



**Declassified<sup>1</sup>**

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22 May 2023

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## **Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development**

### **Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment**

## **Minutes**

### **of the study day held in Ben Guerir on Saturday, 18 March**

The Network **held** a study day in Ben Guerir. **Mr Rik Daems** (Belgium, ALDE), **Chairperson of the Network**, opened the study day at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University.

#### **1. Introduction**

**Ms Leila Benali**, Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, Morocco (by video link) regretted not being able to participate in person, but she has a prior obligation on behalf of the national sustainable development strategy. Morocco had invested a lot to ensure a necessary transition. This decision, initiated by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, responded to all crises at the same time. Indeed, the country had chosen an inclusive policy based on collective intelligence that took risks into account. The country works to help investors to understand the need to adequately cover environmental risks. This strategy ensured the country's short-term security and long-term sustainability. Indeed, the country had made the choice to abandon fossil fuels, turning a risk into an opportunity. The country had already reached 42% renewable energy in its energy mix. It advocated energy efficiency and Morocco's global and regional integration. In conclusion, it was necessary to identify needs and invest in sustainable means to meet them.

**Mr Allal Amraoui**, Member of the Network and of the House of Representatives and host of the event, thanked the Minister for her intervention and for the time she had given to the work of the Network. He was pleased to welcome the members to the University of Ben Guerir for an ambitious program.

**Mr Hicham El Habti**, President, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, thanked the members for their presence. He stressed the ambitious work on the development of green energy in Morocco, in particular hydrogen. By 2027, the country intended to produce one million tons of green ammonia. This was one of the main missions of the UM6P. At the university, 44% of students were women.

#### **2. Climate Fresco Workshop**

This workshop was carried out with the contribution of **Ms Asmaâ Mikou** and **Mrs Yasmina Attia**, experts from the "Climate Fresco – Morocco". After explaining the creation of the Fresco by Cédric Ringenbach in France, they placed this event under the sign of collective intelligence.

The workshop made it possible to train members in a participatory way on the different dimensions of the triple global crisis (pollution, climate deregulation, and loss of biodiversity).

#### **3. Discussion on "Access to clean energy: Giving a voice to future generations"**

Under the moderation of **Mr Moutquin** and **Ms Ovchynnykova**, members of the network, and with the contribution of young Europeans and Moroccans committed to environmental protection, the debate addressed the question of transition to sustainable energy and the need for effective environmental protection.

**Mr Spyros Papadatos**, representative of the Council of Europe's Youth Committee, explained the role of this committee, which has existed for 51 years. It carried the voice of young people who will experience the climate crisis throughout their lives.

<sup>1</sup> The minutes were approved and declassified by the Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment at its meeting on 22 May 2023.

**Ms Emma Pagliarusco**, representative of YEE, the largest European association of young environmentalists, stressed the need to raise young people's awareness of environmental issues. This effort required access to information and a setback from fossil fuels. Access to affordable energy was as important as access to food, in order to prepare for a just transition.

Decarbonisation expert **Professor Zabut** challenged the panellists on the conflict between access to energy for all and the challenge of sustainable development in Africa to address the climate crisis.

**Mr Daems** noted that poor countries found themselves in a weak position because they had to adopt the standards of others. He advocated the transfer of clean technologies.

**Ada**, a university student, insisted on the need to not skip steps. African countries should instead prepare national strategies before installing power plants with foreign technology. Morocco was the only African country that had adopted its own national strategy.

Another speaker regretted that green energy was intermittent. Countries currently had no choice but to maintain a diversified energy mix to ensure their supply. Several other stakeholders confirmed that green energy production may be sufficient to meet all needs. The technological limit of green energy always lay in its storage.

**Mr Daems** concluded the exchange by noting that it was still necessary to find the right solution in terms of energy. Each country must be able to develop its own strategy. He recalled that Africa was ahead of Europe on the recognition of the right to a healthy environment.

#### **4. Visit of the Green City and the neighbourhood of intelligent homes in Ben Guerir**

The members visited the site of an international smart home competition, which was optimised to take into account adaptation to global warming in Africa. They also met with researchers working in the green city, where research and development take place on photovoltaic panels, batteries, and electric car chargers.

#### **5. Visit of the Experimental Farm in Ben Guerir**

The members visited Morocco's plant species conservation site, experimental and research fields, as well as collections of endangered species (cactus, etc.).

**The President** thanked the university, the members, and the organisers for a day rich in sharing experience and ideas for a sustainable future.

