



16<sup>th</sup> April 2007

## **MEP appointed contact person for Tunisia**

MEP Simon Busuttil was appointed as the EPP parliamentary group's contact person for Tunisia. In this role, his task will be to promote EU-Tunisia relations within the work of the largest group in the European Parliament.

The appointment was announced recently by EPP Vice-President Vito Bonsignore MEP during the Third Session of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA) which took place in Tunisia in March.

An EPP delegation in Tunis met the Secretary General of the ruling RCD party Mr M'Henni at the party headquarters and agreed to embark upon closer relations between the European People's Party and the RCD party. The delegation was led by Mr Bonsignore and include the First Vice-President of the European Parliament, Rodi Kratsa, as well as Dr Busuttil.

The EMPA is a parliamentary body which supports the Euro-Med Partnership in promoting political, cultural and economic cooperation in the region. The Tunis EMPA meeting approved a set of resolutions on each of these three pillars of co-operation.

Dr Busuttil led the EPP delegation in the Economic Committee which agreed on a recommendation on the Millennium Development Goals in the Euro-Med area and the future of investment between Euro-Mediterranean countries. It deals in particular with the setting up of the Euromed Free-Trade Area by 2010 and the challenges facing the region, mainly in the form of water management issues, illegal immigration and the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean bank to finance special projects of interest to the region.

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For further information

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