

## ACTION PLAN OF MEDCITIES NETWORK FOR 1999 - 2000

### *The priorities of action of the network would be mainly:*

- 1- Elaboration of new Audits, and Environmental Strategies for towns not being audited for the moment as is usual in Medcities.
- 2- Co-operation in the realisation of feasibility studies, action plans, or similar for environmental infrastructures or services.
- 3- Advance in the institutional strength of the members' organisation and the capacity building of the political or technical responsible.
- 4- Promote at supra-local levels the policies for the sustainable development of the Mediterranean urban cities, as Regional and National policies.
- 5- Collect and diffuse the significant information about the environment of the Mediterranean Cities and the best practices in local sustainable development.
- 6- Help forward the environmental awareness and education of the Medcities citizens.
- 7- Provide networking help for the financing of the environmental priorities of the Medcities members

### *The Medcities Agenda for the next two years could be:*

#### A) Actions already financed:

##### A.1 From Envimed II:

- Plise information service between Rome, Souse and Limassol
- Audit and Environmental Strategy of Larnaka and Ashdod.
- Environmental Observatory in Tripoli.

#### A.2 From UNDP- METAP:

- Air control service. We propose to make it in Tripoli, as a reinforcement of the Environmental Observatory.
- Identification missions in Latakia, El Mina and Tirana.

#### A.3 From bilateral co-operation:

- Landfill development in Tetuan by Spanish Co-operation
- Feasibility studies for sludge's composting and re-utilisation and for liquid wastes of the construction industry by Barcelona co-operation.

#### B) Actions already proposed and that probably will be financed:

##### B1 From SMAP-EU Programme.

- Urban solid wastes projects in Alexandria, Zarka and Limassol.
- Urban Solid wastes guidelines.
- Plise extension to Urban solid Wastes best practices and knowledge.

#### C) New proposals to EU programmes and other funds

There will be in the next year new calls for proposals of the SMAP, the LIFE Third Countries and the MEDURBS EU Programmes. The General and the Technical Secretariats will help, to the Medcities members to build proposals.

It seems appropriate to focus in:

- New Audits and Environmental Strategies.
- Action plans for items that are a common interest. For the moment, the following subjects have been proposed:
  - The sustainable tourism (Silifke, Tripoli, Limassol, and Tetuan are interested for it), traffic and mobility (Sousse, El Mina), Industrial pollution control (Tetuan, Sousse, Sfax), solid wastes (Latakia, Tirana, Aleppo, Tanger), and coastal works (Latakia).
  - Institutional strength and training in environmental management.

The subjects and the cities' partners could be extended, with the management limitation of the Secretariats. It would be prudent to start the process of building the proposals in advance. We will begin with a letter to the members demanding about their wills.

We will contact with other international development funds, mainly the other METAP partners, to build a common two year programme.

#### Actions of external relations to promote the Urban Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region.

The promotion of the sustainable development of the Mediterranean cities as a priority policy, at the National and Regional levels, will be realised by Medcities mainly in the following axes:

### **-Sustainable Development Mediterranean Commission (SDMC) and the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the UNO.**

The SDMC starts a work of this item, as a priority, throughout its Urban and Rural Group. Medcities has been asked to participate actively, as has been said before, with the Egypt representative ( leader) and the Blue Plan. It would be adequate to dedicate energies to this group, as the MCSD has a growing presence in all Region. Medcities has, as it has been underlined before, four of the 5 local representatives in the SDMC. There will be a meeting to define the work programme in Egypt in the next three months.

### **-Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Sustainable Towns of Seville.**

At the end of the second European Sustainable Cities and Town Conference, which took place in Lisbon, in October 1996, the European Commission-DGXI decided to hold 3 Regional Conferences. Turku, Sofia and Seville.

The objectives of Seville Conference is to mark the specificity of Mediterranean towns in the context of their local sustainable development policies.

Seville and UTO organise the Conference. Medcities, Marseille, Tetuan, Tripoli and Rome are members of the Steering Committee of the Seville Conference. Many cities members of Medcities will participate in the Round tables.

### **-Medpolicies.**

It is a METAP initiative about the definition of Mediterranean Environmental Policies. It is promoted by the World Bank and managed by the Harvard International Development International Institute. They have asked us to collaborate with them in the definition of the Urban Sustainable Development Policies.

### **E) Information**

Medcities will develop the PLISE initiative and the Medcities Web. The Plise will establish agreement with institutions with significant information about the Mediterranean Environment. The European Environment Agency has been contacted and there is clear synergy. There has been contacted also the Blue Plan and the Clean Technologies of the PAM in Barcelona. It will be also extended the users of Plise throughout our web.

Medcities will develop the web in relation about our financial possibilities.

### **G) Supporting Project financing**

Medcities will create a project portfolio about the new environmental infrastructures and services that the members are interested to find financing. It could be interesting the realisation forums for international donors or/and private investors.

*Rome, 4<sup>th</sup> December 1998.*