

Engineering Association of
Mediterranean Countries

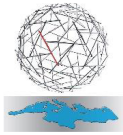
2017

TUNeIT

Connecting Africa with Europe
... a dream becomes reality



Action plan for EAMC Technical Committees



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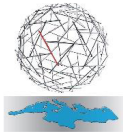
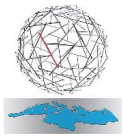


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1 Introduction

The Mediterranean Sea is almost enclosed by land. For some people it is considered to be the biggest lake in our planet.

It must be underlined that the name **Mediterranean** comes from the Latin words “*medius*” indicating middles and “*terra*” which is land, both of them forming the ancient Latin word “*mediterraneus*” meaning the inland.

It is worth noting that the Mediterranean Sea is the only water body that connects three continents while Europe lies at the northern part, Africa at the southern part and Asia at eastern part and there are 22 countries that have coastlines along the Sea.

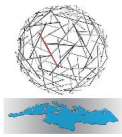


Bacino del Mediterraneo, dall'Atlante manoscritto del 1582–1584 ca.

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Vittorio Emanuele II, Rome (cart. naut. 2 – cart. naut. 6/1-2).

The Mediterranean Sea became from the very early years the center of the transport, trade and cultural exchange between different peoples from the three continents.

Unavoidably there was interaction either peacefully or by force between these peoples which led to exchange of civilization, ethics, religions, technology e.tc.



One can easily realize all these interactions by studying the development of the Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Ottoman, Christian and Islamic civilizations.

2 What is TUNeIT project

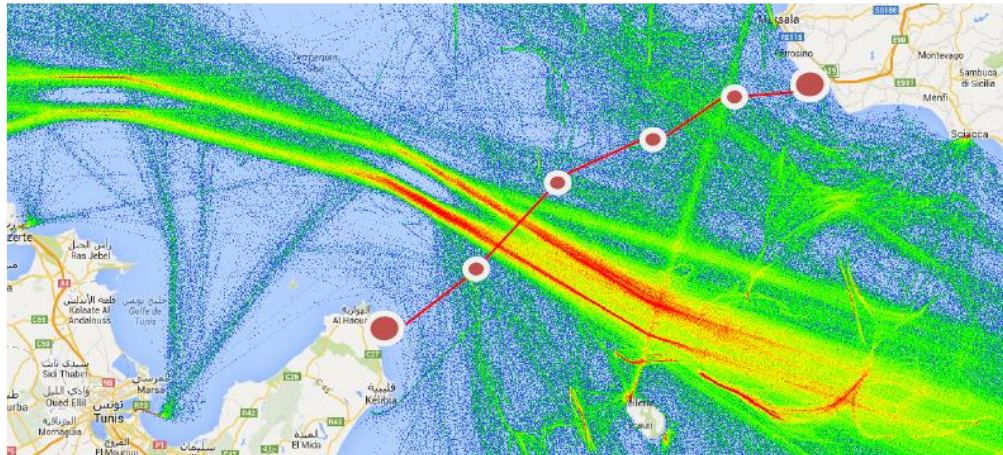
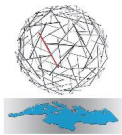
A lot of researchers and institutions have stated that the development of a new transportation network in Europe aligned with the corresponding networks in the other continents, would cause significant reduction of the moving difficulties and would enhance the trading by reducing the time and the total cost.

An indicative proposal of a transportation network concerning European countries and African and Asian countries along the Mediterranean see is shown below.



TUNeIT is a promoted idea for a super Project that crosses the Mediterranean Sea creating a stable connection between Africa and Europe.

The point selected for this connection is the one where the distance between the two continents is the minimum which happens at the region between Tunisia and Italy. Besides the selected point is at the middle of the Mediterranean Sea in order to facilitate both sides of European and African coast line.

