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Agenda Item 5: Recent Developments in Pollution Prevention and Control of the Marine and Coastal Environment, including emerging issues

Global and Regional Policies relevant to LBS Protocol, including New Emerging Issues

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2025

Note by the Secretariat

In line with the “Programme of Work and Budget for 2024-2025,” adopted by COP 23 (Portoroz, Slovenia, 5-8 December 2023), MED POL was mandated to take national and regional actions, including enabling investments, to implement the adopted Regional Plans (Activity 1.2.2). Additionally, under the EU-funded Marine Litter MED PLUS Project (2024-2027) aiming to further support and expand the implementation of the updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, MED POL has analysed global and regional policies, as well as legally binding measures relevant to LBS Protocol, to develop a region-wide, agreed-upon short list of key prevention and reduction measures for inclusion in the updated NAPs (2025-2035), including those addressing marine litter.

This report focuses on pollution prevention and reduction measures related to land-based sources, with particular emphasis on marine litter, plastic pollution, nature-based solutions (NbS), eutrophication, nutrient management, and sustainable consumption and production. It also outlines potential actions for consideration during the development of the next Programme of Work and the preparation of the upcoming Midterm Strategy, building on policy analyses conducted at both global and regional levels.

The document was reviewed and noted during the Third Regional Meeting for the Development/Update of NAPs (2025–2035) and Finalization of the Fifth Cycle of NBB Reports, held on 23–24 April 2025 in Loutraki, Greece. It is now submitted to the MED POL Focal Points Meeting, scheduled for 17–19 June 2025, for further review and approval."

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List of acronyms

BRS Conventions	Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions
CE	Circular Economy
CPs	Contracting Parties
DRS	Deposit Return Scheme
EEA	European Environment Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELD	Environmental Liability Directive
EMS	Environmental Management System
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Governance
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GES	Good Environmental Status
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GPP	Green Public Procurement
HHPs	Highly Hazardous Pesticides
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
IMAP	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LBS Protocol	Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MED POL	Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme
MLRP	Marine Litter Regional Plan
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MTS	Medium-Term Strategy
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NAPs	National Action Plans
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NM	Nutrient Management
OSPAR	Oslo-Paris Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PPP	Public-Private Partnerships
R&D	Research and Development
R&I	Research and Innovation
RP	Regional Plan
SAICM	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SUPP	Single-Use Plastic Product
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan
WFD	Water Framework Directive

WHO	World Health Organization
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

1. Introduction

1. The Mediterranean region continues to face significant environmental challenges due to land-based pollution, marine litter, plastic pollution, and eutrophication, among others. The Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, particularly the Land-Based Sources (LBS) Protocol and its Regional Plans, provide the regional legal framework for addressing pollution affecting marine and coastal environments stemming from land-based sources. Developed under Article 5 of LBS Protocol, The National Action Plans (NAPs) serve as a key implementation tool for Contracting Parties to meet their obligations under the Convention and Protocols and achieve Good Environmental Status (GES) concerning pollution related ecological objectives under the ecosystem approach (EcAP).

2. The MED POL Programme of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) is responsible for coordinating regional efforts to prevent and reduce pollution from land-based sources. The Programme of Work (PoW) for 2024-2025, adopted by COP 23 (Portorož, Slovenia, December 2023), mandates MED POL to take action to implement the adopted Regional Plans (act 1.2.2). In this context, MED POL is supporting contracting parties in reviewing and updating their NAPs to integrate both new regional commitment and emerging global policies. The EU-funded Marine Litter MED PLUS Project (2024-2027) further supports these efforts, particularly by enhancing the integration of measures addressing marine litter and plastic pollution into the NAPs.

3. The recent developments at the global level, in particular UNEA Resolutions and current negotiations on the Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution, necessitates to revise alignment between global commitments and regional frameworks and to ensure coherence in implementation at national level.

4. This Policy Analysis Report aims to support the development and update of NAPs by analysing global and regional policy developments since 2015, i.e. when the current NAPs were endorsed. The report will assess alignment between UNEA Resolutions and COP Decisions (Barcelona Convention) and thus identify any gaps in policy implementation, and the emerging issues that needs to be tackled at regional or national level.

5. The focus of this report is on land-based sources pollution prevention and reduction measures, including nature-based solutions (NbS), with particular attention to marine litter, plastic pollution, eutrophication and nutrient management, as well as sustainable consumption and production.

6. The objectives of the report are to:

i. **Identify and assess key global resolutions and regional decisions:** Examine relevant UNEA resolutions and COP decisions (Barcelona Convention) adopted since 2015, with a focus on pollution prevention, eutrophication, marine litter, and plastic pollution, and select those most pertinent to the Mediterranean context, particularly those contributing to IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9, and 10.
ii. **Compare governance provisions and highlight policy gaps:** Analyse provisions on measures across global and regional levels, identifying correspondences, and policy gaps, and provide a brief analysis of the latest European policy developments on marine litter, eutrophication, and plastic pollution that could inform the formulation of future NAP measures.
iii. **Propose measures for NAPs and MTS:** Suggest key pollution prevention and reduction measures to address the identified gaps for the formulation of updated NAPs for the 2025-2035 period, along with regional measures to inform the next UNEP/MAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS).

7. This report was prepared with the support of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED PLUS Project (2024-2027).

2. Methodology

2.1 The Rationale of the approach

8. A methodological approach was applied to analyse policies at the global, regional, and EU level, including UNEA Resolutions, COP decisions, and Framework Directives etc.,). The aim was to identify, review and compare policies across different governance levels, highlight commonalities and identify gaps between global and regional frameworks. Based on the findings, key measures are proposed to support the development/update of NAPs/PoMs at the National level and to inform the next MTS at the Regional level. A detailed illustration of the decision trees used in the policy assessment are presented in Annexes II and Annex III of this report, covering UNEA Resolutions and Barcelona Convention Decisions respectively.

9. The screening of relevant policies began from 2015, the year the previous NAPs were approved, and their implementation has commenced. At the global level, the methodology was applied to analyse, (i) UNEA Resolutions adopted between 2015 and 2024, namely UNEA3, UNEA4, UNEA5.1, UNEA5.2 and UNEA6; and (ii) Working documents of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on plastic pollution for developing an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. At the regional level, all decisions of Barcelona Convention adopted between 2015 and 2023 were examined, in focusing, not only the decisions related to the "new" Regional Plans, but also earlier Regional Plans adopted before 2015.

10. On the other hand, at European Union level, the policy analysis focused on regulations and other policies addressing marine litter, plastic pollution, and eutrophication, published between 2020 and 2025.

11. The analytical approach, while slightly adapted to each governance level, followed a structured set of steps as outlined in Annex II and III.

12. At the regional level (UNEP/MAP), the analysis followed a two-step approach:

- **Step 1: Selection by theme** – COP Decisions were screened for relevance to key environmental themes (namely land-based pollution, plastic pollution/marine litter, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), nutrient management, and nature-based solutions).
- **Step 2: Policy review and classification** – Relevant COP decisions were mapped against IMAP Ecological Objectives (EO5: Eutrophication, EO9: Pollution, EO10: Marine Litter). Only those containing provisions requiring national level implementation were retained for further comparative analysis.

13. For global-level resolutions (UNEA), the analysis followed five steps, with an additional step for EU alignment:

- **Step 1: Selection by theme** – Resolutions were screened for relevance to key environment themes.
- **Step 2: Policy review and classification** – Resolutions were mapped in alignment with IMAP Ecological Objectives and implementation requirements for UNEA Member States.
- **Step 3: Relevance evaluation** – Resolutions were prioritized based on their significance to the Mediterranean context, and classified as high, medium, or

low priority.

- **Step 4: Alignment check** – The correspondence between UNEA resolutions and Barcelona Convention decisions was examined. Fully covered resolutions by COP decisions were documented and eliminated, while those partially or not addressed resolutions were analysed to identify gaps.
- **Step 5: Measure formulation** – Identified gaps were translated into proposed NAP measures, categorized into five categories: policy, legal, institutional, economic/financial, and technological/technical.
- **Additional Step:** EU regulatory framework - To enhance consistency with EU policies, relevant directives/strategies published between 2020 and 2025 were reviewed. Proposed NAP measures on plastic pollution/marine litter and eutrophication were cross-checked for alignment with EU regulations**.**

2.2 Limitations and challenges faced while performing the analysis

14. The analysis faced challenges due to differences in policy formulation and legal frameworks across global (UNEA), regional (Barcelona Convention), and European (EU) levels, making direct comparisons difficult. UNEA resolutions are primarily high-level political commitments that offer general recommendations or calls to action on specific issues, but they are non-binding and do not impose legal obligations on UNEA member states. In contrast, decisions under the Barcelona Convention, especially those related to the LBS Protocol, create a legally binding framework for Contracting Parties, with specific obligations that are often directly translated into concrete measures. At the EU level, policy documents vary widely such as Action Plans, Strategies, Regulations and Directives. Measures arising from EU Directives or Regulations are typically more detailed than those found in Regional Plans, which adds to the complexity of the comparison.

15. Formulating NAP measures from UNEA Resolutions is challenging, as a single provision in a resolution provides general **policy guidance that could translate into multiple potential national measures,** making prioritization and alignment across frameworks complex. Since the prioritization and alignment are left to the discretions of the Member States, the NAP measures proposed in this report would need to be adapted to fit each national context where appropriate.

16. **The delay and uncertainty surrounding negotiations for the Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution** created challenges in ensuring a comprehensive analysis on the theme “marine litter and plastic pollution”. The **current** draft text remains highly fragmented, with numerous brackets indicating unresolved significant disagreements among member states, while an additional Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) meeting is in the pipeline.

17. Finally, the **cross-cutting nature of environmental challenges and the interconnections among policy areas** meant that many decisions were not straightforward and, very often, required balancing **multiple** factors before reaching a conclusion. This was particularly the case during the screening of UNEA Resolutions and their categorization under a single theme. For instance, several water management resolutions were classified under land-based pollution but are also relevant to nutrient management. Similarly, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) resolutions contribute to reducing land-based and plastic pollution, highlighting the interconnections between policy areas.

3. Developments on global and regional framework between 2015-2025

18. Over the past decade, significant policy developments have taken place at the global, regional, and European levels to address land-based pollution, marine litter, plastic pollution, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), nutrient management, and nature-based solutions (NbS). This section provides an overview of selected global policies adopted, between 2015 and 2024, under the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and decisions adopted within the framework of the Barcelona Convention. Additionally, relevant European Union (EU) legislation between 2020 and 2025 (February) addressing marine litter, plastic pollution, and eutrophication has also been included.

19. At each chapter, a summary of key policy advancements is provided, followed by a list of selected resolutions in accordance with the methodology selected for analysis, these decisions (including resolutions and policies) are structured around the predefined themes (land-based pollution, marine litter, plastic pollution, SCP, nutrient management, and NbS).

3.1. Review of UNEA Resolutions (2015-2025)

20. Between 2015 and 2025, the UNEA has progressively advanced global environmental governance through a series of resolutions aimed at addressing critical environmental issues clustered by (i) land-based pollution; (ii) marine litter plastic pollution; (iii) nutrient management and (iv) sustainable consumption and production; and (v) Nature Based Solutions. At UNEA-3 (2017), the focus was placed on tackling pollution in all its forms, leading to key resolutions on marine litter, soil pollution, water quality, and hazardous chemicals. Building on this, UNEA-4 (2019) emphasized innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production (SCP), with resolutions on single-use plastics, circular economy, and biodiversity conservation. UNEA-5 (2021-2022) further reinforced global commitments by addressing emerging issues, such as highly hazardous pesticides, nitrogen management, and sustainable infrastructure. UNEA-6 (2024) continued this trajectory by calling for transformative actions on plastic pollution, promoting nature-based solutions, and advancing the development of a legally binding global framework on chemicals and waste. Notably, a key resolution at UNEA-5 initiated the process for an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which remains a pivotal global priority.

21. This section presents an overview of the key UNEA resolutions adopted between 2015 and 2025, grouped by thematic area in accordance with the methodology (detailed in Annex II). The initial analysis started with a list of 68 resolutions from consecutive UNEA meetings. After two rounds of screening, this list was narrowed down to 24 resolutions deemed relevant for further analysis in line with defined methodology.

22. Resolutions clustered per theme are listed in Table 1 and consist of 12 selected resolutions for land-based pollution, three for the marine litter/plastic pollution; one resolution for nitrogen management; seven resolutions for sustainable consumption and production and one resolution for nature-based solutions.

23. Regarding the resolutions in marine litter and plastic pollution theme, UNEA 3 also adopted a resolution on Marine Litter and Microplastics (UNEP/EA.3/Res.7). While the theme remains highly relevant, subsequent UNEA meetings adopted additional resolutions that build upon and refine previous commitments. To ensure coherence, avoid redundancy, and align with the most up-to-date global policy direction, the analysis focuses on the latest resolutions addressing this issue. This approach also takes into account the ongoing negotiations and INC meetings for the development of a new international treaty on plastic pollution.

24. In the nutrient management cluster it should be noted that due to cross-cutting nature of environmental challenges and the interconnections between policy areas, several resolutions

addressing water management-related issues have been classified under the theme of Land-Based Pollution. These also address aspects of nitrogen management. While some of these resolutions are also relevant to this theme, these resolutions cover additional aspects beyond nutrient management. Consequently, they have been already categorized under Land-Based Pollution to reflect their broader scope.

25. Resolutions under the sustainable consumption and production cluster listed in Table 1 consists of 8 selected resolutions. The main theme of these resolutions is circular economy, and innovative solutions. It should be noted that several Resolutions listed in Table 1, also contribute to addressing the root causes of land-based pollution and plastic pollution. Additionally, the Resolution on sustainable infrastructure also include a provision related to Nature-based solutions that could fit under the next theme.

26. The NbS cluster consists of one selected resolution. It should be noted that the resolution on sustainable infrastructure (UNEP/EA.4/Res.5) listed under the SCP theme, contains a provision on the promotion of nature-based solutions.

Table 1: Selected resolutions under the different themes

Resolution Nº	**Title of the resolution**	**Related Ecological Objectives**
Land Based Pollution		
UNEP/EA.3/Res.10	Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems	EO5 EO9
UNEP/EA.3/Res.2	Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors	EO9
UNEP/EA.3/Res.6	Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development	EO9
UNEP/EA.3/Res.9	Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries	EO9
UNEP/EA.4/Res.10	Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation	EO5 EO9
UNEP/EA.4/Res.11	Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities	EO9
UNEP/EA.4/Res.19	Mineral resource governance	EO9
UNEP/EA.4/Res.7	Environmentally Sound Management of Waste	EO9 EO10
UNEP/EA.5/Res.4	Sustainable Lake Management	EO5 EO9
UNEP/EA.5/Res.7	Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste	EO9
UNEP/EA.6/Res.11	Highly Hazardous Pesticides	EO5 EO9
UNEP/EA.6/Res.13	Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.	EO5 EO9
Marine Litter/Plastic Pollution		
UNEP/EA.4/Res.6	Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics	EO10
UNEP/EA.4/Res.9	Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution	EO10
UNEP/EA.5/Res.14	End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument	EO10
Nutrient Management		
UNEP/EA.5/Res.2	Sustainable Nitrogen Management	EO5

Resolution Nº	Title of the resolution	Related Ecological Objectives
Sustainable Production and Consumption		
UNEP/EA.4/Res.1	Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production	EO9; EO10
UNEP/EA.4/Res.2	Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste	EO5; EO9
UNEP/EA.4/Res.4	Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices	EO9 EO10
UNEP/EA.4/Res.5	Sustainable Infrastructure	EO9
UNEP/EA.5/Res.11	Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production	EO9; EO10
UNEP/EA.5/Res.9	Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure	EO5; EO9
UNEP/EA.6/Res.5	Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals	EO9
UNEP/EA.6/Res.8	Promoting sustainable lifestyles.	EO9; EO10
Nature Based Solution		
UNEP/EA.5/Res.5	Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development	EO9

27. In addition to the UNEA resolutions, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) process has been advancing work on **a global legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including marine pollution,** as mandated by UNEA resolution 5/14. Although the INC process was expected to conclude with an agreement on the final text of the treaty by the end of 2024, significant disagreements on key topics prevented a final consensus. The current draft treaty text, released after INC-5 in Busan, includes numerous bracketed sections, reflecting unresolved differences among countries. Areas of divergence include plastic product design, chemicals of concern, production limits, and financing mechanisms. Other crucial elements of the treaty address release and leakages, including issues related to pre-production pellets, abandoned fishing gear, and pollution from plastic waste entering the marine environment. The Chair's text from INC-5[1] has been agreed upon as the starting point for discussions during the resumed session to be organised from 5 to 14 August 2025.

3.2. Review of regional policies / Barcelona Convention Decisions and thematic clustering

28. The review of the COP Barcelona Decisions focused on screening the decisions related to the pre-defined themes: (i) pollution / marine litter reduction and prevention, (ii) waste and marine litter management, (iii) plastic pollution and (iv) climate change and climate vulnerability.

29. The review of decisions adopted under the Barcelona Convention since 2015, following the methodology in Annex III, initially identified 81 decisions endorsed by consecutive COP Meetings (COP19 until COP23). The list was narrowed to 14 decisions deemed relevant for the gap analysis in comparison with the selected UNEA resolutions. Additionally, several decisions related to LBS Protocol Regional Plans adopted before 2015 were included, as their reference was essential to ensure a comprehensive and coherent gap analysis.

30. The list of selected COP decisions, in accordance with the methodology, are listed in Table 2 below.

31. Regarding the list of selected decisions related to nutrient management, it should be noted that several decisions classified under the land-based pollution theme are also relevant for this theme, in particular: the Regional Plans on **Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge**

[1]Chair text: https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/46710/Chairs_Text.pdf

Management and Regional Plan on **Stormwater Management.**

32. No specific COP decisions regarding the theme Nature-Based Solutions were identified in this period.

33. A few key decisions related to the governance framework of National Action Plans (NAPs) were also selected for analysis, as they establish the institutional and regulatory mechanisms necessary for monitoring the effective implementation of NAPs. These decisions are clustered under the theme of monitoring.

34. Finally, other regional regulatory measures adopted under the LBS Protocol before year of 2015[2] were used as reference in the gap analysis.

Table 2: Selected Decisions of the Contracting Parties of Barcelona Convention (per theme)

Decision Nº	Title of the decision	Ecological Objectives
Land Based Pollution		
Decision IG.22/9 (COP19)	Guidelines on Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for the **Environmental Sound Management (ESM) of Mercury** Contaminated Sites	EO9
Decision IG.24/10 (COP21)	Main Elements of the **Six Regional Plans to Reduce/Prevent Marine Pollution from Land-Based Sources;** Updating the Annexes to the LBS and Dumping Protocols of the Barcelona Convention	EO9
Decision IG.25/5 (COP22)	**Amendments to Annexes I, II, and IV to the Protocol** for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities	EO9
Decision IG.25/8 (COP22)	Regional Plans on **Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge Management i**n the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol	EO9 EO5
Decision IG.26/8 (COP23)	Regional Plan on **Stormwater Management** in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol	EO9 EO5
Marine Litter/Plastic Pollution		
Decision IG.22/10 COP19	Implementing the **Marine Litter Regional Plan in the Mediterranean** (Fishing for Litter Guidelines, Assessment Report, Baselines Values, and Reduction Targets)	EO10
Decision IG.24/11 COP21	**Guidelines:** Adopt-a-Beach; Phase-out of Single UsePlastic Bags; Provision of Reception Facilities in Ports and the Delivery of Ship-Generated Wastes; Application of Charges at Reasonable Costs for the Use of Port Reception Facilities	EO10
Decision IG.25/9 COP22	Amendments to the **Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management** in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol	EO10
Nutrient Management		
Decision IG.26/7 (COP23)	Regional Plan on **Aquaculture Management** in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol	E05 EO9
Decision IG.26/6 (COP23)	Regional Plan on **Agriculture Management** in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol	E05 EO9
Sustainable Production and Consumption		
Decision IG.22/5 (COP19)	Regional Action Plan on **Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**	EO9 EO10
Decision IG.25/18 (COP22)	Set **of Regional Measures to Support the Development of Green and Circular Businesses** and to Strengthen the Demand for more Sustainable Products	EO9 EO10

[2] Ten Regional Plans (before 2015) https://www.unep.org/unepmap/what-we-do/regional-regulatory-measures

Decision Nº	Title of the decision	Ecological Objectives
Monitoring (cross the board) for NAPs		
Decision IG.22/7 (COP19)	**Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme** of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria	All EOs
Decision IG.25/8 (COP22)	**Implementation of Updated National Action Plans (NAPs),** Containing Measures and Timetables for their Implementation	All EOs

4. Review of European policies / EU Directives related to Marine Litter/plastic pollution and eutrophication (2020-2025)

35. Over the past five years (2020–2025), EU environmental policies have significantly evolved, introducing stricter measures to address marine litter, plastic pollution, and eutrophication. These efforts align with the objectives of the European Green Deal, adopted in December 2019, which outlines an ambitious roadmap towards a climate-neutral, resource-efficient, and pollution-free economy, while ensuring the protection of biodiversity. The policies developed before this period are already included in the legal framework, such as Updated Regional Marine Litter Plan.

