



The University of Madeira was one of 19 institutions of higher education around the world who attended the first symposium of the Network of Excellence Minor Outlying Islands (RETI), held at the University of Corsica for the past 9 and July 10.

As part of the symposium, the rector, Castanheira da Costa, who was in Italy on behalf of UMa, gave a presentation on regional institution, the scientific point of view, organizational and under its strategic plan for 2010-2013.

Participation in the meeting will meet the objectives of internationalization of UMa and also in order to establish new partnerships with foreign universities.

The symposium, which took place last week-end, aimed mainly at the formalization of the RETI and signing a multilateral agreement among participating institutions. Were signatories of the convention the universities of the Azores and Madeira, the Balearic Islands, Las Palmas and La Laguna (Spain), Crete (Greece), Malta, Palermo, Sassari, Cagliari and Corsica (Italy), French Polynesia, West Indies (Guyana), New Caledonia, Reunion, Antsiranana (Madagascar), Cienfuegos (Cuba), Cape Verde and Prince Edward Island (Canada).

The RETI objective is to promote academic exchange (teachers, Erasmus or postgraduate students) from universities located in island territories, develop joint projects and especially "Wake the insularity of their marginalization."

In medium term is expected the scientific cooperation in areas such as renewable energy, natural resources, management and recovery of water, dynamic planning and sustainable development, identities and cultures, information technology and communication.

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