



United Nations Environment Programme



UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/7
10 October 1988

Original: ENGLISH

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

First Meeting of the
Socio-Economic Committee

Athens, 27-29 September 1988

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING
OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMMITTEE



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Introduction

1. At their Fifth Ordinary Meeting, held in Athens from 7 to 11 September 1987, the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols approved the establishment of a Scientific and Technical Committee and a Socio-Economic Committee (UNEP/IG.74/5, Section II.A) as the two standing subsidiary bodies of the Contracting Parties, to which the Parties would assign the preliminary review of the designated programme and budget components and the recommendations thereon. The two Committees would meet in April/May of each year and their reports would be received by the Bureau for comments before submission to the Contracting Parties.

2. In pursuance of this decision, the Co-ordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan convened the first meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee, in the premises of the Co-ordinating Unit in Athens from 27 to 29 September 1988. The objective of the meeting was to review the appropriate components of the Blue Plan and the Priority Actions Programme.

Participants

3. The following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols were represented at the meeting:

Algeria, Cyprus, European Economic Community, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

4. Albania attended the meeting as an observer.

5. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other organizations were present as observers: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, Regional Activity Centre for the Blue Plan (BP/RAC), Regional Activity Center for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC).

6. The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

Agenda Item 1. Opening of the meeting

7. Mr. A. Manos, Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Director of UNEP, Dr. Mustafa K. Tolba.

8. The cloud of financial difficulties under which MAP was operating in early 1988 was beginning to lift after the approval by the Italian Parliament of a law authorizing payment of Italy's 1986-1987 contribution. While payment should follow soon, the parliamentary record stressed the importance of the programme and declared the contribution to be, if anything, modest for its objectives.

9. He stated that the Committee would receive the conclusions of the Blue Plan. With them the Mediterranean Action Plan projected itself into the next century and provided the Contracting Parties with the best possible guidance, warnings and challenges.

10. In a pioneering effort the Blue Plan had identified a Mediterranean entity, an unbroken ring of 18 States joined not only by nature and by common problems, but bound by common opportunities. Their proximity, their historic and present ties, their complementarities offered ample scope for regional cooperation.

11. But the message of the Blue Plan was of wider significance. By exploring in detail the development-environment equation in the specific Mediterranean context and by doing so through an analysis of facts and figures, not as a theoretical exercise, the Blue Plan had set a new landmark that politicians and development planners would not be able to ignore. The future of the Mediterranean basin, of its sea and coastal areas, and the quality of life of its people would depend on their decisions. For this reason it was important that the documents of the Blue Plan receive the widest possible dissemination.

12. The secretariat intended that on the occasion of the November 1988 meeting of the Expanded Bureau, there should be the first presentation of the Blue Plan to the press accredited in Greece, in the presence of all the leading scientific figures who had contributed to the Project.

13. Another occasion for such a presentation to the press would occur in November 1988 when a high-level meeting on the Mediterranean would be convened in Cairo jointly by H.E. Dr. Atef Ebeid, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, State Minister for Administrative Development of Egypt, and by H.E. Gianni De Michelis, Deputy Prime Minister of Italy.

14. The PAP did not face a crucial test at this time. It was developing its many areas of activity and testing its capabilities and strength in pilot projects that were limited geographically but complex in substance. The execution of its pilot projects in particular called for close cooperation with the World Bank, the European Investment Bank and with the Mediterranean programmes (MEDSPA) of the European Community.

15. The Expanded Bureau in November 1988 would further consider the Executive Director's proposals on the refocussing of the Mediterranean Action Plan. If adopted, they would affect the programme as of 1990, on the basis of a specific programme-budget to that would be submitted to the Sixth Ordinary Meeting of Contracting Parties in October 1989.

Agenda Item 2. Rules of Procedure

16. The secretariat stated that the rules of procedure adopted for the meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI) would apply mutatis mutandis to the meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee for the Mediterranean Action Plan, as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

Agenda Item 3. Election of officers

17. After informal consultations, the Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman	:	Mr. Jacques Vaccarezza	(European Economic Community)
Vice-Chairman	:	Mr. El Mohamady Eid	(Egypt)
Vice-Chairman:	:	Mr. Hamza Redouane	(Algeria)
Rapporteur	:	Mr. Antonis L. Antoniou	(Cyprus)

Agenda Item 4. Adoption of the Agenda

18. The Committee adopted the agenda which appears in Annex II to the present report. It was agreed that one agenda item would cover horizontal questions (other than PAP and BP), in particular cross-sectoral topics, the question of chemical waste disposal and the Mediterranean Environment Week. The documents which were available to the meeting are listed in Annex III.

Agenda Item 5. Organization of work

19. The Committee adopted the timetable suggested in the Annex to the annotated agenda (document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/2). It also agreed to conduct its proceedings only in plenary meetings, with the proviso that ad-hoc working groups or drafting committees would be formed by the Bureau of the Committee in consultation with the secretariat, as needed.

Agenda Item 6. Progress report on the implementation of the Blue Plan during 1987/1988 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for 1989

20. Mr. M. Batisse, the President of the Regional Activity Centre for the Blue Plan (BP/RAC) introduced the progress report on the work of the Centre, UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/3, the first part of which contained information on the activities implemented or being implemented during 1987-1988 and the second part of which described the activities to be carried out during 1989, including their budgetary requirements, which were proposed by the last meeting of the Steering Committee, (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.4), for discussion and approval by the Socio-Economic Committee.

21. He informed the meeting on the activities carried out by the Centre and drew attention to the executive summary entitled "The Blue Plan - Future of the Mediterranean Basin", which contained a succinct account of the studies conducted on the basis of certain assumptions or scenarios as well as suggestions for action. He explained that the document was reproduced in provisional form and that it would be published later in final form. The authors of the document had carried out long and difficult studies; in addition they had had to contend with severe financial constraints, which accounted for the fact that some activities originally envisaged had not been carried out, e.g. certain visits and the seminar for national officials had had to be postponed. The report was accompanied by an executive summary in English and French. The summary was being translated into Arabic.

22. The visible results of the Centre's activities included, in addition to the production of the document referred to, the preparation of a data base and its transfer to the Athens office and the preparation of a number of fascicles or brochures dealing with specific topics e.g. Mediterranean forests.

23. He acknowledged with thanks the support given to the Centre by the French authorities and the valuable assistance received from expert consultants.

