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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the Mediterranean Action Plan Focal Points

Athens (Greece), 28 November–1 December 2011

Report

of the meeting of the Mediterranean Action Plan Focal Points

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Introduction

1. In accordance with the programme of work adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its protocols at their sixteenth meeting, held in Marrakech, Morocco, in November 2009, the meeting of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) focal points was held at the Divani Caravel Hotel in Athens from 28 November to 1 December 2011.

Attendance

2. The following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention were represented at the meeting: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, the European Union, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

3. The following United Nations Programmes, Specialized Agencies, and Related Organizations were represented by observers: UNDP - Black Sea, UNEP (ROWA and DELC), FAO, FAO Eastmed, WHO, IAEA.

4. The following other Intergovernmental Organizations and Non-governmental organizations were represented by observers: EEA, IOM, IUCN, PERSGA, Clean up Greece, ECAT-Tirana, ENDA Maghreb, Environmental Perception, Greenpeace, HELMEPA, INARE, INDEMER, MEDASSET, MEDSOS, MEDWET, MIO-ECSDE, TUDAV and WWF

5. The complete list of participants is included as annex 1 to this report.

I. Opening of the meeting

6. Following an informal meeting of heads of delegation, the meeting was opened at 9.25 a.m. on Monday, 28 November 2011, by Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, the MAP Coordinator. Opening and welcoming statements were delivered by the Coordinator and Mr. Aris Alexopoulos, General Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Greece.

7. In her statement, the Coordinator said that MAP had achieved much since the previous meeting of the focal points, notwithstanding the challenging political and economic context and the difficult financial situation resulting from past shortcomings in risk management and controls. Highlighting major recent and upcoming events in the field of environment, she welcomed the entry into force of two protocols to the Barcelona Convention. Only the amendments to the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea remained to enter into force, at which point emphasis would shift from legal development to implementation and compliance. Implementation would be facilitated by focus on an ecosystems approach. Turning to the secretariat's challenging internal circumstances, she described the measures taken to resolve the situation and to ensure that it did not reoccur. She said that the secretariat was impartial and would strive to reinforce its relationship of trust with the Contracting Parties, reiterating her commitment, and that of the other staff, to ensuring that MAP delivered the expected results.

8. Mr. Alexopoulos, in his statement, welcomed the participants to Athens. He said that MAP stood at an important crossroads in its work, at a time when many Mediterranean countries were facing significant economic and social issues. His Government would continue fully to support MAP, given that it played a catalysing role for environmental protection and for the promotion of sustainable economic development and peace and stability in the region. He highlighted the many achievements of MAP over its 35 years of operation and urged the focal points to ensure that their work would enable all countries to focus their efforts on the implementation of policies, thereby fulfilling the mandate of the Barcelona Convention,

enhancing the status of MAP and attaining the goal of a clean, healthy and sustainable Mediterranean.

II. Organizational matters

A. Rules of procedure

9. The focal points agreed that the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (UNEP/IG 43/6, annex XI, as amended by the Contracting Parties (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.1/5 and UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.3/5)) would apply mutatis mutandis to their deliberations.

B. Election of officers

10. In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, the focal points unanimously elected the following Bureau:

President: Mr. Mohamed Benyahia (Morocco)

Vice-Presidents: Mr. François Gave (France)

Mr. Habib ben Moussa (Tunisia)

Mr. Patrick van Klaveren (Monaco)

Mr. Redi Baduni (Albania)

Rapporteur: Mr. Charalambos Hajipakkos (Cyprus)

C. Adoption of the provisional agenda

11. The focal points adopted their agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda circulated as document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/1 after amendments.

D. Organization of work

12. The focal points agreed to work in plenary session and to establish working groups to consider specific issues as necessary. However, some representatives have also expressed the opportunity to consider working in parallel to ensure the full discussion of all the points in the agenda.

III. Progress report on activities carried out during the biennium 2010–2011

13. The MAP Deputy Coordinator and the directors of the MAP components described the activities carried out during the biennium 2010–2011, as set out in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/3.

14. Ms. Daniela Addis, representative of the Chair of the Compliance Committee, gave a short summary of the Committee's work since the previous meeting of the MAP focal points. She reported that by 1 November 2011, only 15 Contracting Parties had submitted their national reports on the steps that they had taken to implement the Barcelona Convention for the period 2008–2009, specifying that this is a provisional estimate, because two other Contracting Parties have informed the Secretariat that their reports will shortly be submitted. The Committee was awaiting the Secretariat's conclusions as to whether the reports had brought to light cases of potential non-compliance. It was also underlined that, since the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2009, the Committee has not met for 20 months. The Committee had prepared two brochures on its activities to be published on the website, one targeting Contracting Parties and the other the public. It had also produced some procedural documents to assist it in considering cases of potential non-compliance. The Committee would

prepare a report on its activities for the biennium 2010–2011 to be submitted to the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth ordinary meeting, in February 2012.

15. The focal points expressed appreciation for the work of Mr. Francisco Saverio Civili, who was retiring from his post as Coordinator of the Programme for the Assessment and Control of Pollution in the Mediterranean Region (MED POL Programme).

16. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic submitted comments pertaining to the progress report, and to other items on the agenda, in written form for the consideration of the focal points.

A. General comments on the progress report

17. All the representatives welcomed the progress report and the switch to a thematic format that would enable a clearer description of the work undertaken and the greater integration of MAP governance. While stock should be taken of the achievements to provide a strong basis for work over the coming biennium, the report was insufficiently detailed: it highlighted progress and described the positive aspects of the secretariat's work, yet made little mention of the problems experienced during the period, such as delayed implementation. Laying more emphasis on difficulties, explaining which items from the previous workprogramme were not carried out and why, would increase transparency; the report should be more results oriented, i.e. focusing not on description of activity but on results achieved and on necessary follow up. In addition, some cross-cutting issues, such as the ecosystem approach and specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance, had received insufficient focus. In particular, the progress report did not present evidences of the activities included in the PoW 2010-2011 affected by the reduction of the available resources, consequent on the findings of the OIOS report.

18. Responding to the issues raised, the secretariat provided further details on cross-cutting activities and, on the matter of sustainable development, drew attention to work performed on the key concept of green economy. Attention was drawn to InfoMAP, the shared environmental information system and cooperation with the European Environment Agency; in reply to questions concerning UNEP/MAP involvement in an ongoing EEA-led project on SEIS in the neighbourhood countries, the Secretariat confirmed willingness of participation of southern Mediterranean countries, good collaboration and joint development with EEA of a project document until end of January 2012. Some representatives suggested that the progress report should be presented to the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth ordinary meeting to make them aware of achievements and opportunities for potential synergies in the field of biodiversity. The report should also evaluate the successes and failures of relevant activities and what could be done to improve performance and integration across all sectors.

B. Comments on the sections of the progress report

1. Governance

19. Many representatives commended the Compliance Committee on its work. Some raised issues, including the lack of detail in the report of the Secretariat's activities, in particular on the problems related to the National reports submitted by the Contracting Parties, on what it had achieved during the reporting period and asking for a provisional agenda of its forthcoming activity on this issue and the related timetable. They encouraged the Committee to facilitate specific compliance challenges faced by the Contracting Parties, for example, by supporting understanding of obligations under legally binding action plans and by intensifying collaboration with MEDPOL and SPA/RAC for identifying/addressing specific compliance difficulties. They also emphasized the need to avoid duplication of work with other bodies, institutions and entities while ensuring close cooperation and collaboration. Several congratulated the secretariat on its efforts to enhance cooperation with other organizations to increase MAP visibility at the global and regional levels, and requested more involvement of the Contracting Parties in setting priorities for future cooperation.

20. Responding to the issues raised, the secretariat said that any agreement between the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean and MAP was far from being finalized and would be discussed with the Contracting Parties in due course. On matters of cooperation and collaboration, were any agreement signed with the Union for the Mediterranean, the Union might focus on locating sources of funding for various initiatives, whereas MAP might concentrate on legal and policy issues. Discussions had also been held regarding the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, and collaboration with the European Environment Agency. It had become clear that there was much interest in forging synergies and work was proceeding on those and other related matters.

2. Integrated coastal zone management

21. Many representatives voiced appreciation for the work on integrated coastal zone management, expressing thanks for the efforts to assist countries in meeting the challenge to integrate activities under various protocols. That work area merited further development at the regional and national levels. Suggestions were made to enhance the coastal area management programme and to draw conclusions with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean. Emphasis should be laid on the impact of climate change on coastal zones and the linkages to the ecosystem approach, and how that approach would fit into the implementation of the Protocol.

