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UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/7
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ENGLISH

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the MAP Focal Points

Athens, Greece, 28 November – 1 December 2011

Draft decision on implementing MAP Ecosystem Approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2011

Draft Decision

on implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling the objective of the Barcelona Convention to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent eliminate pollution of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas; to protect and preserve biological diversity, rare or fragile ecosystems, as well as species of wild fauna and flora which are rare, depleted, threatened or endangered and their habitats and to protect and enhance the marine environment so as to contribute towards its sustainable development;

Recalling the vision and the goals for the implementation of the ecosystems approach to the management of human activities adopted in decision IG. 17/6 of its 15th meeting held in Almeria, Spain (2008) providing for *"A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations"* and the seven step road-map for implementing the ecosystem approach by Mediterranean Action Plan also adopted during that meeting;

Recalling also the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) regarding the ecosystem approach and the Aichi targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted at the COP 10 of the CBD (Nagoya, 2010);

Considering the initiatives undertaken within the framework of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) to develop principles for and implement the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF);

Recalling also the four objectives of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and the UNEP/MAP Five Year Strategic Programme of Work adopted in Marrakech in 2009 that highlighted the ecosystem approach as the Programme's overarching principle and several decisions of the Contracting Parties to ensure the necessary synergies and harmonization to the extent possible in terms of common understanding, tools used, reporting and timetable with the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Directive;

Acknowledging the need for synergy to the extent possible with relevant global and regional processes, such as those under the UN regular Process for Global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment and the UNEP Regional seas programmes;

Recognizing the special importance of MAP work related to ecosystem approach for those Contracting Parties that are EU members states in view of implementing the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) that provides for building on relevant existing programmes and activities developed in the framework of structures stemming from international agreements such as Regional Sea Conventions;

Acknowledging with satisfaction the progress achieved and work carried out in the Mediterranean with respect to the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap by the Government-designated Experts Group (GDE) supported by the Secretariat during the biennium 2010-2011;

Thanking the Secretariat including MEDPOL, SPA/RAC and BP/RAC for the successful preparation of the integrated assessment report of the status of the Mediterranean Sea using ecosystem approach and ecosystem services analysis;

Appreciating the conclusions and recommendations of the Government-designated Experts' Meeting held in Durres, Albania in June 2011;

Recognizing the necessity for the Contracting Parties to fully support the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap and the need for substantive financial resources to support the process at regional and national level;

Recognizing also, the importance of moving forward towards establishing InfoMAP as a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) for the purposes of the implementation of future phases the ecosystems approach in the Mediterranean thus ensuring synergy and harmonization with national efforts by contracting parties with regards to the establishment of environmental information systems that support decision-making and enhance public information as well as recent global and regional developments in this field;

Considering the need to establish an effective governance of the knowledge and information generated through an appropriate data sharing policy which takes fully into account the GEOSS Data Sharing Action Plan for the implementation of the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles which was adopted by the GEO-VII Plenary of 3-4 November 2010 and which have been ratified by nearly all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;

Decides:

To strongly re-affirm *the* commitment of the Contracting Parties to continue to apply the ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities while enabling a sustainable use of marine goods and services with the view to achieving or maintaining good environmental status of the Mediterranean sea and its coastal region; their protection and preservation, as well as preventing their subsequent deterioration as an integrated operational approach for the successful implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols while enhancing sustainable development in the region;

To endorse the Summary for policy makers that provides the main findings and priorities highlighted in the Initial Integrated Assessment Report (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.363/Inf.21) prepared by the Secretariat based on the best available knowledge and information and with the precious contribution of the Contracting Parties, partners, as well as with the expertise of MEDPOL, RAC SPA and Blue Plan and which has been peer reviewed by GESAMP;

To adopt based on Article 18 of the Barcelona Convention the Mediterranean Ecological Objectives associated by Operational and Indicators presented in the tables to Annex I to the present decision;

To adopt the timeline and projected outputs of the Ecosystems Approach roadmap implementation presented in Annex II to this decision for the next two years and on an indicative basis until 2017, as well as to update it on biannual basis to take into account progress achieved as need be;

To adopt the establishment of a review cycle for the integrated assessment of ecosystem approach roadmap implementation on a 6 year basis;

To extend the mandate of GDE group as a working group of the Contracting Parties to lead the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap by MAP and submit the results achieved to the 18th meeting of the Contracting Parties;

To request the Secretariat to:

