevastopol Bay, has oil concentrations 100 times higher than the maximum permissible concentration than the Russian Federation water standards allow.

Extreme overfishing has led to the commercial extinction of 21 fish species, including pike, perch, dolphins, bonito and bluefish which were quite abundant as recently as 1970. The remaining species are in danger from not only ecological issues, but also from the persisting inadequate fishing policy.

While the destruction of the Black Sea has not been at all ignored by those countries bordering it, only limited concerted action had been taken previous to the early 1990's and the ecological disaster was ignored internationally until recently. All is not lost, however, as there are now many projects in action to save the Black Sea.

As early as 1959 several nations implemented a Convention on Fishing in the Black Sea, but not all of the Black Sea nations signed it. In 1985 the eight countries through which the Danube river flows signed the Bucharest Declaration in an effort to measure and control the level of pollution in that waterway, but due to economic and political restraints it has obviously not been as successful as hoped, although the document was strengthened in 1994. In 1992, the six Black Sea countries signed a legal Convention for the Protection of the Black Sea providing the framework for more effective monitoring of pollution, and the restoration and conservation of the marine resources.

In 1993, the six Black Sea nations signed the Black Sea Environmental Programme (BSEP). Sponsors for this organization include UNDP's Global Environment Facility and the European Commission as well as the governments of France, Austria, Netherlands, UK and Japan. BSEP used the initial funding to comprehensively study, understand and evaluate the nature and causes of the destruction.

There is much that needs to be done. Cities and ports need funding to upgrade harbor facilities and sewers. All of the nations that inhabit the Black Sea drainage region must rigorously monitor and control industrial and agricultural waste. This is very expensive for these nations, some of which are struggling economically. Also, the fishing industry needs to be brought under control. Deepening the cooperation among all actors involved, at national and regional level, would contribute both to increase awareness on these issues in the region and possibly improve the environmental situation.

II. Existing cooperation initiatives and tools

Cooperation initiatives in the Black Sea region already exist or are currently under development. Among them can be mentioned the following ones:

i. The Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

In 1992, eleven countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine) signed in Istanbul the Summit Declaration and the Bosphorus Statement giving birth to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC).

BSEC came into existence as a unique and promising model of multilateral political and economic initiative aimed at fostering interaction and harmony among the member states, as well as to ensure peace, stability and prosperity encouraging friendly and good-neighbourly relations in the Black Sea region. Its headquarters are in Turkey, in Istanbul.

According to its Charter, the BSEC creates a framework for cooperation in the following fields: trade and economic development; banking and finance; communications; energy; transport; agriculture and agro-industry; health care and pharmaceuticals; environmental protection; tourism; science and technology; exchange of statistical data and economic information; collaboration between customs and other border authorities; human contacts; combating organized crime, illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons and radioactive materials, all acts of terrorism and illegal migration etc.

With the entry into force of its Charter in 1999, BSEC acquired international legal identity and was transformed into a full-fledged regional economic organization: the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

As far as environment protection is concerned, BSEC established an Action Plan for Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, as a general framework to promote cooperation among the BSEC member countries. Among the main objectives of the Plan are to sustain the efforts of each country in achieving a clean and healthy environment and to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life in the region, to promote the integration of the protection of the environment into the economic and social national policies, and to preserve and manage the region's natural resources in line with the principles of sustainable development.

The related Bodies and affiliated centers to the BSEC are: the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), the BSEC Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank, the International Center for Black Sea Studies and the BSEC Coordination Center for the Exchange of Statistical Data and Economic Information.

ii. The Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (the Black Sea Commission)

Acting on the mandate of the countries bordering the Black Sea (Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine) which signed and ratified in 1992 the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution, the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (the Black Sea Commission) implements the provisions of the Convention and the Black Sea Strategic Action Plan.

Its main challenges are combating pollution from land-based sources and maritime transport, achieving sustainable management of marine living resources and pursuing sustainable human development.

The secretariat of the commission is also located in Turkey, in Istanbul.

iii. The Energy Community in South-East Europe

In the field of energy, countries in South East Europe, including Black Sea riparian ones, have common goals as, for example, to improve overall energy conservation and efficiency and to reduce an excessively high energy intensity of production compared to international standards. The current fragmentation of energy supply might be overcome through cooperation among the various entities concerned and through physical connection of the networks. A regional approach to energy supply, therefore, would offer significant advantages both in terms of improved utilization of existing supply and production capacities. Major steps have already been taken over the last couple of years towards achieving these objectives in both the electricity and natural gas sectors.

