United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP(DEPI/MED ECP.3/2
22 September 2008

ENGLISH

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Third Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel

Split, Croatia, 25-26 September 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be opened by the Coordinator of MAP. In his introductory remarks, the Coordinator will brief the meeting about major events which took place and important issues which arose since the last meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work

The meeting will be invited to adopt the agenda and the proposed timetable following discussion and amendments, if any.

Agenda Item 3: Matters arising from the Second ECP Meeting

The meeting is expected to generally review the implementation status of the main decisions agreed by the Second ECP meeting held in Malta, in May, 2008. The Secretariat and RAC Directors will update the meeting on the actions taken since the last meeting for their implementation. Decision related to items which are on the agenda, will be addressed during the discussion on the respective agenda item.

Reference document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.2/6 - Report of the Second meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel.

Agenda Item 4: Outcome of the meeting of the Bureau

The meeting will be briefed by the Secretariat about the discussions and outcomes of the meeting of the Bureau scheduled to be held in Madrid on 18-19 September, 2008. Discussion to follow.

Reference documents: UNEP/BUR/67/3 – Progress report by the Secretariat, on activities carried out since the last meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, January 2008), (January 2008 – June 2008), UNEP/BUR/67/3/Add.1 – Addendum to the Progress report, and UNEP/BUR/67/4 – Report of the Bureau meeting.

Agenda item 5: Implementation of the Programme of Work

The meeting will be given an update by the Secretariat, MEDPOL and the RACs about the status of implementation of the Programme of Work approved by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties. In particular the meeting will be informed about those objectives and outputs agreed in Almeria but which may not be achieved by the end of the current biennium giving reasons for non-implementation, if it is the case.

Expected outcome: status of implementation of the PoW.

Reference document: UNEP(DEPI)MED IG.17/10 – Report of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, Almeria (Spain).

Agenda item 6: Five Year Strategic Programme of Work of MAP

Following the discussion at the second ECP meeting on project outlines and concept papers on cross-cutting thematic priorities for consideration in the 5-year indicative biennium programme of work, it was agreed that the Secretariat would propose an approach for the development of a 5 Year Strategic Programme of Work of MAP on the basis of various cross cutting thematic issues taking into account MAP strategic directions and the cross-cutting thematic priorities and objectives of UNEP's Medium Term Strategy 2010-2013) (UNEP/GCSS.X/8).

During the discussion the meeting will take into consideration the comments made by MEDPOL and SPA/RAC on the thematic issue of Climate Change and the remarks by SPA/RAC, BP/RAC and CP/RAC on the thematic issue of "Efficient use of natural resources – sustainable consumption and production."

Expected outcome: The meeting will discuss the proposal by the Secretariat and agree on the cross-cutting issues to be included in the 5 Year Strategic Programme of Work and their method of implementation together with time-frames for their development.

The meeting will also agree on the RAC that will take the leading role in the development of each cross-cutting thematic issue.

Working document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.3/3 – Main working document for the Third meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (Chapter 1).

Agenda Item 7: Status of Implementation of MAP-EC Joint Work Programme and MAP-EEA Joint Work Plan

In preparation for the next bilateral meeting between EC and MAP Secretariat in Brussels later on this year, the ECP will discuss deadlines and reporting format for the preparation by the Secretariat and RACs, of reports on the status of implementation of the MAP-EC Joint Work Programme as well as the MEP-EEA Joint Work Plan.

The meeting will also discuss the approach to be taken for the revision/updating of both documents.

With respect to the MAP-EEA Joint Work Programme, account will taken of the communication sent by the EEA to the Secretariat (Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.3/3 (Chapter 2)) concerning the review of the JWP and agree on a common response to be communicated to the EEA NFP/EIONET Group meeting on 1 October, 2008 in Copenhagen. The new draft JWP will then be discussed in greater detail between MAP and EEA in Athens on the occasion of the Horizon 2020 sub-group meeting on Monitoring on 9-10 October, 2008.

Working document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.3/3 – Main working document for the Third meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (Chapter 2).