1. Prepare an integrated monitoring programme based on the agreed ecosystem approach indicators with the participation of and contribution from all MAP components and with a leadership role by MEDPOL and in cooperation with other regional competent organisations such as the Secretariats of GFCM, ICAT and ACCOBAMS, as well as the European Union;

2. Work on the determination of GES and targets during the next biennium through a participatory process involving MAP components, contracting parties and scientific community, with the view of submitting the proposed GES and targets by the meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013;

3. Prepare in cooperation with Contracting Parties, MAP components and competent partner organizations and with a leadership role by Blue Plan an in-depth socio-economic analysis developed through a common methodology for the consideration of the Contracting Parties meeting at its 18th meeting;

4. Develop a MAP-Barcelona Convention wide integrated and aligned policy on assessments;

5. Work in 2012-2013, with SPA/RAC, with the national authorities and the relevant organisations to (i) evaluate the progress made so far in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the conservation of Biodiversity in the Mediterranean (SAPBIO) adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Catania, 2003), (ii) to define the orientations of SAPBIO at national and regional levels for the coming years, taking into account the Mediterranean Ecological Objectives and the Aichi targets and (iii) to investigate options for ensuring appropriate financial support for the implementation of SAPBIO at national and regional levels;

6. Establish and make operational, through INFO/RAC, by 2013, at the latest, an information system to support the implementation of ecosystem approach and MAP integrated monitoring system;

7. To develop in consultation with INFO-RAC Focal Points a MAP/Barcelona Convention data sharing policy taking into account the SEIS data sharing principles and with due consideration of access rights and confidentiality for the consideration of MAP Focal Points and 18th Contracting Parties meeting;

8. Ensure the implementation of this decision through the operational activities of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its integration in the next Strategic and 2-year Programme of work;

9. Ensure that MAP/Barcelona Convention regional policies become coherent with the ecosystem approach progress and outcomes;

10. Undertake under the guidance of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties the necessary analysis to enhance MAP/Barcelona Convention governance structure with the view to implementing the ecosystem approach for the consideration of the 18th meeting of the Contracting Parties;

11. Continue supporting the Contracting Parties in their efforts to implement the other steps of the road map according to the agreed timeline and enhance cooperation with partners and stakeholders and other global and regional process in particular with the EU common MSFD implementation strategy;

To invite the Contracting Parties and donor organizations including the EC to support financially the application of ecosystem-based management approach by MAP as a means to effectively achieve the objectives of MAP/Barcelona Convention.

ANNEX I

PROPOSED ECOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES

1 Biodiversity

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Biological diversity is maintained or enhanced. The quality and occurrence of coastal[1] and marine habitats[2] and the distribution and abundance of coastal[3] and marine species[4] are in line with prevailing physiographic, hydrographic, geographic and climatic conditions.	**1.1 Species distribution is maintained**	1.1.1 Distributional range
		1.1.2 Area covered by the species (for sessile/benthic species)
	1.2 Population size of selected species is maintained	1.2.1 Population abundance
		1.2.2 Population density
	1.3 Population condition of selected species is maintained	1.3.1 Population demographic characteristics (e.g. body size or age class structure, sex ratio, fecundity rates, survival/ mortality rates)
	1.4 Key coastal and marine habitats are not being lost	1.4.1 Potential / observed distributional range of certain coastal and marine habitats listed under SPA protocol
		1.4.2 Distributional pattern of certain coastal and marine habitats listed under SPA protocol
		1.4.3 Condition of the habitat-defining species and communities

[1] By coastal it is understood both the emerged and submerged areas of the coastal zone as considered in the SPA/BD Protocol as well as in the definition of coastal zone in accordance with Article 2e and the geographical coverage of Article 3 of the ICZM Protocol

[2] Regarding benthic habitats currently, sufficient information exists to make a prioritization amongst those mentioned in the UNEP/MAP - RAC/SPA list of 27 benthic habitats and the priority habitats in areas beyond national jurisdiction following CBD decisions VIII/24 and VIII/21 paragraph 1 . These could include from shallow to deep: biocoenosis of infralittoral algae (facies with vermetids or trottoir), hard beds associated with photophilic algae, meadows of the sea grass Posidonia oceanica, hard beds associated with Coralligenous biocenosis and semi dark caves, biocoenosis of shelf-edge detritic bottoms (facies with Leptometra phalangium), biocoenosis of deep-sea corals, cold seeps and biocoenosis of bathyal muds (facies with Isidella elongata). Amongst pelagic habitats upwelling areas, fronts and gyres need special attention and focus.

