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## **MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the  
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment  
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean  
and its Protocols

Cairo, Egypt, 30-31 October 2006

### **PROGRESS REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE BUREAU THE CONTRACTING PARTIES (Ljubljana, April 2006)**

**(APRIL 2006 – SEPTEMBER 2006)**



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## Introduction

1. The present report covers the progress achieved in the implementation of the various activities carried out by the Coordinating Unit, its Regional Activity Centres (RACs) and MED POL since the last meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on 6-7 April 2006.
2. The Progress Report by the Secretariat for the period 1 April 2006 – 30 September 2006 is composed of a general review on the progress and outputs of the main activities and four annexes.
3. The General Review features reports on ongoing activities and outputs carried out in the fulfilment of the Work Plan and budget approved by the Contracting Parties in Portoroz, 2005 and the decisions of the last Bureau meeting held in Ljubljana, Slovenia in April 2006.
4. The Annexes provide information on the following:
  - a) The most recent status of ratification as notified by the Depositary Country;
  - b) Draft of the EEA-UNEP/MAP Joint Work Plan;
  - c) Conclusions of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MCSD;
  - d) Status of the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) as at 30 September 2006.

## General Review on the Progress and Outputs of the Main Activities

### 1. Legal issues

#### 1.1 Status of Ratification

5. As at October 2006, a total of 18 Contracting Parties had accepted the amendments to the revised Convention, 14 had accepted the amendments to the revised Dumping Protocol and 13 to the revised LBS Protocol.
6. Since the last meeting of the Bureau, no additional acceptance of the amendments to the revised Convention, the Dumping and the LBS Protocols has been notified to the Depositary Country. The situation has not changed either with respect to the ratification of the new Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity Protocol, the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol, and the Offshore and Hazardous Wastes Protocols.
7. A detailed table on the status of ratification is attached as Annex I to this report.
8. Following the decision of the Bureau at its last meeting, the President of the Bureau has sent a letter to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Environment of Algeria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Libya and Syria that have still to accept the amendments to the LBS and/or the Dumping Protocols, bringing to their attention the necessity of the entry into force of these legal instruments.
9. The MAP Coordinator has visited number of countries such as Lebanon and Montenegro, and accession to the MAP legal instruments in general, and in particular acceptance of the amendments to the LBS and the Dumping Protocols, were on the agenda during his discussions with relevant Ministers.

10. The Secretariat is also providing technical and legal support to some of the Contracting Parties at their request with respect to the ratification process.

11. The Secretariat intends to bring up for discussion the issue of ratifications or non-ratifications of the MAP legal instruments at the Extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points, next November, taking into account the response to the letters sent to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Environment by the President of the Bureau.

### 1.2 Development of the new Protocol on ICZM

12. As reported at the last Bureau meeting, the first Meeting of the Working Group of experts designated by the Contracting Parties to develop a draft protocol on ICZM that was held in Split (Croatia) on 27-29 April, 2006, has reviewed and adopted the preamble and Articles 1, 2 and 4. In addition, a general debate on the main principles, objectives and structure of the protocol on ICZM took place.

13. The meeting decided to change the title of the draft protocol from ICAM to ICZM. It also agreed to hold a second meeting and requested the Secretariat to reformulate Article 5 by adding new elements and splitting it in two separate articles.

14. Following the decision of the last Bureau meeting held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, the second meeting of the Working Group of experts was held in Loutraki, Greece from 6 to 9 September 2006.

15. After a careful review of parts I and II of the proposed draft protocol, the meeting adopted 8 Articles. The other articles will be considered at the third meeting of the Working Group which is expected to be held in February 2007.

16. The meeting also had a broad exchange of views on part III of the draft text and made a number of suggestions and requested the Secretariat to amend them accordingly for submission to the third meeting of the Working Group.

17. In this respect, the Secretariat organized a meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006 with its legal advisers and experts. Part III was reformulated and submitted to the members of the Working Group for comments and inputs. Reports of the first and second meetings of the Working Group on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol are presented as information documents (UNEP/BUR/65/Inf.2 and UNEP/BUR/65/Inf.3)

### 1.3 Reporting

18. In view of implementing the recommendations of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Portoroz, Slovenia, 2005), with respect to the submission by the Contracting Parties of their national reports on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols during 2004-2005 biennium, the following activities have been undertaken by the Secretariat:

- a) assistance has been provided to Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco and Syria;
- b) a letter was sent to MAP Focal Points bringing to their attention the recommendations of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Contracting Parties and in this respect, the relevant decision of the last Bureau meeting held in Ljubljana, April 2006;

- c) close contacts with MAP Focal Points or experts have been maintained in order to achieve the objective of the finalization of such reports by the end of 2006.

19. Progress is being achieved with respect to the preparation of a new/updated reporting format of MAP, taking into account:

- a) the need for a better integration among MAP components;
- b) harmonization with the reporting systems of other conventions and of the EC; and
- c) simplicity and operationality of the reporting system on line.

20. In this regard, two meetings with MAP components have been held in June 2006 and September 2006 at the premises of the Coordinating Unit. Both meetings, after reviewing very carefully the reporting requirements/obligations in the framework of the Convention and Protocols, developed a draft format that satisfies the majority of the criteria decided by the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties. The EEA representative has also participated in the first meeting, providing useful suggestions and proposals on the basis of the agency's experience in this field.

21. The work is still ongoing. It is planned to hold a meeting on 7-8 December 2006 with MAP Focal Points or their representatives to review the draft reporting format, amend it accordingly and decide on the next steps. An important issue is the reporting on effectiveness of measures taken by Contracting Parties in view of implementing the Convention and its Protocols. Further research needs to be carried out by the Secretariat in order to work in synergy with other programmes and organizations that are developing a number of tools to measure the "effectiveness" of the implementation of legal instruments.

#### 1.4 Compliance

22. Following the decision of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties for the Secretariat to extend the mandate and the membership of the Working Group on Compliance and Implementation, the following activities have been carried out by the Secretariat:

- a) an invitation along with the agenda of the third meeting of the WG was sent to all Contracting Parties requesting them to nominate their representative to the WG;
- b) preparations to organize the third meeting of the WG on Compliance and Implementation are in hand. The meeting will be held from 5 to 6 December 2006 in Greece.

23. The meeting will discuss a number of new elements of Compliance mechanism such as meetings of the Compliance Committee, Role of the Compliance Committee, Proceedings, Committee's reports to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties, and relationship with Article 28 of the Convention (Settlement of Disputes). A number of issues that were left open from previous meetings will also be discussed.

24. The documents of the meeting will be disseminated well in advance to the members of the WG and MAP Focal Points to enable them to make the necessary consultations beforehand.

#### 1.5 Liability and Compensation

25. As reported in the previous Bureau meeting, the first meeting of the WG agreed to propose appropriate rules and procedures on liability and compensation for damage from pollution. The Secretariat has started working on the preparation of first draft guidelines for the

consideration by the second meeting of the WG. The intention of the Secretariat is to hold the second meeting of the WG in spring 2007.

26. The prepared draft guidelines will be circulated for comments and inputs by the WG well in advance of the third meeting. This will help the Secretariat to properly organize the agenda and increase efficiency and productivity of the meeting.

#### **1.6 Assistance to countries on legal matters**

27. No request has been submitted to the Secretariat on this matter. Apart from providing assistance to Montenegro with respect to the ratification process, the Secretariat has accommodated all questions requesting information of a legal nature raised by the Parties.

28. Following the entry into force of the amendments to the Convention, the legal text of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols are being published in French and Arabic. This will facilitate a number of countries to speed the ratification process and give more visibility to MAP legal instruments among different stakeholders.

## **2. Institutional matters**

### **2.1 Progress on organizational issues of the Extraordinary meeting of MAP Focal Points**

29. As has already been announced by the Secretariat, the extraordinary meeting of the MAP focal points will be held in Catania, Italy from 7-11 November 2006. The Italian Government is hosting the meeting and providing financial assistance. INFO/RAC is looking after the logistics of the meeting.

30. With respect to the follow up of the MAP evaluation, the following steps have been taken by the Secretariat:

- a) consultations with RACs and Programmes have been undertaken in March and May 2006 on the first draft of the strategic vision and mission statement;
- b) following these meetings, the consultant submitted another draft of the strategic vision and mission statement in June 2006;
- c) the invitations and the documents for the extraordinary meeting of MAP focal points were disseminated in July 2006.

31. Comments by the MAP Focal Points had to reach the Secretariat by the end of September 2006 at the latest. All the responses received have been circulated to all MAP Focal points in preparation for the Extraordinary meeting.

### **2.2 Briefing with the Executive Director of UNEP**

32. Since the last meeting of the Bureau, Mr Achim Steiner has been appointed as the new Executive Director of UNEP. The MAP Coordinator had the occasion to meet and brief the Executive Director about MAP during the latter's one-day visit to Athens last August.

33. The Executive Director was given an overview of the organizational set-up at UNEP/MAP, the unit's financing, the biannual programme of work and the relations with the

Greek Authorities as Hosts of UNEP/MAP. Main objectives and challenges for MAP in the coming years were also outlined.

34. On his part, the Executive Director reiterated UNEP's continued support to the Coordinating Unit in Athens.

35. Some views were also exchanged with respect to the future relationship between UNEP and UNEP/MAP in view of the plans for the re-structuring of the organization at UNEP's Headquarters in Nairobi which were under consideration.

36. The relationship with the International Maritime Organization, which has administrative responsibility for REMPEC has also been addressed.

37. MEDU coordinated the visit to Athens by the Executive Director on the occasion of the meeting held jointly by UNEP and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to coordinate the international response to the oil pollution incident in Lebanon.

### 2.3 Missions to Contracting Parties

38. During the period under review, the MAP Coordinator undertook a number of diplomatic missions in order to establish direct contact with the authorities of the countries visited, discuss future bilateral cooperation and, where appropriate, promote the ratification of the amended Convention and other MAP legal instruments.

#### Visit to Lebanon

39. Between 11 and 14 April, 2006 at the invitation of the Lebanese Minister for the Environment Mr Yaacoub Sarraf, the MAP coordinator visited Lebanon for talks on MAP-Lebanon relations and to attend the closing session of the Coastal Litter Management Pilot Project in Tripoli which was implemented with the cooperation and assistance of MEDPOL and RAMOGE.

40. MAP-Lebanon relations, in particular the ratification by Lebanon of the amendments to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols were on the agenda during meetings with the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Environment Minister.

41. The Secretariat has been informed that the process for the ratification by Lebanon of the amendments to the Barcelona Convention is at an advanced stage.

42. The Lebanese Minister for the Environment invited MAP to organize an event in Lebanon to promote the Report on Environment and Development. He also proposed to organize a presentation of the same report to the Council of Ministers.

#### Visit to Montenegro

43. At the invitation of Mr. Boro Vucinic, Minister for Environment and Spatial Planning, the Coordinator paid a two-day visit in June 2006 to Montenegro for discussion on bilateral relations. This visit came at a time when Montenegro had just become an independent state and on the eve of Montenegro's membership to the United Nations. During talks with the Minister views

were exchanged with respect to the procedure for Montenegro to accede to the Barcelona Convention following its independence from Serbia.

44. Meetings were held with the Deputy Minister for Maritime Affairs to discuss the MoU signed last December between Montenegro and REMPEC for the implementation of the programme of activities entitled "Development of National Capacities of Serbia and Montenegro for Prevention of, Preparedness for and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships".

45. During 2005 UNEP/MAP assisted Montenegro to develop its National Strategy for Sustainable Development, a subject which was discussed with the Head of the Sustainable Development Office. Montenegro expressed its appreciation for the support given by MAP for the development of the NSSD.

46. During this visit a Press Conference in Podgorica together with the Minister for the Environment and Spatial Planning and another in the coastal town of BAR with the Director of Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management were organised. Both press conferences were given wide coverage on TV news bulletins and in the print media.

### **3. MCSD, MSSD, NSSD**

#### **3.1 MCSD Programme of Work**

47. As indicated in the approved Programme of Work, the RACs contribute to the implementation of the MSSD by way of establishing expert groups on thematic issues. They constantly strive to ensure that the composition of the working groups takes into account the interest indicated by the CPs.

48. Considering the Blue Plan long-lasting involvement in "Water demand management", "Energy", "Tourism", and "Agriculture and rural development", its recognized expertise and its regional outreach through expert networks, the MAP Coordinating Unit has entrusted BP /RAC to lead the work in these areas with the full support of the other MAP components and under the supervision of the Coordination Unit. Work on two thematic activities "Water" and " Energy and Climate Change " have already begun. The work on the latter topic is quite advanced and will culminate in the organization of Eastern Adriatic Countries workshop in November 2006. The Blue Plan (BP/RAC) also pursues its work on indicators to monitor MSSD implementation.

49. PAP/RAC leads the formulation of the ICZM Protocol, launched at the 13th Catania Meeting in 2003. INFO/RAC has initiated a series of MSSD promotion activities undertaken within the framework of an Information and Communication Strategy focusing on making the document better understood, disseminating it more widely and raising the awareness of both political leaders and the public for its effective implementation through a participatory process involving the main actors. This strategy based on the "MSSD IC vision" would be submitted to the 15th Contracting Parties Meeting in 2007 for review and approval.

#### **3.2 MCSD Meeting**

50. The Eleventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) was held in Nicosia (Cyprus) from 24 to 26 May 2006. The Meeting was attended by the 28 members and 7 alternate members of the Commission. MAP's Regional Activity Centers and

other components were represented. United Nations specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other partners attended the meeting as observers.

51. The agenda had been prepared in close collaboration with the MCSD Steering Committee. The Meeting discussed the following topics:

- NSSD process status in the Region and in selected countries (Montenegro, Syria, Italy and Malta);
- current MAP processes relevant to the implementation of the MSSD (Priority Field of Action 2.7);
- MAP's support to the MSSD implementation;
- cross cutting issues such as "Information and communication" and the "involvement of the business world";
- synergies between MSSD and other Global/Regional initiatives and processes (Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free-Trade Zone, MSSD and Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Initiative "Horizon 2020").