36. Under the Green Deal, several key strategies —such as the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the Circular Economy Action Plan, and the EU Plastics Strategy—have guided the development of new directives and regulations, reinforcing obligations for waste prevention, sustainable production, and improved wastewater treatment. The growing ambition to address plastic pollution and nutrient discharge reflects the EU's commitment to reducing environmental harm in marine and coastal ecosystems.

37. Additionally, the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 emphasizes the need to reduce pollution impacts on marine and coastal ecosystems. While it does not directly regulate plastic pollution or eutrophication, it reinforces commitments to marine ecosystem restoration, sustainable water management, and the reduction of pollution sources, aligning with broader EU environmental objectives.

38. The table 3 below summarizes the key European policy documents related to marine litter, plastic pollution, and eutrophication that have been adopted since 2020. This list will serve as a reference for the formulation of NAP measures, guiding to assess where NAP measures can be aligned with existing formulation of measures in EU policies. The goal is to facilitate coherence and integration between national, regional, and EU governance levels.

Table 3: Selected European policy documents under the theme MARINE LITTER/PLASTIC POLLUTION and EUTROPHICATION

Type of Document and nº	Title	Relevance
Marine Litter/Plastic Pollution		
Directive 2008/56/EC	**Marine Strategy Framework Directive** (Adopted June 2008)	Integrated framework for achieving GES in marine waters, including targets for marine litter reduction.
COM/2018/028 final	**Plastics Strategy (part of the EU's circular economy action plan)** (Adopted January 2018)	Focuses on reducing plastic waste, improving recycling, and encouraging innovation for more sustainable plastics use.
Directive 2008/98/EC, amended by Directive 2018/851	**Waste Framework Directive** (Amended May 2018)	Establishes measures for waste prevention, recycling, and management, promoting the circular economy.
Directive (EU) 2019/883	**Directive on Port Reception Facilities for Ship-Generated Waste and Cargo Residues** (Adopted April 2019)	Ensures proper waste management in ports to prevent waste disposal into the sea.
Action Plan COM/2020/98 final	**New Circular economy action plan (EU Green Deal)** (Adopted March 2020)	Focus on waste reduction, EPR, and sustainable product design, including measures to reduce plastic waste.
Directive (EU) 2019/904	**Single-use plastics (SUP) Directive** (Adopted June 2019, in force July 2021)	Sets specific bans, restrictions, and EPR measures for SUPs to reduce marine plastic pollution
2020/2273(INI)	**EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives (EU green Deal)** (Resolution adopted by European Parliament in June 2021)	Highlights the need to reduce pollution impacts on marine ecosystems, including plastic pollution, and supports nature-based solutions.
Regulation (EU) 2023/2055 (Amendment to Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006)	**Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards synthetic polymer microparticles (**Adopted September 2023)	Introduces comprehensive restrictions on synthetic polymer microparticles (commonly referred to as microplastics).
Regulation 2025/40	**Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation** (Adopted Dec 2024, In force Feb 2025)	Strengthens packaging waste prevention, recyclability targets, and industry obligations, directly impacting plastic pollution.
Directive (EU) 2024/3019	**Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive** (Latest update Nov 2024 Transposition by July 2027)	Strengthens requirements for nitrogen and phosphorus removal to reduce eutrophication risks.
Not adopted yet	**Regulation on Pellet Loss Prevention** (Proposed in September 2023 (Negotiations with EU Parliament to start early 2025)	Establishes measures to prevent plastic pellet loss across the entire supply chain, minimizing leakage into the environment.
Eutrophication (EO5)		
Directive 2008/56/EC	**Marine Strategy Framework Directive** (Adopted June 2008)	Establishes obligations for monitoring and reducing nutrient pollution to prevent eutrophication in marine waters.
Action plan COM/2021/400 final	**Zero pollution action plan (EU Green Deal)** (Adopted May 2021)	Sets pollution reduction targets, including for nutrient emissions from agriculture and wastewater treatment.
COM/2020/381 final	**Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system (Eu Green Deal)** (Adopted May 2020)	Strategy aims to accelerate the transition to a sustainable food system.
Directive (EU) 2024/3019	**Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive** (Latest update Nov 2024 Transposition by July 2027)	Strengthens requirements for nitrogen and phosphorus removal to reduce eutrophication risks.

Type of Document and nº	Title	Relevance
2020/2273(INI)	**EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives (EU Green deal)** (Resolution adopted by European Parliament in June 2021)	Promotes ecosystem restoration, sustainable land use, and pollution reduction to mitigate eutrophication.

5. GAP Analyses

39. The GAP analysis follows the previously (step 4) described methodology (Section 2), structuring answers around the following options:

- **Fully Addressed**: The resolution is covered by a Barcelona Convention decision and no further action is needed
- **Partially Addressed**: Correspondences are documented, but gaps remain therefore, additional measures are required for consideration.
- **Not Addressed**: No equivalent regional measure exists; therefore, new measures are required for consideration.

40. The GAP analyses presented in the Annex I, summarizes commonalities and gaps between global (UNEA) and regional (Barcelona Convention/UNEP-MAP) policies aiming to assess whether the UNEA resolutions are transposed at regional level in UNEP/MAP. The analyses highlights areas where regional frameworks may not fully align with UNEA commitments and outlines recommendations for MED POL's future Programme of Work (PoW) and UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) as well as proposes the formulation of possible measures for the NAP update (2025-2035).

41. The selected UNEA Resolutions, in Annex I, are grouped by thematic area, followed by a column indicating the relevant Barcelona Convention instruments (Protocols or Regional Plans) and the level of alignment is visually represented using an infographic indicator (well aligned, partially aligned, not aligned). The final column in the GAP table summarizes key findings as well as proposes next steps, with proposed actions at both the regional (R) and national (N) levels for consideration.

42. A more focused GAP analyses were conducted specifically for marine litter in line with the requirements of EU Funded Marine Litter MED Plus project to assess the potential areas of further enhancement in Marine Litter Regional Plan (MLRP), taking into consideration the recent development in marine litter issues.

43. Consequently, GAP analyses presented in the Annex IV summarizes the commonalities and gaps between UNEA Resolution on Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics (UNEP/EA.4/Res.6) and Barcelona Convention Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (MLRP); and Annex V presents the GAP analyses between UNEA Resolution on Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution (UNEP/EA.4/Res.9) and MLRP. Furthermore, Annex VI presents the detail GAP analyses between UNEA Resolution on End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14) and MRLP.

6. Proposed Potential Measures for new NAPs

44. The Table 4 below presents the list of **proposed potential measures** for consideration in the updated National Action Plans (NAPs) 2025–2035, in line with the analyses of this report. The potential measures should be used with guidance considering national priorities and global commitments. They are intended to support Contracting Parties in identifying potential areas for strengthening their National Action Plans (NAPs) to better align with global commitments.

45. The table ensures clarity and ease of reference, by clustering the UNEA Resolution by respective key thematic area in line with the purpose of the analyses as below:

- **LBP:** Land-based pollution
- **MLPP:** Marine Litter/Plastic Pollution
- **NM:** Nutrient management
- **SCP:** Sustainable Consumption and Production
- **NBS:** Nature-Base Solutions

46. For this document, each measure has been assigned a unique number (for illustration purposes) to facilitate its identification and cross-referencing and follow up. Moreover, proposed potential measures have been classified by their type, in line with the categorization used in the previous NAPs as below:

- **Policy measures:** Broader strategies, action plans, and commitments that set the direction for implementation;
- **Legal measures:** Binding regulations, laws, and enforcement mechanisms;
- **Institutional measures:** Strengthening governance, coordination, and capacity-building;
- **Economic/Financial measures:** Incentives, taxes, subsidies, and funding mechanisms) and;
- **Technological/Technical measures:** Innovation, best practices, and infrastructure improvements.

47. These potential measures should be considered as **indicative recommendations rather than prescriptive obligations**. Their formulation, prioritization, and implementation should be adapted to each country's national priorities, global commitments, scale, etc., considering existing policies, legal frameworks, and ongoing initiatives. In some cases, proposed potential measures may already be in place at the national level, while in others, additional adjustments may be necessary to ensure practical relevance and feasibility.

48. Given the broad scope of UNEA Resolutions, which often encompass high-level commitments, the measures outlined here represent a concise selection aimed at addressing key gaps within this report, while ensuring coherence with the Barcelona Convention framework. These potential measures do not intent to cover the full national actions that could be derived from a specific UNEA resolution, that means that the commitment to specific resolution would need additional national action to be implemented, naturally, which might not be covered by this analyses report.

49. Finally, the key provisions of each selected Resolution addressed to UNEA Member States are provided in Annex IX of this report. Annex IX should serve as an important reference for Contracting Parties, particularly when adapting the proposed NAP measures in their national contexts. **Referring to these provisions will help ensure that the measures remain aligned with the original commitments set out in the UNEA resolutions.**

Table 4: Proposed potential measures for the updated NAPs 2025-2035

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems UNEP/EA.3/Res.10	LBP/M01	Strengthen national water governance and policies addressing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), ensuring coherence between both marine and freshwater ecosystems	Policy Institutional	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M02	Improve water quality monitoring networks	Institutional	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M03	Enhance public access to water quality data	Institutional	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M04	Mobilize resources for water-related ecosystems restoration	Economic/Financial Institutional	EO5, EO9
Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors UNEP/EA.3/Res.2	LBP/M05	Mainstream biodiversity into agriculture by promoting sustainable agriculture practices to minimize habitat degradation and pollution	Legal	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M06	Integrate biodiversity into urban and infrastructure planning by mandating biodiversity impact assessments for all large-urban and infrastructure project.	Legal	EO9
	LBP/M07	Streamline biodiversity within tourism activities by providing guidelines to implement biodiversity-friendly tourism	Policy Technological/Technical	EO9
	LBP/M08	Reduce pollution from extractive industries, by implementing stricter regulation on mining, oil and gas to minimize habitat destruction and pollution	Legal Institutional	EO9
	LBP/M09	Promote Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to mitigate pollution	Institutional	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M10	Strengthen national legislation on biodiversity protection by updating legal frameworks to integrate biodiversity conservation in key polluting sectors	Legal	EO9
	LBP/M11	Establish-multi sectoral biodiversity committee to oversee biodiversity integration in key sectors	Institutional	EO9
	LBP/M12	Develop capacity building programmes on mainstreaming biodiversity	Institutional	EO9
Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.3/Res.6	LBP/M13	Integrate soil pollution prevention measures in key sectors (agriculture, industry, urban development)	Policy	EO9
	LBP/M14	Promote sustainable land-use practices to prevent soil degradation, including NbS.	Institutional	EO5, EO9

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
	LBP/M15	Select emerging NbS (regenerative agriculture, bio-remediation) contributing to soil restoration efforts	Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M16	Develop and implement a soil remediation and regeneration program for selected areas	Policy Economic/Financial	EO9
	LBP/M17	Encourage the use of sustainable soil restoration techniques	Technological/Technical Economic/Financial	EO9
Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries UNEP/EA.3/Res.9	LBP/M18	Introduce or update national regulations to set mandatory limits on lead content in paints, consistent with international standards	Legal Policy	EO9
	LBP/M19	Conduct awareness raising campaigns targeting industries, retailers, and consumers on the health risk and available alternatives	Institutional	EO9
	LBP/M20	Provide technical assistance and incentives for paint manufacturers to adopt lead-free production processes	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9
	LBP/M21	Establish a safe collection system of lead-acid batteries, by developing appropriate infrastructure for safe collection and temporary storage	Technological/Technical	EO9
	LBP/M22	Upgrade recycling facilities to meet ESM standards for lead-waste batteries	Technological/Technical Economic/Financial	EO9
Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation UNEP/EA.4/Res.10	LBP/M23	Develop national soil health strategy	Policy	EO9
	LBP/M24	Develop sector-specific biodiversity action plans for key economic activities	Policy	EO9
	LBP/M25	Implement national land restoration programs integrating nature-based solutions	Policy Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO9
Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities UNEP/EA.4/Res.11	LBP/M26	No measure proposed		
Mineral resource governance UNEP/EA.4/Res.19	LBP/M27	Enhance national regulations on hazardous and non-hazardous mining waste, ensuring alignment with international best practices.	Legal Institutional	EO9
	LBP/M28	Develop national remediation programs for abandoned or degraded mining sites, prioritizing areas with potential risks to coastal and marine ecosystems.	Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO9

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
	LBP/M29	Encourage resource-efficient mining by promoting the recovery and reuse of secondary raw materials from mining waste.	Institutional Technological/Technical	EO9
Environmentally Sound Management of Waste UNEP/EA.4/Res.7	LBP/M30	Develop and implement circular economy strategies for key sectors	Policy Institutional	EO9, EO10
	LBP/M31	Develop EPR schemes for key waste streams	Legal Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	LBP/M32	Promote and support "Zero Waste" initiatives at municipal and community levels	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	LBP/M33	Improve waste management infrastructure and recycling capacity	Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO9, EO10
Sustainable Lake Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.4	LBP/M34	Enhance monitoring of water quality in lakes with hydrological links to the Mediterranean Sea, focusing on pollution from agricultural runoff and urban wastewater	Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M35	Promote nature-based solutions for lake conservation to improve water filtration and biodiversity protection (eg. Wetland restoration)	Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste UNEP/EA.5/Res.7	LBP/M36	Enhance legislation to phase out or restrict high-risk chemicals (PFAs, EDCs, hazardous pesticides) in lime with international frameworks	Policy Legal	EO9
	LBP/M37	Promote and support safe available alternatives	Institutional Technological/Technical Economic/Financial	EO9
	LBP/M38	Implement national awareness campaigns on chemical risks, safe handling and sustainable alternatives (Targeting industries, farmers and consumers)	Institutional	EO9
Highly Hazardous Pesticides UNEP/EA.6/Res.11	LBP/M39	Strengthen national pesticide regulations by introducing phased bans or stricter controls on HHPs if still in use	Legal	EO9
	LBP/M40	Enhance enforcement mechanisms against illegal pesticide trade, including border control measures, market surveillance, and penalties for non-compliance.	Legal	EO9
	LBP/M41	Provide capacity-building for farmers on safe pesticide use, risk reduction, and adoption of alternative pest control methods.	Institutional	EO9

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
	LBP/M42	Become member of the voluntary, multi-stakeholder global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides	Institutional	EO9
	LBP/M43	Improve national monitoring systems for tracking pesticide residues in soil, water, and food,	Technological/Technical	EO9
	LBP/M44	Support research and innovation in safer and more sustainable pesticide alternatives	Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO9
Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. UNEP/EA.6/Res.13	LBP/M45	Adopt IWRM principles in national water policies, ensuring water management strategies incorporating cross-sectoral collaboration.	Policy Institutional	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M46	Strengthen water quality monitoring and early warning systems	Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M47	Promote climate-resilient water infrastructure	Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M48	Support water efficiency in agriculture and industry.	Institutional Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
	LBP/M49	Develop national programs for aquatic ecosystems restauration to enhance biodiversity, improve water quality and strengthen climate resilience	Policy Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO5, EO9
Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics UNEP/EA.4/Res.6	MLPP/M50	Adopt regulations to ban or phase out intentionally added microplastics in specific product categories (e.g., cosmetics, personal care products, detergents, paints).	Legal	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M51	Establish eco-design criteria for plastic-based products to minimize shedding of secondary microplastics (e.g., textiles, synthetic fibers, tires)	Technological/Technical	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M52	Develop and enforce strict regulations on handling, transportation, and storage of plastic pellets to prevent leakage into the environment	Legal	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution UNEP/EA.4/Res.9	MLPP/M53	Adopt and implement national bans or restrictions on priority SUPPs	Legal	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
	MLPP/M54	Strengthen consumer awareness campaigns on the impact of plastic pollution and promote behavioral change towards sustainable alternatives.	Institutional	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M55	Expand Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) and economic incentives for reusable alternatives and high-value recyclable plastics.	Policy Institutional Economic/Financial	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M56	Promote sustainable procurement policies to phase out SUPPs in public administration, schools, and events.	Policy	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M57	Introduce fiscal incentives (tax benefits, subsidies) to encourage businesses to invest in plastic-free alternatives and circular economy solutions.	Economic/Financial	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M58	Increase monitoring mechanisms to track progress on SUPP phase-out and ensure compliance with national regulations.	Institutional	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M59	Support R&D at the national level on alternatives material and alternatives to SUPPs, ensuring their effectiveness and sustainability.	Institutional Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument UNEP/EA.5/Res.14	MLPP/M60	Integrate circular economy approaches in national plastic pollution strategies (design for recyclability, reuse systems, alternative materials)	Policy	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M61	Improve plastic waste data collection and reporting	Institutional Technological/Technical	EO10 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	MLPP/M62	Develop or enhance EPR systems to cover plastic products	Legal Economic/Financial	EO10

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
				See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies
Sustainable Nitrogen Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.2	NM/M63	Implement national nitrogen action plans, including reduction targets and ensuring integration with other policies (Water, agriculture)	Policy	EO5 *See Annex VII for alignment with EU policies*
	NM/M64	Improve fertilizer use efficiency and promote sustainable alternative	Technological/Technical	EO5 *See Annex VIII for alignment with EU policies*
	NM/M65	Enhance wastewater nitrogen removal and recovery	Technological/Technical	EO5 *See Annex VIII for alignment with EU policies*
	NM/M66	Establish national nitrogen accounting systems to track sources and flows	Technological/Technical	EO5 *See Annex VIII for alignment with EU policies*
	NM/M67	Promote research and innovation in nitrogen management	Institutional	EO5 *See Annex VIII for alignment with EU policies*
Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production UNEP/EA.4/Res.1	SCP/M68	Develop and implement national SCP policies and integrate them into sectorial strategies	Policy	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M69	Strengthen national frameworks on sustainable public procurement	Legal	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M70	Support sustainable business models by providing fiscal and regulatory incentives for sustainable products and services	Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M71	Implement EPR Schemes for key products categories (eg. Plastic, electronics, packaging)	Legal Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M72	Encourage consumer education and awareness campaigns on sustainable lifestyles	Institutional	EO9, EO10