24. Mr. Grenon, Scientific Director of the Blue Plan, described the procedure followed by the project authorities in formulating the scenarios, and summarized the main conclusions in the final text of the report before the Committee. While five scenarios had been considered in a general way, the results had centred on three main types of development, in order to simplify matters: a weak economic growth scenario, a strong or rapid growth scenario neglectful of the environment, and a well-balanced development scenario. The conclusions the authors had drawn from those assumptions were in some respects unexpected. While it was desirable to achieve a balance between development and the protection or improvement of the environment, that was not easy to do, since development decisions were taken in the context of national policy, whereas the quality of the environment should be considered at the regional or local Mediterranean level. The extent to which the various scenarios materialized would affect the quality of life, the demographic evolution, agriculture, consumption, the environment - in short, all the elements of the life of the societies in the Mediterranean Basin. A great deal would depend on the enforcement of regulations concerning pollution, soil conservation, forest management etc., especially in the countries of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean.

25. The risk of ecological disaster would be serious if certain situations envisaged in the scenarios actually arose, such as further deforestation and consequential soil erosion, and the risk might affect a number of countries in succession. It was the responsibility of governments to plan and execute measures to forestall the degradation of the environment and it was most desirable that they should organise effective co-operation for this purpose at the regional and subregional levels. In that connection he referred to the encouraging signs of such co-operation in certain areas, in particular among countries of the Maghreb. He added that whereas economists were accustomed to reckoning in terms of short-term or medium-term time horizons of five or ten years, ecologists had to look 25, 30 or more years ahead, although degradation itself could be extremely rapid and irreversible.

26. Ms Baccar (Tunisia), Presiding Officer of the Blue Plan Steering Committee, introduced a report on the Committee's work.

27. At its ninth session, the Committee had taken stock of the decisions of the Contracting Parties with respect to the Blue Plan, provided guidelines for 1988 and drawn up a programme of work. It had also adopted some recommendations for the publication and circulation of the global report, the executive summary and the thematic booklets, together with the statistical data.

28. At its tenth session, held at Sophia Antipolis, (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.4), the Steering Committee had learned of the financial difficulties faced by the Blue Plan as a result of delays in the payment of contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund. The implementation of certain planned activities had thus been seriously delayed. It had been decided, however, to establish priorities in the programme of work, particularly for the submission to the current session of the executive summary and the main report in two languages.

29. The Steering Committee had reviewed the proposed programme and budget for 1988 and had adopted a number of recommendations on the subject (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.4).

30. With respect to the status of the Steering Committee, whose term of office was about to expire, she informed the Committee of a recommendation to extend the term if so required, until the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in order to monitor the Blue Plan activities which had been deferred from 1988 to 1989.

31. In the ensuing discussion general satisfaction was expressed by most speakers with the results of the whole Blue Plan exercise. However, a number of them made comments on specific points. They considered inter alia that the final English version of the entire report on the Blue Plan should be issued as soon as possible. One of them stated that it would have been desirable to deal in the report with several topics that were not or not sufficiently covered; he referred, for example, to the question of fisheries and fish resources, technology applicable in the Mediterranean basin, the management of tourism, the treatment of waste, trade and other exchanges, marine research, atmospheric pollution. Another representative inquired whether it would be possible to estimate in value terms the environmental damage or potential damage attributable to certain foreseeable events.

32. Many participants urged that the report should receive the widest possible dissemination, if possible also in languages other than English and French. The representative of Spain announced that his Government was prepared to arrange at its expense for the translation of the report into Spanish.

33. The Co-ordinator of the MAP stated that it would be welcome gesture on the part of other governments if they could decide to follow Spain's example and arrange for the translation of the text into their national languages. The President of BP/RAC stated that a publisher had been approached with a view to arranging for the publication and sale of the report in book form.

34. The representative of Italy, referring to paragraph 14 of the progress report (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/3), stated that the reference to Italy in that paragraph was open to misinterpretation and should be corrected. Italy had merely asked for a visit by the Scientific Director of BP/RAC.

35. The representative of France stated that the result of the activities of BP/RAC consisted not only of the work that had been produced - the report, the summary, the booklets and the general picture of the Mediterranean (with five scenarios) - but also of the suggestions for action and the statistical data (over 300,000 entries). On the latter subject, reference should be made not only to the transfer of the data base to Athens in 1988 but also to accessibility to the data for all countries that might refer to them.

36. With a view to opening possible lines of future research and in no way intending to look for gaps in the substantial work carried out, he referred inter alia to the "Mediterraneanisation" of data, especially those concerning the coastal areas, intra-Mediterranean commerce and exchanges, the impact of new or future technology on the environment, and information about the implementation of environmental policies.

37. As regards thematic brochures, the Committee had before it a brochure regarding Mediterranean forests in English and French, as a demonstration sample for other 17 brochures envisaged. The Committee was informed by the president of BP/RAC that the brochures were totally financed by the French counterpart contribution and by assistance from the EEC, but added that the situation might not be the same in the future. He stated that the problem of Mediterranean Islands, which was not addressed by the main report, would be the subject on one of the brochures. Moreover, he expected that all brochures would be completed by the middle of 1989.

38. One delegation, supported by others, pointed out that as a result of the delay in producing the results of the Blue Plan exercise, and in view of the need to supervise the rest of the activities to be carried out by BP/RAC during 1989, inquired about the future role of the Steering Committee and whether the situation necessitated its continuance till the next meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee. One representative considered that there was no justification for prolonging the existing Steering Committee, which had terminated its activities on 27 September 1988.

39. The Chairman reminded the Committee that the decision of the Fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, September 1987) was clear in this regard. The Fifth Meeting had decided that the Steering Committee would perform its functions until the meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee in 1988. The Committee took note of the decision. However, it would be open to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Athens, Oct./Nov. 1988) to take a decision on this issue.

40. Some representatives raised the question of the post-Blue Plan period. One representative expressed the view that in that period the objective should be a practical approach to fulfil the needs of the Mediterranean countries. Another speaker considered that Blue Plan should continue beyond 1989 in order to monitor the changes and the evolution of the environment and undertake more in depth studies on the changes in environmental components.

41. One representative, supported by others, suggested that a small group of five or six experts from among the members of the Committee might be established to formulate alternative proposals for the future objectives, structure and organization of the Blue Plan. The proposals would be considered at the second session of the Socio-Economic Committee, which would submit its recommendations to the Contracting Parties in October 1989. One representative felt that the expanded Bureau should consider the need for establishing a small expert group which would define together with BP/RAC the general framework, scope and organizational structure of the work of the post-Blue Plan period. The relevant recommendations should be discussed during the next meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee in order to be recommended to the meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, 3-6 October 1989).

42. The Chairman reminded the meeting that the future of the Blue Plan exercise beyond 1989 was outside the scope and the authority of the Committee.

