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29 April 2022
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Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring

Videoconference, 31 May 2022

Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2022

Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2022-2023 adopted by the 22nd Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Antalya, Turkey, 7-10 December 2021), and within the framework of the under preparation of the 2023 edition of the Mediterranean Quality Status Report, UNEP/MAP is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring (CorMon Marine Litter).

2. The objectives of the CorMon Marine Litter Meeting, are to review and approve proposals on:

- Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Candidate Indicator 24;
- Elements for monitoring riverine inputs of marine litter; and
- Methodology and results of the NEAT tool application for GES assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 22 (Beach Macrolitter) in the Adriatic Sea.

3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened at 10:00 AM (EET) on 31 May 2022 by the Coordinator of the United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan - Barcelona Convention Secretariat.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

Working Documents:	UNEP/MED WG.534/1 UNEP/MED WG.534/2 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.1/Rev.1

a) Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis to the present Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

b) Election of Officers

6. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the Meeting will elect a President, three Vice Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

c) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda

7. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.534/1 and annotated in the present document will be reviewed and proposed for adoption by the Meeting including the timetable contained in the Annex to the present document.

d) Organization of Work

8. The discussions are planned to be held in three plenary sessions from 10:00 to 12:00, 12:30 to 14:30 and 15:30-17:30 during this one-day Meeting.

9. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for the three sessions. All documentation will be in English and French. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session. The meeting will be recorded for future reference.

10. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 17:30 on 31 May 2022 after adopting its Conclusions and Recommendations.

Agenda item 3: Data Standards (DS) and Data Dictionaries (DD) for IMAP Ecological Objective 10 (EO10) Common Indicator 24

Working Documents:	UNEP/MED WG.534/3 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.6

11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present a comprehensive proposal for establishing Data Standards (DS) and Data Dictionaries (DD) for IMAP Ecological Objective 10 (EO10) Common Indicator 24 jointly prepared by MED POL and SPA/RAC. The DS and DD are solely based on the standardized region-wide methodologies for extracting marine litter ingested from dead and live individuals have been developed by UNEP/MAP in the "*Protocols for monitoring interactions between marine litter and marine turtles (ingestion and entangling) with a view to harmonising methods of data collection for monitoring and assessment*", jointly developed by the EU-funded INDICIT and Marine Litter MED Projects.

12. The Meeting is expected to review and approve DSs and DDs, along with the respective Metadata Templates, provide comments, and approve their submission to the 2023 MED POL Focal Points Meeting (tbc); and their upload in the IMAP Info System to support the upload of relevant datasets towards facilitating the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda item 4: Development of Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine inputs of Marine Litter

Working Documents:	UNEP/MED WG.534/4

13. Considering the needs to fill the methodological gaps on all different aspects of marine litter monitoring, the Secretariat (MED POL) introduces through the present document (UNEP/MED WG.534/4) a first approach for elaborating guidelines for monitoring riverine inputs of marine litter. The present guidelines aim to support Contracting Parties in monitoring riverine inputs of marine litter and at a later stage to support the development of a new IMAP-related indicator or its integration into the existing CIs within IMAP EO Marine Litter.

14. The Meeting is expected to review and approve the present guidelines and advise the Secretariat on the way forward.

Agenda item 5: Methodology and Results of the NEAT Tool Application for GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 22 (Beach Macrolitter) in the Adriatic Sea

15. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will deliver a PowerPoint presentation on the outcome of the application of the NEAT Tool Application for GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 22 (Beach Macrolitter), for the Adriatic Sea based on the methodology prepared for IMAP Common Indicator 17.

16. The Meeting is expected to embark on a discussion pertinent to the results of GES assessment and the possibilities for further application of the NEAT tool considering the level of data availability in different subregions.

Agenda item 6: Conclusions and Recommendations

17. The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 7: Any Other Business

18. Under this Agenda Item, the Meeting will be invited to raise and discuss other matters that may require attention, as agreed during the adoption of the agenda.

Agenda item 8: Closure of the Meeting

19. The Meeting will be closed at 17:30 on Thursday 31 May 2022.

Proposed Timetable

Tuesday, 31 May 2022		
09:30 – 10:00	Registration	
10:00 – 10:15	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting	
10:15 – 10:30	Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters	UNEP/MED WG.534/1 UNEP/MED WG.534/2 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.1/Rev.1
10:30 – 11:30	Agenda Item 3: Data Standards (DS) and Data Dictionaries (DD) for IMAP Ecological Objective 10 (EO10) Common Indicator 24	UNEP/MED WG.534/3 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.534/Inf.6
11:30 – 12:00	Agenda item 4: Development of Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine inputs of Marine Litter	UNEP/MED WG.534/4
12:00 – 12:30	*Break*	
12:30 – 13:30	Agenda item 4: Development of Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine inputs of Marine Litter (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.534/4
13:30 – 14:30	Agenda Item 5: Methodology and Results of the NEAT Tool Application for GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 22 (Beach Macrolitter) in the Adriatic Sea	*PowerPoint Presentation*
14:30 – 15:30	*Break*	
15:30 – 15:45	Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business	
15:45 – 17:30	Agenda Item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations	
17:30	Agenda Item 8: Closure of the Meeting	