52. The summary conclusions of the MCSD meeting prepared by the Secretariat are attached as Annex II to this report.

### 3.3 National Strategies for Sustainable Development

53. Since 2005, MAP supports the formulation of national strategies, technically and financially. Thanks to the financial assistance of Italy and Monaco, four countries have been supported in the formulation of NSSD: Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco, and the Syrian Arab Republic. The pace in strategy formulation varies significantly according to the countries. The countries have in fact reached different phases. However there are features common to the different country processes: NSSD formulation builds upon the MSSD that serves as a framework; most countries have used the catalytic MAP support to mobilize additional financial resources; the NSSD preparation itself proves as important as the resulting NSSD document. The process in itself constitutes an opportunity to raise awareness, to build consensus, develop partnerships and strengthen the ownership of a variety of stakeholders.

54. Thanks to a financial assistance from the Spanish Azahar Foundation, 4 additional countries are going to be involved: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia. With 8 countries embarked in this programme and following a similar approach, a critical mass of experience will build up and will stimulate synergies and cooperation. It is important to note that the Azahar Foundation will also contribute to a regional workshop (2007) to review progress, exchange experience and define regional or national activities and measures for improvement.

55. The four initially involved countries have gained hands-on experience and can demonstrate significant achievements in terms of policy and institution analysis; mobilisation of human and financial resources; consultation processes; and awareness raising. These countries have also managed to address a number of issues, difficulties and challenges related to NSSD formulation. The countries that are about to embark on a NSSD formulation process will follow similar activities and steps as in the other four countries and therefore could highly benefit from their experience. Those countries that are advanced in the preparation of their NSSD can contribute to build up capacities of the newcomers. Peer to peer interactions on the formulation of NSSD would also open the way to horizontal cooperation between countries at a regional or sub regional level and foster the establishment of partnership towards sustainable development in general and MSSD implementation in particular. The First Working Session on Challenges and Opportunities of NSSD formulation was organized in Athens on 3-4 October 2006.

#### **4. Cooperation with Partners**

##### **4.1 Cooperation with the EC**

###### **4.1.1 Implementation of the JPW MAP/EC**

56. The first meeting between the European Commission and MAP, within the framework of the Joint Work Programme signed between the two sides in Portoroz in November, 2006, was held on Monday, 15th May, 2006. The meeting was intended to promote coordination on strategic matters of common interest. This was the first in a series of annual meetings which will be held in order to review the progress of work in the priority areas of cooperation and to discuss issues related to furthering the objectives of the Joint Work Programme.

57. Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, Coordinator of the GPA and Head Regional Seas also participated at this meeting.

58. During the meeting, strategic issues were discussed including the EC's Horizon 2020 initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean. Reference was made to the political endorsement by the Contracting Parties as well as by Euro-Mediterranean Partnership for MAP's involvement in the Horizon 2020 initiative.

59. Other issues discussed during this meeting included the Evaluation of MAP, the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean and the development by MAP of the new ICZM Protocol.

###### **4.1.2 Cooperation with the EEA**

60. In close cooperation with the EEA, the Secretariat has elaborated the draft of a Joint EEA-UNEP/MAP work plan for 2006-2008. All MAP components were involved in this process. The draft of this work plan provides a framework for the establishment of a stable and effective cooperation with the prospect of developing a sustainable working partnership.

61. Once this work plan is finalized, it is intended to organize a joint meeting of MAP Focal points and National Focal points from the EEA member countries in order to provide these networks with an overview of the joint activities and encourage closer cooperation.

62. A copy of the draft of the EEA-UNEP/MAP JWP is attached as Annex III to this report.

###### **4.1.3 Cooperation with European Parliament**

63. At the invitation of Ms. Maire-Noelle Lienemann (MEP) and Mr. Aldis Kusikis (MEP), Rapporteurs of the European Parliament on the Proposed EU Marine Strategy Directive, MAP participated in the hearing on the Proposed Directive and on the Thematic Strategy on the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment organized on July 11th. The objective of the hearing was for the Rapporteurs to listen to the views of stakeholders on improving the proposal of the European Commission. Other participants at the hearing included representatives from NGOs, the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER), Europeche-Cogega representing the fisheries and aquaculture sector, HELCOM, OSPAR and the Committee of the Regions.

64. In its presentation, apart from giving information about UNEP/MAP's involvement in the development of the Marine Strategy, the Secretariat outlined UNEP/MAP's long history of addressing marine issues identified in the proposed directive.

65. It was also emphasized that in view of the similar and comparable objectives of the proposed Directive and the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, MAP was clearly an appropriate platform for the countries and the European Commission to assist and promote the implementation of the Directive in the Mediterranean region.

#### 4.2 Cooperation with UN Agencies

##### 4.2.1 Cooperation with IMO

##### Oil spill in Lebanon

66. Following the oil pollution spill incident in Lebanon in July 2006, a Co-Ordination Meeting on the Response to the Marine Pollution Incident in Eastern Mediterranean (Lebanon and Syria) was held in Athens in August 2006. A joint invitation letter for this meeting was issued by the Executive Director of UNEP and the Secretary General of IMO as co-organizers of the meeting. Mr. Manolis Kefaloyannis, Minister of Merchantile Marine of Greece hosted the meeting, which was co-chaired by the Executive Director of UNEP and the Secretary General of IMO.

67. Apart from the Lebanese Environment Minister, the other participants at the meeting included the Ministers of Environment of Greece and Cyprus and senior government representatives from Egypt, Syria, Turkey and the EC.

68. The meeting reviewed the status of the oil spill, the applicable legal regimes and the on-going activities by concerned parties. A common strategy to address the pollution incident and the International Assistance Action Plan prepared by REMPEC was approved by the meeting.

69. At the end of the co-ordination meeting the Executive Director of UNEP and the Secretary General of IMO addressed a joint Press Conference, which was organized by the Coordinating Unit in Athens in close collaboration with the Division of Communications and Public Information in Nairobi.

##### 2006 IMO/UNEP Forum on Regional Co-operation in Combating Marine Pollution

70. This forum was held between 2 – 5 May, 2006 at the IMO Headquarters in London. The primary objective of the Forum was to bring together representatives from Regional Centres, Secretariats of Regional Seas Programmes, Regional Organizations, National Governments and Industry to explore ways of enhancing regional co-operation by building upon the results of the 2002 IMO/UNEP Forum.

71. A presentation about "IMO-UNEP/MAP cooperation for achieving sustainable development in the Mediterranean Sea and Coastal Areas" was given by the MAP Coordinator.

72. A number of proposals were put forward on future IMO-UNEP/MAP cooperation in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, in assisting Mediterranean countries to implement relevant global conventions at regional and national level, in the creation of regional response units in case of spills other than hydrocarbons, in supporting capacity building in maritime administrations and especially in the

implementation of the Regional Strategy for Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution from ships.

#### 4.2.2 Cooperation with UNECE

73. At the request of the Secretariat of the UNECE Convention on EIA in a trans-boundary context (Espoo Convention), MAP secretariat is collaborating with them for the organisation of a sub regional meeting in Morocco with Arabic countries. The objective of the meeting is to introduce this convention to a number of countries that are not part of the UNECE region. In 2001, the Espoo Convention was amended with a view to give the possibility to countries from other regions to join this Convention. The MAP Secretariat considers this initiative positive in view of giving to Contracting Parties more institutional legal space at their disposal by joining forces and ensuring synergy with a specialized convention on EIA in a transboundary context which is an important tool to prevent environmental degradation and promote regional and sub-regional cooperation.

#### 4.2.3 French GEF (FFEM)

74. On Thursday, 29th June, 2006, together with Project Manager of the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, the MAP Coordinator had a meeting with FFEM's officials about the French agency's participation in the Partnership.

75. The main purpose of the meeting was to inform the FFEM officials about the status of the Partnership and to secure their involvement in the project. FFEM have again confirmed their interest in participating in the Partnership.

76. It was agreed that it was important to hold more frequent meetings between the two organizations to keep each other informed about developments with respect to the Partnership and other projects which could be partly financed by FFEM.

### 4.3 Cooperation with other regional initiatives

#### 4.3.1 Cooperation with Adriatic initiative

77. In June 2006, MAP participated at an International Conference organized by the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia on the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Adriatic and supported by UNEP/MAP, INFO/RAC and CP/RAC.

78. This conference was organized on the personal initiative of the Slovenian Minister for the Environment in his capacity as President of the Bureau in order to promote sub-regional sustainable and spatial planning development initiatives and the MSSD.

79. Representatives from Adriatic countries participated at the conference which dealt with the sub-regional approach for the Adriatic eco-region, the sub-regional impact of a dedicated information and communication strategy, marine spatial planning and other issues related to the Adriatic.

#### 4.3.2 Cooperation with ICPDR

80. On the initiative of the President of the Bureau, the MAP Secretariat had a meeting with the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) at their premises on 21 September 2006.

81. The objective was to exchange experiences between the ICPDR and UNEP/MAP in the field of water resource management and to identify areas for future cooperation. Both institutions share a lot of things in common in the management of pollution reduction, water resource management and biodiversity conservation.

82. Both sides discussed the legal framework, institutional set-up as well as plans and programmes of ICPDR and UNEP/MAP. A number of areas were identified for future cooperation in particular in the fields of pollution reduction from land-based sources, monitoring and data management and public information and communication.

83. At a separate meeting with the representative of the UNDP, the MAP Secretariat discussed the management and performance of the Danube Regional Project which is one of the three components of the GEF Strategic Partnership for Nutrient Reduction in the Danube and the Black Sea Basin in view of the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem which will be coordinated by MAP and which is expected to be launched in 2007.

#### 4.3.2 Meeting on the Strengthening of Regional cooperation

84. In his capacity as President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, Mr. Janez Podobnik, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia organized a one-day meeting in Postonja, Slovenia for the strengthening of Regional Cooperation for shared water resources in particular between the Barcelona Convention and the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR). Another objective of the meeting was to focus on sub-regional cooperation in the frame of the Sava River Basin and the Adriatic.

85. Apart from the Executive Secretaries of the secretariats of the Danube and the Sava River Basins participants included representatives from the European Commission, Regional Environment Centre and government representatives from Italy, Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina.

86. The main objective of the meeting was for all those present to discuss the possibilities of strengthening regional cooperation and the role Slovenia could have in the implementation of international agreements on management and protection of two international water bodies namely UNEP/MAP for the Barcelona Convention and the ICPDR as well as sub-regional initiatives like the Sava River Basin and the Adriatic.

#### 4.3.3 Cooperation with Accobams

87. On 17th September, 2006 the MAP Coordinator attended the 10th Anniversary celebrations of ACCOBAMS which were held under the aegis of H.R.H. Albert II who participated in the events. Apart from participating on behalf of MAP which has a very close working relationship with ACCOBAMS especially through SPA/RAC, the Coordinator was also representing the Executive Director of UNEP at this event.

88. To mark the occasion, a natural-size dolphin statue was submerged in Monaco's Larvotto. H.R.H. Prince Albert II also took part in the operation to place the statue under water. The statue was dedicated to the memory of the late Rainer III who died earlier this year. The event was meant to create public awareness about the conservation of cetaceans.

#### 4.4 Cooperation with NGO/MAP partners and Public Participation

89. Pursuant to the recommendations approved in Catania, financial assistance has been given to a number of NGO/MAP partners to strengthen their own capacities and implement several activities relevant to the MAP scope and objectives. In total, nine MoUs have been signed with NGOs during the period under review with a total contribution of 66.000 Euro.

90. As a result of contacts between UNEP/MAP and NGO MAP partners, a number of MoU were concluding or are under the process of finalization with the following organizations:

- MIO ECSDE for organizing training on legal instruments of MAP (under implementation)
- CME for organizing an International Forum (under implementation)
- MEDITERRANEAN-SOS for organizing an exhibition (under implementation)
- RAED for newsletters (under implementation)
- FRIENDS OF THE EARTH for leaflets (under process)
- IOI for training course (under process) and
- MIO-ECSDE for organizing a meeting in the framework of the EMP Environmental Ministers meeting to be held in Egypt in November 2006 (under process).

91. Members of the Secretariat have participated in activities organised by NGO/ MAP partners or jointly with the Secretariat.

92. One such event was "Stelle di Mare" organized by Marevivo, Italian NGO with the support of the Italian Ministry for the Environment Territory and the Sea. This is an annual activity of one week's duration to promote environmental issues. This year's focus was on the 30th Anniversary of MAP and the Barcelona Convention and Marine Parks.

93. Following a round-table discussion in the presence of an invited audience, a public discussion was held with the participation of the new Italian Minister for the Environment Territory and the Sea. As an introduction to the discussion a short video documentary on 30 Years of MAP produced by INFO/RAC, which was also involved in the organization of this activity, was shown to a large audience present.

94. During this event, the MAP Coordinator had the opportunity to meet informally HE Mr. Pecoraro Scanio, the new Italian Minister for the Environment Territory and the Sea to whom he expressed UNEP/MAP's appreciation for the support received from Italy over the years and invited him to open the Extraordinary Meeting of the MAP Focal Points which will be hosted by Italy next November in Catania, Sicily.

#### 4.5 Preparations for the 15<sup>th</sup> Contracting Parties Meeting

95. The Secretariat has proposed to the Spanish authorities to organize the next meeting of the Contracting Parties on 27 – 30 November, 2007. The Secretariat is still waiting for

confirmation of the dates and venue in order to be in a position to submit the dates for the consideration and approval of the Bureau.

96. In the opinion of the Secretariat, it is advisable to determine the dates of the next meeting of the Contracting Parties as early as possible in order to give advance notice to the Contracting Parties in view of other commitments which they may have for the same period.