22. The representative of Montenegro informed the focal points of the advanced status of ratification of the Protocol.

3. Biodiversity

23. A number of representatives stressed the importance of specially protected areas on the high seas, given that such areas were the only way of achieving target 11 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. One requested clarification of how the concept applied to the Adriatic Sea and suggested fostering synergies with relevant organizations. Another pointed out that such areas raised sensitive issues of jurisdiction, and a third suggested that neighbouring countries should reach regional agreements on transboundary protected areas before seeking global solutions under, for example, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Countries should also transpose the provisions of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean into their national legislation so as to raise public awareness and ensure that they were not inadvertently violated.

24. Several representatives emphasized the need to strengthen the study on the economic value of marine ecosystems and tackle the issue of alien invasive species, while also highlighting the links between the ecosystem approach and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.

25. The secretariat said that, with regard to specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance, the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas was cooperating with the secretariat of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention), among others, to exchange experiences with regard to the establishment of marine protected areas on the high seas. With regard to work carried out for specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance in areas located wholly and/or partly on the high seas, the Director of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas said that the countries concerned had established subregional working group and embarked upon national consultations.

4. Pollution control and prevention

26. Several representatives said that the MED POL Programme was an important component of MAP that was substantially contributing to member countries' pollution reduction

processes through the formulation of policies, assessments and capacity-building.. They also expressed appreciation for the work of Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea in assisting countries to implement the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. A number of guidelines had been prepared by the Centre and implemented in other regions, thus enhancing the visibility of the Mediterranean. It was asked whether national contingency plans covered accidents from offshore activities.

27. Many representatives said that more emphasis should have been laid on the number of countries that had received assistance to put in place monitoring programmes. In addition, the development of collaborative activities as part of the ecosystems approach was encouraged. Some suggested that there should be a sharper focus on the links between the MED POL Programme and the ecosystem approach.

28. Responding to the issues raised, the secretariat clarified that assessments were tools used to formulate guidelines and policies and also to ascertain whether objectives had been achieved. Under the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, operators of offshore units under the jurisdiction of parties were required to have oil pollution emergency plans or similar arrangements that must be coordinated with national systems for responding promptly and effectively to pollution incidents. Workshops on risk evaluation were being held, including one on offshore risk.

5. Sustainable consumption and production

29. Some representatives noted that the issue of sustainable development was broad in scope, stressing that MAP was not the appropriate forum for the discussion of all the relevant issues. MAP must identify the extent to which it was to become involved in activities on the subject while remaining focused on its core activities in a period of scarce financial resources and need for prioritisation of activities. It would also be useful to evaluate impact of activities on the Mediterranean environment. However, other representatives voiced strong support for the activities on sustainable consumption and production that had been developed, suggesting that MAP should continue its work in supporting the Contracting Parties in work on those and green economy issues. In their view, these activities ensure the inter-face between MAP's core business and broader environmental issues.

30. Several representatives also highlighted the importance of the green economy concept, of fostering synergies and of adopting a forward-thinking approach. It was said that it was important to identify elements still to be considered under the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development adopted in 2005, that the Contracting Parties could become involved only in areas in which they had been authorized by their Governments to act, and that sustainable consumption and production was an over-arching objective in the Strategy.

6. Climate change

31. Many representatives lauded the work undertaken on climate change, noting that the Mediterranean was one of the regions most vulnerable to the impacts of that phenomenon and that such work would make the Mediterranean better able to face the challenges that it posed through a better understanding of potential impacts and ecological vulnerabilities. There was also a need to reduce the social and economic vulnerabilities associated with climate change, and MAP should focus primarily on the impacts of climate change rather than on mitigation. Attention was drawn to the need to ensure linkages between existing and planned activities, and to the importance of focusing on the specific needs and strategic priorities of the Mediterranean. Some considered that the remarks on relevance and need for focusing of these activities so that they support MAP's core activities, submitted for the SCP section, concerned climate change as well. The secretariat should compile a list of opportunities and activities to help countries to gain access to financing mechanisms, in addition to developing a

unified data set for all Contracting Parties with a view to facilitating the implementation of adaptation measures.

IV. Specific matters for consideration and action

A. Work and election of the new members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee (draft decision 17/1)

32. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/4.

33. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

B. Reporting on measures taken to implement the Convention and its protocols (draft decision 17/2)

34. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/6.

35. The focal points decided to establish a working group to discuss the draft decision further and, following the working group's proposals, approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

C. Amendments to annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (draft decision 17/3)

36. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/8, drawing particular attention to the proposed transfer of 10 species of pisces from Annex III to Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.

37. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

38. The representative of the European Union, while agreeing to the need for efficient protection of sharks and rays in the Mediterranean, said that final approval would need to await the outcomes of internal discussions, which were taking longer than originally expected. Several participants encouraged the EU to accelerate internal processes with a view to reach consensus on this important decision well in advance of the COP meeting.

D. Action Plan to implement the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (draft decision 17/4)

39. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/5.

40. The focal points decided to refer the draft decision to a working group and, following its proposals, approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

E. Mediterranean Action Plan initial integrated assessment, ecological and operational objectives, indicators and road map implementation timetable, update on policies including Mediterranean Action Plan data management and sharing policy (draft decision 17/5)

41. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/7/Corr.1.

42. The focal points agreed that the integrated assessment report document (UNEP(DEPI) MED WG 363/Inf.21) should be presented to the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting.

43. Following proposals in a working group, the focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

44. Several representatives expressed the view that, given the overarching relevance of the Ecosystem Approach topic, a coordinated and prioritized implementation of the initiative should be ensured through consideration in the PoW 2012-2013 Main Activities, expected results and the allotments of MTF funds.

F. Conservation of sites of particular ecological interest in the Mediterranean (draft decision 17/6)

45. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/10.

46. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting, with scrutiny reservations expressed by the representatives of Egypt, Israel and Turkey. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report. At their request, the secretariat will prepare an analysis of MAP jurisprudence on terminology used regarding areas behind national jurisdiction and references to international law.

47. Given that the representatives of Egypt, Greece, Israel and Turkey had each expressed a reservation, the focal points agreed to continue considering the matter by correspondence with a view to facilitating its conclusion.

G. New programme of work for the action plan for the conservation of marine vegetation (draft decision 17/7)

48. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/9, clarifying that the planned actions for 2012–2013 were already included in programme of work for that biennium.

49. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

H. Regional plans on mercury, persistent organic pollutants and BOD in the food sector in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the Land-based Sources and Activities Protocol to the Barcelona Convention (draft decision 17/8)

50. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/11.

51. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting, with reservations expressed by the representative of France (on mercury and persistent organic pollutants) and the representative of the European Union (on the three regional plans), on the understanding that the current single decision to which the three regional plans were annexed would be separated into three

separate decisions within a single document. The draft decisions are set out in annex 4 to the present report.

52. Given that the representatives of France and the European Union had each expressed a reservation, the focal points agreed to continue considering the matter by correspondence with a view to facilitating its conclusion.

I. Criteria and standards for bathing water quality in the Mediterranean (draft decision 17/9)

53. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/12.

54. Following discussion and the proposal of some amendments, the representative of Spain expressed a reservation regarding the formula used for criteria and standards for bathing waters.

55. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting, taking note of the reservation expressed. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

56. Given that the representative of Spain had expressed a reservation, the focal points agreed to continue considering the matter by correspondence with a view to facilitating its conclusion.

J. Marine litter strategy (draft decision 17/10)

57. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/13.

58. The EU representative said that he could adopt the decision only if several activities of the strategic framework were included in the 2012–2013 MAP programme of work.

59. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

K. Regional strategy addressing ballast water management and invasive species (draft decision 17/11)

60. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/14.

61. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

L. Action plan to implement 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 (draft decision 17/12)

62. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/15.

63. The focal points approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

M. Governance (draft decision 17/13)

64. The secretariat introduced the draft decision in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/16.

65. The focal points examined the draft decision, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting, with a reservation expressed by the representative of Italy. Taking into account that the annexes of the draft decision were not discussed in the meeting, it was agreed that a written procedure will be opened to receive written comments on the resource mobilization strategy and the TORs for the functional review of the whole MAP system, which will be accompanied by a management by performance assessment based on which the annexes will be amended. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

66. Given that the representative of Italy had expressed a reservation, the focal points agreed to continue considering the matter by correspondence with a view to facilitating its conclusion.