The "Energy Community Treaty" was signed in Athens on 25 October 2005. The European Union and nine partners of South East Europe created the legal framework for an integrated energy market, whose development is coordinated by the European Commission and the Energy Community Secretariat (established in Vienna). The Treaty entered into force on 1 July 2006.

Among its major commitments are:

- to create a regionally integrated energy market for electricity and natural gas networks and to integrate that market into the wider EU market;
- to establish common rules for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity;
- to similarly establish common rules for the transmission, distribution, supply and storage of natural gas;
- to establish state level national energy authorities, regulators and transmission system operators;
- to establish compatible state and regional electricity and natural gas market action plans;
- embryonic regional level dispute resolution mechanisms;
- to open the markets in line with EU commitments but with a suitable transition period.

iv. The Black Sea Regional Energy Centre (BSREC)

Another cooperation structure devoted to energy cooperation in the Black Sea region is the Black Sea Regional Energy Centre (BSREC), which was established in 1994 at the joint initiative of the European Commission under its SYNERGY programme and eleven countries of the BS region. Currently, the BSREC has as members Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine and "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". Its activities are aimed at the implementation of the European Union acquis and harmonization of the energy policy of the BS region countries with the EU.

Among the main objectives of the BSREC are:

- facilitating the implementation of long/medium term integrated strategy of security of supply and sustainable development;
- promoting the market reform, with reference to EU Directives on electricity and gas and to the European Energy Charter;
- encouraging investment and funding opportunities in the energy sector of the Black Sea region;
- providing co-ordination services for international and bilaterally funded projects addressing the individual countries and the region;
- easing the access of foreign and international institutions and companies to the Black Sea region countries' energy sectors.

v. Universities cooperation

In 1992, a Romanian academic group took the initiative to set up the Black Sea University Foundation, a non-political and non-profit organisation. Since then, its activity focused on training young researchers, economists, managers, teachers or professionals through post-graduate summer courses.

The Foundation has set up a network of Black Sea universities, drawing inspiration from its exchanges with the Baltic Sea University (Uppsala) and the University of the Mediterranean Sea (Rome).

The Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN) numbers at present more than 100 universities. It seeks, among others, to develop a specialised network of resources, programmes and projects dealing with issues such as environmental protection.

vi. Inter-regional cooperation: the Balkan and Black Sea Regional Commission

The Balkan and Black Sea Regional Commission currently brings together 25 Regions from Greece, Turkey, Romania, Croatia and Ukraine. It has special partnerships with Serbian, Albanian, Bulgarian and Moldovan regions.

The objective of the Balkan and Black Sea Regional Commission is to encourage dialogue and cooperation between sub-state spheres of government. The aim is to constitute a lasting institutional framework to support the integration of these areas and the focus of the Commissions' activity is put on strengthening interregional cooperation and developing joint projects in sectors such as transport, the environment and economic development.

The Secretariat of the Commission is located in Kavala (Greece).

III. A Black Sea Euroregion

All the Black Sea riparian countries are members of the Council of Europe, whereas only two of them (Bulgaria and Romania) are members of the European Union. Therefore, while taking into account the existing cooperation structures, the Council of Europe is in a position to facilitate a strengthened cooperation at both national and regional level.

In 2006, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe proposed the creation of a new Euroregion in the Black Sea, following the example of the Adriatic Sea Euroregion which has been working successfully since June 2006. The latter also was an initiative of the Congress, supported by the Assembly in Resolution 1446 (2005) on cooperation and sustainable development in the Adriatic basin.

The Congress has organised three important conferences on this issue: in Constanta (Romania) in March 2006, in Samsun (Turkey) in November 2006 and in Odessa (Ukraine) in June 2007. They were also attended by representatives of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, which supports this new initiative of the congress to create a Black Sea Euroregion.

The Conference in Constanta stressed the significant contribution of the European Framework Convention on the trans-border co-operation of the local authorities (Madrid, 1980) to the reinforcement of the regional co-operation in Europe and reaffirmed the link existing between trans-national regional co-operation and the interdemocratic stability and sustainable development of the regions concerned. It also stressed that the natural or conventional borders should not prevent the development of exchanges, bonds and dialogue among the peoples, and civilizations in the Black Sea area, aimed at promoting the peaceful co-existence in multi-ethnic societies and the value of multi-culturalism.