**List of participants / Liste des participant.e.s**  
**55 membres / members**  
**32 Parlements / Parliaments**

**18.03.2023**

**Member States / États Membres**

|   |        |                         |        |
|---|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| Albania / Albanie                           |        |                         |        |
| Andorra / Andorre                           |        |                         |        |
| Armenia / Arménie                           | Mr/M.  | <b>Armen Gevorgyan</b>  | EC/DA  |
| Austria / Autriche                          | Mr/M.  | Stefan Schennach        | SOC    |
|   | Mr/M.  | Michel Reimon           | SOC    |
| Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan                    | Ms/Mme | Sevinj Fataliyeva       | EC/DA  |
| Belgium / Belgique                          | Mr/M.  | <b>Rik Daems</b>        | ALDE   |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine | Ms/Mme | Marina Pendeš           | EPP/CD |
|   | Mr/M.  | Saša Magazinović        | SOC    |
| Bulgaria / Bulgarie                         |        |                         |        |
| Croatia / Croatie                           | Ms/Mme | Zdravka Bušić           | EPP/CD |
| Cyprus / Chypre                             |        |                         |        |
| Czech Republic / République tchèque         |        |                         |        |
| Denmark / Danemark                          |        |                         |        |
| Estonia / Estonie                           | Mr/M.  | Urmas Reitelmann        | EC/DA  |
| Finland / Finlande                          | Ms/Mme | Minna Reijonen          | EC/DA  |
| France                                      | Ms/Mme | Liliana Tanguy          | ALDE   |
|   |        |                         |        |
| Georgia / Géorgie                           |        |                         |        |
| Germany / Allemagne                         | Ms/Mme | Franziska Kersten       | SOC    |
| Greece / Grèce                              | Mr/M.  | George Papandreou       | SOC    |
| Hungary / Hongrie                           |        |                         |        |
| Iceland / Islande                           | Mr/M.  | Bjarni Jónsson          | UEL    |
| Ireland / Irlande                           | Mr/M.  | Thomas Pringle          | UEL    |
|   | Ms/Mme | Róisín Garvey           | SOC    |
| Italy / Italie                              | Ms/Mme | Maria Rizzotti          | EPP/CD |
| Latvia / Lettonie                           |        |                         |        |
| Liechtenstein                               | Mr/M.  | Peter Frick             | ALDE   |
| Lithuania / Lituanie                        | Mr/M.  | Arminas Lydeka          | ALDE   |
| Luxembourg                                  | Mr/M.  | Paul Galles             | EPP/CD |
| Malta / Malte                               |        |                         |        |
| Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova |        |                         |        |
| Monaco                                      | Mr/M.  | José Badia              | EPP/CD |
| Montenegro / Monténégro                     | Mr/M.  | Miloš Konatar           | SOC    |
| Netherlands / Pays-Bas                      | Ms/Mme | Margreet De Boer        | SOC    |
|   | Ms/Mme | Agnes Mulder            | EPP/CD |
| North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord         |        |                         |        |
| Norway / Norvège                            | Ms/Mme | Linda Hofstad Helleland | EPP/CD |
| Poland / Pologne                            | Ms/Mme | Marta Kubiak            | EC/DA  |
|   | Ms/Mme | Danuta Jazłowiecka      | EPP/CD |
| Portugal                                    | Mr/M.  | <b>Pedro Cegonha</b>    | SOC    |

|  |          |                            |        |
|--|----------|----------------------------|--------|
| Romania / Roumanie                       | Ms/Mme   | Maria Gabriela Horga       | EPP/CD |
|  | Ms/Mme   | Alina Stefania Gorghiu     | EPP/CD |
| San Marino / Saint-Marin                 |          |                            |        |
| Serbia / Serbie                          |          |                            |        |
| Slovak Republic /<br>République slovaque |          |                            |        |
| Slovenia / Slovénie                      | Mr/M.    | Dean Premik                | ALDE   |
| Spain / Espagne                          |          |                            |        |
| Sweden / Suède                           |          |                            |        |
| Switzerland / Suisse                     | Mr/M.    | <b>Jean-Pierre Grin</b>    | ALDE   |
|  | Mr/M.    | Olivier Français           | ALDE   |
| Türkiye                                  | Ms/Mme   | Emine Nur Günay            | NR     |
| Ukraine                                  | Ms/Mme   | <b>Yuliia Ovchynnykova</b> | ALDE   |
| United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni             | Baroness | Doreen E. Massey           | SOC    |

**Observers / Observateurs**

|                  |       |                      |
|------------------|-------|----------------------|
| Canada           |       |                      |
| Israel / Israël  | Mr/M. | Yorai Lahav Hertzanu |
| Mexico / Mexique |       |                      |

**Partners for Democracy / Partenaires pour la Démocratie**

|                          |       |                      |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| Jordan / Jordanie        |       |                      |
| Kyrgyzstan / Kirghizstan |       |                      |
| Morocco / Maroc          | Mr/M. | <b>Allal Amraoui</b> |
| Palestine                |       |                      |