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste UNEP/EA.4/Res.2	SCP/M73	Develop and implement national food waste reduction strategies, setting clear reduction targets	Policy	EO9
	SCP/M74	Strengthen national policies to promote food waste prevention and reductions along the supply chain, including the adoption of sustainable cold chain technologies and packaging solutions	Policy	EO9
	SCP/M75	Enhance food waste monitoring systems, ensuring reliable data collection, tracking and reporting.	Institutional Technological/Technical	EO9
	SCP/M76	Provide financial support and visibility to food recovery and redistribution initiatives, including tax incentives for businesses donating surplus food.	Economic/Financial	EO9
	SCP/M77	Raise awareness and educate stakeholders on food waste prevention, sustainable food systems and the environmental impact of food loss.	Institutional	EO9
	SCP/M78	Support research and innovation on the impact of climate conditions on production, storage and transport	Institutional	EO9
Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices UNEP/EA.4/Res.4	SCP/M79	Adopt national green finance policies that provide financial incentives (e.g., tax benefits, subsidies, credit mechanisms) for businesses transitioning to sustainable models.	Policy Economic/Financial	EO9
	SCP/M80	Support SMEs in adopting sustainable business models through capacity-building, technical support, and access to green financing	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9
Sustainable Infrastructure UNEP/EA.4/Res.5	SCP/M81	Integrate sustainability criteria into national infrastructure policies and regulations, ensuring that new infrastructure projects align with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards.	Policy	EO9
	SCP/M82	Incorporate NbS into national infrastructure development plans, particularly in coastal resilience, urban planning, and water management.	Policy	EO9
	SCP/M83	Promote investment in sustainable infrastructure, including through tax incentives, subsidies, and credit facilities for green infrastructure projects.	Economic/Financial	EO9
	SCP/M84	Encourage cities and local authorities to integrate sustainability into urban infrastructure projects, particularly in transport, energy, and waste management.	Policy Institutional	EO9

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production UNEP/EA.5/Res.11	SCP/M85	Adopt national circular economy roadmaps, setting quantifiable targets for waste reduction and material efficiency.	Policy	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M86	Support green innovation by promoting research and investment in sustainable materials, eco-design, and reuse models.	Technological/Technical	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M87	Establish financial incentives (e.g., tax benefits, subsidies, grants) to encourage businesses to transition towards circular production models.	Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M88	Implement awareness-raising campaigns to educate consumers and businesses on sustainable consumption patterns and circular economy opportunities.	Institutional	EO9, EO10
Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure UNEP/EA.5/Res.9	SCP/M89	Adopt national sustainable infrastructure strategies, integrating circular economy principles, ecosystem-based approaches, and climate resilience into infrastructure development plans.	Policy	EO9
	SCP/M90	Mandate the implementation and enforcement of SEA/EIA regulations for all major infrastructure projects to safeguard ecosystems and ensure sustainability compliance.	Legal Institutional	EO9
	SCP/M91	Integrate digital infrastructure solutions to optimize sustainable urban planning, resource efficiency, and environmental impact monitoring.	Policy Technical/Technological	EO9
	SCP/M92	Enhance public engagement mechanisms in infrastructure decision-making, ensuring transparent consultations with local communities and vulnerable populations at all stages of project development.	Institutional	EO9
Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals UNEP/EA.6/Res.5	SCP/M93	Adopt national policies and incentives for circular economy approaches in metals and minerals management, including: • Recycling incentives for metals, electronic waste, and industrial by-products. • Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes for electronic waste and batteries. • Material efficiency standards to reduce raw material demand in key sectors.	Policy Economic/Financial	EO9

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure n°	Potential NAP measures proposed	Measure type	Related EO
	SCP/M94	Promote eco-design and sustainable materials innovation, integrating circularity principles in product design and industrial production	Technological/Technical Economic/Financial	EO9
Promoting sustainable lifestyles UNEP/EA.6/Res.8	SCP/M95	Integrate sustainable lifestyle education into school curricula and lifelong learning programs, aligning with SDG 4.7 on education for sustainable development.	Policy	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M96	Launch targeted awareness campaigns to promote sustainable consumption choices, covering areas such as: • Reducing plastic waste • Energy and water conservation • Sustainable tourism and mobility • Ethical and local food consumption	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
	SCP/M97	Support green social enterprises and innovative business models that encourage sustainability through product longevity, repairability, and sharing economies.	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9, EO10
Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.5/Res.5	NBS/M98	Define national NbS policy frameworks, including national NbS targets and priority areas	Policy	EO9
	NBS/M99	Integrate NbS into sectoral policies and economic sectors like coastal resilience, agriculture and land use, urban planning, tourism.	Policy	EO9
	NBS/M100	Implement tax incentives or subsidies for business adopting NbS in infrastructure, agriculture, wastewater treatment	Economic/Financial	EO9
	NBS/M101	Mobilize national and international financing for NbS projects	Institutional Economic/Financial	EO9
	NBS/M102	Support scientific research on NbS tailored to Mediterranean ecosystems	Technological/Technical Economic/Financial	EO9
	NBS/M103	Develop national awareness campaign to inform communities, businesses, local policymakers about the benefits of NbS for climate resilience, pollution reduction, biodiversity conservation.	Policy Institutional	EO9
	NBS/M104	Integrate NbS in educational programmes at schools and universities.	Institutional	EO9

7. Conclusions

50. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of the alignment between UNEA Resolutions adopted over the past decade and the regional framework on pollution prevention and reduction in the Mediterranean.

51. The conclusion presented in the chapter focuses on recommendation regarding the proposed measures to strengthen the updated National Action Plans (NAPs) and recommendation for the next UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS), ensuring greater coherence with global commitments. Among emerging issues, the analyses, *inter alia,* indicated the need for prioritizing the plastic pollution and marine litter, reflecting the high priority in the Mediterranean and the significant recent developments at global, Mediterranean, and European levels.

7.1 Key considerations including emerging issues:

52. As environmental challenges in the Mediterranean continue to evolve, to address these challenges requires more integrated, cross-sectoral, and evidence-based approaches. The analysis made through this report identifies several key consideration as **emerging issues** that should be addressed at both national and regional levels:

- **Mainstreaming biodiversity into key economic sectors** such as agriculture, fisheries, infrastructure, and tourism, ensuring pollution prevention efforts also contribute to biodiversity conservation.
- **Scaling up Nature-based Solutions (NbS)** to mitigate pollution, improve water management, and enhance coastal resilience.
- **Strengthening soil management strategies** through soil restoration programs, sustainable land-use practices, and pollution prevention measures.
- **Enhancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes** to ensure effective waste management and circular economy approaches.
- **Advancing Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Source to Sea Approach** to improve water quality, reduce nutrient pollution, and enhance ecosystem resilience as well as consider source to sea approach in the context of bridging the upstream and downstream measures for a healthier ecosystem.
- **Considering specific policy frameworks for food loss and food waste** to complement broader sustainable consumption and production (SCP) strategies.
- **Developing targeted approaches for nitrogen management**, addressing its role in eutrophication and land-based pollution.
- **Introducing new policies on hazardous substances**, including the regulation of **lead in paint, highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs), and emerging contaminants.**
- **Sustaining harmonization efforts for environmental indicators** and improving data collection, reporting, and quality to ensure informed decision-making.

7.1. Recommendations for the development of the NAPs (2025-2025)

53. Countries updating their National Action Plans (NAPs) should consider adopting more strategic, evidence-based, and realistic approaches in line with the following pillars:

- **Comprehensive national assessments**: Countries should assess their own environmental challenges, existing policies, and priority pollution sources to ensure that selected measures are well adapted to national contexts.
- **Prioritization and long-term vision**: While setting ambitious goals is crucial, countries should also prioritize key measures based on feasibility, available resources, and expected impact. A stepwise approach, focusing on a few well-

defined actions while maintaining a long-term vision, will enhance implementation success.

- **Ensure coherence between upstream and downstream**: While developing NAP targets, particular focus should be placed in upstream measures. These should be designed in a holistic manner that not only consider the requirements for implementing the ecosystem approach downstream but also integrate upstream actions by emphasizing integrated river basin management and the source-to-sea approach — thus ensuring the heath of the water continuum.
- **Strengthening monitoring frameworks:** Effective monitoring is key to measuring progress and guiding future policy adjustments. Countries should enhance data collection, introduce clear indicators, and improve transparency and public access to environmental information.
- **Leveraging EU Policies as a benchmark**: The policy developments at the EU level provide valuable guidance for non-EU Mediterranean countries, particularly regarding plastic pollution, waste management, nutrient reduction, soil management and chemical regulation. National policymakers are encouraged to align with EU best practices where possible.
- **Multi-stakeholder engagement**: Governments should engage key stakeholders— including industry, civil society, researchers, and local authorities— not only to ensure broad participation and shared responsibility in implementing NAP measures but only strengthen the science-policy interface.

7.2 Recommendation for the next UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy

54. The analysis conducted in this report and presented in Annex X, identifies opportunities for strengthening regional governance within the next UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS). It is important for the Contracting Parties to use these analyses for underpinning the preparation of the next MTS.

55. Strategic recommendations include, *inter alia:*

- **Developing new regional policy frameworks or action plans** on key transversal topics such as biodiversity mainstreaming, nature-based solutions, soil management and/or more specific issued like food loss and waste, nitrogen pollution, and lead in paint.
- **Enhancing policy coherence within UNEP/MAP frameworks**, ensuring stronger linkages between pollution control, biodiversity conservation, and circular economy approaches.
- **Supporting harmonized regional monitoring and data-sharing initiatives** to improve the quality and comparability of environmental assessments across Mediterranean countries.
- **Strengthening regional cooperation** by facilitating knowledge exchange, technical capacity-building, and the transfer of innovative solutions to pollution challenges.
- **Promoting financial and technical assistance mechanisms** to help Mediterranean countries implement ambitious pollution reduction measures, particularly in non-EU countries with limited resources.
- **Enhance UNEP/MAP's role in supporting the implementation of global commitments** arising from multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) relevant to pollution prevention and reduction. This includes strengthening synergies with the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, the Global Framework on Chemicals Management, and the forthcoming legally binding treaty on plastic pollution. UNEP/MAP can facilitate knowledge exchange, promote

regional coordination, and support capacity-building efforts to ensure effective implementation at the Mediterranean level.

Annex I:
GAP Analyses

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
Land-based pollution	**Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems UNEP/EA.3/Res.10**	Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge Management Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan on Stormwater Management		UNEP/MAP provides a legally binding framework for tackling water pollution, with a specific focus on marine and coastal ecosystems. In contrast, the UNEA Resolution promotes a broader approach, encompassing inland and freshwater ecosystems as well. The Resolution sets a clear target to reduce untreated wastewater by 50% by 2030 while Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater Treatment set obligations based on the size of urban agglomerations. The UNEA Resolution emphasizes integrated water governance through Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The UNEA Resolution calls for public access to water quality information, which could be improved at regional and national levels. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Strengthen monitoring networks and integrate IWRM and Source to Sea approaches into regional governance (UNEP/MAP). N/ Enhance integrated approaches to water management, improve monitoring, public access to information and increase investment in ecosystem restoration.
Land-based pollution	**Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors UNEP/EA.3/Res.2**	SPA/BD Protocol LBS Protocol		There is no specific UNEP/MAP Decision on this mainstreaming approach – However biodiversity is a priority within the Barcelona Convention framework and is addressed through the SPA/BD Protocol. Key sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, tourism, extractive inductries and manufacturing, are covered under the LBS Protocol, without specific obligation to integrate biodiversity. There is a lack of requirement under UNEP/MAP for CPs to systematically integrate biodiversity considerations into economic sectors. UNEP/MAP encourages the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, there is no structured regional framework explicitly guiding its integration into sectoral policies. The UNEA Resolution provides a broad framework and recommendations rather than specific legally binding obligations, there is a need to translate provisions into specific regional and national measures. **Potential follow-up actions:**

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				R/ Strengthening regional biodiversity integration efforts by developing guidance or regional action plan to align key economic sectors with biodiversity protection and sustainable use. R/ Exploring synergies between the LBS Protocol and SPA/BD Protocol to ensure that pollution prevention measures also support biodiversity conservation. N/ Suggest national measures to implement mainstreaming biodiversity approach in economic activities. N/ Promoting Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) as a way to reconcile economic development with biodiversity conservation.
Land-based pollution	**Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development** **UNEP/EA.3/Res.6**	LBS Protocol Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan on the Reduction of Inputs of Mercury		Soil pollution is not comprehensively addressed within the Barcelona Convention framework, despite its strong link to land-based sources of pollution. Existing regional plans cover some pollutants (e.g., mercury, hazardous waste, pesticide, nutrient runoff), but there is no dedicated comprehensive strategy to manage soil pollution in an integrated manner. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ A more integrated regional approach could strengthen the prevention, monitoring, and regulatory frameworks in alignment with UNEA's recommendations. The Resolution specially refers to the regional level, making it relevant for further harmonization within the Barcelona Convention framework. N/ Countries could integrate specific measures in their NAPs to prevent, reduce, and manage soil pollution. Additionally, while soil regeneration was not well developed at the time of UNEA-3, it is now gaining traction in global policy discussions, particularly within the EU policy framework. NAP measures could be aligned with the EU Soil Strategy and upcoming regulatory developments on soil health.
Land-based pollution	**Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries** **UNEP/EA.3/Res.9**	LBS Protocol Hazardous Waste Protocol		While hazardous waste management is addressed under UNEP/MAP, including through the Hazardous Waste Protocol, there are no specific regional measures dedicated to eliminating exposure to lead in paints or ensuring the proper management of waste lead-acid batteries. Lead is included under Annex I of the LBS Protocol, but there are no targeted obligations regarding its phase-out in paints or the environmentally sound management of lead-acid batteries.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				Potential follow-up actions: R/ Leverage existing international guidance on lead in paint and waste lead-acid battery management to propose capacity-building initiatives for Mediterranean countries to accelerate implementation. N/ For countries that lack regulations on lead in paint or do not have an adequate framework for managing waste lead-acid batteries, recommend the inclusion of specific measures in the updated NAPs to address these gaps.
Land-based pollution	**Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.10**	LBS Protocol ICZM Protocol SPA/BD Protocol		Biodiversity protection is a core priority of the Barcelona Convention and is addressed through the SPA/BD Protocol. Gaps remain in integrating biodiversity into economic sectors, which could be reinforced under the LBS Protocol (linked to UNEP/EA.3/Res.2 on mainstreaming biodiversity into key sectors). Land degradation is not explicitly covered under the Barcelona Convention. Innovation, partnerships, and financial mechanisms are mentioned in the UNEA resolution but and could be reinforced at the regional level. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Enhance integration of biodiversity protection into land-based pollution strategies R/ Strengthen regional cooperation on land restoration and ecosystem resilience R/ Promote knowledge transfer on innovative biodiversity conservation measures R/ Encourage Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) for major plans to prevent biodiversity loss and land degradation N/ Biodiversity mainstreaming in key economic sectors N/Enhance national land degradation policies and foster innovative practices.
Land-based pollution	**Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.11**	LBS Protocol Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and		This resolution is strongly aligned with the LBS Protocol, which provides a legally binding framework for Contracting Parties to prevent, reduce, and control pollution from land-based activities in the Mediterranean. The Resolution encourages technical cooperation, capacity-building, technology transfer, and the exchange of best practices, which are

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
		Sewage Sludge Management Regional Plan on Stormwater Management		covered under the LBS Protocol and its associated Regional Plans, particularly through UNEP/MAP's support to Contracting Parties in implementing pollution control measures. Capacity-building and best-practice exchange are promoted under the LBS Protocol. Technology transfer could be eventually strengthened.
Land-based pollution	**Mineral resource governance** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.19**	LBS Protocol Hazardous Waste Protocol SCP Action Plan		The LBS Protocol addresses industrial emissions and pollution from extractive industries within broader pollution control efforts. The Hazardous Waste Protocol does not specifically target mining-related waste management or the remediation of contaminated sites from extractive industries. The SCP Action Plan aligns with circular economy principles for mineral resource use but do not include specific measures tailored to extractive industries. There is no dedicated Regional Plan under the Barcelona Convention specifically covering mineral resource governance or its environmental impacts. Relevance is considered as medium, compared to other parts of the world. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Given the number of shortlisted UNEA Resolutions with partial and the core coastal and marine focus of the Barcelona Convention, this resolution might be considered as a lower priority for regional-level policy development. N/ For Mediterranean countries with significant coastal mining operations or port-related mineral activities, targeted NAP measures could be proposed to align with the resolution's objectives and minimize mining-related impacts on the marine environment.
Land-based pollution	**Environmentally Sound Management of Waste** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.7**	LBS Protocol (including latest update of Annexes) Hazardous Waste Protocol Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management SCP Regional Action Plan		The Barcelona Convention framework is largely aligned with this UNEA Resolution, particularly following the update of the LBS Protocol. This update introduced stronger integration of SCP and circular economy approaches while incorporating the latest regulatory, scientific, and technical developments related to land-based sources of pollution. Additionally, the Regional Plans on Marine Litter Management and SCP contribute to the alignment with this Resolution by promoting waste prevention, sustainable consumption, and improved waste management practices.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				However, effective implementation probably remains a challenge, and further efforts are needed to ensure the full application of circular economy principles, extended producer responsibility (EPR), and waste prevention strategies across the Mediterranean region. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Support countries in developing circular economy strategies for key sectors R/ Enhance tracking of waste reduction targets and improve waste management indicators (Aligning with EU Framework) R/ Expand the role of EPR schemes across the region, with a focus on key product categories (e.g., packaging, plastics, hazardous waste, and electronics). N/ Develop and implement circular economy strategies N/ Strengthen EPR schemes for key waste streams N/ Promote and support "Zero Waste" initiatives
Land-based pollution	**Sustainable Lake Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.4**	No specific UNEP/MAP Decision		The Barcelona Convention primarily focuses on marine and coastal ecosystems, whereas this UNEA resolution emphasizes the sustainable management of lakes, including inland water bodies. Lakes are not explicitly covered under the LBS Protocol or any regional plan adopted under the Barcelona Convention, despite the fact that several lakes are situated in coastal areas of the Mediterranean. The resolution calls for better integration of lakes within water governance frameworks, particularly through the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach, ensuring stronger linkages between inland water bodies and marine pollution control. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Strengthen cooperation mechanisms between coastal and inland water bodies, particularly for transboundary cooperation. N/ Promote multi-stakeholder governance approaches for lake management, involving local communities, research institutions, and private sector stakeholders. N/ Ensure that lakes are integrated into IWRM strategies, considering the entire basin and its linkages to coastal and marine ecosystems.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				N/ Improve the integration of lakes into national water governance and pollution prevention strategies, aligning with broader ecosystem-based management approaches.
Land-based pollution	**Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste** **UNEP/EA.5/Res.7**	LBS Protocol Hazardous Waste Protocol Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Former Regional Plans addressing specific chemicals (POPs)		The LBS Protocol addresses chemical pollution, but there is no overarching regional strategy fully dedicated to the sound management of chemicals and waste that integrates a life-cycle approach and aligns with the Beyond 2020 framework under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). The Hazardous Waste Protocol provides a legally binding framework, but it lacks implementation and does not incorporate recent developments in global chemicals governance. It also lacks explicit provisions on emerging chemicals of concern, such as endocrine disruptors, PFAS, and other persistent and bio accumulative pollutants, which are increasingly being addressed at the global level. The Regional Plan on Agriculture Management includes references to pesticides and fertilizers, but it does not fully address their adverse impacts on human health, soil, and water quality as highlighted in the UNEA Resolution. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Follow the progress on the development of a Global Framework on Chemicals (UNEP/EA.6/Res.9) and consider involvement. R/ Consider developing an integrated regional approach to sound chemicals management and waste, R/ Enhance tracking and monitoring mechanisms for new chemical pollutants, ensuring alignment with international frameworks (e.g., Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions). N/ Strengthen national policies and regulations to reduce and eliminate the risks of hazardous chemicals, particularly those identified as priorities under global assessments (e.g., PFAS, endocrine disruptors, and pesticides).
Land-based pollution	**Highly Hazardous Pesticides** **UNEP/EA.6/Res.11**	Plan for the management of PCBs waste and nine pesticides for the Mediterranean Region (MAP technical report)		In 2003, UNEP/MAP developed a Plan for the Management of PCBs Waste and Nine Pesticides (Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Mirex, Toxaphene, DDT, and HCB). These substances are banned under the Stockholm Convention, except DDT, which has

