

## **Decisions of the EMPA Bureau of 11 June 2008 on the topics to be addressed by the EMPA Committees with a view to the recommendations to be adopted by the EMPA Plenary in March 2009**

The Bureau decided that the following topics should be considered by the four committees for their reports:

### **Political Committee**

1. Freedom of expression and respect for religious beliefs (as requested by the EMPA Plenary in March in Athens)
2. Annapolis process and its perspectives  
*Note: Report to be submitted to the extra-ordinary plenary of the EMPA (Jordan, 12-13 October 2008)*
3. Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean - what value added for the development of the Mediterranean region?

### **Culture Committee**

1. The role of the civil society for the intercultural dialogue. The inter-religious dialogue as platform for the mutual understanding in the Mediterranean  
*(Note: The initial subjects 1 and 3 were merged, without a specification of the new title).*
2. Migrations flows as a way for regional development

### **Women's Rights Committee**

1. Women: development, peace and security
2. Women: education, training and employment

### **Economic Committee**

1. - Development of sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean region by means of strengthening cooperation for: training the needed human resources, supporting an increased role of private businesses and of public-private partnerships as well as for promoting our common natural and cultural heritage.  
- The economic and social impact of microfinance in the Mediterranean region.  
*(Note: The initial subjects 1 and 3 were merged, without a specification of the new title).*
2. Rational use of water resources in the Euro-Mediterranean region and the improvement of access to safe water and adequate sanitation.

### **Energy and Environment ad-hoc Committee**

The topics will be submitted for the approval of the EMPA Bureau of 12 July.