

Brussels, april 6, 2009

Press Release  
General Assembly

The European Forum of Muslim Women had its 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Paris from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> march; it gathered many associations' responsible for women member associations from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Ireland, Greece, Switzerland, Spain and Bosnia.

The opening session was the occasion for the participants to listen to special guests like Mr. Chakib BEN MAKHLOUF , Chairman of the Federation of Islamic Organisations in Europe (FIOE), and Mrs. Alima BOUMEDIENNE-THIERY, Senator of Paris, member of the French Senate.

Others special guests such as MEP Luisa Morgantini, Vice-President of the European Parliament or MEP. Sajjad KARIM, partner of the Forum in various activities, had sent official letters to encourage and congratulate the Forum's actions.

After having approved the moral statement, the GA strongly hailed the Forum's advance in its project of a commission in charge of the women issues, which is supposed to spread the Islamic middle-way thinking and to take part in the construction of the identity of the Muslim women active in their society.

The GA reminded the importance of public relations for the Forum, and its need to get involved in other European associations such as social platforms, policie studies centres, associations for the defence of rights.

The GA approved as well a project for the creation of a commission in charge of development and training of managers in the member associations so as to fit the needs of the Forum in this field.

The GA adopted 2009 campaign named by FIOE as the year of the family: "A stable family serves society", and encouraged the member associations to register.

At last, the GA reminded the massacres suffered by Palestinian people during the Israeli attacks on Gaza, and hailed the efforts of the member associations to support this people in taking part in the various demonstrations. The GA hailed as well the reaction of public opinion and of some politicians in favour of the fair cause of the Palestinians, and urged the participants to involve in every fair cause – related to Muslims or not – as individuals such as civil society organisations.