43. As regards the transfer of Blue Plan database from BP/RAC to the Co-ordinating Unit, the representatives were informed by the secretariat that the transfer was progressing well and would be completed by the end of 1988. A diskette on the Blue Plan database was distributed to each delegation with an informal manual for its use.

44. The computer expert of the Co-ordinating Unit demonstrated the use of the database, by means of projected slides, using a computer linked with an overhead projector.

45. The budget proposals, endorsed by the Steering Committee (UNEP(OCA)MED WG.2/3, paras 14-19) for the carrying out of the work plan recommendations for 1989 Blue Plan were presented and analysed by Mr. M. Batisse, President of BP/RAC.

46. The general feeling of the meeting was that the budget could be approved in terms of the total amount of money to be spent (\$350,000), although one representative expressed some reservations regarding consultants and travel and meeting expenses. Some minor alterations, nevertheless, were considered necessary regarding the more detailed and analytical presentation of the various items of the budget.

47. Another representative suggested that it would be very useful if the budget were presented in a more concrete manner by showing on what activities the funds of the 1989 budget would be spent and how the corresponding amounts of the 1988 budget had been spent.

48. The representative of Italy, while accepting the total figure of the budget for 1989, stated that he would have preferred a different distribution of the allocations. He considered that at this stage of the programme the Blue Plan should have given priority to the dissemination of the results of the scenarios. He suggested that any savings effected on the various items should be used for this purpose.

49. At this point the Chairman thanked France for its continued contribution to the Blue Plan Budget for 1989.

50. At the end of the discussion on the budget matters, the Committee took note of the progress report (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/3) and approved the budget of the Blue Plan for the year 1989 as contained in Annex IV to this report.

Agenda item 7. Progress report on the implementation of the Priority Actions Programme during 1987/1988 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for 1989

51. Mr. A. Pavasovic, Director of the Regional Activity Centre for the Priority Actions Programme introduced the report on the implementation of PAP in 1987, (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/4) and the progress report on the implementation of PAP in the period January - June 1988, (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/5). He informed the meeting on activities in the period June - September 1988, and referred to a number of new outputs (MAP TRS No. 14 - Aquaculture, documents for the training course on liquid waste treatment plants, for the training course on

the use of renewable sources of energy in the Mediterranean region, for the training course in integrated planning, and documents resulting from activities relating to three country pilot projects - Izmir, Syrian coast and Kastella bay).

52. In the period 1987 and up to September 1988, PAP/RAC had organized five workshops, four seminars, 19 missions and 12 expert meetings dealing with 10 priority actions. Three country pilot projects had been prepared, approved by national authorities and initiated, while one was in the final stage of preparation. A number of methodological documents had been prepared, as well as documents for three training courses (Liquid waste treatment, integrated planning, renewable energy sources) and three demonstration and two country-specific environmental impact assessments.

53. He reported on the start of the cooperative project for seismic risk mitigation in the region (funded by Italy, UNDP, UNDRO, UNESCO, UNIDO and PAP, with UNDP-OPS as implementing agency) and on the progress and expected start in November of the cooperative project on rainfall induced soil erosion, hosted by Spain. The aquaculture project was under consideration for hosting and funding by the Italian authorities. He expressed the hope that thanks to its catalytic role, PAP would secure additional outside funds, specially for the support of the preparation and implementation of the two additional country pilot projects still to be defined.

54. In 1988 PAP had had to contend with severe financial constraints. He hoped that the funds up to the level of the approved budget for 1988 would be secured by the end of the year.

55. He drew attention also to the documents "Experience of Interest for the Process of Integrated Planning and Environmentally sound managements of Mediterranean coastal zones through the PAP in the 1985-88 period", (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.8) and "PAP site specific country pilot projects, reasons and purpose", (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.9).

56. In concluding, he stressed the need for:

- further improvement of country participation in various priority actions;
- careful selection of experts as participants in actions related to selected specific topics;
- ensuring the necessary conditions for the implementation of MAP projects with UNEP as implementing agency, or a better understanding of the specific Mediterranean features of these projects when implemented by other UN agencies;
- to secure an updated flow of information about current on-going projects in the region in order to avoid duplication and overlapping of activities.

57. He acknowledged with thanks the most valuable contribution of the National Focal Points for PAP, of expert consultants and the support given by the host country.

58. During the ensuing debate the speakers expressed general satisfaction with the work being done by PAP/RAC under its energetic director. They expressed the hope that PAP/RAC would concentrate and orient its activities on fewer priority projects and strengthen the co-ordination of the various activities of the Centre. In this connection PAP/RAC was asked to prepare a comprehensive conceptual framework that would serve as a reference document for the next session of the Committee on the whole orientation of PAP.

59. One representative stated that certain topics were not at present covered by the activities of the Centre, and considered that, if they were to be covered, the budget of PAP might need to be supplemented by contributions from other sources. Another representative inquired what was the nature of the inter-relation between PAP and the Blue Plan. He suggested furthermore that greater prominence should be given to the computerized presentation of data relevant to PAP.

60. The delegation of Italy referred to the difficulties concerning the dissemination of the results of the programme; the difficulties were due to the diversity and number of the subjects dealt with. The Italian delegation suggested that, in addition to the publication of the results, use might be made of videocassettes and travelling exhibits illustrating the activities of PAP. It expressed its interest in the Rhodes pilot project for integrated planning, and described the initial activities of the Genoa Centre for seismic risk reduction. The delegation expressed its interest in the preparation of a programme on the environmental management of aquaculture in the Mediterranean region.

61. Concerning the cooperative project for seismic risk reduction (RER/87/022), the UNDP representative recalled that after the first Steering Committee meeting the participants had approved the project proposal in substance and that, as a result of the meeting's recommendations, a revised version of the project document had been circulated to all focal points. The internal UNDP and executing agency project appraisal having been completed, UNDP was now ready to authorise full project implementation, subject to the written endorsements by three UNDP assisted countries (of which one had been received) and the deposit of the Italian contribution, expected to materialize shortly. He took note with satisfaction of the advanced state of the preparation of project headquarters by the Genoa authorities, and pointed out that activities were continuing, ahead of full project approval, in order to avoid delays in the implementation of the agreed workplan.

62. The project attracted considerable attention from many speakers, who expressed the desire of their countries to participate in this project. One representative considered that the existing imbalance as regards the eligibility for assistance under this project should be corrected.

