

**WORKING GROUP ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE IMC (FONCIM)**

**PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO THE INTERNAL RULES OF THE INTERMEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION**

<b>Version in force (17/10/2007)</b>	<b>Proposal of the FONCIM Working Group</b>
<b>ARTICLE 1: General nature and objectives</b>	<b>ARTICLE 1: General nature and objectives</b>
The Intermediterranean Commission was created by a resolution of the General Assembly of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) passed on 13 October 1989.	The Intermediterranean Commission was created by a resolution of the General Assembly of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) passed on 13 October 1989.
The Intermediterranean Commission is part of CPMR and works under the authority of the CPMR Bureau.	The Intermediterranean Commission is part of CPMR and works under the authority of the CPMR Bureau.
<b>ARTICLE 2: Composition</b>	<b>ARTICLE 2: Composition</b>
The Intermediterranean Commission is composed of the presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member or associate member regions or authorities just below central government level.	The Intermediterranean Commission is composed of the presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member or associate member regions or authorities just below central government level.
<b>ARTICLE 3: Participating regions</b>	<b>ARTICLE 3: Participating regions</b>
All Mediterranean regions in the European Union that are members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission. Regions and sub-state authorities of countries involved in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership that are associate members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission.	All Mediterranean regions in the European Union that are members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission. Regions and sub-state authorities of countries involved in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership <b>and/or the Union for the Mediterranean</b> that are associate members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission.
<b>ARTICLE 4: Objectives</b>	<b>ARTICLE 4: Objectives</b>
To examine common issues and develop concrete Mediterranean interregional cooperation schemes to promote economic, scientific and cultural development.	To examine common issues and develop concrete Mediterranean interregional cooperation schemes to promote economic, scientific and cultural development <b>by adopting appropriate measures, including:</b>
To devise specific joint programmes.	<b>1. to promote Euro-Mediterranean policy and the key role of regional authorities;</b>
To organise exchanges of experiences in the framework of measures supported by the Structural Funds.	<b>2. to promote a territorial approach to development across the whole Mediterranean basin;</b>
To bring the specific problems of the Mediterranean area to the attention of the European institutions.	<b>3. to defend the specific interests of the Mediterranean regions in the principal European negotiations and EU policies</b>
-	<b>4. to identify and promote cooperation projects that will have a structural impact on the main issues of concern to the Mediterranean area;</b>
	<b>5. to pursue the development of closer links with Mediterranean networks and cooperation bodies.</b>

