



1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN UNION OF SURVEYORS

ON THE ISSUE

MEDITERRANEAN COASTLINE : VECTOR OF DIALOGUE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPPEMENT

April 17-18 2015, Palais des congrés, Marrakech, Morocco

Call for papers

Mediterranean Union of Surveyors (UMG)

The Mediterranean Union of Surveyors (UMG) is an international non-governmental organization which was founded 22 June 2010 in Marseille (France) by seven national orders, organized by a law, belonging to the following countries : Morocco, France, Lebanon, Italy, Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia. This organization aims at answering to the common vocation of the topographers surveyors engineers and at reinforcing their inherent links to their belonging to the Mediterranean basin, the common cradle of their civilization. It has also the mission to set up a platform for exchange, cooperation and partnership between the Mediterranean surveyors.

Theme of the congress

The Mediterranean basin refers to all the regions which are around the Mediterranean sea. The region stretches on 2 million kilometres square. The region was the cradle of civilizations among which the oldest ones in the world and shaped in many ways the destiny of humanity by allowing it to hold human and historical treasures. This region has consequently become the heart of civilization and the main axis for the traffic of goods and peoples, as well as the heart of exchanges and fructuous partnerships in the countries all around.

The regional organizations and the thematic associations which were set up played, in their respective field, first plan roles in the promotion and reinforcement of this spirit.

The setting up of the Mediterranean Union of surveyors (UMG) falls within this main line and mainly aims at bringing a contribution, up to its limits and competences, to the reinforcement of the building of this area and to its preservation by taking up actively the challenges which threat the region.

On a global scale, the coastline is an attractive area and an interface between land and sea. It is a place for exchanges conducive to abundance and biodiversity which translates into a concentration

of activities and demographic growth (coastalization). According to the statistics, 60% of the global population lives less than 100 km away from the shores, and between 15 and 20% lives less than 15 km away from a marine coastline.

Indeed, the Mediterranean coastline faces nowadays more and more the threat of pollution, the intensification of tourism and the demographic growth which put a bigger pressure on already limited resources in water and lands. The unrestrained establishment of coastal and urban touristic infrastructures, the over-exploitation of natural resources, among which water, continuously damage the environment by making it more and more vulnerable to the impacts of climate changes.

Those different factors which put pressure on the Mediterranean coastline triggers a great number of questions for all political actors, decision-makers and professionals committed in its planning, its organization and management.

Those issues dealing with the preservation of natural sites, the dynamic of biodiversity, ecology, sustainable development, natural and technological risks, conflicts of uses, good governance of the maritime public domain are calling out all the actors: scientists, engineers, planners, politicians, decision-makers...

Owing to the crucial role played by the coastline in the development of every nation ;

Taking into account the commitments of our country towards international agreements for the protection of natural sites and sites of biological and ecological interests ;

And in response to the callings out and expectations from different actors for the development and protection of the coastline: States, Decision-makers, Investors, Developers, Financial institutions, Scientists, Engineers, Town planners, Planners, Citizens,...

The Mediterranean Union of Surveyors (UMG), which is faithful to its commitment in favour of the development of the Mediterranean countries and the rallying of all potentials, dedicates its first congress to the theme:

« *The Mediterranean coastline: vector of dialogue and sustainable development* »,

and invites you to contribute to the improvement of this debate by your experience, your thought and your presentations dealing with one on the following themes:

- Judicial and legal framework of the coastline;
- Issue and analysis of the coastline;
- Studies, strategies and policies to protect the coastline;
- Impact of climate changes on the coastline;
- Strategic role of land policies in the protection of the coastline;
- Alternatives and prospects for a better governance of the coastline;
- Availability of an updated cartography of the coastline;
- Development of competences : training and research;
- International experiences: Africa, North America, Europe and Arabic countries.

Important dates

- 03 February 2015: Last period to submit the abstracts
- 10 February 2015: Confirmation of acceptance of the abstracts
- 13 March 2015: Last period to submit the articles

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