



*Under the Patronage of European Commission and European Council*



**Paris, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2007  
General Assembly**

*Closing Speech  
Antonio Paoletti, President*

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Dear Delegates,

The Executive Committee elect me as the President of the Executive Board and of the Euro-Med TDS.

Thanks to the colleagues of the Board, thanks to all of you, for the trust you showed to my person and role.

I accepted the nomination because I'm convinced that our Association has big opportunity to grow, which have been until now under expressed.

The historical moment is important in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation.

The Policies of the European Union for the neighbour countries; the coming Free Trade Area are important occasions for us.

I think that we have to select few strategic items, and work on them.

Sea, air and ground infrastructure should be our priority, together with telecommunication, environment, emigration.

I ask your support for the work that I, the Board, the Secretary General are going to do.

We should be capable of preparing projects acceptable to EU. We should feel engaged for the success of electronic Demand and Offer Platform.

We have the first meeting of the Board in April in my home town, Trieste.

The new role of Trieste in Euro-Med TDS, will be important for the members of the Slavic and Adriatic business family, most of them absent from today Assembly.

I am glad to remember all of you that the night between December 20 and 21, Trieste will no more be a border town, because Slovenia enters Schengen agreement.

Thank you for your attention and let's have together splendid future and success!