



## **PRESS INFORMATION**

### **« Climate Change in the Mediterranean: from acknowledgement to action » First lines of work for Mediterranean**

**Sophia-Antipolis, 25 October 2008 - The Plan Bleu has organized the 22 and 23 of October a seminar in Marseilles about climate change in the Mediterranean. 19 Mediterranean countries were represented.**

Organised within the framework of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development's work and picking up on the lead given by the heads of State and Government at the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean on 13 July 2008, this meeting first and foremost demonstrated the affirmed wish of Mediterranean stakeholders to adopt a collective approach to tackling climate change issues in the region.

**Thirty presentations** on the regional characteristics of climate change, its impacts and monitoring, as well as measures to be considered for mitigation and adaptation were discussed by more than **100 people**. These two days of intense and fruitful discussions highlighted the need to strengthen regional cooperation on research, development of data and modelling work, the importance of developing financial tools to support the efforts of Mediterranean countries in terms of mitigation and adaptation as the need, in the Mediterranean, of regular meetings based on the elaboration, calculation and production of appropriate indicators and the exchange of good practices on these issues.

Participants expressed in particular their desire to see the scientific and academic players and networks from Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries fully involved in scientific work concerning the region. They called for greater account to be taken of the essential role of the associations and NGOs in mobilising the public on the climate change issue and urged the setting up of a Mediterranean information system on climate change able to encourage inclusion of the climate factor in national planning and decision taking processes. In summary, they established their objective: to make the Mediterranean a showcase for combating climate change.

More information on : [http://www.planbleu.org/themes/atelier\\_changement\\_clim.html](http://www.planbleu.org/themes/atelier_changement_clim.html)

### **About the Blue Plan**

The Blue Plan acts as a think tank and Mediterranean Observatory for the Environment and Sustainable Development and since 1977 has been a United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) Regional Activity Centre, set up, financed and run by the twenty one riparian states and the European Community, which are all Parties to the Barcelona Convention on the protection of the marine environment and coastal region of the Mediterranean. Its aim, as defined by the inter-governmental conference held in Split in 1977, is to develop regional cooperation in order to build up and make available a fund of knowledge intended to facilitate the implementation of sustained and environmentally friendly development. Under MAP's aegis, the Blue Plan produces prospective analyses on the environment and development, acts as a Mediterranean sustainable development observatory and is the main support centre for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

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