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				exemptions. However, the plan is not legally binding and may no longer be actively implemented. The Hazardous Waste Protocol addresses hazardous waste but does not explicitly cover pesticides or their illegal trafficking, which is a key focus of the UNEA resolution. The Regional Plan on Agriculture Management does not include explicit measures for phasing out HHPs, despite their significant impact on agricultural pollution. Illegal trafficking of pesticides is not addressed under any current regional framework, requiring enhanced collaboration. The Zero Pollution Action Plan (2021) offers EU-aligned measures that could guide the regional approach to reducing pesticide pollution. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Expand the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management to include HHP-specific measures in alignment with UNEA recommendations. R/ Update and expand the list of banned or regulated pesticides under the Barcelona Convention, incorporating international updates such as the PAN list and the Rotterdam/Stockholm Conventions. R/ Consider engaging in regional cooperation to combat illegal pesticide trafficking, in alignment with Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions, and potentially partner with INTERPOL, FAO, or SAICM initiatives. R/ Promote sustainable alternatives to HHPs by supporting Integrated Pest Management (IPM), biopesticides, and nature-based alternatives to reduce environmental harm. N/ Strengthen national regulatory frameworks to phase out HHPs, if still in use N/ capacity-building and technical assistance programs for farmers N/ Improve national monitoring systems for tracking pesticide residues in soil, water, and food.
Land-based pollution	**Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.** **UNEP/EA.6/Res.13**	LBS Protocol Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge Management ICZM Protocol		The LBS Protocol and several of its Regional Plans address water pollution and wastewater management, while the ICZM Protocol promotes ecosystem-based approaches and sustainable water management within coastal zones. However, this UNEA Resolution proposes a more integrated approach that could strengthen interlinkages between key environmental

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				challenges in the Mediterranean Region—climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution—by positioning water at the center of policy frameworks. Key gaps identified in the Barcelona Convention framework include: - Limited application of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) across all sectors. - Gaps in water governance and disaster risk management (e.g., climate resilience, drought adaptation, flood control). - Limited focus on water efficiency in agriculture and industry. - Insufficient emphasis on nature-based solutions and climate-resilient water infrastructure. **Potential follow-up actions**: R/ Strengthen the integration of IWRM principles within the Barcelona Convention framework. R/ Expand UNEP/MAP engagement on water resilience, including climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and transboundary cooperation. R/ Support the integration of nature-based solutions for water management in line with climate adaptation strategies. N/ Ensure the integration of IWRM principles into national water policies (cross-sectoral cooperation). N/ Strengthen national monitoring systems for water quality and quantity to improve decision-making. N/ Support climate-resilient water infrastructure investment, prioritizing pollution control, wastewater treatment, and water reuse.
ML/Plastic pollution	**Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics UNEP/EA.4/Res.6**	LBS Protocol Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management SCP Regional Action Plan		A detailed analysis of correspondences and gaps is provided in the table of annex IV. Overall, this resolution is well aligned with the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management, as well as the SCP Regional Action Plan. However, few gaps remain, particularly regarding the absence of measures for the phase-out or ban of intentionally added microplastics in products, as well as innovation in product design to prevent plastic pollution at the early stages of the value chain. Additionally, stricter industry requirements to prevent plastic pellet loss across manufacturing and supply chains are lacking.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
ML/Plastic pollution	**Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution UNEP/EA.4/Res.9**	Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management SCP Regional Action Plan		A detailed analysis of correspondences and gaps is provided in the table of annex V. The Marine Litter Regional Plan is aligned with the UNEA Resolution, addressing key aspects such as phase-out measures, SCP, waste management improvements, and public awareness. However, the MLRP could be further strengthened by: - Defining priority measures for SUPPs, including quantifiable reduction targets to ensure concrete progress. - Enhancing industry obligations to actively contribute to reducing plastic pollution, including financial and innovation incentives. - Introducing dedicated consumer education campaigns to promote sustainable alternatives to SUPPs and behavioural change. - Expanding measures to support innovation in environmentally sound alternatives to SUPPs, ensuring a more comprehensive approach to tackling plastic pollution.
ML/Plastic pollution	**End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument UNEP/EA.5/Res.14**	Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management		This resolution primarily focuses on the process for developing an international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution. However, it includes a provision addressed to Member States, which is aligned with the Marine Litter Regional Plan. A detailed gap analysis is provided in Annex V and VI. The analysis highlights the need to further integrate SCP and Circular Economy approaches into the updated NAPs, ensuring that measures addressing marine litter reduction are comprehensive. Additionally, efforts should be strengthened to improve harmonized reporting on plastic waste management to enhance data consistency and support evidence-based policy decisions.
Nutrient management / eutrophication	**Sustainable Nitrogen Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.2**	Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater and Sewage Sludge Management		The LBS Protocol and several Regional Plans address nutrient pollution, including nitrogen, but there is no dedicated strategy focusing comprehensively on sustainable nitrogen management. The Regional Plan on Agriculture Management covers fertilizer use but does not explicitly target nitrogen efficiency, pollution reduction, or nitrogen recovery. Similarly, the Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater and Sewage Sludge Management regulates nitrogen in wastewater discharges but lacks nitrogen reduction targets in line with UNEA's recommendations.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				Potential follow-up actions: R/ Develop a coordinated regional approach for sustainable nitrogen cycle management. R/ Define quantifiable nitrogen reduction targets to be integrated into relevant Regional Plans. R/ Promote nitrogen recovery and reuse solutions, integrating circular economy principles. R/ Enhance nitrogen pollution monitoring and data-sharing mechanisms across Mediterranean countries. N/ Implement national strategies to improve nitrogen use efficiency and minimize nitrogen losses from agriculture, wastewater, and industry.
SCP/circular economy	**Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.1**	LBS Protocol (Update annexes) SCP Regional Action Plan Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management		The Barcelona Convention, particularly the LBS Protocol, recognizes the need for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) models, notably through its updated annexes and the SCP Regional Action Plan. Strengthening the implementation of SCP measures at both the regional and national levels could enhance alignment with global commitments. **Potential follow-up actions**: R/ Provide technical support and facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges to assist countries in implementing SCP-related policies and instruments. N/ Integrate SCP measures into updated NAPs, ensuring alignment with UNEA commitments and sectoral strategies.
SCP/circular economy	**Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste** **UNEP/EA.4/Res.2**	LBS Protocol SCP Regional Action Plan Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan on the Reduction of BOD5 in the food sector		There is no dedicated regional plan or legally binding framework specifically targeting food loss and waste under the Barcelona Convention. However, the SCP Regional Action Plan recognizes the food sector as a key area for action. Additionally, the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management addresses food-related pollution, particularly through measures on organic waste, sustainable agriculture, and nutrient management. Finally, there is a Regional Plan, adopted in 2012, that specifically focus on the reduction of BOD5 in the food sector. This UNEA Resolution emphasizes technological innovations, cold chain efficiency, and monitoring mechanisms, which are not explicitly covered under the current Barcelona Convention framework. Given the environmental significance of the food sector in the Mediterranean,

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				strengthening its integration within the regional policy framework could be beneficial. **Potential follow-up actions**: R/ State-of-the-art study and regional guidance on food loss and waste reduction, including a monitoring framework. R/ Facilitate knowledge-sharing on innovative food waste solutions, including cold chain improvements, sustainable food packaging, and waste prevention. N/ Develop national food loss and food waste strategies with a comprehensive set of measures to support their implementation.
SCP/circular economy	**Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices UNEP/EA.4/Res.4**			The Barcelona Convention framework supports sustainable business practices aligned with the SCP Regional Action Plan. However, this UNEA resolution extends beyond current commitments, emphasizing the role of green finance, macroeconomic policies, and sustainable business models, which are not comprehensively covered in the Barcelona Convention framework. While the SCP Regional Action Plan promotes sustainable business models, it does not include specific financial mechanisms to mobilize green investments or enhance sustainable financing. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Develop regional guidance on integrating green financing instruments (e.g., green bonds, sustainability-linked finance, ESG investment strategies) to accelerate sustainable business transitions. N/ Adopt national green finance policies that provide incentives for sustainable business practices, including tax benefits, subsidies, and credit support for green investments. N/ Provide technical support and capacity-building for SMEs willing to adopt sustainable business models, ensuring access to financial and policy support mechanisms.
SCP/circular economy	**Sustainable Infrastructure UNEP/EA.4/Res.5**	ICZM Protocol LBS Protocol SCP Regional Action Plan Regional Plan on Urban Stormwater Management		The Barcelona Convention framework does not include a dedicated regional plan on sustainable infrastructure, but several protocols and strategies address related aspects: - The ICZM Protocol promotes integrated planning of coastal infrastructure, ensuring environmental sustainability.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				- The LBS Protocol indirectly addresses infrastructure through pollution prevention measures related to industrial and urban activities. - The SCP Regional Action Plan identifies infrastructure as a key area for implementing resource efficiency, circular economy, and low-impact development. - Reference is made to Green Infrastructure in the Regional Plan on Urban Stormwater Management. However, there are some gaps to be covered like regional-level strategic approaches to infrastructure planning, integration of environmental impact assessments (EIA) and strategic environmental assessments (SEA) into all infrastructure projects, promotion of nature-based solutions in infrastructure development. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Enhance the systematic use of EIA and SEA in infrastructure planning and decision-making. R/ Promote Nb) as key components of sustainable infrastructure planning and development N/ Encourage the mobilization of investments to support the transition towards sustainable and resilient infrastructure. N/ Strengthen public-private partnerships (PPPs) to promote innovative, low-impact, and climate-resilient infrastructure solutions.
SCP/circular economy	**Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production UNEP/EA.5/Res.11**	LBS Protocol SCP Regional Action Plan Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management		The Barcelona Convention framework has made progress in integrating circular economy (CE) approaches, particularly through the updated Annexes of the LBS Protocol and, previously, the SCP Regional Action Plan. Additionally, the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management includes this UNEA Resolution as a reference and the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management addresses partially the CE approach for plastics. However, this resolution advances further on Circular Economy, which create gaps between its objectives and the current UNEP/MAP framework, including: - Absence of specific circularity measures and targets for key sectors such as textiles, packaging, construction, and plastics.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				- Limited focus on the full value chain, particularly in early-stage interventions such as product design, eco-design, life-cycle assessments (LCAs), and industrial symbiosis. - Weak financial mechanisms to support the transition towards circular business models. - Insufficient regional cooperation on knowledge-sharing, best practices, and innovation in circular economy approaches. **Potential Follow-Up Actions** R/ further integrate circular economy approaches in new sectoral strategies or regional plans R/ Strengthen the role of EPR across key product categories to enhance circularity in waste management R/ Support knowledge-sharing and capacity building R/ Support financial mechanisms providing resource for the implementation of circular business models. N/ Adopt national Circular Economy Roadmaps N/ Create mechanisms to support innovation on CE, Integration of CE in university Curricula, to provide financial incentives.
SCP/circular economy	**Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure UNEP/EA.5/Res.9**	ICZM Protocol LBS Protocol SCP Regional Action Plan Regional Plan on Stormwater Management		"Sustainable infrastructure (sometimes also called green infrastructure) systems are those that are planned, designed, constructed, operated and decommissioned in a manner that ensures economic and financial, social, environmental (including climate resilience), and institutional sustainability over the entire infrastructure life cycle. Sustainable infrastructure can include built infrastructure, natural infrastructure or hybrid infrastructure that contains elements of both[3]". The Barcelona Convention framework does not include a dedicated regional plan on sustainable and resilient infrastructure, but related principles are partially integrated through various protocols and action plans: - **ICZM Protocol** → Promotes integrated planning of coastal infrastructure while considering environmental sustainability. - **LBS Protocol** → Indirectly addresses infrastructure impacts through pollution prevention from industrial and urban activities.

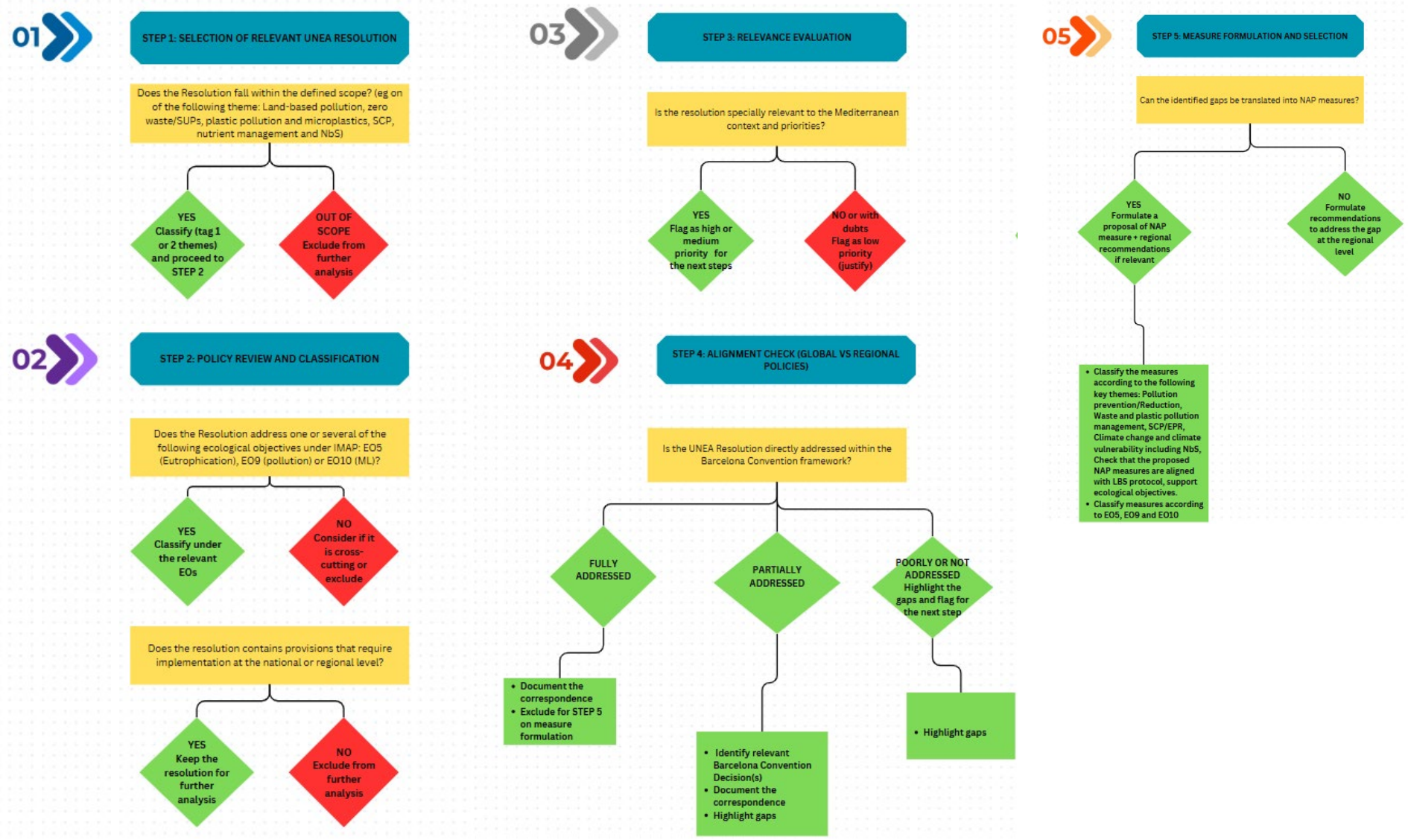
[3] Source of the definition: United Nations Environment Programme (2022). International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructure. Nairobi

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				- **SCP Regional Action Plan** → Highlights sustainable infrastructure as a key component of resource efficiency, low-impact development, and circular economy approaches. - **Regional Plan on Urban Stormwater Management** → Includes Green Infrastructure (GI) approaches, which align with Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for infrastructure development. Despite these elements, a more systematic, cross-sectoral approach to sustainable infrastructure planning in the Mediterranean, aligned with the "international good practice principles for sustainable infrastructure" could be implemented. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Strengthen the integration of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) for infrastructure projects. R/ Promote investment in Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for green infrastructure. R/ Enhance knowledge-sharing mechanisms and encourage multi-stakeholder participation N/ Adopt national sustainable infrastructure strategies. N/ Implement and enforce SEA/EIA regulations for all major infrastructure projects N/ Integrate digital infrastructure as a supporting tool and enhance public engagement mechanisms in infrastructure decision-making.
SCP/circular economy	**Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals** **UNEP/EA.6/Res.5**	LBS Protocol Hazardous Waste Protocol SCP Regional Action Plan		The Barcelona Convention framework does not have a dedicated legally binding instrument covering the full life cycle of minerals and metals. However, certain elements are indirectly addressed under existing protocols: LBS Protocol → Covers industrial pollution and waste from extractive industries but does not specifically regulate mining activities or metals management. Hazardous Waste Protocol → Provides a framework for hazardous waste disposal but lacks specific provisions on mine waste management and the circular use of metals. SCP Regional Action Plan → Promotes resource efficiency and circular economy principles, particularly in goods manufacturing, but does not focus on minerals and metals governance.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
				The UNEA resolution emphasizes fulfilling obligations under other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) while also promoting sustainable consumption and production in the minerals and metals sector. At both regional and national levels, greater emphasis could be placed on integrating circular economy principles into metals and minerals management, including recycling, secondary raw materials, and resource efficiency measures. **Potential follow-up actions:** R/ Promote technological innovation and best practices for metal recovery from secondary sources, including urban mining and industrial symbiosis. N/ **Adopt circular economy approaches** to metals management.
SCP/circular economy	**Promoting sustainable lifestyles UNEP/EA.6/Res.8**	SCP Regional Action Plan		The Barcelona Convention framework indirectly supports sustainable lifestyles through the SCP Regional Action Plan, which promotes sustainable consumption patterns and production models. However, there is no dedicated strategy under the Barcelona Convention specifically aimed at promoting sustainable lifestyles or behavioural change at the consumer level. Awareness-raising, education, and stakeholder engagement are included in various protocols and regional plans but remain limited in scope and are often linked to sectoral policies rather than a cross-cutting effort to empower sustainable lifestyles. While the SCP Regional Action Plan includes references to sustainable consumption, it partially incorporates behavioural change strategies, citizen engagement mechanisms, or educational initiatives as recommended in the UNEA Resolution. **Potential follow-up actions** R/ Facilitate regional cooperation on knowledge-sharing platforms to exchange best practices and research on consumer choices, behavioural change, and sustainable living. N/ Integrate sustainable lifestyles education into national curricula and public awareness programs, aligning with SDG 4.7 on education for sustainable development. N/ Launch targeted awareness campaigns on sustainable consumption, focusing on specific areas.

Thematic Area	UNEA Resolution	Relevant UNEP/MAP Decision	Alignment level	Summary of findings and next steps (R: Regional level, N: National level)
Nature-based solutions	**Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.5/Res.5**	ICZM Protocol Regional Plan on Agriculture Management Regional Plan of Urban Wastewater Management		The Barcelona Convention framework does not explicitly reference "Nature-Based Solutions" (NbS), except in the regional Plan on Urban Wastewater Management; however, several of its protocols and strategies align with NbS principles through ecosystem-based approaches. The ICZM Protocol promotes ecosystem-based management, which is a core component of NbS. The Regional Plan on Urban Stormwater Management includes references to Green Infrastructure (GI), which closely relates to NbS principles. Despite these alignments, there is no dedicated legal framework or strategic initiative under UNEP/MAP to scale up NbS as a systemic approach in the Mediterranean. **Potential follow-up actions**: R/ Explicitly recognize NbS under the Barcelona Convention framework and integrate it into UNEP/MAP strategies and action plans. R/ Promote NbS solutions for coastal resilience, ecosystem restoration, and pollution reduction across sectors. R/ Develop financial mechanisms to support the implementation and upscaling of NbS in Mediterranean countries. N/ Develop national NbS strategies and create incentives for their adoption in key sectors such as green infrastructure, agroecology, and sustainable tourism. N/ Integrate NbS into national disaster risk reduction and water management plans, enhancing resilience to climate change and environmental pressures.

