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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

13th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the
Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development

Athens, Greece, 30 and 31 March, 2009

**REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE 13th MEETING
OF THE MCSD STEERING COMMITTEE**

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Report by the Secretariat for the 13th Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee
Athens, Greece, 30 and 31 March 2009

I. Introduction

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), a meeting of the Steering Committee is being convened on 30-31 March, 2009 at the Offices of the MAP Coordinating Unit, 48 Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue, Athens, Greece.

The objective is to ensure the follow-up and smooth running of the work decided by the Commission. In this regard, the Secretariat to the Commission will present the progress report of the activities carried out in accordance with the Programme of Work approved by the Contracting Parties at their meeting in Almeria in January, 2008. However, the main issue for consideration is the organization of the next meeting of the MCSD.

The Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) will meet on 22-24 June, 2009 in Cairo at the kind invitation of the Egyptian authorities. Climate change issues with a focus on adaptation will be at the center of the discussions, with the view to forge a consolidated position of the Mediterranean Region and present it on the occasion of important international and regional events such as CSD and UNFCCC meetings, in particular those taking place at the end of this year in Copenhagen. The consolidated perspective: "Climate Change Adaptation Experience and Strategies in the Mediterranean" will also help frame concrete actions on the ground as well as leverage financial resources as deemed necessary.

Close interactions are being sought with lead institutions/organisations in this domain, including UNFCCC Secretariat, UNEP Climate Change Adaptation Unit, UN CSD, World Bank, UNDP, OECD, WRI, the Euro-Mediterranean Center for Climate Change, etc.

A Task Force has been established under the auspices of the Coordinating Unit to steer the preparatory process of the MCSD in Cairo. A draft Agenda for the MCSD meeting has been prepared and will be submitted to the Steering Committee for its consideration.

In order to substantiate the process and ground it in the reality of the Region, case studies on adaptation are being prepared by countries that are Parties to the Barcelona Convention. Potentially promising initiatives and concrete actions would thus be identified for implementation at the regional, sub-regional or national levels, under the framework of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).

Another process is underway in order to review and assess the progress made on National Strategies and initiatives for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region between 2006-2008. The review will take stock of the different strategic approaches followed by the countries to foster sustainable development. The Review will assemble information on different frameworks and processes, then compile and analyse it. Based on the variety of experience in the countries of the Region, the Review will strive to distil promising practices that support the

preparation and implementation of strategic and coordinated approaches to sustainable development.

According to the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), approved by the Contracting Parties in Portoroz in November, 2005, an in-depth assessment should be carried out every five years, the first of which in 2010 which will constitute a special review for the Third World Summit on Sustainable Development. The organization of this review will be discussed by the Steering Committee taking into account the decision taken by the last meeting of the ECP.

This progress report features also the results of the various meetings and seminars organized by the Blue Plan with respect to the thematic issues for the cycle 2007-2008 and the development of the Indicators for MSSD follow-up. It also includes reports about the activities carried out by MAP components for the implementation of the MSSD.

The meeting of the Steering Committee is expected to reach a number of conclusions which will be taken into account by the Secretariat in the preparation of the next meeting of the MCSD and the programme of work for the next biennium.

II. Review and Assessment of Progress on National Strategies and Initiatives for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region

In 2005, MAP Secretariat prepared a Regional Review and Assessment Report on National Strategies on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region on the basis of information received from the countries. The report assessed the status of activities in relation to sustainable development in the region. The report also comprised draft country Profiles, partially updated in 2006 describing progress, institutions and actions relating to sustainable development in the Mediterranean countries.

Taking into account the time that has elapsed and various significant regional developments such as the adoption of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and of the European Union's Renewed Sustainable Development Strategy, the Secretariat has deemed it necessary to proceed with an update of the regional review and the associated country profiles. In this regard, a Consultant has been engaged to prepare the new revised and up to date Review and update the country Profiles.

The new Review shall cover the policy developments and progress towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean. It shall take stock of what exists in terms of NSSD development; identify added value brought to the NSSDs on the basis of lessons learned from the Mediterranean and the EU Strategies; consider the benefits from MAP's initiative for country assistance in the preparation of NSSDs: identify significant achievements in strategies, actions in priority fields, institutional and other cross- sectoral fields; identify strengths and weaknesses, gaps and constraints; draw lessons in common challenges and best practices; update the country profiles; etc.

This updated Review is expected to provide the Parties and partners with an overall assessment of the actions and initiatives towards sustainable development carried out in the region. This would allow MAP, the Mediterranean countries as well as other partners to better understand the state of play with respect to the development of NSSDs in the region, focus their actions accordingly, and identify the needs for assistance and capacity building.

The work of the consultant and thus the quality of the resulting reports will depend heavily on the cooperation and support from national authorities which, as primary sources of information, can help to improve the accuracy of the information. For this purpose, the countries have been requested to provide relevant information by updating and complementing the information contained in the country Profiles.

The review is basically (a) aiming at verifying the information with regards to the pre- 2006 period, (b) focussing on significant developments for the period 2006 and 2008 and (c) identifying major upcoming initiatives in 2009. While following a similar structure as the previous Review, the current exercise will insist on how national policy frameworks, decision making, coordination and planning integrate climate change challenges and commitments.

Apart from being exhaustive and enumerating events, the countries are being asked to emphasize those strategic frameworks, processes, mechanisms, and management arrangements that are most promising or successful for promoting and implementing sustainable development and identify major gaps and weaknesses that pose obstacles to the realization of the goals and objectives.

1st Progress Report

The Consultant has submitted the 1st Progress Report of the review and assessment of progress on national strategies and initiatives for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. This progress report can be considered as an eye opener. It has confirmed, for example, how uneven the situation is as far as the availability of relevant information is concerned, indicative perhaps, of national weaknesses in capacities, coordination and consultation.

At the same time, the report also acknowledges that perhaps it is too early to expect dramatic results and changes because countries have been going through a transitional phase preparing new strategies or revising older ones. However, some positive developments are also mentioned.

Although one should perhaps wait until the final assessment report is submitted in order for one to have a clearer picture of the state of play with respect to the development of NSSDs, the 1st Progress Report is being submitted to the meeting for the Steering Committee to have an initial exchange of views on the review process of the NSSDs (**Annex III**)

III. Support to NSSD formulation and implementation

Since the adoption of the MSSD, the Secretariat has been encouraging and supporting MAP countries to develop and implement their NSSDs. In respect of some of the countries this has been done with success. Thanks to the financial support of Italy and Monaco, four countries (Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco and the Syrian Arab Republic) have been supported in the formulation of their NSSD. Assistance is also being offered to four other countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia). While there are features in strategy formulation that are common to the different country processes, the pace varies significantly depending on the different phases reached in strategy formulation.

As acknowledged during the last Steering Committee meeting that was held in Athens Greece on 19-20 June, 2008 (UNEP(DEPI)MED WG. 327/3 – Annex IV) NSSD formulation is seen as a complicated process and often falls short of expectations. How this is true could be seen from the experience with the countries that are currently involved in the process of developing their NSSD.

Launching visits were planned to the four countries that have been identified for assistance namely Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia. The purpose is to meet the concerned institutions and stakeholders including the donor community in order to inform them on NSSD formulation process and obtain their support. On this occasion, a national information workshop could be organized and complementary funding identified from the donor community active in the domain. Developing collaboration with donors (as was the case in Montenegro with Italy) will prove essential to coherence, coordination as well as increased MAP visibility.

Despite persistent efforts to initiate the process in the three candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Lebanon) other than Tunisia, no progress has been made due to

circumstances specific to each country. Given the necessity to accumulate NSSD experience that will be shared and discussed during the next MCSD meeting and also considering the difficulties to proceed in the initially proposed countries, part of the financial resources initially earmarked to support NSSD in Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Lebanon will be re-deployed.

As far as Tunisia is concerned, the standard MoU has been considerably adapted to the country specific situation in order to accommodate the long existing and substantial experience of Tunisia in terms of sustainable development.

The possibility of organizing missions to Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Lebanon in conjunction with the relevant RACs will continue to be explored. Joint missions would certainly contribute to increase the visibility of MAP as a coordinated system as well as the perception that sustainable development is not an isolated concern of MEDU but a shared endeavor of all MAP components. A good coordination at the country level would also:-

- a. allow the MAP components to speak with one voice;
- b. decrease the burden and workload on government structures;
- c. stimulate collaboration between the MAP Focal Point and the different RACs Focal Points;
- d. allow economy of scale; and
- e. contribute to streamlining all MAP activities into the country overall policy framework.

The Secretariat will continue to make every effort in order to finalize the three MoUs with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Lebanon and launch the process for the development of the respective NSSDs so that they will catch up with the progress already achieved with respect to the MoU with Tunisia.

IV. NSSD and Adaptation to Climate Change in the three countries (Egypt, Syria, Montenegro)

In view of the theme chosen for the next meeting of the MCSD, studies have been launched on adaptation to climate change in three countries that have already prepared their NSSDs (i.e. Egypt, Montenegro and the Syrian Arab Republic). The study will consist of an assessment of vulnerabilities to climate change variability and to extreme events, and the identification of key adaptation measures (policy reforms, improved legal and institutional frameworks, mobilization of appropriate economic instruments, capacity building, etc.).

For this purpose, three MoUs have been drawn up with the concerned countries with the view to share experience and identify possible strategic elements for adaptation to climate change. Following consultations with the members of the MCSD Steering Committee and MAP Components, the Terms of Reference have been agreed upon between the Secretariat and the concerned countries (**Annex IV**).

In accordance with the ToR, a national consultant, under the supervision of the concerned Ministry, will: (i) make a review of available information concerning vulnerabilities to climate variability and extreme events, (ii) assess how the relevant policies, legal frameworks, economic instruments and institutional set up integrate climate change concerns, (iii) review the current and projected measures and actions towards adaptation, and (iv) explore how adaptation to climate change is or could be addressed through policy measures, improved

legal and institutional frameworks, and appropriate economic instruments, (v) identify key adaptation measures (criteria of priority and short list of activities such as capacity building) (vi) generate public awareness through the project outputs.

The results from these studies will feed into the preparation process of the next MCSD meeting. In fact, it is intended to give these countries the opportunity to relate their experience at the MCSD meeting.

V. Activities by MAP components towards implementing the MSSD

In addition to the support provided by the Secretariat to the policy process at the country level, the other MAP components support the implementation of the MCSD work programme by organising and facilitating thematic working groups and/or providing direct support to MSSD implementation in their fields of competence. Through this support that in most cases comprises elements of knowledge management and information; capacity building; stakeholders participation; policy dialogue and partnership building, all RACs contribute substantially to address cross sector issues of the MSSD and the MCSD Work Programme.

A. Monitoring the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

Since the 12th meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, held in Istanbul in May 2007, the Blue Plan's work has consisted of further documenting the priority indicators for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, drawing up additional indicators particularly for climate change, tourism and sustainable agricultural and rural development, undertaking research to assess how Mediterranean countries are performing in implementing the MSSD and leading thematic work in the fields of climate change, tourism, agriculture, sustainable agricultural and rural development and urban mobility. Within its own ambit and field of competence the Blue Plan has also availed itself of the various opportunities which have arisen in order to make known the work of the MCSD and the content of the MSSD, particularly to those promoting the Union for the Mediterranean initiative.

Indicators

As far as indicators are concerned, the so-called priority ones on water and energy were the focus of additional work aimed both at enhancing their quality and allowing work to be initiated on assessing the progress made by riparian states towards implementing the corresponding chapters of the MSSD. This work gave rise to a number of dedicated publications, to be found on the Blue Plan website. Various additional indicators, 19 in the tourism sector, 22 in the rural sector and 11 on mobility, were also established in order to better reflect how these sectors have contributed to the sustainable development of the region. They were described in detail in the standardised fact sheets and were documented for certain countries.

This apart, the Blue Plan has undertaken research, which involves using the MSSD's 34 priority indicators to visualise and compare the performance of Mediterranean countries in implementing the MSSD. The results, which include all the areas covered by the MSSD, were presented to the international steering committee entrusted with monitoring the programme in

June 2008. They have not been published since it was felt that the analyses needed to be further backed up.

Climate change

As far as climate change is concerned and by way of follow-up to the work of the 12th meeting of the MCSD, in 2008 the Blue Plan produced a document entitled « The Mediterranean: hot spot for climate change », which was presented in Marseilles in October 2008 at the seminar on « Climate Change in the Mediterranean ». This event attracted a hundred or so representatives from the MAP focal points, the MCSD, the Blue Plan as well as experts and partners in development, thus underscoring the interest and need for regular Mediterranean consultation on climate change and flagging up the MCSD as the most relevant body for organising such activities.