[3] By coastal it is understood both the emerged and submerged areas of the coastal zone as considered in the SPA/BD Protocol as well as in the definition of coastal zone in accordance with Article 2e and the geographical coverage of Article 3 of the ICZM Protocol

[4] On the basis of Annex II and III of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol of the Barcelona Convention

2 Non-indigenous species

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Non-indigenous[5] species[6] introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystem	**2.1 Invasive non-indigenous species introductions are minimized**	2.1.1. Spatial distribution, origin and population status (established vs. vagrant) of non-indigenous species
		2.1.2 Trends in the abundance of introduced species, notably in risk areas
	2.2. The impact of non-indigenous particularly invasive species on ecosystems is limited	2.2.1 Ecosystem impacts of particularly invasive species
		2.2.2 Ratio between non-indigenous invasive species and native species in some well studied taxonomic groups

[5] The term non-indigenous refers to an organism that may survive and subsequently reproduce, outside of its known or consensual range. Non-indigenous may be further characterized as un-established or vagrant, established, invasive and noxious or particularly invasive. Occhipinti-Ambrogi and Galil (2004). Marine Pollution Bulletin 49 (2004) 688–694. doi:10.1016/j.marpolbul.2004.08.011

[6] The list of priority (indicator) species introduced by human activities will be derived by consensus, based on information from the CIESM Atlas of Exotic Species in the Mediterranean and the DAISIE project (European Invasive Alien Species Gateway) a database tracking alien terrestrial and marine species in Europe

3 Harvest of commercially exploited fish and shellfish

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Populations of selected commercially exploited fish and shellfish[7] are within biologically safe limits, exhibiting a population age and size distribution that is indicative of a healthy stock	**3.1 Level of exploitation by commercial fisheries is within biologically safe limits**	3.1.1 Total catch by operational unit[8]
		3.1.2 Total effort by operational_unit
		3.1.3 Catch per unit effort (CPUE) by operational unit
		3.1.4 Ratio between catch and biomass index (hereinafter catch/biomass ratio).
		3.1.5 Fishing mortality
	3.2 The reproductive capacity of stocks is maintained	3.2.1 Age structure determination (where feasible)
		3.2.2 Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB)

[7] The choice of indicator species for collecting information for Ecological Objective 3 should be derived from fisheries targeting species listed in Annex III of Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (species whose exploitation is regulated) and the species in the GFCM Priority Species list (http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/166221/en). Choice of indicators should cover all trophic levels, and if possible, functional groups, using the species listed in Annex III of SPA and/or, as appropriate the stocks covered under regulation (EC) No 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy

[8] Operational unit is “the group of fishing vessels which are engaged in the same type of fishing operation within the same Geographical Sub-Area, targeting the same species or group of species and belonging to the same economic segment”

4 Marine food webs

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Alterations to components of marine food webs caused by resource extraction or human-induced environmental changes do not have long-term adverse effects on food web dynamics and related viability	**4.1 Ecosystem dynamics across all trophic levels are maintained at levels capable of ensuring long - term abundance of the species and the retention of their full reproductive capacity**	4.1.1 Production per unit biomass estimates for selected trophic groups and key species, for use in models predicting energy flows in food webs
	4.2 Normal proportion and abundances of selected species at all trophic levels of the food web are maintained	4.2.1 Proportion of top predators by weight in the food webs
		4.2.2 Trends in proportion or abundance of habitat-defining groups
		4.2.3 Trends in proportion or abundance of taxa with fast turnover rates

5 Eutrophication

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Human-induced eutrophication is prevented, especially adverse effects thereof, such as losses in biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algal blooms and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters.	**5.1 Human introduction of nutrients in the marine environment is not conducive to eutrophication**	5.1.1 Concentration of key nutrients in the water column
		5.1.2 Nutrient ratios (silica, nitrogen and phosphorus), where appropriate
	5.2 Direct effects of nutrient over-enrichment are prevented	5.2.1 Chlorophyll-a concentration in the water column
		5.2.2 Water transparency where relevant
		5.2.3 Number and location of major events of nuisance/toxic algal blooms caused by human activities[9]
	5.3 Indirect effects of nutrient over- enrichment are prevented	5.3.1 Dissolved oxygen near the bottom, i.e. changes due to increased organic matter decomposition, and size of the area concerned*[10]

