

**REPORT ON THE DISCUSSIONS OF
WORKING GROUP II AT THE XII
EUROMED INFORMATION AND
TRAINING SEMINAR
3-6 MAY 2002**

The participants have discussed the different dimensions of the EURO-MED partnership. They showed a high level of cooperation and team work spirit and after fruitful discussion the group reached the following conclusions:

A. On the Economic Partnership:

1. In defining the overall goal of the economic cooperation in the EURO-MED region, we agreed that the objective of the partnership is the creation of shared prosperity area and bridging the existing gaps between the partners in the process
2. With regard to the establishment of an autonomous bank, there were different points of view around the aims and the role of this bank at this stage of the process.
3. We highlighted the opportunities of economical reforms to attract foreign investment and to encourage private sector investment, joint ventures and sustainable development.
4. We explored the possibilities of regional integration, which can benefit all partners in particular; we support the Agadir Process as a model for other southern Mediterranean countries.
5. We agreed that social and cultural dimensions go hand in hand with economic prosperity and should not be neglected or marginalized in the future planning of the process.
6. In order to make the goals and means of economic cooperation clearer, the overall priorities and the impact of the different instruments already in the economic cooperation should be outlined in the EURO-MED committee.

B. On political Partnership:

Aware of the benefits that the Barcelona process can bring to our countries, we agreed that the main objective of the partnership is to establish a common EURO-Mediterranean area of peace and stability based on fundamental principles including respect of human rights and democracy.

We intensively discussed several issues concerning political and security dimensions of the partnership, and we conclude the following:

1. First of all, the importance of enhancing tolerance and mutual respect among our people. Indeed we think that respect is essential to construct a real dialogue not only between politicians and diplomats, but also between our civil societies. This could be achieved through true willingness for peace.

2. We suggest that more concrete measures need to be taken so that human rights are respected in all countries of the region. Moreover, in order to avoid the danger of the clash of civilizations, we deeply encourage inter-faith dialogue initiatives.
3. We support the enhancement of judicial cooperation within the partners in the process, as well as of other relevant programs specially those in favor of the integration of immigrants in foreign countries.
4. In order to make our civil societies more aware of the significance of the partnership, and to make the result of our cooperation more tangible, we suggest the adoption of several programs:
 - i. Youth Exchange
 - ii. Educational Programs
 - iii. Health Cooperation Programs
 - iv. Euro-med Media includes: TV and Radio Stations, Magazine delegated to address our people.
5. We finally agreed that security and stability cannot be achieved or sustained without comprehensive view of all aspects of 'Soft' Security, such as preventive diplomacy, prosperity, social welfare, limitation of small arms and combating drugs trafficking.