Tourism

At thematic level and in accordance with the MCSD's programme of work, the Blue Plan ran a work programme on tourism. It involved the initiation of six national studies in Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, Croatia, Turkey and Malta aimed at (i) assessing how the relevant MSSD provisions on national policies and strategies for tourist development were taken into account, (ii) measuring the progress made since 1999 with respect to the recommendations adopted on « tourism and sustainable development » and (iii) identifying good practices. Four regional studies dealing respectively with (a) tourism and climate change, (b) tourist numbers and preserving biodiversity, (c) the results and prospects of sailing and cruising in the Mediterranean and (d) employment and pay in the tourism sector were also drawn up in parallel. All of this work was presented and discussed at a regional workshop held on 2 and 3 July 2008 in Sophia Antipolis, to which over sixty participants contributed. The resulting recommendations provided input for the programme of work decided upon for 2009-2010.

Rural Areas

Turning to the rural areas and in partnership with the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), the Blue Plan has initiated 11 national studies in Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Greece, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey to (1) assess the sustainable/unsustainable nature of the policies and strategies chosen for agricultural and rural development, (2) evaluate their cost and (3) identify good practices and current trends. Four regional studies were also launched at the same time, looking at (a) how the district level is taken into account in rural development policies in the Mediterranean, (b) agriculture and climate change in the Maghreb, (c) collective pastureland management in the Mashrek/Maghreb and (d) the economic aspects of desertification. They were considered at a regional workshop held at the Bari Agronomic Institute from 8-10 May 2008, to which some forty participants representing over twenty institutions contributed, and gave rise to various recommendations which are to be presented to the next MCSD meeting and will provide input to the « Mediterra 2009 » publication to be distributed in 2009.

Urban Mobility

In the field of urban mobility and by way of follow-up to a recommendation addressed to the Blue Plan on setting up a platform of good urban mobility practices, the Blue Plan has initiated seven case studies for Istanbul, Tunis, Cairo, Algiers, Aleppo, Latakia and Tangiers, intended on the one hand to document 11 specific indicators of environmental impact and the socio-

economic characterisation of mobility and, on the other, to provide more in-depth knowledge about urban and peri-urban mobility determinants. This work will be studied at a follow-up workshop in 2009 to the one organised in Morocco in January 2008 in partnership with the World Bank and the CODATU which resulted in a publication “guidance and recommendations for urban transport in the Mediterranean”.

Energy

Apart from the above, the Blue Plan has continued its activities in the energy field, particularly towards promoting renewable forms of energy and energy efficiency. With the support of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the outcome of this work was compiled in a special publication entitled « Energy and climate change in the Mediterranean », which was published in July 2008.

Water

In the water sector, in 2008 the Blue Plan focused particularly on sectoral and total water use efficiency. Worth noting are the eight national studies which were conducted and presented at an experts' workshop held in Sophia-Antipolis in November 2008. The resulting recommendations should enable the riparian states to improve their collection of the necessary information as well as the production of indicators. The Blue Plan has, moreover, initiated a series of studies on the links between water and energy, upon which it reported at an event held at UNESCO in November 2008. Finally, the Blue Plan played an active part in preparing the ministerial « Water » conference held in Jordan in December 2008 which, in accordance with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, agreed to draw up a Mediterranean water strategy by 2010. It also actively contributed to the organisation of the Mediterranean session of the forthcoming World Water Forum in Istanbul.

Communication

As far as communication is concerned, the Blue Plan has availed itself of every possible opportunity (seminars, workshops, international events...) to make known the work of the MCSD and the various priority areas of the MSSD. In particular, it drafted a document entitled « The Blue Plan's sustainable development outlook for the Mediterranean », which was submitted to the Heads of State and Government at the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean on 13 July, 2008.

Overall, the programme of work foreseen by the Blue Plan has run according to the planned timetable and will be reflected in some strong recommendations to be presented at the 13th MCSD.

B. Promotion of marine and coastal biodiversity and marine resources

Accelerating the implementation of the SAP BIO

RAC/SPA is implementing several activities aimed at achieving the objectives of the MSSD for the protection of the marine and coastal biodiversity of marine resources.

The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (SPMLME) has been approved by GEF and funding will be provided to several agencies for activities within the framework of the Partnership. The implementation of SAP BIO activities aimed at creating and improving the management of protected areas, and building capacities in 12 Mediterranean Countries is included in the Partnership but will be funded through a EC, the Spanish Agency AECID, and the FFEM project (MedMPAnet).

Encouraging biodiversity protection compatible fishing and aquaculture practices

Sustainable fishing will be encouraged by way of activities designed to be implemented through the above mentioned Partnership, both in transboundary areas (by FAO, GFCM), and coastal MPAs (by RAC/SPA). RAC/SPA has been collaborating with FAO and GFCM to design regional activities aimed to reduce by-catch and to apply the ecosystem approach to fisheries in the region.

Creating marine and coastal protected areas, including pelagic and deep habitats and high sea zones

The objective of protecting zones on the High Seas is being addressed with the collaboration of ACCOBAMS, in particular the establishment of protected areas in Open Seas, in the central and western parts of the Mediterranean. Furthermore, funding has been provided by the EC in support of the creation of Protected Areas in the Open Seas, including Deep Sea. Since 2008, RAC/SPA has been working in identifying priority locations. A Steering Committee with representatives of regional organisations, has been set up for the purpose.

Increasing the number of marine protected areas

Starting in 2009, RAC/SPA will develop activities in the next five years, to assist Mediterranean countries, to identify and establish marine protected areas along their coasts, through the project MedMPAnet. A preliminary assessment has been done in Montenegro to test the wider future implementation of the project. The EC funded project for the creating of protected areas in the Open Seas aims to have several of these protected areas adopted by the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2011.

Promote a representative network of protected marine and coastal areas

A representative network of protected marine and coastal areas will be achieved by the project MedMPAnet by assisting individual countries in establishing and managing a network of marine protected areas. These protected areas should be representative of biodiversity hotspots and sites of interest at national level, and connected through corridors to allow better resilience and adaptation to climate change. The final step of this process will be joining the SPAMI List that would represent in future years, a representative network of MAPs for the Mediterranean region.

Strengthening cooperation between MAP and the GFCM

RAC/SPA's collaboration with GFCM on the issues of sensitive species by-catch takes different forms. RAC/SPA has elaborated a document for the GFCM to reduce impacts of by-catch on Monk seals, and is currently preparing 'Guidelines to reduce impacts of by-catch on seabirds'. Activities within the Mediterranean Action Plan for the conservation of cartilaginous fish are also being organized. RAC/SPA promoted in the Eastern Adriatic the sub-regional

implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fish through designing a program of work for the area. It also elaborated a regional overview aimed at improving legislation in the Mediterranean to optimize conservation of elasmobranchs. A workshop on the interaction between fisheries and marine turtles was convened during the Third Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles (Tunisia, October 2008).

Regarding habitat protection, a questionnaire has been prepared in collaboration with GFCM and sent to NFPs for SPAs and GFCM members. Its aim is to identify fishery reserves and fishery restricted zones in the different countries. The preliminary results have been discussed during the GFCM SAC sub-committee meeting.

Strengthening institutional and human capacity for management of the interactions between human activities and marine and coastal biodiversity

A working group consisting of a team of international experts complemented by national experts from the Contracting Parties, was set up to develop a detailed insight on vulnerability and impacts of climate change on Mediterranean biodiversity, in accordance with the outcomes of the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties and the Almeria Declaration. This activity was developed through a process involving Ministries responsible for biodiversity of all the riparian Mediterranean countries. For operational reasons, the countries have been grouped in three clusters (and sub-groups within them). The activities will be managed by three international consultants as follows: (i) Cluster A: Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, and Italy (Adriatic coastal area) ; (ii) Cluster B: Cyprus, Israel, Greece and Turkey, France, Italy (except Adriatic coastal area), Malta, Monaco and Spain; and (iii) Cluster C: Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia.

Three sub-regional meetings were organized to present and discuss national overviews and to draw up a sub-regional synthesis on the issue. A final meeting aimed at discussing the final recommendations and conclusions at regional level took place mid-December 2008. It allowed also an updating on climate change issues of the SAP BIO Programme.

Strengthen the synergies between international organizations and networks

RAC/SPA is closely collaborating with all intergovernmental, non-governmental institutions, international agreements, in order to plan and implement all its activities. RAC/SPA is currently collaborating with: ACCOBAMS, IUCN, WWF- MedPO, WWF-France, FAO/GFCM, IMO, Bern Convention, EC, AEWA, MedPAN Network, to implement activities having common objectives.

C. Reduction of pollution of the marine environment - Preventing and Reducing Land-Based Pollution

Promoting sustainable management of the sea and coastal zones and taking urgent action to put an end to the degradation of the coastal zones

Ensuring the long-term implementation by the countries of the National Action Plans (NAPs) to address pollution from land-based sources has been the main objective of the MED POL Programme for the year 2009. The MSSD identifies objectives, orientations and actions aimed at preventing and reducing land-based pollution.

In this context, an analysis was made of the institutional, financial and technical implications arising from the implementation in each country of the specific pollution reduction interventions listed in the NAPs. The result was that the financial burden and the technical and institutional capacities of a number of countries were clear obstacles to the full implementation of the NAPs.

As a result, MED POL worked on the formulation of a new draft strategy that would take into account the shortcomings and propose alternatives. The new strategy was based on two major principles: the identification of criteria for the selection of priority contaminants to be eliminated and the identification and application of a differentiated mechanism for the implementation of the pollution reduction measures. The new strategy was expected to take also into account the need to prepare programmes and action plans eventually becoming legally binding, as required by art. 15 of the LBS Protocol which is in force.

As a result of the process of negotiation for the approval of the new strategy, a Meeting of MED POL Focal Points and experts was held in Aix-en Provence in November 2008. The Meeting made very substantial steps towards the finalization of the strategy. In particular, a mechanism for the identification of priority contaminants was agreed upon including the preparation of a larger list of contaminants/issues of Mediterranean concern from which priority substances would be identified every biennium. The Meeting also decided that a temporal differentiation approach could be elaborated aiming at its rapid application; such an approach could at a later stage, and in particular in parallel to the application of the ecosystem approach, be revisited and possibly amended. Finally, the Meeting approved the preparation of three action plans and programmes to be proposed for adoption at the next Meeting of Contracting Parties, namely: Reduction of BOD for municipal wastewater; Phasing out of Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlore, Mirex and Toxaphene; Phasing out of DDT. The three plans and programmes, that in their implementation road map have to take into account the new elements of the strategy mentioned above, once approved, will become legally binding according to the procedure indicated in the amended LBS Protocol.

In parallel to the above, MED POL is substantially contributing to the process of ensuring financial sustainability to the long-term implementation of the NAPs. MED POL has in fact been particularly active in the process of implementation of the pollution reduction component of the EC Horizon 2020 initiative. In addition to providing the European Investment Bank (EIB) with the basis for action (i.e. the NAPs and the specific pollution reduction interventions planned by the countries), MED POL participated in the missions to the eligible countries together with EIB that resulted in the identification of over 40 bankable projects covering reduction of municipal and industrial pollution.

During 2008, the GEF Strategic Partnership was approved and will be operational starting the beginning of 2009. MED POL has contributed to the preparation of the Project that includes, among others, capacity building for the implementation of the NAPs and disposal of PCB in several countries as demonstration projects. The Partnership also includes an investment component managed by the World Bank that will use the NAPs and their pollution reduction projects as the basis for the identification of bankable projects.

Promoting sustainable urban development

The appropriate management of urban waste water has continued to be of high priority for MED POL as it directly contributes to the improvement of the quality of life. During 2008, in

order to complete the ongoing work of continued evaluation of the treatment of municipal waste waters being done by WHO/MED POL, an inventory was made of the waste waters (treated and untreated) discharged into the Mediterranean river basins, thus expanding and completing the information MED POL had on the presence of treatment plants and on discharge loads from coastal towns.

D. Sustainable consumption and production

CP/RAC's mandate is "to promote mechanisms aimed at preparing sustainable patterns of production and consumption in the Mediterranean countries, concentrating on cleaner production and the prevention of pollution". This mission supports the third major objective of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) on *the change of unsustainable patterns of consumption and production (SCP)*. In this respect, the Centre prepared a Work Programme for the biennium 2008 – 2009, approved by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention in their Meeting of Almeria, which has been the basis of all its activities carried out during 2008. Likewise, climate change was a priority component within CP/RAC Work Programme during 2008, taking into account that mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change are among the priority fields of action for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region as it was endorsed by the Contracting Parties through the Almeria Declaration. During the last semester of 2008, the Centre has continued working on industrial environmental needs, on reinforcing its Chemical Area and on the GRECO Initiative, an innovative programme that focuses on boosting green competitiveness in the Mediterranean Region.