## **5. Communication and Media Relations**

97. Initially, activities carried out during the period covered by this report have focused on reviewing the needs of the communication unit, producing selected materials and handling media relations on the occasion of World Environment Day, the Lebanon oil spill, and Clean up the Med initiatives.

### Participation in the drafting of the UNEP GEO 4 publication

98. MEDU attended the 3-day meeting in Geneva for the drafting of the GEO4 publication, to be issued in 2007. One key issue was raised during this working session was the fact that the Mediterranean has a specific identity and therefore should be addressed as such, and not split between Europe, Africa and Middle East. There is a common cultural, social and economic heritage that should be acknowledged and represented by UNEP in its publications about the state of the world's environment.

### A dynamic communication approach

99. The current communication tools of MEDU proved in several circumstances to be not always news-oriented and dynamic to provide the media with the immediate information and news-oriented content that they are after. Throughout the different communication tools (MedWaves, press releases, MAP publications, etc.) it appeared a lack of consistency in the way the identity is used.

100. It is therefore intended to adopt a different image in both the website as well as the overall communication appearance.

### Website homepage and structure

101. During the summer 2006 it appeared clearly that the current website no longer corresponds to the communication goals of MAP. The Lebanese oil spill crisis highlighted the need for a more immediate and accessible information, that journalists struggled to find on the MAP's website. Not only UNEP HQ indicated in writing that the MAP website does not respect the set up indications for UNEP's agencies websites, but it also appeared that it does not apply the basic rule of "maximum 3 clicks" to access data. It was therefore decided to launch a fast upgrading process, to make MAP website easier to navigate and information available already via the homepage.

102. The upgraded site is being implemented in English, French and Arabic, and it will integrate in the future the ongoing work developed by regional activities centres on information technologies issues, when that input will be ready for implementation. The upgraded site integrates RACs websites links and other projects developed by regional activities centres.

### 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention Exhibition

103. MEDU has worked on an exhibition concept to illustrate the work done over the past thirty years and the challenges to come. The exhibition focused on the beauty and richness of the Mediterranean region, acknowledging initially the main threats to the ecosystem.

104. The exhibition consisted of 8 sections plus a "pollution room" and is built around strong visuals, with short texts. It also integrated videos and sounds, making it an interactive experience for the visitor. Materials and data provided by the RACs were also on display. To accompany the exhibition a poster has been designed, as well as free postcards distributed in the city of Athens to publicize the event. Greek Government Ministers, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, staff of UN agencies and other guests were invited. A pre-recorded message from the Executive Director of UNEP was shown to the invited audience.

105. A press conference was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> October for the media to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in conjunction with UN Day (24<sup>th</sup> October), when the opening event was organized, under the patronage of Ms Dora Bakoyannis, Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs.

### Publications and Media Events

- **2 Medwaves** issues published in October, partially integrating the new design and aiming at being a more dynamic magazine.
- **MTS 164** and **MTS 167** completed. The MTS will now be available as CD Roms, with executive summaries on the cover, and the full report accessible online, with direct links to specific sections via the table of contents.
- **MED POL brochure on NAPs** + CD Rom published for the Beijing Conference.
- news releases published since May 2006
- press conferences organized + 1 media briefing
- Organization of a media session during the Workshop on Sustainable Development, MCSD.
- Organization of a joint event with Clean up the World, Helmepe and MIO to launch the clean up activities supported by UNEP in the Mediterranean with a press conference in Athens and local clean up activities around Greece. This also received extensive media coverage (included on BBC TV and radio).

### Media Relations

- The list of MEDU media contacts has been updated and several new entries have been added.

The media list consists of Greek national media, foreign correspondents in Greece, and environmental-focus media in the Mediterranean countries. Additions concern also media based in Brussels and the US with an interest in Mediterranean issues.

- MAP was the key contact point for the media during the Lebanon oil spill crisis. Daily conference coordination with UNEP HQ and other international organizations took place during July and August; major international media coverage ensued (print, TV, radio, agencies; mainstream media in Mediterranean countries, but also worldwide including US, Australia, Japan, wider Europe and others).

An international press conference for the announcement of the Lebanon Plan of Action was organised in Athens by MAP on behalf of UNEP and IMO in Athens, with UNEP Executive Director, IMO Secretary General, UNEP/MAP Coordinator, a representative of the EC and Lebanon Ministry of Environment.

- A 3-day familiarization visit to the MEDU was organized for Mr Ray Bugeja, Editor of the Times (Malta). During his visit to MEDU, Mr Bugeja had one to one meetings with the different programme officers to get a more in depth understanding of MAP issues.

This kind of activity will be organized again in 2007, inviting journalists from other Contracting Parties, in order to extend the constructive interaction and to involve the media into MAP issues, and sustainable development in particular.

### Library

106. MAP Library has been developing a partnership between European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres, the Mediterranean Marine and Aquatic Libraries and Information Centres Network and IOC/IODE Programme.

## **6. Financial and Personnel Matters**

### **6.1 Financial matters**

#### **6.1.1 Remittance of Contributions**

107. The status of the Mediterranean Trust Fund as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 was as follows:

- Total pledges of ordinary contributions for 2006: € 6.612,423
- Total collections during 2006 for 2006: € 6,005,880 (90.83 % of 2006 pledges).
- Total of unpaid pledges for 2005 & prior years: € 775,980;
- Total of collections during 2006 for prior years: € 159,453 (20.55 % of outstanding pledges).

108. Details of payments and outstanding contributions are at Annex IV to this report.

#### **6.1.2 Additional Funds**

109. The following additional voluntary contributions were received by the Secretariat:

- An in-cash voluntary contribution from the European Commission to MEDPOL for the "Implementation of the ecosystem approach in the Mediterranean Sea - Development of Environmental Quality Objectives (ECOMED project) amounting to Euro 80,000.
- The Cypriot authorities have contributed in cash CYP 40,000 (Euro 70,000) for the organization of the 11<sup>th</sup> MCSD meeting held in Nicosia, Cyprus on 24-26 May 2006.
- An in-cash voluntary contribution by the Spanish Azahar Foundation in the framework of the MCSD Programme for "Preparation for the Implementation of National Strategies in Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia" amounting to Euro 150,000.
- An in-cash voluntary contribution of 40.000 Euro is expected from Italy for the organization of the Extraordinary Meeting of the MAP Focal Points, which will take place in Catania, Italy.

### 6.1.3 Programme Budget of MAP

110. Projects for the biennium 2006-2007 are being implemented by MEDU, MEDPOL and all the RACs, in line with the budgets as approved by the Contracting Parties.

### 6.2 Personnel matters

**Deputy Coordinator** (Post No: MEL-2322-2904-2664-1102-00): the post is frozen until the next contracting Parties Meeting (Spain, 2007)

**MEDPOL Coordinator** (Post No: MEL-2322-2918-2664-1101-00): the post has been reclassified at the D-1 level on 1 May 2006. The recruitment process is ongoing.

**GEF Project Manager** (Post No: QGL-2328-4727-2731-1101-00): the incumbent of the post, Mr. A. Baric, retired at the end of June 2006.

**Sustainable Development Officer** (Post No: MEL-2322-2904-2664-1120-00): the post warrants a L-4 level. The recruitment process is ongoing: the vacancy announcement has been posted on the Galaxy system and the deadline for submission of applications is 31 October 2006.

**Information Officer** (Post No: MEL-2322-2904-2664-1105-00): the incumbent of the post, Ms. Luisa Colasimone, an Italian national, reported for duty on 2 May 2006.

**Budget Assistant** (Post No: OTO-27800-EL-L005): the post has been reclassified at level G-7 and the vacancy announcement will be made soon.

**Administrative Assistant** (Post No: OTO 27800 EL-L009): this new OTO post at G6 level was opened as of 1 January 2006 and has been encumbered by Ms. Jacqui Attwood. Ms Attwood was already a staff member at MEDU.

**Administrative Assistant** (Post No: OTO-27800-EL-L004): post was recently advertised on the Galaxy and selection process is ongoing.

**Administrative Clerk** (Post No: OTO-27800-EL-L003): the post has been reclassified at level G-6 level. The post is now called **Administrative Assistant** and the vacancy announcement will be made in the near future.

**MEDPOL Secretary** (Post No: MEL-2322-2918-2664-1301-00): since the retirement of Ms. Dora Havnen on 31 August 2006, the post has been encumbered by a temporary assistant.

**Secretary to the Coordinator** (Post No: CAL-2322-2905-2664-1301-00): post was recently advertised on the Galaxy and selection process is ongoing.

**Administrative Clerk** (Post No: OTO-27800-EL-L006): the post has been reclassified at G-5 level and the vacancy announcement will be made in the near future.

**Secretary to MEDU Programme Officer** (Post No: CAL-2322-2905-2664-1306-00): the post, currently encumbered by a temporary assistant, has been advertised locally (internally and externally). Deadline for submission of applications is 29 September 2006.

**Consultants** working at UNEP/MAP premises:

- Mr. Philippe Alirol's mission to follow up on MCSD issues has been extended till 31 November 2006.
- Ms. Virginie Hart was hired as regional expert for the GEF PDF-B project in January 2006. Her contract expires on 31 October 2006.
- Ms. Giovanna Agostinelli is seconded by the Italian Ministry of the Environment Territory and the Sea as regional expert for the GEF PDG-B & MEDPOL projects for a year (June 2006 - May 2007).

## **7. Pollution Prevention and Control**

### **7.1 Combating Land based Pollution**

#### **7.1.1 Assessment of pollution**

111. The monitoring programmes initiated during MED POL Phase III were extended throughout the year 2006 and their implementation continued with no basic changes including the regular provision of data. No new monitoring agreements or revisions were in fact negotiated since the MED POL Phase IV operational details are under preparation and are expected to be presented for discussion at the forthcoming Extraordinary Meeting of MED POL Coordinators tentatively schedule for March 2007. The implementation of the requirements of the European Water Framework Directive(WFD) is being taken into account.

112. Concerning data flow to MED POL, France informed the Secretariat that they are considering to sign an agreement in this regard starting from 2006. They will base the agreement on the requirements of the WFD and MED POL Phase IV. Egypt signed an agreement for the implementation of a new pilot programme on trend monitoring of contaminants.

113. Following a request by the Secretariat for data, addressed to the countries that did not participate in Phase III, Italy provided contaminant data for coastal water sediments and biota as well as eutrophication data for the period of 2001-2005. France had already provided contaminant data on biota for 1996-2003 in 2004 and it was confirmed that this data set would be completed to cover 2005 as well. Monaco provided compliance monitoring reports for bathing waters for the period 1996-2005 and also an inventory of biological effects studies done for the period 2000-2005. Morocco, who signed a monitoring agreement with MED POL in 2004, completed its data sets of trace metals on biota with data as from 1998. These additional data, together with the data regularly provided to MED POL, have substantially improved and in some cases completed the existing regional database to be used for assessments, for the preparation of the Information System and other publications. Data is soon expected from Spain.

114. As a follow up to the agreed MED POL work programme, work started on the preparation of a new updated Eutrophication Assessment Report. Questionnaires were sent out to country experts and MED POL National Coordinators. Until now, 14 countries have successfully replied to the questionnaire. The report will be prepared by the Secretariat in cooperation with national experts and institutions. Some small expert meetings were organized and by the end of 2006 a larger meeting will be held to discuss the first draft of the report.

115. In relation to the organization of sub-regional surveys for the better understanding of the contamination level of the Mediterranean coastal waters, the second leg of the Mytilos project was accomplished to cover the South Western Mediterranean coastal waters. The kick-off meeting of Mytimed Project was held on 2-3 October 2006 with the participation of all the partners covering the North East Mediterranean.

116. A Meeting was held in Cyprus on 30 September-1 October with MOON and MED GOOS to further establish cooperation with MAP and MED POL for the use of the existing products related to operational oceanography. The available products and data are expected to be utilized by all MAP components.

#### 7.1.2 Pollution control

117. In the framework of the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), MED POL organized a meeting in Durres, Albania, on 6-10 June 2006 to review with national MEDPOL coordinators and the relevant national experts the long-term process of implementation of the National Action Plans (NAPs) to address land-based sources pollution endorsed by the last Meeting of Contracting Parties in 2005. The Durres meeting reviewed a preliminary assessment of the feasibility of the implementation of burden sharing principles and differentiation to facilitate the implementation of the NAPs. The differentiation process presented by the Secretariat was based on the cost of abatement of pollution from industrial installations and a set of regional flexibility measures. The meeting noted the Secretariat's proposal but concluded that there was a need for additional work to assess the feasibility of the burden sharing principles on the basis of additional socio-economic and ecosystem criteria. The meeting decided to establish a Working Group of Government-designated experts to review the work of the Secretariat and define its Terms of References. The Working Group should meet before the MED POL national coordinators meetings in March and June 2007 in order to agree on a proposal to be submitted to the MAP Focal Points and Contracting Parties meetings in 2007. As the Meeting of the Working Group had not been foreseen in the approved MED POL work plan and budget, financial assistance is sought from countries.

118. MED POL was actively involved in the preparation of the project Brief of the new GEF Strategic Partnership. MED POL proposed a number of activities related to the implementation of SAP (abatement of industrial pollution, PCBs disposal, sustainable financial mechanisms and litter management). These activities, if properly implemented during the full-scale project, would pave the way for the effective implementation of the NAPs in key sectors.

119. After fine tuning made in consultation with the relevant countries, the data and information on pollution sources contained in the Baseline Budget of pollution emissions and releases prepared by all countries were included in a database which is being incorporated in the one already existing at MED POL. In this context, work continued with the support of INFO/RAC on the preparation of an Internet portal for a GIS-based Information System which will cover all MED POL information and data on levels and sources of pollution.

120. MEDPOL finalized a-country based assessments on the availability and quality of data and information related to a number of Marine Pollution Indicators. The assessment showed that, to different extents, more efforts should be made to strengthen countries' capacities to generate data and information.