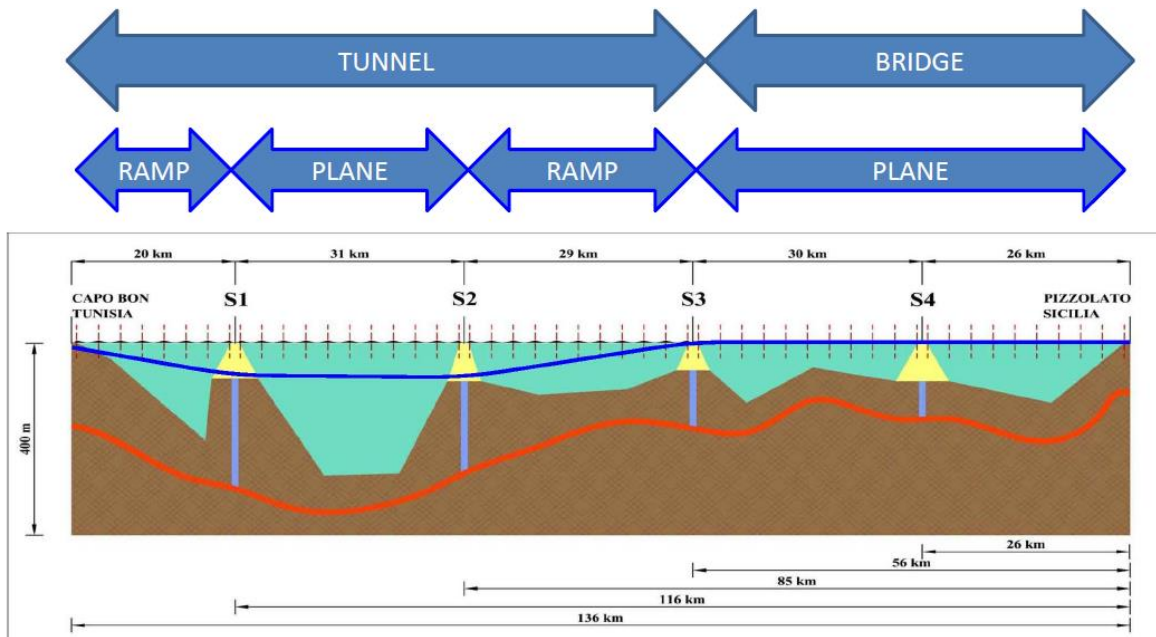


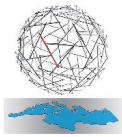
The creation of this new link between Europe and Africa enacts new rules in the communication and relations between African and European countries.

At this time the project is at the conceptual stage while visionary engineering has given an **initial** form to the structure and this is the time where any idea is valuable and necessary to contribute to its development.

According to the existing conceptual design the connection line begins from **Cape Bon** (Tunisia) and reaches Europe at **Sicily** (Italy). The design foresees the construction of four artificial islands which are connected either with tunnels or bridges.

An indicative layout of the initial proposal is shown in the following pictures.





3 The role of EAMC

It is clear that the Mediterranean Area forms a fundamental strategic node which is related to geopolitical issues and commercial potentials.

There have been a lot of attempts in the past to bridge the Mediterranean countries while the most important is the founding of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).

As clearly stated in the statute of EAMC within its scopes is the development of a partnership between European and Arabian Mediterranean Associations and the enhancement of collaboration and mutually beneficial programs.

Therefore a technical project that intends to bridge and bring closer the Mediterranean countries lies between the scopes of EAMC and could be a challenge for our organization.

TUNeIT is a challenging project for EAMC and gives the opportunity to our organization to show that the engineering is universal and any differences between cultures, ethics or religions cannot stop it.

TUNeIT is not a matter between two countries, it is a matter of all Mediterranean region which will be facilitated by the new route.

A project like **TUNeIT** is challenging because it has a lot of influence in the broader region of Mediterranean Sea.

Indicatively a project like **TUNeIT** arises a number of issues that must be set on the table. Indicatively some of these issues are outlined below since **TUNeIT** project

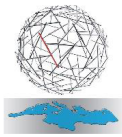
- Separates the Mediterranean Sea into two parts which unavoidably affects the existing environmental conditions
- Arises sociological issues since it brings closer different cultures, religions and civilizations
- Changes the economic balance of the connecting countries since it affects the merchant practices
- Requires high level engineering knowledge to manage design, energy saving, security and many other important subjects

From all the above it is clear that EAMC and especially the role of the Technical Committees is vital.

4 Objectives

The main objectives of embodiment of **TUNeIT** within EAMC's are outlined below:

- Promotion of the role of EAMC as a key player in Engineering issues.
- Use of sustainable and renewable energies and eco-friendly designs.
- Sharing and transferring innovative technologies..



- Highlighting of other issues coming from the development of mega engineering projects such as sociological, ethical, philosophical e.tc.

5 Action Steps

At this stage the EAMC's future action steps could be divided into the two categories described in the following paragraphs.

5.1 Participation of EAMC's Technical Committees

Although EAMC should remain mainly on engineering issues, it would be valuable to arise and the non-engineering issues in order to provoke a wider discussion and food for thought.

The EAMC's participation must be carried out by its technical committees. It is recommended the presidents of the Technical Committees to focus and propose on special points that will be proposed.

5.2 Support of taken decisions

Since the project has already started, there are actions that have been decided. Such an action is the international competition organized by the **University of Tunis** for the design of one of the artificial islands.

In this competition the EAMC could participate in the organizing committee while the criteria of the competition could be assessed by the presidents of the Technical Committees.

6 Leadership and Working team

The connecting link in this project will be the secretary of the Technical Committee of Infrastructure and Construction Prof. **Massimo Guarascio** who has already been involved with the project as the leader of the Task Group.

The actions will be discussed by the four chairman of the **Technical Committees** who will have the responsibility to work within the limits of EAMC and to present the progress of the project to the **General Assembly**.

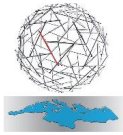
Since the subject is very wide and at the top of engineering edge, the working team will be enhanced by experts from all Med countries.

7 The role of Technical Committees

The role of each **Technical Committee** for the participation of EAMC in the TUNeIT project could be outlined below.

7.1 Educational Issues

To be filled by Alfredo



7.2 Energy Issues

To be filled by Wallid

7.3 Environmental Issues

To be filled by Mohamed

7.4 Construction and Infrastructure Issues

To be filled by Nick