Change unsustainable production and consumption patterns

Taking into account that development cannot be sustainable unless the unsustainable practices are brought to an end, the CP/RAC has focused part of its efforts on changing unsustainable production and consumption patterns and on restoring the basic common goods. In this regard, the Centre has given special importance to consumption and civil society, climate change, land-based pollution and green competitiveness.

In November, 2008, CP/RAC organized the First Mediterranean Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production. This brought together more than 150 participants from the public administration, civil society, business and industrial sectors of the Mediterranean countries in order to discuss and exchange ideas to move towards SCP in the Mediterranean Region.

All the studies and information compiled during the 12 years of history of the Centre were utilized during the Roundtable together with other documents such as the Study about Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Industrial Sector, done to review the tendencies of the Mediterranean Countries about the measures to encourage the adoption of sustainable production by industries.

Energy and Climate Change

Energy and climate change issues are given special importance in the Centre's activities. Related to the rational use of energy, the CP/RAC organized in June 2008 a seminar about the IPPC implementation in Mediterranean Countries. Also in the same field of activity, the Centre

launched the GRECO Initiative, with the aim of showing both to the industry and the governments the economic opportunities resulting by applying cleaner production in SMEs. During 2008 under the GRECO Initiative a Technical Report about Green Competitiveness was published together with an informative report to SMEs. A specific strategy for the project has also been developed and CP/RAC has started to work within this framework with a seminar in November 2008 in Barcelona. In the same month, the centre organized in Syria another seminar about Green Competitiveness and eco-labelling in Syrian industries.

During 2008 CP/RAC made strong efforts to identify new ways to fight against Greenhouse Gas Emissions and mitigate Climate Change in the Mediterranean Region. These efforts can be seen in the different studies published about Climate Change, such as the "Climate Change and Consumption Study", the "Transport and Consumption Study" or the "Consumption and National Climate Change". The conclusions of these studies were presented in different fora throughout the year including a side event organized by CP/RAC during the UNFCCC meeting in Poznan, Poland.

Rural and urban development and tourism

Concerning rural development, the CP/RAC has been working on a study about sustainable aquaculture, which will be published in March 2009.

About urban development, the centre worked in a Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP), in collaboration with PAP/RAC. The CAMP projects aims to plan the urbanization of the Mediterranean coasts, with special reference to the impacts related to tourism.

Finally, in the field of tourism, the centre has published a mini-magazine about sustainable tourism in Spanish, English and French. This publication can be consulted online on the centre's webpage.

Sea and coastal zones

The CP/RAC has been working on land-based pollution from its Chemical Area, reinforced during the 2008. The Centre has worked on the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) of 18 different Mediterranean countries, for the Promotion of Treatment and Gathering of Industrial Oils, one of the main pollutants in the Region.

Concerning other wastes, the CP/RAC has launched the project "Environmental sound management of equipments, stocks and wastes containing or contaminated by PCBs in national electricity companies of Mediterranean countries". This work is part of a project initiated by UNEP/MAP, MEDU and MEDPOL that will extend until 2011.

Playing its new role as Nominated Centre for the Stockholm Convention, the CP/RAC has worked with the National Implementation Plans (PIN) of Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia. The Stockholm Convention's objective to rid the world of POPs by restricting and ultimately eliminating their production, use, release and storage. The Centre will be organizing a regional seminar about the Stockholm Convention during 2009.

At the national level, the CP/RAC prepared the study "Surveillance and monitoring of heavy metals in Spain and its geographical reference".

Cross-cutting activities

Apart from the technical activities on SCP that relate to the thematic areas of the MSSD Work Programme, CP/RAC has developed other initiatives that are cross-cutting and aiming at creating synergies and partnerships with international institutions and representatives from the private sector and civil society, as well as the regional governments, with the objective of involving them in the application of SCP in line with the objective of the MSSD.

With this aim, the Centre published two magazines about sustainable consumption and translated the UNEP's Resource Kit on sustainable consumption and production from English to Spanish, Catalan and Arabic. The CP/RAC is also working on a web page targeting the consumer and explaining the reality about different products and giving advice in the process.

E. Integrated Management and development of coastal zones

Mediterranean ICZM Protocol

The adoption of the ICZM Protocol was the most important task of the MSSD related to coastal zone management. With its adoption and signing at the Plenipotentiaries conference in Madrid 20-21 January 2008 this activity was accomplished with satisfaction of all partners involved in the process that lasted for many years. After the signing PAP/RAC immediately started to plan activities for its implementation although by this act the Protocol has not yet entered into force.

The Expert Meeting on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol was held in Split, Croatia, on 17-18 June 2008. The objective of the meeting was to exchange opinions among the relevant experts with a view of exploring possible activities to be undertaken in this intermediate period when the signing and ratification of the ICZM Protocol is still in progress. The meeting proposed various activities to be implemented in the intermediate period: the preparation of a Stocktaking report on ICZM in the Mediterranean, including information on the existing setback practices and various toolkits; the preparation of an Explanatory Guide of the text of the Protocol; and some awareness-raising and training activities.

PAP/RAC took every opportunity to promote and present the ICZM Protocol at various meetings and conferences. An important event where PAP/RAC has been actively involved was the conference "Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean, from Local to Regional: How to Stop the Biodiversity Loss?" which was held in Nice on 18-19 December 2008, in the context of the French EU Presidency. A brochure about the Protocol was published and a publication in 4 languages (English, French, Spanish and Arabic) to include the text of the Protocol in four languages is currently being prepared.

Some countries have already started the process of ratification of the Protocol and PAP/RAC has done a review among the Parties to find out the status of this important process. At the request of the government of Montenegro PAP/RAC has provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Tourism and Environment in drafting the Comparative Analysis and Plan of Action for ICZM Protocol Implementation at the National Level. This was provided by engaging a PAP/RAC expert. A similar activity has been initiated by the Government of Croatia and with the support of the GTZ.

Although the ICZM Protocol has not entered into force it was suggested to prepare the Reporting format and related effectiveness indicators for this legal instrument. PAP/RAC participated in a meeting held on 5 December 2008 at MEDU where it was decided to work on both documents in parallel and to finalize the drafts by the next Focal Points meeting.

In order to find additional resources for the implementation of the Protocol's activities PAP/RAC has teamed with several international organizations and institutions to put together proposals for financing. With the EEA a set of activities for the monitoring and assessment of ICZM has been put together. Within a consortium of 25 Mediterranean and Black Sea organizations and institutions the project "Pegaso" has been prepared and proposed for financing to the EU within its FP7 programme. Finally, together with the French institute IDDRI a project ProtoGICZ has been supported and the financing from the French Government is expected.

Coastal Area Management Projects

PAP/RAC has been promoting integrated management approaches and projects for coastal zones with the involvement of local authorities, stakeholders and NGOs by implementing several CAMP projects. These were at various stages of implementation.

The Final Presentation Conference of CAMP Cyprus took place in Nicosia, on 13 June 2008 when the main results and achievements were presented, and highlighted the key recommendations to the Government of Cyprus. The publication of the CAMP Cyprus outputs within the MAP Technical Report Series is under preparation.

The Feasibility Study for CAMP Montenegro was completed. All MAP Components envisaged to take part in the project were informed about the proposed activities.

MAP Technical Report Series publication for CAMP Slovenia was completed, edited and CDs were widely disseminated.

On April 29, 2008, the town of Chefchaouen hosted the CAMP Morocco Inception Workshop. The workshop has officially marked the start of this important project for the coastal zone of the Central Rif. After, the project entered into its full swing implementation.

After submission of the proposal for the CAMP Italy project, including proposals for several CAMP areas, on 4 December 2008, a meeting was held at the Italian Ministry of Environment with the objective to discuss the details of a Feasibility Study (FS) for CAMP Italy project and the process of its preparation. The CAMP Italy FS will be prepared on the basis of five (or even more) regional FSs, and the final output is expected to be ready by autumn 2009. Common criteria for the selection of project activities were discussed at the meeting in February 2009.

VI. Multi-year thematic programme of work of the MCSD

The meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005 in Portoroz, Slovenia had approved the multi-year thematic programme of work of the MCSD which was organized on the basis of two-year cycles each cycle addressing thematic clusters of issues from the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. The thematic programme of work gives due consideration to the objectives/orientations and actions of the seven independent priority areas of action of the MSSD, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPI) and the UNCSD programme of work.

In each cycle, the thematic clusters of issues should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as making linkages with cross-cutting issues which concern mainly governance, implementation mechanisms and means, as well as information, communications, education and participatory processes.

The cycles for 2008/2009 in the MSSD multi-year programme of work focussed on the thematic clusters of sustainable urban development, sustainable tourism, marine pollution (LBS Protocol) and biodiversity. Detailed reports about the work carried out by the MAP components with respect to the different thematic cluster of issues are featured in another section of this progress report.

During the cycle 2009-2010, the thematic issues to be addressed include sustainable urban development, sustainable transport, energy and climate change and integrated coastal zone management. Blue Plan has already addressed at some depth the thematic issue of energy and climate change as detailed earlier on in this report. Climate change will again be among the thematic priorities addressed by Blue Plan in 2009 in particular in view of the fact that both the next meeting of the MCSD and the meeting of the Contracting Parties in November 2009 will be addressing the issue of Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean. Another important event is the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC in Copenhagen at the end of 2009.

The Blue Plan intends also to continue with its work on the MSSD indicators and to disseminate a new compendium on the subject for the next biennium. It will also finalize Work which is currently in progress on "urban mobility" and "transports". It also plans to initiate a new activity in the matter of local waste management, in accordance with the CSD work program in New York.

This thematic program will be conducted without prejudice to BP's engagement in the following activities:

- The water field - to contribute to the elaboration, then the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Water to be finalized by 2010;
- The Energy field - to promote the improvement of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies;
- The Climate Change field – to address the implementation of the recommendations for the next COP of the UNFCCC in Copenhagen in December 2009, and especially the adoption of adaptation measures in the Mediterranean countries.

This program will be accompanied by an appraisal of the work done since the adoption of the Mediterranean Strategy for the Sustainable Development in 2005 in view of the fact that in the last few years, the economical and environmental institutional context has evolved.

VII. In-depth Assessment of the MSSD

In accordance with the MCSD programme of work approved by the Contracting Parties in 2005, an overall review of the MSSD should be carried out during the cycle 2010-2011. The MSSD itself calls for an in-depth assessment every five years. The first of such assessments falls due during the biennium 2010-2011 and is meant to be a special assessment for the Third World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Purpose and objectives

The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the work done so far and provide the members of the MCSD and the Contracting Parties with an Assessment Document showing the level of implementation of the MSSD since it was adopted in 2005. Specifically, the consultant shall evaluate the progress made in the achievement of the objectives of the MSSD and for promoting progress towards sustainability in the economic, social and environmental areas and in the field of governance. The consultant shall also evaluate the activities carried out for the attainment of progress in the MSSD seven priority fields of action, assessing also the challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt, and make recommendations for possible amendments and updating of the MSSD. The consultant shall also assess the performance of the MAP system in supporting the MSSD implementation as well as how resources have been allocated, how the chain of command has been effective, how the different actors have performed and how the implementation process has been monitored. The consultant shall also examine how the MSSD objectives, in particular the priority fields of action, are integrated in the programme of work of the various MAP components. The consultant shall also appreciate how the MCSD integrate new objectives in line with the regional political agenda (ie the Union for the Mediterranean initiative). Finally, the consultant shall also express an opinion on the real influential role of the MCSD especially at the policy makers level in the field of sustainable development.

This issue was discussed during the last meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) which was held in Tunis in February, 2009. It was agreed that in order to be meaningful, the assessment should be carried out by an external consultant. For this purpose, Terms of Reference should be prepared and discussed first with the Steering Committee of the MCSD. Although the preparation of the ToR is being taken in hand now, the assessment will only be carried out in 2010 following the approval by the MAP Focal Points and the Meeting of the Contracting Parties and the allocation of the necessary funds in the budget for the next biennium.

The draft Terms of Reference for the recruitment of a consultant to carry out the in-depth assessment is attached as **Annex V** to this progress report.