121. In cooperation with the Basel Convention Secretariat and its regional Centre in Bratislava together with the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the first phase of the feasibility study

related to the environmental management of lubricating oils in the country was successfully completed. The study will be continued through a second phase that will be launched in 2007. MEDPOL will disseminate the methodology and the results of the project through the MAP web site.

122. As a follow up to the work carried out on litter management, including the preparation of Guidelines, MED POL, in cooperation with RAMOGE and a Lebanese NGO (the Union of Northern Association for Development, Environment and Patrimony - UNADEP), carried out a Pilot project on coastal litter management in Northern Lebanon. A national meeting was organized in April 2006 to disseminate the results of the project and ensure its replicability at national level. Additional pilot projects are planned in other Mediterranean countries.

123. In the framework of the implementation of PRTR system in the Mediterranean region, MED POL, in close cooperation with, and the financial support of, ICS-UNIDO, launched its third Mediterranean PRTR Pilot Project in Izmir, Turkey. A kick off meeting, held on 21-22 June in Izmir, developed the list of chemicals that would be addressed by the industrial partners involved, the role and duty of the stakeholders and the timetable for implementation. ICS-UNIDO is currently providing training to two experts from Turkey.

124. Two draft documents entitled "Appropriate sewage discharge" and "Sewage treatment for local administration", respectively reviewed, will be presented at the meeting of experts on the implementation of NAPs in relation to wastewater management, to be held in February 2007.

125. Work on the preparation of an updated assessment of bathing and shellfish-growing waters in the Mediterranean has started and twenty countries have already provided the available data to enable its finalization.

126. Following the recommendations of the last meeting of the network on compliance and enforcement, a draft document on indicators for inspections was prepared and a pilot study to test these indicators was launched in Slovenia, Israel and France. One national training course on environmental inspections is scheduled to be held in Slovenia in October and arrangements have started for a second one to be held in Montenegro. Upon request from the Syrian authorities, and with the technical and financial support of WHO/MED POL, a team of Egyptian environmental inspectors assisted the launching of inspection systems in Syria.

127. Within the framework of the GEF Strategic Partnership, a component was included in the Project Brief for implementation in the full-scale project of activities related to permits, inspections and compliance systems. The objective of the component is to enhance and strengthen the inspectorates in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Lebanon, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria and Turkey.

## 7.2 Combating Sea-based Pollution

### 7.2.1 Training and capacity building

128. The SAFEMED Project aims at reducing the discrepancies, mainly in the enforcement of maritime regulations, between EU countries as well as EU, acceding or associated countries and the countries of the EUROMED partnership.

129. During the period April-September 2006, the implementation of several tasks of the project was initiated. Unfortunately due to the situation in the Middle East the implementation of some activities has been delayed.

130. From 5-7 June 2006, REMPEC organized a regional training course in Malta on the IMO Bunkers Convention 2001 and related liability and compensation conventions. This activity was part of the SAFEMED project but was also extended to the other Contracting Parties since it was also included in the Centre's programme of activities for 2006-2007.

131. REMPEC participated in two sub-regional exercises, the RAMOGE "pollux 2006" and the OBSR (Opération Blanche Sous Régionale) 2006, organized by Algeria in the framework of the sub-regional agreement signed in 2005 between Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

132. A comprehensive training programme on prevention of pollution from ships has been developed in association with the World Maritime University (WMU), Sweden.

133. REMPEC in association with SPA/RAC has also worked closely with IMO in order to finalize and attract support from the Mediterranean States to the Global Partnership, a GEF funded programme.

#### 7.2.2 Assistance at national level

134. Following a request from the Lebanese Minister of Environment, REMPEC, in close co-operation with UNEP, UNEP/OCHA, IMO and other international parties, has been deeply involved in coordinating the regional and international assistance to Lebanon in response to the oil spill from the storage facility of the Jieih powerplant. This spill also reached the southern Syrian shoreline. Following a request of assistance from Syria, REMPEC activated its Mediterranean Assistance Unit and dispatched Dr Esio Amato from ICRAM to carry out an onsite assessment of the spill. Following the Co-ordination Meeting on the Response to the Marine Pollution Incident in the Eastern Mediterranean held in Piraeus on August 17th under the auspices of UNEP's Executive Director and IMO Secretary-General, REMPEC, in response to the request of the Lebanese Minister of Environment and with the assistance of France and IMO, deployed an expert to Lebanon to assist the Oil Spill Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC). Another expert, funded by IMO, was subsequently dispatched to Lebanon to assist in the co-ordination of the response operations.

135. The implementation of the agreement signed in December 2005 with Serbia and Montenegro was delayed due to the political changes. The activities scheduled for the first part of year 2006 had to be postponed. An agreement has been reached with the Montenegrin authorities in order to extend the contract by another 6 months.

#### 7.2.3 Cooperation of REMPEC with Partners

136. During the period under review, REMPEC has strengthened its relationship with MOIG, especially during the crisis in Lebanon. MOIG representative in Lebanon provided information about the situation which was extremely useful in order for REMPEC to plan its response to the crisis.

137. Cooperation with the EC in the field of satellite imagery has continued with REMPEC attending the meetings of the European group of experts on satellite monitoring and assessment of sea-based oil pollution.

138. Close contact with the EC's Civil Protection Mechanism Monitoring and Information Centre was maintained in the co-ordination of the response operations to the oil spill in Lebanon.

139. During the period REMPEC has also been in close contact with EMSA.

#### 7.2.4 Dissemination of information

140. In the context of the crisis in Lebanon, REMPEC forwarded updated information through its website and circulars to its focal points. Updated reports have also been sent to concerned entities.

#### 7.2.5 Financial and administrative matters of REMPEC

##### Financial matters

141. The Italian authorities have advanced 120,000 € to REMPEC to fund secondment of an Italian national for a period of 18 months at the level of L3.

##### Administrative matters

142. REMPEC is still in the process of moving offices from Manoel Island to Lascaris Wharf as it was announced to the Director in January 2006 by various Ministers of the Maltese Government. Despite REMPEC's attempt to have this issue settled, no developments occurred. However, REMPEC is pursuing the matter with the Maltese Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to establishing the date for the transfer to new premises.

##### Personnel matters

143. Under the EC funded MEDA SAFEMED Project, three long-term experts were recruited, namely:

1. Mr Albert Bergonzo, a French national, who commenced duties at the Centre as SAFEMED Project Officer – Maritime Administration with effect from 1 April, 2006;
2. Mr Joseph Zerafa, a Maltese citizen, who assumed duties as SAFEMED Project Officer – Maritime Safety on 1 May, 2006;
3. Mr Souhaïel Ben Mosbah, a Belgian citizen, who was appointed SAFEMED Project Officer, Accounting and Administration on 1 September, 2006.

144. Mr Darko Domovic has terminated his duties with REMPEC with effect from mid-July 2006 due to early retirement. He has been replaced by Mr Gabino Gonzalez, a Spanish national, who has been appointed as Programme Officer (Oil Pollution, Preparedness, Response and Co-operation) with effect from 19 June, 2006.

145. During summer, due to the oil spill in Lebanon and the request for assistance received from Lebanon, REMPEC had to seek short-term secondments in order to alleviate the heavy workload of the programme officers. These secondments were funded by IMO and the Governments of Canada and the UK and started from August 21st.

### 7.3 Cleaner production

146. During the period covered by this report, the following activities were carried out:

#### Preparation of a Guide for the implementation of a pollution prevention and control system (PPCS) based on BAT and BEP in the MAP countries

147. National experts from Egypt, Israel, Slovenia and Syria completed a questionnaire, which helped to determine the approach to be taken for the preparation of the guide, which includes a preliminary analysis of the situation in each of those countries with respect to the implementation of the PPCS, based on the analysis of a range of facilitating factors. The guide was developed during 2005 and is ready for publication.

#### Publication of an E-course on Pollution Prevention at Source in Enterprises

148. The publication, addressed to University students, is available in English, French and Spanish at <http://bcds.udg.es/Rigola/>.

#### Workshop on the implementation of the IPPC Directive in Adriatic countries

149. The workshop was held, on 5 and 6 June 2006, in Portoroz (Slovenia), as part of the international Conference for a Sustainable Development Strategy for the Adriatic. RAC/CP launched this initiative following the proposals of the National Focal Points of those countries, that had expressed their interest in exchanging their experience with other countries of the area and thus identifying common problems and needs, as well as main lines of action for future initiatives of collaboration among them to reinforce their capabilities to achieve an effective implementation of the IPPC Directive. A brief report of this workshop is presented as information document (UNEP/BUR/65 Inf.4)

#### Study on the state of the Art of Sustainable Production in the Mediterranean

150. The study reviews the progress that is being made in Mediterranean countries concerning the development of measures for controlling and reducing pollution from the industrial sector and promoting the application of Cleaner Production and other related mechanisms leading the sector to sustainable patterns of production. This study was published as MAP Technical Report.

#### Updating of the inventory on Hazardous Waste

151. Action was taken by RAC/CP to update the inventory on Hazardous Waste that is contained in the Regional Plan on Hazardous Waste and Study on options for Hazardous Waste Management.

#### "Training of trainers" workshop

152. This workshop was addressed to University professors dealing with pollution prevention issues, with the objective of promoting the introduction of eco-management studies in the University curricula. This event was held in Antalya (Turkey), 17, 18 and 19 September, as part of "The Blue Week" activities.

#### Seminar on pollution prevention in the Turkish industries

153. The Seminar was held on 21 September, in Tuzla (Turkey), also as part of "The Blue Week" activities.

#### Seminar on hazardous waste management

154. The Seminar was held within the framework of the AZAHAR project of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation on 2-6 October.

#### Updating of RAC/CP's databases of Cleaner technologies

155. The databases were updated with more than 80 new entries of technologies for metal machining, tanning, and discontinuous chemical industry.

### **8. Biological diversity and specially protected areas**

#### **8.1 Implementation of Action Plans adopted within MAP for threatened species and species management**

156. Field surveys were undertaken in the framework of the implementation of the Action Plans for threatened species:

- For the monk seal, two field surveys were run in Libya (22 May - 4 June 2006) and Algeria (summer 2006) in order to investigate the coastline and identify and characterise important stretches/caves.
- For sea turtles, nesting sites monitoring was undertaken in Sirte (Libya) and in Kuriate Island (Tunisia). The preliminary results of the Libyan survey, show that the Libyan coast might hold the biggest nesting population in the Mediterranean.
- Concerning marine vegetation, an inventory was realised in Ain Al-Ghazala and Farwa Lagoons (Libya, 2-14 May 2006), to identify their important biodiversity components and thus, help the efforts in declaring them as MPAs.
- In order to identify the existing colonies of *Sterna bengalensis*, a special field mission was conducted in Ghara and Elba Islands and Benghazi Lake (Libya, 1-7 August 2006).

157. Several meetings and conferences on the issues related to conservation of Mediterranean threatened species, were organised:

- A Conference on Monk Seal Conservation was organised in collaboration with INFO/RAC, Bern and Bonn Conventions, the Turkish Authorities, the Principality of Monaco, the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and SAD-AFAG (Antalya, 17-19 September 2006). The Conference objective was to exchange information on monk seal conservation experiences and catalyse the implementation of the two existing action plans for the management of the monk seal (within the Barcelona and the Bonn conventions).
- The MAP and RAC/SPA contributed to the organisation of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation (Crete, 3-8 April 2006), by supporting the participation of 41 Mediterranean experts.
- RAC/SPA has contributed to the organisation of the 6<sup>th</sup> European Seminar on Marine Mammals (Valencia, 11-15 September 2006) and supported the participation of Algerian and Montenegrin participants.

158. According to the recommendations of the Action Plans, awareness tools were elaborated and disseminated:

- The proceedings of the Workshop on Mediterranean Cartilaginous Fish (Istanbul, 14-16 October 2005) in collaboration with the Turkish Marine Research Foundation.
- A poster on Mediterranean elasmobranchs.
- An illustrated version of the Action Plan on Cartilaginous Fishes, accompanied by an annexed identification guide, kindly provided by FAO.
- A document on the reviewed status of Mediterranean chondrichthyan species.

159. In order to reduce the threats on endangered species, guidelines were elaborated:

- The Guidelines for Monitoring and Management Plans for the Mediterranean Threatened Bird Species.
- The Guidelines for Reducing the Presence of Sensitive Chondrichthyan Species in By-catch.

160. Creation or updating of Directories of Institutions, Organisations and Experts has been performed concerning marine mammals (updating), cartilaginous fishes and coastal and marine birds (elaboration).

161. Protocols to record cartilaginous fish catch, as well as data on rare or endangered species were elaborated.

## Projects

### MedPosidonia

162. With the aim of running a 3-year Project to develop the inventorying, mapping and monitoring of *Posidonia* meadows in Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Turkey, RAC/SPA signed a Sponsorship Agreement with the Total Corporate Foundation for the Biodiversity and the Sea. A preliminary mission to Libya, aiming to discuss the project implementation modalities, took place at mid-June (13 -19 June 2006).

### GloBallast Partnerships

163. In the framework of the 5-year IMO-GEF-UNDP GloBallast Partnerships Project (2007-2011), RAC/SPA and REMPEC are playing the role of regional coordinating organisation for the Mediterranean. In that context, they participated to the GloBallast Partnerships Project Task Force Meeting (London, 6-7 July 2006), which permitted the discussion and finalisation of the Project Document before its submission to the GEF.

## 8.2 Marine Protected Areas

164. The development of MPAs in Libya aims at identifying sites of conservation interest along the Libyan coast and setting up a mid-term programme for establishing a representative network of MPAs. The activity is being implemented as follows:

- A process to launch the creation of two marine and coastal protected areas. In that context, a field mission was carried out during June 2006 to collect data on the two identified sites: Farwa Lagoon and Ghara Island.
- An inventory of marine sites of conservation interest and elaboration of a programme for establishing a national network of marine and coastal protected areas.