The Conference asked the Congress to contribute to the creation of a Euroregion along the lines of the Adriatic Euroregion, providing the riparian countries of the Black Sea with an instrument establishing an effective dialogue and co-operation among the local and regional authorities, as well as concerted and integrated approaches to the region's problems. It also identified the aims to be considered for the Black Sea Euroregion project:

- promoting the co-operation among the Black Sea countries at local and regional level
- consolidating the democratic stability and promoting good governance,
- contributing to the promotion of sustainable development, including improved social and economic cohesion,

- enhancing the development of mutual relations between residents and institutions in this area, as a precondition for better knowledge, understanding and co-operation;
- making better use of regional resources to strengthen local authorities' management skills;
- fostering an effective exchange of experience in identifying sustainable financial resources for common projects of local and regional authorities, including assistance programmes developed by the EU;
- contributing to the promotion of exercising of the citizen's rights to participate in the public administration at local level.

It finally took note of Romania's offer to support the setting up of a permanent Secretariat of the future Black-Sea Euroregion.

The next Conference, held in Samsun in November 2006, focused on the protection of the environment, biodiversity and fishing for safeguarding the sustainability of the fragile ecosystem of the sea and of the principal rivers of the Basin and debated, among other issues, the investment for renewable energy production, the protection of the sea and of the rivers of the basin through preventing oil-spills and of the discharge of waste water, the management of maritime transport risks, the integrated management of coastal areas, the promotion of sustainable tourism, the development of inter-cultural and social cohesion co-operation initiatives, the migration management, the establishment of good governance practices for consolidating democratic stability, the efficient use of regional resources for helping local authorities to discharge their management duties and the need for effective exchange of information in order to find financial resources for co-operation projects.

The Conference in Samsun underlined that the Black Sea Basin is an area where national and international organisations – namely, the Black Sea Economic Co-operation Organisation (BSEC) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation Organisation (PABSEC) - intervene to foster economic co-operation but stressed that, nevertheless, there is still a strong need for implementing at local and regional level the initiatives conceived at such level. Globalisation being a phenomenon that can be tackled by increasing interregional cooperation initiatives, local and regional authorities could contribute not only to economic co-operation, but also to multilateral initiatives in the environmental, social and cultural sectors. It also gave a high appreciation for the ongoing cooperation established with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe for the success of the initiative.

In June 2007 a third conference was held in Odessa (Ukraine). It stressed the usefulness of a close interaction of the Euroregion with the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (BSEC) in view of the shared common goal, which is meeting the practical needs of the populations of the Black Sea Region. The Odessa Conference invited all potential partners of the Euroregion to contribute to the definition of an adequate statutory framework for the future Euroregion's structure, taking into account the different levels of local and regional governments while respecting the institutional and legal framework of the countries concerned. It asked the Congress to co-ordinate the preparation of a draft Statute of the Black Sea Euroregion in co-operation mainly with the technical unit already operational within the Constanta County Council.

IV. Conclusions

Creating a Black Sea Euroregion, similar to the Adriatic Euroregion, could make a significant contribution in stimulating the democratic process and in the promotion of good governance and strengthening security and stability in the area. It would contribute to the promotion of sustainable development, through improved social and economic cohesion, and co-operation.

The Assembly should give its full support to the initiative of the Congress to create such a Euroregion and should encourage national parliaments to proceed with all necessary legislative reforms for an efficient cooperation at regional level.

Parliamentary Assembly **Assemblée parlementaire**

Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs
Commission de l'environnement, de l'agriculture et des questions territoriales



AS/ENA/DEV (2007) OJ 02 rev.

28 November 2007

AENADEVOJ_07_02rev

Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs

Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development

REVISED DRAFT AGENDA

for the meeting to be held in **PARIS**
at the Council of Europe Office
(55 avenue Kléber, Paris 16^{ème} – *métro station Boissière*)
(tel: +33 (0) 1 44 05 33 60, fax: +33 (0) 1 47 27 36 47)

on **Thursday 29 November** (from 2.30 pm to approx 5.30 pm)

1. Agenda

[AS/ENA/DEV (2007) OJ 02 rev.]

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the draft agenda

2. Minutes

[AS/ENA/DEV (2007) PV 01]

Approval of the draft minutes of the meeting held in London and Sellafield on 16-17 May 2007

***This draft agenda, addressed to members of the Sub-Committee and their alternates,
is the convocation to the meeting***

**The meeting is open to all members of the plenary Committee
INTERPRETATION IN ENGLISH, FRENCH and RUSSIAN**

Copy to all members of the Committee and Secretaries of national delegations

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3. Statement by the Chair

4. Hearing on global warming and ecological disasters

Rapporteur: Mr Meale, United Kingdom, SOC

[AS/ENA (2007) 44, AS/ENA (2007) 26, Resolutions 1406 (2004) + 1552 (2007)]

Presentations by:

Mr Pierre Friedlingstein, National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), Laboratory on Climatic and Environmental Sciences (LSCE), Pierre Simon Laplace Institute (IPSL), France

Ms Elena Manaenkova, Director, Cabinet and External Relations Office, Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme (AREP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Exchange of views

5. Other business

6. Date and place of the next meeting

Parliamentary Assembly **Assemblée parlementaire**

Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs
Commission de l'environnement, de l'agriculture et des questions territoriales

Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

AS/ENA (2007) OJ 09 rev.