Annex II
Decision tree for the review process of UNEA Resolutions


01
STEP 1: SELECTION OF RELEVANT UNEA RESOLUTION
Does the Resolution fall within the defined scope? (eg on of the following theme: Land-based pollution, zero waste/SUPs, plastic pollution and microplastics, SCP, nutrient management and NbS)
YES Classify (tag 1 or 2 themes) and proceed to STEP 2
OUT OF SCOPE Exclude from further analysis
02
STEP 2: POLICY REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION
Does the Resolution address one or several of the following ecological objectives under IMAP: EO5 (Eutrophication), EO9 (pollution) or EO10 (ML)?
YES Classify under the relevant EOs
NO Consider if it is cross-cutting or exclude
Does the resolution contains provisions that require implementation at the national or regional level?
YES Keep the resolution for further analysis
NO Exclude from further analysis
03
STEP 3: RELEVANCE EVALUATION
Is the resolution specially relevant to the Mediterranean context and priorities?
YES Flag as high or medium priority for the next steps
NO or with dubts Flag as low priority (justify)
04
STEP 4: ALIGNMENT CHECK (GLOBAL VS REGIONAL POLICIES)
Is the UNEA Resolution directly addressed within the Barcelona Convention framework?
FULLY ADDRESSED
Document the correspondence
Exclude for STEP 5 on measure formulation
PARTIALLY ADDRESSED
Identify relevant Barcelona Convention Decision(s)
Document the correspondence
Highlight gaps
POORLY OR NOT ADDRESSED Highlight the gaps and flag for the next step
Highlight gaps
05
STEP 5: MEASURE FORMULATION AND SELECTION
Can the identified gaps be translated into NAP measures?
YES Formulate a proposal of NAP measure + regional recommendations if relevant
Classify the measures according to the following key themes: Pollution prevention/Reduction, Waste and plastic pollution management, SCP/EPR, Climate change and climate vulnerability including NbS, Check that the proposed NAP measures are aligned with LBS protocol, support ecological objectives.
Classify measures according to EO5, EO9 and EO10
NO Formulate recommendations to address the gap at the regional level

For the resolutions listed for the **global level**, the analysis was structured around similar initial STEPS and questions:

STEP 1: Selection of relevant resolutions by theme
Question 1: Does the resolution fall under one of the following themes? Land-based pollution, plastic pollution/marine litter, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), nutrient management, nature-based pollution.

STEP 2: Policy review and classification
Question 2: Does the resolution address one or several of the following Ecological Objectives under IMAP: EO5 (Eutrophication), EO9 (Pollution), EO10 (Marine Litter)?
Question 3: Does the resolution contain provisions that require implementation at the regional or national level?

STEP 3: Relevance evaluation
Question 4: is the resolution especially relevant to the Mediterranean context and priorities?

- **If YES,** the resolution was flag as high or medium priority for next steps.
- **If NO or with doubts,** the resolution was descarted or flag as low priority.

STEP 4: Alignment check (global vs regional policies)
Question 5: Is the UNEA resolution directly addressed by a decision within the Barcelona Convention?

- **If FULLY ADDRESSED,** the correspondence was documented and the resolution was excluded from the next STEP on the formulation of measures.
- **If PARTIALLY ADDRESSED**, the relevant Barcelona Convention Decision were identified, the correspondences/complementarities and gaps were described for the definition of measures in the next STEP.
- **If POORLY or NOT ADDRESSED**, the gaps were described for the definition of measures in the next STEP.

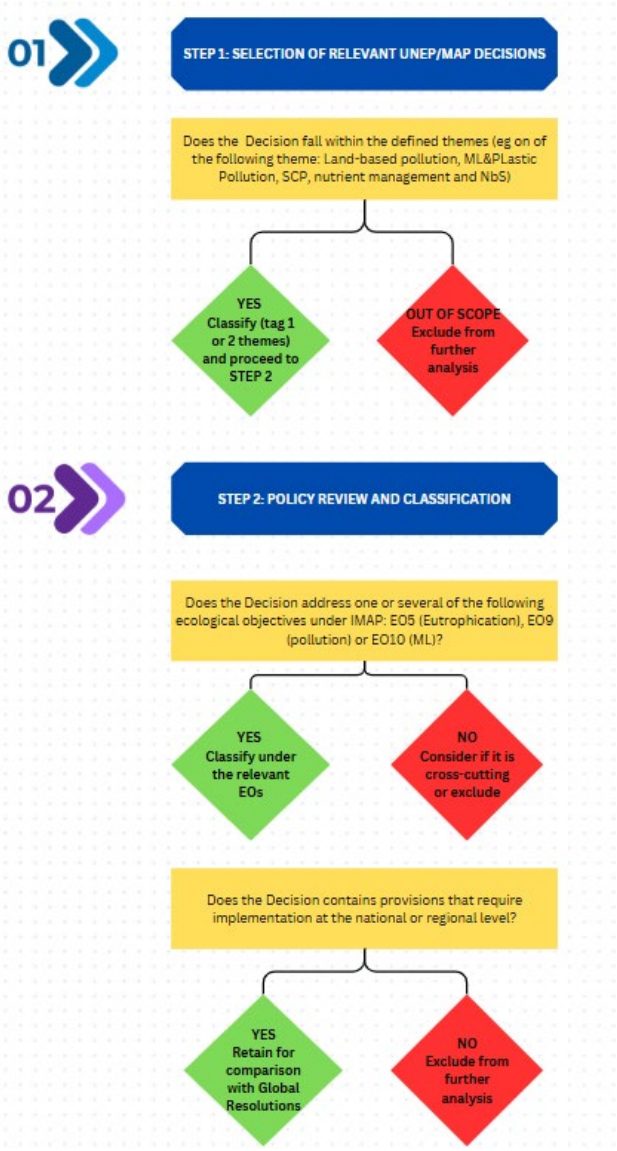
STEP 5: Measure formulation and selection
Question 6: Can the identified gaps be translated into NAP measures?

- **If YES,** NAP measures were formulated, along with regional recommendations for the next MTS (Medium-Term Strategy), where applicable. NAP measures were classified according to the following defined categories for the previous NAPs:
    - **Policy measures** (Broader strategies, action plans, and commitments that set the direction for implementation);
    - **Legal measures** (Binding regulations, laws, and enforcement mechanisms);
    - **Institutional measures** (Strengthening governance, coordination, and capacity-building);
    - **Economic/Financial measures** (Incentives, taxes, subsidies, and funding mechanisms);
    - **Technological/Technical measures** (Innovation, best practices, and infrastructure improvements).

For the measures related to plastic pollution/marine litter and eutrophication, a quick assessment of similar measures at the EU level was conducted to align the proposals with the European regulatory framework, where possible.

- **If NO,** recommendations were formulated for the regional level instead.

ANNEX III: Decision tree for the review process of Barcelona Convention Decisions



For the decisions at the **regional level**, the analysis followed these 2 steps and key questions

STEP 1: Selection of relevant decisions by theme

Question 1: Does the decision fall under one of the following themes? Land-based pollution, plastic pollution/marine litter, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), nutrient management, nature-based pollution.

- **If YES**, the decision was retained for further **analysis.**
- **If NO,** the decision was considered out of scope.

STEP 2: Policy review and classification

Question 2: Does the Decision address one or several of the following Ecological Objectives under IMAP: EO5 (Eutrophication), EO9 (Pollution), EO10 (Marine Litter)?

- **If YES**, the decision was classified under the relevant EO(s),
- **If NO**, it was assessed for cross-cutting relevance or excluded.

Question 3: Does the Decision contain provisions that require implementation at the national level?

- **If YES**, the decision was retained for comparison with Global Resolutions and relevant provisions were copied for inclusion in the table.
- **If NO,** the decision was excluded from further analysis.

ANNEX IV: Detailed Gap Analysis between UNEA Resolution on Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics (UNEP/EA.4/Res.6) vs. Barcelona Convention Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (MLRP)

UNEA 4/Res.6 Provisions addressed to Member States	Correspondence in the Marine Litter Regional Plan (MLRP, 2021 update)	Alignment Level	Gaps & Potential Enhancements
1. Calls upon Member States and other actors […] to address the problem of marine litter and microplastics, prioritizing a whole-life-cycle approach and resource efficiency […]	MLRP promotes waste prevention and reduction, sustainable consumption and production (SCP), and circular economy.		The whole-life-cycle approach (design, use, disposal) could be further strengthened but it is satisfactory.
4(a). Reduce the discharge of microplastics into the marine environment, including, where possible, through the phasing out of products that contain microplastics.	MLRP includes measures to reduce the use of microplastics, but there are no specific legal requirements for banning them (ref is made to voluntary commitments or other actions).		No explicit ban or phase-out for microplastics in products.
4(b). Foster innovation in product design to reduce secondary microplastics release from land- and sea-based sources and improve waste management where needed	MLRP promotes design requirements and standards for product labelling but does not mandate innovation in product design. Ref is made to procedures and methodologies to minimize the decomposition characteristics of plastic and reduce microplastics.		Stronger incentives for plastic innovation and eco-design requirements.
4(c). Prevent losses of primary microplastics, in particular pre-production pellets (flakes and powders), to prevent spillage into the environment across the whole manufacturing and supply chain.	MLRP includes measures to identify main sources of microliter, including industrial pellets, but does not set mandatory containment requirements for industries.		No strict regulations for pellet loss prevention across the value chain.
6(a). Consider the contribution they can make to addressing marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics.	MLRP encourages multi-stakeholder participation, including local authorities, civil society, private sector.		Well covered, but could benefit from greater private sector accountability.
6(b). Raise awareness of the importance of, and encourage, SCP […] with regard to products likely to generate marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics.	MLRP is guided by key principles, including SCP. Reference is also made in Art. 10 on Enhancement of Public Awareness and Education		**F**urther integration of SCP into national policies could be encouraged.
6(c). Promote environmentally sound waste management and marine plastic litter recovery	MLRP contains provisions for improved waste management, EPR, and plastic collection.		

ANNEX V: Detailed Gap Analysis between UNEA Resolution on Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution (UNEP/EA.4/Res.9) vs. Barcelona Convention Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (MLRP)

UNEP/EA.4/Res.9 provisions addressed to Member States (MS)	Correspondence in the Marine Litter Regional Plan (MLRP 2021)	Alignment Level	Gaps & Potential Enhancements
1. Encourages MS to develop and implement national or regional actions […] to address the environmental impact of SUPPs	MLRP includes measures to promote the phase-out of SUPs items which are most found and cause the most impact on the marine and coastal environment.		No specific legally binding targets for SUP phase-out at the regional level.
2. Encourages MS to take action […] to promote the identification and development of environmentally friendly alternatives to SUPPs, taking into account the full life-cycle implications of those alternatives;	MLRP promotes the identification of SUPPs which are most found and cause impacts on the marine environment and implement sound measures to phase out consumption and production and minimise the risk to end up in the marine environment. It also promotes sustainable models providing solutions to reduce SUPPs consumption;		Alignment is satisfactory with full life-cycle consideration of alternatives to SUPPs could be reinforced.
3. Invites MS to promote improved waste management that will contribute to reducing the discharge of plastic waste into the environment	MLRP includes improved waste management actions, focusing on collection, EPR schemes, and recycling.		Quantitative targets for plastic waste reduction or recovery could be defined.
4. Invites MS to work together with industry to encourage the private sector to innovate and find affordable and environmentally friendly alternatives to SUPPs and to promote business models that take into account the full environmental impact of their products;	MLRP promotes engagement with industry through voluntary commitments, agreements and EPR schemes**.** Reference is made to endeavour to substitute plastics causing substantial impacts on the marine environment with materials with net positive impacts verified by life cycle assessment;		Obligations for industries to innovate or contribute financially to sustainable alternatives or business models should be strengthened.
5. Encourages Governments and the private sector to promote the more resource-efficient design, production, use and sound management of plastics across their life cycle, and in particular encourages MS to carry out environmental education on the impact of plastic pollution and on sustainable alternatives to	MLRP include provisions on public awareness and education focusing on marine litter management, including prevention and promotion of SCP.		Lack of detailed consumer education campaigns on plastic pollution and sustainable alternative to SUPPs. Lack of measures directly addressed to the private sector so that they are better engaged in fighting plastic pollution.

UNEP/EA.4/Res.9 provisions addressed to Member States (MS)	Correspondence in the Marine Litter Regional Plan (MLRP 2021)	Alignment Level	Gaps & Potential Enhancements
SUPPs and to promote sustainable consumption patterns.			
6. Encourages MS to take comprehensive action with regard to SUPPs in addressing related waste through […] legislation; implementation of international agreements; provision of adequate waste management infrastructure; improvement of waste management practices and support for waste minimization; environmentally sound clean-up activities; information sharing; and supporting innovation.	MLRP includes a number of measures aiming at preventing Marine Litter through the adoption of national legislation: EPR, fiscal and economic incentives, DRS for food and beverage packaging and EPS boxes, sustainable procurement policies to phase-out SUPPs and promote reuse options, voluntary agreements for the reduction of plastic bags, standard for product labelling… Clean-up campaigns are also considered.		Select priority measures targeting priority SUPPs. Further support innovation.
7. Invites MS, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to promote and enhance cooperation in scientific research and the development of environmentally sound alternatives to single-use plastic products, where appropriate, and to tackle plastic pollution within local, national and regional voluntary and regulatory frameworks, as appropriate;	Article 13 of the MLRP is focusing on Research Topics and Scientific Cooperation on marine litter issues. Annex II includes Potential Research Topics to Support the Implementation of the MLRP in the Mediterranean.		Foster further research on environmentally sound alternative to SUPPs in the Mediterranean countries.

Annex IV

Detailed Gap Analysis between UNEA Resolution on End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument (UNEP/EA.5/Res.14) vs. Barcelona Convention Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (MLRP)

UNEP/EA.5/Res.14 provisions addressed to Member States (MS)	Correspondence in the Marine Litter Regional Plan (MLRP 2021)	Alignment Level	Gaps & Potential Enhancements
15. Calls upon all MS to continue and step up activities, and adopt voluntary measures, to combat plastic pollution, including measures related to sustainable consumption and production, which may include circular economy approaches, and to develop and implement national action plans, while fostering international action and initiatives under national regulatory frameworks,	MLRP includes a obligation for CPs to develop LBS National Action Plans (NAPs) integrating marine litter, measures, including measures and targets to prevent and reduce marine litter.		Ensure that the updated NAPs include a set of measures related to SCP, including Circular Economy approaches to combat plastic pollution.
and, on a voluntary basis, to provide statistical information on the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, as appropriate, taking into account national circumstances;	MLRP includes provisions for data collection on marine litter to contribute to the Mediterranean ML Monitoring Programme.		Improve harmonized reporting on plastic waste data across Contracting Parties.

Annex V
Correspondences of the Plastic Pollution /Marine Litter Measures proposed with the EU legal framework

Nº of the measure and type	**Proposed NAP measure**	**Corresponding EU policy**	**Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy**
MLPP/M50 Legal	**Adopt regulations to ban or phase out intentionally added microplastics in specific product categories (e.g., cosmetics, personal care products, detergents, paints).**	**Regulation** (EU) 2023/2055 **concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards synthetic polymer microparticles**	The regulation defines synthetic polymer microparticles as "polymers that are solid and which fulfil both of the following conditions: (a) are contained in particles and constitute at least 1 % by weight of those particles; or build a continuous surface coating on particles; (b) at least 1 % by weight of the particles referred to in point (a) fulfil either of the following conditions: (i) all dimensions of the particles are equal to or less than 5 mm; (ii) the length of the particles is equal to or less than 15 mm and their length to diameter ratio is greater than 3." The regulation restricts the placing on the market of these products when they contain synthetic polymer microparticles in concentrations equal to or greater than 0.01% by weight. The regulation focuses on intentionally added microplastics and does not apply to products where microplastics are present unintentionally**.** The main product categories affected include: Cosmetics and personal care products, Cleaning and maintenance products, Toys and recreational items, Sports and outdoor products, Industrial and agricultural products, Other consumer products**.**
MLPP/M51 Technological/Technical	**Establish eco-design criteria for plastic-based products to minimize shedding of secondary microplastics (e.g., textiles, synthetic fibers, tires)**	EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles	The strategy includes specific actions to tackle microplastics pollution from textiles. It proposes to address the unintentional release of microplastics through: • Introducing mandatory design requirements • Targeting the entire product chain, including manufacturing processes and pre-washing at industrial manufacturing plants • Promoting innovative materials and products to prevent microplastic emissions • Analyzing every stage of a product's lifecycle to assess and mitigate its effects.
		Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation	Proposed in March 2022, the ESPR aims to set comprehensive design requirements for products, including textiles and tires.
MLPP/M52 Legal	**Develop and enforce strict regulations on handling, transportation, and storage**	Regulation on Pellet Loss Prevention (Not adopted yet)	"Economic operators handling more than five tonnes of pellets annually are required to implement risk assessments, preventive measures, and immediate spill response protocols. Additionally, entities managing

Nº of the measure and type	Proposed NAP measure	Corresponding EU policy	Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy
	of plastic pellets to prevent leakage into the environment		over 1,000 tonnes per year must obtain third-party certification to verify compliance". The regulation mandates that maritime transport operators adhere to specific requirements for packaging, labeling, stowage, and handling of plastic pellets to prevent accidental releases during sea voyages.
MLPP/M53 Legal	**Adopt and implement national bans or restrictions on priority SUPPs**	Single-Use Plastics Directive	The SUP Directive targets the 10 most commonly found single-use plastic items on European beaches (70% of all marine litter in the EU). The directive introduces measures to address these items, including consumption reduction, market restrictions, product design requirements, labeling requirements, extended producer responsibility schemes, separate collection targets, and awareness-raising measures. Member States are required to prohibit the placing on the market of specific single-use plastic products listed in Part B of the Annex to the directive. These include: o Cotton bud sticks o Cutlery (forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks) o Plates o Straws o Beverage stirrers o Sticks to be attached to and to support balloons (except for professional applications) o Food containers made of expanded polystyrene o Beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene, including their caps and lids o Cups for beverages made of expanded polystyrene, including their covers and lids In addition, Member States must take measures to achieve an ambitious and sustained reduction in the consumption of single-use plastic food containers and beverage cups, as listed in Part A of the Annex. These measures may include national consumption reduction targets, the use of economic instruments, and marketing restrictions.
MLPP/M54 Institutional	**Strengthen consumer awareness campaigns on the impact of plastic pollution and promote behavioural**	EU Plastics Strategy	• Awareness raising: Reduce consumption of SUPs through awareness-raising campaigns. • Labelling requirements: Products containing plastics will require labels that inform consumers about: o The plastic content of products

Nº of the measure and type	Proposed NAP measure	Corresponding EU policy	Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy
	change towards sustainable alternatives.		○ Proper disposal options ○ Environmental harm caused by littering • EPR schemes: These schemes include obligations for producers to support consumer education and awareness campaigns. • Improved information: The strategy recognizes the need for better and more timely data on plastics generation and waste to aid in designing effective consumer awareness campaigns. • Focus on appropriate use and disposal: Campaigns will specifically target educating consumers on the appropriate use and disposal of plastics and bioplastics. • Promoting sustainable alternatives: While not explicitly stated, the strategy's overall goal of promoting sustainable alternatives is likely to be incorporated into awareness campaigns.
		Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD)	• Awareness-raising measures: Article 10 of the SUPD mandates Member States to take measures to inform consumers and incentivize responsible consumer behaviour. These measures aim to reduce litter from single-use plastic products and promote sustainable alternatives. • Labelling requirements: The directive requires clear and standardized labelling on certain products containing plastic, informing consumers about: • Appropriate waste disposal options • The presence of plastics in the product • The negative environmental impact of littering • EPR schemes: The SUPD introduces EPR schemes that include obligations for producers to cover costs related to awareness-raising measures for their products. • Consumption reduction targets: Member States are required to achieve measurable quantitative reductions in the consumption of certain single-use plastic items by 2026 compared to 20222. This may involve national awareness campaigns to encourage the use of sustainable alternatives. • Promotion of reusable alternatives: The directive aims to encourage the use of sustainable and reusable alternatives to single-use plastic products.

