



**MANAGING MIGRATORY FLOWS AND CO-DEVELOPMENT
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION IN A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL MANNER**

*Resolution adopted unanimously by the Second Committee and
by the 2nd Plenary Session of the Assembly, 24 November 2007, St. Julians (Malta)*

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- (1) *Recognizing* that the fundamental causes of migration in the Mediterranean region are the poverty and underdevelopment triggered by demographic and economic disparities, geopolitical conflicts, wars and occupation, political instability, environmental factors and humanitarian disasters,
- (2) *Emphasizing* the need to cooperate in a spirit of mutual partnership in order to enhance migration management overall,
- (3) *Recognizing* that effective protection of migrant rights is one of the main components of managed migration, and that the regulatory instruments for illegal and irregular migration should not undermine human rights provisions pertaining to immigrants,
- (4) *Recognizing also* that the issue of illegal and irregular migration should be addressed on the basis of broader development frameworks, development strategies and shared prosperity, and not from the point of view of security considerations alone,
- (5) *Reaffirming* that the prevention and control of illegal and irregular migration must be strengthened in a cooperative and comprehensive way and that all Mediterranean countries have a duty to cooperate fully to that end,
- (6) *Agreeing* that well managed migration can promote closer ties between countries of origin, transit and destination, help meet existing and future labour needs and contribute to the development of all countries,

(7) *Agreeing also* that well managed migration can help resolve major long-standing problems in countries of destination and thus needs to be seen as an opportunity,

(8) At this point it is suggested that a working group be set up to undertake a comparative analysis of existing regional initiatives and inter-State dialogues relevant to different migration routes in and affecting the Mediterranean; if it proves impossible to convene such a working group, the co-Rapporteurs will be asked to gather the relevant information with a view to drafting preambular paragraph 8, to be included in this resolution for transmission to PAM Members before the second session of the Assembly,

(9) *Bearing in mind* that sustainable co-development policies such as those agreed between the European and Mediterranean countries can help alleviate poverty and underdevelopment,

(10) *Agreeing* that Mediterranean countries need both good, well managed projects and funds, and that existing financial means should be used with greater efficiency and transparency to provide full benefits to all countries,

(11) *Acknowledging* the need for a partnership approach among countries of origin, transit and destination in order to enhance migration management in a comprehensive, holistic and balanced manner, in a spirit of shared responsibility and cooperation,

Agrees that all the stakeholders involved (national governments, international organizations and other fora) need to act promptly in order to further their common objectives in line with national and regional efforts to address migration issues, placing particular emphasis on the:

- (a) Strengthening of regional inter-State initiatives to counteract illegal and irregular migration in the Mediterranean in a cooperative spirit that fosters responsibility and burden-sharing, with a view to ensuring visible improvements by the end of 2008;
- (b) (A paragraph on an operative recommendation stemming from work done as described in preambular paragraph 8 will be included here)

- (c) Creation of structures and avenues, as proposed by the European Commission, for managed legal migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region;
- (d) Provision of support by countries of destination and origin for diaspora networks and capacity building of diaspora organizations;
- (e) Facilitation and reduction of the cost of transferring remittances and the creation of financial and fiscal mechanisms aimed at encouraging immigrants to invest their savings in their countries of origin;
- (f) Encouragement of donors to channel financial transfers towards micro credit programmes, small businesses, social housing and similar projects;
- (g) Support for vocational training of young people, and promotion of high school and university education by organizing internships and exchanges;
- (h) Establishment of procedures to facilitate movements of students among Mediterranean countries and the creation of schemes to encourage the return of these students to their countries of origin;
- (i) Development of initiatives that draw on regional comparative advantages and promote the Mediterranean identity in order to develop products with strong value added;
- (j) Facilitation of the creation of a Mediterranean Investment Bank that mobilizes savings and helps finance projects;
- (k) Facilitation of the integration of agriculture and fishing into the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.