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94th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Izola, Slovenia, 20-21 June 2023

Agenda Item 3: Progress Report for November 2022 – April 2023

Progress Report by the Secretariat on the Implementation of COP22 Decisions

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2023

LEGEND

	N/A
RED	**NOT ON TRACK**
ORANGE	**NOT STARTED**
YELLOW	**ON TRACK**
GREEN	**COMPLETED**

PROGRESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COP22 DECISIONS

COP 22 DECISION	OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH	Status / PoW activities initiated	2022				2023			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Decision IG.25/1 UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2027	1. *Adopt* the UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2027 (hereinafter referred to as "the MTS 2022-2027 "), set out in the Annex to this Decision, as key strategic framework for the development and implementation of the Programmes of Work of UNEP/MAP;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Call upon* Contracting Parties to fully take part and contribute to its implementation with the support from the Secretariat and MAP components to achieve its vision and concrete results on the ground;	***YELLOW***								
	3. *Urge* MAP Partners, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry, the private sector and other stakeholders to collaborate and support the implementation of the MTS, ensuring synergy, harmonization of efforts, and optimization of the use of resources, avoiding duplication;	***YELLOW***								
	4. *Request* the Secretariat to maximize efforts for the implementation of the MTS in an integrated manner and for the mobilization of adequate resources and reach out, in cooperation with Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders;	***YELLOW*** **5.2.5.b.**								

	5. *Request also* the Secretariat to monitor and report on the MTS implementation on the basis of each biennial Programme of Work as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, highlighting the contribution of the Programmes of Work to the achievement of the MTS objectives, strategic outcomes and related targets and update to this aim the MAP Resource Mobilization Strategy for its implementation.	***YELLOW*** **5.2.5.a.**								
Decision IG.25/2 Compliance Committee	1. *Take note* of the Activity Report of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2020-2021, set out in Annex I to the present Decision, that contains proposed amendments to the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and the Rules of Procedure of the Compliance Committee;	***GREEN*** **5.2.4.**								
	2. *Request* the Secretariat to undertake a consultation process as soon as possible and not later than January 2023 with the Contracting Parties with a view to review the proposed amendments and report on the outcome at COP 23;	***YELLOW*** **5.2.4.c.**								
	3. *Adopt* the Programme of Work of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2022-2023, set out in Annex II to the present Decision;	***GREEN*** **5.2.4.**								
	4. *Urge* those Contracting Parties who have not yet submitted their national implementation reports for the biennium 2018-2019 to do so, as soon as possible;	***YELLOW*** **5.1.1.f.**								
	5. *Invite* the Contracting Parties to submit their national implementation reports for the biennium 2020-2021 using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System by December 2022;	***YELLOW*** **5.1.1.f., 5.1.3., 5.3.3.**								
	6. *Elect and/or renew*, in accordance with the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance, the membership of the Compliance Committee, set out in Annex IV to the present Decision;	***GREEN***								
	7. *Request* the Compliance Committee to report to the Contracting Parties at COP 23 on the work it has carried out to fulfil its functions in	***YELLOW***								

	accordance with paragraph 31 of the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.									
<u>Decision IG.25/3</u> **Governance**	1. *Renew* their commitment to the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach and endorse the Governance Mechanism for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach policy in the Mediterranean, set out in Annex I to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **5.1.2.**								
	2. *Approve* the draft Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between UNEP/MAP and the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) and between UNEP/MAP and the Parliamentary of the Mediterranean (PAM), set out in Annex II to this Decision, and request the Secretariat to proceed towards their signature;	***GREEN*** **5.4.1.b.**								
	3. *Also approve* the update of the Appendix of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNEP/MAP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations / General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (FAO/GFCM), set out in Annex III to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **5.4.1.b.**								
	4. *Endorse* the list of new and renewed MAP Partners, set out in Annex IV to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **5.4.2.a., 5.4.2.b.**								
	5. *Note with appreciation* the contribution of all partners to the work of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system, including in the difficult period of the Covid-19 pandemic, as an attestation of increased commitment and enhanced collaboration in the Mediterranean region for achieving the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention objectives and vision;	***GREEN*** **5.4.2.a., 5.4.2.b.**								
	6. *Encourage* the Secretariat to continue reaching out and working closely with partners to further strengthen and enhance collaboration and governance for the protection of the marine environment and coastal region and promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean;	***YELLOW*** **5.4.2.a., 5.4.2.b., 7.2.4.a.**								
	7. *Approve* the membership of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) for the biennium 2022-2023, set out in	***GREEN***								