63. The Co-ordinator informed the Committee that the Expanded Bureau would review a paper on the refocussing of the Mediterranean Action Plan, that would deal among other matters with the future of the socio-economic activities. The object of the proposals made in the paper was to reduce the number of activities to those crucial to the protection of the Mediterranean, as work on some was completed or taken over by specialized centres. Concentration on pilot project would similarly test the MAP recipes, but would require the

close participation of funding institutions in order to make possible the implementation of measures. The Socio-Economic Committee at its 1989 meeting would comment on the specific items in the 1990-91 budget, reflecting the new approach, before its approval by the Sixth Ordinary Meeting of Contracting Parties.

64. Most of the speakers expressed great interest in the "country pilot project" approach, which was intended as an aid for dealing with specific technical problems affecting Mediterranean countries. In their opinion, this approach might well be applicable in all the regions of the Mediterranean; in this connection reference was made specifically to the Maghreb region. By following this approach PAP/RAC could - it was felt - be regarded as a technical centre for dealing with technical problems.

65. The representative of Turkey, reporting on the Izmir Pilot Project, said that the project was a joint activity for promoting the integrated planning of coastal zone management in the Izmir bay area. After extensive discussions between PAP and the Turkish Government and the local authority concerning waste-treatment, the bay eco-system and water resources management, the project had been started and priority given to four sub-projects:

- (1) the long-term monitoring and oceanographic programme of Izmir bay;
- (2) environmental impact assessment, stabilization ponds and the submarine outfall;
- (3) recovery of the inner bay of Izmir;
- (4) assimilative capacity of Izmir bay.

66. The representative of the World Bank pointed out that PAP activities were being observed with interest by the Bank, for those activities had a close affinity to the Bank's own Mediterranean programme. In particular, he said the Bank was interested in the country pilot projects which in his view was a correct approach to follow in assisting countries to tackle their specific environmental problems. He considered that there was a need for exchanges of information in order that the Bank could take the relevant information into account in its own report. He suggested that even more attention should be paid by PAP to integrated coastal planning, in line with the recommendations of the Blue Plan.

67. The French representative said that his delegation accepted the 1989 budget at its existing level but urged some restraint to avoid subsequent expansion. He expressed approval of the method of work of the Priority Actions Programme (PAP) in encouraging the creation of networks calling for the voluntary participation of States or institutions. Referring to the pilot projects, he expressed approval of this trend in the field work carried out by PAP, which should act as a catalyst in this respect. There must be a formal initiation of any pilot project e.g. by a letter committing the Government and the appropriate authorities of the country concerned.

68. Several representatives expressed the view that, for the purpose of avoiding duplication of effort, better co-ordination was needed of the activities undertaken by PAP/RAC and those undertaken by United Nations bodies or agencies. They pointed out that cases of undesirable overlapping had occurred in the past.

69. One delegation suggested that a national seminar might be organized to review the experience of the country concerned with PAP activities.

70. For the 1989 budget, several delegations formally requested:

- (i) That the secretariat should distinguish pilot projects under negotiation from those for which signatures of the appropriate authorities had been obtained; at the time of the November review, documents concerning the commitments of the political authorities of the States concerned should be made available to the Expanded Bureau;
- (ii) That, so far as possible, a graduated time-table for 1989 for workshops, meetings and seminars, might also be provided.

71. Concerning the 1989 budget proposal for PAP/RAC, the UNDP representative suggested that the last table of document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/6 be modified, so as to (i) avoid the impression that the Italian and UNEP contributions formed part of the PAP/RAC budget and (ii) reflect only the 1989 portions of these contributions as envisaged in the project budget for 1989.

72. The PAP/RAC Director gave a number of explanations related to the dissemination of documents, priorities, organisation of training courses, activities planned within country pilot projects, signature of documents related to the country pilot projects, coordination with the Blue Plan etc. He also suggested that the problems relating to the funds necessary for the participation of non-UNEP assisted countries in the seismic risk project should be considered by the next meeting of the Expanded Bureau.

73. He introduced the document "Proposed workplan and budget requirements for the Priority Actions Programme in 1989" (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/6). He stated that the proposed workplan had been approved by the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, September 1987) with minor adjustments, related to the progress achieved in the 1987-88 period.

74. He explained that the object of the proposed workplan was:

- (a) to secure through individual priority actions the most advanced international knowledge applicable in Mediterranean conditions, an appropriate methodological base, and to develop tools and techniques to be used in integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones;
- (b) to develop and monitor the implementation of the cooperative projects on seismic risk reduction, protection of soil from erosion and environmental management of aquaculture;
- (c) to prepare and organize training courses on application of renewable sources of energy, liquid waste treatment, integrated planning and on introduction of environmental impact assessment in the decision making process; and
- (d) to apply results and experiences in selected coastal zones within the PAP and MAP country pilot projects.

75. He stated that in conformity with the decisions taken by the Contracting Parties in 1987 (UNEP/IG.74/5) the budget for 1989 had remained at the level of the 1988 budget. Priority had been given to activities related to the integrated planning and management process in coastal zones and those related to the targets of Genoa Declaration.

76. After an extensive debate during which clarifications were provided by the Director of PAP/RAC concerning the reduction of costs for subcontracts and the increase for training and meetings, the Committee took note of the progress reports of PAP (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/4 and WG.2/5). It adopted the PAP workplan and budget for 1989, as it appears in Annex V to this report.

Agenda Item 8 - General Matters

77. The representatives of France and Algeria briefed the meeting on the activities being undertaken in their countries with a view to implementing the Genoa Declaration.

78. A suggestion was made that the secretariat should prepare for the November meeting of the Expanded Bureau a document on the experience gained during 1988 as regards the implementation of that Declaration.

79. The representative of the World Bank stated that in the context of the Bank's Environmental Programme for the Mediterranean and with a view to assisting governments concerned in giving effect to the Genoa Declaration, after a one-year study phase, the Bank was planning to complete a report in early-1989 and to organize in April 1989 a workshop to which the Mediterranean countries would be invited to send delegates. They would be asked to designate two delegates each, of whom one should be familiar with technical environmental questions and the other an official of the Ministry of Finance or Planning.

80. The representative of Libya drew attention to the problem of the discharge of chemical wastes in the Mediterranean which had a severe impact on the Environment. He urged Contracting Parties to make every effort to exchange relevant information about such waste and its disposal. The Coordinating Unit should prepare a report on the problem to be presented to the Expanded Bureau. He raised another point concerning the eutrophication of the Mediterranean sea which his country had experienced during the first week of July 1988. He suggested that a meeting of experts be organized to consider the matter.

81. The representative of Yugoslavia referred to the problem of the plankton bloom which had also affected his country.

82. The representative of France announced that the five laboratories recently authorized by the Government to study these subjects would be prepared to place the results of their research at the disposal of all countries participating in MAP.

