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Competition

Euromed Market Conference
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Euromed Competition in the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean

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Euromed Market - Competition Policy

- 2002-2009 (EU + 10 MEDA countries)
- 9 regional seminars
- 3 intra-regional seminars
- 2 study visits, 2 expert missions & 2 studies
- 500 participants & presentations

The next slide offer you some partners opinions about the EMP benefits and what future action is required.



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Partners Opinions

- EMP contribution of significant added value is unquestionable.
- To work in a regional multilateral cooperation framework.
- Exploring new possibilities to enhance the multilateral cooperation.
- Since competition tackle different forms of cooperation between competition authorities, civil society, private sector, and government officials.
- Able to measure effectiveness by peer reviews & develop training.
- Focus on better understanding & convergence among the partners.
- To improve soft & hard cooperation
- UPM prospective and ambitions for a free trade union would necessitate legal and institutional cohesive environment.



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Union pour la Méditerranée – UPM ⁽¹⁾

Strategy agreed (Paris Summit 2008):

- Multilateral framework to explore joint problems,
- Participation of civil society & private sector,
- Promote conditions for good-neighbourly relations,
- Sharing prosperity by implementing projects,
- Creation of a deep Free Trade Area.



Union pour la Méditerranée – UPM ⁽²⁾

New impulse:

- Biennial summits & EMPA (Parliamentary Assembly),
- Co-ownership (Co-Presidency) principle,
- Institutional governance by the Secretariat (identification, follow-up, promotion of the projects, search for partners), the Joint Permanent Committee (preparing Senior Officials meetings) and the Senior Officials (evaluate progress and submit work programme to Ministerial meetings).

UPM strategic importance deserves competition contribution.



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Competition contribution to UPM:

Co-ownership of future activities ⁽¹⁾

Advocacy competition actions bring awareness to Civil Society.

1. With information in Internet web sites, press releases, publications of decisions, reports, newsletters. An initiative to enhance visibility of competition regional identity benefits : the Mediterranean Competition Bulletin.
1. Organising in the partners' countries conferences for large audiences: the Mediterranean Competition Days



Competition contribution to UPM: Co-ownership of future activities (2)

- Network for future multilateral cooperation could be the Euromed Competition Committee - EMCC in charge of exchanging best practice experience, improve convergence and build professional trust. Also to advise on competition effects of UPM projects and trade relations implementation.
- EMCC meetings: could be in a steering restrained form with members from Ministries, Competition Authorities and Utilities Regulators or in a plenary large structure including academic experts, competition professionals, consumer organisations and partner companies related to UPM projects.
- EMCC members could be competition officials and experts appointed by each UPM member to work together and to advise the UPM Secretariat.



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Competition contribution to UPM:

Co-ownership of future activities ⁽³⁾

List of UPM key initiatives projects & fields of cooperation deserving competition attention and advise:

- Environment, de-pollution of the Mediterranean, water strategy;
- Transport infrastructures, Maritime and Land Highways & RTAP,
- Energy, Mediterranean Solar Plan, MEDREG.
- Civil protection, confidence building measures. Partnership visibility;
- Higher education (Euro-Med University), vocational training;
- SMEs, investment, private sector development ,Charter of Entreprises;
- Economic Development & deep Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area.



Conclusions

New opportunities within the UPM

- Competition Committee (Hard & soft cooperation. Advise on key initiative projects and fields of cooperation). Inform DGCOMP the member names in order to convene an interim steering meeting to draft working guidelines waiting the start-up of the UPM Secretariat end of 2009.
- Co-ownership of advocacy actions (Bulletin, Conference Competition Day). Inform DGCOMP if your country is a candidate for organising or coordinating some actions.



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Your remarks on future activities are welcome at:

COMP-MEDITERRANEAN@ec.europa.eu

- Thank you for your attention
- Merci beaucoup de votre attention

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