	Annex V to this Decision;	**5.2.2.**								
	8. *Endorse* the MCSD's recommendation to adjust paragraph 9.II. of the MCSD Composition in the MCSD Constitutive Documents (Decision IG.22/17), so that the mandate of the MCSD Members under the group of parliamentarians may be renewable for more than one additional term taking into consideration the need for rotation and for geographical balance to the extent possible, and request the Secretariat to reflect this amendment in the MCSD Constitutive Documents (Decision IG.22/17);	***GREEN*** **5.2.2.**								
	9. *Adopt* the "Common Operational Principles for MAP Components", set out in Annex VI to this Decision, and request the governments of MAP Components' Host Countries to take the necessary measures to implement them.	***YELLOW***								
<u>Decision IG.25/4</u> **Assessment Studies**	1. *Endorse* the Summary for Policy-Makers (SPM) of the first Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) on the current situation and risks for the future of climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean basin, set out in Annex I to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to take concrete steps to address the issues raised in Annex I to this Decision in their environmental and sectoral policies;	***YELLOW***								
	3. *Urge* the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat to make all possible efforts to overcome the knowledge gaps identified in MAR 1;	***YELLOW***								
	4. *Invite* the Contracting Parties to provide adequate and sustained support, to MedECC, and its science-policy-society interface within the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system, and encourage larger participation from all the Mediterranean and women scientists;	***YELLOW*** **3.3.1.**								
	5. *Request* the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) to continue its institutional support to MedECC hosting its secretariat and make efforts in collaboration with MAP Partner Institutions and Organizations and Contracting Parties to	***GREEN*** **5.4.3.a.**								

	provide the necessary financial support to MedECC work and operation;										
	6. *Request* the Secretariat to further mainstream the results of MAR1 and other results stemming from MedECC into relevant UNEP/MAP work, in particular the MED 2050 Foresight exercise, the Mediterranean Observatory on the Environment and Development managed by Plan Bleu in collaboration with UNEP-GRID, and to continue the dissemination and communication of MAR1 and its SPM;	***YELLOW*** **6.1.1.a, 6.3.15.**									
	7. *Request* the Secretariat and invite the Contracting Parties to properly disseminate the results of the MAR1 and its Summary for Policy makers in all relevant national and international fora beyond Barcelona Convention.	***YELLOW*** **7.1.1.b.**									
<u>Decision IG.25/5</u> Amendments to Annexes I, II, and IV to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities	1. *Adopt* the amendments to the Annexes I, II and IV to the LBS Protocol, set out in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***									
	2. *Agree*, in accordance with Article 23 (2) (iv), to determine a period of 60 days since the adoption of this Decision, within which, any Contracting Party that is unable to approve the amendments to so notify the Depositary in writing;	***GREEN***									
	3. *Request* the Depositary to communicate without delay to all Contracting Parties the adopted amendments, pursuant to article 23 (2) (iii) of the Barcelona Convention.	***GREEN***									
<u>Decision IG.25/6</u> Amendments to the Annex to the Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the	1. *Adopt* the amendments to the Annex to the Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea, set out in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***									
	2. *Agree*, in accordance with Article 23 (2) (iv), to determine a period of 60 days since the adoption of this Decision, within which, any Contracting Party that is unable to approve the amendments to notify so the Depositary	***GREEN***									

Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea	in writing;									
	3. *Request* the Depositary to communicate without delay to all Contracting Parties the adopted amendments, pursuant to article 23 (2) (iii) of the Barcelona Convention.	***GREEN***								
<u>Decision IG.25/7</u> Amendments to the Annexes to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil	1. *Adopt* the Amended Annexes I, II, III, IV and VII A to the Offshore Protocol, set out in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to control and timely report on the harmful and noxious substances and materials listed in Annexes I and II, using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS), in line with the reporting obligations under Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 30 of the Offshore Protocol;	***YELLOW*** **1.2.4.**								
	3. *Welcome* the collaborative approach and support offered by industry partners with a view to establishing an effective and sustainable framework to facilitate the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan;	***GREEN***								
	4. *Agree,* in accordance with Article 23 (2) (iv), to determine a period of 60 days since the adoption of this Decision, within which, any Contracting Party that is unable to approve the amendments to notify so in writing the Depositary;	***GREEN***								
	5. *Request* the Depositary to communicate without delay to all Contracting Parties the adopted amendments, pursuant to article 23 (2) of the Barcelona Convention.	***GREEN***								
<u>Decision IG.25/8</u> Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and	1. *Adopt* the Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater Treatment in the framework of Article 15 of the Land-based Sources Protocol, set out in Annex I to this decision;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Adopt* the Regional Plan on Sewage Sludge Management in the framework of Article15 of the Land-based Sources Protocol, set out in	***GREEN***								

Sewage Sludge Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol	Annex III to this decision;									
	3. *Adopt* the work plans with timetables for the implementation of articles of the Regional Plan on Urban Wastewater Treatment and the Regional Plan on Sewage Sludge Management, set out in Annexes II and IV to this decision, respectively;	***GREEN***								
	4. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to effectively implement the Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge Management and to report to the Secretariat, accordingly, as provided for in its Article 19;	***YELLOW***								
	5. *Request* the Secretariat (MED POL) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the measures provided for in the Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and on Sewage Sludge Management;	***YELLOW***								
	6. *Urge* the Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations, donor agencies, industry, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support the implementation of the different measures of the Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and on Sewage Sludge Management by providing sufficient financial, technical and scientific contribution.	***YELLOW***								
<u>Decision IG.25/9</u> **Amendments to the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the**	1. *Adopt* the amendments to the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land-based Sources Protocol, hereinafter referred to as "the Regional Plan on Marine Litter", set out in Annex I to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Adopt* the following Annexes to this Decision: (a) Annex II – "Work Plan with timetable for the implementation of relevant Articles of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter" to guide and facilitate the work of the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties on priority measures with regards to the implementation of the Regional Plan and mobilize external resources for this purpose, as appropriate;	***GREEN***								

Land Based Sources Protocol	(b) Annex III – "Potential Research Topics" to promote and support scientific research by the Contracting Parties and scientific community to fill the knowledge gaps on marine litter sources and impacts as well as to support implementation of relevant measures; (c) Annex IV – "2021 Baseline Values and Threshold Values for IMAP Common Indicator 22" to facilitate the assessment of Good Environmental Status in the Mediterranean, under the IMAP Ecological Objective 10 on Marine Litter;									
	3. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to effectively implement the Regional Plan on Marine Litter and its measures and to report to the Secretariat, accordingly, as provided for in its Article 19;	***YELLOW***								
	4. *Request* the Secretariat (MED POL and SCP/RAC (MedWaves)) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the measures provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter, specifically through the provision of support for the implementation of technical guidelines developed in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)-Barcelona Convention system, including the new Guidelines to tackle Single Use Plastic Products in the Mediterranean (UNEP MED WG.515/Inf.23);	***YELLOW***								
	5. *Request* the Secretariat (MED POL and SCP/RAC (MedWaves)) to promote the work undertaken by the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) - Barcelona Convention system on sharing best practices on marine litter management and combating plastic pollution in other international fora, such as the UNEP Global Programme of Action, the UNEP Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and partnerships, such as the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership; and to actively contribute to the work developed in that fora by inter alia sharing and promoting Contracting Parties efforts in combating marine litter, including plastic pollution;	***YELLOW***								

