



Second Meeting of Government-designated Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach by the Mediterranean Action Plan

Athens, Greece, 9-10 July 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Annotated Provisional Agenda

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting will take place at the Caravel Hotel (Athens) and will be opened at 09.30 hours on Wednesday, 9 July 2008 by the MAP Coordinator Mr. Paul Mifsud.

Agenda item 2: Election of Officers

The Meeting shall elect a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur.

Agenda item 3: Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work

The Provisional Agenda (doc. UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.326/1) and the Provisional Annotated Agenda (doc. UNEP(DEPI) WG.326/2) will be reviewed, amended as necessary, and adopted by the Meeting. Simultaneous translation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting. While the Meeting will examine and adopt a list of Conclusions and Recommendations, a full report will be prepared by the Secretariat at a later stage and sent to all participants for comments and review before its adoption.

Agenda item 4: Scope and Purpose of the Meeting

The Secretariat will briefly present the background, scope and purpose of the Meeting which is organized following Decision IG.17/6 of the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008) which is based on the recommendations of the First Meeting of Government-designated Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach (Athens, 20-21 February 2007). In fact, the Contracting Parties decided to progressively apply the ecosystem approach to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment agreeing at the same time on a road map for the gradual application of the approach which consists of a number of broad steps.

During the same meeting, the Contracting Parties agreed on an ecological vision (step 1 of the road map) and on the common strategic goals (step 2). It is now necessary to proceed with step 3 "Identification of important ecosystem properties and assessment of ecological status and pressures". However, from step 3 onwards it is necessary to consider the appropriate spatial and temporal scale of the application of the approach. The Meeting will consider this point as well as the issue of initiating pilot project(s) before deciding how to proceed with step 3. It is also expected that the Meeting will exchange views on how to proceed with the application of the road map in the long-term.

Agenda item 5: Spatial and temporal scale of application of the approach

The Secretariat will introduce the relevant section in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.326/3. The Meeting is expected to agree on the temporal scale of application and on the possible identification of management areas.

Agenda item 6: Initiation of pilot project(s)

The Meeting is expected to consider the initiation of pilot projects in one or more management areas.

Agenda item 7: Identification of important ecosystem properties and assessment of ecological status and pressures

It is expected that for each management area an assessment of the ecological status will be made. The Meeting is expected to agree on the table of contents of the assessment document.

Agenda item 8: Planning for the future

The Meeting is expected to exchange views on how to proceed further with the implementation of the road map in the long-term. More specifically, the meeting will touch upon issues relating to (a) assessment methodologies, (b) good ecological status, (c) ecological indicators, (d) environmental targets, (e) capacity building, (f) socio-economic considerations and (g) public awareness and participation.

Agenda item 9: Other business

The Meeting will discuss any other business that may be raised by the participants or the Secretariat.

Agenda item 10: Conclusions and Recommendations

While a full report will be prepared by the Secretariat at a later stage and sent to all participants for review and amendments before its adoption, the Meeting will examine, amend as appropriate, and adopt a set of draft conclusions and recommendations which will be prepared by the Secretariat as a result of the discussions.

Agenda item 11: Closure of the Meeting

The Chairperson will close the Meeting at 18.00 hours on Thursday 10 July 2008.

TIMETABLE

Wednesday 9 July 2008

09.30 – 10.30 h	Agenda items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
10.30 – 11.00 h	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00 – 13.00 h	Agenda item 5 (cont'd)
13.00 – 14.30 h	Lunch break
14.30 – 16.00 h	Agenda items 5 (cont'd) and 6
16.00 – 16.30 h	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.30 – 18.00 h	Agenda items 6 (cont'd) and 7

Thursday 10 July 2008

09.30 – 10.30 h	Agenda items 7 (cont'd) and 8
10.30 – 11.00 h	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00 – 13.00 h	Agenda items 8 (cont'd) and 9
13.00 – 15.30 h	Lunch break*
15.30 – 16.00 h	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.00 – 18.00 h	Agenda items 10 and 11

* Extended break to allow the Secretariat to draft the Conclusions and Recommendations.