EXAM OF THE COM (2009)466 BY THE ITALIAN SENAT

RESOLUTION OF THE 3rd PERMAMENT COMMISSION (Foreign Affairs, emigration) adopted on 5 May 2010

The 3rd Commission:

- Recalling, by way of introduction, that the most sensitive issues to achieve an integrated maritime policy are linked to1) the uneven economic and regulatory development among littoral countries 2) the circulation of goods and persons, which touches also on illegal trafficking and migratory flux 3) the activities of research and exploration of the seabed, together with the protection of the marine ecosystem;
- O Considering that the Communication is to be read within the framework of the IMP of the EU and that it keeps into account the specificities of the Mediterranean: the founding idea of the IMP is indeed confronted by the geopolitical specificities of the Mediterranean, which brings together 20 littoral countries with different level of economic development and administrative capacities;
- o Considering that the Commission intends to encourage the Member States to exchange best practices as regards integrated maritime governance, making use of the programmes of European territorial cooperation for the Mediterranean;
- O Taking into account that the Commission proposes to start a structured informal dialogue among coastal countries through high level meetings on governance of the marine space, and decided to give a general overview of the existing agreements concerning maritime affairs in the Mediterranean;
- o Considering that, to improve maritime governance, a series of transversal tools are necessary;
- O Taking note that the Commission intends to strengthen surveillance of maritime activities and operations, proposing 1) that EMSA starts a technical cooperation with the Mediterranean partners, also by providing vessels to tackle oil spills and 2) that these partners are strictly associated to the activities of FRONTEX, with a particular reference to the migratory flux;
- o Recalling that the COM (2008) 319 "Barcelona process: Union for the Mediterranean" pointed out the need to set up an efficient permanent secretariat to facilitate coordination and the participation of Mediterranean partners to the initiative;

Engages the Government to

- o continue to point out the Italian specificities as a privileged way of access to the south Mediterranean bank;
- o act to consolidate the Union for the Mediterranean, and particularly to implement the main projects which constitute an indispensable component of the IMP, such as the

Mediterranean de-pollution, the motorways of the sea, the energy ring and research programmes to guarantee the highest possible autonomy in the energy grid;

- o to give an increasingly European dimension to the monitoring of migratory flux through a reinforced cooperation among maritime authorities of Member States and those of countries of origin and transit;
- o to highlight that it would be appropriate, within ENP agreements concluded with Mediterranean countries, to give more visibility to projects aiming to increase the governance and regulatory capacities and to create a common *aquis*.