	6. *Urge* the Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations, donor agencies, industry, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support the implementation of the different measures of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter providing sufficient financial, technical and scientific contribution;	***YELLOW***								
	7. *Further encourage* the work of Marine Litter Platform, established in the Mediterranean region by a number of stakeholders, to facilitate the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter and further coordinate efforts for a plastic-free and litter-free Mediterranean, and to this aim, request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to strengthening and further expanding this coordinating Platform, by including inter alia the industry, in order to maximize synergies, complementarities, and impacts on the ground with the view to facilitating the achievements of the ambitious objectives of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter in close collaboration with the Contracting Parties.	***YELLOW***								
<u>Decision IG.25/10</u> MAP Data Policy	1. *Adopt* the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) Data Policy as set out in Annex I to the present Decision;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Request* the Secretariat (INFO/RAC) to provide the necessary technical support to Contracting Parties and to address any needs identified to fully implement the UNEP/MAP Data Policy;	***YELLOW***								
	3. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to take effective measures to implement the UNEP/MAP Data Policy.	***YELLOW***								
<u>Decision IG.25/11</u> Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of	1. *Adopt* the Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO), hereinafter referred to as "Post-2020 SAPBIO", as a Mediterranean action oriented marine and Coastal Biodiversity Conservation Policy aiming at contributing to the achievement of the good environmental status, to the Sustainable Development Goals and their respective targets, and the CBD Post-2020	***GREEN***								

Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO)	Global Biodiversity Framework through the optic of the Mediterranean context, set out in Annex I to the present decision;									
	2. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures, for the effective implementation of the Post-2020 SAPBIO, and to report on their implementation in the framework of MAP Barcelona Convention reporting system;	***YELLOW***								
	3. *Invite* the Contracting Parties to prepare or revise their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans by fully incorporating the relevant elements of the Post-2020 SAPBIO; and maximise their efforts for their timely implementation;	***YELLOW*** **5.2.7.**								
	4. *Invite* the relevant organisations, in particular the members of the Post-2020 SAPBIO Advisory Committee, to continue contributing to the efforts by the Contracting Parties in implementing Post-2020 SAPBIO, as appropriate in close collaboration with the Secretariat (SPA/RAC);	***YELLOW*** **5.2.7.**								
	5. *Urge* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to provide technical support for the implementation of the Post-2020 SAPBIO, through technical cooperation, capacity building activities, and external resource mobilization;	***YELLOW*** **5.2.7.**								
	6. *Invite* the Secretariat, to conduct a mid-term assessment of the collective implementation of the Post-2020 SAP BIO by 2025 and Contracting Parties to review their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans accordingly to ensure the achievement of the Post-2020 SAP BIO objectives by 2030;	***ORANGE***								
	7. *Invite* the relevant International Organisations, Funding Agencies, International Donor Community and Contracting Parties as appropriate to give due consideration to the priority actions of SAP BIO in their programming for supporting actions in the Mediterranean region.	***YELLOW*** **5.5.2.**								
<u>Decision IG.25/12</u> Protecting and	1. *Adopt* the Post-2020 Regional Strategy for marine and coastal protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures in the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred as to "the Post-2020 Regional	***GREEN***								

conserving the Mediterranean through well connected and effective systems of marine and coastal protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, including Specially Protected Areas and Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance	Strategy", set out in Annex I to this Decision;									
	2. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to take effective measures to implement the Post-2020 Regional Strategy, thus enhancing the implementation of the SPA/BD Protocol in the Mediterranean region;	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1., 2.2.2.**								
	3. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) in coordination with other regional and international organizations, to support the Contracting Parties with technical and, where possible, financial assistance to undertake the activities indicated in the Post-2020 Regional Strategy with the aim to effectively achieve its strategic outcomes and targets;	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1., 2.2.2.**								
	4. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to develop an evaluation and monitoring framework for the Post-2020 Regional Strategy, with the technical support of the Ad hoc Group of Experts for Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, using to the extent possible existing monitoring tools in the region in particular those established under UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention as well as in the framework of SDG, Post-2020 Biodiversity and related target monitoring;	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1., 2.2.2.**								
	5. *Adopt* the Concepts to set up the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance Day and the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance Certificate, set out in Annex II to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
	6. *Invite* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to organize the first edition of the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance Day in 2022 and encourage all Contracting Parties to support and contribute to these celebrations;	***GREEN*** **2.2.3., 7.1.7**								
	7. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to work with the relevant designated national authorities in Albania, Algeria, France and Italy to carry out the ordinary periodic review for the five Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance listed below, and bring the outcome of that review process to the attention of the Contracting Parties at their 23rd Meeting (COP 23): - Karaburun Sazan National Marine Park (Albania) in 2022,	***YELLOW*** **2.2.3.**									

- Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve (Algeria) in 2023, - Habibas Islands (Algeria) in 2023, - Les Calanques National Park (France) in 2023, and - Portofino Marine Protected Area (Italy) in 2023;									
8. *Adopt* the Criteria for inclusion of Specially Protected Areas in the Directory of Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas, including the associated updates in the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS), set out in Annex III to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
9. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to report on the Specially Protected Areas to the Directory of Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas based on the adopted Criteria, at the time of submitting their national implementation reports under Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention, starting with the national implementation reports for the biennium 2020-2021 to be submitted by December 2022; to this aim also encourage the Contracting Parties to report on other effective area-based conservation measures;	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1., 2.2.2.**								
10. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to: a) provide an analysis of the reports on Specially Protected Areas and as appropriate on other effective area-based conservation measures, at every meeting of the SPA/BD Focal Points, and b) maximize synergies and foster closer cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations to assess potential other effective area-based conservation measures under their mandate;	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1., 2.2.2.**								
11. *Welcome* the progress made in relation to synergies with other Secretariats in spatial-based protection and management measures for marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean Area, and request the Secretariat to continue to strengthen these synergies with the objectives to ensure the conservation and the sustainable use of the marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach.	***YELLOW*** **2.2.1.**								

<u>Decision IG.25/13</u> **Action Plans for the conservation of species and habitats under the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean**	1. *Adopt* the Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea and the Action Plan for the conservation of habitats and species associated with seamounts, underwater caves and canyons, aphotic hard beds and chemo-synthetic phenomena in the Mediterranean Sea (Dark Habitats Action Plan), as updated and set out in Annexes I, and II to this Decision (updated sections in grey);	***GREEN*** **2.3.2.d.**								
	2. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures for the effective implementation of the Action Plans and to report on their implementation, using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System;	***YELLOW*** **2.3.1.d.**								
	3. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC), in coordination with other relevant regional and international organizations, where appropriate, to continue to provide technical support to Contracting Parties for the effective implementation of the Action Plans, through technical cooperation and capacity building activities, including resource mobilization activities;	***YELLOW***								
	4. *Request* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to update: - The Action Plan for the conservation of bird species listed in Annex II of the SPA/BD Protocol in the Mediterranean based on its implementation progress at national and regional levels, and to suggest adjustments to its implementation timetable to maintain them in favorable status of conservation, - The Action Plan concerning species introduction and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea to address the impact, on biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, of non-indigenous species and invasive non-indigenous species, and submit them for consideration of COP23;	***YELLOW*** **2.3.2.a., 2.4.1.a.**								
	5. *Invite* the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to establish a multidisciplinary group of experts nominated by the Contracting Parties to define parameters allowing to use phytoplankton and zooplankton for relevant IMAP biodiversity indicators and elaborate the List of Reference of Pelagic Habitat Types in the Mediterranean Sea so that it can be used, where	***YELLOW*** **2.3.1.c.**								