165. The RAC/SPA, the Spanish Authorities, the University of Alicante and the Institute of Studies and Cooperation for the Mediterranean Region (IECOMED) organised a "Study and

Information Day on SPAMIs" (Alicante, 11 May 2006). The activity included three roundtables that dealt with the situation and perspectives of present SPAMIs and the priority areas that could enhance the SPAMI Network. Representatives of Cyprus and Syria expressed their interest in proposing one new SPAMI each, during the 2007 SPA Focal Point meeting.

166. During the "SPAMI Information Day", Spain announced its intention to propose either Cabrera Archipelago or Cabo de Gata-Nijar for the SPAMI evaluation procedure that is being developed in collaboration with IUCN. RAC/SPA invited the other Parties to propose another voluntary SPAMI for evaluation, recalling that the objective of this exercise is to test the procedure and not to strictly evaluate the SPAMIs.

167. RAC/SPA elaborated a Book on Economic Aspects of Marine Protected Areas, intended as a guide to managers to help them optimize the economic issues that affect their protected areas, and finalised the electronic edition of the "Guidelines for the Establishment and Management of Specially Protected Areas".

### 8.3 SAP Bio

168. RAC/SPA contributed towards for the preparation of a full sized GEF project proposal regarding biodiversity, together with its partners, FAO and WWF, for the "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem". The proposal is focused on marine protected areas, fisheries resources preservation and legal reforms needed to achieve this objective. Within that frame, the SAP BIO Advisory Committee was re-launched in a meeting, held on 19 April 2006, at RAC/SPA in Tunis (Tunisia), and a meeting of SAP BIO National Correspondents was organised to inform, discuss and get inputs on the actions being carried out. The meeting was held in Alicante (Spain), on 12-13 May 2006.

169. The final biodiversity document was delivered to MAP end of July 2006. It has been merged with the components by other members of the Strategic Partnership and is being evaluated by GEF.

170. RAC/SPA undertook a study on stakeholder involvement and implementation arrangements for the full sized project, and identified key regional partners to support financially regional priorities.

171. An assessment was initiated on Mediterranean countries' needs for legal, policy and institutional reforms to strengthen the management of existing marine protected areas.

### 8.4 Other activities

#### Biodiversity Data Management

172. In order to facilitate data collection and circulation, special attention were given to the updating of the website and the elaboration of various media (a Digital Model of Terrain of the Mediterranean Sea; CD-ROMs on the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles, the SAP BIO, the Colloquium on Red Coral). RAC/SPA is also testing and adapting the European Commission Clearing House Mechanism Portal Kit on its server.

173. RAC/SPA supported the Directorate of Nature Resources Management and Biodiversity (Albanian Ministry of Environment) to support the project ALWET "Capacity Building on Conservation of Albanian Wetland Ecosystems" to acquire the ArcView package in order to build

a GIS on data collected on wetland ecosystem in Albania and as part of a national inventory of habitats of conservation interest.

#### Capacity-building

174. RAC/SPA funded the participation of trainees from Israel (1), Libya (1), Malta (1), Morocco (1), Syria (1) and Tunisia (1) at the training course on marine turtle conservation (Lara station, July and August 2006), in cooperation of the Cyprus Wildlife Society and with the support of the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research.

#### Protection of the Coralligenous, other Calcareous Bio-Concretions and Corals

175. According to the recommendations of the Contracting Parties, a programme of work to protect the Coralligenous, other Calcareous Bio-Concretions and Corals is under preparation. Within this framework, an Ad hoc meeting and a Mediterranean Colloquium were organized (Tabarka, Tunisia, 5-8 May 2006) to outline the programme of work and take stock of the situation of red coral in order to propose conservation measures and recommendations on its exploitation.

## **9. Environment and Development**

### 9.1 Integrated Coastal Zones Management

#### 9.1.1 Implementation of CAMPs

##### CAMP "Slovenia"

176. The project CAMP Slovenia was in full implementation phase and started to enter its final stages during the reporting period. Activities related to SPA/RAC and BP/RAC were completed, as well as some of the activities under PAP/RAC co-ordination, such as final reports on water resources protection and urban development. The activity related to tourism was also completed and comments and suggestions provided to the consultants in order to improve the document. The only activity still pending is the Regional concept of spatial development. Due to the restructuring of the existing spatial planning system and the proposed changes of the related law in Slovenia. In addition, the SEA for this regional plan will be carried out once the methodology is provided by the MoE. The completion of this major activity was discussed several times at the MoE and solutions were found in order to complete this major activity. All these activities and results were well integrated in the Regional Development Programme for 2007-2013, which was in preparation in parallel to CAMP activities in the Primorska region. This shows a good level of co-ordination between the various ministries and institutions responsible for economic development and environmental protection, which should result in well elaborated CAMP outputs.

177. A meeting of the Steering Committee took place, as well as the meeting of the Project Advisory Board. They both discussed the results of the completed activities and gave guidance to the on-going ones. Several other meetings and workshops with local communities and experts, including the international one provided by PAP/RAC, took place. It is expected that in the following months, and most likely early in 2007, the Final Presentation Conference will be held.

#### CAMP "Cyprus"

178. The project in Cyprus is progressing well. In June 2006, the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment announced the tender for National Specialists to co-operate with MAP International Consultants in implementing various CAMP Cyprus activities. Six national specialists have been selected following a competitive process and the evaluation of their proposals. The CAMP Steering Committee Meeting was held in July, attended by 24 officials from various Ministries. The participants at the meeting placed CAMP Cyprus within the framework of ICZM Protocol and related regional policy frameworks, and presented the timeframe of activities. Also, they took note of the selection of the MAP Consultants for each activity and the co-operation expected between the MAP Consultants and the National Specialists. Particular attention was given to the role of the Team Leaders as advisers who will ensure that CAMP outputs will reflect to the highest degree the needs of the Cyprus Government. For the purpose of planning and co-ordination, and demonstration of the readiness for starting substantive actions on CAMP Cyprus, a calendar template was sent to the MAP Consultants.

#### CAMP "Levante de Almeria", Spain

179. Finalization and approval of the Agreement for this CAMP was given priority by PAP/RAC and the Spanish counterparts. A final draft prepared in English has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment for approval. The text was translated into Spanish and it is expected that by the end of 2006 the Agreement for CAMP Levante de Almeria will be signed and its implementation launched. PAP/RAC director had a meeting with the regional authorities in September and it was agreed that they will explore possibilities to speed up the process for the approval of the agreement.

#### CAMP "Morocco"

180. After the "Prior-to-CAMP" Workshop, organized in Fes, in February 2006, PAP/RAC started to draft the project Agreement. The suggestions and comments made at that meeting regarding the Feasibility Study for CAMP Morocco were taken into account. The draft Agreement was sent to the Moroccan authorities for comments in July. It is expected that in the coming months, the final text of the Agreement will be ready for signature.

#### CAMP "Montenegro"

181. After the decision of the Contracting Parties at their 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting in Portoroz (November 2005) to start preliminary activities for CAMP Montenegro, PAP/RAC is planning to organize a meeting with the relevant authorities from Montenegro. A group of representatives will visit PAP/RAC in early October to discuss the necessary steps to be undertaken in order to formulate this project.

#### 9.1.2 Other Activities of PAP/RAC

182. The Expert meeting to Identify priority actions for Integrated Coastal Management, within the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystems Regional Component was held in the premises of PAP/RAC, on April 25-26, 2006. The meeting was attended by 14 participants, including the representatives of beneficiary countries, i.e. Albania, Croatia, Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey, as well as UNEP/MAP, PAP/RAC and invited experts. The meeting was part of the PDF B phase of the project. The meeting discussed the National Overviews and sub-regional Policy Briefs prepared prior to the meeting; the priority actions for ICZM in the region, in view of the forthcoming ICZM Protocol and reaching

an agreement of the specific demonstration areas; and the structure and contents of Policy Briefs and the Full Project Brief.

183. Within the SMAP III project "Promoting Awareness and Enabling a Policy Framework for Environment and Development Integration in the Mediterranean with Focus on Integrated Coastal Management", a brainstorming meeting took place in Split, on April 3-4, 2006. Sixteen participants, including the representatives of SMAP III TA, RMSU, METAP, BP and PAP, and a selected group of international consultants attended the meeting. The participants discussed the Project Implementation Manual and provided numerous valuable proposals for the development of the MAP/METAP project. In the following months, contracts for national and international ICZM experts were prepared. National consultants are contracted in Morocco, Jordan, Syria and Algeria, while international consultants are contracted to work in Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco. An international expert for ICZM Marketing was contracted, and the Marketing strategy for ICZM prepared and sent to partners and national teams for their comments. On June 22, a co-ordination meeting of PAP/RAC and METAP was held in Split. Few marketing agencies were contacted regarding the media products for the project. A "Largeblue" agency was selected and 2 meetings of PAP ICZM Marketing consultant with the agency were held on July 12 and September 13.

184. A call for selection of the NGO partners for organizing the Coast Day in the framework of the Awareness raising component of the SMAP III was announced on July 11. In total 26 NGOs applied and during September MoUs were prepared for signature. Prior to this, PAP/RAC sent the project information, as well as the proposals for co-operation to 8 national ICZM projects, and asked national teams to provide their proposals for collaboration. This resulted in some forms of collaboration with 5 national projects. PAP/RAC representative participated at the Co-ordination meeting in Brussels in September and presented the project to SMAP Correspondents.

185. PAP/RAC has been implementing the study and a plan "Integrated Coastal Development Study and Plan for the Southern Coastal Region" in Albania. The project is currently in its final stage. This experience will provide PAP/RAC with a significant insight into the post-CAMP period, as well as give it the opportunity to intervene and propose actions to the Albanian Government with regard to tourism development of the area. The project is financed by the Albanian Government – Ministry for Territorial Adjustment and Tourism and the World Bank.

186. In the frame of the Landscape management activity, two thematic projects were launched in order to put in practice landscape management methodologies and tools, which will later serve as the basis for a guidelines to be prepared at a later stage. Terms of Reference were prepared and contracts signed. These are the projects in Tunisia and Croatia, namely, "Characterization of landscapes in Tunisian coastal areas", and "Revitalizing of the agricultural landscape on the Island of Korcula, Croatia".

187. PAP/RAC continues with the preparation of national reports on ICAM in respective Mediterranean countries. Currently, the preparation of the report for Croatia is under way.

188. In the frame of the beach management activity, PAP/RAC prepared Terms of Reference and signed a contract for the preparation of the "Beach Management Guidelines Applicable to the Mediterranean Region". The draft text will be presented at a workshop to experts/beach managers/planners from Mediterranean coastal states. On the basis of their comments, the final text will be produced and the guidelines published. The final text should be submitted to PAP/RAC tentatively by March 2007.

189. The LIFE project entitled DESTINATIONS, prepared by PAP/RAC and submitted to the EC for approval, was accepted and the start of its implementation with other partners is expected soon. The project is focused on sustainable tourism and Carrying Capacity Assessment methodology to be applied in the Maghreb countries, namely, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria.

190. PAP/RAC is a partner to the Education in Coastal Management for the Mediterranean - Educom@Med project, founded by EU under Tempus Joint European Projects. The objective of this project is to prepare a joint post-graduate course on ICZM. The course will start on November 6, 2006. From June 7-9, the co-ordination meeting of the Educom@Med project was held at the University of Split. PAP/RAC and other project partners participated at the meeting where the programme curriculum was reviewed, as well as the modules layout. The participants were introduced to e-learning platform and sessions' development tools. On September 20-22, the co-ordination meeting was held at UPO Seville. Representatives of the partners, namely, the University of Seville, the University of Venice, the University of Split, the Faculty of Economics and PAP/RAC participated at the meeting. On this occasion, the programme curriculum, as well as the modules of the programme, were reviewed. During the module presentation, ideas for integration were discussed and action points for the partners developing the modules defined. The participants used the e-learning platform to place their products and to use other sessions' development tools. The next meeting for the scientific co-ordination is scheduled for October 18. Finally, options for marketing improvement were discussed. PAP/RAC presented the programme for the field trip, which will take place in June 2007 in Slovenia and will be based on the experience of CAMP Slovenia.

191. The first run of the Advanced MedOpen course in French (an internet-based training course on ICAM in the Mediterranean) was officially closed on May 3, 2006. In total, 16 candidates participated in the course, and six were awarded the MedOpen Certificate. The certificate was handed over to the participants who successfully completed the four main tasks of the course: twelve quiz tests, participation in the Simulation Game, participation in the Forum and submission of the final paper. Currently, the on-going MedOpen activities are Basic courses in English and French that are permanently available to all those interested in Integrated Coastal Area Management. The English version of the Basic course is available at <http://www.medopen.org/> and the French version is available at <http://www.medopen.org/fra/>.

192. PAP/RAC is a partner in the PlanCoast project, which is an abbreviation for the "Spatial Planning in Coastal Zones" project. It is an Interreg III B CADSES project, involving 16 partners from 11 countries of three European regions, namely the Adriatic, the Baltic and the Black Seas. PAP/RAC participated at the kick-off meeting that took place in Ancona, Italy (13-15 July 2006). The objective of the PlanCoast project is to enhance the sustainable development of the coastal zones of all these regions. It will help strengthen the implementation of ICZM in EU coastal zones by enhancing the role of marine planning within ICZM. PAP/RAC will contribute to PlanCoast with its expertise in studying the completely new field of spatial planning of marine areas, i.e. marine spatial planning. In this frame, PAP/RAC will organize a Mediterranean conference on Marine Spatial Planning to take place in Split, Croatia, in May 2007.

