



North-South Centre of the Council of Europe



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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Conference

Status and political participation: women as agents of change in the Euro-Mediterranean region

Lisbon, 2 and 3 April 2009

*Venue : Auditorium of the Fundação Luso-Americana
Rua do Sacramento à Lapa, 21 - Lisbon*

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Thursday 2 April 2009

Opening sitting

9.30 – 10.15 am

Ms Nouzha Skalli, *Minister for Social Development, Family Affairs and Solidarity (Morocco)*

Ms Maria Teresa Gonçalves Ribeiro, *Secretary of State for European Affairs (Portugal)*

Ms Lydie Err, *Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Equal Participation of Women and Men in Decision-Making of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)*

Mr Charles Buchanan, *Member of the Executive Council of the Fundação Luso-Americana*

Ms Deborah Bergamini, *Chairperson of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre*

10.15 – 10.30 am

Coffee break

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First session

Changing family codes in the Euro-Mediterranean region

10.30 – 11.30 am **Moderator:** **Ms Fifi Benaboud**, *Transmed Programme Co-ordinator, North-South Centre*

Speakers: **Mr José Mendes Bota**, *Vice-Chairperson of the PACE Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men*

Ms Nadia Ait Zai, *barrister, Director of the Women's and Children's Information and Documentation Center (CIDDEF) (Algeria)*

Ms Rachida Tahri, *Gender adviser, member of Democratic Association of Moroccan Women (Morocco)*

Ms Lina Abou Habib, *Director of the Collective for Research and Training on Development - Action (Lebanon)*

11.30 am – 12.30 pm Discussion

12.30 – 2.30 pm *Lunch offered by the Fundação Luso-Americana*

Second session

The role of women in democratic reforms: women's political participation

2.30 – 3.30 pm **Moderator:** **Ms Lydie Err**, *Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Equal Participation of Women and Men in Decision-Making*

Speakers: **Ms Amal Osman**, *member of the People's Assembly (Egypt)*

Ms Alima Boumedienne, *Senator (France)*

Ms Britt-Marie Lövgren, *Thematic Rapporteur on gender equality of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

Ms Isabel Romão, *former Chairperson of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG)*

3.30 – 4.30 pm Discussion

4.30 – 5 pm *Coffee break*

Third session

The role of women in democratic reforms: women's social and economic participation

5 – 6 pm	<u>Moderator:</u> Mr Abdelmaksoud Rachdi , <i>Chairperson of the EuroMed Non-Governmental Platform</i>
	<u>Speakers:</u> Ms Leila Rhiwi , <i>UNIFEM Women's Rights Co-ordinator for the Maghreb</i>
	Ms Christine McCafferty , <i>Chairperson of the PACE Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee</i>
	Ms Simone Susskind , <i>President of “Actions in the Mediterranean” (Belgium)</i>
	Ms Bouthayna Iraqui-Houssaini , <i>Chairperson of the Business Women Association, member of the House of Representatives (Morocco)</i>
6 – 7 pm	Discussion
7 pm	End of the sitting
9 pm	<i>Dinner offered by the North-South Centre</i>

Friday 3 April 2009

Fourth session

The role of the different players - parliaments, governments and NGOs - in improving women's rights

9.30 – 10.30 am	<u>Moderator:</u> Ms Antigoni Papadopoulou , <i>member of PACE</i>
	<u>Speakers:</u> Ms Isabel Martínez Lozano , <i>Secretary General for Equality Policies, Ministry of Equality (Spain)</i>
	Ms Saliha Djefal , <i>member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, National People's Assembly (Algeria)</i>
	Ms Elza Pais , <i>Chairperson of the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (Portugal)</i>
	Ms Selma Acuner , <i>International Relations Co-ordinator for KADER, former Counsellor of the Prime Minister on Equality Policies (Turkey)</i>
10.30 – 11.30 am	Discussion
11.30 – 12 noon	<i>Coffee break</i>

Closing Session

12 noon – 1 pm

Recommendations, conclusions

Ms Lydie Err, *Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Equal Participation of Women and Men in Decision-Making*

Ms Isabel Martínez Lozano, *Secretary General for Equality Policies, Ministry of Equality, Spanish Presidency of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers*

Mr Denis Huber, *Executive Director of the North-South Centre*

1 pm

Closing of the conference

**The conference is organised with the support of
the Spanish Presidency of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers**

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