	necessary, as a basis for identifying reference pelagic habitats to be monitored and assessed at the national level under the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria for consideration of COP 23.									
<u>Decision IG.25/14</u> Designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides (Med SOX ECA) pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI	1. *Agree* to submit the joint and coordinated proposal on the designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides (Med SOX ECA), hereinafter referred to as "the proposal", set out in the Annex to this Decision, to the seventy-eighth (78th) session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 78) scheduled for 2022;	***GREEN*** **1.4.2.**								
	2. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to coordinate the submission process to the International Maritime Organization (IMO), so that with the support of REMPEC and, in consultation with the Secretariat, the proposal is submitted before the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in a timely and effective manner and in accordance with the relevant rules and procedures, to formally designate the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides (Med SOX ECA) with its effective entry into force on 1 January 2025;	***GREEN*** **1.4.2.**								
	3. *Encourage* the Contracting Parties to actively participate in the deliberations on the proposal and on the draft amendments to regulation 14 of, and Appendix VII to MARPOL Annex VI related to the designation of the proposed Med SOX ECA, at the seventy-eighth (78th) session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 78) scheduled for 2022, as well as at the following sessions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee, as appropriate, in line with the road map;	***GREEN*** **1.4.2.**								
	4. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to ratify and effectively implement MARPOL Annex VI, as soon as possible, if they have not yet done so, at least by the date of entering into force of the Med SOx ECA, to the extent possible;	***YELLOW*** **1.4.2.**								

	5. *Request* the Secretariat (REMPEC) to provide technical support for the implementation of this Decision, in synergy with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and other relevant stakeholders, through technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including financial support and resource mobilization activities;	***YELLOW*** **1.4.2.**								
	6. *Encourage* all stakeholders, including the shipping industry and other Partners to contribute to and support the designation and implementation of the Med SOX ECA.	***YELLOW*** **1.4.2.**								
Decision IG.25/15 **Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil**	1. *Adopt* the Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Offshore Protocol, set out in the Annex to this Decision herein after referred as EIA Offshore Protocol Guidelines (or Guidelines);	***GREEN*** **1.4.2.**								
	2. *Urge* Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify the Offshore Protocol, in order to achieve its objectives in the Mediterranean region universally;	***YELLOW*** **4.4.1.**								
	3. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to make every effort for the effective implementation of the Guidelines with support from the Secretariat (REMPEC) for their implementation through resource mobilization (internal and external), technical cooperation and capacity building activities;	***YELLOW*** **4.4.1.**								
	4. *Invite* offshore oil and gas industry partners operating in the Mediterranean Sea Area to give due consideration to the implementation the Guidelines, with a view to preventing or minimizing the potential negative impact of offshore oil and gas activities in the Mediterranean Sea Area and, as appropriate, to provide technical support to offshore facility operators.	***YELLOW*** **4.4.1.**								
Decision IG.25/16	1. *Adopt* the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031), hereinafter referred to as “the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031)”, set out in the	***GREEN*** **5.4.5.**								

Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031)	Annex to this Decision;									
	2. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to take effective measures to implement the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031), thus enhancing the implementation of the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea;	***YELLOW* 5.4.5.**								
	3. *Urge* the Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so to ratify the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, in order to achieve universally the objectives of the Protocol in the Mediterranean region and *invite* Contracting Parties which have not yet done so to also ratify relevant IMO Conventions referred above;	***YELLOW* 5.4.5.**									
	4. *Request* the Secretariat (REMPEC) to provide technical support for the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031), in synergy with the IMO, through technical cooperation and capacity building activities, including resource mobilisation (internal and external);	***YELLOW* 5.4.5.**									
	5. *Invite* stakeholders, including multilateral financial institutions, intergovernmental organizations, members of the industry and business sectors, and non-governmental organizations to actively contribute to the mobilisation of resources needed for the effective implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031);	***YELLOW* 5.4.5.**									
	6. *Encourage*, under the coordination of REMPEC, the building of sustainable partnerships, including partnerships between Parties and other stakeholders, at the global, regional and sub-regional levels as a means to leverage the financial resources and technical support that Contracting Parties need for the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031), thus operationalising the regional platform that the Strategy represents to channel international cooperation and maximize synergies in implementation in the Mediterranean region.	***YELLOW* 5.4.5.**									
Decision	1. *Adopt* the Ballast Water Management Strategy for the Mediterranean									

