



## **WORKGROUP ON ENVIRONMENT**

### **FINAL DOCUMENT**

**ANCONA, MAY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2007**

#### **Introduction**

The discussion on the environment that took place during the Workshop raised the issue of the absolute necessity of acquiring more detailed and systematic data and information on the environmental impact of social, economic or recreational activities within the Ionian and Adriatic Area. This necessity is even more important for project plans and activities to be done in the future given the current problems over the coordination and reliability of the data. In fact, due to geographical differences, the monitoring carried out by each single country may often be insufficient.

Workshop participants agreed that such gaps should be filled in order to apply a competent environmental policy. Participants also expressed their intention to improve the quality of the data via gathering more coordinated, synchronised and standardised information.

In addition, the need to prioritise any sort of intervention by selecting the most important and innovative ones was highlighted. The actions set down by the workshop participants can be more direct and efficacious if only a limited number of strategic projects within the Ionian and Adriatic Area are selected.

#### **Proposal**

The workshop represented an occasion to approach some of the most relevant environmental policies that necessitate greater discussion. Regarding these issues the following proposals were made:

1. Completion of an accurate study of the projects that have been carried out in the past and listing of "excellent case studies" from which to refer to for the presentation of new project actions. Above all, the necessity to focus on the management and treatment of port and naval refuse in order to comply with the current EU regulations emerged. This topic could become the drive for future projects to be funded by the EU.
2. Management of disposal of solid refuse with special attention to the islands.



3. Promotion of certificated systems in accordance with the international law in order to deal with environmental damages that could occur to the marine ecosystem caused by possible boat break downs.

4. Creation of an observatory for the protection of the marine environment and of the coasts along the shore of the Adriatic-Ionian basin (Coordinated Adriatic Observing System).

### Conclusions (agreed actions)

In order to promote and action the proposals made during the Workshop, the Ancona and Rijeka Chambers of Commerce will be directly involved in the creation of a Permanent Body which will deal with the protection of the marine environment and of the coasts within the Adriatic-Ionian basin. This Permanent Body will be supported by a team of experts and consultants specifically appointed who will operate within the institutions, associations and research groups specialised in different sectors.

Following the creation of the Permanent Body, a second phase will be started. This will involve other associated Chambers and will be aimed at implementing shared planned activities.

The Italian and Croatian Chambers share the necessity to create a network aimed at optimising the use of the resources required to promote and apply the principles of sustainable development of different environmental systems.

Area of contribution	Objectives
Croatia	Creation of the Permanent Body by the Chambers of Ancona and Rijeka
Italy	
Albania	Appointment of experts for each area of study
Montenegro	
Slovenia	
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Involvement of other Chambers participating at the Forum.
Greece	