FIFTH MEETING MEDITERRANEAN CITIZENS’ ASSEMBLY (MCA)

“CITIZENSHIP AND CONSTRUCTION OF A MEDITERRANEAN COMMUNITY OF PEOPLES”

FROM THE 13th TO THE 16th OF NOVEMBER 2014
AT THE VILLA MEDITERRANÉE

MARSEILLE, FRANCE

PROGRAM
PRESENTATION OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE MCA

Since its creation in 2008, the Mediterranean Citizens’ Assembly (MCA) aims to promote the consolidation of the communication and actions of citizens through the organization of activities and meetings and the creation of spaces for dialogue. Its members actively participate to the emergence of a Mediterranean Citizenship and community of peoples. The MCA has also adopted a founding charter based on the values of democracy, freedom, peace, and on the respect for cultural diversity and environmental responsibility.

The MCA is organizing its fifth meeting this year. In the spirit of the previous four meetings, it will continue to emphasize the need to promote the emergence of a Mediterranean community of peoples that can be anchored to a common Mediterranean political space (conclusions of the 2010 meeting in Valencia). The recent years’ events have indeed demonstrated that the Mediterranean peoples are writing their destiny through their desire for freedom, the consolidation of the claims brought by the younger generation and the development of actions to strengthen civil society (Tunis, 2011). The Circles of citizens, local groups supported by the MCA, are just one of the elements that allow enhancing the prospects for the establishment of a solution to the current crises and for the formulation of proposals for joint actions (Volos, 2012). Although the various conflicts that enflame the Mediterranean have indeed an impact on the organizational arrangements of Mediterranean civil society, they do not arrest citizen action (Istanbul, 2013).

In line with the last assemblies, the fifth meeting of the MCA will be held this year in Marseille (France), at the Villa Méditerranée, from 13 to 16 November 2014, with the support of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur. The central theme will be: “Citizenship and construction of a Mediterranean community of peoples.”

The Mediterranean is not only a Sea. It also represents a shared history and a shared future that remains to be built. Of course, several regional initiatives have been created with the aim to strengthen the ties among Mediterranean countries, but they have not always reached the desired effects. Based on this observation, the participants at the Fifth meeting of the MCA will work, based on their past and present experiences and on the obstacles that they continue to incur, on the establishment of concrete proposals for the institution of a Mediterranean community of peoples. Besides the members of the Circle of citizens of the Advisory Board of the MCA, the meeting will bring together experts and representatives of public institutions concerned by Mediterranean citizenship. A special invitation will be addressed to the citizens of the city of Marseille.
Thursday 13th November 2014

17h30 Welcoming and accreditation of the participants at the Villa Méditerranée
18h30-19h30 Inaugural session

Interventions by:
- Mr. Jean-François Coustillère, member of the Advisory Board of the MCA
- Mr. Pedro Narro, European Economic and Social Committee-EUROMED
- M. Allal Ouazzani Touhami, Social and Civil Affairs Advisor, Union for the Mediterranean
- Hon. Boutros Assaker, Ambassador of the Arab League in Paris
- Hon. Maria Mercedes Borges, representative of the Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly
- Mr. Michel Vauzelle, president of the Regional Council of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region

20h00 Cocktail dinner offered by the Region (upon invitation)

Friday 14th November 2014

Two simultaneous agoras will allow participants to discuss their common experiences on major regional integration, barriers and resistances involved, and the actions required to advance the construction of a Mediterranean community of peoples.

Agoras 1 and 2: Political, economic and environmental aspects of the construction of a Mediterranean community of peoples

09h00-11h00 Political dimension
11h00-11h15 Coffee break
11h15-13h00 Economical and environmental dimension
13h00-14h30 Lunch
14h30-16h00 General debate
16h00-16h15 Coffee break
16h15-18h00 Continuation of the debate and proposals
18h30 Guided tour at the MUCEM (on registration) Open dinner

Saturday 15th November 2014

Two simultaneous agoras will allow participants to discuss their common experiences on major regional integration, barriers and resistances involved, and the actions required to advance the construction of a Mediterranean community of peoples.

Agoras 3 and 4: Social, cultural and religious dimensions of the construction of a Mediterranean community of peoples

09h00-11h00 Social dimensions
11h00-11h15 Coffee break
11h15-13h00 Cultural and religious dimensions
13h00-14h30 Lunch
14h30-16h00 General debate
16h00-16h15 Coffee break
16h15-18h00 Continuation of the debate and proposals
19h30 Departure from the hotel
20h00 Mediterranean dinner at la Friche de la Belle de Mai (upon invitation)

Sunday 16th November 2014

09h30-12h00 Plenary session
Submission of summaries of the four agoras, debate
Presentation of the declarations from the Advisory Council
Closing session
Coordination ACM:

With the support of:

With the collaboration of:

MCA Secretary
European Institute for Research on Mediterranean and Euro-Arab Cooperation (MEDEA)

24 Square de Meeûs, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium
Tel : +3222311300 / Fax : +3222310646 / Email : contact@acimedit.net
www.acimedit.net