The members of the Steering Committee are invited to review the Terms of Reference for the engagement of a consultant to carry out the in-depth assessment of the MCSD and to advise the Secretariat accordingly. The members of the Steering Committee are also invited to make

proposals on the modalities that should be followed in the review process of the MSSD during the biennium 2010-2011.

VIII. Developments since the last MCSD Meeting

New MCSD Members

The Contracting Parties at their 15th Meeting in Almeria, Spain in January 2008 decided to review the composition, mandate and terms of reference of the MCSD in order to ensure that it achieves greater representation and fosters a sense of ownership by the entire Mediterranean community.

In this regard they have amended the composition and number of the MCSD members and added 3 new categories. The composition of the MCSD is now the following:

Existing:

22 representatives designated by the competent bodies of the Contracting Parties

3 representatives of local authorities

3 representatives of NGOs

3 representatives of socio- economic stakeholders

New:

3 representatives of the scientific community

3 representatives of intergovernmental organizations working in the field of sustainable development;

3 eminent experts in the field of the topics of the MCSD meeting agenda.

The Contracting Parties have requested the Bureau to approve the criteria and the procedures for the nomination of these members from the scientific and academic community, the inter-governmental organizations and the eminent experts with a view to their participation at the 2009 meeting of the MCSD.

The Bureau approved the criteria and procedures during its meeting in September 2008. In line with the agreed procedure, letters were sent out to the MAP Components, MAP Focal Points and MAP NGO/IGO Partners to submit nominations under the three new categories.

The Secretariat proposed to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties the following nominations because in its opinion they met the criteria.

Eminent Experts:

Dr. Mohammed El-Rayé (by the Secretariat)

Mr. Branko Lukovac (proposed by Montenegro)

Prof. Jacqueline MacGlade (proposed by the Secretariat)

Scientific Community:

Prof. Erdal Ozhan (proposed by MEDCOAST)

Prof Michael Scoullou (proposed by MEDASSET)

Prof. Uri MARINOV (by Israel)

Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs):

The Secretariat proposes the following nominations because they address thematic issues that are of interest to the current programme of work of the MCSD (tourism, cooperation, development and climate change):

UN-WTO – World Tourism Organization

CEDARE – Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe

The World Bank

The Bureau of the Contracting Parties at their 68 meeting, that took place in Athens, Greece on 10 and 11 February 2009, approved CEDARE, UN-WTO and the World Bank (Department for sustainable development), representing IGOs, as members of the MCSD with a view to their participation at the Meeting of the Commission in Cairo in June 2009.

With regard to the nominations of eminent experts and members of the scientific community, the Bureau recommended that the Secretariat extend the deadline for more nominations until the end of April 2009 taking into consideration the criteria approved at the last Bureau meeting (BUR67) as well as the theme of the MCSD: “Climate Change Adaptation” when making its selection. In order to enable the nominated experts to participate at the next meeting of the MCSD, the Bureau will approve the nominations through electronic means.

In this regard the Secretariat, together with the MAP Components and through consultations with Regional organisations and Mediterranean Countries will identify other candidates and submit fresh nominations to the Bureau.

IX. 13th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

At the last meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee that took place in Athens, Greece on 19 and 20 June 2008, it was decided that the theme for the next meeting of the MCSD should be “Climate Change Adaptation – Experiences and Strategies in the Mediterranean”. The objective is to forge a consolidated position of the Mediterranean region and present it on the occasion of important international and regional events such as the UNCSD and UNFCCC meetings, in particular those taking place at the end of this year in Copenhagen.

The MCSD meeting will explore different facets of climate change adaptation, including vulnerabilities and risk perception of the different stakeholders; adaptation experience and potential in the different sectors and at different levels; incorporation of adaptation into national development processes; planning and financing for adaptation, and the involvement of civil society in promoting information for decision makers. The objective is to help countries, in particular developing countries to integrate climate change responses into national development strategies and plans.

This objective is in line with UNEP’s Climate Change Strategy as well as the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) approved by the Contracting Parties in 2005. The latter stresses the need for adaptation and mitigation measures to the effects of climate change in the Mediterranean and their mainstreaming into national development plans. The meeting will also respond to the call made by the Contracting Parties in Almeria in 2008 for the

problem of climate change to be seriously addressed in order to reduce as rapidly as possible the effects on the Mediterranean coastal and marine environment. It will also provide an opportunity for the sharing of information and experience as well as build relationships on regional efforts to combat climate change.

For the next meeting the Secretariat has been successful in securing the participation of representatives of UNEP's Climate Change Adaptation Unit (CCAU), UNFCCC, WB/GEF and IUCN. Confirmations are still awaited from CSD, OECD and the Union for the Mediterranean. This, apart from the contributions by Blue Plan in the preparation of the Stocktaking paper and the Draft Communiqué' and by the other MAP Regional Activity Centres and components.

Following the decision by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to adopt the same theme of the MCSD meeting for the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in Morocco namely "Adaptation to climate change in the Mediterranean: challenges and experiences", the MCSD meeting in June assumes added importance. The results of the meeting will now provide useful input to the discussions during the Ministerial segment of the Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Task Force

At the last Steering Committee meeting it was agreed to establish a Task Force, composed of a limited number (5-8) of the MCSD Members, on a voluntary basis and in close coordination with the Secretariat, in order to steer the preparatory process for the next MCSD meeting. Terms of Reference were adopted by the Steering Committee.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Morocco, Slovenia, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Italian Local Agenda 21, Montenegro, BUSINESS MED and Greenpeace have shown strong interest in forming part of the Task Force. Since the Task Force will be working through electronic means all those who have shown interest will be invited participate.

The Secretariat, aiming to better assess the current situation in the region in relation to climate change adaptation, has sent a brief questionnaire to the Contracting Parties, MCSD members and MAP Components seeking their input. The results will be incorporated in a Stocktaking report a draft of which is attached to the progress report for information purposes. The final report will be presented to the MCSD meeting.

A draft agenda was prepared and shared with the ECP and the Task Force. The agenda is herewith attached as **Annex VII** for the consideration and comments of the Steering Committee.

Annex I

Outcomes of the 12th Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee Athens, Greece 19-20 June 2008

I) Relation to CSD

1. In addition to the participation of UNEP MAP representatives in CSD events, ensure that the MCSD and CSD programmes are well synchronized. Establish programmatic links between MCSD and UNDESA.
2. Anticipate the organisation of a Mediterranean side event during the next CSD meeting (May 2009). To this end, contact the new Dutch President of the CSD through a SC member in liaison with the Secretariat and work closely with UNDESA. The side event would present a show case of how sustainable development can work at the regional level. The Mediterranean private sector would be associated through the relevant MCSD representative.

II) Support NSSD

3. NSSD formulation is often seen as a complicated process. NSSD implementation often falls short of expectations.
4. NSSD activities proposed to the countries have to be more concrete. A focus on a limited number of MSSD priorities would help the concerned institutions to embark on the process more effectively.
5. Climate Change has to be mainstreamed into national policies, including NSSD and should not lead to the production of yet another strategic papers.
6. Since working at the subregional level would help tackle issues that are more relevant to the countries, consider subregional approach for the implementation of MSSD. In this context the ecosystem approach will prove useful.
7. Pilot activities at the local level are needed to gather experience and demonstrate concrete success stories. The MCSD should explore how to promote concrete sustainable experience, including at the local level.

III) Role, functioning and performance of Working Groups

8. We need to revert to the original practice whereby there is a Task Manager for each WG, (usually a country and not necessarily a RAC). The different RACs support the different WG groups as deemed necessary.

9. Synergies need to be established between different working groups including outside the MCSD and the MAP system (e.g. Horizon 2020 subgroups, Marrakech Task Forces). Exchange of information and cooperation would avoid duplication and parallel process.
10. Now that the MCSD meets on an bi-annual basis, the work of the different Working groups has to intensify with a structured programme comprising specific outputs.
11. RACs have an important role to play in the context of MCSD. Their respective work needs to be more integrated.
12. The SC has to build up a regular (every 4-6 months) review process of the work of the different WG and other MCSD activities. This will foster interaction between the SC and the different WG.
13. WG should always reflect on the implications of their recommendations in terms of financial and resources needed to implement them.
14. When a issue is sufficiently documented to make recommendations, the relevant WG may want to elaborate further on how to implement and monitor them. In addition to specific strategic document, monitoring would require well-defined targets country by country.
15. A system should be established to follow up the implementation of the recommendations made by the working groups and report regularly.
16. The establishment of a WG on Climate Change would help address specific themes pertaining to climate change, consider issues that are by nature cross cutting (e.g. biodiversity loss, carbon sequestration, sustainable consumption and production), liaise with other initiatives and actors and increase interactions between the different RACs.

IV) MCSD Mandate, Composition and Functioning

17. It is important to maintain communication between MCSD members, particularly now that the MCSD meets on a bi annual basis. The SC is essential in maintaining this communication.
18. As previously done, ensure the participation as observers of institutions and/or experts that have relevant expertise and experience outside the Region
19. MCSD should attract the members from the civil society and business by making its programme and work more relevant to their direct concerns and interests.
20. MCSD has to go beyond the formulation of recommendations. MCSD can support implementation of the recommendations at the country level by providing expertise, contributing to national level meetings and participating in the evaluation.

21. With biannual MCSD meetings, the work between two sessions becomes even more important. The MCSD needs to work during the intersession period. the SC ensures the continuity of this work by being proactive and contributing to monitoring the work of the different working groups.
22. MCSD has always been opened to SD issues that are beyond the scope of the MAP system. On the occasion of MCSD meeting a leading theme could be identified, not necessarily within the MCSD work programme (e.g. desertification).

V) MCSD interaction with other initiatives outside MAP system

- *Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)*
23. UfM has to build upon the existing strategies in particular the MSSD. There is a need to establish a good interface between MCSD and the UfM. In the long term the possibility of a joint secretariat could emerged.
 - *Horizon 2020 implementation*
 24. Possible synergy with Horizon 2020 implementation can be explored at different levels. One could consider how to associate MCSD with the Horizon 2020 monitoring, beyond the use of SD indicators as developed by the responsible RAC. The establishment of a working group on Horizon 2020 implementation could also contribute to bring forward the political dimension of Horizon 2020. In the countries, efforts have to be made to establish links between NAPs and NSSDs. MCSD members should keep abreast with Horizon 2020 activities in their respective countries.
 - *GEF project and MCSD.*
 25. Interactions can also take place at different level. While the GEF project already has specific activities addressing the private sector concerns, MCSD as a forum of stakeholders can help involve them further. The possible MCSD contribution to monitoring the overall impact with the SD indicators has to be thoroughly thought of. Since the GEF project will also have national Focal Points, a mechanism could be designed to ensure good coordination with other Focal Points of the MAP system.

VI) MCSD Work programme and Roadmap to the next MCSD meeting

26. In addition to the activities undertaken by the Secretariat, the MCSD Work Programme comprises the activities that the different RACs are implementing in the context of MSSD. A consolidated roadmap including the different pilot activities is deemed necessary to give an overall picture, show the convergence of MSSD related activities of the different RACs and indicate the way to the next MCSD meeting.
27. Under the MCSD programme concrete pilot projects have to be identified and experience therein disseminated. Success stories such as sustainable mobility, sustainable agriculture identified on the occasion of WG could be presented on the occasion of MCSD meeting.

28. Whereas the MCSD Work programme has been approved by the COP on the basis of the MSSD, some flexibility should be sought to introduce other topics such as sustainable consumption and production or waste management, e.g. by way of additional working groups.
29. Concrete objectives and outputs for the MCSD work would help monitoring and evaluating achievements.
30. Climate Change will be the structuring theme of the next MCSD meeting. The next MCSD meeting is indeed the opportunity to prepare and articulate the position of the region on climate change issues for the next Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in 2009. MCSD can bring the Mediterranean stakeholders' perspective into the Climate Change dialogue. To do so, a focus on adaptation and North South cooperation is deemed necessary.
31. Other MCSD thematic and cross cutting issues such as water demand management, sustainable agriculture or sustainable tourism can well be handled in the overall climate change framework.
32. The MCSD meeting should attract other Ministries than the Ministries of environment. MCSD should strive to get their early interests as well as other important actors' such as the business and private sector.
33. In order to carry out all the necessary tasks and prepare for the next MCSD meeting, establish a Task Force of MCSD Members, in limited number, on a voluntary basis and in close coordination with the Secretariat.
34. In addition to the Task Force, regular communication and information flow on the above issues has to be established between the Steering Committee members.
35. With the view to increase MCSD visibility, identify fora and other opportunities where MCSD can make a statement or communication, possibly using the proactiveness of the SC members.