6 Sea-floor integrity

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Sea-floor integrity is maintained, especially in priority benthic habitats[11]	**6.1 Extent of physical alteration to the substrate is minimized**	6.1.1 Distribution of bottom impacting activities[12]
		6.1.2 Area of the substrate affected by physical alteration due to the different activities[12]
	6.2 Impact of benthic disturbance in priority benthic habitats is minimized	6.2.1 Impact of bottom impacting activities[12] in priority benthic habitats
		6.2.2 Change in distribution and abundance of indicator species in priority habitats[13]

[9]The connection between eutrophication and toxic algal blooms is subject of devoted research at the moment. The connection between the two is not clearly established as not all the ecosystems react in the same way. In fact recent surveys in UK/Ireland in the framework of OSPAR have allowed concluding on the lack of relation between the them and therefore the number and location of major events of nuisance/toxic algal blooms should always be regarded cautiously as an indicator of a direct effect of nutrient over-enrichment.

[10]Monitoring to be carried out where appropriate

[11] e.g. coastal lagoons and marshes, intertidal areas, seagrass meadows, coralligenous communities, sea mounts, submarine canyons and slopes, deep-water coral and hydrothermal vents

[12] e.g bottom fishing, dredging activities ,sediment disposal, seabed mining, drilling, marine installations, dumping and anchoring, land reclamation, sand and gravel extraction

[13]Indicator species to be used to assess the ecosystem effects of physical damage to the benthos could refer to disturbance-sensitive and/or disturbance-tolerant species, as appropriate to the circumstances, in line with methodologies developed to assess the magnitude and duration of ecological effects of benthic disturbance.

7 Hydrography

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Alteration of hydrographic conditions does not adversely affect coastal and marine ecosystems.	**7.1 Impacts to the marine and coastal ecosystem induced by climate variability and/or climate change are minimized**	7.1.1 Large scale changes in circulation patterns, temperature, pH, and salinity distribution
		7.1.2 Long term changes in sea level
	7.2 Alterations due to permanent constructions on the coast and watersheds, marine installations and seafloor anchored structures are minimized	7.2.1. Impact on the circulation caused by the presence of structures
		7.2.2 Location and extent of the habitats impacted directly by the alterations and/or the circulation changes induced by them: footprints of impacting structures
		7.2.3 Trends in sediment delivery, especially in major deltaic systems
		7.2.4 Extent of area affected by coastal erosion due to sediment supply alterations
	7.3 Impacts of alterations due to changes in freshwater flow from watersheds, seawater inundation and coastal freatic intrusion, brine input from desalination plants and seawater intake and outlet are minimized	7.3.1. Trends in fresh water/sea water volume delivered to salt marshes, lagoons, estuaries, and deltas; desalination brines in the coastal zone
		7.3.2. Location and extent of the habitats impacted by changes in the circulation and the salinity induced by the alterations
		7.3.3 Changes in key species distribution due to the effects of seawater intake and outlet

8 Coastal ecosystems and landscapes

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
The natural dynamics of coastal areas are maintained and coastal ecosystems and landscapes are preserved	**8.1 The natural dynamic nature of coastlines is respected and coastal areas are in good condition**	8.1.1. Areal extent of coastal erosion and coastline instability
		8.1.2 Changes in sediment dynamics along the coastline
		8.1.3 Areal extent of sandy areas subject to physical disturbance[14]
		8.1.4 Length of coastline subject to physical disturbance due to the influence of manmade structures
	8.2 Integrity and diversity of coastal ecosystems, landscapes and their geomorphology are preserved	8.2.1 Change of land-use[15]
		8.2.2 Change of landscape types
		8.2.3 Share of non-fragmented coastal habitats

[14] Physical disturbance includes beach cleaning by mechanical means, sand mining, beach sand noursihment
[15] Land-use classess according to the classification by Eurostat-OCDE, 1998: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/q2004land.pdf

9 Pollution

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Contaminants cause no significant impact on coastal and marine ecosystems and human health	**9.1 Concentration of priority[16] contaminants is kept within acceptable limits and does not increase**	9.1.1 Concentration of key harmful contaminants in biota, sediment or water
	9.2 Effects of released contaminants are minimized	9.2.1 Level of pollution effects of key contaminants where a cause and effect relationship has been established
	9.3 Acute pollution events are prevented and their impacts are minimized	9.3.1 Occurrence, origin (where possible), extent of significant acute pollution events (e.g. slicks from oil, oil products and hazardous substances) and their impact on biota affected by this pollution
	9.4 Levels of known harmful contaminants in major types of seafood do not exceed established standards	9.4.1 Actual levels of contaminants that have been detected and number of contaminants which have exceeded maximum regulatory levels in commonly consumed seafood[17]
		9.4.2 Frequency that regulatory levels of contaminants are exceeded
	9.5 Water quality in bathing waters and other recreational areas does not undermine human health	9.5.1 Percentage of intestinal entorococci concentration measurements within established standards
		9.5.2 Occurrence of Harmful Algal Blooms within bathing and recreational areas

