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The 26th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

Corinth, Greece, 23 June 2025

Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2025

Introduction

1. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and in consultation with the President of the MCSD, the 26th Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee (SC) is convened on 23 June 2025 in Corinth, Greece.

2. The primary objective of the Meeting is to review and guide the process for successfully concluding the discussion on the updated Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and flagship initiatives during the 21st MCSD that will take place back to back, on 24-26 June 2025.

3. The Meeting will also address the partially reviewed MCSD Membership for the Biennium 2026-2027, the sustainability considerations in relation to the proposed UNEP/MAP 2026-2027 Programme of Work and Budget (PoW) as well as possible inputs of the 21st MCSD Meeting to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 24), 2-5 December 2025, Cairo, Egypt.

4. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for the plenary sessions. Working documents are prepared in English and French. The list of Documents is provided in Document UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.1. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session. No hard copies of any document will be disseminated during the meeting.

5. The present annotations to the Provisional Agenda (UNEP/MED WG.624/1) were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the MCSD SC in its deliberations.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

6. The meeting will be opened at 09:30 local time in Greece (GMT+3), on Monday, 23 June 2025, by Ms. Anne-France Didier, President of the MCSD. The Coordinator of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat will also make opening remarks.

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

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/1	Provisional Agenda
	UNEP/MED WG.624/2	Provisional Annotated Agenda
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.1	Provisional List of Documents
	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.2	Provisional List of Participants

7. As per Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the MCSD, the Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis.

8. The meeting will be invited to review and adopt the Provisional Agenda contained in Document UNEP/MED WG.624/1 and annotated in the present document.

9. It is expected that the MCSD SC discusses all the items of the agenda during its one day-meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting indicatively at 17:30 local time in Greece (GMT+3), on Monday, 23 June 2025.

10. The Report of the 26th Meeting of the MCSD SC will be distributed to the MCSD SC Members for their perusal, comments and approval at a later stage through electronic means.

Agenda Item 3: Report by the Coordinator on Sustainable Development Activities for the period May 2024- May 2025

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/3	Progress Report for the period May 2024- May 2025
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.6	Reports of extended MCSD Steering Committee meetings
	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.7	Report of the ad hoc Thematic MCSD Meeting of 12-13 February 2025
	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.8	Report MSSD thematic WGs meetings
	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.9	Updated flagship information factsheets
Reference Documents		Report of the 25th MCSD Steering Committee Meeting
		Report of the 20th MCSD Meeting

11. The Coordinator will present the progress in MCSD and MSSD related developments since the 25th Meeting of the MCSD SC (18-19 April 2025, Athens, Greece), as contained in Document UNEP/MED WG.624/3.

12. The MCSD SC Members will be invited to report on their own efforts to support the MSSD implementation and the work of the MCSD and to comment on the Progress Report.

Agenda Item 4: Implementation of the 2016-2025 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

a) MSSD Flagship Initiatives

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/3	Progress Report for the period May 2024 - May 2025

13. Following a brief presentation by the Secretariat about the status of implementation of the MSSD Flagship Initiatives, the MCSD SC Members will be invited to comment.

b) Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/3	Progress Report for the period May 2024- May 2025
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.4	Mediterranean Sustainability and SCP Dashboard
	UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.5	MSSD Core indicators and new Dashboard Indicators

14. The Secretariat (Plan Bleu/RAC and SCP/RAC) will introduce the relevant section of the Document UNEP/MED WG.624/3 presenting the work done and perspectives to strengthening the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and the work on the 10 core indicators that complement the MSSD dashboard with more in-depth analysis. The MCSD SC Members will be invited to provide comments, as appropriate.

Agenda Item 5: Specific issues

a) MSSD 2026-2035 period and new flagship initiatives

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/4	Report on Specific Issues
Information Documents	UNEP/MED 624/Inf.3	MSSD Final Evaluation

15. The Secretariat will present a summary of the main changes of the MSSD for the period 2026-2035, as included in document UNEP/MED WG.624/4.

16. The MCSD SC Members will be invited to comment in view of facilitating the agreement on the final text of the updated MSSD during the 21st MCSD Meeting.