Annex II

Decisions by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties related to the MCSD Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008

Decision IG 17/5: Governance paper

The Meeting of the Contracting parties,

Recalling Articles 18 (vi) of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona in 1995, herein after referred to as the Barcelona Convention,

Recalling also its decisions adopted at its 13th Meeting held in Catania, Italy in 2003, and its 14th meeting held in Portoroz, Slovenia in 2005, on the external evaluation of MAP, and on the future orientations of MAP respectively,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by the Drafting Committee established by the Extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points held in Catania, November 2006 led by Italy,

Aiming at ensuring an effective MAP governance based on stronger cooperation and integration among MAP components, result oriented programming and planning, increased ownership of the Contracting Parties and higher visibility of MAP and the Barcelona Convention in the region,

Reaffirming the importance of the MCSD and its role in the implementation of the MSSD and *recognizing* its important place in the MAP governance system,

Recognizing the need for MAP and MCSD to increase their visibility on the international scene and contribute effectively to the international and regional processes on sustainable development;

Decides to approve the Governance paper as contained in the Annex to this Decision;

Requests the Secretariat to report to the Bureau of the Contracting parties on measures taken, and ways and means for the implementation of the Governance paper and in particular of the proposed actions, as contained in the Annex to this Decision;

Also requests the Secretariat to propose to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties for approval, with prior consultation with the MAP focal points and MCSD members, the criteria and procedure for the selection of the MCSD members from the academic and scientific community, the intergovernmental organizations and eminent experts as provided for in the Governance paper contained as Annex to this Decision;

Requests the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to nominate the members of the MCSD members from the scientific and academic community, the inter-governmental organisations, the eminent experts according to the agreed criteria and procedures as referred to in the preceding paragraph, with a view to convening the 2009 meeting of the MCSD with the composition as provided for in the Governance paper.

10. NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE MCSD

The Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) was established in 1995 in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) as an advisory body to the Contracting Parties to assist them in their efforts to integrate environmental issues in their socioeconomic programmes and, in so doing, promote sustainable development policies in the Mediterranean region. The Commission is unique in its composition, in as much as government representatives, local communities, socioeconomic actors, IGOs and NGOs participate on an equal footing. During the first decade of its existence, the MCSD has carried out high-quality undertakings, mobilising work on priority themes for the Mediterranean, notably, water resources, integrated coastal zone management, tourism, industry etc., and developing the MSSD.

Ten years after its founding, the MCSD needs to be reformed, taking into account new international and regional developments (the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Millennium Development Goals, the MSSD, etc.). Whatever the option chosen, better interaction should be sought between the MCSD and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), for instance regarding the choice of themes, which should bring a breath of fresh air to the MCSD and allow its fuller integration into the international actions being carried out in favour of sustainable development. Furthermore, the composition of the Commission should be reviewed to ensure it achieves greater representativeness and fosters a sense of ownership by the entire Mediterranean community. Furthermore, the role of the Commission should be better clarified in relation to the overall MAP system and to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

1- Mandate

The MCSD is an advisory body and represents a forum for debate with essentially the following missions:

- Assist Mediterranean countries and other stakeholders active in the region in the adoption and implementation of sustainable development policies, including the integration of environmental considerations into other policies
- Ensure the follow-up of MSSD implementation through appropriate tools, mechanisms and criteria that would better enhance an efficient follow-up function
- Promote the exchange of experience and good practices regarding the integration of environmental and socioeconomic policies, as well as examples which show the application of international sustainable development commitments at suitable scales in different countries
- Identify the obstacles encountered and support regional and subregional cooperation for the effective implementation of the sustainable development principle
- Coordinate the periodical drafting of the report on the state of implementation of the MCSD recommendations
- Produce opinions of the overall MAP Work Programme and the functioning of the Coordinating Unit and the RACs, with the aim of integrating sustainability considerations into the MAP / Barcelona Convention system as a whole.

2- Composition

The MCSD is a forum for debate and exchange of experiences on sustainable development issues that concern all interested parties in the Mediterranean region. It would therefore be appropriate to involve the greatest possible variety of national actors in the work of the Commission, so as to ensure the greatest possible dissemination of the concepts promoted

by the MCSD. For this to be achieved the composition of the Commission should be expanded as follows:

- 22 representatives designated by the competent bodies of the Contracting Parties
- 3 representatives of local authorities
- 3 representatives of NGOs
- 3 representatives of socio- economic stakeholders
- 3 representatives of the scientific community
- 3 representatives of intergovernmental organizations working in the field of sustainable development
- 3 eminent experts in the field of the topics of the MCSD meeting agenda

Efforts should be made to ensure participation of representatives from both environmental and development sector related to the topics of the agenda of each meeting of the MCSD.

Appropriate geographical representation, and media participation, should be ensured.

3- Periodicity of meetings

The Commission will hold an ordinary meeting on a biannual basis and extraordinary sessions on a need-be basis.

4 – Steering Committee

A Steering Committee, meeting annually, will oversee the work of the MCSD between sessions.

5- Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Commission will be under the authority of the MAP Coordinating Unit.

6- Functioning

The Commission will hold an ordinary meeting on a biannual basis with a multi-annual planning programme. Each session will focus on sectoral issues (MSSD and CSD themes) and on cross-sectoral issues (education, public access to information, financing and cooperation, technology transfer etc.). MCSD recommendations will be presented for consideration to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties, following discussion at the meeting of the MAP Focal Points. The conclusions of the meetings should influence the Work Programme of the MAP system, and the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the Contracting Parties.

7- Reports

Before each session, each member should provide a concise report focusing on the implementation of MCSD recommendations, following a basic draft prepared by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then prepare a summary report to be presented at the beginning of each session. The Regional Activity Centres (RACs) should also provide a report on the implementation of MCSD recommendations relevant to their line of work.

Decision IG 17/16: Recommendations of the 12th Meeting of the MCSD

The 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Reaffirming the importance of the MCSD as an advisory body for the Contracting Parties, its place in the MAP governance system and its role in the implementation of the MSSD,

Acknowledging the MCSD function to provide appropriate recommendations to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, through the MAP Secretariat, on the basis of comprehensive analysis,

Recalling the relevant Recommendations of the Action Plan adopted at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development as well as the objectives and priority fields of action of the MSSD,

Considering that water demand management is an integral part of integrated water resources management,

Considering also that energy development in the Mediterranean must contribute to the region's sustainable development especially by reinforcing security of supply, controlling emissions of greenhouse gases, reducing pollution connected with it at local and regional level, promoting access to energy and energy services and improving energy efficiency,

Estimating that these challenges are closely linked with the socio-economic and environmental challenges, particularly climate change, which the Mediterranean countries are also facing;

Decides to approve the Recommendations made by the MCSD during the 12th Meeting (Istanbul, Turkey, 30-31 May 2007), on (i) Water Demand Management, (ii) Energy and Climate Change and (iii) Energy and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, attached respectively as Annex I, Annex II and Annex III to this document.

ANNEX I

Recommendations on Water Demand Management

The 12th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (Istanbul, Turkey, 30-31 May 2007) improved and endorsed the following Recommendations that emerged from the Working Group on Water Demand Management, held in Zaragoza, Spain, March 2007.

1. MCSD recommends that the national political authorities of the Mediterranean countries:
 - i. Include, in accordance with the MSSD orientations, Water Demand Management, in the national priority strategies, to promote its implementation, on the one hand by setting annually on the basis of regional objectives, national objectives of efficiency and on the other — in order to achieve them — by mobilizing, with a concern for social equity, the various technical instruments and tools, but also those regulatory, normative, tariff, fiscal, contractual or market tools and instruments available to them; further, to coordinate its implementation, follow-up and evaluation in the various sectoral policies, especially in the fields of agriculture, energy, tourism, environment and land development,
 - ii. See to it that the problems connected with Water Demand Management are properly integrated within the global environmental problems, such as climate change, and biodiversity and ecosystem conservation,
 - iii. Promote mobilization and responsabilization, at the various relevant territorial scales, connected with either the rural or the urban environment, of the various stakeholders concerned with Water Demand Management, public, academic, private or association-related by taking into consideration the particular role of women in this field; further to invite the partners, public — especially donors — and private to contribute to the resulting activities, operations and investments,
 - iv. Take all necessary measures to raise the awareness of the public in terms of Water Demand Management — especially through environmental education activities, mainly by informing the public on the challenges involved and by identifying, implementing and making use of the relevant good practices, especially concerning the maintenance of water distribution systems, individual consumption of drinking water, rational use in agriculture as a function of the geographical context, and the protection of ecosystems,
 - v. Assess, every two years, progress accomplished in Water Demand Management and therefore reinforce the inclusion of Water Demand Management in the national information systems on water; further to document the various relevant indicators, mainly those adopted by the MSSD, reinforce the regional scientific and institutional cooperation to promote Water Demand Management.
2. Moreover, MCSD expects the Blue Plan, in collaboration with its partners to:

- i. Make a report, every two years, on progress accomplished in the Mediterranean in the field of Water Demand Management
 - ii. Contribute to establishing a compendium of good practices in the field of Water Demand Management
 - iii. Organize in 2012 the fourth regional workshop in Water Demand Management.
3. The MCSD also underlines the need for the development of synergies with existing initiatives such as the EU Water Initiative – MED component, the GWP-Med, EMWIS etc.

ANNEX II

Recommendations on Energy and Climate Change

During the 12th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (Istanbul, Turkey, 30-31 May 2007) the break out session on Energy and Climate Change concluded that:

1. It is recommended that Chapter 2.2 of the MSSD on Energy and Climate Change should be implemented without further delay. In this context, national strategies for sustainable development (NSSDs) should include mainstreaming renewable energies (RE), energy efficiency and climate change concerns, including adaptation. According to the latest findings of the IPCC, the threat posed by climate change has significantly increased since the preparation of the MSSD.
2. There is a need to assess the socio-economic impacts of climate change in the Mediterranean, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. This should be complemented by a country-specific needs and vulnerability assessment.
3. A two-pronged approach to energy policy is required. A focus on the supply side, i.e. on the availability of clean and affordable energy systems, is constrained by the need for clean but affordable technology. It is therefore also important to focus on the demand side. In particular, work is needed on energy efficiency (in cities, in buildings, and in the industrial sector) and energy savings.
4. It is important that prices send the right signals, although it should be noted that this is not the only constraint to sustainable energy use and climate protection. From experience in some countries, although prices can be made to reflect environmental costs more clearly, there is a limit to how much subsidies can be reduced. This type of reform has considerable social impacts, particularly in certain countries, where there is not even enough energy available to fulfill basic needs. It is also important, however, that new energy provision schemes are conceptualized on the basis of sustainable and climate-friendly energy systems.
5. There is a need for collaboration and solidarity across the Mediterranean, both among and between northern and southern countries, at any administrative level, with a focus on capacity building and investment.

6. There is a need to increase the attractiveness of Mediterranean countries for Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects.
7. IFI finance can have a significant impact on energy and climate change through the choice of projects financed in the energy and transport sectors. In order to advance with RE investments and to overcome obstacles in the future, in-depth reflection is recommended on the reasons why several RE projects and CDM projects in the region have often stopped short of actual investments, not going beyond feasibility studies. This should begin with a stocktaking exercise that explores these issues. It appears that funding is not a major constraint, but that there is a need for stronger commitment at national level to break into this market, including the commitment of financial resources.
8. There is a need to use tools such as strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and sustainability impact assessment (SIA) for policies and projects in key economic sectors such as energy and transport. This should take place at three levels: national, sub-regional (transboundary) and regional (international). Through tools such as SEA, the link between national energy policies and regional commitments to the MSSD can be made.
9. Because of the importance of the power of example, it is recommended that greater use should be made of green public procurement, whereby governments target their procurement strategies at climate-friendly options.
10. Pursue actively the development of synergies with Euro-Med Partnership, JREC (Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition), EU Energy Initiative, GEEREF (Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund), the S.E Europe Energy Community, etc.

ANNEX III

Recommendations on Energy and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean

The 12th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (Istanbul, Turkey, 30-31 May 2007) improved and endorsed the following Recommendations that emerged from the Workshop on 'Energy and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean', held in Monaco, March 2007.

