



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

First Standing Committee on Political and Security Cooperation
Special Task Force on Organised Crime

"Eco-mafias and their impact on the Mediterranean"

Rapporteur: Hon. Angela Napoli (Italy)

Resolution unanimously adopted on 12 October 2012, during the 7th Plenary Session, Malta

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *concerned* at the exponential development of the eco-mafia phenomenon;
 - b) *acknowledging* the international and cross-border nature of the phenomenon;
 - c) *emphasising* the close linkage between waste trafficking and weapons trafficking, and its repercussions on the security of the whole of the Mediterranean region;
 - d) *mindful* that this trafficking also involved toxic and radioactive waste;
 - e) *concerned* at the linkage that often exists between organised crime and terrorist activities, and the use which terrorist organisations may make of toxic and radioactive waste;
 - f) *concerned* at the practices of criminal organisations in relation to the so-called "poison ships" in the Mediterranean;
 - g) *considering* that environmental crime cannot be deemed a minor crime, but must be recognised as a crime for all intents and purposes;
 - h) *recalling* the 1992 Basle Convention;
1. **Calls on** all the governments of the PAM Member Countries to enhance cooperation to combat organised crime and in particular the eco-mafias, given the cross-border character of this phenomenon;

2. **Invites** all the governments in the Mediterranean region to work together to adopt an international penal code governing this matter, standardising the definition of environmental crime;
3. **Urges** the Parliaments of all the Member States to introduce adequate penalties against the illegal management and transport of waste in every country;
4. **Stresses** the need to criminalise and prosecute organised illegal waste trafficking, by increasing penalties, also at the national level;
5. **Calls on** the Parliaments of the Member States to promote the establishment of an Observatory on the international trafficking of waste to constantly monitor criminal activities in this sector;
6. **Urges** the national Parliaments to introduce or to amend provisions to make procedures to impound waste at ports and airports effective;
7. **Notes** the urgent need to strengthen and constantly enforce the work of the World Customs Organisation to combat the international trafficking of waste;
8. **Supports** the initiatives of the civil society to combat the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by toxic and radioactive waste dumping;
9. **Urges** the regional and international institutions with jurisdiction, to step up measures to prevent and combat illegal waste trafficking, and transnational crime in general;
10. **Supports** the promotion in every member country of an "Environmental Code" to help harmonise the relevant legislative provisions so as to clarify all the national regulations on the protection of soil and water from pollution, on water management and waste management, environmental audits, protection of the air and emissions reduction;
11. **Urges** the Special Task Force on Environment and Climate Change of the Second Standing Committee to promote the drafting of an Environmental Code for the Mediterranean in 2013, to stand as a model and a source of inspiration for the national Parliaments.