

Declaration on migration and asylum in the Mediterranean area

The Ombudsmen and Mediators members of the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen (AOM), gathering the VIIIth General Assembly, in Tirana (Albania) on June 27th 2014:

Draw attention to the dramatic humanitarian situation developing in recent years in Mediterranean countries concerning economic migration and asylum;

Foresee that, unfortunately, these movements of scores of people fleeing from dire economic and social situations, and armed conflicts in their countries will continue to take place and even grow in the years to come;

Consider that in order to adequately address the problems derived from these migration movements, multilateral policies are required;

Believe as a consequence, that International organizations with strong presence in this area, such as the European Union (EU) and the African Union (AU), amongst others, should adopt specific policies not only to address in the short term the humanitarian problem caused by this situation, but also to find solutions for the countries from where these movements originate through cooperation for development.