V. Programme of work and budget for the period 2012–2013 (draft decision 17/14)

67. The secretariat introduced the draft decision, in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG363/17

68. The focal points decided to refer the draft decision to a working group and, following its proposals, approved the draft decision, as amended, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their seventeenth meeting. Taking into account that the Tables concerning the 2012-2013 PoW, as included in Annex II, were not discussed in the meeting, it was agreed that a written procedure will be opened to receive written comments on the Tables concerning the 2012-2013 PoW, as included in Annex II, based on which the annexes will be amended with reservations expressed by the representatives of Greece and Italy. The draft decision is set out in annex 4 to the present report.

69. Given that the representatives of Greece and Italy had each expressed a reservation, the focal points agreed to continue considering the matter by correspondence with a view to facilitating its conclusion.

VI. Provisional agenda of the seventeenth meeting of the Contracting Parties

70. The focal points took note of the draft agenda presented in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 363/18. Emphasis was laid on the need to develop a common Mediterranean position for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012.

VII. Other matters

71. No other matters were discussed.

VIII. Adoption of the report

72. The present report was adopted by correspondence following the conclusion of the meeting, as time constraints precluded its adoption during the meeting.

IX. Closure of the meeting

73. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was declared closed at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday, 1 December 2011.

ANNEX I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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ANNEX II

AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the meeting**
- 2. Organizational matters**
 - a) Rules of procedure for meeting of the MAP Focal Points*
 - b) Election of officers*
 - c) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda*
 - d) Organization of work*
- 3. Progress Report on activities carried out during 2010-2011 biennium**
 - 3.1 Governance
 - 3.1.1 Legal Issues*
 - 3.1.2 Cooperation and partnerships*
 - 3.1.3 Implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap*
 - 3.1.4 Knowledge sharing and information*
 - 3.1.5 Financial Implementation and Personnel and administrative Matters 2010-2011*
 - 3.1.6 Climatic change*
 - 3.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management
 - 3.3 Biodiversity
 - 3.4 Pollution Control and Prevention
 - 3.5 Sustainable Consumption and Production
 - 3.6 Climate change
- 4. Specific Matters for consideration and action by the meeting**
 - 4.1 Work and election of the new members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee (Draft Decision 17/1)
 - 4.2 Reporting on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols and Reporting Format on ICZM Protocol (Draft Decision 17/2)
 - 4.3 Amendments to the Annexes II and III of the Protocol on SPA/Biodiversity (Draft Decision 17/3)
 - 4.4 Action Plan to implement ICZM Protocol (Draft Decision 17/4)
 - 4.5 MAP initial integrated assessment, ecological and operational objectives, indicators and roadmap implementation timetable, update on policies including MAP data management and sharing policy (Draft Decision 17/5)
 - 4.6 Conservation of sites of particular ecological interest (Draft Decision 17/6)
 - 4.7 New programme of work for the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation (Draft Decision 17/7)
 - 4.8 Regional Plans on Mercury, POPs and BOD in the food sector in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol of the Barcelona Convention (Draft Decision 17/8)
 - 4.9 Criteria and standards for bathing water quality in the Mediterranean (Draft Decision 17/9)

- 4.10 Marine litter Strategy (Draft Decision 17/10)
- 4.11 Regional strategy addressing ship's ballast water management and invasive species (Draft Decision 17/11)
- 4.12 Action Plan to implement the Offshore Protocol (Draft Decision 17/12)
- 4.13 Governance (Draft Decision 17/13)
- 5. Programme of Work and Budget 2012-2013 (Draft Decision 17/14)**
 - 6.1 Programme of Work for 2012-2013
 - 6.2 Budget of the Coordinating Unit and MAP components, staffing and functional review (Heads of delegations only)
 - 6.3 Ordinary and Voluntary contributions to the MTF (Heads of delegations only)
- 6. Provisional Agenda of the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties**
- 7. Any other business**
- 8. Adoption of the report**
- 9. Closure of the meeting**

ANNEX III

17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Paris (France), 8-10 February 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Rules of procedure
 - 2.2 Election of officers
 - 2.3 Adoption of the agenda
 - 2.4 Organization of work
 - 2.5 Credentials
3. Decisions
4. Topics for ministerial segments:
 - 4.1 Biodiversity and the ecosystems approach for a healthy and productive Mediterranean
 - 4.2 Measures to accelerate the integrated management of the Mediterranean coast
 - 4.3 Paris Declaration
5. Date and place of the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the report
8. Closure of the meeting

ANNEX IV
DRAFT DECISIONS

Draft Decision I

Compliance Committee: amendment to the Compliance Procedures and mechanisms, programme of work for Biennium 2012-2013 and partial renewal of membership

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Articles 18 and 27 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, as amended at Barcelona in 1995, hereinafter “the Barcelona Convention”,

Also recalling decision IG 17/2 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2008, by which they approved the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, hereinafter “the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms”, and particularly paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 35 of the aforementioned,

Also recalling decision IG 19/1 of the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties, by which they approved the Rules of Procedure for the Compliance Committee,

Having considered the report on the activities of the Compliance Committee, submitted to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties by the Committee's Chair, pursuant to section VI of decision IG 17/2, for the 2010-2011 biennium,

Emphasizing that the Compliance Committee's role is to provide advice and assistance to Contracting Parties to implement its recommendations and those of Meetings of the Contracting Parties in order to assist them in complying with their obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and to generally facilitate, promote, monitor and secure such compliance,

Noting with satisfaction the Compliance Committee's implementation, during its two meetings, of its programme of work for the period covered by the report,

Having considered the proposed programme of work for the Compliance Committee covering the 2012-2013 biennium,

Strongly emphasizing the importance for Contracting Parties to comply with their obligations regarding the timely submission of reports on the measures taken to implement the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols during the period 2010-2011, as well as decisions by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties, and for this purpose to use the new standardized reporting format now available online,

Noting the Compliance Committee's decision to propose the amendment of paragraph 6 of the Annex II of Decision IG 17/2 on the Compliance Procedures and Mechanism, in order to allow Committee members to serve a second consecutive term on the Committee,

Encourages Contracting Parties to bring before the Compliance Committee for its consideration any problems of interpretation concerning implementation of the provisions of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

Urges those Contracting Parties that have not yet done so to submit their reports on implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as soon as possible;

Requests the MAP components to provide the Committee with all relevant information to assist it in carrying out its activities,

Requests the Compliance Committee, pursuant to paragraph 17, (b), of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms, to consider general compliance issues, such as recurrent non-compliance problems;

Notes with satisfaction the two guide leaflets on the subject of Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms approved in Decision IG 17/2, which are included in document UNEP (DEPI) MED WG 363/ Inf 16, drawn up by the Compliance Committee, and aimed respectively at the Contracting Parties and at the public at large;

Requests the Compliance Committee, pursuant to paragraph 31 of the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance, to submit a report on its activities to the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, making particular note of any difficulties encountered in the application of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

Approves the Compliance Committee's proposal to amend paragraph 6 of the Annex to the Decision IG 17/2 on the subject of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanism, the wording of which is set out in Annex I to this Decision;

Elects and/or confirms to the Compliance Committee the list of candidates nominated by the Contracting Parties the members and alternates listed in Annex II to this Decision, pursuant to Decision IG 17/2 on the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms for the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

Approves the programme of work for the Compliance Committee for biennium 2012-2013, which is set out in Annex III to this Decision.

Annex I

Decision IG 17/2 regarding Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms for the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

I. Compliance Committee

Paragraph 6 of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms is modified as follows:

6. Members and alternate members shall not serve on the Committee for more than two consecutive terms.

Annex II

Members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee elected/renewed by the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties

Group I – Contracting Parties of the South and East of the Mediterranean

- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as member for a term of four years
- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as alternate member for a term of four years

Group II - Contracting Parties which are European Union members

- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as member for a term of four years
- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as member for a term of four years
- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as alternate member for a term of four years
- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as alternate member for a term of four years

Group III – Other Contracting Parties

- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as member for a term of four years
- Mr./Ms., elected/renewed as alternate member for a term of four years

Annex III

Programme of Work for the Compliance Committee for the 2012-2013 Biennium, approved at the Fifth meeting of the Compliance Committee

Athens, Greece, November 2011

The Compliance Committee is to carry out the following tasks during the 2012-2013 biennium according to the following procedures:

- a) The calling of one regular meeting of the Compliance Committee per year. A second meeting if need be can be organized, subject to availability of funds;
- b) The attendance at Compliance Committee meetings of the members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee, of the representatives of Parties concerned, and, where appropriate, of any observers, pursuant to the Rules of Procedure;
- c) The furnishing of advice, and, where appropriate, assistance to concerned Parties, pursuant to paragraph 32 (a) and (b) of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms.