1. MCSD recommends that the national political authorities of the Mediterranean countries:
 - i. Include, in accordance with the MSSD orientations, the rational use of energy (RUE) and the development of renewable energy (RE) in the national strategic priorities and to transpose by 2008, provided it is realistic, the relevant regional objectives to the national level as objectives which are clear, ambitious, differentiated by sector and paced in time,
 - ii. Provided it is realistic, reinforce by 2010 the existing institutional and regulatory frameworks to promote the development of the RUE and RE as well as the strategies for the mobilization of various fiscal, tariff and market

tools and instruments available to them, by taking into consideration the local contexts and favoring both small-scale projects and industrial ones,

- iii. Promote public outreach on the questions of the RUE and RE, especially by developing programmes of environmental education which focus on these issues; further to set up instruments for the effective participation of the various categories of stakeholders, particularly women, in the decision-making process concerning RUE and the promotion of RE,
 - iv. Submit to public and private partners, especially donors, projects on the RUE and the promotion of RE, while ensuring the coordination of their interventions at the various relevant territorial scales,
 - v. Ensure the follow-up and assessment of policies and actions undertaken in the fields of RUE and RE, by sharing and documenting the relevant indicators developed by the competent organizations, especially those used in the MSSD,
 - vi. Reinforce regional cooperation in the RUE and the promotion of RE, especially by mutually reinforcing research and assessment capacities and sharing good practices.
2. Moreover, MCSD expects the Blue Plan, in collaboration with its partners to:
- i. Contribute to the collection in the field of energy of information which is clear, reliable, regularly updated and comparable from country to country,
 - ii. Continue its prospective work in the energy sector by basing its scenarios on clearly formulated assumptions, particularly the economic aspects,
 - iii. Carry out a more in-depth analysis of the link between climate change and energy by integrating the cost estimate of climate change and the adaptation and abatement measures,
 - iv. Prepare, every two years, a report on progress registered in the Mediterranean in the fields of RUE and RE, by developing and documenting shared and relevant indicators, established according to tested methodologies and to contribute to setting up a platform for the exchange of good practices.

Decision IG 17/17: MSSD Implementation Plan

The 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling the adoption by the Contracting Parties in their 14th Ordinary Meeting, Portoroz (Slovenia), 8-11 November 2005, of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD),

Reaffirming their commitment to do their utmost to implement its objectives, orientations and proposed actions as appropriate,

Recognizing that MSSD implementation entails the integration of MSSD objectives, orientations and actions into national policy frameworks and instruments; the engagement of stakeholders and the development of partnerships; capacity building; management and dissemination of knowledge and information; and the mobilization and allocation of resources,

Stressing that, while the Contracting Parties are the main actors of MSSD implementation, MAP and its components, including MCSD, can encourage, support and facilitate implementation, in the domains where they have comparative advantages and accumulated experience,

Considering also that MAP and its components, under their respective scope and mandate, within their resources and in their capacities, cannot alone ensure the implementation of MSSD,

Stressing that MSSD implementation domains that are not of the direct competence of MAP can be addressed through dialogue between the Contracting Parties and their potential partners at the national, regional or international levels,

Recognizing the need for coordinated arrangements and interventions of different resources, instruments and mechanisms to secure sustainable, timely and predictable achievement of MSSD objectives,

Considering that effective implementation of the MSSD calls for concrete complementary and coordinated initiatives at different levels, facilitated by the MAP Coordination Unit and in synergy with organizations, networks and programmes pertaining to the SD-related policy processes in the region,

Taking into account the recommendations of the Meeting of the MCSD held in Istanbul in June 2007 as well as the amendments made on the basis of the comments received by the Secretariat;

Decides

To approve the MSSD Implementation Plan contained in the Annex to this decision;

Requests

The Secretariat and the MAP components to coordinate their efforts in support of the MSSD Implementation Plan.

Annex III

National Strategies for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (NSSDs) Updated Review 2009, 1ST Progress Report

Country Reports

1. Until the end of February and despite two reminders by MAP's Coordinating Unit, the response from countries has been poor, indicative, perhaps, of national weaknesses in capacities, coordination and consultation:

Only 4 countries used the Annotated Reporting Format (ARF), the details provided ranging from reasonable to very partial and mostly based on the content of their NSSDs or relevant reports submitted to other processes; 2 countries submitted an updated Country Profile; 1 country submitted a copy of its NSSD; 1 supplied a copy of its NSSD and of a progress report in another format but to a reasonable extent relevant to the ARF; finally, 1 country supplied a website address for locating a partially relevant document.

Information is mostly limited to extensive references to what strategies provide for. There is unwillingness to point out to problems and weaknesses.

2. Websites are poor, not regularly updated, and in a variety of formats and languages; even the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) reporting website is very sparse for a number of countries.

3. It is evident from the Table attached as a separate file how uneven the situation now is as far as the availability of relevant information is concerned. The Table identifies the availability of main reports in English directly or indirectly relevant to the situation in the various countries and the EU. Discrepancies and gaps between countries are very obvious. Regarding the directly relevant texts, the situation is better for EU member states. From the rest, indirectly relevant reports are more numerous for those countries participating in various EU regional initiatives.

The European Union Influence

4. The sustainable development process in the Mediterranean is heavily influenced by the EU, through its renewed Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS- 2006) and the periodic reporting process (2007). By now they all have national strategies and contribute to the yearly progress reporting system. The EU submits regular and comprehensive reports to the (CSD).

5. The EU's Enlargement process covers Croatia and Turkey; Stabilisation and Association Agreements are being implemented in partnership with Western Balkans countries (Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; and Montenegro). The Neighbourhood Policy in the south is pursued through Partnerships with countries also involved in the EU's EuroMed programme: Algeria; Egypt; Israel; Lebanon; Morocco; Syria; and Tunisia.

6. All the above processes are covered and monitored by agreements, country reports, screenings, assessments and periodic reportings, which contain useful information and in

certain instances conclusions on such issues as health; social policies; education; gender; and environment and (partially) sustainable development.

UNEP-MAP/ Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development(MSSD)

7. MAP's worthwhile initiative for the preparation of NSSDs appears to be a tedious one, inter alia phasing obstacles with internal national approval processes. From the 8 countries for which relevant MAP assistance was secured (Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Egypt; Lebanon; Morocco; Montenegro; the Syrian Arab Republic; and Tunisia) only 1 (Montenegro) has so far had a final Strategy produced.

8. There is no evidence that the MSSD has begun having any worthwhile influence on national policies.

Millennium Development Goals(MDGs)/ UNDP

9. Additional inputs come through the intensification of the monitoring process and the reporting activities as regards the MDGs, some of which (poverty, education, gender, environment) are directly related to sustainable development and to issues covered by the NSSDs. English texts of relevant strategies and/ or progress reports prepared with assistance from UNDP are available for Albania; BH; Croatia; Egypt; Lebanon; Libya; Syria; Tunisia; and Turkey.

ESDN/ OECD/ IISD

10. A number of ESDN, OECD and IISD reports include useful information.

11. The ESDN Country Profiles have been recently updated although without too much new substantial information.

CSD

12. Reporting to its sessions is sparse and not systematic. It does not appear as though this process has so far had any particular influence on the ground.

Gaps

13. Unless countries appropriately respond to the request to fill in the ARF, there is no doubt that at least some of the aims of the Review will either have to be drastically reconsidered or be only sketchily covered. This applies in particular to: defining key strengths and weaknesses, gaps and constraints; identifying good practices; funding; common challenges, practices and innovations; the extent adaptation and mitigation to Climate Change have been integrated into national and sectoral development processes; the assessment of the output and results achieved by regional Institutions; and the updating of the country profiles.

BROADER OBSERVATIONS (TENTATIVE)**Transition**

14. It is very clear that it is early to expect dramatic results and changes. The last few years have more or less been transitional, with countries preparing new strategies; revising older ones; transforming relevant initiatives; putting in place coherent systems; trying to cope with renewed efforts to monitor regional and international commitments; and striving to translate strategies into coherent and practical practices and programmes.

Previous Reviews

15. The conclusions from a small number of previous reviews (EU 2004/2007, MAP 2005, OECD, IISD), continue to be fully relevant, particularly the following:

- Strategies have yet to acquire an actual three-dimensional nature with clear linkages between the economic, social and environmental dimensions. They are rather characterized from patching together unrelated texts with no interrelationships and synergies. The environmental issues, being easier to incorporate, still overshadow the other two pillars.
- The same level of information does not exist for all countries; information from websites and reports tends to offer a snapshot of the situation at a specific time and does not objectively reflect processes in motion.
- Non-involvement of economic ministries; absence of earmarking of financial resources; weak involvement of local government; no integration of sustainable development in sectoral policies; the prevalence of the use of regulatory instruments; not addressing the complex governance aspects of sustainable development; etc.

16. On the other hand some positive developments are already visible:

- Partly due to international commitments, more urgency has been filtered in the political arena. There is an influx of processes for the elaboration, adoption or revision of NSSDs and or strategies and action plans within broader programmes.
- Monitoring and assessment is improving with the activities of MAP, the European Commission, the European Environment Agency, Eurostat, OECD and other initiatives. Common indicators and reporting formats have been developed, approved and being monitored.
- The importance of using integration instruments such as impact assessments and regulatory simplification although not extensively applied is gradually being recognised.
- There are more initiatives and progress in involving civil society in consultation as well as of stakeholders in implementation.

Sector Specific Issues

17. Measures have and are constantly been taken or intensified and a lot of initiatives are now in place to address sectoral issues. Some (e.g. climate change and clean energy; transport) are being given more priority and show better results than others that require more sweeping and structural and behavioural changes such as sustainable consumption or social inclusion. Nevertheless, much more needs to be done, at all levels.

18. It is almost impossible to ascertain actual progress in the alleviation of the manifestation of the plethora of sectoral problems aimed to be tackled through sustainable development. Indeed, a number of regional reports have shown that all major unsustainable policies are still present and related negative trends are thriving. They do require concerted and sustained action over time and the problems are such that improvements are not readily recognizable.

19. It is doubtful whether many measures taken in specific sectors are being driven by NSSDs. One could argue that most of them would have been taken anyway.

One Relevant Development

20. The current international economic and social crisis is causing stronger and stronger political advocacy towards a new restructured global sustainable economic development system. In the short run, however, it may tend to relegate to secondary importance mainstream sustainable development concerns.

MEDITERRANEAN NSSDs UPDATE REVIEW 2009
LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN ENGLISH TO BE REVIEWED

(in **bold** the ones prepared after the first review)

	Submissi on of complete d Annotated Reporting Format for the 2009 Review	Johann esburg Countr y Profile	SD Indicat ors	MAP Country Profile	SDS/NSD S	CSD/ NSDS Reporting/ Assessment s/Reviews	NEAP/ Environ mental reports/ SMAP Nationa l Report	MDG reports	ESDN Profile 2008	EU Enlargement/Acce ssion (Agreement/Scree ning/Country Reports/ Progress Reports/ Integration Programmes)	EU Partnership/ Neighbourhood Strategy/ Programmes/ Progress Reports	Supple mental texts
Albania		X (2002)		X (2006)	X(MOU,2 008)			X(2007)			X(2007) X(2008) X(2008) X(2008)	
Algeria				X (2005)							X(2006)	
Arab League				X								
B21												
Bosnia and Herzeg ovina				X(2005)	X(MOU,2 008)		X(2003) X(2008)	X(2004)			X(2008) X(2008) X(2008)	X(2008) X(?)
Croatia	X(2009)	X(2002)		X(2005)		X(CSD16/17, 2008 -Agriculture - Desertificati on -Drought -Land -Rural dev.)		X(2006)	X(2008)	X(2007) X(2007) X(2008) X(2008) X(2008) X(2008)		
Cyprus	X(2009)	X(2002)		X(2005)	X(2007)	X(2004) X(2005)	X(2008)		X(2008)			
Egypt	X(2009)	X(2002)	X(2003) X(2008)	X(2004) X(2004)	X(5 Prep. doc.2006)			X(2008)			X(2005) X(2007) X(2007) X(2007)	

	Submissi on of complete d Annotated Reporting Format for the 2009 Review	Johann esburg Countr y Profile	SD Indicat ors	MAP Country Profile	SDS/NSD S	CSD/ NSDS Reporting/ Assessment s/Reviews	NEAP/ Environ mental reports/ SMAP Nationa l Report	MDG reports	ESDN Profile 2008	EU Enlargement/Acce ssion (Agreement/Scree ning/Country Reports/ Progress Reports/ Integration Programmes)	EU Partnership/ Neighbourhood Strategy/ Programmes/ Progress Reports	Supple mental texts
EU		X(2002)	Large number of docs.	X(2005) X(2009)	X(2005)	X(2004) X(2007) X(2007) X(CSD Reports for all sessions)						
France				X(2005)	X(2003)	X(2004) X(2005) X(2007) X(CSD16/17, 2008 -Agriculture -Drought -Cross- sectoral -Rural dev. - Desertificati on)			X(2008)			
Greece		X(2002)	X(2003)	X(2004)	X(2008) X(2008) X(2008)	X(20004) X(2007) X(CSD12/13, 2004 -Water -Human sett -Sanitat.) List of documenbt to be reviewed X(CSD 14/15, 2006 - Atmosphere -Energy	X(2005) X(2007)		X(2008)			X(2007)