**President of the Assembly / Président·e de l'Assemblée**

|  |       |          |     |
|--|-------|----------|-----|
| <b>Ex-Officio Member /<br/>Membre d'office</b> | Mr/M. | Tiny Kox | UEL |
|--|-------|----------|-----|

**Presidents of Political Groups / Président·e-s des groupes politiques**

|  |       |                      |        |
|--|-------|----------------------|--------|
| <b>Ex-Officio Members /<br/>Membres d'office</b> | Mr/M. | Frank Schwabe        | SOC    |
|  | Mr/M. | Aleksander Pocij     | EPP/CD |
|  | Mr/M. | Ian Liddell-Grainger | EC/DA  |
|  | Mr/M. | Iulian Bulai         | ALDE   |
|  | Mr/M. | George Katrougalos   | UEL    |

**Pace Committees Concerned / Commissions de l'APCE concernées**

|   |        |                       |     |
|---|--------|-----------------------|-----|
| Political Affairs /<br>Questions politiques | Mr/M.  | <b>Simon Moutquin</b> | SOC |
| Legal Affairs /<br>Questions juridiques     | Mr/M.  | Ziya Altunyaldiz      | NR  |
| Migration / Migrations                      | Mr/M.  | Pierre-Alain Fridez   | SOC |
| Equality / Égalité                          | Ms/Mme | <b>Edite Estrela</b>  | SOC |
| Culture                                     | Ms/Mme | Inka Hopsu            | SOC |

**Bureau of the Committee on Social Affairs /  
Bureau de la Commission des Questions Sociales  
Ex-Officio Members / Membres d'office**

|                          |        |                  |     |
|--------------------------|--------|------------------|-----|
| Chairperson / présidente | Ms/Mme | Selin Sayek Böke | SOC |
|--------------------------|--------|------------------|-----|

|  |        |                |        |
|--|--------|----------------|--------|
| First Vice-Chairperson /<br><i>premier vice-président</i>    | Mr/M.  | Alain Milon    | EPP/CD |
| Second Vice-Chairperson /<br><i>deuxième vice-présidente</i> | Ms/Mme | Olena Khomenko | EC/DA  |
| Third Vice-Chairperson /<br><i>troisième vice-présidente</i> | Ms/Mme | Sibel Arslan   | SOC    |

**Congress of Local and Regional Authorities /  
Congrès des Pouvoirs Locaux et Régionaux**

|   |       |           |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Thematic Spokesperson on<br>Environment and Climate<br>Change/ <i>Porte-Parole<br/>thématique sur l'environnement<br/>et le changement climatique</i> | Mr/M. | Cemal Bas |
|---|-------|-----------|

**Parliamentary Assembly of the Francophonie /  
Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie**

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**Inter-Parliamentary Union / Union Interparlementaire**

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**European Parliament / Parlement Européen**

|  |        |  |
|--|--------|--|
|  | Ms/Mme | Marie-Pierre Vedrenne (France, Renew Europe) |
|--|--------|--|

**Other Parliamentarians present / Autres Parlementaires present.e.s**

Ms/Mme Eka Sepashvili ..... Georgia / Géorgie

Mr/M. Bolesław Piecha ..... Poland / Pologne

**Secretariat of Delegation or of Political Group / Secrétariat de Delegation ou de Groupe politique**

Ms/Mme Sonja Langenhaeck ..... Belgium / Belgique

**Experts / Expert.e.s**

Ms Leila Benali, Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, Morocco (by video link)

Mr Hicham El Habti, President, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

Ms Asmaâ Mikou and Mrs Yasmina Attia, experts from the "Climate Fresco – Morocco"

Mr / M. Spyridon Papadatos ..... Conseil consultatif pour la jeunesse du Conseil de l'Europe  
Ms / Mme Emma Pagliarusco ..... Jeunesse et environnement Europe (YEE)

**Council of Europe staff / Secrétariat du Conseil de l'Europe**

**Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly / Secrétariat de l'Assemblée Parlementaire**

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development /  
*Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable*

Ms / Mme Tanja Kleinsorge ..... Head of the Secretariat / *Cheffe du Secrétariat*  
Ms / Mme Aiste Ramanauskaite ..... Secretary to the Committee / *Secrétaire de la commission*  
Ms / Mme Anita Gholami ..... Co-Secretary/ *Co-Secrétaire*  
Mr / M. Guillaume Parent ..... Co-Secretary/ *Co-Secrétaire*  
Ms / Mme Sylvie Elter ..... Assistant / *Assistante*  
Mr / M. Alessandro Mancini ..... Adjoint au Chef de Secrétariat, Division de soutien des projets parlementaires  
Mr / M. Michael Arabul ..... Project assistant / *Assistant du projet*