The Compliance Committee is to address the following issues:

- a) Evaluation of any referrals submitted to the Committee by Contracting Parties pursuant to paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms;
- b) Analysis of general non-compliance issues in the implementation of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms, based on the Contracting Parties' national reports for the biennium 2008-2009;
- c) Evaluation of matters referred to the Committee by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 23 of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;
- d) Analysis of broader issues requested by the meeting of the Contracting Parties pursuant to Paragraph 17 (c) of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms, including in-depth consideration of issues raised by the MAP Components on the implementation of the protocols;
- e) Analysis of any proposal with the view to reinforce the role of the Compliance Committee in the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols;
- f) Examination of possible difficulties of interpretation of the provisions of the protocols for consideration at the meeting of the Contracting Parties;
- g) Preparation and adoption of the Committee's report and recommendations for submission to the 18th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Draft decision II

Adoption of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Having regard to the Resolutions of the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries for adopting in January 2008 the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean herein after referred to as ICZM Protocol, and Article 4, paragraph 3, point (e) of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in 1995,

Taking into account Article 4, paragraph 4, point (a) of the Barcelona Convention, where it is foreseen that “In implementing the Convention and the related Protocols, The Contracting Parties shall: (a) adopt programmes and measures which contain, where appropriate, time limits for their completion”,

Acknowledging the major importance of the entry into force of the ICZM Protocol on 24 March 2011 following the deposit of six instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, according to Article 39 of the ICZM Protocol by Albania, the European Union, France, Slovenia, Spain and Syria,

Recognizing the importance of having the ICZM Protocol ratified by all Contracting Parties with a view to effectively promoting the sustainable development of the coastal zones and management of land and marine parts in an integrated manner,

Aware that the implementation of this Protocol is of utmost importance for the protection of the coastal zones and their sustainable development and the wellbeing of coastal populations,

Recognizing that the implementation of the ICZM Protocol implies the integration of ICZM principles, objectives and actions into national policy frameworks and instruments, the enhancement of the governance mechanisms, the engagement of stakeholders and development of partnerships, as well as capacity building and awareness raising,

Convinced that a strategic operational vision is needed to guide the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat in this endeavour,

Considering that effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol calls for complementary and coordinated actions at different levels facilitated by the Coordinating Unit and MAP Components and in synergy with other organizations, networks and relevant programmes in the region,

Decides to adopt the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol 2012-2019 contained in the Annex to this decision that highlights and identifies key priorities, expected major outputs and accomplishments, time frames for their achievement, necessary partnerships to be established and the potential financial resources required/needed for its successful implementation.

Considers that among the activities and expected outputs in the Action Plan, priorities in the Programme of Work of the next biennium should be given to the development of the national strategies, the assessment of the state of the Mediterranean coasts, including through data gathering and indicators' monitoring, and to the Protocol implementation projects (CAMPs).

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties also

Urges all the Contracting Parties who have not yet done so, to ratify the ICZM Protocol as early as possible with the view to ensuring its entry into force for all the Parties, as appropriate, by the 18th meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Invites the Contracting Parties to inform the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC about the measures taken to implement the ICZM Protocol and, the difficulties encountered, in order to enable the Secretariat to develop an effective capacity building and assistance programme based on the needs of the Contracting Parties, and to report accordingly to the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Call upon the Contracting Parties to take measures, which contain time frames for their completion, as appropriate, to implement the ICZM Protocol Action Plan and to report on their effectiveness to the Secretariat on a biennial basis,

Invites MAP partners from civil society and other relevant international and regional organizations to contribute to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol Action Plan through partnerships and cooperation with the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat,

Requests the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to coordinate the implementation of the Action Plan while also ensuring the support of concerned MAP components with a view to support Contracting Parties with technical assistance and mobilization of financial resources, where appropriate, to undertake and successfully implement the outputs agreed in the Action Plan.

Annex I

Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean 2012-2019

I. Introduction

The Mediterranean Action Plan – Barcelona Convention (UNEP/MAP) has paved the way to a global and integrated approach of coastal zone management. Since its establishment, the UNEP/MAP has been concerned by spatial development of coastal zones, the need for assessing and measuring pressures from human activities as well as promoting policy responses.

The creation of the Blue Plan and the PAP Regional Activities Centres was a clear signal that Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention would cooperate on that major dimension of the MAP. Blue Plan studies popularized the concept of “lateralization” and the CAMP approach implemented under PAP guidance provided practical experience of its implementation requirements.

Following the Rio Earth Summit held in 1992, the adoption of the Agenda 21 including its important and innovative chapter on oceans and coastal zones, Mediterranean countries agreed to revise the Barcelona Convention, aiming at modernizing and upgrading its concepts, principles and provisions, putting them in line with the Rio Declaration and the Agenda 21 and integrating coastal zones in its scope. The amended Convention is now entitled “Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean”.

A major achievement for UNEP/MAP was the adoption by the Contracting to the Barcelona Convention of a new Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM Protocol) in Madrid on January 2008, which entered into force on 24 March 2011. The Protocol is based on and further develops the amended legal Convention, building on in-depth studies on the littoralisation process and taking account the experience gained with the CAMP program as well as national initiatives on coastal zone management.

The moment has come to prioritize UNEP/MAP’s engagement in the implementation of the Protocol. The innovation and success achieved with the adoption of the Protocol should now be followed by shifting our attention to the necessary changes it outlines for the benefit of our threatened coastal ecosystems.

By outlining priority initial activities, this Action Plan is meant to support Contracting Parties, the Secretariat and partners in meeting the challenges of implementation.

II. Mandate to prepare this document

The mandate for this Action Plan is given by Resolution II of the Madrid Conference of Plenipotentiaries, January 2008:

“The Conference,

Having adopted the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean (hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”),

Having regard to Article 17 of the Barcelona Convention in which the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is designated as responsible for carrying out the secretariat functions of the Convention and of any Protocol thereto,

Bearing in mind the urgent need to halt and reverse the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management,

Desirous of facilitating the earliest practicable implementation of the Protocol,

- 1. Invites the Contracting Parties and the Executive Director of UNEP to ensure that the Sixteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean considers the measures and actions necessary for the successful implementation of the Protocol.*
- 2. Calls on the Executive Director of UNEP to initiate consultations with the Contracting Parties on the work plan and timetable for meetings of experts to elaborate the technical aspects of the implementation of the Protocol.*
- 3. Invites the Executive Director of UNEP to establish cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations in activities related to the implementation of the Protocol.*
- 4. Also calls on the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, pending the entry into force of the Protocol, to commence preparations for its implementation at the local, regional and national levels.”*

Article 4, paragraph 4 of the Barcelona Convention also requires the Contracting Parties:

“In implementing the Convention and the related Protocols, the Contracting Parties shall:

(a) adopt programmes and measures which contain, where appropriate, time limits for their completion.”

Further, the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Marrakesh, November 2009, additionally recognized that states, having ratified the Protocol, *“will be required to transpose its provisions into their national legislation. Demonstration programmes will need to be run with MAP backing in those states which have ratified the Protocol in order to test the effective conditions for its roll-out in the field.”* Demonstration projects are effective as concrete manifestations at the country level of the Protocol and serve as a model to others.

The ICZM Protocol represents therefore a tremendous challenge. In this respect, the MAP Secretariat shared with the Bureau (Zagreb, 8-9 November 2010) its vision with regard to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, main pillars of action, key outputs and process. The Bureau adopted a conclusion to go ahead with the preparation of the Action Plan and suggested that its preparation should take into account the content of key deliverables of the current programme of work.

The Bureau agreed with the proposed outline of and the roadmap for the ICZM Protocol implementation Action Plan as presented in document UNEP/BUR/71/4, highlighting in particular the special importance of Governance issues and encouraged the MAP Secretariat, PAP/RAC and its focal points to accelerate the finalization of the implementation Action Plan for consideration by the next Contracting Parties, as appropriate.

This Action Plan is presented to meet this requirement and for its consideration by the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.