83. The representative of Italy informed the meeting that steps had been taken by the Italian authorities and bodies to ensure the safe disposal of toxic wastes.

84. The representative of EEC reported on measures taken or envisaged by the Community for safeguarding the environment against contamination by dangerous substances.

85. Mr. Jeftic, Senior Marine Scientist of the Co-ordinating Unit stated that the secretariat attached great importance to the problem of eutrophication and plankton bloom. A UNESCO/FAO/UNEP scientific Workshop on Eutrophication in the Mediterranean Sea: Receiving Capacity and Monitoring of long-term Effects had been held in March 1987 in Bologna. The proceedings of the Workshop include 12 scientific papers on the subject as well as draft guidelines for the Monitoring, Assessment and Control of Eutrophication in the Mediterranean Sea (MAP technical reports series No. 21). He added that the Secretariat was planning to review draft guidelines, amend them if necessary and present them to the Scientific and Technical Committee for adoption. The Secretariat was co-ordinating its work on the subject with the similar work in the Commissions set up under the Baltic and Paris Conventions.

86. Some delegations considered that a list of consultants employed in 1986, 1987 and 1988 for all components of MAP should be provided to the Bureau and that steps should be taken to ensure diversification among the Mediterranean countries in the future.

87. At the suggestion of the secretariat, the Committee agreed that its next meeting would be held in Athens in June 1989.

Agenda Item 9 - Adoption of the report

88. The Committee adopted its report on 29 September 1988.

Agenda Item 10 - Closure of the meeting

89. After the customary exchange of courtesies the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

ALBANIA
ALBANIE
(observer)

Mr. Vangjel Dheri
Premier Secrétaire
Ambassade de la République Populaire
Socialiste d'Albanie
1, rue Karachristou
Kolonaki
Athènes 115 21
Grèce

Tel. No. 7234412-7242607
Tlx No. 210351 AMAL

Mr. Gjergj Rrembeci
Ambassade de la République Populaire
Socialiste d'Albanie
1, rue Karachristou
Kolonaki
Athènes 115 21
Grèce

Tel. No. 7234412-7242607
Tlx No. 210351 AMAL

ALGERIA
ALGERIE

Mr. Hamza Redouane
Sous-Directeur
Ministère de l'Hydraulique de
l'Environnement et des Forêts
Algiers
Algérie

Tel. No. 58 95 00
Tlx No. 62560 MHYD DZ

CYPRUS
CHYPRE

Mr. Antonis L. Antoniou
Environmental Conservation Service
Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Nicosia
Cyprus

Tel. No. (02) 302586
Tlx No. 4660 MINAGRI CY

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
EUROPEENNE

M. Jacques Vaccarezza
Administrateur Principal
Direction générale de l'Environnement, de
la protection des consommateurs et de la
sécurité nucléaire
Commission des Communautés européennes
200 rue de la Loi
1049 Bruxelles
Belgique

Tel. No. 32-2-235 51 08
Tlx No. 21877 COMEU B
Cable: COMEUR BRUXELLES
Tlfax: 32-2-236 01 44

Mr. Gernot Muller
Expert
Direction générale de l'Environnement, de
la protection des consommateurs et de la
sécurité nucléaire
Commission des Communautés européennes
200 rue de la Loi
1049 Bruxelles
Belgique

Tel. No. 32-2-235 51 08
Tlx No. 21877 COMEU B

EGYPT
EGYPTE

Mr. El Mohamady Eid
Chairman
Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency
Cabinet of Ministers
11 Hassan Sabry St.
Zamalek
Cairo
Egypt

Tel. No. 34 03 809, 3416546
Tlx No. 93794 WAZRA UN

Ms Hoda Hanafi
Under Secretary for Information and
Supervisor of Financial and
Administrative Department
Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency
11 Hassan Sabry St.
Zamalek
Cairo
Egypt

Tel. No. 34 13 769
Tlx No. 93794 WAZRA UN

FRANCE
FRANCE

Mr. Serge Antoine
Ministère de l'Environnement
14, Bld du Général Leclerc
92 524 Neuilly s/Seine Cedex
France

Tel. No. 47 58 12 12
Tlx No. 620602 F
Tlfax (1) 47450474

Mme Elisabeth Laurin
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Direction des Affaires Economiques
et Financières, Affaires Générales
37, Quai d'Orsay
75 007 Paris
France

Tel. No. 47 53 44 84

GREECE
GRECE

Mr. Yannis Vournas
Director of the Environmental Division
PERPA
147, Patission Avenue
11 251 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 86 20 557
Tlx No. 216028 DYPP GRT

Ms Athena Mourmouris
MAP Liaison Officer
In charge Environmental Engineer
PERPA
147, Patission Avenue
11 251 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 86 50 053
Tlx No. 216028 DYPP GRT

Mr. Dimitris Tsotsos
Environmentalist
Chemical Engineer - Environmentalist
National Focal Point for PAP and BP
Ministry for the Environment, Physical
Planning and Public Works
147, Patission Str.
11 251 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 86 50 053
Tlx No. 216028 DYPP GRT

Mr. P. Zikos
Mathematician - Environmentalist
National Focal Point for INFOTERRA
147, Patission Str.
11 251 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 86 50 053
Tlx No. 216028 DYPP GRT

ISRAEL
ISRAEL

Mr. Amram Pruginin
Environmental Protection Service
Ministry of the Interior
P.O. Box 6158
91061 Jerusalem
Israel

Tel. No. 02 66 01 51
Tlx No. 26162 IEPS IL

ITALY
ITALIE

Mr. Giuliano Fierro
Ordinario di Sedimentologia
Istituto di Geologia
Cattedra di Sedimentologia
Università di Genova
Corso Europa 30
16132 Genova
Italia

Tel. No. 3538270/2 - 500794
Tlx No. (43) 271.114

M. Franco Ciarnelli
Consultant to Italian Foreign Ministry
for Mediterranean Environment
Via Barnaba Oriani 73
00197 Rome
Italie

Tel. No. (6) 878323/878334
Tlx No. 611557 CFSROM

LEBANON
LIBAN

Mr. Elias Maalouf
Directeur des Etudes
CNRS (Conseil National
de la Recherche Scientifique)
B.P. 166309
Beyrouth
Liban

Tel. No. 00961 338791 and 952310
Tlx No. CESI 44015 LE

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
JAMAHIRIYA ARABE LIBYENNE

Mr. Yusef Elmehrik
Director
Technical Centre for Environment Protection
P.O.Box 83618
Tripoli
Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Tel. No. 48452
Tlx No. 20381 - Health LY

MALTA
MALTE

Mr. Carmel Cacopardo
Head
Environment Division
Ministry of Education and Environment
Beltissebh
Valletta
Malta