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<b>ARTICLE 5: Bodies</b>	<b>ARTICLE 5: Bodies</b>
The Commission is organised as follows:	The Commission is organised as follows:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The President</li> <li>- The Bureau</li> <li>- The Executive Secretary</li> <li>- The Plenary Assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The President</li> <li>- The Bureau</li> <li>- The Executive Secretary</li> <li>- The Plenary Assembly</li> </ul>
<b>ARTICLE 6: The President</b>	<b>ARTICLE 6: The President</b>
<p>The President is elected by the members of the Political Bureau for a two-year term of office, renewable only once. If the President is unavailable, his/her functions shall be carried out by the deputy Vice-President. If the deputy Vice-President is also unavailable, the President's functions shall be carried out by the most senior in age of the Vice-Presidents.</p>	<p>The President is elected by <del>the members of the Political Bureau</del> <b>by the IMC General Assembly</b> for a two-year term of office, renewable only once. <b>When the President is appointed, the Assembly shall also appoint a First deputy Vice-President and XXXX Vice-Presidents.</b> If the President is unavailable, his/her functions shall be carried out by the <del>deputy</del> <b>First</b> Vice-President. If the <del>deputy</del> <b>First</b> Vice-President is also unavailable, the President's functions will be carried out by the most senior in age of the Vice-Presidents.</p>
	<p><b>Full members of the Assembly may be elected as Presidents or Vice-Presidents. The Executive Secretary shall issue a call for candidatures to the regions represented, <u>four months</u> before the end of the President's "term". All candidatures must be sent to the Executive Secretary at least <u>two months</u> before the end of the President's term, together with a brief letter of intent concerning the policies they want to pursue inside the IMC. All candidatures received shall be sent to the regions <u>one month</u> before the deadline at the latest.</b></p>
<p>The President supervises and coordinates the work of the Commission. S/he acts as a link between the Commission and the Political Bureau of the CPMR. The President is assisted by a private secretary appointed by him/her.</p>	<p>The President supervises and coordinates the work of the Commission. S/he acts as a link between the Commission and <del>the Political Bureau of</del> <b>the CPMR</b>. <del>The President is assisted by a private secretary appointed by him/her.</del></p>
<b>ARTICLE 7: The Bureau</b>	<b>ARTICLE 7: The Bureau</b>
<p>The members of the Political Bureau are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a period of two years, which may be renewed. The Bureau thus appointed elects one or more Vice-Presidents from among its members.</p>	<p>The members of the Political Bureau are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a period of two years, which may be renewed. <del>The Bureau thus appointed elects one or more Vice-Presidents from among its members.</del></p>
<p>It is composed as follows: Cyprus is represented by one member, Spain by five members, France by three members, Greece by five members, Italy by five members, Lebanon by one member, Malta by one member, Morocco by three members, Portugal by two members and Tunisia by one member.</p>	<p>It is composed as follows: Cyprus is represented by one member, Spain by <del>five</del> <b>XXX</b> members, France by <del>three</del> <b>XXX</b> members, Greece by <del>five</del> <b>XXX</b> members, Italy by <del>five</del> <b>XXX</b> members, Lebanon by one member, Malta by one member, Morocco by <del>three</del> <b>XXX</b> members, Portugal by <del>two</del> <b>XXX</b> members and Tunisia by one member.</p>
<p>In the event of a tied vote, the President's vote will decide the matter.</p>	<p>In the event of a tied vote, the President's vote will decide the matter.</p>
<p>The Bureau meets at the invitation of the President or at the initiative of a majority of its members.</p>	<p>The Bureau meets at the invitation of the President or at the initiative of a majority of its members.</p>

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In the event of a major requirement or particular need, and if the reasons are explained, the President may propose, at his/her initiative or at the request of a member of the Bureau, the written adoption of a decision between two Bureau meetings. In such an event, s/he will fax or e-mail the draft decision to all Bureau members, asking for a reply within 15 days. If no reply is received by the deadline, the proposal is considered approved. In exceptional and justified emergencies, a five-day deadline may be given. In addition, if the President refuses to accept a request for a written procedure, s/he must give the reasons for doing so.	In the event of a major requirement or particular need, and if the reasons are explained, the President may propose, at his/her initiative or at the request of a member of the Bureau, the written adoption of a decision between two Bureau meetings. In such an event, s/he will fax or e-mail the draft decision to all Bureau members, asking for a reply within 15 days. If no reply is received by the deadline, the proposal is considered approved. In exceptional and justified emergencies, a five-day deadline may be given. In addition, if the President refuses to accept a request for a written procedure, s/he must give the reasons for doing so.
<u>The tasks of the Bureau:</u>	<u>The tasks of the Bureau:</u>
to propose topics for the Commission to work on,	to propose topics for the Commission to work on,
to determine working methods,	to determine working methods,
to monitor the work undertaken by the Commission	to monitor the work undertaken by the Commission
to propose Commission meetings	to propose Commission meetings
to decide which resolutions to submit to the CPMR General Assembly.	to <b>propose</b> which resolutions to submit to the CPMR General Assembly <b>and to adopt political resolutions between general assemblies.</b>
<b>ARTICLE 8: The Executive Secretary</b>	<b>ARTICLE 8: The Executive Secretary</b>
The Executive Secretary is appointed to or dismissed from his/her position by the Plenary Assembly, further to a proposal by the Bureau.	The Executive Secretary is appointed to or dismissed from his/her position by the Plenary Assembly, further to a proposal by the Bureau.
S/he reports to the Plenary Assembly and the Bureau. She organises the work of the Commission in accordance with its provisions, liaises with the Secretary General of the CPMR and represents the CPMR Secretary General within the Intermediterranean Commission.	S/he reports to the Plenary Assembly and the Bureau. She organises the work of the Commission in accordance with its provisions, liaises with the Secretary General of the CPMR and represents the CPMR Secretary General within the Intermediterranean Commission.
The Secretary acts as moderator during working meetings and is responsible for drafting the minutes of each meeting.	The Secretary acts as moderator during working meetings and is responsible for drafting the minutes of each meeting.
	<b>The Secretary General must necessarily enjoy the confidence of the General Assembly and Political Bureau. This confidence must be expressed by a vote at least once every five years.</b>
<b>ARTICLE 9: The Plenary Assembly</b>	<b>ARTICLE 9: The Plenary Assembly</b>
The Plenary Assembly is composed of the Presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member and associate member regions and sub-state authorities, and by persons who have been given a mandate to represent them.	The Plenary Assembly is composed of the Presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member and associate member regions and sub-state authorities, and by persons who have been given a mandate to represent them.
<b>ARTICLE 10: Meeting of the Plenary Assembly</b>	<b>ARTICLE 10: Meeting of the Plenary Assembly</b>
The Commission meets in Plenary Assembly at least twice a year at the invitation of President, at his/her initiative, at the initiative of a majority of its members or at the initiative of a majority of the members of the Bureau.	The Commission meets in Plenary Assembly at least twice a year at the invitation of President, at his/her initiative, at the initiative of a majority of its members or at the initiative of a majority of the members of the Bureau.
At each meeting a decision is taken on the date and place	At each meeting a decision is taken on the date and place of