III. Timeframe

Subject to the approval of this Action Plan at the 17th Contracting Parties meeting, the timeframe for this Action Plan is the 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2019.

A more detailed programme is attached to link to the UNEP/MAP:

- I. Existing biennium programme
- II. Remaining 3 years of the existing 5-year MAP programme to end 2014

IV. ICZM in the Mediterranean: Background and Context

In order to fully implement the ICZM Protocol it will be necessary to establish coordination and synergy between all initiatives in the Mediterranean, which affect the coastal zones, particularly those of the UN, the GEF, the European Union and other international bodies.

Mediterranean Action Plan – Barcelona Convention

The Mediterranean Action Plan - Barcelona Convention (UNEP/MAP-BC) is a multidisciplinary programmatic, legal and institutional framework of Mediterranean countries to protect and enhance marine and coastal environments and promote sustainable development. MAP has seven sectoral protocols, including the ICZM Protocol, supported at technical level by programmes and centres of cooperation, the Regional Activity Centres¹. The sectoral activity takes place alongside key cross-cutting issues including the Ecosystems Approach as defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity 1993 and the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development, along with integrated reporting and compliance. The Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention, which is based in Athens, coordinates the integrated implementation of the MAP's Programme of Work.

ICZM initiatives spread in the Mediterranean since the 1992 Rio Summit and the adoption of the Agenda 21 whose chapter 17 is dedicated to oceans and coastal zones. The subsequent revision of the Barcelona Convention and the re-focusing of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP-Phase II) in 1995 put the emphasis on coastal issues and the ICZM as a path to follow towards sustainable coastal development. This approach was re-confirmed by the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) of 2005.

The Regional Activity Centre for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC) with support of other MAP centres provides technical assistance, guidelines, and methodologies for the practical delivery of ICZM in the Mediterranean. The revised MAP Components' mandates, including the PAP/RAC mandate were adopted by the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Marrakech, Morocco, November 2009, and reflect their contribution for the implementation of the Protocol, the cross-cutting issues in particular. The specific objective of PAP/RAC is to:

"...contribute to sustainable development of coastal zones and sustainable use of their natural resources. In this respect, PAP/RAC's mission is to provide assistance to Mediterranean countries in the implementation of Article 4(i) of the Barcelona Convention, meeting their obligations under the ICZM Protocol and implement the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), 2005, and by carrying out, in particular, the tasks assigned to it in Article 32 of the ICZM Protocol, 2008."

A most important MAP activity in the field of ICZM has been the Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP) at the local level. The main benefits of CAMP include strengthening of institutional capacities, implementation of national information systems and integration of environmental issues in coastal planning.

An important added value of the ICZM Protocol is the strengthening of the legal basis to implement in an integrated manner the sectoral protocols of MAP.

The ICZM Action Plan is coherent and synergistic with the application by UNEP/MAP of the Ecosystems Approach to the management of human activities roadmap as per Decision IG 17/6 adopted by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (2008) and the consideration of the Ecosystems Approach as the overarching priority of UNEP/MAP's Programme of Work as decided by the Contracting Parties at their 16th Meeting (2009).

¹ BP-providing future scenarios, systemic and prospective analysis, assessments, indicators; PAP- sustainable development of coastal zones; SPA-protection, preservation and sustainable management of marine and coastal biodiversity; INFO-collecting and sharing information, communication and dissemination; REMPEC-prevention and reduction of pollution from ships and combating pollution in case of emergency; CP-sustainable production and consumption; and MEDPOL-prevention and elimination of land-based pollution.

It will also be implemented in connection with other MAP Global or sectoral strategies to be considered by the Conference of Parties, such as the MSSD, the SAP MED, i.e. legally binding measures under the LBS Protocol, the SAP BIO and Climate Change Adaptation.

In addition, it will also integrate those initiatives taken at the regional level to adapting to climate change in the context of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as recent developments affecting the development of the Mediterranean region and its environment. As an example, recent developments at the regional level such as the intensification of offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation and the prospect for marine renewable energy would have to be coherent with potential political decisions to be taken by the Parties for the implementation of the Nagoya strategy component on marine biodiversity and the establishment of MPA's.

GEF projects in the Mediterranean

The GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LME Project (The MedPartnership), implemented under the umbrella of UNEP and the World Bank responds directly to the priorities set by the countries of the Mediterranean Sea basin to protect their marine and coastal environment. It consists of two complementary components: a Regional Component implemented by UNEP/MAP and the Investment Fund implemented by the World Bank. The objective of the Regional Component is to: promote and induce harmonized policy, legal and institutional reforms; fill the knowledge gap aimed at reversing marine and coastal degradation trends and living resources depletion; and prepare the ground for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol. One of the key focuses of the Regional Component is to provide assistance to eligible countries in advancing their ICZM and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) plans with emphasis on the protection of biodiversity and the prevention of pollution from land-based sources. A related initiative will address ways to integrate Climate Variability and Change into National ICZM strategies. The MedPartnership therefore gives an excellent opportunity for collaboration of UNEP/MAP with many other organisations such as GEF, WB, EU, UNIDO, UNESCO and FFEM (French Global Environment Facility), to induce the implementation of integrated approaches and boost environmental investment in the field of pollution reduction, ICZM and biodiversity conservation, as appropriate.

European Union

Within the EU, since the 1970s, coastal zones are dealt with in cooperation with regional seas conventions. They are addressed in specific legal documents, such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008), the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001), the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001), the Water Framework Directive (2000), the Quality of Bathing Water Directive (1976; amended 2005), the Directive on Quality Required of Shellfish Waters (1979), the European Spatial Development Perspective (1999), and the EC Treaty (1999) Art. 130a.

The EU adopted two policy documents specifically relating to ICZM:

- Integrated Coastal Zone Management: a Strategy for Europe (2000); and
- Recommendation Concerning the Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe (2002), which encourages all member states to carry out national stock-take and to prepare national ICZM strategies.

Other marine policy instruments as the Commission's communication on the European Marine Strategy, Green Paper on the EU's Maritime Policy, COM(2007) 575 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "An Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union", COM(2008) 791 Communication from the Commission "Roadmap for Maritime Spatial Planning: Achieving Common Principles in the EU", COM(2009) 466 Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament "Towards an Integrated Maritime Policy for Better Governance in the Mediterranean", make an important contribution towards the implementation of ICZM policy within the EU. These documents, as well as the above mentioned legal instruments, are to be considered in the broader framework of the EU Maritime Policy launched in June 2006.

ICZM has a key role to play to deliver in the coastal zone, providing the bridging the interface between land and sea. More precisely, it is expected that ICZM *“would contribute to ensure coherence between policies, plans and programmes, and the effective nesting and implementation of plans and programmes at different scales of intervention. Working at different scales and across administrative and sectoral boundaries remains a formidable challenge, but is central to achieving integration. The overall result should be greater clarity, certainty and predictability of policy and decision-making. This will facilitate the sustainable development of maritime economies and enhance the livelihoods of coastal communities.”* (An evaluation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe; Communication from the Commission, COM (2007) 308)

ICZM is a high priority in a number of EU programmes including the Seventh Framework (FP7) to support research activities carried in trans-national cooperation. The major PEGASO project funded under FP7 is designed to support integrated policies for the coast and maritime realms of the Mediterranean and Black Sea. The European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI) has the promotion of joint planning methodologies across the Mediterranean with regard to integrated coastal zone management as one of its core priorities. Other programmes such as INTERREG IV support cross-border and transnational activity including for example the SHAPE project – a holistic approach including ICZM for 6 Adriatic countries.

Horizon 2020

In 2005, the European Commission launched the Horizon 2020 initiative in support of the EuroMediterranean partnership (Barcelona process). It aims to tackle the top sources of Mediterranean pollution by the year 2020 focusing on: industrial pollution, wastewater and waste. The EU has developed three programmes in support of this initiative. The European Investment bank Mediterranean facility (FEMIP) contributes to the financial implementation of the initiative.

The MED Programme: Maritime Security

The MED programme is an EU transnational cooperation programme (territorial cooperation objective) involving the following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Slovenia and Spain. The MED programme launched targeted calls for strategic projects in 2010. MED objective “Maritime risks prevention and maritime safety” is particularly important for the ICZM as it encourages countries to cooperate in order to mitigate potential risks for coastal and marine environments.