IG.25/17 **Ballast Water Management Strategy for the Mediterranean Sea (2022-2027)**	Sea (2022-2027), hereinafter referred to as "the Mediterranean BWM Strategy (2022-2027)", set out in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **2.4.1.**								
	2. *Call upon* the Contracting Parties to take effective measures to implement the Mediterranean BWM Strategy (2022-2027), thus enhancing the implementation of the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea as well as of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean;	***YELLOW*** **2.4.1.**								
	3. *Urge* the Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, in order to achieve universally the objectives of the Protocols in the Mediterranean region;	***YELLOW*** **2.4.1.**								
	4. *Encourage* the Contracting Parties, which have not yet done so, to ratify and effectively implement the BWM Convention, as soon as possible; and	***YELLOW*** **2.4.1.**								
	5. *Request* the Secretariat (REMPEC and SPA/RAC) to provide technical support for the implementation of the Mediterranean BWM Strategy (2022-2027), in synergy with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), through technical cooperation and capacity building activities, including resource mobilisation (internal and external).	***YELLOW*** **2.4.1.**								
Decision IG.25/18 **Set of Regional Measures to Support the Development of Green and Circular**	1. *Adopt* the set of regional measures to support the development of green and circular businesses and to strengthen the demand for more sustainable products hereinafter referred to as "the Regional Measures", set out in Annex I to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **1.3.2., 1.3.3., 1.3.4, 1.3.5., 1.3.7., 3.4.1., 4.2.3., 4.2.5., 4.2.6., 4.3.1.**								
	2. *Call upon* Contracting Parties to strengthen the support to and promote green and circular businesses, in line with of the Regional Measures, with support from the Secretariat (SCP/RAC (MedWaves)) in coordination with	***YELLOW*** **1.3.2., 1.3.3., 1.3.4, 1.3.5., 1.3.7., 3.4.1.,**								

Businesses and to Strengthen the Demand for more Sustainable Products	relevant regional and national stakeholders;	**4.2.3., 4.2.5., 4.2.6., 4.3.1.**								
	3. *Approve* the brief and comprehensive definitions of sustainable businesses (including green and circular businesses), set out in Annex II to this Decision;	***GREEN*** **1.3.2., 1.3.3., 1.3.4, 1.3.5., 1.3.7., 3.4.1., 4.2.3., 4.2.5., 4.2.6., 4.3.1**								
	4. *Invite* Contracting Parties to provide information on a biannual basis on the implementation of the Regional Measures at national level.	***YELLOW*** **1.3.2., 1.3.3., 1.3.4, 1.3.5., 1.3.7., 3.4.1., 4.2.3., 4.2.5., 4.2.6., 4.3.1.**								
<u>Decision IG.25/19</u> **Programme of Work and Budget for 2022-2023**	1. *Request* the Executive Director of UNEP and the Coordinator of MAP to execute the Budget in accordance with Decision IG.21/15 on the Financial Regulations and Rules and Procedures for the Contracting Parties, in particular the provisions under Annex II, Procedure 2, paragraph 4, which entrusts the responsibility to certify and authorize expenditures to UNEP in conformity with the Programme of Work and Budget Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties;	***GREEN***								
	2. *Approve*, on an exceptional basis, the reallocation of USD 520,000 of the Programme of Work 2020-2021 savings due to COVID-19, which were used for key mandates, on the basis of a no-objection procedure accepted by the MAP Focal Points in response to the relevant letter of the Coordinator dated 9 July 2021;	***GREEN***								
	3. *Approve* the 2022-2023 Programme of Work and Budget set out in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
	4. *Approve* the budget appropriations, as set out in Table 1. "Overview of income and commitments" of the Annex to this Decision; the income in the amount of EUR 13,296,144, composed of the Mediterranean trust Fund in the amount of EUR 11,413,576, the European Union discretionary	***GREEN***								

