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Concept Note

Workshop on Green Economy promotion

How to make green economy work for sustainable development and regional integration?

Algiers, 15th December 2022

At the 5th UfM Regional Forum in 2020, the UfM Co-Presidency counted sustainable and inclusive economic and human development as well as environmental and climate action amongst the priority areas for the UfM and its Member States.

Based on the Co-Presidency's Statement, the UfM Secretariat will organize, under the auspices of the Ministry of Industry of Algeria, a Workshop on the topic of Green Economy in Algiers on the 15th of December 2022 with the support of the Development Cooperation Agency (GIZ).

In fact, climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our times. For the Mediterranean, the first Scientific Report on Climate and Environmental Change in the Mediterranean in 2020 concluded that "the Mediterranean region is a hotspot of global warming and heats up 20% faster than the global average". As confirmed by the UfM Co-Presidency, efforts therefore need to be stepped up in order to tackle the root causes of climate change and to halt and possibly reverse the dramatic loss of biodiversity in the Mediterranean region.

Furthermore, the COVID pandemic has caused unprecedented unemployment, inequalities and developmental gaps between and within the North and the South. In this context, the promotion of sustainable, green, low-carbon and circular resource-efficient sectors is not only a contribution to an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery in the region, but it also presents an opportunity to build a new and long-term green economic model in the countries of the Mediterranean region. This includes an emphasis on green jobs, circular economy, sustainable supply chains, and green investments. It also requires



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a closer look at the European Green Deal, including the EU's bilateral and regional cooperation and trade policies and the EU's demand for clean energy from producer countries in the South.

On this basis, the Workshop will bring together a diverse range of stakeholders and experts from the Mediterranean region to discuss the threefold role that green economy can play in generating economic growth, in fostering regional integration, and in contributing to the mitigation of climate change.

More concretely, the participants will highlight best practices on how to harness the green economy's full potential for the interest of the whole region through the adoption of a favorable legal and regulatory framework, government incentives and capacity building for the benefit of relevant stakeholders.