[16] Priority contaminants as listed under the Barcelona Convention and LBS Protocol
[17] Traceability of the origin of seafood sampled should be ensured

10 Marine litter

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment[18]	**10.1 The impacts related to properties and quantities of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment are minimized**	10.1.1 Trends in the amount of litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines, including analysis of its composition, spatial distribution and, where possible, source
		10.1.2 Trends in amounts of litter in the water column, including microplastics, and on the seafloor
	10.2 Impacts of litter on marine life are controlled to the maximum extent practicable	10.2.1 Trends in the amount of litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms, especially mammals, marine birds and turtles[19]

11 Energy including underwater noise

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Noise from human activities cause no significant impact on marine and coastal ecosystems	**11.1 Energy inputs into the marine environment, especially noise from human activities is minimized**	11.1.1 Proportion of days and geographical distribution where loud, low and mid-frequency impulsive sounds exceed levels that are likely to entail significant impact on marine animals
		11.1.2 Trends in continuous low frequency sounds with the use of models as appropriate

[18] A policy document on marine litter strategy, taking fully into account the activities envisaged for the implementation of the EA roadmap, is being prepared by MEDPOL and will be submitted to the MAP Focal Point for approval. The approved document will be used as the basis for the formulation of an action plan for the reduction of marine litter.

[19] Marine mammals, marine birds and turtles included in the regional action plans of the SPA/BD Protocol.

ANNEX II

TIMELINE

UNEP/MAP Ecosystem Approach

roadmap projected outputs

UNEP/MAP Programatic work (ongoing during the whole EA cycle)

- Integrate the activities related to the Ecosystem Approach throught UNEP/MAP policy and action including the 2012-13 and the five year programme of work

Ecosystem Approach Initial Assessment (IA)

- Preparing IA report for four sub regions and on Mediterranean wide commonalities
- Preparing a Mediterranean regional study on ecosystem services
- State of Environment Report (SOER 2011) based on Initial Assessment

Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives and Indicators

- Development of Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives and Indicators for Mediterranean wide GES
- Testing the Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives and Indicators

COP Decision

Determination of Good Ecological Status (GES) and Targets

- Formulation of ToRs and follow-up of socioeconomic and ecosystem services analysis to support target definition
- Definition of the process and methodological approach for the establishment of GES and Targets (2011)
- Pilot Study finalized to support definition of the process and method for the establishment of GES and Targets
- Establishment of GES relative to each Indicator (subject to data availability)
- Establish coordinated Targets per Indicator (subject to data availability)

Development of MAP assessment policy

- Develop MAP assessment policy to address multiple needs for thematic and integrated assessment in the EA framework
- Update/revise a set of effectiveness indicators of the implementation of the Convention and its protocols including the EA

Integrated Monitoring Programme

- Preparing the regional integrated monitoring programme (by mid 2013 if possible)
- Information and GIS system established

UNEP/MAP policies under development to incorporate EA application progress

- Integrate the EA objectives/indicators in the ICZM Protocol Action Plan
- Updating SAP BIO as appropriate.
- Preparing Action plan to implement the Offshore Protocol
- Preparing Action Plan on marine litter
- Review of the management plans of 1-2 SPAMIs

COP Decision

Public awareness raising on the Ecoystem Approach

2010												2011												2012												2013											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

- Legal transposition of Directive
- Designation of competent authorities
- Communication of subdivision (Art.4)
- List of competent authorities
- For public consultation: draft initial assessment, draft set of characteristics for GES and draft comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators
- Finalised initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators
- For public consultation: draft monitoring programme

EU MSFD
National implementation

Development of IA, GES, ET+ I → **Public consultation** →

Development of mon. programme → **Consultation** → **Dev. of measures** →

- Establishment of criteria and methodological standards for GES
- Establishment of guidance on social and economic analysis
- Establishment of reporting formats for data and information in initial assessment
- Assessment report on the contribution of the MSFD to other international obligations, etc.
- Assessment reports on GES, environmental targets and indicators

