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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Third Meeting of Government-designated Experts on the
Application of the Ecosystem Approach by MAP

Durres, Albania, 2-3 June 2011

PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ECOSYSTEM APPROACH ROADMAP ADOPTED BY THE 15TH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS

Proposed timeline for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap by MAP

At the third meeting of Technical Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach by UNEP/MAP held in Istanbul in March 2011 the Secretariat presented a draft timeline and projected outputs for the progressive application of the Ecosystem Approach in comparison with the timeline for the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive in order to allow for better identification of the potential synergies between both processes.

The timeline had been put together following the criteria discussed in the second meeting of Technical Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach held in Barcelona in July 2010 which are summarized below for reference:

- a) The application will be gradual and ensure the parties' ownership;
- b) Priority (time wise) to be given to the delivery of regional outcomes such as the ecological and operational objectives, indicators and targets;
- c) Coherence with MAP's 5 year PoW should be sought in particular in developing integrated regional monitoring strategy, in the update of some regional policies established for the implementation of the Barcelona Convention Protocols, such as the SAP/BIO, legally binding measures for priority substances of the LBS protocol and the action plans on endangered species;
- d) Establishing effective synergies with other relevant regional and global processes, in particular the Assessment of Assessments and the EU MSFD with a view to optimizing the outcome and the timeframe, as appropriate, arisen from both processes; and,
- e) Introducing the periodical review of progress achieved towards the targets every 6 years after the establishment of ecological objectives, operational objectives, indicators and targets.

Based on the above criteria, the proposed UNEP/MAP ecosystem approach road map timeline aims to provide Contracting Parties with a long term perspective on what and how should be done for successful implementation of Decision IG 15/6 on application of ecosystem approach by MAP taking into account their national obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and where appropriate, the MSFD.

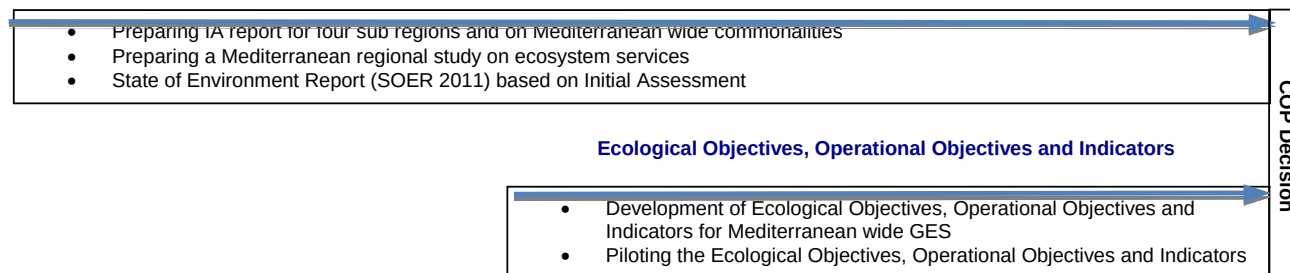
If regularly updated, the roadmap timeline will serve as an effective tool to help countries towards the application of ecosystem approach at MAP and Contracting Party levels. The proposed road map timetable assumes the approval of the proposed Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives and Indicators at the next meeting of Contracting Parties and looks beyond 2011 until 2019.

Outputs related to determination of Good Environmental Status and Targets, reviewing and/or establishing coordinated monitoring programmes, developing and reviewing programmes of measures, and finally reviewing the implementation of all the ecosystem approach roadmap steps are arranged into 4 biannual blocks. The assessment of the progress made towards achieving Good Environmental/Ecological Status and the review of the objectives and targets, if necessary, during the third and 4th biennium entails the initiation of another ecosystem approach cycle meaning that the systematic application of this timeline defines a complete cycle that could be repeated every 6 years thereafter.

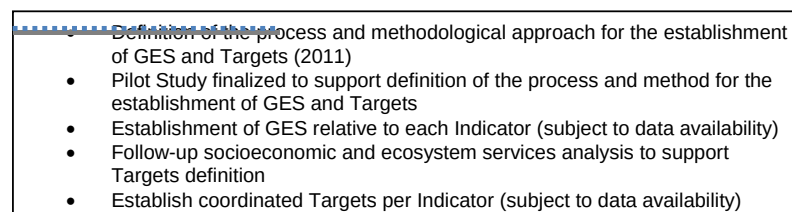
The schematic representation of the timeline and its main expected deliverables are included as an Annex to this document.