193. PAP/RAC is involved in the CONSCIENCE project as a partner. The project will be implemented under EU 6th Framework Programme with Delft Hydraulics, Netherlands, as the Lead Partner. Its strategic objective is to develop and test concepts, guidelines and tools for the sustainable management of erosion along the European coastline, based on best available scientific knowledge and on existing practical experience. PAP/RAC will, among other tasks, co-

ordinate the End-User Advisory Group to guarantee optimal communication between the scientists working in the project and the end users.

194. The PAP/RAC web site [www.pap-thecoastcentre.org](http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org) was redesigned and restructured in order to introduce some fresh technological solutions and to make the site more user friendly and informative. The information on the site is constantly updated.

## 9.2 Environment and Development

### 9.2.1 New Director for the Blue Plan

195. Mr Henri-Luc Thibault took up his duties as Blue Plan Director on 1st September 2006. He is succeeding Guillaume Benoit who had occupied the post for the past eight years. An agricultural engineer (Water and Forests) with a Doctorate in Agro-Economics, Henri-Luc Thibault has held many international posts in Development Cooperation and the Environment. For four years he was head of international affairs in the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development.

### 9.2.2 Environmental Statistics

196. The final forum MEDSTAT-Environment (MED-Env) on environmental statistics of the Mediterranean countries, partners of the European Union, was organized by the Blue Plan in close cooperation with the Jordanian Department of statistics (DOS) on 13 and 14 June 2006 in Amman (Jordan). The forum was the closing event of the second phase of the Euro-Mediterranean statistics cooperation project MED-Env which had started in March 2003.

197. In this final forum many international organizations and active stakeholders in the field of environment participated. It was an occasion to present and assess the main findings of the MED-Env project and to debate the integration of environmental statistics in the MEDSTAT II ongoing process, as well as the links between environment and other sectors such as transport, tourism, energy and agriculture.

198. The forum thus aimed at highlighting the results of MED-Env for the benefit of users and integrating this project and its findings within the framework of sustainable development. The national statistics publications put out by the National Statistics Institutes of the Mediterranean countries within the framework of the project were presented, along with the 2005 regional summary of environmental statistics in the Mediterranean countries.

### 9.2.3 Follow-up of progress achieved in the implementation of sustainable development

199. In this connection, the Blue Plan activities concerned the sustainable development indicators and three of the main themes adopted in the report and/or the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

#### Sustainable development indicators

200. Methodology sheets were prepared and disseminated by the Blue Plan in May 2006 to facilitate familiarization with the 34 priority follow-up indicators of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. Currently, the Blue Plan is collecting the data already provided by the countries to the specialized international organizations.

### Thematic activities

201. After the publication of the Report in Environment and Development and the adoption of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, the Blue Plan launched in 2006 thematic activities corresponding to the priority fields identified in these documents.

202. The activities are organized in 2-year cycles. The first year is the "technical" phase during which, in cooperation with the other RACs of MAP, the specialized regional organizations and national experts, an analysis, by sector, is carried out of progress accomplished (indicators, good practices), progress possible, obstacles met and tools for implementation.

203. From this point of view, 2006 is basically a "technical" year mainly devoted to the themes of "water" and "energy/climate change".

### Water

204. On 15 September 2006, the meeting of the Scientific Committee of the 3rd regional workshop on water and sustainable development in the Mediterranean was held in Sophia Antipolis; the workshop focused on water demand management ("Follow-up of progress and promotion of policies for the management of water demand").

205. The objectives of the meeting were:

- to specify the organization modalities of the regional workshop scheduled for March 2007;
- to review progress on the national reports and regional studies;
- to review summaries of papers proposed.

206. Representatives of the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME), the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), CIHEAM, Expo Aqua Zaragoza 2008, France, Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia all participated in the meeting.

207. At the invitation of the Expo Agua Zaragoza 2008, the Regional Workshop on Water and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean will be the second international forum organized within the framework of the Water Forum.

### Energy and climate change

208. On 5 May 2006, the Blue Plan jointly with UMET organized in Paris a regional workshop on the Mechanism for Sustainable Development (MSD) in the Southern Mediterranean countries.

209. In the workshop about 30 experts and representatives of several institutions participated including: ADEME (Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Energie – France), CEA (Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique – France), OME (Mediterranean Observatory on Energy), IMET (Italian Environment Ministry), IEPF (Institut de l'Energie et de l'Environnement de la Francophonie), CDER (Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables – Morocco), ANME (Agence Nationale de Maîtrise de l'Energie – Tunisia), CIEDE (Cellule d'Information sur l'Energie Durable et l'Environnement – Tunisia), CDC (Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations – France), OECC (Spanish Bureau on Climate Change – Ministry of the Environment – Spain), ICF (Italian Carbon Fund – Italian Ministry of the Environment), International Cooperation Bureau of the Principality of Monaco, AFD (Agence Française de développement – France),

UNEP-TIED (United Nations Environment Programme – Technology, Industry and Economics Division), World Bank, MIES (Mission Interministérielle pour l'effet de serre – France) and RAC/CP (Regional Activity Centre/Cleaner Production of the Mediterranean Action Plan – Barcelona).

210. The workshop highlighted the current limits of the Mechanism for Sustainable Development (MSD) as a tool to finance projects (renewable energy, energy efficiency, projects on infrastructure and equipment low on carbon) in the Mediterranean region. It was stressed that there should be a linkage of the various financing mechanisms which would contribute to "clean development" for the Mediterranean and that one should go beyond the framework of market mechanisms that the MSD currently represents. The participants insisted on the need to reflect on the respective but complementary roles of the Public Funding for Development and the funding that could be mobilized on the basis of other international conventions on the environment from international, regional and national banks and other financial institutions; the objective would be to arrive at a coherent, transparent and balanced system of financing clean development around the Mediterranean.

### Tourism

211. At the invitation of the Blue Plan, experts on tourism from 12 Mediterranean States and representatives of international institutions met in Sophia Antipolis on 24 and 25 March 2006 to draft proposals for regional cooperation in the field of "Tourism and Sustainable Development".

212. The main idea discussed at that meeting was to organize at intervals to be determined "Mediterranean Meetings" with the participation of public and private, national and local stakeholders.

213. The discussion concluded with a consensus on the following points:

- The project "Mediterranean Meetings", as revised and amended by the experts is suitable to developing a cooperation mechanism;
- It would be an occasion of stocktaking in a continuous process of research and development carried out by academic and institutional teams;
- It is an ambitious, heavy and complex project which can only be implemented if the following major conditions are met:
  - to secure the endorsement of MAP;
  - to secure the support of international organizations;
  - to be taken on board and organized by a powerful stakeholder (country, national or regional capital);
  - to focus on the theme "sustainable tourist destination of the future";
  - to deal with technical and functional subjects;
  - to be organized at set intervals (annually seemed preferable);
  - to retain its main focus on the contribution of tourism to sustainable development;
  - to have a permanent secretariat with secure funding.

#### 9.2.4 Specific support to countries

214. The Blue Plan carried out a support mission to Libya on 18 and 19 July 2006. The main objectives were:

- to participate in the national workshop in order to:
  - present the main conclusions of the Blue Plan Report and to cover in greater detail the chapters Energy and Water;
  - invite the national experts to present the state of sustainable development in their country (trends and policies) in relation to the themes developed in the Blue Plan Report and the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;
  - open a debate on sustainable development (integrating environment and development;
- to meet and inform the experts chosen by the country to work on the national studies in the fields of Energy and Water (e.g. Libya's contribution to the activities of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development in these areas);
- to meet the experts appointed by the country to work on the indicators of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;
- to discuss modalities for the development of cooperation between Libya and RAC/BP.

215. This meeting was organized by the General Authority on Environment (EGA) and many institutions participated including those in charge of water, planning, agriculture, tourism, energy and coastal zone management.

### 9.3 Information and Communication

#### 9.3.1 Main Activities report

216. INFO/RAC has placed the promotion of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development at the core of its mission. The Strategy determines the political framework under which its activities are run. In particular, the Centre is developing an information and communication plan for the MSSD, which is currently lacking and needs to be properly addressed and fully integrated within the Strategy itself.

217. To achieve these objectives INFO/RAC has adopted a two-track approach:
- Developing the *Information and Communication Strategy* of the MSSD, and
  - Enhancing and launching a series of IC “pilot” activities aimed at validating the proposed IC strategy, including options for improvement based on lessons learned during the 2006-2007 biennium.

218. In this context, following recommendations ensuing from the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, three focus-areas were identified namely ICT, Information, Education, etc. and Building of Partnership etc.

#### 9.3.2 Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

219. ICT is centered on the “Collaborative Initiative to Develop a Common Information Infrastructure (InfoMAP) for the Exchange of Essential Information and Knowledge in the Mediterranean”.

220. InfoMAP is an integration of existing and upgraded (ICT) systems, organisational structures and business processes to create a shared infrastructure aimed at supporting countries through Information Sharing, Reporting and Monitoring & Assessment procedures within the frameworks of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) & Horizon 2020.

221. On the 23rd of January 2006, at the Meeting of the MED Unit and the Regional Activity Centres, held in Athens, INFO/RAC presented the InfoMAP Vision. To date, the InfoMAP Partnership Agreement has been signed by most MAP Components (with two signatures still pending: REMPEC and PAP/RAC), and endorsed/co-signed by the MAP Coordinator.

222. The Strategy document, and the Prototype working components of InfoMAP, which aim at raising user awareness of web portal tools and functionalities as well as demonstrating INTER-OPERABILITY with other key systems (EEA ReportNet; SMAP Clearinghouse, MedPol and others), are under development and are expected to be finalized by 2007.

223. In parallel, INFO/RAC is managing the MEDPOL Info System, INFO/RAC Web Site, GEF MED-LME Web Site and MSSD Web Site.

### 9.3.3 Information, Education, Public Participation and Awareness

224. The 30th Anniversary of the Barcelona Convention offered a unique opportunity and 'showcase' for the overall communication and information strategy for the MSSD and, more in general, for MAP activities as well as for the objectives of the Barcelona Convention.

225. Several activities have been or are being organized by INFO/RAC including audiovisual production/distribution (documentaries, promotional spots, VNRs for broadcasters, etc.), the organization of the Mediterranean Environment Award, BLUEweek-MEDday, publications, websites (including video-streaming), DVDs, media relations activities and other events.

226. The idea of having a series of UNEP/MAP events converging in a "BLUEweek-MEDday", held in Antalya-Turkey, between the 17th and 19th of September 2006, in support of the MSSD, has marked a significant step with respect to : a) the capacity to maximize the results of the actions carried out by the stakeholders and b) to promote and gain wide public support for the objectives of the MSSD, as well as bringing these objectives closer to decision-makers through an extensive awareness, information and communication effort.

227. For the occasion, the three Regional Activity Centres namely SPA/RAC, CP/RAC and INFO/RAC have joined forces, in collaboration with the Turkish Ministry of the Environment, to find synergies and links between their respective mandates - devoted to biodiversity conservation, cleaner industrial production and information and communication - and the objectives of the MSSD.

228. The objective of the International Conference was to exchange data and discuss conservation measures for:

- the protection of the Mediterranean Monk Seal (*Monachus monachus*), the world's rarest seal,
- the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the *Mediterranean Environmental Award* film festival
- the photo exhibition *Made in Med* and
- seminars on *Best Environmental Practices for the tanning industry* and on the introduction of *Eco-management* in University curricula.

229. Significantly, the BLUEweek-MEDday has been included as an official activity of the draft timetable of Horizon 2020 Initiative, in recognition of the fact that public awareness is essential to win citizen support for the successful implementation of government policies aimed at environmental protection and sustainable development.

230. A draft of the MSSD logo was designed and developed by INFO/RAC. The visibility and profile of the MSSD was significantly raised through the acquisition of dedicated advertising space in the main national newspapers in Cyprus, Greece and Italy. INFO/RAC contacted some of the main international advertising agencies for joint consultations regarding the definition of the IC strategy of the MSSD. World-famous advertising agencies, namely Saatchi and Saatchi, Bates, McCann Erickson and Leo Burnett, have agreed to a joint brainstorming session and a collaborative effort to come up with the creative layout for an awareness raising campaign for the MSSD.

231. A first experimental web site of MSSD activities was developed and made available to the general public on [www.medstrategy.org](http://www.medstrategy.org). UNEP/MAP Components and a wider user community are now able to follow the progress of activities of the Centres. The site includes all IC Pilot Projects (EcoMedia Magazine, Med Award, MEDday, Forum...) and a new on-line multimedia window presenting events, photo gallery, press reviews, etc. The intranet area has also been improved to allow all MAP Components to directly update all the information and contents of the websites produced by their Centre.

232. A special issue of EcoMedia Magazine was produced through the sectoral collaboration between INFO/RAC and the Italian editor of the monthly magazine FOTOCult, including the innovative participation of many representatives from the photographic sector (companies, agencies, schools and professional photographers). INFO/RAC was able to carry out the entire project and the distribution of the magazine in news-stands, in various countries and in different languages, at no cost.

233. INFO/RAC has joined forces with a select number of important Mediterranean film festivals and created and promoted the *Environment and Sustainable Development Network* to raise the visibility of the MSSD and its related themes. The Network enabled the organization of an exhibition on the audiovisual and photographic exhibits submitted for the 2005 Mediterranean Environment Award in Cyprus, Croatia, Greece, Turkey, Italy and Spain as well as special media events for local/national institutions and the public.

234. A number of audiovisuals were produced highlighting the MSSD and widely promoted by the main European/Mediterranean national televisions. They were also successfully broadcasted on "Celebrity TV" on board of one of the Celebrity cruise ships. Currently, a new video is being prepared for the promotion of the MSSD. A film crew has already been filming in Cyprus, Spain, Italy, Greece, Tunisia, Egypt and Turkey.

235. INFO/RAC has devised a strategy for the dissemination of the socio-economic data and trends contained in the MSSD, in particular in the RED report. It consists in providing the media with selected, distinct issues covering each of the sustainable development challenges faced by the Mediterranean, as well as general information on the report, through a series of specific dossiers on each of the MSSD themes. Several media events were also organised and carried out by INFO/RAC in Tunisia, Cyprus, Spain, Italy, Greece and Turkey.