Nº of the measure and type	**Proposed NAP measure**	**Corresponding EU policy**	**Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy**
			• Information on reusability and waste management: Consumers must be informed about the availability of reusable alternatives, reuse systems, and waste management options for single-use plastic products. • Education on marine litter impact: The directive emphasizes the need to educate consumers about the impact of inappropriate waste disposal of single-use plastic products on the marine environment.
MLPP/M55 Legal Economic/Financial Technological/Technical	**Expand Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) and economic incentives for reusable alternatives and high-value recyclable plastics.**	Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD)	The SUPD sets ambitious targets for the separate collection of plastic beverage bottles: Member States are required to achieve a 77% separate collection rate for plastic beverage bottles by 2025 and 90% by 2029. To meet these targets, the directive suggests that it can be achieved through EPR schemes or the implementation of Deposit Return Schemes (DRS). These collection targets are designed to support high-quality recycles, uptake of secondary raw materials, and contribute to achieving the plastic packaging recycling target of 55% by 2030.
MLPP/M56 Policy	**Promote sustainable procurement policies to phase out SUPPs in public administration, schools, and events.**	Single-Use Plastics Directive	Member States are required to achieve measurable quantitative reductions in the consumption of certain single-use plastic items by 2026 compared to 2022. This may involve policies targeting public administration, schools, and events. The directive aims to encourage the use of sustainable and reusable alternatives to single-use plastic products, which can be implemented through procurement policies in public sectors. The SUPD introduces bans on certain single-use plastic items, which will affect procurement policies in public sectors
MLPP/M57 Economic/Financial	**Introduce fiscal incentives (tax benefits, subsidies) to encourage businesses to invest in plastic-free alternatives and circular economy solutions.**	EU (New) Circular Economy Action Plan	The plan aims to provide significant financial support for businesses embracing the transition to a circular economy. This includes: • Grants • Low-interest loans • Tax breaks for investments in sustainable product design and advanced recycling technologies The Plan proposes fiscal measures to incentivize circular economy initiatives and deter unsustainable behaviours, such as: • Reduced VAT rates for circular products or services • Taxes on pollution and natural resources

Nº of the measure and type	Proposed NAP measure	Corresponding EU policy	Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy
			• Rules on corporate financial responsibility and transparency The plan encourages the development of public-private partnerships as a key funding mechanism, enabling businesses to co-develop projects with EU bodies. National governments are encouraged to use economic incentives and public procurement to promote sustainable alternatives. EU Programmes, like the LIFE programme provided significant funding for projects related to plastic reduction and circular economy solution. Over the last 10 years (2014-2024), the budget for LIFE-funded plastic-related projects has exceeded €232 million, with more than €119 million provided in EU financing.
MLPP/M58 Institutional	**Increase monitoring mechanisms to track progress on SUPP phase-out and ensure compliance with national regulations.**	Single-Use Plastics Directive	The SUPD mandates specific monitoring and reporting obligations for Member States regarding SUPPs phase-out: • Member States are required to monitor the consumption of single-use plastic products listed in Part A of the Directive's Annex. This involves collecting data on the quantities of these products placed on the market to demonstrate consumption reduction in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Directive. Annually (Starting from 2022) Member States must report data on: • The quantities of SUPs placed on the market. • The quantities of post-consumption waste of SUPs collected (beverage bottles, fishing gears). • The recycled content in beverage bottles to demonstrate attainment of targets laid down in Article 6(5) of the Directive (starting from 2023). These reports must be accompanied by quality check reports and submitted to the European Commission within 18 months of the end of the reporting year.
MLPP/M59 Institutional Economic/Financial	**Support R&D at the national level on alternatives material and alternatives to SUPPs, ensuring their effectiveness and sustainability.**	Horizon 2020	Supporting national R&D initiatives focused on alternative materials and substitutes for SUPPs is crucial for aligning with environmental objectives. The EU has established several frameworks and funding programs to promote innovation in this area, in particular the Horizon 2020 research funding that has committed €100 million to develop less environmentally harmful alternatives to plastic.
		Circular Economy Action Plan	The plan encourages research and innovation in sustainable product design, advanced recycling technologies, and bioplastics development

Nº of the measure and type	**Proposed NAP measure**	**Corresponding EU policy**	**Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy**
MLPP/M60 Policy	**Integrate circular economy approaches in national plastic pollution strategies (design for recyclability, reuse systems, alternative materials)**	EU strategy for plastics in a Circular Economy	The strategy aims to transform the design, production, use, and recycling of plastic products within the EU. It emphasizes that by 2030, all plastic packaging placed on the EU market should be reusable or recyclable in a cost-effective manner.
		Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation	The PPWR mandates that all packaging be recyclable. By January 2028, the EC is tasked with adopting delegated acts that establish design for recycling (DfR) criteria and recyclability performance grades. Compliance with these DfR criteria is required for all packaging placed on the market by January 1, 2030, or 24 months after the entry into force of the delegated acts, whichever is later. Packaging with a recyclability grade below 70% will not be considered recyclable. EPR fees will be modulated based on the recyclability performance grade.
		Single-Use Plastics Directive	It includes measures such as consumption reduction targets and bans on certain single-use plastic items, encouraging the adoption of reusable products and systems.
MLPP/M61 Institutional Technological/Technical	**Improve plastic waste data collection and reporting**	Single-Use Plastics Directive	It mandates Member States to achieve a 77% separate collection target for plastic bottles by 2025, increasing to 90% by 2029. To monitor progress, Member States are required to report data on the separate collection of waste SUP beverage bottles, following harmonized calculation and verification rules established by the EC.
		Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive	This directive obligates Member States to collect and report data on packaging waste generation and management. However, variations in data collection methodologies among Member States have led to challenges in data comparability. The challenges in data comparability underscore the need for harmonized methodologies to ensure accurate and comparable statistics across the EU. The EC has been working on implementing more standardized reporting methods to improve data consistency and comparability across Member States and has provided guidance documents to assist Member States in compiling and reporting packaging waste data consistently
		EU Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy	This strategy emphasizes the importance of robust data collection on plastic waste to inform policy-making and track progress towards circular economy goals. It calls for more complete and timely data on

Nº of the measure and type	**Proposed NAP measure**	**Corresponding EU policy**	**Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy**
			plastics generation and waste to enable policymakers to respond more effectively to plastic pollution challenges.
		Circular Economy Action Plan	It includes measures to improve data collection on waste, including plastics. It aims to enhance the quality and availability of data to support the transition to a circular economy.
MLPP/M62 Legal	**Develop or enhance EPR systems to cover plastic products**	Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive	The PPWD obligates all Member States to set up EPR schemes for packaging by December 31, 2024. The directive aims to ensure greater harmonization across EPR schemes, strengthen transparency and enforcement, and drive investments into collection and recycling. The directive mandates the eco-modulation of EPR fees to boost recyclability (based on the recyclability of packaging and recycled content). The new PPWR aims to standardize EPR schemes across all EU countries, ensuring consistency in how brands contribute to waste management in the countries where they sell product. Packaging producers must register in each Member State where they first make packaging or packaged products available on the market. They must report annually on packaging types and arrangements to ensure producer responsibility. Producers must make financial contributions to cover costs of labelling, collecting, sorting, and recycling packaging waste.
		Single-Use Plastics Directive	The SUPD requires the establishment of EPR schemes for various single-use plastic products by specific dates: • By end of 2024 for food containers, packets and wrappers, cups for beverages, beverage containers up to three liters, and lightweight plastic carrier bags • By 5 January 2023 for tobacco products with filters • By 31 December 2024 for balloons and wet wipes Producers must cover the costs of: • Waste management and litter clean-up for their products • Data gathering and reporting • Consumer awareness measures The EPR requirements apply to companies that manufacture, import, or distribute single-use plastic products in the EU market

Nº of the measure and type	Proposed NAP measure	Corresponding EU policy	Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy
		Waste Framework Directive	This directive establishes the basic concepts and definitions related to waste management, including the polluter-pays principle and EPR. It provides a framework for Member States to implement EPR schemes for various product categories, including plastics, to enhance recycling and waste management processes.

Annex VI
Correspondences of the Eutrophication Measures proposed with the EU legal framework

Nº of the measure and type	Proposed NAP measure	**Corresponding EU policy**	**Short description providing technical details on the content of the EU policy**
NM/M63	Implement national nitrogen action plans, including reduction targets and ensuring integration with other policies (Water, agriculture)	Nitrates Directive	It aims to protect water quality by preventing nitrates from agricultural sources from polluting ground and surface waters. It requires Member States to identify Nitrate Vulnerable Zones and establish action programs promoting good farming practices.
		Water Framework Directive	It requires Member States to achieve good ecological and chemical status of water bodies, necessitating the integration of nutrient management practices into water policies.
		Farm to Fork Strategy	This strategy sets a target to reduce nutrient losses by at least 50% and fertilizer use by 20% by 2030, necessitating integrated nutrient management plans aligning agricultural practices with environmental sustainability goals.
NM/M64 Policy	Improve fertilizer use efficiency and promote sustainable alternative	Farm to Fork Strategy	It sets a target to reduce fertilizer use by 20% by 2030, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and alternatives to traditional fertilizers.
		EU Nitrogen Expert Panel	The expert panel developed a Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) indicator to encourage efficient nitrogen use in agriculture. The indicator helps demonstrate how different farming strategies can improve NUE
NM/M65 Technological/Technical	Enhance wastewater nitrogen removal and recovery	Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive	It requires Member States to collect and treat urban wastewater, with specific provisions for nutrient removal in sensitive areas to prevent eutrophication.
NM/M66 Technological/Technical	Establish national nitrogen accounting systems to track sources and flows	European Environment Agency (EEA)	The Agency provides indicators such as the agricultural land nitrogen balance, estimating the potential surplus or deficit of nitrogen in agricultural land, aiding in tracking nitrogen inputs and outputs.
		EU Nitrogen Expert Panel	The expert panel offers guidance on assessing Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) at the farm level, facilitating the establishment of nitrogen accounting systems.
NM/M67 Technological/Technical	Promote research and innovation in nitrogen management	Horizon Europe Framework Programme (Oceans and Soil missions)	A report on “Systemic approach preventing pollution from nitrogen and phosphorus” presenting the results of the analysis of a portfolio of Horizon 2020 projects focusing on pollution from nitrogen and phosphorus was published in September 2023.
		European Partnership for a Circular Bio-based Europe	The objective of the initiative is to produce major contributions to the climate targets by 2030, pave the way for climate neutrality by 2050, and increase sustainability and circularity of production and consumption systems in line with the European Green Deal. It also includes the development and deployment of techniques to recover and recycle nitrogen and phosphorus from residues and waste.

Annex VII
Table with List of provisions addressed to member states for the selected resolutions

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
UNEP/EA.3/Res.1	**Pollution mitigation and control in areas affected by armed conflict or terrorism**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	Urges member States **to take appropriate measures to minimize and control pollution in situations of armed conflict or terrorism**; Invites all member States, as appropriate and upon the request of the affected State, to cooperate closely in preventing, minimizing and mitigating the negative impacts of armed conflict or terrorism on the environment; Urges all States affected by armed conflict or terrorism to encourage all stakeholders at the national level **to participate in the preparation of national plans and strategies aimed at setting the priorities for environmental assessment and remediation projects**, and to ensure that the data necessary for identifying health outcomes is collected and integrated into health registries and risk education programmes;
UNEP/EA.3/Res.10	**Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	1. Emphasizes the need for member States, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and other United Nations entities, to address **water pollution in inland, coastal and marine ecosystems and improve water quality by, inter alia, increasing efforts in pollution prevention at all levels**, water governance at the national level, integrated water resources management, sustainable use of water, as appropriate, improved water quality data collection and improved data sharing on a voluntary basis, which should support implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and their interrelated targets and, as applicable, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the fourth strategic plan 2016–2024 of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030; 3. Encourages member States to draw upon the work carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on international water quality guidelines for ecosystems (now updated as “A Framework for Freshwater Ecosystem Management”) in order to provide inputs for countries on how to protect and restore water-related ecosystems to create effective governance structures at the national level, develop their own national standards for water quality and set up water quality monitoring of their significant water bodies and associated ecosystems;

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
			4. Invites member States **to establish and improve water quality monitoring networks** in voluntary collaboration with relevant organizations and monitoring systems, such as the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme, to promote streamlined national standardized monitoring and reporting mechanisms in order to fill relevant data and information gaps and share data, as appropriate, to help in identifying and addressing sources and causes of water pollution in water bodies; 5. Also invites member States **to enhance public access to relevant information on water quality status** and requirements for different water uses to promote safe and efficient water use; 6. Further invites member States and other stakeholders, including government laboratories, the private sector, academia and civil society, **to collaborate and share best practices with one another on data collection, monitoring and exchange that** will be useful for reporting on water quality and quantity and addressing water pollution; 7. Invites member States, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the private sector, industry, academia, civil society and the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, including by encouraging platforms for wastewater and management of nutrients, to **help in preventing and mitigating water pollution and to protect and restore water-related ecosystems in order to minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment;** 8. Encourages member States to facilitate **the implementation of the target to halve by 2030 the amount of untreated wastewater reaching water bodies** by continuing to work through the Global Wastewater Initiative and other UN-Water members and the private sector; 9. Also encourages member States, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and other UN-Water members and its partners, to **develop and implement policies that relate to integrated water resources management and invest in the protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems, so as to prevent and reduce pollution and maintain or improve ecosystem health;** 10. Further encourages member States to work collaboratively with the

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
			United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant international organizations, including the Global Environment Facility and multilateral banks, to **mobilize the necessary resources to find solutions to land-based and water pollution;** 11. Encourages member States, with the support of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, **to implement Environment Assembly resolution 2/8 on sustainable consumption and production patterns, including by integrating such patterns into education and training to promote a shift to sustainable consumption and production;** 12. Calls upon member States**:** **(a) To increase transboundary water cooperation where appropriate to reduce water** To improve their capacities to tackle accidental pollution risk at all levels; To strengthen their preparedness to address waterborne disease issues, especially after disasters and during communicable disease outbreaks by encouraging subnational, national and international initiatives dedicated to activities of surveillance, detection, notification and response to water-related public health emergencies; 13. Reiterates that the availability and accessibility of adequate, predictable and sustainable resource mobilization from all sources, technology development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer, on mutually agreed terms, and capacity-building are important to the effective prevention, reduction and management of water pollution; 14. Encourages member States to address water pollution, including through cooperation at all levels and partnerships with relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to find solutions and strengthen cooperation and exchange knowledge, know-how and best practices;
UNEP/EA.3/Res.2	**Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	Invites member States, taking into account their differing national circumstances: (a) To strengthen their efforts **to mainstream conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity within and across sectors, such as agriculture; fisheries and aquaculture; tourism; extractive industries such as oil, gas, mining and energy; infrastructure; and the manufacturing and processing industries; in order to promote the reduction, mitigation, and remediation of the negative impacts,**

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
			including pollution, related to those sectors, on biodiversity and ecosystem goods and services; (b) To work on establishing, strengthening or fostering institutional, legislative and regulatory frameworks, and incorporating an inclusive economic, social and environmentally sustainable approach involving relevant stakeholders such as indigenous peoples and local communities, academia, civil society, the private sector and national and subnational governments, as appropriate; (c) To **support sustainable production and consumption through value chains, the application of clean technologies, the elimination, phasing out or reform of incentives harmful to biodiversity, and the strengthening and promotion of positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, consistent with international obligations**; (d) To promote the creation of standards and good practice guidelines related to biodiversity in service and productive sectors taking into account ecosystem-based approaches and the implications of cumulative environmental effects on biodiversity; (e) To encourage the adaptation of practices for sustainable infrastructure, the conservation of landscapes and ecosystems, the sustainable use of land and marine spatial planning and the introduction or promotion of measures to raise awareness of the multiple values of biodiversity that contribute to preventing pollution; (f) To encourage investments in biodiversity as a means of enhancing the functioning of ecosystems and the services they provide;
UNEP/EA.3/Res.5	**Investing in innovative environmental solutions for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	1. Invites member States, as appropriate, to take measures to promote and invest in innovative environmental policy interventions and actions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 2. Encourages member States **to promote and facilitate measures to strengthen innovative environmentally sound technologies that will ensure value addition through the sustainable use of natural capital and natural resources, while minimizing pollution and preventing, reducing and reversing ecosystem degradation;** 5. Urges member States to adopt, as appropriate, **measures for preventing, reducing and reversing ecosystem degradation and loss**

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			in order to sustainably use and manage natural resources towards sustainable development; 6. Also urges member States to **promote environmentally sound innovative policies for sustainable industrialization, agriculture, urban development, transport, tourism and trade, as well as sustainable consumption and production in those key sectors;**
UNEP/EA.3/Res.6	**Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	1. Requests member States and invites relevant United Nations organizations **to address soil pollution within the global environmental, food security and agriculture, development and health agendas in an integrated manner**, especially through preventive approaches and risk management using available science; 2. Encourages member States to undertake the necessary measures at the national level and, as appropriate, the regional level to, among other things, **formulate new and strengthen existing strategic interventions, policies and legislation aimed at setting norms and standards to prevent, reduce and manage soil pollution;**
UNEP/EA.3/Res.7	**Marine litter and microplastics**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	2, Urges all actors to step up actions to "by 2025, **prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution"**; 3. Encourages all member States, based on best available knowledge of sources and levels of marine litter and microplastics in the environment, **to prioritize policies and measures at the appropriate scale to avoid marine litter and microplastics from entering the marine environment;** 4. Also encourages all member States and invites other actors, taking into account national conditions: (a) To fully implement the recommendations and actions set out in its resolutions 1/6 and 2/11, as relevant, and emphasizes that those resolutions have important elements and guidance that are not repeated in the present resolution; (b) To cooperate to establish common definitions and harmonized standards and methodologies for the measurement and monitoring of marine litter and microplastics;

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			(c) To develop and implement action plans for preventing marine litter and the discharge of microplastics; **encouraging resource efficiency, and increasing collection and recycling rates of plastic waste and re-design and re-use of products and materials; and avoiding the unnecessary use of plastic and plastic containing chemicals of particular concern where appropriate;** (d) **To include marine litter and microplastics in local, national and regional waste management plans and in wastewater treatment where appropriate;** (e) To develop **integrated and source-to-sea approaches to combat marine litter and microplastics from all sources, taking** into account that plastic litter and microplastics are transported to the oceans from land-based sources by rivers and run-off or wind from land and that plastic litter is an important source of microplastics, and include the land/sea and freshwater/sea interface in action plans for preventing marine litter, including microplastics; (f) To step up **measures to prevent marine litter and the discharge of microplastics from sea-based sources, such as fisheries, aquaculture, off-shore installations and shipping, including through the promotion of accessibility and use of port reception facilities;** (g) To encourage the inclusion of measures **to prevent marine litter and the discharge of microplastics**, in particular from land-based sources, in plans to prevent and reduce damage from natural disasters and increasingly severe weather events; (h) To prioritize, where feasible, **clean-up of the marine environment in areas where marine litter poses a significant threat to human health, biodiversity, wildlife and the coastal ecosystems**, conducted in a cost-effective way;

