

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

Between

The Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises

(BUSINESSMED)

And

Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

(EMEA)

Establishing a framework for cooperation with the aim to contribute to the integration and the social and economic development of the Euro-Mediterranean region

In the Framework of :



EBSOMED

ENHANCING BUSINESS SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

01, July, 2018

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made by and between the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association "EMEA" and the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises "BUSINESSMED" in the framework of project "Enhancing Business Support Organisations and Business Networks in the Southern Neighbourhood (EBSOMED).

WHEREAS:

1. The role required from the Mediterranean business community and its representative associations is essential to support public and private initiatives for economic development, bilateral and economic cooperation in the region, particularly in the fields of project engineering.
2. The Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (BUSINESSMED hereinafter) is a regional professional organisation, established in January 2002 in Tunisia by the founding twelve members with VAT 0902157P/N/000. The Organisation gathers 22 Confederations of Employers and more than 600.000 public and private companies in the Mediterranean region and aims at accelerating the integration and the social and economic development in the region.
3. The Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA hereinafter) is an independent think-tank specialized in socio-economic and financial developments in Europe and the South and East Mediterranean established in Carrer Brusi 7 08006 in Barcelona in 2012 with VAT no/NIF G-65901902;

EMEA has an international network of think tanks, research centers, academic institutions and International experts, is seeking to further develop its network in the region;

EMEA promoted and co-funded the Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES);

4. Through this MoU, BUSINESSMED and EMEA express their willingness to enhance and intensify their cooperation in the areas of mutual concern. To that effect, both parties agree on the following CLAUSES:

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Principles, purpose and scope:

The present MoU has been established in the framework of the EBSOMED Project by BUSINESSMED and EMEA (the Parties hereinafter) with the purpose to enhance the Euro-Mediterranean business ecosystem and support the social and economic development of the economic stakeholders.

In this sense, the Parties will cooperate where and when feasible and appropriate, aiming at maximizing bilateral and multilateral Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

The enhanced collaboration among the Parties shall also commit to develop an investment-friendly environment and thus foster private sector initiatives in the Mediterranean region in order to establish a stable, sustainable and long-lasting economic growth.

2. Programmes of activities:

This MoU presents a number of initiatives to be undertaken by the Parties. This list is neither exhaustive nor final but reflects the intention of the Parties at the time of signing this document. Thus, it might be updated accordingly, as experience is gained, and by mutual agreement of the Parties.

The Parties will participate in the implementation of the action programme within the limits of their statutes, their institutional mandate and their strategic priorities:

This action programme includes by now:

The exchange of knowledge and best practices. The Parties agree to be involved in exchange programs of research and to collectively develop joint innovative researches and business support projects.

- Besides other initiatives that would be approved on case by case basis, EMEA and BUSINESSMED shall cooperate by **presenting joint projects** as well as outreach and give visibility to each other actions, publications and other initiatives considered suitable by both Parties
- Such initiatives and programs shall encompass exhibitions and conferences, information, training, awareness, communication, provision of technical assistance, and other business support activities, where when appropriate, each party shall promote the activities of the other party within its first and second line membership base. To implement such programs and initiatives, both parties shall rely on self-resources as well as various eligible bilateral and regional programs and projects of bilateral and multilateral donors.

3. Administrative nature of the agreement:

This MoU is not intended to create legal relations between the Parties or to impose formal obligations on them. In keeping with the administrative nature of

these arrangements, no provision of this MoU will be construed to interfere in any way with the independent decision making autonomy of the Parties with regard to their respective affairs and operations. In particular, nothing in this MoU is intended to run counter to or modify the terms of each party's specific mandates or their statutory rules and provisions.

4. Duration:

This MoU shall have a term of 4 years from its date of signature and can be renewed automatically subject to an exchange of letters between the two parties.

However the MoU might be terminated by either Party by giving three months advance written notice to the other Party. In this case, the Parties shall take any necessary action to ensure that such termination will not be prejudicial to any activity in progress pursuant to this MoU.

5. Extension of the MoU to other Parties:

Should both Parties agree, this MoU might be extended to other institutions willing to enhance collaboration and accept the principles, objectives and action program which have inspired this agreement.

6. Focal points:

Communicating among the parties regarding the activities pursued under this MoU should be channeled through the following units:

BUSINESSMED - Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises

BUSINESSMED

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Les Berges du Lac 2, 1053 Tunis, Tunisie

Phone : +216.99.908.551

E-mail: j.boutiba@businessmed-umce.org

EMEA – Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

EMEA

C/ Brusi 7

Barcelona, 08006, Spain

Phone : +346654077391

E-mail: rym.ayadi@euromed-economists.org

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises contained herein, **THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS EXECUTED** by the Parties and **EFFECTIVE** as of the date of its signature.

Date: 15 July 2018

Signed for and of behalf of the Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises

Jihen Boutiba Mrad
General Secretary
BUSINESSMED



BUSINESSMED
Union of Mediterranean Confederation of Entreprises
Union Méditerranéenne des Confédérations d'Entreprises

Signed for and of behalf of the Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

Professor RYM AYADI
Founding President
Member of the Executive Board

