



The Mediterranean Sea extends like a belt, situated in the middle of the civilized world and in the middle of the land over which you rule. Around that sea lie the great continents massively sloping down to it, forever offering you in full measure what they possess....

By **Aelius Aristides**, Oration n. 26 *TO ROME* (2nd Century after Christ)

SANMED Task Force Meeting Brussels, 18th January 2008

As coordinator of the SANMED Task Force, I am pleased to invite you at the SANMED Meeting to be held on **18th January at the SG Office in Brussels.**

The main objective of the Meeting is to review possibilities of developing **cooperation with Mediterranean non UE member countries** within the frameworks of the *Trans-European mobility scheme for university studies (TEMPUS IV)*.

Since the Tempus projects are implemented by project consortia and the deadline for the submission of project proposals is in April 2008, during the meeting we will attempt to work out a strategy with the aim to **build a consortium to submit a proposal**. With this objective we have invited Mr. Gilles Rebattet – from the European Commission, DG Education and culture - who will inform us about requirements and guidelines for preparing a proposal.

On the same occasion, we will announce you that the Santander Group has become a partner in the winning project **Erasmus Mundus Action 4** aiming at development and organisation of tailor-made cultural preparation courses for North African students who start a European study experience as well as for those who wish to undertake studies in Europe in the future. As the project touches on the region of the SANMED interest, we would like to provide you with more info about project itself as well as a role of the Santander Group.

I am also pleased to announce you that the Santander Group recently became **co-founder member of the EuroMed Permanent University Forum (EPUF)** and during the meeting we will discuss possibilities to collaborate with the aim to create specific links in the Euro-Mediterranean higher education and research area.

To participate in the SANMED Meeting, we ask you to register through sending an email to the SANTANDER GROUP office (sgroup@sgroup.be) with the expression of interest.

Cinzia Tutino
Head of International Office
University of Catania

Santander Group European Universities Network
Stassart Street, 119 B-1050 Brussels (Belgium)
Tel: + 32 2 511 66 20 Fax + 32 2 502 96 11
E-mail: sgroup@sgroup.be
www.sgroup.be



Agenda 18th January 2008

- 9.00 – 9.45** **Experience and potential of the SG member universities in Cooperation with non-EU Mediterranean Countries** – evaluation of the SANMED database and future perspectives - ***Cinzia Tutino, University of Catania***
- 9.45 – 10.30** **The Tempus Programme** – European Commission continues to consider higher education as a priority for its co-operation activities with Mediterranean region – Contents and modalities of the new call for proposal under TEMPUS IV - ***Gilles Rebattet, Tempus Programme manager from DG Education and Culture of the European Commission***
- 10.30 – 11.00** Coffee break
- 11.00 – 11.45** **Erasmus Mundus Action 4: Enhancing Attractiveness** – presentation of the objectives of the winning project and the role of the Santander Group as a partner – ***Koen Delaere, Brussels Education Services***
- 11.45 – 12.30** **EuroMed Permanent University Forum** – Objectives and background of EPUF and collaboration with the Santander Group – ***Prof. Enric Olivé, EPUF Executive Secretary***
- 12.30 – 13.30** Lunch at Tea & Eat Restaurant
- 13.30 – 16.00** **Discussion on:**
- the **creation of the consortium/consortia** for the call for proposals under Tempus IV;
 - **new SANMED initiatives.**