



# UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



## Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights

### **Statement on the Middle East Peace Process\***

On the occasion of its extraordinary meeting held on 1 July 2010 in Brussels,

#### **The Committee on Political Affairs, Security and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the UfM,**

- Highlights the unbroken commitment of the Parliamentary Assembly to ongoing dialogue and cooperation;
- Condemns the attack, by Israeli forces, against the flotilla on 31 May 2010 in international waters, which is a breach of international law; strongly deplors the loss of human lives and extends its condolences to families of the victims;
- Recalls the need for a prompt, impartial, international and transparent inquiry to be conducted in order to shed light on the events and identify responsibilities;
- Requests that the new policy measures announced by the government of Israel to ease the blockade of Gaza be implemented fully and quickly; and, moreover insists that the blockade must be lifted swiftly, completely and sustainably and that the implementation of the lifting of blockade must be done in an effective manner which guarantees the security of all concerned;
- Underlines the need for the continuation of proximity talks between Israel and the Palestinians, and the resumption of direct negotiations; invites both parties to take this opportunity seriously by avoiding all provocative acts, including all forms of violence and to live up to their people's expectations of a two-State solution living side by side in peace and security;
- Appeals to all parties to step up their efforts in promoting inter-Palestinian reconciliation; fully supports the Egyptian commitment in this respect.
- Invites all parties represented in the Parliamentary Assembly of the UfM to unite their efforts towards lasting and enduring peace and stability in the region.

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\* The Israeli delegation did not associate itself to this statement