



30th Annual Assembly of the CPMR Islands Commission
AZORES (Ponta Delgada) - 20 & 21 May 2010

AGENDA

“HOW CAN ISLANDS SEIZE NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PROSPECT OF A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?”

Wednesday 19 May:

- **Welcome reception**, courtesy of the Regional Government of the Azores

Thursday 20 May:

Morning

Opening Session

- **Alex MacDonald**, Convener, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, President of CPMR Islands Commission
- **Carlos Zorrinho**, Secretary of State of Energy and Innovation of the Portuguese Government
- **Carlos Manuel César**, President of the Regional Government of the Azores

Political and Activity Reports

- Political Report by **Alex MacDonald**, Convener, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, President of CPMR Islands Commission
- Activity Report by **François Desrentes**, CPMR Director

Questions & debates

Coffee break

1st Session

Opportunities in the field of Renewable Energy

- European Commission: **Roman Doubrava**, Energy efficiency of products & Intelligent Energy, DG Energy
- The launch of the Isle-PACT project by **Panos Coroyannakis**, ISLENET Manager
- **What stands in the way of islands benefitting from REN opportunities?**

Round table with various speakers illustrating potential as well as difficulties, e.g.:

- access to the grid and transmission charging
- access to capital for R&D
- conflict with environmental legislation
- capacity of island SMEs to benefit from REN

Speakers: Leader **Angus Campbell** (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar), Convener **Stephen Hagan** (Orkney), President **Juan Gual de Torrella**, INSULEUR

Questions & debates

Lunch on site

Afternoon: Visit to the geothermal plant of Ribeira Grande

- On site briefing: **Green energy for a Green archipelago: the Azores**
- Presentation : Research in Sustainable Energy Systems of the **MIT - Portugal Programme** by **Paulo Ferrão**, Director MIT - Portugal
- Presentation of the “**Green Islands Project**” by **Nuno Domingues**, Regional Coordinator for the “Green Islands Project”
- Presentation: **geothermal production and energy policy in the Azores**, by **José Cabral Vieira**, Regional Director of Energy, Regional Government of Azores

Technical visit:

15h - Departure of the transfer

Technical visit to the geothermal power plant of Ribeira Grande

17h30 - 18h00 – Arrival / the bus will stop in the three hotels (Marina, Avenida and São Miguel Park Hotel)

Official dinner, courtesy of the Regional Government of the Azores

Friday 21 May

Morning

Session 2

A) Opportunities in the field of Transport, Communications and Tourism

- **Road transport:** promoting electric cars in an island, **Javier Morales Febles**, Cabildo del Hierro, Canary Islands
- **Communications.** The use of satellite for remote regions : **Alessandro Cirenei**, Eutelsat, European Satellite Operators Association's Member
- What new opportunities could prove beneficial the islands' tourism industry?
 - **Jaume Salas**, Director of External Relations of hotel and catering college of the Balearic Islands
 - **Tony Brown**, Chief Minister, Isle of Man Government
 - **Michel Biggi**, Director of the Tourism Regional Observatory at the Corsican Tourism Agency

Questions & debates

B) Setting-up the right framework to enable islands to seize their opportunities

- “**Attractiveness**”: a better concept to address island issues? **Conclusions of the Euroislands study.** **Konstantinos Vlachos**, Ministry of Economy & Finance of the Hellenic Republic and **Ioannis Spilanis**, Lead Partner, University of the Aegean
- **Can the EU legislate for 500 million citizens and still address individual island issues?**
The example of EU Maritime Cabotage legislation. Presentation of the Bornholm seminar & ensuing visit to Commissioner Kallas: **Henrik Eybye Nielsen** (Bornholm) / B7
- **How can island issues be better addressed by EU statistics?**
 - EUROSTAT : **Pedro Ferreira**, Regional statistics and geographical information
 - Azores Statistical office : **Augusto Elavai**, Director of the Regional Service of Statistics

Lunch on site

Afternoon

Session 3

"Europe 2020 and territorial cohesion: what prospects for the territories with permanent constraints?"

- **Maria do Céu Patrão Neves**, member of the European Parliament
- **Luis Paulo Alves**, member of the European Parliament
- General debate

Questions & debates

Concluding session

- Approval of final declaration and joint resolutions
- Next CPMR Islands Commission General Assembly
- Election of President and Political Bureau
- **Concluding speech by President Carlos Manuel César, President of the Regional Government of the Azores**

Dinner, regional food buffet, courtesy of the Regional Government of the Azores



Saturday 22 May (10h00 - 18h00)

Visit to Furnas Valley: A lush garden oasis set at the bottom of a volcanic crater, Furnas Valley is less than 40km from Ponta Delgada and home to an incredible array of flora and fauna, bubbling fumaroles, volcanically-heated thermal pools, and springs of cold and hot mineral-medical waters. Lunch of "Cozido das Furnas" at Casa do Chá (Tea house), in the Terra Nostra Botanical Park.

Return to Ponta Delgada around 18h00.