

## CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF EUROPE

### **Resolution 85 (1999)<sup>1</sup> on women's participation in political life in the regions of Europe**

*(Extract from the Official Gazette of the Council of Europe  
– June 1999)*

The Congress,

Bearing in mind the proposal of the Chamber of Regions,

1. Having taken note of the report on “The holding of political office by women in the regions of Europe”, submitted by Ms Dini in the light of a survey of the European regions;
2. Welcoming the co-operation between European regions and non-governmental organisations of regional and local authorities in this field;
3. Having, in particular, taken note of the Final Declaration of the Conference on “Women in politics at regional level”, organised by the AER in Turin on 7 November 1998;
4. Stressing the importance of women's equal representation in the political institutions of the regions of Europe;

5. Requests regional authorities:

- a. to undertake the appropriate measures to facilitate women's access to the political institutions of regional authorities;
- b. to launch programmes to work for and encourage women to become more involved in the political life of the regions and to assume responsibilities in their political, parliamentary and administrative institutions;
- c. to encourage organisations in civil society to launch information and training programmes aimed at facilitating women's access to political institutions in the regions;
- d. to institute an action programme based on the principle of positive discrimination, to ensure that there is balanced participation by women in the political institutions of the regions;
- e. to examine, so far as this is practicable, the report submitted to the session and the accompanying documents in regional assemblies, both within special committees and in the executive bodies;
- f. to inform the Congress about the results of these deliberations and, where appropriate, about any action that is planned or undertaken as a result of the Recommendations put forward;

6. Requests the Bureau to instruct its relevant working group to launch a major campaign at European level to promote the holding of public office by women in the regions of Europe and to involve in this Campaign particularly active organisations of regional and local authorities, such as, notably, the Assembly of European Regions (AER) and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

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1. Debated and approved by the Chamber of Regions on 16 June 1999 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 17 June 1999 (see Doc. CPR (6) 4 revised, draft resolution presented by Ms P. Dini, Rapporteur).