

**Euromed Summit of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions**  
Interactio videoconference, 26 November 2020

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

### 26 November 2020

- 9 – 10 a.m. Connection test with remote participants
- 10 – 11 a.m. *Inaugural session*
- Moderator: **Dimitris Dimitriadis**, President of the Section for External Relations of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
- ❖ **Christa Schweng**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
  - ❖ **Nezha Bouchareb**, Moroccan Minister for Regional Planning, Housing, Urbanism and City Policy
  - ❖ **Ahmed Réda Chami**, President of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Morocco
  - ❖ **Nasser Kamel**, Secretary-general of the Union for the Mediterranean (*video message*)
- 11 – 11.30 a.m. *Compulsory break for interpreters*
- 11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Session 1: Sustainable development in the Mediterranean region**
- This session will be based on draft report REX/526 on the same subject, which was drawn up by the EESC and sent to the delegations before the summit. It will provide an opportunity to address a number of issues in a broad discussion with the audience. The discussion will also look at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the area of sustainable development.*
- ❖ **Lidija Pavić-Rogošić**, rapporteur for *opinion* REX/526 (EESC)
  - ❖ **Abdellah Mouttaqi**, member of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Morocco and secretary-general of the National Office of Hydrocarbons and Mines (ONHYM)
  - ❖ **Debate** with national ESCs and similar organisations
- 1 – 2.30 p.m. *Compulsory break for interpreters*

2.30 – 4 p.m.

**Session 2: Digitalisation and SMEs in the Mediterranean region**

*This session will focus on the EESC information report on Digitalisation and SMEs in the Mediterranean region (REX/519) and will be a follow-up to the discussions held during the 2019 Euromed summit.*

- ❖ **María Helena de Felipe Lehtonen**, rapporteur for opinion REX/519, EESC
- ❖ **Ms Rym Ayadi**, founder of the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association
- ❖ **Jorge Aragón**, member of the ESC of Spain "Challenges and realities of digitalisation. Contributions of the ESC of Spain"
- ❖ **Tanja Maraš**, expert on digital connectivity, Regional Cooperation Council
  
- ❖ **Debate** with national ESCs and similar organisations

4 – 4.30 p.m.

*Compulsory break for interpreters*

4.30 – 5.30 p.m.

**Session 3: Networks in the Euro-Mediterranean area – developing regional cooperation**

*This session will give the floor to regional networks to present their activities and enhance their visibility.*

- ❖ **Jihen Boutiba**, Secretary General of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED)
- ❖ **Mustapha Tlili**, Executive Secretary of the Arab Trade Union Confederation (ATUC)
- ❖ **Josep Ferré i Gavarró**, Director General of the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)
- ❖ **Michael Scoullios**, Chairman of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)
  
- ❖ **Debate** with national ESCs and similar institutions

5.30 – 6 p.m.

**Closing session / Euromed Summit 2021**

*This session will give an opportunity to summit participants to brainstorm on the main theme of the Euromed Summit 2021; the topic "Covid-19: The role of civil society in the reconstruction and resilience of the Euro-Mediterranean region" has been proposed so far.*

- ❖ **Ioannis Vardakastanis**, President of the Euromed Follow-up Committee of the European Economic and Social Committee

**Practical information:**

*Venue:* *Interactio* **videoconference**

Interpreting: **Arabic, English, French and Spanish**

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