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UNEP/EA.3/Res.9	**Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-3/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-3	2, Encourages Governments that have not yet done so and in the light of national circumstances to **develop, adopt and implement legislation or regulations and to support the development of private sector strategies to eliminate lead paint, and to undertake actions throughout the value chain, including disposal, in order to remove the risks such paints pose,** especially to vulnerable groups including pregnant women, infants and children; 3. Encourages member States to continue their efforts for the environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries, including by: (a) **Developing national strategies in order to manage the collection of waste lead-acid batteries** and addressing the issue of remediation of contaminated sites; (b) Adequately **addressing releases, emissions and exposures from waste lead-acid batteries,** including recycling, and utilizing appropriate standards and criteria; (c) Cooperating in **collecting waste lead-acid batteries for environmentally sound processing at regional or national recycling facilities**, consistent with the relevant provisions of the Basel Convention and relevant regional conventions, such as the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, as applicable;
UNEP/EA.4/Res.1	**Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Invites **Member States to consider approaches and policies for achieving sustainable consumption and production, including but not limited to improving resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy, when developing relevant national plans and policies, sustainable development strategies and sector policies or equivalents to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and primary resource consumption** and, in doing so, to take into account the outcomes of the sixth report in the Global Environment Outlook series and the report Global Resources Outlook 2019: Natural Resources for the Future We Want; 2. Encourages Member States **to use incentives and other market-based instruments to support sustainable consumption and production** through, inter alia, the provision of finance within their

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			means that takes into account environmental, social and governance considerations, and end incentives for unsustainable consumption and production, as appropriate; 4. Encourages all Member States and relevant stakeholders to promote and support, where appropriate, **the development, effectiveness and uptake of innovative sustainable business models consistent with national policies and laws, such as those reducing material consumption through the delivery of services instead of products** (for example, lighting rather than light bulbs, cooling rather than refrigerators and mobility rather than cars), **as well as new and more sustainable technologies**, pricing that takes into account national policy provisions, legislation and circumstances, consumer information about the environmental aspects of products and services, awareness raising and consumer protection; 5. Further encourages all Member States, as well as cities and local communities and other relevant stakeholders, including manufacturers and retailers, to enhance their collaboration to enable consumers and public authorities to make informed choices, including through the provision of reliable consumer information with regard to resource efficiency and the wider sustainability of products and services, including, as appropriate, through information on approaches to increase the longevity and re-use of products and the recycling of materials, and through information on effective tools and incentives for making sustainable consumer choices, such as, where appropriate, extended producer responsibility schemes; 6. Invites Member States to use, as appropriate, the guidelines for consumer information and other instruments developed under the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns for supporting sustainable and informed consumer choices, and also invites the One Planet network and, where relevant, the Partnership for Action on Green Economy and the Platform for Accelerating the Circular Economy to continue to offer their support, upon request, including the exchange of best practices; 7. Also invites Member States to promote the formation of communities of practice, including developing a national sustainable consumption and production resource pool to contribute to and interact

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			with the One Planet network, and, in turn, invites such communities of practice to 3 UNEP/EA.4/Res.1 contribute to improving the science-policy interface; advance policy reforms, implementation, innovation and investment; and enhance stakeholder collaboration, information-sharing and knowledge platforms for better decision-making on sustainable consumption and production at the national level in cooperation with the national focal points of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns; 8. Further invites all Member States, in order to work towards achieving sustainable consumption and production, **to develop sustainable public procurement policies and update their public procurement legal frameworks** in accordance with their commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal target 12.7 (Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities); 9. Encourages Member States to promote public, private and public-private initiatives and alliances **to stimulate demand for sustainable products**; 10. Invites all Member States and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to design and implement public policies, plans and programmes that support education and raise awareness of the importance of sustainable consumption, sustainable lifestyles and sustainable consumer behaviour, and those that develop related skills for academia and the private sector, including the financial sector;
UNEP/EA.4/Res.10	**Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Encourages Member States **to strengthen their commitments and step up their efforts to prevent the loss of biological diversity and the degradation of land and soil, including through conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and appropriate policies and innovative measures, such as partnership arrangements, mutually agreed transfer of technology, and financing mechanisms;** 2. Also encourages Member States **to undertake strategic environmental assessments and other assessments to support policy decisions and other actions to minimize and avoid the potential negative impact of programmes, projects and plans on biological diversity and ecosystem functions and services;** 3. Urges Member States, and invites non-State actors and other

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			stakeholders, **to mainstream biodiversity in all relevant sectors** and fully engage in the process of developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be adopted at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Kunming, China, in 2020; 4. Calls upon Member States, and invites the private sector, academia and other stakeholders, to support innovative measures to strengthen and develop national and regional centres of excellence for the sustainable management of biodiversity and the monitoring of land degradation; 7. Encourages Member States, and invites international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, **to reduce and reverse biodiversity loss** and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals through, as appropriate, the integration of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures into wider landscapes and seascapes within national jurisdiction; by mainstreaming across sectors, taking into consideration Convention on Biological Diversity decision 14/8, on protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, **to foster innovative sustainable practices**; and by considering spatial and regional approaches, measures to address threatened habitats and species, and strengthening ecosystem resilience; 10. Urges Member States to cooperate with regard to programmes that address threats to biodiversity, in particular those that address overexploitation and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, by ensuring that any use is both legal and sustainable and by implementing appropriate strategies and action plans to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of species and ecosystems; 11. Encourages Member States to strengthen their efforts to identify, including through **modelling and risk analysis efforts**, at an appropriate scale, current and future risks and effects of climate change on biodiversity and biodiversity-based livelihoods, in particular of indigenous peoples and local communities, taking into consideration their importance for climate change adaptation and mitigation, land restoration and disaster risk reduction and management;

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UNEP/EA.4/Res.11	**Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	5, Invites Member States **to take the initiative in protecting the marine environment from land-based activities at the national and regional levels by taking into account technical cooperation and collaboration, voluntary technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and the exchange of best practice;**
UNEP/EA.4/Res.19	**Mineral resource governance**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	5. Encourages governments, businesses, non-governmental organizations, academia and international institutions, within their different areas of competence, to promote: (a) Awareness of how the extractive industries can contribute to the sustainable development of countries and the well-being of their populations, as well as of the possible negative impacts on human health and the environment when these activities are not properly managed; (b) Due diligence best practice along the supply chain, addressing broad-based environmental, human-rights-, labour- and conflict-related risks in mining, including the continuing increase in transparency and the fight against corruption, with the support of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, implementation and monitoring of existing environmental standards, and accountability; (c) Capacity-building mechanisms for the sustainable management of metal and mineral resources, including the management of major hazards, as well as to address mine closure requirements and the remediation of contaminated sites, including abandoned mines; (d) Public-private partnerships to promote sustainable management of metal and mineral resources; (e) Research, development and technological innovations to sustainably manage metal and mineral resources; (f) Sustainable mining and sourcing of raw materials in order to move towards decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation through approaches including but not limited to resource efficiency and the circular economy; (g) A reduction of the impacts associated with the materials needed for the transition to an innovative and environmentally friendly economy.

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UNEP/EA.4/Res.2	**Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Invites Member States, taking into account different national circumstances, within the scope of available resources, and working with relevant stakeholders, to provide the necessary enabling environment to: (a) **Support measures to address issues related to food loss and waste at all stages of the supply chain from producer to end user**, including handling, storage, packaging and transport; and work towards sustainable consumption and production, including through collaboration with relevant stakeholders; (b) Develop and share best practice regarding integrated, energy-efficient and safe cold chain solutions that bring value to farmers and producers, and **introduce innovative post-harvest technologies** that are consistent with international commitments regarding sustainable cooling technologies and logistics and transport of food products that can extend the shelf life of sensitive products; (c) Develop and share **best practice regarding food preservation innovations to enhance the cooling and preservation of food products** during the manufacturing, packaging, transportation and handling processes in such a way as to minimize the effect of diverse environmental conditions, such as high ambient temperatures, on the life of food products, taking into account energy-efficiency and safety considerations; (d) Encourage and share best practice regarding, as feasible, sustainable cooling technologies suitable for deployment in a wide variety of environmental conditions, including in high-ambient-temperature countries, and in all elements of the supply chain, including farmers, producers, and small and medium-sized enterprises; (e) **Promote applied research on the impact of climate conditions on production, storage and transport,** which leads to food loss and waste in a wide variety of environmental conditions, including in high-ambient-temperature countries; on innovative solutions to avoid losses and minimize the impact identified in the production chain; and on industry engagement to introduce appropriate energy-efficient refrigeration and other cold-chain solutions for farmers, producers and small and medium-sized enterprises, including in post-harvest and processing facilities and transport;

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			(f) Establish national strategies for reducing food loss and waste in line with Sustainable Development Goal 12, target 12.3; 2. Urges Member States **to establish mechanisms for measuring food loss and waste, including data management, monitoring and verification;** 3. Invites Member States **to use or repurpose excess food production, using sustainable practices and innovative technologies;** 4. Also invites Member States to take appropriate measures to reduce food loss and waste, including through adequate policy measures, education and awareness-raising; 5. Recommends that Member States promote a broad-based dialogue between the public and private spheres, across the whole value chain and including all stakeholders, to collaborate on reasonable means of further reducing food loss and waste, bearing in mind that such loss and waste should not be moved from one part of the food chain to another, and the importance of including consumers in the process; 6. Encourages Member States, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to prioritize actions that prevent and reduce food loss and waste along the food supply chain that have the greatest environmental benefits, in line with the guidance issued by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on prevention of loss and waste, food recovery, and redistribution of safe and nutritious food to people;
UNEP/EA.4/Res.21	**Implementation Plan Towards a Pollution-free Planet**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	2. Encourages all Member States and relevant stakeholders **to contribute to the effective implementation thereof;** 3. Invites Member States and others in a position to do so to provide extrabudgetary financial resources to support the implementation of the present resolution;
UNEP/EA.4/Res.4	**Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Invites Member States to develop enabling macroeconomic and sectoral policies that contribute to sustainable development, including environmental policies and the use of life-cycle approaches, considering the administrative burden for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in order to stimulate investment in sustainable business practices; 2. Invites Member States, the international community, the private sector and other stakeholders to promote the development and

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			strengthening of **sustainable financing mechanisms, such as green bonds, to promote the inclusion of sustainability in business for the uptake and upscaling of sustainable business approaches, including but not limited to green business practices, as appropriate;** 4, Invites Member States to create enabling conditions for **policy reforms, as appropriate, innovative practices and technologies, economic instruments, investments and regional cooperation to encourage efficiency, reduce carbon footprints and enhance sustainable manufacturing;** 5. Encourages Member States, partners, the private sector, research institutions, academia and other stakeholders to intensify research and development and knowledge-sharing for the uptake, upscaling and replication of sustainable business practices moving towards sustainable consumption and production, such as resource efficiency, the circular economy, sustainable materials management and the "3Rs" (reduce, reuse, recycle);
UNEP/EA.4/Res.5	**Sustainable Infrastructure**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Encourages Member States to take the steps necessary to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 9 and related targets in other Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account national capabilities and priorities, and recognizing the objective of moving towards sustainable consumption and production patterns; 2. Encourages Member States and other stakeholders **to apply appropriate sustainability criteria to all infrastructure as a means of ensuring sustainable consumption and production and maintaining connectivity of the natural environment, and to collaborate to:** (a) Promote the mobilization, and realignment where applicable, of investments, including through promoting domestic policies to create an enabling environment, for the achievement of sustainable infrastructure projects; (b) Continue to support developing countries in partnership to strengthen scientific, technological and innovative capacity for the implementation of the present resolution in line with the commitments undertaken in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda; (c) Develop and strengthen national and regional systems-level

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			strategic approaches to infrastructure planning, in line with national legislation, including needs assessments, using the best available tools, guidelines and safeguards and the use of best practices such as environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments, and development that incorporates inclusiveness, resilience and environmental sustainability across different sectors, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (d) **Promote nature-based solutions as key components of systems-level strategic approaches to infrastructure planning and development;** (e) Build further on existing public-private partnerships and develop innovative approaches and mutual exchange of expertise with regard to sustainable infrastructure; 4, Encourages Member States and stakeholders to share and apply relevant national and international best practice, including in relation to avoiding or, if that is not possible, mitigating the impact of infrastructure developments; 6, Encourages Member States and stakeholders, engaging both public- and private-sector interests, to collaborate with a view to further supporting existing partnerships and alliances and initiating new partnerships for the promotion of scientific research and the development of clean technology to support developing countries in their transition to a more sustainable infrastructure, and to seek innovative ways of promoting sustainable infrastructure in order to achieve resource efficiency.

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UNEP/EA.4/Res.6	**Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1, Calls upon Member States and other actors at the local, national, regional and international levels, including in the private sector, civil society and academia**, to address the problem of marine litter and microplastics, prioritizing a whole-life-cycle approach and resource efficiency, building on existing initiatives and instruments, and supported by and grounded in science, international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement;** 4, Recalls its resolution 2/11 on marine plastic litter and microplastics and invites Member States, in close collaboration with the private sector, to: (a) **Reduce the discharge of microplastics into the marine environment,** including, where possible, through the phasing out of products that contain microplastics; (b) **Foster innovation in product design to reduce secondary microplastics release from land- and sea-based sources and improve waste management where needed;** (c) **Prevent losses of primary microplastics,** in particular pre-production pellets (flakes and powders), to prevent spillage into the environment across the whole manufacturing and supply chain; 6, Invites all Member States, relevant organizations in the United Nations system, other relevant regional and international organizations, the private sector, civil society, non-governmental organizations and individuals, on every appropriate occasion, including such opportunities as World Environment Day and World Oceans Day, to: (a) Consider the contribution they can make to addressing marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics; (b) Raise awareness of the importance of, and encourage, sustainable consumption and production, in line with Environment Assembly resolution 4/1 on innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production, with regard to products likely to generate marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics; (c) Promote environmentally sound waste management and marine plastic litter recovery in line with paragraph 4 (h) of Environment Assembly resolution 3/7;

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UNEP/EA.4/Res.7	**Environmentally Sound Management of Waste**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	Invites Member States, taking into consideration their differing national circumstances, and in cooperation with relevant national, regional and international organizations, to: (a) Promote **integrated approaches to solid waste management through sustainable consumption and production,** including but not limited to a circular economy and other sustainable economic models, as well as other innovative means, including the removal of hazardous substances from waste before recycling, special attention to preparing waste for reuse and recycling, a reduction in landfill use, and the application of the "waste hierarchy" set of priorities for all waste; (b) **Prevent and reduce waste at the source of origin by**, among other things, minimizing packaging materials, discouraging planned obsolescence of products, improving their safety, reusability, recyclability and resource efficiency through improved product design, using easy-to-recycle materials and using secondary raw materials, where feasible, rather than primary raw materials; (c) Engage the private sector, civil society, waste producers, local authorities and the public in the sound management of solid waste, and promote public-private initiatives and alliances to that end, including through market mechanisms and capacity-building, **to promote sustainable consumption and production, including, but not limited to, a circular economy and other sustainable economic models;** (d) Support the development or, where appropriate, the enhancement of institutional and regulatory frameworks to ensure that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined; (e) Work to **establish indicators and conduct regular assessments of the impact of selecting and implementing technological options for addressing waste management along the value chain,** with the objective of protecting health and the environment; (f) Promote the **use of modern technologies, innovations and innovative policy alternatives to support the environmentally sound management of solid waste** and the development of economic instruments and other measures to support waste management, "green entrepreneurship" and the generation of "green jobs"; (g) Support innovative **waste management initiatives, such as national and local "zero waste" initiatives,** in some countries to

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			minimize waste and develop adequate infrastructure and other facilities for waste management; (h) Promote **public- and private-sector solutions for innovative waste management financing**, such as: (i) (ii) (iii)Innovative financial models and the creation of an enabling environment for investment and market-based schemes; Support for job and income generation schemes; Cost recovery schemes; (i) Implement and support **innovative economic incentive schemes to promote the sound management of waste, such as extended producer/trader responsibility, recycling incentives and deposit refund schemes and other alternatives;** (j) Promote evidence-based research on the environmental and health benefits of environmentally sound waste management; (k) Develop and encourage **innovative programmes and tools for raising awareness regarding waste-related issues**; (l) Set standards for **food-grade plastics to minimize the risk of toxins getting into food;** (m) Strengthen monitoring activities **to avoid the disposal of waste into the marine environment from all sectors**; (n) **Reduce microplastics**, including in wastewater treatment plants, and encourage producers to use alternatives to microbeads; (o) Strengthen legislation **to prohibit the open burning of plastics** in order to avoid air pollution and its associated negative impacts on health; (p) **Support the recycling of plastics**, including the improvement of waste collection, transportation and recycling infrastructure; 3, Calls upon Member States, especially developed countries, that are in a position to do so, international organizations and international financial institutions to provide developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular those experiencing conflict, with financial assistance, capacity-building support, and technology transfer for the purpose of implementing the present resolution.

