



Official Statement

Mr. Fathallah Sijilmassi,
Union for the Mediterranean Secretary General

*23rd Conference of the Parties (COP23) to the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change*

16 November 2017, Bonn

*Mr Bainimarama, President of the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the
United Nations Framework on Climate Change,
Mrs Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change,
Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*In 2015, the international community took a historical step forward in
the global action on climate change by adopting the Paris Agreement.
This milestone universal agreement has set ambitious and necessary
goals to limit our impact on climate and keep the temperature rise in the
century below 2 C.*

*Signatory Parties have paved the way for in-depth changes in our
development models. Within the global transition, the Mediterranean
region holds an essential place, as firmly reaffirmed under the Moroccan
Presidency of the 22nd Conference of the Parties last year. The region is
an ecosystem of its own undergoing economic and demographic changes
that unleash an extraordinary potential of opportunities.*

*With the support of its co-presidencies, the European Union and the
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and that of its 43 Member States, the
Union for the Mediterranean is mobilized to translate the engagement on
climate change into a reality, tangible for citizens of the region. At the
core of its strategic priorities are energy efficiency, climate action, water
management environment protection, always with a dual approach on
sustainability and inclusiveness.*



In this context, the Union for the Mediterranean is launching for the 23rd Conference of the Parties the first study on climate finance in the region. Providing an overview of the origins, characteristics and impacts of climate funding, this study highlights the strong commitment of Mediterranean countries to address climate change. It also lays the foundations to seek further areas of action and cooperation and make the most efficient use of available financial tools to ultimately achieve the transition foreseen in the Paris Agreement.

Acting together, we can create better perspectives for citizens of the region, foster innovation and jobs creation, enhance participation of youth and women in society, and articulate sustainable and resilient development.

Let us keep transforming our engagement into reality. The secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean is determined to continue working with its 43 Member states and its partners to this end.

Thank you