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# CRANS MONTANA FORUM

Principauté de Monaco,  
October 28th, 2007

**Mr. Mohammed Valli Moosa**  
President  
The World Conservation Union (IUCN)  
Gland - SUISSE

**CRANS MONTANA FORUM**  
19<sup>th</sup> Annual Session  
MONACO - June 26-29, 2008

ORIG: WJF (To Advise  
on Participation)

Dear Mr. Valli Moosa,

The **19<sup>th</sup> annual Crans Montana Forum** will take place in **Monaco, June 26 to 29, 2008**. It will be devoted to the new role of the **Mediterranean**.

The Mediterranean is a major and unavoidable crossroads for the **European Union**, the **new Europe**, **Africa**, the **Middle East**, and **Central Asia** as far as Business and Investment are concerned.

The recent project of a new **Mediterranean space** is an extraordinary opportunity to strengthen and develop economic relations with these major markets, whether potential or established.

With the support of **CMF-Middle East**, this Forum will have a special focus on the role of the **Gulf States** in the economic development and investment in Southern Mediterranean, Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

It would be my pleasure to welcome you on the occasion of this exceptional event. I hope to receive your confirmation as soon as possible.

You will find attached the Programme's Headlines. Please contact me for any further information.

Yours Sincerely,

Jean-Paul Carteron  
*Pro Merito Concilii Europae*  
Chairman - Crans Montana Forum

41 Avenue Hector Otto - MC - 98000 - Monaco  
Phone : +377.9770.7000 - Fax : +377.9770.7040  
summit@world-summit.org www.cmf.ch



# CRANS MONTANA FORUM

*19th annual session since 1989!*

PRINCIPALITY OF MONACO

June 26-29, 2008

## ***THE NEW ROLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN***

***STRATEGIES TOWARD CENTRAL, EASTERN EUROPE, AFRICA  
AND THE ARAB WORLD***

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The European Union is struggling to reform itself, implement a satisfactory management process, define and deal with its enlargement, emerge as a world power, and face daily globalization challenges.

Yet, for the world around it, the European Union represents a decisive contribution of potential and hope, notably for the new Europe, Africa and the Middle East which have a major common point : the Mediterranean.

Opening up Europe to the Mediterranean, Africa, and the Middle East is an extraordinary opportunity for all Union Member States to strengthen and develop their relations, notably economic, with these vast markets, whether potential or established.

At a crucial moment of the world's History, this issue is so important to the Crans Montana Forum that it has been made the theme of its 19th annual session, with an additional focus: the role of the Gulf States in the economic development and investment in the Southern Mediterranean as in Africa and Central and Eastern Europe.

# PROGRAMME / HEADLINES

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## **THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN CIVILIZATIONS**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Forum on the Dialogue between Civilizations*

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**Civilizations facing Globalization :**  
**back to irrationality and obscurantism**  
The threats to cultural diversity  
Westernization of a world rejecting the West

**Is there a Mediterranean civilization?**  
The Mediterranean at the crossroads of North and South, the Eastern and the Western worlds  
The European Man, his identity and the Mediterranean  
The symbol of Jerusalem : the three Religions of the Book

**Toward a new dialogue between Christianity and Islam :**  
The Reformers of Islam : Islam is compatible with modernity, human rights and tolerance  
Sufism : the perspectives of modern Islam

**The tools of a new Renaissance in the Mediterranean :**  
Implementing a necessary culture of sharing

## **TOWARDS A MEDITERRANEAN UNION ?**

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**Restoring open and trusting dialogue between States**  
The co-development challenge  
The globalization challenge

**The Mediterranean, an arena for solidarity and cooperation**  
What institutions for a Mediterranean Union?  
The Mediterranean and European Unions : role and interest of each Member State in the Mediterranean Union

**The prospect of a Mediterranean Bank for Construction and Development - MBCD**

**Turkey's place in the Mediterranean**  
Relations between Europe and Turkey  
Can the European Union and Turkey share a great ambition?

## **THE EASTERN DIMENSION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**

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**The Black Sea**  
A common space of growth and cooperation for Mediterranean and Eastern Europe

### **The EU Policy towards Eastern Europe**

Adapting the neighbourhood policy as far as a new Mediterranean dimension is concerned

The major role of Russia and its progressive integration

### **South Eastern Europe**

EU and NATO integration must remain a priority

### **Ukraine**

The crossroads of the Mediterranean with Russia and Eastern Europe

### **Caspian Sea**

The center of Mediterranean natural resources

Is the Caspian Sea the Far Eastern Europe ?

## **CHALLENGES COMMON TO THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WORLD AND ARAB STATES**

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### **Euro-Mediterranean partnership**

Responding to the utter political and economic disappointment resulting from the Barcelona Process

### **The Israeli-Palestinian conflict**

How can Europe promote a fair and sustainable compromise?

### **The Iraqi crisis**

How can Europe help Iraq establish a true democracy and resume charge of its own affairs?

### **Lebanon**

Is there a chance that a constructive European contribution can recreate a peaceful, independent and prosperous Lebanon?

### **Syria**

How can the cooperation agreement signed with the European Union be implemented?

### **Building a future in peace**

The tools of a collective security system

## **CHALLENGES COMMON TO THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN WORLD AND AFRICA**

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### **The necessity for concerted action**

Promoting a true culture of sharing

How can a Mediterranean Union contribute to peace and stability in Africa?

The European Union's new development policy in relation to Africa

### **Giving Africa the means to develop**

Fighting against exhaustion and for better management of Africa's natural resources

**Priority sectors**

Food security

Renewable Energy: development and impact on agriculture

Foreign investment and infrastructure networks

Education and public health

Immigration: How can the Mediterranean and African Unions cooperate on migration problems and combat human trafficking?

**CHALLENGES COMMON TO ALL**

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**Technical cooperation required**

The impact of global warming on Economies and Populations

The fight against sea and land pollution : the necessity for concerted action

Switching to renewable energy : toward new jobs and markets

The organized fight against terrorism, corruption and crime : toward a common judicial space

**Political dialogue should be adapted to national characteristics**

Southern countries do not accept political pressure concerning the political and social organization of their societies

Strengthening the protection of Human Rights

Fighting poverty

Pooling medicinal resources

**Education : an important vehicle for the future**

Sharing technology, knowledge, and skills

Joint creation of competitiveness centers, laboratories and universities all around the Mediterranean

**Establishing operational cooperation**

The necessity for free regional trade

Shared water management

The necessity for a common Energy policy

**THE GULF STATES  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

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**Investing abroad**

The Gulf States are the leading public or private investors and developers of the Southern Mediterranean

**International cooperation**

The Gulf States are implementing a large-scale South-South cooperation with Africa : e.g. Dubai Aluminium and Guinea Conakry

**Implementing partnerships**

The Gulf States, new partners of Africa for developing and exploiting natural resources

**Opening up to the East**

The Gulf States are opening up to the new economies of Central and Eastern Europe

The decisive role of the *Crans Montana Forum - Middle East* in Bahrain.