

THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Resolution 169 (2003)¹ on the promotion of regionalisation and interregional co-operation in Europe through the Summer Schools and Centurio programmes run by the Assembly of European Regions

The Congress, bearing in mind the proposal of the Chamber of Regions,

1. Recalling that, since the creation of the Congress, it has co-operated fruitfully with the AER – which has consultative status with the Council of Europe – and the Congress;
2. Recognising the importance of the AER's Centurio and Summer School programmes, which the Congress has actively supported since 1999;
3. Emphasising, above all, that these programmes are effective tools for the promotion of interregional co-operation and regionalisation throughout Europe;
4. Greeting in this context the Adriatic Agenda 21, a programme of interregional co-operation for the Adriatic zone, that was launched at the AER Summer School 2002;
5. Convinced that co-operation between the Congress and the AER in this field is useful with a view to developing joint initiatives and avoiding overlap;

6. Welcoming the initiative taken by the AER in seeking Interreg III co-financing for these programmes in the years ahead;

7. Invites the Chamber of Regions and the AER:

a. to co-operate more closely in preparing future programmes and events linked to the Adriatic Agenda 21;

b. to formulate new proposals for joint action to develop interregional co-operation and training, with a view to extending and enhancing the existing programmes;

c. to involve in this process not only the competent structures of the European Commission but also the European Network of Training Organisations for Local and Regional Authorities (ENTO) and the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA);

8. Invites the Chamber of Regions to consider setting up a joint Congress-AER steering group on the Centurio, Summer School and Adriatic Agenda 21 programmes, with the specific task of submitting the above-mentioned proposals and with a view to achieving closer co-ordination between the Congress and the AER in their efforts to promote interregional co-operation and training;

9. Invite the European regions to take an active part in the programme of exchange of personnel and experience in order to create a stronger solidarity between the regional authorities and a stability of the regional democracy.

1. Debated and approved by the Chamber of Regions on 25 November 2003 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 26 November 2003 (see Document CPR (10) 7, draft resolution presented by Mr Doric and Mr Arbagic, rapporteurs).