



Final Resolution of the 16th General Assembly of COPEAM

Paris - 11 April 2010

Gathered in Paris in the occasion of its 17th Annual Conference, COPEAM rejoiced with the significant reinforcement of the Mediterranean cooperation, particularly in the fields of radio (making of co-productions and series,...)and of television (project for the creation of the Mediterranean channel, development of Med-Mem and Euromed-News projects,...).

The ten audiovisual projects launched in the previous Conference of COPEAM held in Cairo in April 2009 are now in a phase of execution or preparation. These projects, borne by the audiovisual and cultural operators from both the Mediterranean shores, will reflect the wealth of this region opened on the World.

In addition, the General Assembly of COPEAM has unanimously adopted the call for the creation of the Mediterranean channel which has already gathered a wide consensus among cultural and media sectors' representatives in the whole Mediterranean area.

Call for the creation of the Mediterranean channel

In a world in which communications abound like never before in mankind's history, but in which we are also witnessing a growing sense of antagonism, tension and even new conflicts, promoting closer ties between countries in the Mediterranean Basin is an objective requirement for socio-cultural and economic reasons. Having inherited the same long history and outstanding cultural heritage, our countries and cultures can only truly move forward as part of a tight-knit Mediterranean area that draws on its unity and wealth of diversity.

This drive to foster closer ties can only succeed if it is underpinned by a global development policy that includes freedom of movement for individuals and mutually beneficial economic cooperation. A sustainable future for the Mediterranean hinges on encouraging dialogue through a spirit of joint development from a multi-faceted, economic, social, cultural and personal standpoint. In this respect, it is vital that we do not overlook one sector – the media.

The people of the Mediterranean too often coexist without really knowing one another. Despite technologic innovations such as satellite broadcast and internet expansion, the audiovisual landscape remains remarkably fenced due to a combination of linguistic, cultural, political and economic reasons. Television can therefore become an extraordinary vehicle for cultural exchange and of sharing, as well as an effective means of thwarting intolerance and extremism on every front.

This is why we call for the creation of a multinational, multilingual Mediterranean television channel, broadcasting throughout the Euro-Mediterranean area, with all countries involved, North and South alike. Acting today means matching the expectations of all those who aspire to a plural and harmonic Mediterranean, leaning on the concrete work we - the audiovisual operators - have so far accomplished.

A channel that will therefore reflect the Mediterranean identity and diversity.