



Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education

**on Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change in the Euro-Mediterranean
Region**

Recommendation of the Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean on Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change in the Euro-Mediterranean Region

We, the UfM Parliaments, note with concern that

1. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) first part of Six Assessment Report clearly depicts widespread and rapid changes in Earth's oceans, ice and land surface because of human influence.
2. The rates of climate change observed in the Mediterranean Basin exceed the global trends for most variables.
3. Climate change also affects and destroys crops and food production; droughts, in particular, often cause fires leading to an inevitable destruction of crops.
4. The phenomenon of acidification, a direct effect of increased levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂), leads to the extinction of all local coral species.

We, the UfM Parliaments, warn that

5. The impact of climate change has further exacerbated the existing environmental problems caused by land use changes such as urbanization and agricultural intensification, increasing pollution and declining biodiversity.
6. The phenomenon of the increase in Mediterranean's sea temperature could lead to the disappearance of numerous animal and marine flora species due to lack of oxygen.
7. Ongoing climate, environmental and socioeconomic changes pose threats to food security in Mediterranean Basin and the pressures are not homogeneous across the region and sectors of production.
8. Factors affecting agriculture and livestock production around the Mediterranean Basin include water scarcity, soil degradation and erosion.
9. Extreme events, such as droughts, floods and heat waves cause unexpected production losses and may increase crop yield variability.
10. Although these impacts are not projected to be large for overall production across the region, local and regional disparities will emerge.

We, the UfM Parliaments,

11. Acknowledge that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the main instrument in the global climate change regime.

- 12.** Underline that achieving the objectives of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement will serve a stepping stone for global climate change efforts.
- 13.** Call upon all Parties to exert efforts towards finalizing the Work Programme of the Paris Agreement at the COP 26.
- 14.** Are fully aware that as parliaments, we have a crucial role for raising awareness on adverse effects of climate change.
- 15.** Affirm that the guiding principle of the climate regime is “equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities”, which is clearly and accurately recognized under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement.
- 16.** Acknowledge that combating climate change should be realized by taking into account this principle.
- 17.** Recognize that a fair burden sharing between developed and developing countries, close regional and international collaborations between all countries are necessary to ensure that no one is left behind in the fight against climate change.
- 18.** Emphasize the complementary role of Parliaments that contribute to provide a fair ground for all countries and to create an environment for partnership and cooperation between countries.
- 19.** Stress the importance of mobilizing sufficient climate finance and providing technology transfer to developing countries to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- 20.** Urge developed countries to support developing countries with adequate financial and technical support for their climate action.
- 21.** Strongly emphasize the need that all developing countries must access the climate-related finance, programmes and technology transfer without any obstacles.
- 22.** Appreciate the UfM Parliaments’ legislative efforts on waste management, forestation and renewables and urge them to increase and diversify their efforts on combating climate change in accordance with their development priorities.
- 23.** Underline the importance of encouraging sustainable solutions for the transport sector and ensuring the establishment of infrastructure to enable the digitalization of transport.
- 24.** Highlight the importance of energy efficiency and deployment of renewable energy in clean energy transitions.
- 25.** Emphasize cooperation activities and exchange of best practices should be enhanced on the development of hydrogen, battery and storage, energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and applications, relevant legislation, energy efficiency and renewable energy financing mechanisms, such as feed-in-tariffs, tax incentives and tradable green certificates, renewable energy integration into the power system.

26. Recognize that there is an urgent need to increase our regional efforts to address the interconnected challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, invasive alien species, pollution, land degradation and desertification.

27. Recognize the benefits of cooperation and collaboration among UfM Member States on the fields of encouraging adequate actions, preventing unsustainable consumption, reversing loss of biodiversity, mitigating negative impacts of climate change on water resources in order to build back better in ways aligned with the 2030 Agenda and to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

28. Work towards promoting a strategy to combat climate change that involves investment in applied research to improve technology aimed at reducing emissions and finding innovative solutions to encourage energy transition.