#### 9.3.4 Building of Partnerships and Cooperation

236. To date, INFO/RAC-MAP has signed a series of partnership agreements and has been involved in a number of other alliances, not only with MAP Components, but, among the others, with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the European Commission (EC), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the United Nations System Staff College (UN), the European Environment Agency (EEA), ACCOBAMS and MEDWET. This is mostly due to the fact that

INFO/RAC has the recognized capacity for partnerships brokering, as two senior officials are accredited within the Partnership Building Accreditation Scheme (PBAS). Based on this strength, INFO/RAC has started to carry out a series of training seminars on the subject in various Mediterranean countries.

237. Under the GEF MED-LME (Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems) Partnership in particular, INFO/RAC has been assigned the coordination of two important project components, the communication and replication strategies.

238. A progress report about the activities carried out up to July 2006 has also been prepared and submitted to MAP.

## **ANNEX I**

**Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention  
for the Protection of the Marine Environment and  
the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean  
and its Protocols  
as at October 5, 2006**



|                      | Barcelona Convention 1/ |              |                          | Dumping Protocol 2/ |              |                          | Emergency Protocol 3/ |              | New Emergency Protocol 4/ |              |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Contracting Parties  | Signature               | Ratification | Acceptance of Amendments | Signature           | Ratification | Acceptance of Amendments | Signature             | Ratification | Signature                 | Ratification |
| Albania              | -                       | 30.05.90/AC  | 26.07.01                 | -                   | 30.05.90/AC  | 26.07.01                 | -                     | 30.05.90/AC  | -                         | -            |
| Algeria              | -                       | 16.02.81/AC  | 09.06-04                 | -                   | 16.03.81/AC  | -                        | -                     | 16.03.81/AC  | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | -                       | 01.03.92/SUC | -                        | -                   | 01.03.92/SUC | -                        | -                     | 01.03.92/SUC | -                         | -            |
| Croatia              | -                       | 08.10.91/SUC | 03.05.99                 | -                   | 08.10.91/SUC | 03.05.99                 | -                     | 08.10.91/SUC | 25.01.02                  | 01.10.03     |
| Cyprus               | 16.02.76                | 19.11.79     | 15.10.01                 | 16.02.76            | 19.11.79     | 18.0703                  | 16.02.76              | 19.11.79     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| European Commission  | 13.09.76                | 16.03.78/AP  | 12.11.99                 | 13.09.76            | 16.03.78/AP  | 12.11.99                 | 13.09.76              | 12.08.81/AP  | 25.01.02                  | 25.06.04     |
| Egypt                | 16.02.76                | 24.08.78/AP  | 11.02.00                 | 16.02.76            | 24.08.78/AP  | 11.02.00                 | 16.02.76              | 24.08.78/AC  | -                         | -            |
| France               | 16.02.76                | 11.03.78/AP  | 16.04.01                 | 16.02.76            | 11.03.78/AP  | 16.04.01                 | 16.02.76              | 11.03.78/AP  | 25.01.02                  | 02.07.03     |
| Greece               | 16.02.76                | 03.01.79     | 10.03.03                 | 11.02.77            | 03.01.79     | -                        | 16.02.76              | 03.01.79     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Israel               | 16.02.76                | 03.03.78     | 29.09.05                 | 16.02.76            | 01.03.84     | -                        | 16.02.76              | 03.03.78     | 22.01.03                  | -            |
| Italy                | 16.02.76                | 03.02.79     | 07.09.99                 | 16.02.76            | 03.02.79     | 07.09.99                 | 16.02.76              | 03.02.79     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Lebanon              | 16.02.76                | 08.11.77/AC  | -                        | 16.02.76            | 08.11.77/AC  | -                        | 16.02.76              | 08.11.77/AC  | -                         | -            |
| Libya                | 31.01.77                | 31.01.79     | -                        | 31.01.77            | 31.01.79     | -                        | 31.01.77              | 31.01.79     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Malta                | 16.02.76                | 30.12.77     | 28.10.99                 | 16.02.76            | 30.12.77     | 28.10.99                 | 16.02.76              | 30.12.77     | 25.01.02                  | 18.02.03     |
| Monaco               | 16.02.76                | 20.09.77     | 11.04.97                 | 16.02.76            | 20.09.77     | 11.04.97                 | 16.02.76              | 20.09.77     | 25.01.02                  | 03.04.02     |
| Morocco              | 16.02.76                | 15.01.80     | 07.12.2004               | 16.02.76            | 15.01.80     | 05.12.97                 | 16.02.76              | 15.01.80     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Serbia & Montenegro* | -                       | 16.07.2002   | -                        | -                   | 16.07.2002   | -                        | -                     | 16.07.2002   | -                         | -            |
| Slovenia             | -                       | 15.03.94/AC  | 08.01.03                 | -                   | 15.03.94/AC  | 08.01.03                 | -                     | 15.03.94/AC  | 25.01.02                  | 16.02.04     |
| Spain                | 16.02.76                | 17.12.76     | 17.02.99                 | 16.02.76            | 17.12.76     | 17.02.99                 | 16.02.76              | 17.12.76     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Syria                | -                       | 26.12.78/AC  | 10.10.03                 | -                   | 26.12.78/AC  | -                        | -                     | 26.12.78/AC  | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Tunisia              | 25.05.76                | 30.07.77     | 01.06.98                 | 25.05.76            | 30.07.77     | 01.06.98                 | 25.05.76              | 30.07.77     | 25.01.02                  | -            |
| Turkey               | 16.02.76                | 06.04.81     | 18.09.02                 | 16.02.76            | 06.04.81     | 18.09.02                 | 16.02.76              | 06.04.81     | -                         | 04.06.03     |

1. Accession = AC Approval = AP Succession = SUC

\* F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganized State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention.

|                      | Land-Based Sources Protocol 5/ |              |                          | Specially Protected Areas Protocol 6/ |              | SPA & Biodiversity Protocol 7/ |              | Offshore Protocol 8/ |              | Hazardous Wastes Protocol 9/ |              |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Contracting Parties  | Signature                      | Ratification | Acceptance of Amendments | Signature                             | Ratification | Signature                      | Ratification | Signature            | Ratification | Signature                    | Ratification |
| Albania              | -                              | 30.05.90/AC  | 26.07.01                 | -                                     | 30.05.90/AC  | 10.06.95                       | 26.07.01     | -                    | 26.07.01     | -                            | 26.07.01     |
| Algeria              | -                              | 02.05.83/AC  | -                        | -                                     | 16.05.85/AC  | 10.06.95                       | -            | -                    | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | -                              | 22.10.94/SUC | -                        | -                                     | 22.10.94/SUC | -                              | -            | -                    | -            | -                            | -            |
| Croatia              | -                              | 12.06.92/SUC | -                        | -                                     | 12.06.92/SUC | 10.06.95                       | 12.04.02     | 14.10.94             | -            | -                            | -            |
| Cyprus               | 17.05.80                       | 28.06.88     | 12.10.01                 | -                                     | 28.06.88/AC  | 10.06.95                       | 15.10.01     | 14.10.94             | 15.10.01     | -                            | -            |
| European Commission  | 17.05.80                       | 07.10.83/AP  | 12.11.99                 | 30.03.83                              | 30.06.84/AP  | 10.06.95                       | 12.11.99     | -                    | -            | -                            | -            |
| Egypt                | -                              | 18.05.83/AC  | -                        | 16.02.83                              | 08.07.83     | 10.06.95                       | 11.02.00     | -                    | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| France               | 17.05.80                       | 13.07.82/AP  | 16.04.01                 | 03.04.82                              | 02.09.86/AP  | 10.06.95                       | 16.04.01     | -                    | -            | -                            | -            |
| Greece               | 17.05.80                       | 26.01.87     | 10.03.03                 | 03.04.82                              | 26.01.87     | 10.06.95                       | -            | 14.10.94             | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Israel               | 17.05.80                       | 21.02.91     | -                        | 03.04.82                              | 28.10.87     | 10.06.95                       | -            | 14.10.94             | -            | -                            | -            |
| Italy                | 17.05.80                       | 04.07.85     | 07.09.99                 | 03.04.82                              | 04.07.85     | 10.06.95                       | 07.09.99     | 14.10.94             | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Lebanon              | 17.05.80                       | 27.12.94     | -                        | -                                     | 27.12.94/AC  | -                              | -            | -                    | -            | -                            | -            |
| Libya                | 17.05.80                       | 06.06.89/AP  | -                        | -                                     | 06.06.89/AC  | 10.06.95                       | -            | -                    | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Malta                | 17.05.80                       | 02.03.89     | 28.10.99                 | 03.04.82                              | 11.01.88     | 10.06.95                       | 28.10.99     | 14.10.94             | -            | 01.10.96                     | 28.10.99     |
| Monaco               | 17.05.80                       | 12.01.83     | 26.11.96                 | 03.04.82                              | 29.05.89     | 10.06.95                       | 03.06.97     | 14.10.94             | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Morocco              | 17.05.80                       | 09.02.87     | 02.10.96                 | 02.04.83                              | 22.06.90     | 10.06.95                       | -            | -                    | 01.07.99     | 20.03.97                     | 01.07.99     |
| Serbia & Montenegro* | -                              | 16.07.2002   | -                        | -                                     | 16.07.2002   | -                              | -            | -                    | -            | -                            | -            |
| Slovenia             | -                              | 16.09.93/AC  | 08.01.03                 | -                                     | 16.09.93/AC  | -                              | 08.01.03     | 10.10.95             | -            | -                            | -            |
| Spain                | 17.05.80                       | 06.06.84     | 17.02.99                 | 03.04.82                              | 22.12.87     | 10.06.95                       | 23.12.98     | 14.10.94             | -            | 01.10.96                     | -            |
| Syria                | -                              | 01.12.93/AC  | -                        | -                                     | 11.09.92/AC  | -                              | 10.10.03     | 20.09.95             | -            | -                            | -            |
| Tunisia              | 17.05.80                       | 29.10.81     | 01.06.98                 | 03.04.82                              | 26.05.83     | 10.06.95                       | 01.06.98     | 14.10.94             | 01.06.98     | 01.10.96                     | 01.06.98     |
| Turkey               | -                              | 21.02.83/AC  | 18.05.02                 | -                                     | 06.11.86/AC  | 10.06.95                       | 18.09.02     | -                    | -            | 01.10.96                     | 03.04.04     |

2. Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

\* F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganized State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention.

1/ Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976

Entry into force\*: 12 February 1978

Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

The 1995 Amendments (Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean)

Adoption (Barcelona) 10 June 1995

Entry into force 9 July 2004

Status: Parties to the Amendments: 18

2/ The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976

Entry into force\*: 12 February 1978

Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

The 1995 Amendments (The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea)

Adoption (Barcelona) 10 June 1995

Not Yet in Force

Status: Parties to the Amendments: 14

3/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976

Entry into force\*: 12 February 1978

Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

4/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Prevention and Emergency Protocol)

Adoption (Malta): 25 January 2002

Entry into force\*: 17 March 2004, replacing the 1976 Emergency Protocol in accordance with Article 25(2)

Status: Signatories: 16, Parties: 7

5/ The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources (LBS Protocol)

Adoption (Athens): 17 May 1980

Entry into force\*: 17 June 1983

Status: Signatories: 22, Parties: 22

The 1996 Amendments (The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol))

Adoption (Syracuse): 7 March 1996

Not Yet in Force

Status: Parties to the Amendments: 13

6/ The Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)

Adoption (Geneva): 3 April 1982

Entry into force\*: 23 March 1986

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 22

7/ The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 10 June 1995

Entry into force\*: 12 December 1999, replacing the 1980 SPA Protocol in accordance with Article 32

Status: Signatories: 17, Parties: 14

8/ Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol)

Adoption (Madrid): 14 October 1994

Not Yet in Force

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 4

9/ Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal  
(Hazardous Wastes Protocol)

Adoption (Izmir): 1 October 1996

Not Yet in Force

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 5



## **ANNEX II**

### **Conclusions of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the MCSD**

1. *“Following adoption of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) at Portoroz in November 2005, the MCSD recognized that implementation of the MSSD, especially at country level, was the main challenge to be addressed by the Commission, and that MAP components should act as facilitators of that process”. (Recommendation 1)*
2. *“The Commission acknowledged that synergies should be promoted with existing institutions, mechanisms and initiatives, taking advantage of the work already done with respect to sustainable development issues”. (Recommendation 2)*
3. *“When implementing the MSSD, the MCSD stressed that it was important to secure synergies with and draw inspiration from relevant regional and sub-regional initiatives and strategies, for example the Arab Regional Initiative for Sustainable Development, the Revised European Union's Sustainable Development Strategy and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)”. (Recommendation 4)*
4. *“The Commission also recognized that the time is ripe to increase the coherence and convergence of information towards sustainable development, integrating different information systems and investigating successful clearinghouse models with INFO/RAC playing a prominent role”. (Recommendation 8)*
5. *“The Commission recognized that the MSSD represents a turning point for the MAP and its components and called on them to build strategic alliances with other main players in the region, in order to mobilize more effectively the human resources and expert knowledge needed, capitalizing on exiting work by leading institutions and networks in the MSSD implementation areas, avoiding unnecessary duplication working groups”. (Recommendation 10)*
6. *“Noting the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) initiative “Horizon 2020”, welcoming the participatory process that had led to it, and acknowledging the role of MEDPOL in achieving a reduction in land-based pollution, the Commission stressed on the vital synergy between MAP and EMP in working together towards the initiative's goals and its implementation in the concerned countries”. (Recommendation 18)*
7. *“The MCSD urged that the Mediterranean should have a clear profile and identity in order to enhance its visibility at international level. The MCSD member should all contribute to this and take all opportunities to act into this direction”. (Recommendation 9)*
8. *“Acknowledging the need to raise awareness of the private sector on the MSSD and the importance of effectively involving that sector in planning and policy making at regional and national levels, the Commission welcomed the initiatives by CP/RAC and requested the Centre to promote voluntary initiatives and identify mechanisms through which the business sector can become an active partner”. (Recommendation 20)*



### **ANNEX III**

#### **Draft of the EEA – UNEP/MAP Joint Work Plan 2006-2008**

##### **Background and Objectives**

This work plan provides the framework for the establishment of a stable and effective cooperation between the EEA and UNEP/MAP for the period 2006 to 2008 and beyond, with the prospect of developing a sustainable working partnership.

