European Youth Forum Resolution on

Strengthening Euro-Mediterranean Youth Co-operation

Adopted by the General Assembly

Bruxelles/Brussel (Belgium) 19–21 October 2000

The European Youth Forum reaffirms its commitment to youth cooperation in the Mediterranean. In the margins of the its possibilities, the European Youth Forum will provide support to the leadership and members of the Mediterranean Youth Forum. The European Youth Forum strives to give a new impetus for the development of the Mediterranean Youth Forum.

- 1. It is necessary to redefine the frame of co-operation in this field. On one hand there is the process of political dialogue and co-operation among Mediterranean Youth organisations (a process that is Mediterranean in nature) and on the other is the Euro-Mediterranean co-operation, based in the Barcelona process. Actually both processes are mixed and this situation creates quite a lot of confusion and problems.
- 2. An evaluation is required of the working methods and structure adopted in the constituent meeting of the MYF, specifically on issues of membership, the rotating Secretariat, co-ordination among members and the flow of information.
- 3. The access to the expected grant of the European Commission to finance the MYF structure should be clarified.
- 4. The number of youth organisations participating as members of the MYF from Mediterranean countries should be enlarged and made more flexible in order to make it more representative and coherent.
- 5. The involvement of the European youth organisations in the process should be clearly defined and especially reinforced, as well as the role of the European Youth Forum as a facilitator.
- 6. It is necessary to re-launch an information campaign on the different possibilities of funding for youth organisations in the Mediterranean region through the MYF, especially the Mediterranean Youth Action Plan, in co-operation with the Representation Offices of the European Commission in the region.
- 7. We should continue with the Euro-Arab Youth Dialogue with a different approach and working methods than in the past, as a complementary process to the Mediterranean Youth Forum. The dialogue that we had with the Arab Youth Union should be enlarged to other organisations present in the region. The political and

institutional dialogue should be kept at the level of the Bureau of the Arab Youth Union and the European Youth Forum.

- 8. It is necessary to take full advantage of the use of new technologies, to spread best practice and to strengthen the exchange of information and knowledge of the different actors in the region by creating a web page with all kinds of information, including the activities of youth organisations.
- 9. In the view of the original aims of the establishment of the MYF, it should prioritise local activities and orient its work to the projects and not only to statutory meetings.
- 10.An annual activity should be organised (i.e. a Mediterranean Youth Festival), which will allow youth organisations to reinforce and enlarge their co-operation and partnership. This will give more visibility to the work done in the area; will open spaces for discussion and will also allow youth organisations to search for methods of co-operation with the EU Commission on this matter.