



PRESS RELEASE

**UNIMED FINANCE GENERAL CONFERENCE
RHODES (GR) 10-11 JUNE 2019**

NEW PRESIDENCY AND MANAGEMENT BOARD ELECTED

UNI Med Finance held its 2019 meeting and General Conference between 10 – 11 June in Rhodes (Greece).

Being part of a structure of UNI Europa Finance, UNIMED Finance consists of all Banking Unions who represent employees in the Banking and Financial sectors of the Euro-Mediterranean Region. The UMF meeting was this year hosted by OTOE of Greece.

The Agenda set purposely for the two-day session focused on specific priorities and areas of work. Discussions to this effect were followed up by the taking of necessary decisions in support of the future of work and the workers represented in UNI Finance Area III.

Both the current UMF President Mauro Bossola (FABI-Italy) and the incumbent General Secretary Mario Ongaro (FISAC-Italy) opened discussions by sharing greetings with the regional representatives attending the meeting. The Agenda also included an update on UNI Finance activity by Angelo Di Cristo, Head of UNI Finance World from UNI GLOBAL UNION who spoke about the challenges for Trade Unions at a global level underlining the need for the affiliates to focus their attention on issues that will be presented in the next UNI Finance World Conference due to be held in Torremolinos, Spain, on 23th -24th October 2019.

The afternoon session ended with the presentation of individual Country Reports by Union Leaders and Delegate representatives from the Med Region (Area III).

During Tuesday's session, Mr. Bossola presented a brief of activities and successes achieved in the three years of his mandate. Participants also exchanged views about a collective contribution by UNI Med Finance to the Torremolinos UNI Finance World Conference which included discussion and potential agreement on candidatures from Area III. The Conference ended with the elections of the new UNI Med Finance President and Executive Board

Mr. William Portelli, President of MUBE Malta was appointed as the new UMF President with **Mr. Stavros Koukos from OTOE- Greece** and **Ms. Canan Cevikbas from BASISEN – Turkey** being confirmed as Vice-Presidents. The new President of UMF then followed up the renewal process of the management board by supporting the nomination of **Mr. Filippo Arena from FIRST-CISL- Italy** as the new General Secretary.

The new Presidency and the General Conference attendees concluded the meeting by thanking former President Mauro Bossola and former Secretary General Mario Ongaro for the results achieved in the last three years.

The next UNI Med Finance General Conference will be held in Turkey on May 2020.

Pietro Gentile

Webmaster and UMF International Communicator

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