The Union for the Mediterranean, Barcelona process

The “Union for the Mediterranean” (UfM) has been launched to strengthen the political dimension of the partnership between the European countries and other Mediterranean countries. It has selected six priority projects, three of which are particularly relevant in the context of the Mediterranean ICZM initiatives: (a) the de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea; (b) the establishment of maritime and land highways; and (c) the development of renewable energy including in the marine environment.

Convention on Biological Diversity

The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Mediterranean Protocol) was adopted in the frame of the Barcelona Convention in 1995 and entered into force in 1999. The SPA/BD Mediterranean Protocol is the Mediterranean’s main tool for implementing the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as regards the sustainable management of coastal and marine biodiversity. The updated Strategic Plan for the implementation of the CBD specifically refers to ICZM as a key means of implementation (Strategic goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem service). At tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan in 2010, a decision on marine and coastal biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/29) was adopted.

V. Main Issues Related to the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol

ICZM remains the key tool for delivering the wide range of sectoral and institutional policies in the coastal zone, and the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean represents a major achievement in global terms in delivering a common agenda for a regional sea.

However, among the key issues constraining the full and effective implementation of the Protocol in the Mediterranean area:

- **ICZM is still localised and relatively short-term and project based. Major 'up scaling' is still required to meet fully the natural and anthropogenic challenges facing the Mediterranean.**
- **ICZM needs a strategic context to avoid piecemeal and potentially wasteful activity and to make a substantive impact.**
- **The practice of ICZM is still largely seen as an environmental activity, and is yet to fully engage those institutions and actors responsible for the social and economic pillars of sustainability.**
- **The planning and management of the marine and terrestrial areas of the coast remain rigidly divided between policies, administrations and institutions. More specifically, spatial planning for both the terrestrial and marine zones, a major tool for ICZM, needs strengthening and better implementation.**
- **Future risks and uncertainties, notably climate change and natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and tsunamis, need to be fully integrated into the ICZM process.**
- **ICZM's role as the key tool for the implementation of the ecosystem approach in the coastal area is not yet recognised.**

Uniquely, the ICZM Protocol provides a vehicle to address these issues in a concerted approach across the whole Mediterranean region. This Action Plan seeks to translate these provisions into a programme for ICZM that matches the high ambitions of the Protocol.

A comprehensive stock-take by PAP/RAC of all Contracting Parties to assess the status of the implementation of the ICZM Protocol is currently underway and its results will be available in the first half of 2012. Early results confirm that states employ a wide variety of legislative tools, instruments and programmes to implement the Protocol. Progress and capacity amongst the states varies with a similar degree of complexity.

However, it is clear that there are only a few isolated examples of specific legislation or established institutional frameworks in place for either the implementation of ICZM or the Protocol itself.

Specific issues relating to the comprehensive adoption and implementation of the ICZM Protocol need to be addressed at all levels - regional, national and local, namely:

- **The requirement for consistency of institutional structures and legal frameworks for ICZM governance, specially marine and terrestrial spatial planning.**
- **The need of clear strategic priorities to guide ICZM.**
- **The importance of human and technical capacity and institutional coordination for ICZM.**
- **The importance of awareness of the Protocol and ICZM both within the region and internationally.**

- **The need for a strong centre of ICZM excellence to support the implementation and monitoring of ICZM in the Mediterranean.**
- **The need for access to and exchange of high quality information, knowledge and research.**

VI. Implementation Responsibilities

The full and effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol will require a concerted effort by all MAP components under the overall leadership of the Coordinating Unit and the technical direction of the PAP/RAC. It will also require the active involvement of all Contracting Parties to promote synergies and coherence, and to avoid overlap with other initiatives of the partners in the region.

Article 32 of the Protocol refers to institutional coordination. Accordingly:

- Contracting Parties are responsible for the implementation of the Protocol, and reporting.
- MAP Coordinating Unit is responsible for the coordination and the monitoring of the implementation of the Protocol as per articles 13, 17 and 20 of the Barcelona Convention.
- The Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) provides technical and expert support.

VII. Objectives and Actions

The core purposes and objectives of this Action Plan are to implement the Protocol based on country-based planning and regional coordination.

- 1. Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM;**
- 2. Strengthen the capacities of Contracting Parties to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes; and**
- 3. Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements.**

Individual tasks included in the Action Plan are structured according to the three objectives above. These reflect the nature and scope of the Action Plan, which is not meant to be prescriptive but to respond to the needs of different administrative situations across the region. Rather, it should motivate the Contracting Parties to implement the Protocol while leaving them enough flexibility to do that at their own pace.

Each action relates to:

Outputs relating to the Contracting Parties

- Actions by all Contracting Parties to implement the ICZM Protocol.

Outputs relating to the MAP Components

- Supporting actions offered by the MAP Coordinating Unit, on behalf of the Organisation, and the Centre as defined by Article 32 of the ICZM Protocol, as well as other relevant MAP components.

Objective 1: Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM

1.1 Ratification and Transposition

The responsibility for ratification and transposition rests with the individual Contracting Parties. Contracting Parties are encouraged to ratify the Protocol as soon as possible.

Transposition will take longer and demonstrate a range of forms subject to national conditions and preference (e.g. executive law, specific law on coastal areas, spatial planning aiming at implementing the Protocol, specially articles 10, 11 and 12, national or regional master plan for coastal zone, etc.), or to amend existing legislation to comply with it (e.g. ICZM framework law). EU Member and Accession countries will also need to integrate relevant EU policies.

Based on the relevant provisions of the Barcelona Convention, support will be provided upon request to assist countries to adopt legally binding mechanisms and to build technical and human capacities.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 1.1.1 Ratification by all Contracting Parties of the Protocol.
- 1.1.2 Transposition by all Contracting Parties into legislation or guidance, and adoption of legally binding mechanisms.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 1.1.3 Support for countries to adopt legally binding measures and transpose the Protocol into national legislation through, for example, comparative and gap analyses, or the dissemination of good practice.

1.2 Strengthening and Supporting Governance

Cross-sectoral institutional governance structures at regional, national and local levels will be essential to provide effective delivery mechanisms for ICZM. Such structures will vary according to local circumstances, but should extend the remit and 'ownership' of the ICZM process beyond its traditional identification as an environmental activity to encompass other key drivers such as economic activities, in particular agriculture and fisheries, tourism, energy, transport and infrastructure, pursuant to Article 9 of the Protocol. These will also help change the behavior of the actors at all levels by enhancing relationships among them with regard to coastal zones. At this, particular effort will be made to reach the business sector and use the potential it offers.

The development of an "ICZM Governance Platform" is currently underway, led by the PAP Centre as part of the EU-funded FP7 project PEGASO. The partnership also includes Plan Bleu as well as a wide range of international and national institutions. It is envisaged that the PAP/RAC will continue to host and maintain this Platform after the project is completed to provide permanent support to ICZM in the Mediterranean.

The ICZM Governance Platform will provide an on-line and interactive resource to support the implementation of ICZM. The Platform will enable: the sharing of data and information, case studies, tools and applications; to support coastal planning and management; to guide future policy implementation under the Barcelona Convention and contribute to the transformation in governance structures. As such, it could provide the foundation for an "ICZM Observatory" as a component of the coastal monitoring and observation mechanisms and networks proposed in the Protocol (Article 16).

Article 17 of the Protocol, “Mediterranean Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management” calls for the Parties to define, with the assistance of the Centre, a common regional framework for integrated coastal zone management in the Mediterranean to be implemented by means of appropriate regional action plans and other operational instruments, as well as through their national strategies.

Based on progress and learning achieved in the understanding of local and national governance structures and the issues which could benefit from a regional governance approach, a first outline of the Common Regional Framework for ICZM will be prepared by compiling the articles of the MSSD related to the coastal zone. This approach will not only facilitate the work on the Common Regional Framework but will clearly show that the ratification of the Protocol and the implementation of this Action Plan are a logical continuation of the steps undertaken to implement the MSSD.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 1.2.1 Cross-sectoral and institutional governance mechanisms, such as inter-ministerial committees, coastal commissions and fora, established for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol at and between national and local levels.
- 1.2.2 Common Regional Framework for ICZM developed (under revised MSSD).
- 1.2.3 Transboundary strategies for ICZM allowing for coordination of national coastal strategies, plans and programmes related to contiguous coastal zones, in accordance with the Common Regional Framework developed under revised MSSD).

