



CRPM CPMR

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### THE CPMR CALLS ON THE COUNCIL TO COMPLETE THE 2020 STRATEGY

During its meeting in Tromsø (NO) on 11 June 2010, the Political Bureau of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) regretted the extent to which the Europe 2020 Strategy disregards any territorial approach, fails to specify arrangements for involving regional authorities under the partnership approach it is promoting, and maintains a rather unambitious vision of the principle of territorial cohesion.

Consequently, the CPMR has just addressed an open letter, "[For an ambitious interpretation of the Lisbon Treaty in the Europe 2020 Strategy](#)", to all Ambassadors of EU member states.

In this open letter sent to the 27 member states, the CPMR calls on the Council, at its meeting in June 2010, to introduce a territorial take on Europe 2020, to specify arrangements for implementing the partnership approach it is encouraging, and to specify the scope it wishes to give to the political principle of territorial cohesion which is now included in the Lisbon Treaty.

*"Cohesion Policy," declared Eleni Marianou, Secretary General of the CPMR, "has proved over time to be an increasingly effective and fine-tuned instrument for implementing the territorial approach and ought to have shaped the Strategy. Instead, it is reduced in essence to its financial dimension."*

The maritime regions, which will meet José Manuel Barroso on **8 July 2010** with a delegation of ten Presidents, have, amongst other things, invited the European Commission to introduce a Territorial Pact in order for the EU 2020 Strategy to be better taken on board by all economic groups in Europe's regions.

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