Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 1387 (1998)[1]

Future challenges in European maritime science and technology

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Assembly refers to its Resolution 1168 (1998) on future challenges in European maritime science and technology, its Resolution 1170 (1998) on sustainable exploitation of living marine resources, and its Resolution 1169 (1998) and Recommendation 1388 (1998) on the oceans: state of the marine environment and new trends in the international law of the sea.

2. It is of the opinion that greater synergy and coherence should be sought in activating Europe's huge potential in marine science and technology. This potential should be brought into closer contact with the European maritime industry, with policy makers and the public.

3. Bearing in mind that some European countries have a stronger interest in maritime issues than others, the Assembly recommends that the Committee of Ministers, in co-operation with the European Union, create a European maritime agency, possibly as a partial agreement between European states interested in increasing their co-operation in this field as foreseen in the Committee of Ministers' Statutory Resolution (93) 28 (and/or seeking inspiration from the Eureka co-operation model and/or building on the experience of other European Union agencies, but which in this case must allow for a different membership). This European maritime agreement should assist in reinforcing existing structures involved in maritime science and technology and enhance the dialogue between these networks and all other interested partners such as industry, the public and politicians. The agreement should help in promoting consistent European maritime policies and industry should be invited to take an active part in it.

1. Assembly debate on 24 September 1998 (31st Sitting) (see Doc. 8164, report of the Committee on Science and Technology, rapporteur: Mr Roseta; and Doc. 8206, opinion of the Committee on Culture and Education, rapporteur: Mr O'Hara). Text adopted by the Assembly on 24 September 1998 (31st Sitting).