Outputs: MAP Components

- 1.2.4 Assistance to the Contracting Parties as required in the development of governance structures, including for example the carrying out of gap analyses of legal and institutional arrangements, and the improvement of human and technical capacities.
- 1.2.5 Development and continuous improvement of the ICZM Governance Platform to support CPs in the implementation of ICZM through the provision of information and expert tools, including its continued maintenance and refinement throughout the whole Action Plan period.
- 1.2.6 Based on progress and learning from national and local strategies, assessment of gaps and needs to be included in Common Regional Framework for ICZM.
- 1.2.7 Coordination of the preparation of the Common Regional Framework (under the revised MSSD).

1.3 Adopting National Strategies and Coastal Implementation Plans and Programmes

Article 18 of the ICZM Protocol requires each Party to further strengthen or formulate “a national strategy for integrated coastal zone management along with coastal implementation plans and programmes consistent with the common regional framework...”. A number of national strategies are already complete, underway or proposed; these should mutually reinforce the development of the common regional framework.

Work is already underway to prepare guidelines for the preparation of the national ICZM strategies and the coastal plans and programmes required by the Protocol. Guidelines are in preparation for coastal plans, and the successful model of the Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP) can be further mobilized to deliver the ICZM Protocol at the local level.

The national strategies for ICZM envisaged will provide the key link between the Mediterranean-wide issues as described by the Protocol, global, regional and national priorities and policies, and the coastal plans and programmes. The national strategies for ICZM should also provide a proactive framework to incorporate current policy drivers and integrate planning on other key sectors in the coastal zone.

To this end, elaborated and improved ICZM guidance for the preparation of ICZM strategies and plans should be made available in order to:

- Incorporate current policy drivers, particularly National Strategies for Sustainable Development as adopted following the Johannesburg Summit(2002), National Action Plans for the implementation of the LBS Protocol, National Strategies for Biodiversity adopted in the context of the CBD, National Adaptation Plans and Programs adopted in the context of UNFCCC as well as relevant European Directives applicable to European countries;
- Demonstrate how ICZM will implement the MAP ecosystem approach (ECAP) in coastal areas;
- Provide integrated planning frameworks relating with key sectors in the coastal zone including: water, biodiversity, agriculture, fishery, energy, tourism sporting and recreational activities, utilization of specific natural resources, cultural values, landscape, transport and infrastructure and other economic activities that may affect the coastal zone, as well as the integration of the specificities of climate change in the coastal zone;
- Ensure a coherent “spatial planning” and integrated connection between land and sea areas; and
- Assist countries in the implementation of specific Articles of the Protocol, notably the definition of set-back zone for development, the use of tools and instruments such as carrying capacity assessment and Environmental Assessments (EIA and SEA).

Outputs: Contracting Parties

1.3.1 National strategies for ICZM by all countries.

Outputs: MAP Components

1.3.2 Support development of national strategies for ICZM based on regionally relevant examples.

1.3.3 Periodically assess progress and lessons learned through the region as well as provide analyses of comparative practices and experiences.

1.4 Reporting on Protocol Implementation and Monitoring the State of the Mediterranean Coast

Reporting on the implementation of the Protocol itself will require a review of the reporting process for the Barcelona Convention to take account of the specificities of the Protocol. *“The Parties shall define appropriate indicators in order to evaluate the effectiveness of integrated coastal zone management strategies, plans and programmes, as well as the progress of implementation of the Protocol”* (Article 18).

A comprehensive stocktaking of the status of implementation of the Protocol is currently in progress and will report in late 2011. The stocktaking will reveal the existing gaps and future needs with regard to ICZM, and will serve as the starting point for the assessment of the progress made resulting from the Protocol implementation. It will also help in preparing national ICZM strategies and allow for better understanding of potential benefits and contents of the Common Regional Framework.

Article 16 of the Protocol, “Monitoring and Observation Mechanisms and Networks” requires Parties: to use and strengthen existing appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and observation, or create new ones if necessary on both resources and activities as well as legislation, institutions and planning; to participate in a Mediterranean coastal zone network in order to promote exchange of scientific experience, data and good practices; and to collect appropriate data in national inventories. Public access to the information so derived from these activities should be ensured.

Assessing the State of the Mediterranean Coasts and measuring the effectiveness of Protocol implementation will require the development of indicators to monitor change, important areas and hot spots. In the context of the application of the Ecosystems Approach, a Government Designated

Expert Group (GDE) has adopted in Durres (Albania) a set of 11 ecological objectives, operational objectives and a framework of indicators which will guide the work of the Contracting Parties in the application of the Ecosystems Approach. These objectives and indicators are relevant for the implementation of the Protocol and represent a primer in UNEP/MAP in terms of launching a process of periodic monitoring of the status of coastal areas. Under this Action Plan, priority will be given to gather information and establish monitoring systems for indicators agreed under the successive iterations of the Ecosystems Approach with a view to establish trends, thresholds and targets.

Actions to assess the state of the Mediterranean coastal zone will be coherent and synergistic with the application of the Ecosystems Approach by UNEP/MAP. For example, coastal areas will be part of the periodic integrated assessments on the status of the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Ecosystems whose periodicity and approach will be defined in UNEP/MAP Assessment Policy. Formulation of the corresponding chapters on Coastal Zones in the State of the Environment Report and in the Environment and Development Report as well as sectoral assessments (i.e. Tourism, Urban Development, Water and Climate Change), as need be, could also be developed.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 1.4.1 Regular reports on the progress of implementation according to a reporting format provided by the MAP Secretariat in the context of MAP reporting system.
- 1.4.2 Regular reports to, periodic monitoring at agreed frequency and reference format on the state and evolution of coastal zones at national level.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 1.4.3 Reporting format for use by the Contracting Parties and coordination of the reports.
- 1.4.4 Report on the stocktaking currently underway of the state of implementation of the Protocol to identify gaps and progress at regional and Contracting Party level.
- 1.4.5 Report on Protocol implementation and Compliance as part of the biannual Report on Treaty Implementation prepared by the Secretariat.
- 1.4.6 Gathering data and monitoring ICZM indicators for the Mediterranean starting with those related to coastal management in the context of the application of the Ecosystems Approach.
- 1.4.7 Periodic assessment of the State of the Mediterranean Coasts as part of the periodic UNEP/MAP Assessment on the State of the Environment and reflected in the State of the Environment Report as well as the Environment & Development Report.

Objective 2: Strengthen the capacities of Contracting Parties to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes

This objective aims at strengthening the capacities of the Mediterranean countries to apply the Protocol and building a common culture of the ICZM process through the Mediterranean Region.

2.1 Methodologies and Processes

The profusion of thematic programmes in coastal areas presents in itself a challenge to the efficient delivery of the Protocol, notably but not exclusively: water, biodiversity, climate change, economic activities, agriculture and fisheries, energy, transport and infrastructure.

Climate change in particular is further emphasised by the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Marrakesh in 2009; adaptation to climate change in the Mediterranean coastal and marine environments was identified as a priority issue requiring attention. Accordingly, climate change adaptation in the coastal zone has been incorporated into the "Marrakesh Declaration" on Adaptation

to Climate Change. There is added value therefore in providing a central regional assessment in the specific context of coastal zones, identifying agreed scenarios, information and responses.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 2.1.1 Thematic methodologies and technical capacities reviewed in order to assure that ICZM is effectively and practically integrated at national and local levels.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 2.1.2 Technical assistance to ensure that ICZM is delivered effectively and practically at the national level consistently across the region.

- 2.1.3 ICZM Guidelines prepared tested at national and local level. The Guidelines will:

- i. Describe the ICZM process, illustrating and guiding the effective use of tools and instruments.
- ii. Provide an integrated methodological framework for the integration of key sectoral issues, notably but not exclusively: water, biodiversity, climate change, economic activities, agriculture and fisheries, energy, transport and infrastructure.
- iii. Provide an integrated methodological framework for integrated spatial planning of the marine and terrestrial areas, and for economic and fiscal instruments.
- iv. Assist in the definition of set-back zone for development, the use of tools and instruments such as carrying capacity assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

2.2 Protocol Implementation Projects

Article 27 requires Parties to carry out activities of common interest, such as demonstration projects of integrated coastal zone management. A key to the successful implementation of the Protocol will be the practical results both on the ground and in key thematic areas such as tourism, urban development, water management, etc. It will also be essential to disseminate good practice on a continuous basis, with special emphasis on governance and coordination mechanisms to practically implement the Protocol at the local level and to the use methodologies and tools as required.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 2.2.1 Implementation or support for practical projects at the local and transboundary level.
- 2.2.2 Protocol implementation projects to strengthen governance at all levels.
- 2.2.3 Pilot initiatives targeting and involving key actors in coastal zone, particularly those from the business sector.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 2.2.4 Support for ICZM Protocol implementation projects at local and transboundary level - prototype interventions to assist countries to implement the Protocol - subject to their clear link to the preparation of over-arching national strategies and policies. Projects to be based on the recognised model developed in the Mediterranean, Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMPs). These include:
1. CAMPs already underway or approved by the Contracting Parties in Spain, Montenegro, France and Italy, and consolidated lessons learned shared with parties.