It has to be noted that the Secretariat implemented in the course of the present biennium important activities with the support of the MTF and EC following a contribution agreement that was signed in 2009. The successful and timely implementation of remaining steps in the ecosystem approach roadmap requires substantive external resources.

Ecosystem Approach Initial Assessment (IA)



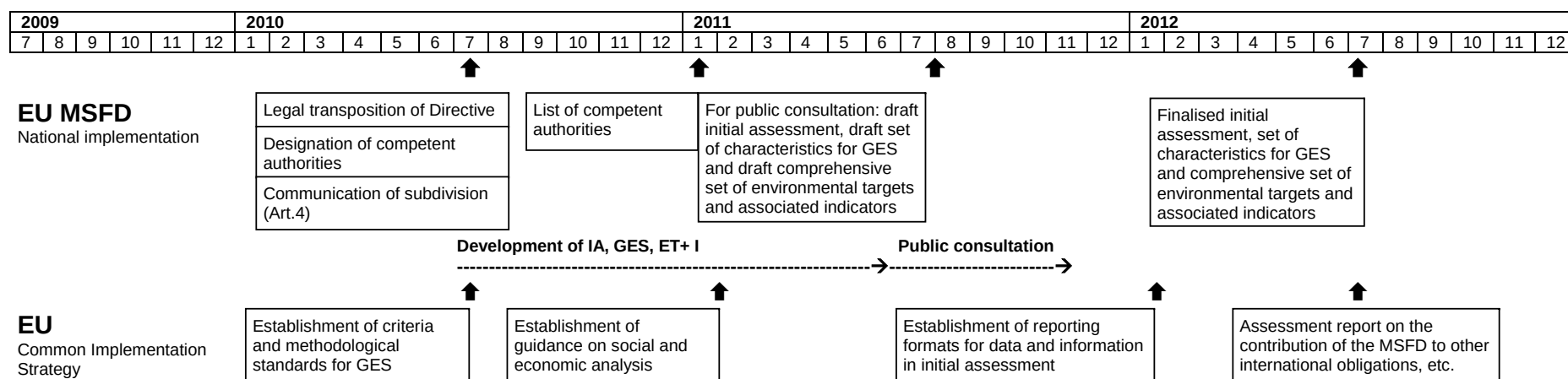
Determination of Good Ecological Status (GES) and Targets