Tel. No. (00356) 23 54 86
Tlx No. 1115 MEE MT

MOROCCO
MAROC

Mr. Abdelkader Lahmidi
Ministry of Interior
Rabat-Chellah
Rabat
Maroc

Tel. No. 64384
Tlx No. MININT 32785 M

SPAIN
ESPAGNE

Mr. Santiago Gonzalez Alonso
Sous-Directeur Général de Planification
et Normative
Direction Général de l'Environnement
Ministère des Travaux Publics et Urbanisme
Paseo de la Castellana 67
28 071 Madrid
Espagne

Tel. No. 2.54.75.45
Tlx No. 22325 MINOP E

Mr. Pedro Costa Morata
Consultant
Direction Général de l'Environnement
Ministère des Travaux Publics et Urbanisme
Paseo de la Castellana 67
28 071 Madrid
Espagne

Tel. No. 4.01.25.50
Tlx No. 22325 MINOP E

SYRIA
SYRIE

Mr. Ibrahim Issa
Ministry of State for Environment
Council of the Prime Minister
Shahbander Street
Damascus
Syria

Tel. No. 21 00 99
Tlx No. SYTROL 411903 SY

Mr. Mamdouh Zaarour
Minister Counsellor
Syrian Embassy
Marathonodromou Street 79
Paleo Psychico
154 52 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 6725577

TUNISIA
TUNISIE

Mme Hedia Baccar
Directeur de l'Environnement
Ministère de l'Agriculture
30, rue Alain Savary
Tunis 1002
Tunisie

Tel. No. 78447
Tlx No. 13378 MINAGR TN

TURKEY
TURQUIE

Ms Nuran Talu
General Directorate for Environment
Office of the Prime Minister
Atatürk Bulvari No. 143
Bakanliklar - Ankara
Turkey

Tel. No. (00904) 1174455 poste 296
Tlx No. 18944620 BBCGM TR Through 100
Tlfax (00904) 117.79.71

Ms Nesrin Algan
General Directorate for Environment
Atatürk Bulvari No. 143
Bakanliklar - Ankara
Turkey

Tel. No. (00904) 1174455 poste 296
Tlx No. 18944620 BBCGM TR Through 100
Tlfax (00904) 117.79.71

YUGOSLAVIA
YUGOSLAVIE

Mr. Tito Kosty
Director
Department for Environmental Protection
Committee of Housing, Building and
Environmental Protection of the SR
Croatia
Marulicev Trg 16
41 000 Zagreb
Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Tel. No. 44 85 51
Tlx No. 22120 YU TANZG

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER
ORGANIZATIONS
REPRESENTANTS DES NATIONS UNIES, INSTITUTIONS SPECIALISEES ET AUTRES
ORGANISATIONS

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT

Mr. Hanz Kurz
United Nations Development Programme
European Office
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Tel. No. 98-58-50
Cable: UNDEVPRO GENEVA

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET
L'AGRICULTURE

Mr. Gabriel P. Gabrielides
Senior Fishery Officer
(Marine Pollution)
FAO Project Office
Co-ordinating Unit for the
Mediterranean Action Plan
P.O. Box 18019
48, Vassileos Konstantinou Ave.
116 10 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 72 44 536
Tlx No. 22-2611 MEDU GR

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTE

Mr. Louis J. Saliba
Senior Scientist
WHO/EURO Project Office
Co-ordinating Unit for the
Mediterranean Action Plan
P.O. Box 18019
48, Vassileos Konstantinou Ave.
116 10 Athens
Greece

Tel. No. 72 44 536
Tlx No. 22-2611 MEDU GR

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECON-
STRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (IBRD)
BANQUE INTERNATIONALE (BIRD)

Mr. Peter Whitford
Environment Division
EMENA Technical Department
World Bank
1818 H. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
U.S.A.

Tel. No. 202-473 2502
Tlx No. 248423 WORLD BANK

REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES DU PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE

REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTER
FOR THE BLUE PLAN
CENTRE D'ACTIVITE REGIONALE
POUR LE PLAN BLEU

M. Michel Batisse
President
BP/RAC
Place Sophie Laffitte
Sophia Antipolis
06560 VALBONNE
France

Tel. No. 0033/93/74 26 00
Tlx No. 970005 CAR PB

M. Michel Grenon
Directeur scientifique du Plan Bleu
Place Sophie Laffitte
Sophia Antipolis
06560 VALBONNE
France

Tel. No. 0033/93/74 26 00
Tlx No. 970005 CAR PB

Mr. Ibrahim Helmi Abdel-Rahman
Blue Plan Consultant
9, Talaat Harb Street
Cairo
Egypt

Tel. No. 3932952

4. REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE
FOR THE PRIORITY ACTIONS
PROGRAMME
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONAL
POUR LE PROGRAMME D' ACTIONS
PRIORITAIRES

Mr. Arsen Pavasovic
Director
PAP Regional Activity Centre
Urbanisticki Zavod Dalmacije
Kraj Sv. Ivana 11
58000 SPLIT
Yugoslavia

Tel. No. 003858/43499
Tlx No. 26477 YU URBS

Mr. I. Trumbic
PAP Regional Activity Centre
Urbanisticki Zavod Dalmacije
Kraj Sv. Ivana 11
58000 SPLIT
Yugoslavia

Tel. No. 003858/43499
Tlx No. 26477 YU URBS

ANNEX II

AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Rules of Procedure
3. Election of Officers
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Organization of work
6. Progress report on the implementation of Blue Plan during 1987/1988 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for 1989
7. Progress report on the implementation of Priority Actions Programme during 1987/1988 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for 1989
8. General Matters
9. Adoption of Report
10. Closure of the Meeting

ANNEX III

List of Documents

Working documents

UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/1	Agenda
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/2	Annotated Agenda
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/3	Progress report on the implementation of the Blue Plan during 1987/1988 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for 1989
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/4	Progress report on the implementation of the Priority Actions Programme during 1987
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/5	Progress report on the implementation of the Priority Actions Programme covering the period January - June 1988
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/6	Proposed activities and budgetary requirements for the Priority Actions Programme in 1989
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/7	Report of the Meeting.

