

# Third meeting of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen

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## Resolution

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1 – The third meeting of the AOM which took place in Athens on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2009, on the following topic: “Transparency in public services: what role for the Ombudsman?” was organised by the Greek Ombudsman in cooperation with the AOM President, Wali Al Madhalim of Morocco, the AOM first Vice-President, the Spanish Ombudsman and the AOM Secretary-General, the Mediator of the French Republic.

24 mediation institutions of the Mediterranean Area participated in this third meeting, as well as the representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the League of Arab States and the European Ombudsman.

2 – The Mediterranean mediation institutions have expressed their gratefulness to the Greek Ombudsman and to its staff for the excellent organization of the meeting and the warm welcome of the Greek hosts.

3 – After the introductory presentations on the values crisis and on the quintessential investigation powers of Ombudsman Institutions in Europe, the participants have dealt with three subtopics: the access to administrative documents, to places of deprivation of liberty, and the fight against corruption.

At the end of the General Assembly, the AOM decided:

4 – Following the declaration of the representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to develop its cooperation with the UN with the triple objective:

- Inviting the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI) as well as mediating institutions to be part of the network of the institutions of promotion and protection of Human Rights, if they aren't yet;
- Encouraging their respective States to sign and ratify the international instruments relative to deprivation of liberty, including those concerning the protection against torture;
- Committing to take into account, in the work of their mediation institution, those international standards as well as those relative to Human Rights.

5 – To hold the next AOM meeting in Madrid, Spain, and to accept the invitation of the Spanish Ombudsman.

6 – To devote a following study on the institutions from the South of the Mediterranean area.

In Athens, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009