

EuroMed Justice Programme

Operational Conclusions of the 1st Preparatory Meeting on Topic 1 – Initiation to and Training in Cooperation and International Judicial Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters

We, the participants (*) in the 1st Preparatory Meeting of the EuroMed Justice Programme of the European Commission, supported by the MEDA Programme in the framework of the EU Euro-Mediterranean Policy, in our capacity of representatives of Institutions operating in the field of Justice or experts from the competent institutions or ministries of the Mediterranean Partners and the EU Member States, following up the operational conclusions of the opening conference held in Brussels on 20 December 2004, after two working days and at the end of this meeting, express the following conclusions:

1. Pursuant to the objectives of this meeting and taking into account the recommendations made during the working sessions and the discussions, this meeting gave us the opportunity:
 - a) To define the overall approach to Topic 1 on the *“Initiation to and training in cooperation and international judicial mutual assistance in criminal matters”*;
 - b) To define and set the concrete programmes, dates and venues for each seminar of the 1st Topic:
 - 1st Seminar on *International Judicial Cooperation: nature and standards ruling this cooperation* – Lisbon (Portugal) from the 10th to the 13th of May 2005;
 - 2nd Seminar on *Forms of inter-state cooperation: judicial mutual assistance, extradition and enforcement of foreign decisions* – Barcelona (Spain) from the 13th to the 16th of June 2005;
 - 3rd Seminar on *Enforcement: implementing rules of constraint measures, enforcement authorities and enforcement of judgements* – Rabat (Morocco) from the 18th to the 21st of July 2005; and
 - 4th Seminar on *the essential guarantees of the procedure and protection of the rights of the persons prosecuted* – Istanbul (Turkey) from the 19th to the 22nd of September 2005;
 - c) To draw up a provisional list of experts and speakers that will be invited to participate in each seminar, according to the specific issues defined in the programmes;
 - d) To draw up a list of legal documents that should be included in a CD-ROM to be distributed to each participant in the seminars.
2. We would be grateful if these operational conclusions, along with a copy of the programmes for these 4 seminars, could be sent to all National Focal Points of the EU Member States and of the Mediterranean Partners, and to the Directorates General of the European Commission concerned by this Programme.

Read and approved by all the participants in this 1st Preparatory Meeting.

Lisbon, 1st April 2005

(*) See list attached