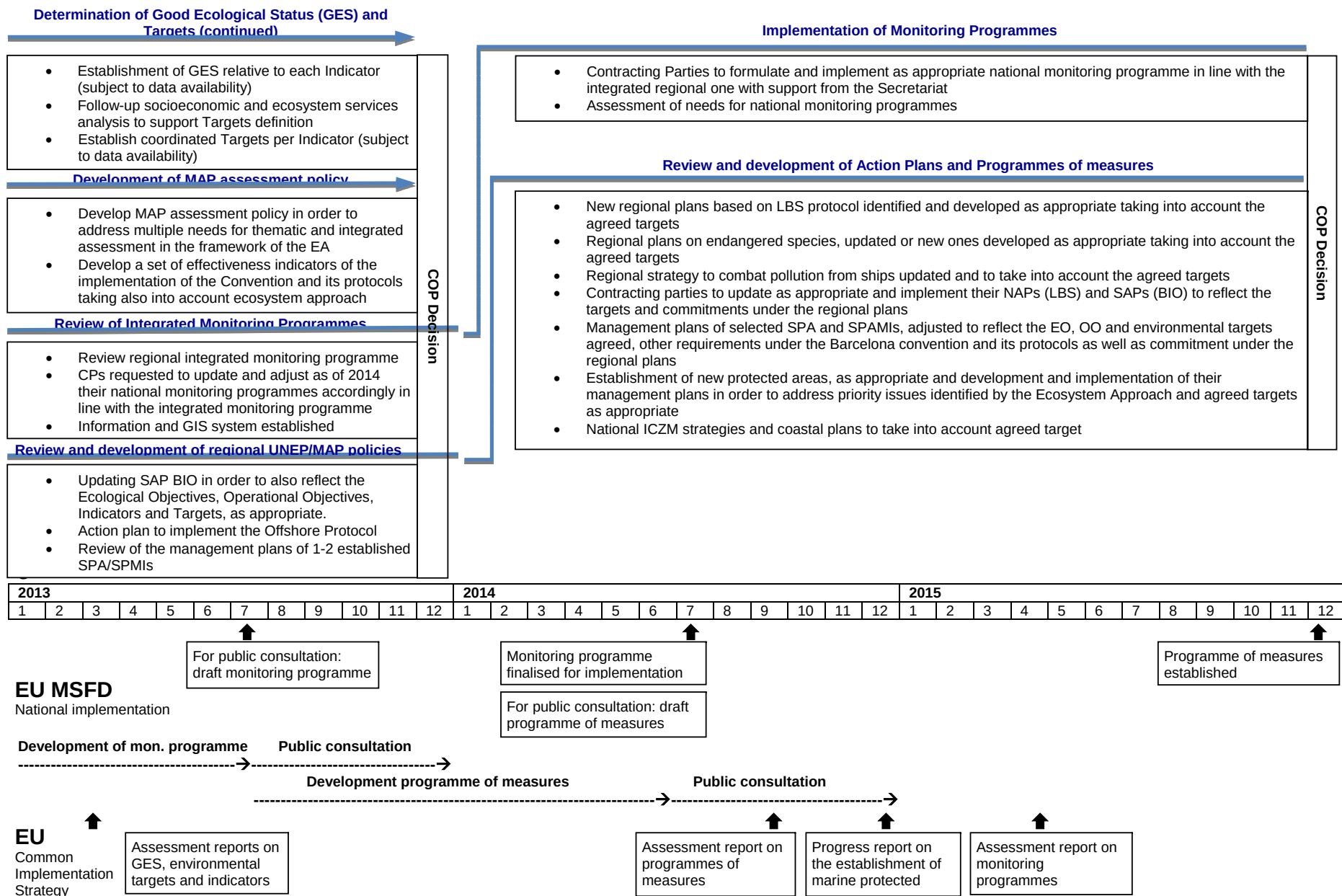


UNEP/MAP ecosystem approach roadmap projected outputs

Development of MAP assessment policy

Review of Monitoring Programmes





Implementation of Monitoring Programmes (continued)

- Contracting Parties to implement national monitoring programme in line with the integrated regional one with coordinated support from the Secretariat - Contracting parties to report monitoring data and information on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	
SoE report finalised in the form of quality status report and submitted to the CPs meeting	COP

Development and implementation of Action Plans and Programmes of measures (continued)

- New regional plans based on LBS protocol identified and developed as appropriate taking into account the agreed targets - Regional plans on endangered species, updated or new ones developed as appropriate taking into account the agreed targets - Regional strategy to combat pollution from ships updated and to take into account the agreed targets - Contracting parties to update as appropriate and implement their NAPs (LBS) and SAPs (BIO) to reflect the targets and commitments under the regional plans - Management plans of selected SPA and SPAMIs, adjusted to reflect the EO, OO and environmental targets agreed, other requirements under the Barcelona convention and its protocols as well as commitment under the regional plans - Establishment of new protected areas, as appropriate and development and implementation of their management plans in order to address priority issues identified by the Ecosystem Approach and agreed targets as appropriate - National ICZM strategies and coastal plans to take into account agreed targets	
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Review process and implementation of its outcome

- Coordinated review of national and regional/subregional assessment - Review progress achieved towards EO, OO, Indicators and Targets - Evaluation of implementation of regional plans, legally binding measures - COP decisions to suggest policy/adjustment and revision of monitoring programmes as appropriate and other regional policy instruments	COP Decision
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Review process and implementation of its outcome (continued)

- Suggest the necessary policy adjustment as appropriate to the meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2019 with regard to, EO, OO, Indicators, Targets and monitoring programme - Implementation of 2017 COP decisions related to the adjustment as appropriate of the regional policies, legally binding measures and monitoring programme. - COP 2019 decision to approve the necessary updates and revisions of regional policies and targets, legally binding measures and regional plans.
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2016												2017												2018												2019							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8



EU MSFD
National implementation

Entry into operation of programme of measures

For public consultation: draft review of initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators

Review established of initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators

For public consultation: draft review of monitoring programme

Development of first review IA, GES, ET+I

Public consultation

Development of first review of monitoring programme

EU
Common Implementation Strategy

First evaluation report of the implementation of the MSFD (bv 2019 at the latest)