The work plan aims to consolidate, further develop and intensify the existing cooperation between EEA and UNEP/MAP, increasing the effectiveness of their work and supporting improved environmental governance in the Mediterranean region. Based on the existing tradition of cooperation, the joint work plan seeks to achieve systematic sharing of information and experiences in all relevant areas as well as coordination of activities in order to promote interoperability and so avoiding incompatibility, duplication of work and redundancy, where possible.

The timing of this work plan takes into consideration concrete policy developments and achievements and aims to underline the role of information delivery and dissemination in supporting the implementation of these policies, in particular the recently adopted Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), the existing joint work programme between the European Commission and UNEP/MAP, the EU Enlargement Policy, the European Neighbourhood Policy and finally the Horizon 2020 initiative.

The activities will be kept under regular review by the EEA and the UNEP/MAP Secretariat and will be revised and updated as required.

Most activities listed in the joint work plan do not represent new areas of work for the organisations involved, rather they address continuing cooperation on existing areas of work with the intention of enhancing their implementation. This includes the respective contributions to the development of an infrastructure for dealing with official statistics through the MEDSTAT programme, launched within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership under the auspices of the European Commission.

It is recognised that for certain activities in this plan to be fully implemented, additional resources may be needed. As appropriate, the EEA and UNEP/MAP will seek such resources.

##### **Priorities for the Joint Work Plan**

Eight contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention and members of UNEP/MAP are also member countries of the EEA: Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey. In addition, four West Balkan countries, namely Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro, which are contracting parties within UNEP/MAP, also collaborate with the EEA. This provides strong justification for streamlining the information sharing and reporting processes and for cooperating on networking activities of the organisations in order to strengthen synergies in the context of the respective work programmes.

Identified activities aim towards concrete collaborative actions in areas of mutual interest and benefit and will, at the same time, support the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, including the MEDSTAT programme.

The activities proposed as part of this work plan cover the following areas of work:

- State of the environment reporting activities
- Data, indicator and scenario activities
- Impact assessment studies
- Networking, partnership building and support activities
- Shared information and communication activities and services

### **Work Plan for 2006-2008**

#### **1. State of the environment reporting activities**

EEA and UNEP/MAP will join efforts to ensure efficient streamlining of data gathering, analysis and assessment methods as well as dissemination of results in an accessible and useful way, building on the experiences gathered in the production of several joint EEA-UNEP/MAP reports over the past years. This represents a 3 to 4 year cycle of report production.

Within the Horizon 2020 initiative under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, EEA and UNEP/MAP (MEDPOL), in cooperation with other relevant organisations, will contribute to regular reviews of the state of the environment in the Mediterranean Sea, based on an agreed set of indicators. This work will be coordinated with similar ongoing initiatives (MSSD, EMMA<sup>1</sup>).

In line with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), EEA and UNEP/MAP through Blue Plan will cooperate in the promotion and the regular reviews of progress of the sustainable development strategy in the Mediterranean region and the integration of environmental concerns into other policy areas.

EEA and UNEP/MAP, especially through Blue Plan, will pay particular attention to the coastal areas of the Mediterranean region and cooperate in the development of specific studies on these areas.

#### **Specific examples of cooperation:**

EEA will continue supporting UNEP/MAP (Blue Plan) in publicising its report "*A Sustainable Future for the Mediterranean: The Blue Plan's Environment and Development Outlook*" to promote environmental awareness and sustainable development approaches in the Mediterranean area.

In support of UNEP/MAP's initiatives and activities in the field of coastal zone management, EEA and UNEP/MAP through PAP/RAC will cooperate to produce a report on integrated coastal zone management in the Mediterranean.

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<sup>1</sup> Working Group on European Marine Monitoring and Assessment

EEA and UNEP/MAP through CP/RAC will cooperate in the promotion and the regular review of progress of Mediterranean countries concerning the development and implementation of measures for decoupling industrial development from environmental degradation.

## 2. Data, indicator and scenario activities

EEA will further collaborate with UNEP/MAP through Blue Plan, acting as Mediterranean Environment and Development Observatory, in the development of indicators and outlooks to support the review of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and to contribute to, on a more frequent basis, regular assessments. This work will take place mainly through transfer of experience and exchange of data.

In line with the work programme of cooperation between UNEP/MAP and the European Commission, EEA will, as appropriate, collaborate with UNEP/MAP through MEDPOL and ensure the regular exchange of data resulting from monitoring. There will also be cooperation in the definition, production and verification of marine environment indicators in the framework of the implementation at regional scale of the European Thematic Strategy on the Marine Environment, taking in particular the work done through EMMA into account.

### Specific examples of cooperation:

EEA and UNEP/MAP through CP/RAC will cooperate in the follow-up and verification of data and indicators with respect to hazardous waste generation trends in Mediterranean countries in line with CP/RAC's regional plan for the reduction of hazardous waste from industrial installations.

EEA and UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC will also cooperate in the development of marine biodiversity indicators, in particular concerning trends in the extent of seagrass habitats.

## 3. Impact assessment studies

To reflect the necessity to develop impact assessments of new policies, programmes and activities in the EU context, EEA will collaborate with UNEP/MAP through Blue Plan on testing and validating methods and tools as well as in conducting, upon request, selected impact assessment studies underpinning the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

### Specific examples of cooperation:

The Commission has initiated such an approach for the 2010 Free Trade Area and the EEA will participate in the dissemination of results of the forthcoming study.

EEA and UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC will also cooperate in the dissemination among European countries of the Guidelines for Impact Assessment on Seagrass Meadows elaborated by SPA/RAC and in the promotion of the integration of the guidelines into national legislation and policies of European Mediterranean countries.

#### 4. Networking, partnership building and support activities

EEA and UNEP/MAP will cooperate at the institutional level by participating in relevant respective meetings to achieve synergy on strategic matters of common interest.

EEA, together with Eionet, and UNEP/MAP will work together to establish links between the respective National Focal Points and to facilitate regular meetings between these networks. At the same time, EEA will encourage NFPs from its member countries to provide resources to support EEA activities in the Mediterranean region.

EEA and UNEP/MAP will work together to establish the appropriate linkages with the respective networks of official statistical offices. This is being reinforced through the MEDSTAT programme.

Furthermore, EEA and UNEP/MAP, especially INFO/RAC with its capacity to broker and build working partnerships for sustainable development, will work towards strengthening networks through the establishment of sustainable working partnerships in the Mediterranean region.

##### Specific examples of cooperation:

An example of EEA-UNEP/MAP cooperation has been initiated and implemented to establish a Mediterranean clearing house mechanism on marine and coastal biological diversity. EEA and UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC will work together on the further development of this service.

EEA and UNEP/MAP through PAP/RAC will work together to develop further a Clearing House Mechanism on Mediterranean coastal management.

EEA will cooperate with UNEP/MAP to support the transfer of knowledge on environmental technologies among EU countries and Mediterranean partners through the dissemination of CP/RAC's databases of Mediterranean experts and technologies.

EEA and UNEP/MAP through SPA/RAC will establish procedures to share information on Mediterranean marine and coastal biodiversity and in particular on Mediterranean Natura 2000 sites.

#### 5. Shared information and communication activities and services

With a view to supporting the recent establishment of INFO/RAC, EEA and UNEP/MAP will exchange information, experiences and expertise regarding the setting up of a common information sharing, reporting and communication system for UNEP/MAP. With its long-standing experience in similar settings, the EEA can provide expertise, operational and technical experience and guidelines to this end.

More specifically, EEA and UNEP/MAP, with the full involvement of INFO/RAC, will cooperate in the following areas:

- The design and implementation of InfoMAP<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> The common information sharing and communications infrastructure for UNEP/MAP and the Mediterranean region

- The design and development of a MAP reporting system that is interoperable and compatible with other relevant reporting systems
- The development of an information and communications strategy for UNEP/MAP and the MSSD

### **Implementation of the Joint Work Plan**

The proposed activities will be in line with the contents and timetable of EEA's Annual Management Plan and UNEP/MAP's Biennium. For each project and related activities, one contact person will be identified by EEA and UNEP/MAP Secretariat respectively. The responsibility of these contact persons will be to facilitate cooperation under this agreement, including coordination of contacts with the European Topic Centres (ETCs) and Regional Activity Centres (RACs).

### **Related activities under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership**

The EEA also supports the European Commission in the areas of assessments, reporting and networking within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership as follows:

- EEA provides support to DG Environment in its cooperation with UNEP/MAP
- EEA supports the development of DG Environment's Horizon 2020 initiative and will contribute towards measuring progress of the initiative
- EEA supports, upon request, the MEDSTAT Environment Programme by identifying and facilitating specific training needs (monitoring, indicator methodologies, information systems)
- EEA hosts the SMAP RMS Clearing House (Regional Management and Support to the Euro-Mediterranean Programme for the Environment) which provides the SMAP community with information regarding environmental projects funded by SMAP and environmental information and reports at national and regional level
- EEA provides, upon request, support to EEA member countries from the Mediterranean region
- EEA provides, upon request, support to projects carried out in the Mediterranean region
- EEA supports the Euro-Mediterranean Information System on know-how in the Water Sector (EMWIS) through exchange of information and experience



**ANNEX IV****TRUST FUND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION  
(ME)****Status of contributions as at 30 September 2006****(Expressed in Euros)**

| <b>COUNTRIES</b>       | <b>Unpaid<br/>pledges for<br/>2005 &amp; prior<br/>yrs</b> | <b>Adjustments</b> | <b>Pledges for<br/>2006</b> | <b>Collections<br/>during 2006<br/>for 2006 and<br/>fut. yrs</b> | <b>Collections<br/>during 2006<br/>for prior yrs</b> | <b>Collections<br/>during 2006<br/>for prior yrs<br/>- US \$</b> | <b>Unpaid<br/>pledges for<br/>prior yrs.</b> | <b>Unpaid<br/>pledges for<br/>2006 &amp; prior<br/>yrs</b> |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Albania                | 3,898                                                      | 0                  | 3,877                       | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 3,898                                        | 7,775                                                      |
| Algeria                | 116,326                                                    | 0                  | 58,163                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 116,326                                      | 174,489                                                    |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina   | 0                                                          | 0                  | 16,619                      | 16,619                                                           | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Croatia                | 0                                                          | 0                  | 53,730                      | 53,730                                                           | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Cyprus                 | 0                                                          | 0                  | 7,755                       | 7,755                                                            | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Egypt                  | 54,418                                                     | 0                  | 27,143                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 54,418                                       | 81,561                                                     |
| European Union         | 0                                                          | 0                  | 138,483                     | 138,483                                                          | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| France                 | 0                                                          | 0                  | 2,103,262                   | 2,103,262                                                        | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Greece                 | 155,653                                                    | 0                  | 155,653                     | 0                                                                | 155,653                                              | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 155,653                                                    |
| Israel                 | -2,276                                                     | 0                  | 81,427                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | -2,276                                       | 79,151                                                     |
| Italy                  | 0                                                          | 0                  | 1,737,670                   | 1,737,670                                                        | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Lebanon                | 3,564                                                      | 0                  | 3,877                       | 0                                                                | 3,800                                                | 0                                                                | -236                                         | 3,641                                                      |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 121,593                                                    | 0                  | 109,124                     | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 121,593                                      | 230,717                                                    |
| Malta                  | 0                                                          | 0                  | 3,877                       | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 3,877                                                      |
| Monaco                 | 0                                                          | 0                  | 3,877                       | 3,877                                                            | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Morocco                | 75,427                                                     | 0                  | 15,511                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 75,427                                       | 90,938                                                     |
| Serbia and Montenegro  | 0                                                          | 0                  | 18,000                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 18,000                                                     |
| Slovenia               | 0                                                          | 0                  | 37,113                      | 30,984                                                           | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 6,129                                                      |
| Spain                  | 0                                                          | 0                  | 830,337                     | 830,337                                                          | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| Syrian Arab Rep.       | -428                                                       | 0                  | 15,511                      | 15,511                                                           | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | -428                                         | -428                                                       |
| Tunisia                | 11,632                                                     | 0                  | 11,632                      | 0                                                                | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 11,632                                       | 23,264                                                     |
| Turkey                 | 0                                                          | 0                  | 124,634                     | 124,634                                                          | 0                                                    | 0                                                                | 0                                            | 0                                                          |
| <b>T o t a l</b>       | <b>539,807</b>                                             | <b>0</b>           | <b>5,557,275</b>            | <b>5,062,862</b>                                                 | <b>159,453</b>                                       | <b>0</b>                                                         | <b>380,354</b>                               | <b>874,767</b>                                             |

**Additional Contributions (for information only)**

|                     |                |          |                  |                  |          |          |                |                  |
|---------------------|----------------|----------|------------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------------|------------------|
| European Commission | 0              | 0        | 598,568          | 598,569          | 0        | 0        | 0              | -1               |
| Host Country *      | 236,173        | 0        | 440,000          | 327,869          | 0        | 0        | 0              | 348,304          |
| UNEP Env. Fund      | 0              | 0        | 16,580           | 16,580           | 0        | 0        | 0              | 0                |
| <b>T o t a l</b>    | <b>775,980</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>6,612,423</b> | <b>6,005,880</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>380,354</b> | <b>1,223,070</b> |