Reference documents:

a. Work Programme of Cooperation between the MAP Coordinating Unit and the European Commission;
b. Joint EEA – UNEP/MAP Work Plan 2006-2008.

Agenda item 8: State of the Environment and Development Report

At the second meeting of the ECP it was agreed that BP will submit to the third meeting a more elaborated Table of Contents and Work Plan for the preparation of the State of the Environment and Development Report taking into account the submissions by the RACs on the elaboration of each chapter..

Following a presentation by BP of the revised document on the basis of comments by RACs, the meeting will discuss and approve the revised Table of Contents and Work Plan.

Expected output: Approved Table of Contents and Work Plan.

Working document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.3/3 – Main working document for the Third meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (Chapter 3).

Agenda item 9: Draft Mandates of RACs and MEDPOL

In view of implementing the Decision on the Governance Paper, it was agreed at the second meeting of the ECP that the RACs and MEDPOL should elaborate their draft mandates for discussion at the third ECP meeting.

The meeting will be briefed by the Secretariat about the ongoing exercise for the preparation of a harmonized Host Country Agreement and the situation with respect to the current status of each RAC. RACs and MEDPOL will then present to the meeting their proposed mandates for discussion.

Expected output: Presentation of the first proposals for the mandates of RACs and MEDPOL and agreement on the next steps.

Working Document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.3/3 Main working document for the Third meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (Chapter 4).

Agenda Item 10: UNEP's future role in the Barcelona Process – Union for the Mediterranean.

Following MAP's participation at the Paris Summit of Heads of States and Government from the EU and Mediterranean countries on 13 July, and in view of the six cooperation projects agreed upon by the Summit, the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) of UNEP is convening a strategic internal meeting on 19 November, 2008 in Paris to discuss UNEP's future role in the Barcelona Process – Union for the Mediterranean. UNEP sees the Barcelona Process – Union for the Mediterranean as an opportunity to use the Barcelona Convention, one of its Regional Seas, to position itself on the political and environmental agenda of the Mediterranean region.

The ECP will be asked to make proposals for inclusion in a background paper to be prepared by the Secretariat for submission to the Paris internal meeting for the consideration of UNEP when developing its future role within the Barcelona Process Union for the Mediterranean. The background paper with the input from the meeting of the ECP will be circulated to the RACs and Programme Officers for comments before it is submitted to the Paris meeting.

Reference document: Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean – Paris, 13 July, 2008.

Agenda Item 11: Financial Management Audit

Following the visits by the team of auditors from the Office of Internal Oversight Services of UNEP to MEDU in Athens and to different RACs in connection with the Financial Management Audit of MAP, the ECP will discuss the outcome of these visits as well as the way forward with respect to the finalization of the repot which will be submitted to the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Agenda item 12: Meeting of MAP Secretariat on the application of the ECAP

The meeting will be asked to endorse the decisions taken at the Meeting of the MAP secretariat on the application of the ecosystem approach held on 24 September 2008.

Reference document: Report of the meeting of MAP Secretariat and the RACs on the application of the ecosystem approach (to be prepared in Split at Split, meeting held on 24 September 2008).

Agenda item 13: Adoption of the report

The meeting will be invited to adopt the report of the meeting that will be concise and written in a point by point form, mainly reflecting the decisions taken including actions for their implementation.

Agenda item 14: Closure of the Meeting

Following concluding remarks by the Coordinator and the participants, the third meeting of the EC will be brought to a close with the usual courtesies.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Thursday, 25 September 2008	
0900-0930	Opening of the Meeting
0930-1100	Agenda items 1,2, 3, 4
1100-1130	*Coffee break*
1130-1300	Agenda items 5 and 6
1300-1430	*Lunch*
1430-1600	Agenda item 6
1600-1630	*Coffee break*
1630-1800	Agenda items 7 and 8
Friday, 26 September 2008	
0900-1000	Agenda items 9 and 10
1000-1100	Agenda items 11 and 12
1100-1130	*Coffee break*
1130-1230	Agenda item 13
1300	Closure of the meeting