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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

15th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission
on Sustainable Development

Malta, 10-12 June 2013

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Introduction

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, known as Rio+20, adopted an outcome document entitled “The Future We Want” which is the basis and inspiration for on-going global processes regarding Sustainable Development Strategies; policies to transit to more sustainable consumption and production patterns; and, the design of the new global architecture for sustainable development.

The main objectives of this 15th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) is to discuss the implications of Rio+20 for the Mediterranean and how it influences regional sustainable development strategies, policies and the MCSD itself as the institution for sustainable development in the Mediterranean. It is expected that the discussions will help in crafting proposals that will enable the Mediterranean region to fully benefit from the Rio+20 outcomes and accelerate progress towards achieving sustainable development.

The MCSD will, therefore, contribute to address the request of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at COP17 held in February 2012 in Paris, France. Decision IG20/13 recognized the role of MCSD in providing a useful multi-partner platform to contribute to regional sustainable development and provide a valuable advice to Contracting Parties in this regard, however emphasizing the need for better focusing the MCSD contribution to the MAP system taking into consideration the results of the discussions to be held in World Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). COP17 also invited the Steering Committee of the MCSD to work on reforming the MCSD through revising its composition to ensure greater representativeness and foster a sense of ownership by the entire Mediterranean; and, sharpening its role and further enhancing its contribution to sustainable development.

The MCSD will also be an occasion for exchanging regional, national and local experiences on sustainable development, providing networking and learning opportunities in this regard.

Day I: 10th June 2013

08.30–09.30 Registration

09.30–10.00 Agenda item1: Opening

The meeting will be opened by the current President of the MCSD Steering Committee elected at its 14th session held in Budva, Montenegro in 2011.

Welcome address will be delivered by the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change of Malta H. E. Mr. Leo Brincat, and the Executive Secretary and Coordinator of the Barcelona Convention UNEP/MAP Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias.

Agenda item 2: Election of the Steering Committee

In conformity with the Rules of Procedure of the MCSD, at the commencement of the first sitting of each meeting, the Commission shall elect the Steering Committee which shall be composed of a President, five Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. The Steering Committee shall include four members representing the Contracting Parties, including ex-officio the President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, and one representative from local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs.

Agenda item 3: Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work

The Rules of Procedure of the MCSD provide that at the beginning of each session, after the selection of the Steering Committee, the meeting adopts the agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda.

10.00-10.30 Agenda item 4: Rio+20 and its implications for the revision of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD)

The purpose of this section is to discuss the possible implications of Rio+20 on Sustainable Development Strategies and the opportunity to revise the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD) 10 years after its adoption as well as a possible roadmap for the revision process. The discussions will be enriched by three presentations followed by a debate by the members of the MCSD:

Presentations:

- “Environment in the Sustainable Development Goals” - UNEP representative (tbc)
- “The Global Sustainable Development Network and Solutions for the Mediterranean Region” – Professor Cristina Capineri, representing the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Mediterranean Region

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00–12.30 Agenda item 4: Rio+20 and its implications for the revision of the (MSSD) (cont.)

The background document for this agenda item “UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/3 Rio+20 follow up for and around Mediterranean Sea - Why and how Mediterranean region should/could be at the forefront?” will be presented by Mr. Hugues Ravenel, Plan Bleu Director.

A discussion by MCSD members will follow addressing in particular the following themes:

- i. Approach to revise MSSD
- ii. Priorities for the new MSSD
- iii. Milestones and the Road Map for the revision process

Expected outcome:

- To reach a common understanding on the implications of Rio+20 for the revision of the sustainable development agenda in the Mediterranean;
- To advise Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention on main substantive considerations and the scope of the MSSD revision; and,
- The roadmap leading to the new MSSD.

12.30-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Agenda item 5: Launching a Regional Process on SCP Policies

Based on progress at Rio+20 regarding SCP, this session will focus on ways to take the lead in the Mediterranean on the SCP Agenda by discussing the opportunity of developing regional policies on SCP in the Mediterranean and the possible roadmap to complete SCP policies in the region.