EU
Common Implementation Strategy

Integrated Monitoring Programme

- Updating national monitoring programme on
- Assessment of needs for implementing the updated national monitoring programmes

Review and development of Action Plans and Programmes of measures to take into account the EA application progress

- New regional plans on LBS protocol identified and developed as appropriate
- Regional plans on endangered species, updated or new ones developed as appropriate
- Regional strategy to combat pollution from ships updated
- Update as appropriate NAPs (LBS) and SAPs (BIO) to reflect the targets and commitments under the regional plans
- Management plans of selected SPA and SPAMIs, adjusted to reflect the EA application progress and other requirements under the Barcelona convention and its protocols as well as commitment under the regional plans
- Establishment of new protected areas, as appropriate and development and implementation of their management plans in order to address priority issues identified by the Initial Assessment as well as EA progress
- National ICZM strategies and coastal plans to take into account EA application progress

COP Decision

Public awareness raising on the Ecoystem Approach

Integrated of Monitoring Programme

- Implementing national monitoring programme in line with the integrated regional one with coordinated support from the Secretariat, where appropriate
- Reporting monitoring data and information on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols

- SoE report finalised in the form of quality status report and submitted to the CPs meeting

Review and development of Action Plans and Programmes of measures to take into account the EA application progress

- New regional plans on LBS protocol identified and developed as appropriate
- Regional plans on endangered species, updated or new ones developed as appropriate
- Update as appropriate NAPs (LBS) and SAPs (BIO) to reflect the targets and commitments under the regional plans
- Management plans of selected SPA and SPAMIs, adjusted to reflect the EA application progress and other requirements under the Barcelona convention and its protocols as well as commitment under the regional plans
- Establishment of new protected areas, as appropriate and development and implementation of their management plans in order to address priority issues identified by the Initial Assessment as well as EA progress
- National ICZM strategies and coastal plans to take into account EA application progress

Review process and implementation of its outcome

- Coordinated review of national and regional/subregional assessment
- Review progress achieved towards EO, OO, Indicators and Targets
- Evaluation of implementation of regional plans, legally binding measures
- COP decisions to suggest policy/adjustment and revision of monitoring programmes as appropriate and other regional policy instruments

COP Decision

Public awareness raising on the Ecoystem Approach

2014												2015												2016												2017											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

EU MSFD
National implementation

- Monitoring programme finalised for implementation
- For public consultation: draft programme of measures
- Programme of measures established
- Entry into operation of programme of measures
- For public consultation: draft review of initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated

Dev. progr. of measures → **Public consultation** →

Development of first review IA, GES, ET+I → **Public consultation** →

EU
Common Implementation Strategy

- Assessment report on programmes of
- Progress report on the establishment of marine protected areas
- Assessment report on monitoring programmes
- First evaluation report of the implementation of the MSFD (by 2019 at the latest)

Integrated Monitoring Programmes

- Implementing national monitoring programme in line with the integrated regional one with coordinated support from the Secretariat, where appropriate
- Reporting monitoring data and information on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols

Development and implementation of Action Plans and Programmes of measures to take into account the EA application progress

- New regional plans based on LBS protocol identified and developed as appropriate
- Regional plans on endangered species, updated or new ones developed as appropriate
- Updating as appropriate and implement their NAPs (LBS) and SAPs (BIO) to reflect the targets and commitments under the regional plans
- Management plans of selected SPA and SPAMIs, adjusted to reflect the EA application progress and other requirements under the Barcelona convention and its protocols as well as commitment under the regional plans
- Establishment of new protected areas, as appropriate and development and implementation of their management plans in order to address priority issues identified by the EA
- National ICZM strategies and coastal plans to take into account EA application progress

Review process and implementation of its outcome

- Suggest the necessary policy adjustment as appropriate to the meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2019 with regard to, EO, OO, Indicators, Targets and monitoring programme
- Implementation of 2017 COP decisions related to the adjustment as appropriate of the regional policies, legally binding measures and monitoring programme.
- COP 2019 decision to approve the necessary updates and revisions of regional policies and targets, legally binding measures and regional plans.

COP Decision

Public awareness raising on the Ecoystem Approach

2018												2019											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

EU MSFD
National implementation

Review established of initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators

For public consultation: draft review of monitoring programme

Development of first review of monitoring programme
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EU
Common Implementation Strategy