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of the following meeting, at the prior invitation of one of the member regions. This region is responsible for organising the meeting and covering the costs.	the following meeting, at the prior invitation of one of the member regions. This region is responsible for organising the meeting and covering the costs.
The minutes of the meeting are sent to all members of the Commission as soon as possible.	The minutes of the meeting are sent to all members of the Commission as soon as possible.
The meeting agenda is set by the President, further to a proposal by the Bureau. Any initiatives and suggestions made by the regions are then taken into account.	The meeting agenda is set by the President, further to a proposal by the Bureau. Any initiatives and suggestions made by the regions are then taken into account.
<b>ARTICLE 11: Agreements</b>	<b>ARTICLE 11: Agreements</b>
Agreements and resolutions are adopted by an absolute majority of the members attending each meeting.	Agreements and resolutions are adopted by an absolute majority of the members attending each meeting.
	<b>ARTICLE 12: Working groups</b>
	<b>The permanent working groups</b> are designed to help provide input for the discussions and positions of the Commission with regard to priority issues for its member regions.
	<b>The ad hoc working groups</b> fulfil the same objectives as permanent working groups but meet a specific need for a limited time in order to adhere as closely as possible to the priorities of the EU agenda.
	Each working group is chaired by one or more member Regions that shall draw up terms of reference specifying the aims, operating rules and actions to be implemented by the group. The Bureau shall approve the creation of a group and the termination of its work when the members deem that the objectives have been reached or there is no longer any point in continuing.
	<b>ARTICLE 13: Financial management</b>
	The Commission shall have the following resources at its disposal for its running: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a contribution from the Regions, in the form of a single one-off payment, the amount of which shall be decided annually by the Commission</li> <li>b) possible contributions by the CPMR;</li> <li>c) contributions via the Commission's active participation in EU initiatives such as projects, programmes, open tenders, etc.</li> </ul>
	The decision whether the Commission should participate in European projects of interest to the Commission belongs to the Bureau alone, further to a proposal by the Executive Secretary. Participation may be allowed as long as the funds available to the Commission can cover it. The Secretary General of the CPMR must be informed about this sort of involvement. Given the importance of the issue, if there is an emergency, the Executive Secretary can use the written procedure via e-mail to check that the Political Bureau approves of such involvement. All members of the Commission must in all

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	events be informed beforehand about the proposal to participate.
	The regions' contribution and funding from the European Union shall be paid into a specific account managed by the Commission's Secretariat under the responsibility of the Secretary General of CPMR.
	Regions hosting the Commission's Bureau meetings shall be responsible for covering organisation costs and simultaneous interpretation costs.
	The region hosting the Executive Secretariat shall cover office costs and expenditure on office supplies and equipment.
	The Executive Secretary shall keep accounts on the Commission's funds in accordance with the criteria of transparency and economic efficiency. S/he must submit a draft set of accounts each year and an overview of the consolidated budget with expenditure duly justified by relevant supporting documents.