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### **PRESS RELEASE**

"Women refugees and migration flows in the Mediterranean", was the theme of the Regional Meeting of the Socialist International Women (SIW), held in Marseille on 2 and 3 October 2015.

With participation of women from the Mediterranean countries and the Europe, discussion and presentations focused on the humanitarian crisis and the tragic consequences of refugee flows, mainly due to the wars raging in the region.

Significant reference was held in a new immigrant category, that of "environmental migrants", who are forced to flee from their homeland due to the effects of climate change such as floods, drought and desertification.

Environmental immigration is recording significant high levels in recent years, enhancing the existing burdened situation in the Euro-Mediterranean region and beyond.

Zefi Dimadama, Vice President of PES Women, in her speech extensively presented the issue of climate change and its negative consequences for the environment and hence for the livelihoods of people, with particular reference to the new social inequalities and the need for immediate action both in regional, European and international level.

The main conclusions of the Regional Meeting of the Socialist International Women (SIW), reflected in two Declarations, in which the necessary support activities are promoted, especially for women and children, not only in the "transit routes" to Europe (hygiene, protection violence, sexual assault, trafficking) but also in their reception areas.

*The conclusions and all the relative information are available on the website of the Socialist International Women*

<http://www.socintwomen.org.uk/en/resolutions/regional.html>