	Submission of complete d Annotated Reporting Format for the 2009 Review	Johannesburg Country Profile	SD Indicators	MAP Country Profile	SDS/NSDS	CSD/ NSDS Reporting/ Assessment s/Reviews	NEAP/ Environmental reports/ SMAP National Report	MDG reports	ESDN Profile 2008	EU Enlargement/Accession (Agreement/Screening/Country Reports/ Progress Reports/ Integration Programmes)	EU Partnership/ Neighbourhood Strategy/ Programmes/ Progress Reports	Supplemental texts
						-Industry - Other)						
Israel		X(2002)	X(2005)	X(2005)	X(Plan 2003)	X(2007) X(2008) X(CSD14/15, 2006 - Atmosphere -Energy -Industry) X(CSD16/17, 2008 -Drought -Rural dev. - Desertification -Land)					X(2004) X(2004) X(2006) X(2006) X(2008)	
Italy		X(2002)	X(2007)	X(2006)	X(Profile, 2007)	X(2004) X (CSD14/15, 2006 - Renewables)			X(2008)			
Lebanon		X(2002)		X(2005)	X(MOU, 2008)	X(2005)		X(2008)			X(2005) X(2006) X(2006) X(2007)	
Libya				X(2005)				X(2008)				X(?)
Malta	X(2009)	X(2002)		X(2005) X(2006)	X(2006)	X(2004) X(2007) X(CSD14/15,			X(2008)			

	Submission of complete d Annotated Reporting Format for the 2009 Review	Johannesburg Country Profile	SD Indicators	MAP Country Profile	SDS/NSDS	CSD/ NSDS Reporting/ Assessment s/Reviews	NEAP/ Environmental reports/ SMAP National Report	MDG reports	ESDN Profile 2008	EU Enlargement/Accession (Agreement/Screening/Country Reports/ Progress Reports/ Integration Programmes)	EU Partnership/ Neighbourhood Strategy/ Programmes/ Progress Reports	Supplemental texts
						2006 - Atmosphere -Energy -Industry)						
Monaco				X(2005)	X(Profile, 2006)							
Montenegro				X(2005)	X(2007)	X(2008)					X(2007) X(2007) X(2008) X(2008)	X(2007)
Morocco				X(2006)							X(2004) X(2006) X(2006) X(2006) X(2007)	
Slovenia		X(2002)		X(2005)	X(Dev. Str.,2005) X(Dev.Str.,2007) X(Dev.Str.,2008)	X(2004) X(2007) X(CSD12/13, 2004 -Human sett. -Water -Sanit.) X(CSD14/15, 2006 -Renewables			X(2008)			
Spain				X(2005)	X(2007)	X(2004) X(2007) X(2007)			X(2008)			
Syria		X(2002)		X(2005)	X(5 Prep.doc., 2006)		X(2003) X(2008)	X(2005) X(2008)			X(2006) X(2007)	

Tunisia				X(2006)	X(MOU,2008)	X(2003)		X(2004)			X(2004) X(2006) X(2006) X(2007)	
Turkey		X(2002)		X(2005)		X(2006) X(2007) X(CSD12/13, 2004 -Human sett. -Water) X(CSD14/15, 2006 - Atmosphere -Energy)		X(2005)		X(2007) X(2007) X(2008) X(2008) X(2008)		X(2005)

Annex IV

Terms of Reference Adaptation to Climate Change at the Country Level

Purpose

The purpose of the MoU is to undertake a study on adaptation to climate change in three countries. The study will consist of a participatory assessment of vulnerabilities to climate change variability and to extreme events and the identification of key adaptation measures (policy reforms, improved legal and institutional frameworks, mobilization of appropriate economic instruments, capacity building, etc.).

A similar exercise will be carried out in two other countries with the view to share experience and identify possible strategic elements for adaptation to climate change. The outputs will feed into the preparation process of the next MCSD meeting (May 2009).

Activities

Under the supervision of the concerned Ministry, a national consultant will: (i) make a review of available information concerning vulnerabilities to climate variability and extreme events, (ii) assess how the relevant policies, legal frameworks, economic instruments and institutional set up integrate climate change concerns, (iii) review the current and projected measures and actions towards adaptation, and (iv) explore how adaptation to climate change is or could be addressed through policy measures, improved legal and institutional frameworks, resorting to appropriate economic instruments, (v) identify key adaptation measures (criteria of priority and short list of activities) as well as concrete activities such as capacity building, (iv) provide public awareness through the project outputs.

This stocktaking exercise will be complemented by a consultation with the different stakeholders and government representatives.

Suggested Approach

The following specific questions will be addressed:

1. How climate change will affect the country?
 - What are the climatic risks? Do we understand them? How the different stakeholders (government, local authorities, business, academics, NGOs, etc.) perceive these risks?
 - What are the vulnerabilities at the national and subnational levels (socially, environmentally and economically)?
 - Who are the most vulnerable groups, sectors of the economy, and ecosystems?

2. What are the current and anticipated adaptation measures at the national and subnational levels?
 - Who is doing what at which level?
 - What measures and actions are the different sectors (public and private sectors¹) taking to foster adaptation?
 - How is adaptation addressed in the different MSSD related domains: energy, agriculture, tourism, water, integrated coastal zone management, health, forests, settlement and society, etc.?
3. How can we plan for adaptation at the national level?
 - What decision making process, policies and funding strategies are necessary to promote adaptation?
 - What processes are needed to integrate adaptation to climate change into national development plans?
 - What information and institutional organisation/coordination are required to promote adaptation activities, measures, programmes?
 - How adaptation activities, measures, programmes can be monitored and evaluated
 - How the information on adaptation activities, measures, programmes can be disseminated to the relevant stakeholders?
 - How to capture all these in national plans and budgets? How to prioritise areas for future investments?

Collaboration

In addition to a strong political support, the broad participation of stakeholders beyond Ministries of Environment. Close collaboration will be sought with donors active in the sector.

Needed Financial resources

approx. 10,000 euros per country

Main Task and Outputs

- identify major stakeholders, inform and obtain support from different stakeholders
- inform and obtain support from donor community
- inform and obtain support from different sectors
- carry out a stocktaking exercise
- organise a consultation with different sectors and stakeholders on their perception of vulnerability and the way to address them at the various levels
- prepare a synthesis document (40 pages max. with annexes)
- make the final documents accessible to everyone

¹ note that practical efforts underway within the business community for whom adaptation efforts link closely to confidential business strategies may not be easy to document

Annex V

Terms of Reference

for the recruitment of a consultant to carry out in-depth assessment on the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) for the period 2005-2010

A. Background

The Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) was established in 1995 in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) as an advisory body to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to assist them in their efforts to integrate environmental issues in their socio-economic programmes and, in so doing, promote sustainable development policies in the Mediterranean region. The Commission is unique in its composition in as much as government representatives, local communities, socio-economic actors, IGOs, NGOs, members of the scientific community participate on an equal footing. Eminent experts in the field of topics of the MCSD meeting agenda also take part.

The MCSD is a forum for debate with essentially the following missions:-

1. assist Mediterranean countries and other stakeholders active in the region in the adoption and implementation of sustainable development policies, including the integration of environmental considerations into other policies;
2. ensure the follow-up of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) implementation through appropriate tools, mechanisms and criteria, that would better enhance an efficient follow-up function;
3. promote the exchange of experience and good practices regarding the integration of environmental and socio-economic policies, as well as examples which show the application of international sustainable development commitments at suitable scales in different countries;
4. identify the obstacles encountered and support regional and sub-regional cooperation for the effective implementation of the sustainable development principle;
5. Propose recommendations to be adopted by the contracting Parties of the Barcelona convention
6. coordinate the periodical drafting of the report on the state of implementation of the MCSD recommendations;
7. produce opinions of the overall MAP Work Programme and the functioning of the Coordinating Unit and the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) with the aim of integrating sustainability considerations into the MAP/Barcelona Convention system as a whole.

At their 12th Meeting of the Parties (Monaco, November, 2001) the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention decided, in line with the WSSD process, to prepare a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and requested the MCSD to undertake this task. The 2nd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on the Environment (Athens, July 2002) endorsed the initiative. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, during their 14th meeting in Portoroz in November, 2005 adopted the MSSD.

The MSSD is a framework strategy. Its purpose is to adapt international commitments to regional conditions, to guide national sustainable development strategies and to initiate a dynamic partnership between countries at different levels of development. It has four main objectives established with the aim of promoting progress towards sustainable development in the economic, social and environmental areas and in the field of governance. Seven independent priority fields of action and synergy are identified in which it is essential to make real progress. In the development of the Strategy, valuable input was provided by the various MAP components as well as other Mediterranean cooperation networks. In order to assess its implementation, the MSSD calls for the establishment of a two-year monitoring cycle and an in-depth assessment every five years, the first of which in 2010 which will constitute a special assessment for the third World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Over the last five years, with the financial support of countries and organizations, the MCSD provided guidance and assistance to a number of Contracting Parties to develop their NSSD. The MCSD also focussed on key thematic issues. Working groups discussed and came up with proposals to the meetings of the MCSD for action on water demand management, Energy, the sustainable management of coastal areas, tourism and sustainable development, agriculture and rural développement, urban development, transport and urban mobility and climate change, among others. 34 priority indicators for measuring sustainable development have also been developed.

B. Purpose and objectives

The purpose of this assignment is to evaluate the work done so far and provide the members of the MCSD and the Contracting Parties with an Assessment Document showing the level of implementation of the MSSD since it was adopted in 2005. Specifically, the consultant shall evaluate the progress made in the achievement of the objectives of the MSSD and for promoting progress towards sustainability in the economic, social and environmental areas and in the field of governance. The consultant shall also evaluate the activities carried out for the attainment of progress in the MSSD seven priority fields of action, assessing also the challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt, and make recommendations for possible amendments and updating of the MSSD. The consultant shall also assess the performance of the MAP system in supporting the MSSD implementation as well as how resources have been allocated, how the chain of command has been effective, how the different actors have performed and how the implementation process has been monitored. The consultant shall also examine how the MSSD objectives, in particular the priority fields of action, are integrated in the programme of work of the various MAP components. The consultant shall also appreciate how the MCSD integrate new objectives in line with the regional political agenda (ie the Union for the Mediterranean initiative). Finally, the consultant shall also express an opinion on the real influential role of the MCSD specially at the policy makers level in the field of sustainable development

C. Scope and tasks

Under the direct supervision of the Coordinator, the Consultant will focus on the evaluation of the implementation of the MSSD for the period 2005-2010. It is expected that the evaluation will assess the attainment of the outcomes, identify achievements, challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt; and most importantly

make recommendations for incorporating the lessons learnt into a planning process for the updating of the MSSD and its method of implementation in particular with regard to the relationship between the MSSD and the programme of work of MAP.

To achieve the purpose and objectives of this assignment, the Consultant shall:-

1. carry out a desk study and review of relevant documents;
2. assess the implementation of the MCSD recommendations;
3. interview selected key actors and stakeholders to assess the authenticity of the findings including representatives of the Contracting Parties, UNEP/DEPI, members of the MCSD from all categories, Directors of the Regional Activity Centres and others who, in the opinion of the Consultant, could provide valuable insight and make valuable contributions to the assessment;
4. evaluate the level of contribution and performance of the MAP components, including the Coordination Unit, the different RACs, the Steering Committee and the MCSD itself in supporting the implementation of the MSSD;
5. undertake an in-depth review of the four objectives of the MSSD to determine whether they have contributed to promoting sustainable development in the economic, social and environmental areas at the regional and national levels;
6. assess the progress made in the activities carried out in the seven priority fields of the MSSD;
7. write a comprehensive and analytical assessment report;
8. propose amendments for the updating of the MSSD to bring it in line with current policies on sustainable development and in synergy with the orientations of the UNCSD and the new international context;
9. present key findings to the Executive Coordination Panel and to the members of the MCSD.

