

## UfM organises high level seminar to define an action plan for the management of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis

An action plan concerning the key aspects of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis' management is to be defined in a participatory manner during the "Working days: Horizontal Actions for the Integration and Coordination of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis management" seminar, to be held in Barcelona on 6-7 May, 2014.

Barcelona, 5 May, 2014. A high-level seminar entitled 'Working days: Horizontal Actions for the Integration and Coordination of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis management' will be held at the headquarters of the Union for the Mediterranean, in Barcelona, on 6-7 May 2014. The Working Days seminar will be jointly organised by the Centre for Transportation Studies for the Western Mediterranean (CETMO), as Technical Secretariat of the Group of Transport Ministers of the Western Mediterranean (GTMO 5+5), and the UfM Secretariat, in partnership with the International Road Transport Union (IRU).

The objective of the meeting is to define an action plan concerning the key aspects of the motorway's management, namely trade facilitation, infrastructure financing and pricing, road safety, and integration of the axis into the global transport system of the region. The implementation of this action plan will have a positive regional impact and the axis will act as a backbone for the mobility of people and goods in the Maghreb. The definition of the plan will be carried out in a participatory manner, with the contributions of the main parties involved in the development of the Mediterranean transport sector.

The "Completion of the Central Section of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis" project was labelled by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in February 2012 in view of its regional importance and relevance. The project includes the completion of the Trans-Maghreb Motorway Axis Central Section missing links, and the coordination of the motorway axis' management. The project will provide a continuous motorway corridor from Agadir (Morocco) to Ras Jedir (Tunisian-Libyan border).

The Working Days seminar will benefit from the participation of members of the Maghreb ministries involved in the development of the action plan, the companies responsible for operating the motorways in the countries of the Maghreb and Europe, representatives from the main international financial institutions (IFIs) which are developing initiatives related to the subject, as well as other private organisations involved in the field.

Furthermore, Working Days will bring a new impetus to the ongoing work concerning the construction of this important land route connecting, at this stage, the three countries of the Maghreb region (Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia).



## About the UfM

**The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)** is an intergovernmental institution bringing together 43 countries: 28 EU member states and 15 Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. It constitutes a platform for political dialogue, coordination, cooperation and consensus building.

The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, established in Barcelona in 2010, focuses on implementing regional cooperation projects and initiatives in areas such as energy, environment, education, transport, business development and social affairs. The Secretariat works in close collaboration with governments and with an active network of Euro-Mediterranean partners to assist project promoters throughout the entire project cycle: from technical assistance to project implementation, including financial planning and fundraising.

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