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The session will start with a presentation on SCP as an overarching objective in the global agenda for sustainable development and the SCP 10-Year framework programme by UNEP/DTIE representative.

The background document prepared by CP/RAC UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/4 “The Mediterranean SCP Roadmap: developing a Regional process to consolidate the shift to Sustainable patterns of Consumption and Production” will be presented by Mr. Enrique Villamore, CP/RAC Director.

15.00–15.30 Coffee break

15.30–17.00 Agenda item 5: Launching a Regional Process on SCP Policies (cont.)

A discussion by MCSD members will follow addressing in particular the following themes:

- i. Main elements of the roadmap
- ii. Specific priorities to be addressed
- iii. Milestones and regional partnerships needed for the implementation of the Road Map

Expected outcome:

- To reach a common understanding on the implications of Rio+20 regarding SCP in the Mediterranean
- To advise COP on main substantive considerations for developing Regional Process on SCP
- To advise COP on a possible roadmap for SCP policies

Day II, 11th June 2013

9.30-11.00 Agenda item 6: Best Practices: Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean

Reaching sustainable development requires innovative approaches and learning from the experiences and solutions emerging around the Mediterranean.

With a view to inspire and disseminate best practices on sustainable development, this session will focus on learning from implementation experiences including legal and policy approaches, processes and specific solutions.

5-7 best practices at the regional, national and local level will be presented followed by a discussion from MCSD members.

Expected outcome:

- To exchange experiences and agree on the lessons learned from the sustainable development practices presented.

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-12.30 Agenda item 6: Best Practices: Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (cont.)

12.30-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.00 Agenda item 7: MCSD operations and reform

The implications of outcomes of Rio+20 regarding the upgrading of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) into a High Level Political Forum for the reform of the MCSD will be discussed under this agenda item. The UNEP/MAP Secretariat has prepared a background document to facilitate the discussion among MCSD members which will be presented at the beginning of this session.

A discussion by MCSD members will follow addressing the implications of Rio+20 for the reform of the MCSD in particular regarding:

- i. focus;
- ii. core functions;
- iii. operations;
- iv. synergies; and,
- v. composition.

Expected outcome:

- To reach a common understanding on the implications of Rio+20 regarding MCSD institutional format, mandate and composition

- To advise the Steering Committee on main proposal to be submitted to COP

15.00-15.30 Coffee break

15.30-17:00 Agenda item 7: MCSD operations and reform (cont.)

Day III, 12th June 2013

11.30-12.00 Agenda item 8: Next MCSD meeting and other matters

The Secretariat will inform the members of the Commission about the preparations for the next meeting of the MCSD. The meeting will also consider other matters which the members of the Commission may wish to raise.

12.00-14.00 Agenda item 9: Adoption of Conclusions/Recommendations

Conclusions and recommendations will be adopted by the members of the MCSD.

14.00 Agenda item 10: Closure of the meeting

Following the usual courtesies the meeting will be closed at 14.00hrs by the President of the MCSD.

Proposed Timetable

Day I: 10th June 2013		
08.30–09.30	Registration	
09.30–10.00	Agenda item 1: Opening	
	Agenda item 2: Election of the Steering Committee	
	Agenda item 3: Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/2
10.00-10.30	Agenda item 4: Rio+20 and its implications for the revision of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/3
10.30-11.00	Coffee break	
11.00–12.30	Agenda item 4: Rio+20 and its implications for the revision of the (MSSD) (cont.)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/3
12.30-14.00	Lunch break	
14.00-15.00	Agenda item 5: Launching a Regional Process on SCP Policies	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/4
15.00–15.30	Coffee break	
15.30–17.00	Agenda item 5: Launching a Regional Process on SCP Policies (cont.)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/4
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11.00-11.30	Coffee break	
11.30-12.30	Agenda item 6: Best Practices: Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (cont.)	
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14.00-15.00	Agenda item 7: MCSD operations and reform	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/5
15.00-15.30	Coffee break	
15.30-17:00	Agenda item 7: MCSD operations and reform (cont.)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 383/5

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