

## **ASCAME Official Declaration: the earthquake in Morocco**

### **Morocco can count on the solidarity of Ascame**

#### **ASCAME's call: it's time for Mediterranean solidarity and Mediterranean cooperation**

**All Ascame supports the Moroccan people after this terrible earthquake which caused so many victims and damage.**

The unprecedented devastation suffered in Morocco has prompted ASCAME to launch several initiatives encouraging our members to help the population in affected areas within their possibilities. All the while, we are preparing other actions to boost the imminent reconstruction plans, in favour of the Chambers of Commerce and companies afflicted by this tragedy and with the collaboration of regional and multilateral organizations.

The fateful earthquake, is reaching dimensions beyond imagination. Thousands of victims are waiting to be rescued under Thousands collapsed buildings, as aftershocks continue. Survivors are homeless, facing severe weather conditions as they see how casualties keep skyrocketing around them.

**The Mediterranean region is increasingly exposed to natural risks, As we have seen this year, terrifying earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, the latest floods in Greece and other countries in our region, natural disasters requiring strong mechanisms for prevention, preparedness, and management. Therefore, a Euro-Mediterranean project is urgently needed to assess current and future environmental risks that affect human security. A priority for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation should be civil protection, by preventing and responding to different types of emergencies in the region.**

We encourage all ASCAME members and the private sector of the entire Mediterranean region to promote initiatives that help the population and SMEs in devastated areas.

All Ascame supports the Moroccan people after this terrible earthquake which caused so many victims and damage. **Morocco can count on the solidarity of Ascame** and the Mediterranean private sector of its Chambers of Commerce and its companies