

## 6<sup>th</sup> Co.Pe.A.M. CONFERENCE

Valencia, March 7-9, 1999

### FINAL RESOLUTION APPROVED BY THE GENERAL PLENARY ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly of active and associated member delegates participating to the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Permanent Conference of the Mediterranean Audio-visual Sector, headed "The Digital Era in the Mediterranean" and held in Valencia (Spain) from March 6-9, 1999, adopted during the plenary session of March 9, the following Final Resolution.

The general Assembly:

- **Rejoices** for the positive results recorded at the high level Conference of Thessaloniki in November 1997 and wishes that a follow-up Conference be organised as soon as possible so that the action undertaken by the EC - notably through the launch of the EUROMED Audio-visual programme - for which we are thankful, can continue and be development within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
- **Calls for** the EC to consider the projects put forward by the members of Co.Pe.A.M. (within the call for propositions "EUROMED Audio-visual") as essential elements for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean Audio-visual industry
- **Is glad** for the development of co-operation among Co.Pe.A.M., EBU and ASBU and asks the directive bodies of these three organisations to do their best for its actual put into practice
- **Reaffirms** the vital importance of professional training of TV and Radio operators of the Mediterranean basin and that of the transfer of technology, individuating two main priority sections:
  - Safeguarding and preserving the Euro-Mediterranean audio-visual and cinema patrimony
  - The evolution of new technologies, of information and communication as far as the passage to the Digital system, both in terms of production and broadcasting
- **Wishes** that the call for propositions expected within the framework of the programme "MED MEDIA" be launched as soon as possible and charges the General Secretariat to support the action of the "Training" working group for the setting up of a global Euro-Mediterranean professional training plan, with the aid of the main training organisations belonging to the Broadcasters member of Co.Pe.A.M.

- **Reaffirms** the urgency to develop an exchange system for Euro-Mediterranean news and magazine topics allowing for mutual acknowledgement of the diverse identities of the Region and reminds, to this regard, the determinant role that EBU call play in this field, notably within the framework of its "EVN-Med" programme
- **Decides** for the organisation of a data-base to allow for the availability, in real time, of all information necessary concerning the co-production projects and the propositions of the Partnership, hosted on the Co.Pe.A.M. web site.
- **Decides** for the organisation of a specific meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean programme directors, producers and broadcasters
- **Wishes** that the role of APIMED be reinforced as co-ordinating structure of the independent Euro-Mediterranean audio-visual industry
- **Asks** for a particular effort towards facilitating production of programmes based on archives, both radio and TV archives
- **Mandates** the General Secretariat to work - in liaison with the "Patrimony" working group and the UN "task force" for the greater participation of Co.Pe.A.M members to the project "Memories of Humanity" launched in November 1998 at the Forum of Televisions organised by the UN, as recommended particularly by the president of RAI
- **Recommends** that the current attempts, concerning notably access on request (video) to satellites, Tele-conferencing, and bi-directional utilisation, be fulfilled, ensuring at the same time flexibility and ability to manage the financial implications engendered by their being put in place
- **Recommends** that the information relative to the availability and identification of the resources of radio programmes of each Co.Pe.A.M. member be accessible on the web sites of each member in order to amplify utilisation
- **Recommends** that the Euro-Mediterranean broadcasters consecrate a regular space in their programme grid to Regional audio-visual and cinema production
- **Rejoices** for the conclusion of the EUROMED TV feasibility study and thanks the European Commission for its financial contribution, as well as the President and the members of the working group who elaborated the study
- **Wishes** that all members of Co.Pe.A.M., the various bodies of the EU - in particular the Commission and Parliament - as well as the 27 countries of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership

(whose next ministerial meeting is foreseen for the half of April in Stuttgart) officially shared commitment to this study, acknowledging its importance and deciding to sustain financially its setting up

- **Mandates** the General Secretariat to forward the text of this study to the above-mentioned addressees
- **Asks** the Steering Committee to solicit, within the framework of a call for tender doted with funds, the candidatures of Mediterranean cities for hosting the Operational Centre and the Peripheral Sites. This call for tender must be made public at the time when the EUROMED TV project, having received the indispensable support for its realisation, will enter the pre-activation phase
- **Notes** with satisfaction the proposals put forward by the cities of Valencia and Palermo to host respectively a production Site and the EUROMED TV Operational Centre
- **Wishes** that other cities, particularly eastern Mediterranean ones, put forward their candidature
- **Asks** the Euro-Mediterranean broadcasters to see to it that the co-operation projects adopted during the Conferences of the Mediterranean Audio-visual sector become the object of a permanent follow-up at all levels of responsibility within their respective organisations
- **Approves** the financial balance sheet for 1998, as well as the provisional budget for 1999 and underlines the necessity to adopt it in particular regarding the running of the General Secretariat and the Steering Committee, the organisation of the General Assembly, as well as the activities of the various working groups, conforming to the programmes established and approved of by the General Assembly
- **Asks** for immediate coverage of the fees for 1998 and 1999 on the part of those members who haven't yet taken care of payments
- **Thanks** the Radio Television Valenciana and its local sponsors for having organised the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference and for the warmth of their hospitality
- **Thanks** the Co.Pe.A.M. bodies, in particular its president Fethi Houidi and the General Secretariat for having completed the tasks that had been assigned to them by the General Assembly of Tunis, in April 1998.

Valencia, March 9, 1999