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**CoR Bureau meeting and Conference on migration**  
**Eighth plenary session of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM)**

**22-23 February 2017**  
**Venue:** Grandmaster Suite, Hilton Hotel, St Julian's, Malta  
**Draft programme**

**Tuesday, 21 February 2017/ Wednesday 22 February 2017 morning**

Arrival of participants

**Wednesday 22 February 2017**

- 9:00 a.m.–11.30 p.m.** Study visit<sup>1</sup>: *Marsa Open Centre*
- 11.00 – 12.30 p.m.** Conference of Presidents of political groups<sup>2</sup> (*Grandmaster Suite*)  
Meeting of National Delegation Coordinators (*Wignacourt Meeting Room*)
- 12.30 – 2 p.m.** Lunch<sup>1</sup> (*Spinola Suite*)
- 2 – 3 p.m.** CoR Bureau<sup>3</sup> (*Grandmaster Suite*)
- 3 – 6 p.m.** Conference on migration<sup>1,3</sup> (*Grandmaster Suite*)
- 6 – 8 p.m.** ARLEM preparatory meetings (consecutive meetings, *Grandmaster Suite*)<sup>4</sup>
- **6 – 6.30 p.m.** Mediterranean partners' coordination
  - **6.30 – 7 p.m.** European partners' coordination
  - **7 – 8 p.m.** ARLEM Bureau
- 8 - 11 p.m.** Official reception and dinner<sup>1</sup> (*Esplora*)

**Thursday 23 February 2017**

- 9 a.m.–1 p.m.** Eighth ARLEM plenary session<sup>1,4</sup> (*Grandmaster Suite*)

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<sup>1</sup> For all participants: CoR Bureau members, ARLEM members, CoR staff

<sup>2</sup> Interpretation 6/6 (passive/active), 6 interpretation booths

<sup>3</sup> Interpretation 23/13 (passive/active), 13 interpretation booths (AR and TR/tbc for the conference on migration)

<sup>4</sup> Interpretation into/from AR, EL, EN, FR, MT, TR + ES, IT (passive)

**Conference**  
**Addressing the root causes of migration and the reception of migrants**  
**Draft Agenda**  
*Speakers' attendance to be confirmed.*

**Wednesday 22 February 2017**

- 3 – 3.30 p.m.      Opening session**
- **Markku Markkula**, CoR President and ARLEM co-chair
  - **Hon. Carmelo Abela**, Minister for Home Affairs and National Security
- 3.30 – 4.45 p.m.      External aspects and economic dimension of EU migration policies:  
addressing the root causes of migration**
- **Miriam Dalli** (MT/S&D), Member of the European Parliament
  - **Othman Belbeisi**, Chief of Mission to Libya, International Organisation for Migration
  - **Peter Bossman** (SI/PES), CoR rapporteur on a Partnership Framework with third countries on Migration, ARLEM Member
  - **Abdlrauf Beitelmal**, Mayor of Tripoli (Libya), observer in ARLEM
  - **Representative of the European Investment Bank (tbc)**
- Debate with participants*
- 4.45 – 5.30 p.m.      Reception of migrants, asylum procedures and relocation – Role of local and  
regional authorities (Discussion on the Dublin Regulation reforms and  
relocation mechanisms)**
- **Vincenzo Bianco** (PES/IT), CoR rapporteur on the Common European Asylum System Reform
  - **Jose Carreira**, Executive Director, EASO
- Debate with participants*
- 5.30 – 6 p.m.      Closing session**
- **Roberta Metsola** (MT/EPP), European Parliament rapporteur on migration
  - **Hani Abdalmasih Al Hayek**, Mayor of Beit Sahour (Palestine), co-chair of ARLEM