17. The concept notes of the new MSSD flagship initiatives have been simplified, as requested by the Thematic Ad Hoc MCSD Meeting of 12-13 February (Istanbul, Türkiye) and are presented by the Secretariat, as included in the Document UNEP/MED WG.624/4.

18. The MCSD SC Members are expected to provide comments.

19. The MCSD SC Members will be asked to provide comments also to the Final Evaluation of the 2016-2025 MSSD presented in the UNEP/MED 624/Inf.3, and already submitted to the Thematic Ad Hoc MCSD Meeting of 12-13 February (Istanbul, Türkiye) and positively commented.

b) Updated MCSD Membership for the Biennium 2026-2027

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/4	Report on Specific Issues

20. The Secretariat will briefly introduce the needs for the partial renewal of the MCSD Membership for the Biennium 2026-2027 and with reference to five out of six groups of stakeholders (Local Authorities, Socio-economic Stakeholders, Non-Governmental Organizations, Intergovernmental Organizations and Parliamentarians) as presented in the document UNEP/MED WG.624/4.

21. The MCSD SC Members are invited to provide their comments and guidance to the Secretariat in view of the discussion of the partially renewed MCSD membership during the 21st MCSD Meeting.

c) Sustainability Considerations in UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2026-2027

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/4	Report on Specific Issues

22. The Secretariat will introduce the section of the document UNEP/MED WG.624/4 related to the proposed UNEP/MAP 2026-2027 Programme of Work (PoW) and the sustainability considerations as integrated into its seven Programmes.

23. The MCSD SC Members are expected to share views and comments on the proposed UNEP/MAP 2026-2027 PoW, in view also of the relevant discussion during the 21st MCSD Meeting.

***d)* Inputs of the 21st MCSD Meeting to COP24**

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.624/4	Report on Specific Issues

1. The Secretariat will inform the MCSD SC on COP 24 preparations, including the Ministerial Declaration and the Ministerial Session of COP 24.

2. The MCSD SC Members are expected to provide their comments and views.

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Matters

3. The meeting will consider other issues that may be raised by its participants.

Agenda Item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations and Closure of the Meeting

4. The Rapporteur will submit for adoption a set of conclusions and recommendations based on the discussions held under all agenda items.

5. The report of the meeting (UNEP/MED WG.624/5) will be circulated to the MCSD SC Members at a later stage for adoption through electronic means.

6. The meeting is expected to be closed by the President of the MCSD at approximately 17:30 on Monday, 23 June 2025.

Timetable

(Greece local time, Time: GMT+3)

Monday, 23 June 2025		
Time	**Agenda Item**	**Documents**
10:00 – 10:15	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting	
10:15– 10:30	Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work	UNEP/MED WG.624/1 UNEP/MED WG.624/2 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.1 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.2
10:30– 11:00	Agenda Item 3: Report by the Coordinator on Sustainable Development Activities for the period May 2024- May 2025	UNEP/MED WG.624/3 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.7 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.8 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.9
11:00 – 11:30	Agenda Item 4: Implementation of the 2016-2025 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development *a) MSSD Flagship Initiatives*	UNEP/MED WG.624/3
11:30 – 12:00	Agenda Item 4: Implementation of the 2016-2025 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development *b) Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard*	UNEP/MED WG.624/3 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.624/Inf.5
12:00- 13:00	Agenda Item 5: Specific issues *a) MSSD 2026-2035 and new flagship initiatives*	UNEP/MED WG. 24/4 UNEP/MED 624/Inf.3
13:00 – 14:30	*Lunch break*	
14:30 – 15:45	Agenda Item 5: Specific issues *a) MSSD 2026-2035 and new flagship initiatives (Continuation)*	UNEP/MED WG.624/4 UNEP/MED 624/Inf.3
15:45– 16:15	Agenda Item 5: Specific issues *b) Updated MCSD Membership for the Biennium 2026-2027*	UNEP/MED WG.624/4
16:15– 16:45	Agenda Item 5: Specific issues *c) Sustainability Considerations in UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2026-2027* *d) Inputs of the 21st MCSD Meeting to COP24*	UNEP/MED WG.624/4
16:45– 17:00	Agenda Item 6: Any Other Matters	
17:00 - 17:30	Agenda Item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations and Closure of the Meeting	UNEP/MED WG.624/5 – *to be issued after the meeting*