

# Network News

## "JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, ISLAM - THREE RELIGIONS FOR PEACE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN"

SID-AISI Sicilia Chapter will be organizing a three-day congress to be held in Catania, Italy on 29-30 November - 1 December, 2001

This congress aims to:

- a) promote humanitarian action;
- b) contribute towards reaching a peaceful cohabitation among the Mediterranean people with the incentive of tolerance, and to orchestrate a liveable future.



The Centro "Mediterraneo per la Pace", founded within AISI-SICILIA, has the object of promoting

and spreading humanitarian action and participating to the process of distension between the people of the Mediterranean area.

Each one of us, with the means at our disposal, both cultural and economic, has the duty to commit himself or herself to this process of peace through humanitarian action and of genuine co-operation.

The "Centro Mediterraneo per la Pace" has, in the past, already promoted similar initiatives that today have brought to the international attention of people of good will and who recognise the importance of the ideals that our association wants to reach: friendship and brotherhood among people, in order to overcome racial, economic, ideological and religious barriers.

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## ARAB/MEDITERRANEAN ROUNDTABLE "BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT: PUTTING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS INTO CONTEXT"

In the context of the AISI-Sicily Conference on 'Judaism, Christianity, Islam: three religions for peace in the Mediterranean' to be held from 29 November to 1 December, SID will also organize a Arab/Mediterranean Roundtable "Building Alliances for Women's Empowerment: Putting Reproductive Rights into Context" on December 28 with the sponsorship of UNFPA.

SID is inviting 13 representatives from networks from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, Yemen, Greece, Turkey, France, Israel, and Italy. The roundtable meeting will be held immediately before the AISI Conference. It will explore:

- How to promote a holistic view of reproductive health and rights that takes into account the difficult economic and political realities 'on the ground';
- The need to ensure that gender and reproductive health approach is understood well by those responsible for delivering health and family planning services (e.g. public health professionals) not just as women's issue or a technical issue but as integrally linked to broader political and economic concerns; and,
- The need for greater awareness of the overlap in content and interest of reproductive rights and health