## **Eighth plenary session of the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM)**

**22-23 February 2017**

**Venue:** Hilton Hotel, St Julian's, Malta

**Room:** Grandmaster Suite

### **Draft Agenda**

*Speakers' attendance to be confirmed.*

#### **Wednesday 22 February 2017**

- 6.00–6.30 p.m.**      **Mediterranean partners' coordination meeting, chaired by co-president Hani Abdalmasih Al Hayek**  
*Interpreting into/from AR, EN, FR, TR (access for ARLEM members only)*
- 6.30–7.00 p.m.**      **European partners' coordination meeting, chaired by co-president Markku Markkula**  
*Interpreting into/from EL, EN, ES, FR, IT +FI \* (access for ARLEM members only)*
- 7.00–8.00 p.m.**      **18th meeting of the ARLEM Bureau**  
*Interpreting into/from AR, EL, EN, FR, TR + ES\* (access restricted to Bureau members)*
- 8.00 p.m.**            **Official dinner**  
*[venue: tbc]*

(\* passive interpretation only)

## Thursday 23 February 2017

### 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Eighth ARLEM plenary session

*Interpreting into/from AR, EL, EN, FR, MT, TR + ES\*, IT\**

### 8.45 a.m. Registration

### 9 a.m. Opening session

- Opening statements by the ARLEM Co-Presidents: **Markku Markkula**, President of the European Committee of the Regions, and **Hani Abdalmasih Al-Hayek**, Mayor of Beit Sahour, Palestine
- Statement by **Joseph Cordina (MT/PES)** or **Samuel Azzopardi (MT/EPP)**
- Adoption of the agenda (COR-2016-02937-00-00-CONVPOJ-TRA)
- Adoption of the minutes of the seventh plenary session held on 18 January 2016 in Nicosia, Cyprus (COR-2016-00842-00-00-PV-TRA)

### 9.30 a.m. Adoption of ARLEM thematic reports 2016:

#### Cross border cooperation in the Mediterranean region

- Presentation and adoption of the draft report on "Cross border cooperation in the Mediterranean region" - (rapporteur: **Francesco Pigliaru**, President of the Sardinia Region, Italy, and CoR member)  
(COR-2016-01032-00-00-TCD-TRA)

#### Energy and climate change in the Mediterranean region

- Presentation and adoption of the draft report on "Energy and climate change in the Mediterranean region" - (rapporteur: **Mohamed Sadiki**, Mayor of Rabat, Morocco)  
(COR-2016-01031-00-00-TCD-TRA)

### 10.00 a.m. The revised European Neighbourhood Policy – New Challenges for the Sub-National Authorities

- **Mihaela Vasiu**, Policy coordinator, European External Action Service, Division for "Strategy and Instruments of the European Neighbourhood Policy"
- **Piero Fassino**, Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Thematic spokesperson on the South-Mediterranean Partnership

- 11 – 11.15 a.m.      Family photo / Coffee break (*location tbc*)**
- 11.15 a.m.            Local authorities for stabilisation and territorial development in Libya –  
tools for decentralised cooperation**
- Statements by **Bettina Muscheidt**, Ambassador, the Head of the EU  
Delegation to Libya
  - Statements by representatives of the Libyan municipalities
  - Exchange of views
- 11.45 a.m.            Presentation of ARLEM Activity report for 2016 (COR-2016-06204-00-00-  
TCD-TRA)**
- Debate and adoption of ARLEM Action plan and priorities 2017**  
(COR-2016-06203-00-00-TCD-TRA)
- Debate and adoption of ARLEM Political recommendations 2017**  
(COR-2016-06202-00-00-TCD-TRA) and **appointment of the rapporteurs**
- Confirmation of the incoming **ARLEM co-presidency**  
Confirmation of the incoming **Membership of ARLEM Bureau**  
Confirmation of the new **co-chairmanship of the ARLEM commission**
- Date and venue of the **next plenary meeting**
- 12.15 p.m.            George Vella, Maltese Minister for Foreign Affairs**
- 12.30 p.m.            End of meeting**
- 1 p.m.                 Press conference**
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