



**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**



**COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER**

DRAFT MINUTES

**of the meeting held in Rome, Italy
on 3 March 2011**

1. Opening of the meeting by the Committee Chairperson Mr. Stefan SCHENNACH

After welcoming all committee members the Chairperson made a brief presentation on the activities of the committee during the second year under Austrian chairmanship and reiterated his plans for the next year which had been elaborated during the meeting of the committee bureau in Algiers in November 2010. He was in particular happy to announce the forthcoming opening of the first school for solar technology in Ramallah. Finally he thanked Mr. Mongi CHERIF, who could not attend the meeting due to the current situation in Tunisia, for his work as Vice-Chairperson of the committee.

2. Adoption of the draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted by the committee.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting in Vienna on 29 November 2010

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water in Vienna/Austria were adopted.

4. Report 1: Creation of Underwater National Parks to Safeguard Biodiversity of Fish Populations

Rapporteur Mr. Luigi RAMPONI (Italy)

Mr. RAMPONI presented the report and, in answering the questions of delegates, said it was essential that Joint protected maritime areas were established, like the Sicily channel between Italy, Malta and Tunisia. The Chair underlined that not only the declaration but also

control on it was needed.

Delegates from Algeria, the Palestinian Authority, the EP, and the European Economic and Social Committee took part in the discussion.

5. Report 2: Protection of the Marine Environment

Co-rapporteurs Mrs. Antonyia PARVANOVA (European Parliament), Mr. Hamid NARJISSE (Morocco) and Mr. Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria)

Due to the absence of Mr. Narjisse Mrs. Parvanova presented the report. In the following discussion delegates from the Palestinian Authority, the EP, Morocco, Algeria, Lebanon, Luxemburg, Italy and the European Economic and Social Committee made comments or suggestions. The Chair pointed to the practice of choosing the applicable law which might be less strict by changing the flags of ships which poses a big problem in enforcing the law. Mr. Schennach also advocated the idea of yearly instruction courses for ship workers, as many of them for instance were not aware of the meaning of a protection zone.

After some modifications the report was adopted.

6. Report 3: Waste management in the Coastal Regions of the Mediterranean

Co-rapporteurs Mr. Akif AKKUS (Turkey) and Mr. Neven MIMICA (Croatia)

After the presentation of the report by Mr. Akkus and Mr. Mimica the Chair declared waste management a standing matter of the committee. He proposed one to three "action days" per year in the Mediterranean countries devoted to waste prevention, where schools etc. could participate.

After some delegates had pointed to the importance of public participation in waste prevention and recommended the consideration of the EU-directive on waste management the report was adopted.

Delegates from the EP and Lithuania took part in the discussion.

7. Any other business

The Chair regretted to inform the committee members about the reservations of the Palestinian Authority and Israel on his invitation to hold follow-up talks on the Jordan Valley in Malta, which has offered to host the meeting.

He also announced his plan to make a fact finding mission to Egypt in autumn.

The next meeting of the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water will take place in late June or early July 2011.
