

Press Release

Malta 25/03/2015

22nd COPEAM annual Conference in Malta (26 - 28 March 2015)

The 22nd annual Conference of COPEAM (Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean *Audiovisual* Operators) was presented today in Malta to the Institutions and to the press by President Talal El Makdessi and Secretary General Pier Luigi Malesani, together with Tonio Portuguese, Chairman of the Maltese television PBS (Public Broadcasting Services). This event, organized in collaboration with PBS, will take place from 26th to 28th March around the topic "The Mediterranean and the exodus of populations: the role of the media".

200 foreign delegates are expected from 26 countries (*Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Italy, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Mauritania, Palestine, Romania, Serbia, Syria, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom*).

During the opening evening on 26th March, the two best documentaries of COPEAM-ASBU (Arab States Broadcasting Union) TV coproduction *Inter-Rives IV "Sports Without Borders"* will be awarded: an ex aequo to the Slovenian television (RTVSLO) and the Moroccan television (SNRT).

The official opening of the Conference will be held on Friday morning 27th March, followed by two plenary sessions on the topic "The Mediterranean and the exodus of populations: the role of the media". Various personalities and experts will take part in the panels: the Maltese Minister of Culture, Owen Bonnici; the Vice-President of EBU (European Broadcasting Union) and President of RAI, Anna Maria Tarantola; Ambassador Samir Al Kassir; Christian Berger, Director for North Africa, Middle East, Arabian Peninsula, Iran and Iraq, at the European External Action Service; Hatem Atallah, Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation; Adrian Edwards, Spokesperson and Head of News & Media for UNHCR.

The conference main topic and its TV representation will be discussed during the second session, introduced and moderated by Paola Barretta, researcher at the Osservatorio di Pavia, with the contributions of Robert Olsson, Programme Director of News and Current Affairs for Sveriges Television, Nida Rawabdeh, Chief editor at the Jordanian television, Boris Mitar, journalist at the Slovenian television and Xavier Marquet, Editor in chief of Maghreb-Orient Express for TV5 Monde.

The meetings of the 7 COPEAM Commissions (Television, Radio, Archives, Education, News and Magazine TV, Gender Equality, Cinema/Festival/Culture) will follow and the participants will have the opportunity to present their projects and initiatives.

During the conference closing day, on Saturday 28th March, the General Assembly of COPEAM will take place before the ASBU-COPEAM-EBU tripartite meeting.

Programme:

<http://www.copeam.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/COPEAM-Conference-Final-Program.pdf>