contribution in the amount of EUR 1,192,968 and the host country contribution of EUR 689,600 (USD 800,000); and the use of the MTF positive cash balance at the amount of EUR 2,619,269;									
5. *Approve* the use of the budget appropriations as set out in Table 3 Summary of Activities, and Administrative Costs by MAP Component;	***GREEN***								
6. *Approve* the assessed 2022-2023 ordinary contributions from Parties shown in Table 2 "Expected Ordinary Income" of the Annex to this Decision, which is based on the 2019-2021 scale of assessment adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 73rd Session in Resolution A/RES/73/271 noting that the scale of assessment for the UN Regular Budget for the triennium 2022-2024 is expected to be approved by the General Assembly of the UN in December 2021 and that the new scale of assessment will be applied, when released, to calculate the assessed contributions for 2022-2023;	***GREEN***								
7. *Request* the Executive Director of UNEP, subject to the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to extend the Mediterranean Trust Fund through 31 December 2023;	***GREEN***								
8. *Approve* the staffing of the Coordinating Unit including MED POL for 2022-2023 as indicated in Table 4a. "Details of Salaries and Administrative Costs of the Secretariat" in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
9. *Take note* of the staffing of REMPEC for 2022–2023 as indicated in Table 4b, "Details of Salaries and Administrative Costs of REMPEC" in the Annex to this Decision;	***GREEN***								
10. *Take note* of the external funding secured by the Secretariat and MAP Components in the amount of EUR 19,436,256 and external non-secured funding in the amount of EUR 7,617,000 for the implementation of the Programme of Work 2022-2023;	***GREEN***								
11. *Authorize* the Coordinator in line with Decision IG.21/15 on the Financial Rules and Procedures for the Funds of the Barcelona Convention,	***YELLOW***								

Procedure 2, paragraph 6, to approve transfers within the same Programme and Component up to 20 per cent within the criteria: a. funds to be transferred are savings achieved upon committing funds for full delivery of activities planned in the approved Programme of Work, b. the transferred funds are strictly used for achieving the outcomes of the Programme of Work of concerned biennia in line with the outcomes of the 2022-2027 Midterm Strategy; and c. such transfers are reported for information at the first meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties following occurrence of such transfers;									
12. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to strictly adhere to Procedure 4.2 of the Financial Rules and Procedures and pay their contributions to the MTF in the first quarter of each year to allow for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Work;	***YELLOW***								
13. *Request* the Secretariat to keep up to date information on the status of Contracting Parties' contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund and to continue to post it in a publicly available place on the UNEP/MAP website and report, for information, to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties in their periodical meetings on the status of unutilized resources;	***YELLOW***								
14. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to adhere to nomination deadlines of their representatives in meetings of the MAP system and to avoid modifications and cancellation of their travel in order to minimize losses arising from the increase of airfare and cancellation fees and inefficiencies;	***YELLOW***								
15. *Urge* the Contracting Parties to consider increasing their voluntary contributions in cash and/or in kind in support of the implementation of the 2022-2023 Programme of Work and to support the resource mobilisation activities of the Secretariat;	***YELLOW***								
16. *Invite* other partners including industry to contribute adequate human and financial resources to meet the external funding requirements for priorities still unfunded under the 2022-2023 Programme of Work and Budget;	***YELLOW***								

17. *Request* the Secretariat, in consultation with UNEP Headquarters, bearing in mind the Decision IG. 17/5 "Governance Paper" adopted by COP 15 (Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008), to explore possible ways of simplifying the structure of the Programme of Work and Budget to ensure that Contracting Parties have a clear understanding of the priorities and the relationship with the MTS when adopting the budget;	***YELLOW***								
18. *Request* the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to prepare for careful consideration by the MAP Focal Points and, after further refinement, approval by COP 23 a result-based Programme of Work and Budget for 2024-2025, explaining the key principles and assumptions on which it is based and taking into account the progress achieved during the implementation of the 2022-2023 Programme of Work, providing information on the consultation process followed for its preparation, and in full alignment with the MTS.	***YELLOW***								