

<p><b>PA-UfM</b></p>  <p><b>AP-UpM</b></p>	<p>PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY– UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN</p> <p>ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE – UNION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE</p> <p>الجمعية البرلمانية للاتحاد من اجل المتوسط</p>
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*Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights*

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## **DRAFT RECOMMENDATION**

### **Fight against global warming A global challenge in the Mediterranean region**

*Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights*

## ***DRAFT RECOMMENDATION***

### ***The Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights:***

1. Welcomes the fact that the fight against global warming in the Mediterranean region is a fundamental goal of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), especially considering that the Mediterranean region is warming 20 % faster than the rest of the planet, which requires urgent, coordinated decision-making;
2. Recognises that the impact of climate change is transboundary in nature with repercussions for economic sectors such as trade and tourism as well as other areas in the fields of migration, human rights and security; notes that climate change is a driver and multiplier of risks which is inextricably linked to the region's geopolitical dimensions, including natural disasters, water and food shortages, energy transformation, human migration, conflict and cooperation;
3. Emphasises that climate change and its impacts can be substantially reduced through an ambitious global mitigation policy compatible with the mitigation goal of the Paris Agreement and with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals; believes that in view of the global nature of climate change, no country can face this challenge by itself and only a coordinated effort by the members of the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean can bring tangible results and improvements;
4. Deplores the fact that the current emission reduction commitments are not sufficient to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and will result in global warming of more than 3°C above pre-industrial levels;
5. Stresses the importance of all UfM member states and other partners firmly committing to the goals defined in the Paris Agreement and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals;
6. Emphasises that in order to minimise the adverse and irreversible effects of climate change, all UfM partners will need to adapt by implementing ambitious mitigation measures to contain global warming below 1.5°C compared to pre-industrial levels, making full use of the opportunities for climate-resilient growth and sustainable development, and maximising associated benefits with other environmental policies and legislation;
7. Calls on all UfM partners to work towards a significant transformation of energy policies and economic models in order to mitigate climate change and phase out greenhouse gas emissions through an accelerated energy transition; is convinced that accomplishing these objectives requires a progressive phasing down of fossil fuels, accompanied by the development of renewable energies, especially solar, wind, hydro and geothermal; stresses,

in this respect, the importance of making affordable energy readily available to all citizens; highlights the key role of culture and education in raising awareness of sustainable resources management;

8. Stresses the need to improve cross-border cooperation and coordination on climate adaptation, as well as on rapid response to climate disasters; recognises that a number of countries, mostly those located along the southern shore of the Mediterranean, are in need of funding, technology transfer and capacity-building in order to face up to climate change; calls on the UfM's most developed countries to put forward their assets in order to support the less advanced partners in their endeavours;
9. Underlines the need to enhance regional cooperation on energy in accordance with international law and to gradually integrate regional energy markets by expanding knowledge and best practices, thereby reinforcing energy exchange and interconnections;
10. Calls on the European Commission and UfM to support all UfM partners in sharing knowledge and best practices on the different climate adaptation efforts at regional and local level; welcomes the Commission's joint communication on a 'Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood: a new Agenda for the Mediterranean', and looks forward to implementing the ambitious plan to develop renewable energy projects in the countries of the southern shore of the Mediterranean by mobilising public and private investments through the recently adopted Global Europe Instrument;
11. Notes the further need to map the impacts of climate change and welcomes and expresses appreciation for the work undertaken by members of the network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC) in preparing its first Mediterranean assessment report; encourages the Commission and the UfM to further develop projects in this field;
12. Invites the UfM to strengthen inter-ministerial coordination in fighting global warming in the Mediterranean;

#### ***Climate change and human rights***

13. Welcomes the fact that the Paris Agreement is the first international treaty to explicitly recognise the link between climate action and human rights, thereby allowing the use of existing human rights-related legal instruments to urge states and private corporations to reduce emissions;
14. Underlines the fact that climate change is already having a disruptive impact on a wide range of human rights, including the rights to life, health, food, housing, water, development and freedom of movement, as well as the right to a healthy and sustainable environment;

15. Calls on the UfM partners to fully integrate human rights standards and principles into the rules for implementing the Paris Agreement and to ensure that all actions taken to address climate change are in full accordance with international human rights obligations;
16. Urges the Commission and all UfM partners to continue to monitor the situation of human rights and climate change and to assess the progress in integrating and mainstreaming human rights into all aspects of climate action at domestic and international level, in close cooperation with the UN Human Rights Council and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights;
17. Calls on the Commission and the UfM to promote and develop projects in the fields of respect for human rights and the implications of climate change;

### *Climate change and security*

18. Recognises that the risks linked to climate change are not just of a humanitarian nature, but also encompass political and security risks;
19. Underlines the fact that climate change poses escalating risks to stability and security, with potentially far-reaching consequences, including the risks to fragile states from increasingly volatile weather and the combined effects of rising sea levels and storm surges on island nations and coastal populations; emphasises that climate change is a threat multiplier which exacerbates existing trends, tensions and instability;
20. Notes how water shortage in particular has the potential to cause civil unrest and lead to significant economic losses, even in robust economies, the consequences of which will be even more dire in areas under considerable demographic pressure; considers that the overall effect is that climate change risks fuelling existing conflicts over depleting resources, especially where access to these is politicised;
21. Calls on the EU to enhance international cooperation with all UfM partners on the detection and monitoring of the security threats related to climate change, and on prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response capacities;
22. Calls on the Commission and the UfM to promote and develop projects in the fields of regional security and climate change implications.