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UNEP/EA.4/Res.9	**Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea-4/proceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4?%2Fproceedings-report-ministerial-declaration-resolutions-and-decisions-unea-4=	1. Encourages Member States to **develop and implement national or regional actions, as appropriate, to address the environmental impact of single-use plastic products;** 2. Also encourages Member States to take action, as appropriate, to promote the **identification and development of environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use plastic products, taking into account the full life-cycle implications of those alternatives;** 3. Invites Member States **to promote improved waste management that will contribute to reducing the discharge of plastic waste into the environment;** 4. Also invites Member States to work together with industry to encourage the private sector to innovate and **find affordable and environmentally friendly alternatives to single-use plastic products and to promote business models that take into account the full environmental impact of their products;** 5. Encourages Governments and the private sector to promote the **more resource-efficient design, production, use and sound management of plastics across their life cycle**, and in particular encourages Member States to **carry out environmental education on the impact of plastic pollution and on sustainable alternatives to single-use plastic products and to promote sustainable consumption patterns**; 6. Encourages Member States **to take comprehensive action with regard to single-use plastic products in addressing related waste through, where appropriate, legislation; implementation of international agreements; provision of adequate waste management infrastructure; improvement of waste management practices and support for waste minimization; environmentally sound clean-up activities; information sharing; and supporting innovation;** 7. Invites Member States, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to promote and enhance cooperation in scientific research and the development of environmentally sound alternatives to single-use plastic products, where appropriate, and to tackle plastic pollution within local, national and regional voluntary and regulatory frameworks, as appropriate;

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UNEP/EA.5/Res.11	**Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	1. Invites Member States to **integrate circular economy approaches into national and regional strategies and action plans,** including those related to relevant multilateral environmental agreements, taking into account national circumstances and capacities; 2. Also invites Member States to take measures, in cooperation with the private sector, **to enhance the design of products, taking into account life-cycle assessments, to favour product lifetime extension, repair, re-use and easier recycling in the context of a circular economy, to contribute to resource efficiency;** 3. Further invites Member States, relevant organizations and networks to cooperate in sharing and discussing best practices regarding relevant product information along value chains in the context of the circular economy, in line with domestic and international law; 4. Underlines the need for partnerships and invites Member States, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the scientific community, relevant international institutions and other relevant stakeholders **to promote and enhance circular economy approaches as well as business models, innovations and investments to contribute to, among other things, the sustainable management, use and consumption of natural resources and materials;** 5. Invites Member States to engage, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances and policies, with subnational, national and regional entities to **strengthen policies, legal and regulatory frameworks, such as those concerning sustainable public procurement, technological innovation, extended producer responsibility, the materials life cycle and industrial symbiosis to support the uptake of circular economy approaches, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable consumption and production;** 6. Encourages Member States **to enhance knowledge management and to develop strong advocacy, communication, outreach and awareness-raising mechanisms, platforms and campaigns; to support education, research, innovation and development; to enhance capacity-building; to foster public–private partnerships as appropriate**; and to strengthen the sharing of information within and across countries and regions concerning sustainable consumption and

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			production approaches, including the circular economy; 7. Invites Member States in a position to do so to improve the predictability of and enhance access to support, such as sustainable finance from both public and private sources, environmentally sound technologies for the uptake of circular economy and other approaches to sustainable consumption and production, especially by micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular in developing countries;
UNEP/EA.5/Res.14	**End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	15, Calls upon all Member States to continue and step up activities, and adopt voluntary measures, **to combat plastic pollution, including measures related to sustainable consumption and production, which may include circular economy approaches, and to develop and implement national action plans**, while fostering international action and initiatives under national regulatory frameworks, and, on a voluntary basis, to provide statistical information on the environmentally sound management of plastic waste, as appropriate, taking into account national circumstances;
UNEP/EA.5/Res.2	**Sustainable Nitrogen Management**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	1. Encourages Member States **to accelerate actions to significantly reduce nitrogen waste globally by 2030 and beyond through the improvement of sustainable nitrogen management**; 2. Also encourages Member States **to share information on national action plans, as available, according to national circumstances;**
UNEP/EA.5/Res.4	**Sustainable Lake Management**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	1. Requests all Member States and members of specialized agencies, and invites relevant international organizations, where applicable, to undertake and implement the following, individually and collectively, as appropriate: (a) **To protect, conserve, restore and ensure the sustainable use of lakes, including aspects such as water quality, erosion, sedimentation and aquatic biodiversity, through integrated management at all levels**, as set out in targets 6.5 and 6.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, addressing the water body and the entire lake basin, supported by relevant regulation, institutional development, budget allocations, well-managed monitoring and data, integrated research, sustainable technology and international cooperation; (b) **To integrate lakes into national and regional development**

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			plans, including in climate adaptation, water resource management and conservation of biodiversity, to advance the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal 6, and of climate resilience and biodiversity conservation; (c) To take into account their local culture and knowledge and their dependence and impact on lakes, ensuring engagement with and capacity-building for local communities and indigenous peoples, as appropriate, and in accordance with national circumstances; (d) To involve all stakeholders, including university and research centres, private companies and non-governmental organizations, in a concerted effort to implement sustainable lake management; e) To take into account research and scientific guidance, with an emphasis on science-policy linkage; (f) To develop international networking and collaboration for integrated sustainable and climate-resilient lake management and regularly exchange data and information between States that share a transboundary lake, as provided for in international agreements;
UNEP/EA.5/Res.5	**Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	7. Calls upon Member States and the Executive Director, in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, to support the implementation of the present resolution in partnership with local communities, women and youth as well as with indigenous peoples, with their free, prior and informed consent, as their knowledge and methods have proved effective in conserving, restoring and sustainably using biodiversity; 8. Calls upon Member States **to follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach when designing, implementing and monitoring nature-based solutions.**

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UNEP/EA.5/Res.7	**Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	4. Invites Governments and all stakeholders involved in the "Beyond 2020" process **to put in place an ambitious, improved enabling framework to address the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, reflecting a life-cycle approach and the need to achieve sustainable consumption and production,** and addressing the means of implementation of the framework at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, and calls on all stakeholders to bring the ongoing intersessional process to a successful conclusion; 15. Encourages Governments in a position to do so, and invites the private sector, including industry, foundations, other non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, to mobilize and continue to mobilize financial and other resources to contribute to the Special Programme; 18. Urges Member States and invites other stakeholders **to take further action to reduce or eliminate the risks associated with the issues discussed in the report entitled An Assessment Report on Issues of Concern: Chemicals and Waste Issues Posing Risks to Human Health and the Environment** 20. Invites Member States, international organizations and other stakeholders **to address the adverse impact of pesticides and fertilizers,** and notes the joint initiative by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme to eliminate the harm posed by highly hazardous pesticides;
UNEP/EA.5/Res.9	**Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea5/unea-5.2/outcomes-resumed-session-unea-5-unea-5.2	1. Encourages Member States and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to: (a)Consider **integrating and implementing the 10 "international good practice principles for sustainable infrastructure" into national policies, including through the use and development of sustainable infrastructure tools**, 6 taking into account national contexts; (b) **Implement existing tools, such as guidelines and best practices,** including those developed under or endorsed by multilateral environmental agreements, 7 co-develop additional knowledge products, and participate in

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
			exchange mechanisms to share best practices and lessons learned with regard to sustainable infrastructure; (c) Cooperate internationally to strengthen frameworks, including for financing, for sustainable and inclusive infrastructure that maintains and enhances ecological connectivity, avoids further fragmentation, and minimizes other potential impacts on ecosystems and livelihoods; (d) **Consider the role of digital infrastructure in enabling sustainable consumption and production patterns and improving the sustainability and efficiency of other infrastructure systems as part of integrated approaches;** 2. Encourages Member States to: (a) **Conduct strategic and environmental impact assessments so that environmental considerations are integrated into decision-making at appropriate levels,** and advance integrated, system-level approaches to the planning and delivery of sustainable infrastructure; (b) Engage, as appropriate, with subnational institutions **to consider integrating the international good practice principles, where relevant, into local recovery-focused infrastructure plans and projects**; (c) **Promote investment in natural infrastructure and nature-based solutions for delivering essential services and improving ecosystem services,** creating employment and accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; (d) Promote investment in environmentally, socially and economically **sustainable health infrastructure for improved resilience and resource efficiency, with the environmentally sound management of medical waste**; (e) **Promote investment in infrastructure that is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable, climate resilient, resource efficient, that prevents ecosystem fragmentation and contributes to sustainable production and consumption patterns,** thus contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of relevant multilateral environmental agreements; (f) Provide opportunities for the engagement of relevant stakeholders, including local communities, vulnerable people and indigenous

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
			peoples, in all stages of the process to identify, design, build and maintain infrastructure;
UNEP/EA.6/Res.11	**Highly Hazardous Pesticides**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/outcomes	2. Invites Member States to continue to cooperate and coordinate in efforts **to prevent illegal trafficking in highly hazardous pesticides**, including, where relevant, as highlighted in decisions BC-16/24 of 12 May 2023, RC-11/11 of 12 May 2023 and SC-11/23 of 12 May 2023, adopted by the conferences of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, respectively, on synergies in preventing and combating illegal traffic and trade in hazardous chemicals and wastes; 3. Invites Member States and all other relevant stakeholders to **become members of the voluntary, multi-stakeholder global alliance on highly hazardous pesticides**, to be established under the Global Framework on Chemicals; 4. Encourages Member States and other relevant stakeholders that are in a position to do so **to carry out further research on safer and affordable alternatives to highly hazardous pesticides**, as appropriate;
UNEP/EA.6/Res.13	**Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change,**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/outcomes	1. Calls on all Member States and members of specialized agencies, and invites relevant international organizations and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to: (a) **Implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including** through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate, and adopt coherent responses to water-related challenges and risks across sectors, regions and actors, **taking into account, where applicable, the interlinkages of water, ecosystems, energy, food security and nutrition, along with their social, economic and environmental impacts**; (b) **Mainstream sustainable water management and the protection,**

Decision nº	Title	Link to decision	Extract of the UNEA Resolutions that concerns Member states
	biodiversity loss and pollution.		**conservation, restoration and sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems** into relevant intergovernmental processes, as well as national and local development strategies and relevant policies, with consideration of the One Health approach; (c) **Enhance the collection and monitoring of reliable, up-to-date water-related data**, including on water quality and quantity, in accordance with national laws and policies; increase their use for evidence-based decision-making across sectors noting the water cycle; and implement sustainable, integrated, disaster-risk-informed water resources management as a necessary tool for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, inter alia, as a contribution to the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;2 (d) Promote **integrated water resources management in agriculture to address water stress, and adapt agricultural systems, inter alia, to promote overall water efficiency and resilience to water stress, as well as to transition to sustainable food systems, and taking into account Indigenous and traditional knowledge and approaches,** including those associated with tank cascade systems, as well as agroecological and other innovative approaches; (e) **Promote integrated water resources management in and between large water-consuming industry sectors to reduce water stress risks and pollution, and adapt water reuse strategies by, inter alia, enhancing wastewater reuse and strengthening pollutant discharge control to improve overall water efficiency and resilience to water stress;** (f) **Encourage investment in sustainable, climate-resilient water and sanitation infrastructure and nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches,** including to close the investment gap in water and sanitation; 3. Invites Member States **to scale up means of implementation to promote and implement integrated water resources management**, in particular in developing countries.
UNEP/EA.6/Res.5	**Environmental Aspects of**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/outcomes	1. Encourages Member States, and invites relevant stakeholders along the full life cycle of minerals and metals, from both the public and private sectors, **to align the management of minerals and metals**

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	Minerals and Metals		**with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development4 and with their relevant obligations and decisions under multilateral environmental agreements, as appropriate, as well as to promote sustainable consumption and production;**
UNEP/EA.6/Res.8	**Promoting sustainable lifestyles.**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/outcomes	1. Encourages Member States, as appropriate, and invites other stakeholders and international organizations, **to create the necessary evidence-based enabling conditions, foster public and private collaboration, and pursue education at all levels and awareness-raising initiatives in support of empowering citizens to make informed choices about sustainable lifestyles**, as referred to in target 4.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on education for sustainable development and global citizenship; 2. Invites Member States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders **to promote and enhance cooperation by sharing information and best practices, research and literature, as appropriate, that enable the adoption of more sustainable lifestyles, including sustainable living**;
UNEP/EA.6/Res.9	**Sound management of chemicals and waste**	https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea6/outcomes	3. Encourages all stakeholders to provide further resources to the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund;

Annex VIII
Recommendations towards the next MTS preparation

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems UNEP/EA.3/Res.10	LBP/1	Improve water quality monitoring networks and data-sharing	Monitoring, data & indicators
	LBP/2	Consider using Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approaches in regional plans	Strategic & policy frameworks
Pollution Mitigation by Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Key Sectors UNEP/EA.3/Res.2	LBP/3	Develop an overarching strategy to mainstream biodiversity in key sectors of the LBS protocol	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/4	Provide guidance and capacity building to countries to mainstream biodiversity in key sectors.	Capacity building & technical assistance
Managing soil pollution to achieve Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.3/Res.6	LBP/5	Develop an integrated regional approach to soil pollution	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/6	Explore the possibility of reinforcing the Barcelona Convention Frameworks to enhance coherence on soil pollution (eg. Though RP on Agriculture management?)	Legislative & regulatory actions
	LBP/7	Facilitate knowledge sharing and technical cooperation among Mediterranean countries on best practices in soil pollution (EU)	Capacity building & technical assistance
	LBP/8	Support the integration of nature-based solutions into soil management strategies (Regenerative agriculture)	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/9	Strengthen regional monitoring systems to improve data collection and reporting mechanisms	Monitoring, data & indicators
	LBP/10	Establish common indicators for soil health assessment in Mediterranean coastal areas.	Monitoring, data & indicators
Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries UNEP/EA.3/Res.9	LBP/11	Review the status of lead paint regulations and exposure levels across Mediterranean countries (identify gaps and needs to reach its complete elimination).	Research & innovation
	LBP/12	Develop and implement a capacity-building programme for the phase-out of lead in paints (Building on existing international guidance e.g., WHO & UNEP's Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint).	Capacity building & technical assistance
	LBP/13	Strengthen monitoring mechanisms for lead pollution and exposure.	Monitoring, data & indicators
	LBP/14	Enhance regional cooperation on the environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries, facilitate information	Capacity building & technical assistance

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
		exchange and best practices on collection, treatment and recycling (coordination with Basel Convention).	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
Innovations on biodiversity and land degradation UNEP/EA.4/Res.10	LBP/15	Integrate biodiversity consideration into the LBS Protocol, ensuring that pollution control explicitly include biodiversity protection in key economic sectors	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/16	Develop regional mechanisms for financing and knowledge transfer to support biodiversity-friendly economic models	Financing & investment mechanisms Capacity building & technical assistance
Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities UNEP/EA.4/Res.11	LBP/17	No additional measure suggested	/
Mineral resource governance UNEP/EA.4/Res.19	LBP/20	No measure suggested for the regional level	/
Environmentally Sound Management of Waste UNEP/EA.4/Res.7	LBP/21	Support countries in developing circular economy strategies for key sectors	Capacity building & technical assistance
	LBP/22	Enhance tracking of waste reduction targets and improve waste management indicators	Monitoring, data & indicators
	LBP/23	Expand the role of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes across the region	Legislative & regulatory actions
	LBP/24	Promote regional cooperation on waste prevention and zero-waste initiatives	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
Sustainable Lake Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.4	LBP/25	Promote collaboration between UNEP/MAP and regional water governance institutions or initiatives to improve knowledge-sharing on lake management strategies.	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
	LBP/26	Encourage voluntary monitoring of water quality in Mediterranean coastal lakes and wetlands, considering their role in biodiversity conservation and pollution filtration.	Monitoring, data & indicators

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste UNEP/EA.5/Res.7	LBP/27	Track the development of the Global Framework on Chemicals (UNEP/EA.6/Res.9) and coordinate with international efforts, exploring potential regional involvement.	Strategic & policy frameworks
Highly Hazardous Pesticides UNEP/EA.6/Res.11	LBP/28	Expand the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management to include specific measures for monitoring, regulating, and phasing out HHPs, aligning with UNEA and international conventions	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/29	Update and expand the list of banned/restricted pesticides under the Barcelona Convention, considering international classifications (e.g., PAN List, Rotterdam, Stockholm Conventions).	Legislative & regulatory actions
	LBP/30	Strengthen regional cooperation to combat illegal pesticide trafficking,	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
	LBP/31	Promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and nature-based alternatives across Mediterranean agriculture, reducing dependence on hazardous pesticides.	Strategic & policy frameworks
	LBP/32	Support regional monitoring system for pesticide contamination in soil, water, and food,	Monitoring, data & indicators
Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. UNEP/EA.6/Res.13	LBP/33	Support countries in the implementation of IWRM strategies	Capacity building & technical assistance
	LBP/34	Support Nature-based Solutions for water management, eg by preparing regional guidance	Capacity building & technical assistance Research & innovation
Marine Plastic Litter and Microplastics UNEP/EA.4/Res.6	MLPP/1	/	/
Addressing Single-use Plastic Products Pollution UNEP/EA.4/Res.9	MLPP/2	Set regional quantitative targets for SUPPs reduction, defining specific phase-out timelines for priority SUPPs (e.g., plastic straws, cutlery, EPS food containers).	Legislative & regulatory actions

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
	MLPP/3	Provide technical support and knowledge exchange mechanism to support the implementation of national measures addressing SUPPs	Capacity building & technical assistance
End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument UNEP/EA.5/Res.14	MLPP/4	Contribute to the INC negociation process, ensuring alignment and complementarity between regional and global frameworks addressing plastic pollution	Strategic & policy frameworks
	MLPP/5	Establish common methodologies and harmonized indicators for reporting on plastic waste, following EU/International efforts	Monitoring, data & indicators
	MLPP/6	Strengthen the integration of circular economy principles for marine litter prevention	Strategic & policy frameworks Research &innovation
Sustainable Nitrogen Management UNEP/EA.5/Res.2	NM/1	Develop a Regional Plan on Sustainable Nitrogen Management, including reduction targets	Strategic & policy frameworks
	NM/2	Strengthen monitoring and data collection	Monitoring, data & indicators
	NM/3	Promote nitrogen recovery practices and circular economy approaches, mainstream nitrogen efficiency in agriculture	Capacity building & technical assistance Research & innovation
	NM/4	Develop guidelines for integrated nitrogen management and support stakeholders with capacity building (Farmers, wastewater operators, food industry)	Research & innovation Capacity building & technical assistance
Innovative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Consumption and Production UNEP/EA.4/Res.1	SCP/1	Provide technical assistance and peer-to-peer learning platforms to support Contracting Parties in adopting and implementing SCP instruments such as eco-design, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and circular economy strategies.	Capacity building & technical assistance
Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste UNEP/EA.4/Res.2	SCP/2	Sate of the art study on food loss and waste, including its economic and environmental impacts	Research & innovation
		Technical guidelines to effectively reduce food loss and waste in the Mediterranean and track progress at the national level	Research & innovation

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
		Facilitate knowledge-sharing and cooperation through platforms that promote best practices, technologies and innovation	Research & innovation Capacity building & technical assistance
Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices UNEP/EA.4/Res.4	SCP/3	Develop regional guidance on green finance instruments (e.g., green bonds, sustainability-linked loans, ESG investments) to support sustainable businesses	Research & innovation Financing & investment mechanisms
	SCP/4	Enhance cooperation with financial institutions and development banks to facilitate regional access to sustainable finance for businesses implementing SCP and circular economy models	Financing & investment mechanisms
Sustainable Infrastructure UNEP/EA.4/Res.5	SCP/5	Strengthen the integration of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) into regional planning frameworks to ensure sustainability criteria are applied in infrastructure projects.	Legislative & regulatory actions
	SCP/6	Promote NbS in coastal and urban infrastructure development, ensuring their adoption in regional and national policies.	Capacity building & technical assistance
	SCP/7	Facilitate regional knowledge exchange and capacity-building for decision-makers, urban planners, and investors on sustainable infrastructure models and financing mechanisms.	Capacity building & technical assistance Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production UNEP/EA.5/Res.11	SCP/8	Consider the integration of circular economy principles into next regional plans to be developed or updated (in particular if related to packaging, plastics, textiles, food systems, construction).	Strategic & policy frameworks
	SCP/9	Strengthen the role of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) across key product categories to enhance circularity in waste management.	Legislative & regulatory actions

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
	SCP/10	Promote a regional circular economy knowledge-sharing to facilitate capacity-building, partnerships, peer-to-peer exchange and innovation exchange among Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders.	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
	SCP/11	Develop financing mechanisms to support the adoption of circular business models, especially for SMEs and micro-enterprises in the Mediterranean region.	Financing & investment mechanisms
Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure UNEP/EA.5/Res.9	SCP/12	Strengthen the integration of sustainability criteria into Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) to ensure that all infrastructure projects across the Mediterranean adhere to sustainable development principles.	Legislative & regulatory actions
	SCP/13	Promote investment in Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to enhance coastal resilience, flood prevention, and green infrastructure, aligning with climate adaptation strategies.	Financing & investment mechanisms
	SCP/14	Encourage multi-stakeholder participation in regional infrastructure planning processes, ensuring meaningful engagement with local communities, and civil society.	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
Environmental Aspects of Minerals and Metals UNEP/EA.6/Res.5	SCP/15	Promote technological innovation and knowledge-sharing for metal recovery from secondary sources, such as urban mining, industrial symbiosis, and closed-loop recycling systems.	Research & innovation
	SCP/16	Capability building based on guidelines for waste prevention, recycling, and resource efficiency in metals and minerals management prepared by other relevant MEAs (e.g., Basel, Stockholm Conventions).	Capacity building & technical assistance
Promoting sustainable lifestyles UNEP/EA.6/Res.8	SCP/17	Strengthen partnerships with educational and research institutions to promote knowledge exchange on sustainable consumption patterns and lifestyle choices.	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement

UNEA Resolution	Thematic area and measure nº	Recommendations for the next MTS	Action type
	SCP/18	Encourage multi-stakeholder collaborations, including civil society, businesses, and local governments, to co-develop behavioral change initiatives at the regional level.	Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
Nature-based Solutions for Supporting Sustainable Development UNEP/EA.5/Res.5	NBS/1	Develop a regional NbS strategy to guide integration of NbS across Barcelona Convention framework	Strategic & policy frameworks
	NBS/2	Create a NbS knowledge and capacity-building platform, in partnership with other institutions promoting these solutions in the Mediterranean.	Capacity building & technical assistance Public-Private Partnerships & stakeholder engagement
	NBS/3	Develop financing mechanisms to expand the development of NbS projects.	Financing & investment mechanisms