Information documents

UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.1	List of documents
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.2	List of participants

BLUE PLAN

UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.3	Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Blue Plan, Sophia Antipolis, 8-9 December 1987
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UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.4	Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Blue Plan, Sophia Antipolis, 21-22 June 1988
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.5	Future of the Mediterranean Basin (Environment and Development 2000-2025)
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.6	Future of the Mediterranean Basin "Executive Summary and Suggestions for Action"
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.7	Report on the transfer of Blue Plan database to the Coordinating Unit, Athens (English only)

PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME

UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.8	Experience of interest for the process of integrated planning and environmentally sound management of Mediterranean coastal zones obtained through the Priority Actions Programme in the 1985-1988 period (English only)
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/Inf.9	Priority Actions Programme site - Specific country pilot projects: Reasons and purpose (Explanatory paper)

Reference Documents

UNEP/IG.74/5	Report of the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols (Athens, 7-11 September 1987)
UNEP/BUR/31	Report of the meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols (Athens, 18 February 1988)
UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.1/12	Report of the First Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee (Athens, 23-27 May 1988)
UNEP/WG.170/9	Report of the Meeting of the National Focal Points for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP), Split, 24-26 June 1987
UNEP/WG.171/5	Report of the Meeting of the National Focal Points for the Blue Plan (BP), Sophia Antipolis, 20-22 July 1987

ANNEX IV

Blue Plan

1. Activities carried out in 1988

From the Blue Plan budget approved by the Contracting parties, amounting to 420,000 dollars for 1988, only 360,000 dollars are available, and the uncertainty on availability of funds over the years as well as the depreciation of the US dollar have raised serious difficulties. As a result of this financial situation certain activities foreseen in 1988 by the Contracting Parties (document UNEP/IG.74/5) had to be postponed. These include in particular the finalization and publication of thematic fascicules, the updating of the annotated data bases, the assistance to countries in the preparation of national scenarios, the organization of a workshop for exchange of information and the assistance on the development of methodologies. Activities carried out in 1988 have concentrated on the rewriting of the main report on scenarios and of the executive summary the preparation of thematic brochures (4 of which being finalized) and the transfer and dissemination of the socio-economic data base

2. Workplan 1989

- a) To complete the publication of the main report on scenarios, the executive summary, the databases and the thematic brochures in English and French (the main report in English and French and the executive summary in English, French and Arabic will be available in document form by November 1988),
- b) to facilitate wide publication of these documents in other languages and to ensure their widest possible dissemination among decision makers and the public,
- c) to respond to the requests of countries for advice and consultation on methodology and preparation of national and coastal scenarios,
- d) to organize a technical workshop on exchange of experience, and methodology for environment/development prospective studies,
- e) to update and improve the socio-economic and environmental Mediterranean data bases and monitor the evolution of key indicators.

BP Budget for 1989

3. <u>Budget 1989</u>	Proposed U.S. \$
1. PERSONNEL	
(a) Experts/staff	
- Technical expert	70,000
(b) Consultants	
- Scientific adviser (part time)	50,000
- Consultants (for workshop and visits to countries)	35,000
(c) <u>Administrative support</u>	
- Statistician (part time)	20,000
- Secretary/documentalist	30,000
2. TRAVEL ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS	
Missions to countries and to meetings	30,000
3. Sub-Contracts	Nil
4. TRAINING AND MEETINGS	
Workshop on exchanges and methodology for producing national and coastal scenarios	60,000
5. EQUIPMENT	Nil
6. RENTAL AND MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES	Nil
7. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	10,000
Gathering and updating of information	
8. REPORTING COSTS	
Translations, publications, information dissemination	30,000
9. SUNDRY	15,000
Grand Total	350,000

Note:

Other costs covered by the French counterpart contribution.

ANNEX V

WORKPLAN FOR PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME IN 1989

The Workplan has been presented in the following three groups:

- A. Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones (activities which fall within the frame of various priority actions and which are oriented towards integrated planning and management; methodology, tools and techniques for integrated planning; PAP country pilot projects).
- B. Regional co-operative projects (seismic risk reduction, soil erosion, environmental management of aquaculture).
- C. General support to PAP.

A. Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones

A.1, A.2 = \$ 185,000

1. Activities related to the "Integrated Planning" priority action:

- dissemination, promotion and testing of the Common Methodological Framework for Integrated Planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Zones through its application in CPPs, training courses and missions;
- preparation of a Workshop on the application of advanced systems of data collection, processing and handling, and on other techniques for integrated planning of coastal zones applicable in the Mediterranean countries;
- preparatory activities for training on the application of advanced tools and techniques in the process of integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones.

2. Approved PAP site-specific projects (CPPs)

(a) CPP - The Syrian coast:

- finalization of the preliminary study for the integrated plan;
- presentation of the study to the host Government together with recommendations for immediate action;
- preparation, with national experts, of a programme proposal for the integrated plan of the Syrian coast.

(b) CPP - The Izmir Bay (Turkey):

- finalization and presentation to the host Government of EIA on stabilization ponds;
- further work on studies related to the Bay recovery, and to the liquid waste treatment project (consultancy);

- application of results related to seismic risk reduction;
- co-operation and assistance in institution building and training of experts from the Environmental Department of the Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir;
- training and preparatory activities related to the preliminary study for the integrated plan of the area of Izmir.

(c) CPP - The Kastela Bay (Yugoslavia):

- co-operation and assistance within the ongoing project "Managemet of Natural Resources of the Kastela Bay":
 - training of experts involved in the project on selected topics;
 - preparation of an inventory of polluters;
 - assessment of the ecological capacity of the Bay;
 - definition of criteria for the disposal of waste water in the Bay;
 - formulation of local effluent and stream standards;
 - definition of a monitoring and information system.

(d) PAP involvement in a MAP-level CPP - Rhodes (Greece). Pilot project under negotiation:

- co-operation and assistance in activities related to the rehabilitation of the historic centre;
- application of results related to seismic risk reduction;
- co-operation and assistance in water resources management and prevention of pollution and sea water intrusion in the aquifers;
- co-operation and assistance in dealing with the problems of liquid waste treatment and discharge;
- training and preparatory activities to lead to the preliminary study of the integrated plan;
- formulation of a proposal for the preparation of an integrated plan of the area of Rhodes.

(e) Preparatory activities related to:

- the area of Paphos in Cyprus (formulation of a programme to be implemented in the period 1990-1991);
- formulation of the 1990-1991 programme to be implemented in one of the Maghreb countries.

3. Water resources management in Mediterranean islands and isolated coastal areas

\$ 40,000

- (a) Code of Practice for reuse of treated municipal waste water for irrigation will be prepared, if possible in cooperation of a reputed regional institution and with a partial financial

support of the host country.

- (b) A Workshop will be prepared and organized to evaluate and amend the Code of Practice for reuse;
- (c) A general model of aquifers for Mediterranean islands will be prepared, as well as materials for a training course which will use this model;
- (d) A direct cooperation with interested countries will be achieved through expert missions or within the frame of ongoing CPPs;
- (e) A volume on the Reuse of Treated Municipal Waste Water for Irrigation and Other Purposes will be published within MAP Technical Report Series.

