Summary of the works

The President of the Commission, Alain Brenas (ALBA / Beirut), welcomed the participants and introduced the meeting.

TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS

The training projects - held online, because of the pandemic - dedicated to journalists were presented. In the field of information on sustainable development and climate, COPEAM, in collaboration with Uninettuno and with the support of the EIB-European Investment Bank, has produced the distance training module “Reporting climate change”. Two editions have already been completed, with the assignment of 21 diplomas to the journalists who have completed the training, and a third one - also open to journalists from sub-Saharan Africa - is underway and will end in January 2022. About the same subject, a webinar was organized with ICO Solutions (Marseille) for Mediterranean journalists, in order to discuss the links between the media and environmental players.

In the domain of gender equality, where COPEAM has been involved for a long time, in February 2021 a participatory training course on “Gender equality in the media”, funded by the Council of Europe through the North/South Center, was open to journalists, students and representatives of CSOs of Europe and the South-Mediterranean countries. The project’s closing webinar was organized in October 2021 around the theme "Gender equality and media narratives", with a panel of international experts and broadcasters such as RAI / Italy and 2M / Morocco.

Future projects: COPEAM underlined the need for major involvement of journalists from its network in the proposed trainings. Regarding the formats to be adopted, choices will be made based on the evolution of the pandemic. In any case, a combination between traditional face-to-face workshops and online training modules is to be considered as the most effective formula for maximizing the advantages of both methodologies. An inter-professional training in visual journalism involving both journalists and creative / graphic designers is under study.

Other training initiatives will be set up based on a questionnaire that COPEAM will submit to its associated radios and televisions in order to identify common and strategic priorities and interests.

STRENGTHENING DIALOGUE BETWEEN MEDIA AND AUDIOVISUAL & CINEMA SCHOOLS

Hybrid projections (online and in theatre) of “A première vue” - a project dedicated to short films by cinema schools’ students and developed by COPEAM with ALBA, ESAV, ESAC and Uninettuno - were organized as part of the 2021 edition of the Prix Italia of RAI and an evening dedicated to the Mediterranean during the 36th edition of La Mostra de València (Spain).

Thanks to TV5Monde, the first TV5Monde-COPEAM Prize for the best school short-film will be awarded in spring 2022. The composition of the jury, made of sector’s experts from the North and the South, and the prize to be assigned are under definition; the selection of the participating works (academic year 2020/2021) by the schools is in progress.

The potential of online meetings was also explored: a masterclass was organized in April 2021 for 40 students from the 3 partner film schools, around the theme "Film Music" with the composer Jean-Michel Bernard. The next masterclass will be organized in synergy with the Audiovisual Heritage Commission on December 15, 2021 and will be dedicated to the creative use of audiovisual archives.

Two additional projects to be developed are: the follow-up of the FIEST project concerning the writing of TV series and a training activity about writing for virtual & augmented reality.