### CONFERENCE ON NATURAL RESOURCES OF WESTERN SAHARA

# Organization:

Association des Amis de la République Arabe Sahraouie Démocratique (AARASD) (Friends of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic Association)

#### Partners:

City of Gonfreville l'Orcher - Twin City and International Exchanges Committee of Gonfreville l'Orcher -Solidarity Platform towards Western Sahara population

## Venue:

Cultural Centre of la Pointe de Caux Avenue Jacques Eberhard 76700 Gonfreville l'Orcher

10 km from « Le Havre » and near the « Pont de Normandie ».

Access: A131 motorway and A29, RD 6015

Le Havre Train Station (12 km) Le Havre Octeville Airport (14 km)

#### **Practical Info:**

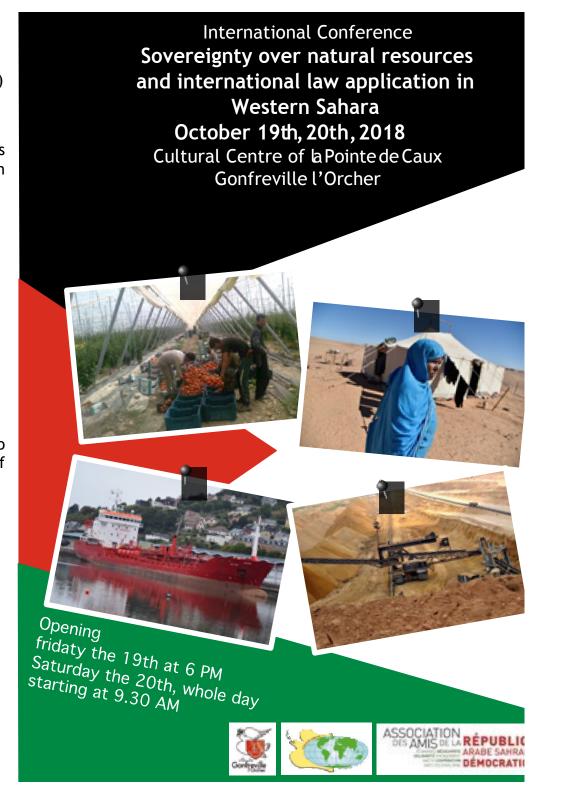
- This conference is open to all those interested in issues related to decolonization, self-determination and the effective application of international and European law.
- Simultaneous translation: speeches and debates will be translated simultaneously into three languages: French, English, Spanish.

**Registration:** free access upon registration with the AARASD, by mail to the following address: **bur.aarasd@wanadoo.fr**, indicating your Surname, first name and quality.

**Restoration** (offered by the City of Gonfreville l'Orcher):

- Friday evening: Shelter, rue René Cance
- Saturday noon: Cultural Centre of la Pointe de Caux
- Saturday evening: Shelter, rue René Cance

Further info: City of Gonfreville l'Orcher (Tel.: 02 35 13 18 86)



# Word from the Mayor:

It is with great pleasure that the Gonfrevillaise municipality invites you to this international conference devoted to the sovereignty over natural resources in Western Sahara.

Our city, twinned with the daïra of J'Réfia since 1993, has always fought in many ways for the recognition of the Saharawi people, the last colonized people of Africa. This Conference brings a new stone to this building, since it brings together, in addition to NGOs and committed Parliament members, a panel of academics, researchers and jurists who demonstrate that the Saharawi topic, beyond the militant struggle, is based first and foremost on objective facts.

I warmly thank the International University Observatory of Western Sahara and the Association of Friends of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic for offering us such a high quality stage.

Alban Bruneau, Mayor and Departmental Advisor

# Friday, October 19th, 2018

4 PM: Arrival and installation of guests and speakers

We hope this helps to advance this just cause.

**6 PM:** Opening of the conference by Mr. Alban Bruneau, Mayor and Departmental Advisor.

**6.20 PM:** Opening of the works by Mr. Mohamed Khadad, President of Polisario Front's external relations and coordinator with the UN: The struggle on natural resources in the context of the application of the self-determination referendum.

**7 PM:** Debate and interventions by politicians concerned.

8 PM: Buffet dinner.

## Saturday, October 20th, 2018

9.30 to 11 AM: First panel - university research vision on Natural resources.

Moderator - Bruno Lecoquierre

- Victoria Veguilla del Moral, Pablo de Olavide University of Seville: Fishing in Western Sahara after judgment by the EU Court of Justice: documenting stakeholders strategies at different scales.
- Moisés Ponce de Léon, geologist, University of Rennes: Water resources of Western Sahara: Which ecological, socio-economic and political challenges?

**Professor Nasir Fagge ISA**, Bayero University of Kano, Nigeria: Protectin natural resources of Western Sahara: the role of the African Union.

- Lehbib Nayem Saleh, geologist, University of Barcelona Moisés Ponce de León, geologist, University of Rennes: M resources, exploitation and protection.
- 11.20 to 1 PM: Second panel: Resources as a legal challenge in view c latest decisions of the CJEU and their political repercussions.

Moderator - Anne-sophie Denolle

- **Gilles Devers Esq.** attorney: Will decisions by the CJEU crea European law on Western Sahara?
- **Hélène Legeay**, jurist: International humanitarian law view on looti natural resources.
- Isaías Barreñada Bajo, Professor of International Relations, Fa of Political Science and Sociology of the University of Ma Challenges of delimitation of maritime territory in the context o Western Sahara conflict between SADR and Morocco.

#### Lunch

- 2.20 to 4 PM Third panel: Natural resources confronted with actions initiated by NGOs, observatories and civil society.

  Moderator Régine Villemont
- M. Eric Hagen, Western Sahara Resource Watch: The role We Sahara Resource Watch plays in fostering and enforcing CJEU decisio M. Meriem Naïli, University of Exeter and Western Sahara Camp Presentation of Western Sahara Campaign's approach towards the Euro
- Court, as an example of legal intervention in Europe.
- UJSARIO and Saharawi Associations of Encampments and Occupied Sa Role of Saharawi civil society in defending national wealth, another determination struggle.
- 16.20 to 6 PM Forth and final panel: Conclusions and adoption of a declaration to be proposed to the next EUCOCO (Madrid, Novel 2018): Régine Villemont, AARASD President and Oubi Bouch Polisario front's spokesperson in France.