4. Rehabilitation and reconstruction of Mediterranean historic settlements

\$ 45,000

- (a) Documents will be prepared and a workshop organized on the evaluation of urban and architectural heritage in the Mediterranean.
- (b) First part of the Guidelines for the integrated process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of Mediterranean historic settlements will be completed. It will comprise issues relative to architectural survey and the analysis of the actual state, the studying and presenting the spatial development of historic buildings and towns, and the evaluation of urban and architectural heritage.
- (c) Training and missions in interested countries will be organized as part of ongoing CPPs.
- (d) Cooperation in the frame of the action on 100 historic settlements of a common Mediterranean interest.

5. Development of Mediterranean tourism in harmony with the environment

\$ 40,000

- (a) A Workshop will be prepared and organized to discuss, evaluate and amend the draft guidelines for an environmental approach to the planning and management of tourism in Mediterranean coastal zones (the draft will be completed in the course of 1988).
- (b) Dissemination and promotion of Guidelines.
- (c) Expert missions will be envoyed to interested countries to assist in the preparation of EIA of tourist facilities or zones.

6. Renewable energies

\$ 45,000

- (a) A training course on the practical application of renewable

energies in Mediterranean conditions will be prepared and organized with the assistance and cooperation of a reputed international institution and the host country.

- (b) Training documents produced in English will be translated into French and disseminated for use in interested countries.

7. Solid and liquid waste collection, treatment and disposal

\$ 60,000

- (a) A training course will be organized on the management and maintenance of urban waste water treatment plants, with the assistance and in cooperation of a reputed international institution and with a partial financial support of the host country.
- (b) One Workshop will be organized to review, evaluate and amend Draft Code of Practice for Solid Waste Management; and the other will be convened on Draft Code of Practice for Liquid Waste Management (both Drafts will be completed in 1988).

8. Environmental Impact Assessment

\$ 40,000

- (a) EIAs on three specific sites in Morocco will be produced and an expert meeting will be organized to evaluate them.
- (b) Together with MEDU and OCA/PAC, an expert meeting will be organized to evaluate the simplified EIA procedure and to produce the final text of the document.
- (c) In cooperation and support of OCA/PAC, a regional training will be organized on the application of the simplified EIA in Mediterranean conditions.

B. Mediterranean co-operative projects

\$ 75,000

1. Co-operative project: Seismic Risk Reduction in the Mediterranean Region.

- (a) The project was launched in 1988 as an UNDP project (RER/87/022), Italy being the host country. In 1989, PAP will participate in the work of the Steering Committee and provide consultancy on selected subjects dealt with within various priority fields.
- (b) Within the frame of ongoing CPPs, two expert missions will be envoyed to exchange experience with local experts on the use of seismic risk reduction procedures in land use planning and in the integrated planning process.

2. Co-operative project: Definition of Ecological Criteria for the Rational Development of Aquaculture in Mediterranean Coastal Zones

- (a) Activities will be undertaken and appropriate conditions created

for the implementation of the project. If necessary, the project will be re-formulated in accordance with available funds and conditions in the potential host country.

- (b) Co-operation and assistance will be secured in the identification and protection of aquaculture sites, as well as in setting up environmentally sound projects within ongoing CPPs and in other interested countries.

3. Inventory and Network of Erosion Measurements in the Mediterranean Region for an Environmentally Sound Land Management.

- (a) Activities will be undertaken and conditions created for the outset of the first phase of the project (Spain as the host country, and ICONA as the host institution), in collaboration with the General Directorate for the Environment.
- (b) Documents will be completed for presentation at two envisaged Workshops.
- (c) The two Workshops will be prepared and organized: one, on the state of art and problems related to the preparation of soil erosion maps; and the other, on the state of art and problems related to rainfall erosion.
- (d) Following the recommendations of these two Workshops, a programme for the second phase of activities will be formulated (for implementation in 1990-1992).

C. General support to PAP

\$ 180,000

Provisions will be made for securing (a) continuous management and coordination of the Programme as a whole; (b) cooperation with the MAP Co-ordinating Unit and its other components; (c) collaboration with UN Agencies and international institutions; (d) cooperation with the National Focal Points of the Contracting Parties; and (e) reporting on the progress achieved in PAP activities.

Financial statements and progress reports will be prepared and submitted regularly, as required.

PAP Bulletin (in English, French and Arabic) will be issued quarterly.

Progress report on the implementation of PAP, as well as a Workplan and budget proposal for the 1990-1991 biennium will be prepared for submission to the next Socio-Economic Committee to be held in 1989.

Additional word processing units, telefax, and new telex will be provided.

A data basis will be set up according to the priority actions, and harmonized with the MAP data basis.

Also, a PAP documentation network will be set up. It will be available to the institutions and experts of the Contracting Parties, as well as for other interested users.

PAP budget for 1989

	m/m	Proposed for 1989 in US \$
1. PERSONNEL		
(a) Experts		
- Director	6	35,000
- Project Co-ordinator	6	20,000
(b) Consultants		175,000
(c) Administrative support		50,000
Component total		280,000
2. TRAVEL		32,000
3. SUBCONTRACTS		62,000
4. TRAINING AND MEETINGS		249,000
5. EQUIPMENT		
(a) Expendable		4,000
(b) Non-expendable		9,000
Component total		13,000
6. RENTAL AND MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES		-
7. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT		4,000
8. REPORTING COSTS		28,000
9. SUNDRY		42,000
GRAND TOTAL		710,000

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ACTIVITIES AND TO PAP/RAC BY HOST COUNTRIES
(Indicative figures)

		Contribution by host country or institutions in 000 US \$
A.	<u>Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones</u>	
1.	Integrated planning and management: Country pilot projects	300 Kastela bay* 300 Izmir* 200 Syrian coast* Rhodes
3.	Water resources	1,500 EEC Malta project
4.	Historic settlements	20 Workshop part. - host country
5.	Tourism	20 Workshop part. - host country
6.	Renewable energies	40 Training course CIEMAT part. and host country
7.	Solid & liquid waste management	30 CEFIGRE and host country
8.	EIA	25 Izmir 25 Cyprus Morocco UNEP-OCA/PAC
B.	<u>Multilateral co-operative projects</u>	
1.	Reduction of seismic risk	1,900 Italy & UN agenc. (UNDP Project)
2.	Aquaculture	under negotiation
3.	Soil protection	75 Spain, ICONA
3.	<u>Support</u>	180 Host country

* estimated by PAP/RAC, in cash and kind