

<p align="center">SEMIDE Système Euro-Méditerranéen d'Information sur les savoir-faire dans le Domaine de l'Eau http://www.semide.org</p>		<p align="center">EMWIS Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how in the Water sector http://www.emwis.org</p>
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Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
Resolutions of
Meeting of the Water Directors
Madrid, 12-13 November 2001

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE AND THE WATER
GENERAL DIRECTORS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA,
GERMANY, AUSTRIA, CYPRUS, EGYPT, SPAIN, FRANCE, ISRAEL, ITALY,
JORDAN, LEBANON, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, MOROCCO, THE
NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, TURKEY AND THE
PALESTINIAN AUTORITHY,

participants to seminar of the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how
in the Water Sector –EMWIS- of Madrid, 12-13 November 2001,

- Recalling the adoption, in May 1990, of the Algiers Declaration, which asserted the importance of a common water management strategy, and reminding the adoption, in Rome in 1992, of the Mediterranean Water Charter, which has established the principle of regional and international co-operation in the water sector;
- Emphasizing the priority nature of water in the Declaration adopted in Barcelona in November 1995;
- Considering the principles of Euro-Mediterranean co-operation adopted at the end of the first Ministerial Conference on water, held in Marseilles in November 1996;
- Considering the recommendations relative to water demand management in the Mediterranean, as set out by the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) and adopted in Tunis in November 1997 by the contracting parties of the Barcelona Convention
- Considering the documents created under the aegis of the Global Water Partnership and the World Water Council concerning global and Mediterranean projects for water, population and environment into the 21st century, during the course of the World Water Forum and the Ministerial Conference of The Hague in March 2000,

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- Considering that water has been confirmed as one of the six main priority sectors of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean region during the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Stuttgart in April 1999;
- Considering that the Declaration of the Turin Conference in October 1999 emphasizing the importance of EMWIS as a strategic tool for exchange of information to support the Action Plan for Water.
- Taking note of the implementation and mid-term progress of EMWIS for the first phase (planned between 1999 – 2002),

Within the framework of the mission entrusted by the Ministers to assure the follow-up and the orientations for the implementation of the Action Plan, the General Directors agree on the following:

1. The activity assessment of EMWIS implementation in only two years (1999 – 2001) is highly positive and shows that this tool is the answer to a real need and to a strong demand of the partners according with the decision at the Ministerial Conferences of Marseilles (1996) and Turin (1999). The General Directors or their representatives agree to assert the continuing nature of EMWIS which requires to have the means to continue its long-term activity.
2. They agree to establish the four year programme covering the 2002-2005 period, without any interruption after the first phase and including the following actions:
 - a. To continue the operational implementation and the strengthening of the National Focal Points, the Technical Unit and the development of the following new activities:
 - i. Strengthening of the NFP by technical support, seeking of complementary financial support and the allocation of direct financing for the implementation of the information system
 - ii. Ensuring the leadership and operation of the information systems to maintain and improve the services offered by EMWIS according to current developments and technological improvements
 - iii. Expansion and development of new services on the basis of users' demand and cost-benefit analysis and including available resources.
 - iv. Strengthening of the promotion of the system by the Technical Unit and NFP: Electronic marketing, development of promotional support (*newsletter*, multimedia presentation, etc.), participation in

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- international and national events, presentation in mass media, preparation of press files and articles in specialised press
- v. Development of topical activities that will allow the organisation of events and electronic fora on the basis of summaries of field areas such as: “water culture” for the public in general, integrated management of the local water resources, etc.
 - vi. Dissemination of specific information on the European Union MEDA-Water programme to act as a system of reference and dialogue among all the concerned stakeholders of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, in the context of an intranet network.
 - vii. Follow-up of the contacts established with other international initiatives in order to co-ordinate, as far as possible, the activities and the development of joint actions. The main entities involved are the Mediterranean Water Institute, the Global Water Partnership, the Blue Plan, MEDSTAT environment, the WaterNet project, the International Network of Basin Organisations, the World Water Council, the European Environment Agency, the Med-Hycos project and UNESCO.
- b. To define the conditions for financing, with a budget currently estimated at 5,200 M€ the four-year programme 2002-2005, continuing the system and its structure as they have been established:
- i. Activities of the EMWIS-TU, particularly in its activities of regional co-ordination, support and technical assistance to the NFP and more generally to the above mentioned activities.
 - ii. Strengthening of the support to the Euro-Mediterranean countries for the activities of their NFP.

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3. The General Directors or their representatives have proposed the renewal of the EMWIS steering structures for the four-year period starting July 2002:
 - i. The following countries will compose the Steering Committee: Algeria, Cyprus, France, Italy, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Palestinian Authority. Spain will assure the Presidency of the Steering Committee and Cyprus the Vice-Presidency. Turkey expresses reserve related to the participation and Vice-Presidency of Cyprus in the Steering Committee
 - ii. The Presidency of the Coordination Committee will be assured by Morocco and the Vice-Presidency by Malta.
4. The General Directors or their representatives ask to the President of the Steering Committee to transmit this Resolution to the European Commission, the Ministers of Water and to bring it to the attention of the Euro-Mediterranean Water Forum

Done at Madrid on November 13th, 2001