D. Expected Outputs and Time of Delivery

In order to achieve the objectives of this task, the Consultant will therefore be expected to deliver the following reports:

- (i) Inception Report within fifteen days of commencement of the assignment. The inception report, among other things, will provide a detailed methodology and workplan proposed by the Consultant together with an outline of the final report;
- (ii) Draft Report four and a half months from approval of the inception report;
- (iii) Final Report within one month of receiving comments from the Executive Coordination Panel;
- (iv) Presentation of the final report to a special session of the MCSD;
- (v) Final report within one month after the MCSD meeting taking into account the comments of the MCSD.

E. Input from the MAP Secretariat

The following documents will be given to the Consultants to facilitate the desk evaluation:-

- a. Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;
- b. Reports of the meetings of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development;
- c. Programmes of Work of the MAP components;
- d. Assessment reports on the implementation of National Strategies for Sustainable Development;

- e. Assessment report on the MCSD;
- f. Reports of the meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;
- g. Other documents that the Consultant and the Secretariat would identify as important in order to achieve the objectives of the assignment.

The Secretariat will provide all necessary logistics including working space within the premises of the Coordinating Unit in Athens, as well as travel costs and DSA, if deemed necessary. The Secretariat will assist the Consultant in setting up meetings with key actors and selected stakeholders. The Consultant will also be invited to review the progress of the assignment with the members of the Executive Coordination Panel during one of its regular meetings.

F. Professional Skills and Competences

The Consultant should have a deep knowledge of the geopolitical, socio-economic and environmental characteristics of the Mediterranean region and, but not limited to, the following professional skills and experience:-

1. Solid understanding of economics, with a firm grounding in environmental and resource economics and in the literature on sustainable development;
2. Excellent grasp of key policy issues at the social-economic-environmental interface and knowledge on the environmental and social impacts associated to the global value chain;
3. Strong analytical and policy development skills: proven ability to analyze complex issues and data relating to various dimensions of sustainable development and to produce high-quality reports;
4. Experience in the elaboration, implementation of sustainable development strategies at the national or regional level
5. Good understanding of the Barcelona Convention and its related Protocols as well as of the various components of the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development;
6. Good understanding of the programmes and activities of the UN system in implementing Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI);
7. Ability to think strategically, to identify and analyze key emerging sustainable development issues and their policy implications;
8. Excellent communications skills (written and oral);
9. Ability to draft rigorous reports on sustainable development issues, including for non-technical audiences and senior policy makers;
10. Ability to make clear and concise presentations of research findings to the Executive Coordination Panel, the members of the MCSD and the MAP Focal Points.

G. Qualifications and Experience

- 1) Advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in economics, another social science, public policy, or environmental science. Strong background in development economics is required;
- 2) Experience in sustainable development policy analysis, policy formulation, or related field, at the international level;

- 3) Demonstrated experience in the preparation of reports for policy makers;
- 4) High level of familiarity with the international process on sustainable development, in the follow-up to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
- 5) Experience in working with Civil Society;
- 6) Excellent analytical and writing skills in English, including use of computer;

H. Time, duration of service and remuneration

This assignment is expected to be undertaken in a period of six months between the month of January and June 2010. For this assignment the Consultant will receive the sum ofTwenty-five per cent of this payment will be made on the signing of the agreement between the Consultant and UNEP/DEPI. The balance will be paid on presentation of the final report to the Coordinator of MAP incorporating all changes and amendments that may be proposed in the final presentation of the report to the Executive Coordination Panel and the extraordinary meeting of the MCSD.

I. Submission of Expressions of Interest

Interested persons in undertaking this assessment are required to submit an expression of interest, together with a detailed C.V., by not later than the end of November, 2009 addressed in a sealed envelope clearly marked **“Proposal to undertake an Assessment of the MSSD (2005-2010)”** and addressed to:-

**The Coordinator,
Mediterranean Action Plan
48 Vassilleos Konstantinou Avenue 11635
Athens, Greece
Tel:+30 2107273101 Fax: +30 2107253196
E-mail: unepmedu@unepmedu.gr;
web: www.unepmap.org**

Annex VI

**Decisions of the Bureau 68 Meeting
regarding the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development**

1. The Bureau encourages Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Lebanon to embark on the development of their NSSDs.
2. The Bureau approves CEDARE, UN-WTO and the World Bank (Department for sustainable development), representing IGOs, as members of the MCSD with a view to their participation at the Meeting of the Commission in Cairo in June 2009.
3. With regard to the other categories, the Bureau recommends that the Secretariat extend the deadline for the nominations until the end of April 2009 taking into consideration the criteria approved at the last Bureau meeting (BUR67) as well as the theme of the MCSD: "Climate Change Adaptation". In order to enable the nominated experts to participate at the next meeting of the MCSD they will be approved by the Bureau following consultation through electronic means.

Annex VII

DRAFT AGENDA

13th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development
“Climate Change Adaptation -Experiences and Strategies in the Mediterranean”
22-24 June, 2009, Cairo, Egypt

Overview

The Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) dwells upon the assessment of major sustainable development issues of common concern to the countries of the region or set out in international and regional agendas. It makes relevant proposals and recommendations to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

By focusing on Climate Change issues and adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, the 13th MCSD meeting in Cairo is the opportunity:

- (i) to forge a consolidated position of the different actors represented in MCSD;
- (ii) to identify the structuring elements of a regional strategy;
- (iii) to improve the linkages between the related global and regional frameworks or initiatives, the national policies and concrete actions at the local levels; and
- (iv) to stimulate cooperation between the countries of the region, with the coordinated support of MAP components and other institutions active in the region.

Objectives

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- a) review the current situation and the understanding of the different actors at different levels in terms of risks and vulnerabilities to climate change;
- b) present the current and anticipated adaptation initiatives and concrete measures;
- c) discuss the priorities, opportunities and constraints at the different levels;
- d) explore the elements of regional and national strategies including: the steps to be taken at the different levels, the roles and responsibilities of the different actors, the information, training and financial needs, the way to monitor progress on adaptation, as well as cooperation, technology transfer and coordination frameworks;
- e) address MCSD regular statutory agenda, including discussion on a multi-annual Programme of Work that takes due account of climate risks.

Structure

The meeting is structured as follows:

- DAY 1: Setting the scene, current situation
- DAY 2: Strategizing, planning and acting together for adaptation
- DAY 3: MCSD Programme of Work

In addition to plenary presentations followed by discussion, break out sessions will explore specific issues such as:

- integration of adaptation into national policies and plans;
- funding : financial resources and financial instruments;
- roles of the different actors and institutions (public, private, local, national, regional and international);
- information needs, including for monitoring;
- capacity building and training activities;
- cooperation frameworks, technology transfer and coordination.

In order to foster active participation, plenary sessions will alternate with facilitated break out sessions.

Day 1. Setting the Scene: current situation

09:00- 09:40

- **Opening Statement** by HE Ing. Michael Gorge, State Minister for the Environment of Egypt
- **Welcoming address** by Dr. Mawahab Abu-Elazm, Chief Executive Officer, Egyptian Environment Agency
- **Introduction to the meeting objectives and expected outcomes** by Mr Paul Mifsud, MAP Coordinator

09:40- 10:00 **Setting the Scene** - Address by Prof. Dr. Mohammed El-Raey- Prof. of Environmental Physics at Alexandria University, Cairo

10:00- 10:30 **Presentation of Stocktaking paper** by Blue Plan

Three countries present their governments' perspective and understanding of risks, vulnerabilities, and expose their different initiatives towards adaptation.

10:30-10:45 **Country A Case Study**

10:45 -11:00 **Country B Case Study**

11:00-11:15 **Country C Case Study**

11:15- 11:45 **Tea/Coffee Break**

Other groups present their perspective and understanding of risks, vulnerabilities and briefly expose their current related initiatives/activities.

11:45-12:00 **Local authorities**

12:00-12:15 **NGOs**

12:15-12:30 **UNEP MAP** (presented by Blue Plan on behalf of all RACs)

12:30- 13:00 **Recent developments on adaptation in the Mediterranean Region and globally (UNFCCC)**

Outcome of the first morning: a clear understanding of the various perspectives of the represented stakeholders

13:00-14:00 ***LUNCH***

14:00-16:00 **Break out sessions on priorities, opportunities and constraints at the local, national and regional levels**

- Four groups are envisaged: (1) policy, legal and institutional changes, (2) knowledge and information, (3) capacity and training, (4) consensus and participation.
- Each group will be facilitated by a person to be chosen from among the group.

16:00- 16:30 ***Coffee/tea Break***

16:30-17:30 **Plenary Session**

- Presentation of the results of the break out sessions
- Discussion on main findings and recommendations related to priorities, opportunities.

Outcome of the first afternoon: a shared vision of the participants on priorities, opportunities and constraints at the local, national and regional levels

17:30-18:00 **Wrap up**

- Review and Summary of the day
- Orientation and agenda for day 2

Day 2. Strategizing, Planning and Acting together for adaptation

09:00 -09:15 **Quick introduction to day 2**

09:15-09:30 **Presentation of the Global Adaptation Strategy (UNEP)**

09:30-09:45 **Presentation of the regional consultation meetings on the development of the global climate change adaptation network in Africa and Asia (UNEP)**

09:45-10:30 **National adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), a process to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change (UNFCCC)**

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00-12:30 **Break out session on the constituting components of regional and national adaptation strategies and action programme**

- The discussions will be structured according to: objectives, steps, actions and measures to be taken at the different levels, the roles and responsibilities of the different actors.
- Each group will be facilitated by a person to be chosen from among the group.

12:30-13:00 **Plenary Session**

- Presentation of the results of the break out sessions
- Discussion on main findings and recommendations related to strategies,

Outcome of the second morning: a shared vision of the participants on major strategic components and steps to be taken

13:00-14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00- 14:20 **Financing adaptation: funding sources and financial instruments (WB/GEF)**

14:20- 14:40 **Aid effectiveness and harmonisation: Accra Agenda for Action and Paris Declaration Action Plans (OECD)**

14:40- 15:00 **The Med Union (Mr. Mocilnikar)**

15:00- 16:30 **Break out sessions on: (1) funding strategies, (2) capacity building, (3) monitoring and indicators, (4) technology transfer and (5) cooperation networks and coordination.**

Note: A person to be chosen from among the group will facilitate the discussions.

16:30- 17:00 **Coffee/tea Break**

17:00-18:30 Plenary session

- Presentation of the results of the break out sessions
- Discussion on policy recommendations

Outcomes of the second afternoon: (i) a shared understanding of major instruments for adaptation; (ii) related policy recommendations formulated.
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Day 3. Contribution of MCSD to Climate Change and Sustainable Development: Programme of Work

09:15-10:30 Discussion on the next steps

- **Key collective recommendations from the meeting**
- **Communiqué**
- **Roadmap for the development of the adaptation Network in Mediterranean Region.**
- **Roadmap for the development of the Mediterranean Strategy for Adaptation**

MCSD Programme of Work:

- i. Presentation of Progress Report by the Secretariat;
- ii. Approval of multi-Year Programme of Work 2010/2011-2014/2015
- iii. 5 Year in-depth assessment of the MSSD;
- iv. Report on the results of the Thematic Working Groups;
- v. MSSD indicators – update report;
- vi. Approval of new ToR of MCSD;
- vii. Approval of new members of MCSD
- viii. Date and place of the next meeting of MCSD

It is expected that the MCSD will approve one Decision, which will be submitted to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and to the meeting of the Contracting Parties for Adoption.

List of Acronyms

ACCOBAMS:	The Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area
AEWA:	The Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds
BOD:	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
BP/RAC:	Blue Plan/Regional Activity Centre
CEDARE:	Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region & Europe
CIHEAM:	International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies
CODATU:	Cooperation for urban mobility in the developing world
CP/RAC:	Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production
ECP:	Executive Coordination Panel
EIB:	European Investment Bank
FAO/GFCM:	Food and Agriculture Organisation/General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
FFEM:	Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial
ICZM:	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IMO:	International Maritime Organisation
IUCN:	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LBS:	Land Based sources
MAP:	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCSD:	Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development
MED POL:	Mediterranean Pollution Programme
MEDASSET:	Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtles
MedPAN:	Network of managers of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean
MOU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MSSD:	Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
NAPs:	National Action Plans
NSSD:	National Strategies for Sustainable Development
OECD:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PAP/RAC:	Priority Actions Plan/Regional Activity Centre
PCB:	Poly chlorinated Biphenyl
RACs:	Regional Activity Centres
TOR:	Terms of Reference
UN-CSD:	United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP/CCAUI:	UNEP's Climate Change Adaptation Unit
UNESCO:	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC:	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-WTO:	World Tourism Organization
WB/GEF:	World Bank/ Global Environment Facility
WRI:	World Resources Institute
WWF:	World Wild Fund