26 November 2007

AENAOJ_07_09rev

Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs

REVISED DRAFT AGENDA

for the meeting to be held in PARIS
at the Council of Europe Office
(55 avenue Kléber, Paris 16^{ème} – *métro station Boissière*)
(tel: +33 (0) 1 44 05 33 60, fax: +33 (0) 1 47 27 36 47)

on Friday 30 November (from 9.30 am to approx 5 pm)

1. Agenda

[AS/ENA (2007) OJ 09 rev.]

Adoption of the draft agenda

2. Minutes

[AS/ENA (2007) PV 08]

Approval of the draft minutes of the meeting held in Ponta Delgada (Azores) on 18-19 October 2007

3. Statement by the Chair

[Resolution 1588 (2007), voting - letter from President, press release priorities CM, EU maritime press releases]

This draft agenda, addressed to members of the Committee and their alternates, is the convocation to the meeting

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- 4. Global warming and ecological disasters**
Rapporteur: Mr Meale, United Kingdom, SOC
[AS/ENA (2007) 44, AS/ENA (2007) 26]

Report on the hearing held in Paris on 29 November (Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development)
Consideration of a preliminary draft recommendation
Exchange of views

- 5. Protection of the environment in the Arctic region**
Rapporteur: Mr Grachev, Russia, EDG
[AS/ENA (2007) 45, AS/ENA (2007) 29 rev]

Consideration of a preliminary draft resolution
Exchange of views

- 6. Transfrontier co-operation**
Rapporteur: Mr Popescu, Ukraine, SOC
[AS/ENA (2007) 43, AS/ENA (2007) 36 rev.]

Consideration of a preliminary draft recommendation
Exchange of views

At 11 am:

- 7. Hearing on environment and health**
Rapporteur: Mr Huss, Luxembourg, SOC
[AS/ENA (2006) 58, AS/ENA (2007) 12 rev. + 34]

Presentations by:

- **Mr C. Vyvyan Howard**, University of Liverpool (*Chemical risk assessment: an antidote to precaution*)
- **Mr Peter Ohnsorge**, Chairman, European Academy for Environmental Medicine Alliance (*Environment and health / Environmental medicine: neither similar nor controversial*)
- **Mrs Lisette van Vliet**, Health and Environment Alliance (*The role of NGOs in the environmental health process in Europe*)

Exchange of views

- 8. The fight against harm to the environment in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea**
Rapporteur: Mr de Puig, Spain, SOC
[AS/ENA (2007) 41]

Presentation by Mr Mironescu on the Black Sea
Exchange of views

- 9. The problem of environmental refugees**
[AS/Mig (2007) 17]

Presentation by Mr Bocchino (Italy, EDG), Rapporteur of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population
Exchange of views
Appointment of a Rapporteur for opinion

10. **Replies by the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the Committee**
[Doc. 11386, Rec. 1776 (2006), Doc. 11387, Rec. 1781 (2007), Doc. 11390, Rec. 1786 (2007)]

Exchange of views

11. **Committee's work programme**
[AS/ENA (2007) 02 rev 9]

A. Reports on past events
[MCL-15 (2007) 5 final]

- Conference of European Ministers responsible for Local and Regional Government (Valencia, Spain), 15-16 October: *MM. Schmied, Doric, Dupraz, Txueka*
- Annual Conference of CALRE, Berlin, 22-23 October: *Mr Schmied*
- OECD Fisheries Committee, Paris, 29-31 October: *MM. Dupraz, Txueka*
- 8th Conference of Presidents of European Regions with Legislative Powers (REGLEG) and Congress Working Group on Regions with legislative powers, Barcelona, 15-16 November: *MM. de Puig, Mendes Bota*
- Congress autumn session, Strasbourg, 20-21 November: *MM. Schmied, Doric*
- Joint meeting between the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development and the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Brussels, 21 November: *MM. Schmied, Dupraz*

B. Forthcoming activities

12. **Other business**

13. **Future meetings**

Paris (CoE Office), 19 December 2007: Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Food **(to be confirmed)**

Paris (CoE Office), 20 December 2007: plenary Committee

Strasbourg, 21-25 January 2008 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris (CoE Office), 21 or 22 February 2008: plenary Committee **(to be confirmed)**

Paris (CoE Office), 20 or 21 March 2008: plenary Committee **(to be confirmed)**