Report

Agriculture and food security in the context of climate change in the Mediterranean

Rapporteur

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I. Mediterranean agriculture faced with the manifold challenges of climate change

- A lack of long-term governance and common vision
- Fragile farming soil
- Water management which is unable to cope with droughts and shortages
- Overexploitation and wastage of food resources, coupled with significant dependence on imports
- Very vulnerable types of farming in the Mediterranean region
- Food: a major public health issue
II. Recommendations for a Mediterranean agricultural model able to cope with climate change

• Promote the Mediterranean diet
• Begin the agro-ecological transition to preserve soil and agro-biodiversity
• Preserve water resources and manage them more efficiently
• Support food security and sovereignty
III. Bolster Euro-Mediterranean cooperation for sustainable and resilient agriculture and guarantee food security in the context of climate change

- Organise a meeting of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) agriculture ministers
- Promote a “Summit of the Two Shores” on these issues
- Draw up a “Charter for Euro-Mediterranean food sovereignty” with a common policy declaration and targets for signatory countries and LRAs
- Lay the political groundwork for the creation of an “agricultural solidarity fund” in the Mediterranean region
- Set up a “Euro-Mediterranean observatory for agricultural markets, resilient agri-environmental practices and sustainable food systems”
- Develop a "Mediterranean products" or "Mediterranean diet" label with a specific set of criteria and a broad communication plan
- Boost human capital by developing initial/lifelong training programmes
- Start-up "Grow well, eat well" awareness-raising campaigns
- Include sustainable/resilient agriculture, agronomic R&D, bioeconomy and food security/sovereignty in the Mediterranean region in the programmes for European funds

How can the UfM help us achieve these objectives?