

EUROPEAN UNION



**Committee of the Regions**



**Mission  
Opérationnelle  
transfrontalière**

**The Secretary General of the Committee of the Regions, Gerhard STAHL**

and

**The Director-General of Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière, Dr. Hans-Günther CLEV**

express their mutual recognition and interest in developing cooperation by signing the following

### **Declaration of common interest**

Since the entry into force of the Lisbon treaty the European treaties recognise regional and local self-government and specifically mention cross-border regions. The treaty also underlines the CoR's particular role concerning cross-border cooperation.

This is why the CoR supports MOT in its work to favour the bottom-up approach to European cross-border cooperation. It also encourages MOT to pursue its efforts to create new opportunities for regions and local authorities to make full use of the political framework established by the European Union to facilitate the realisation of concrete cross-border projects. Both organisations strive to help local and regional authorities to become active players in the European integration process.

**Common general priorities** include cross-border cooperation, in particular in the framework of EGTC, maritime cooperation and regional and local implications in environment and health policy.

**MOT participation in the work of the CoR** is encouraged wherever this provides an added value.

Cooperation shall be strengthened in particular in the following areas:

- Invitation on a case-by-case basis to contribute to the work carried out by the CoR, in particular concerning cross-border cooperation and the follow-up and support-structures for EGTC
- Invitations to thematic meetings of the Structured Dialogue between the European Commission and the Associations of Regional and Local Authorities as established by the EC's Communication (COM (2003) 811 final)

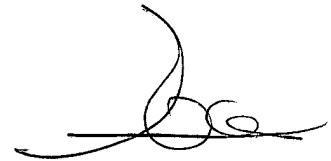
- Reciprocal participation in conferences and other activities as well as cooperation in communication activities
- Joint efforts to improve the knowledge of regions and local authorities and increase the possibility for them to enhance their European profile so that they can become more and more independent and proactive partners in cross-border cooperation.

To ensure access to the CoR and its activities, MOT will be allocated two permanent CoR badges.

Brussels, 05 / 01 / 2011



**Gerhard STAHL**



**Dr. Hans-Günther CLEV**