2. A further programme - CAMP IIIs - to build in-country capacity and to implement the Protocol at country level, particularly at regional/local level, along with thematic demonstration programmes to be agreed and delivered in partnership with donor or sectoral funding.

2.3 Professional Development, Training and Education

The implementation of the Protocol and ICZM in the Mediterranean requires a well-informed constituency of state of the art expertise at regional and national level. It will be particularly important however to target other sectors across government to extend awareness and ownership of ICZM.

Article 25 of the Protocol invites the Parties “to cooperate in the training of scientific, technical and administrative personnel in the field of ICZM” while Article 15 recognises the importance of awareness-raising activities on integrated coastal zone management, educational programmes, training, and public education at national, regional or local level.

PAP Centre already delivers on annual basis a virtual MedOpen training course. MedOpen is recognised a high quality source of continuing professional development, attracting decision makers (at the local, national, regional and international level), policy advisors, project managers, staff and experts from international institutions, academic researchers, students, and all others interested in coastal management in the Mediterranean. Nevertheless, this important element of ICZM should be strengthened by delivering training courses, workshops, field work and other capacity building activities.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 2.3.1 Organisation of national education programmes on ICZM.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 2.3.2 Programme of high-level seminars, round tables and workshops at regional, sub-regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the ICZM Protocol.
- 2.3.3 Further development and annual delivery of the MedOpen training course.

Objective 3: Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements.

Given the unique and innovative nature of the Protocol, its ambition at regional scale, and the relative complexity and importance on a global scale of the Mediterranean coast, the Protocol will require the central coordination and technical support for ICZM of the highest quality.

The Protocol is already recognized internationally as a unique and innovative achievement and the first and only document of legal nature to deal with sustainable development of coastal zones. Therefore, it represents an excellent promotional tool for the Mediterranean region in the international arena, which should be used at forthcoming global events such as Rio+20, Expo 2012 in South Korea (with the theme “The Living Ocean and Coast: Diversity of Resource and Sustainable Activities”), etc. to show what has already been achieved and how the Mediterranean coastal community plans to move forward.

3.1 Public Participation and Awareness Raising

Article 14 of the Protocol “Participation” calls for Parties to ensure the appropriate involvement of the various stakeholders in the phases of the formulation and implementation of coastal and marine strategies, plans and programmes or projects, as well as the issuing of the various authorizations. It

also calls for the right of stakeholders to challenge “...*decisions, acts or omissions, subject to the participation provisions established by the Parties with respect to plans, programmes or projects concerning the coastal zone.*”

The effective implementation of the Protocol will require a wide societal engagement involving civil society and individual citizens in the coastal zone, as well as governmental institutions. Good communication, open and transparent access to information and decision-making processes will be key to this engagement.

Continued awareness-raising of ICZM issues at the public level will therefore be required. The annual Mediterranean Coast Day celebration (September 25th) has been a success as a focus for this activity, generating wide spread participation amongst the general public, events and publicity in coastal regions across the Mediterranean. It is proposed to continue this event and awareness-raising actions to compliment the implementation of the Protocol at the political and technical levels.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 3.1.1 Processes reviewed to ensure the participation of civil society and individual citizens in ICZM.
- 3.1.2 Support for the annual Mediterranean Coast Day through the promotion of appropriate activities and publicity.
- 3.1.3 Support for region-wide ICZM awareness raising activities.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 3.1.4 Develop an ICZM Awareness Raising and Communication Programme.
- 3.1.5 Implement and support the annual celebration of the Mediterranean Coast Day.

3.2 Excellence on ICZM issues for the Mediterranean

The ambition of the Protocol poses a significant challenge to the capacity of MAP and the relevant Regional Centres, in particular PAP/RAC. The potential of the Protocol puts the Mediterranean at the forefront globally in coastal management in Regional Seas. This will require the highest calibre and state of the art technical support. PAP/RAC is already a centre of excellence in ICZM and Plan Bleu in development and the environment. This capacity should be maintained and enhanced primarily through training and staff development on Protocol related issues.

Article 15 requires the Parties to provide for interdisciplinary scientific research on integrated coastal zone management and on the interaction between activities and their impacts on coastal zones. To this end, the Protocol proposes that the Parties establish or support specialized research centres to further knowledge of integrated coastal zone management, to contribute to public information and to facilitate public and private decision-making.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 3.2.1 Development or support for research programmes for ICZM in accordance with Article 15 of the Protocol.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 3.2.2 Support for and participation in research programmes for ICZM that support the implementation of the Protocol.

3.3 Promoting the Protocol

The full implementation of the ICZM Protocol will require continued promotion both at national and local levels within the region. In addition, the Protocol is the first international legal instrument addressing ICZM of its type and is attracting significant interest from other regional seas. Dissemination activities include published papers, materials for regional and local administrations, ICZM practitioners and other key audiences, case studies with national examples of success.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 3.3.1 Support for the promotion of the Protocol and its implementation.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 3.3.2 Promotion of the ICZM Protocol and good practice in its implementation across the Mediterranean.
- 3.3.3 Promotion of the ICZM Protocol and its implementation internationally through publications, published papers, networks and conferences.

3.4 Networks

Article 16 of the Protocol calls for Parties to participate, at the appropriate administrative and scientific level, in a Mediterranean coastal zone network in order to promote exchange of scientific experience, data and good practices.

The Mediterranean has a number of thematic networks such as coastal cities and regions cooperating on environmental protection, or sub-regional agreements such as the Joint Commission for the Protection of the Adriatic Sea (Croatia, Italy, Montenegro and Slovenia) and RAMOGE (France, Monaco, Italy). Such networks provide opportunities to both promote and deliver aspects of the ICZM Protocol, in particular transnationally within the region.

Moreover, reaching out and interacting with strong regional and local association networks, such as CPRGM/FOGAR, ARLEM and others dealing with local and regional governance issues will be of essence to engage regional and local institutions responsible with the economic and social pillars of sustainability. Internationally, the Mediterranean is providing a model for other Regional Seas and there is potential for mutual support between the programmes and their conventions and networks.

Outputs: Contracting Parties

- 3.4.1 Collaboration with appropriate networks to assist in the implementation of the Protocol.
- 3.4.2 Participation in a Mediterranean coastal zone network to promote the establishment and exchange of scientific experience, data and good practices (e.g. BATs and BEPs).
- 3.4.3 Establishment of a network of coastal agencies or other relevant national institutions.

Outputs: MAP Components

- 3.4.4 Identification and development of synergies and partnerships with appropriate networks to assist in the implementation of the Protocol.
- 3.4.5 Proposal for the establishment of a Mediterranean coastal network to promote the exchange of scientific experience, data and good practices (BATs and BEPs).

VIII. Mid-term Evaluation

This Action Plan will be subject to mid-term review and an evaluation to coincide with the end of the existing 5-year MAP programme in 2014.

The evaluation and monitoring will be done on the basis of the accomplishment of the outputs listed in this Action Plan using, as appropriate, the indicators established for the reporting format on the progress of implementation of the Protocol required in Article 18.

IX. Financial Resources

The full delivery of the Action Plan will require a substantial funding partnership over that of the UNEP/MAP itself.

The existing funding base is relatively narrow and will not be sufficient to fully deliver the ambitions of the ICZM Protocol and this Action Plan. Effort will therefore be required at the regional and national levels to attract external funding, both from established sources such as GEF, World Bank and EU, and from others where a common agenda can be identified, notably in the field of economic development. Particular attention should be given to this Action Plan in the MAP resource mobilisation strategy that will seek for funding sources required, identification of potential donor organisations, partners and country contributions. In particular, the strategy should identify those complimentary aspects of the work programme that can be “bundled” into packages more attractive to funders.

A costed programme for each objective showing links to the Biennium and 5-year MAP programme of work and funds mobilized or expected to be mobilized in line with the MAP resource mobilisation strategy is attached.

Annex II

Links with MAP Programme of Work

Objective 1: Support the effective implementation of the ICZM Protocol at regional, national and local levels including through a Common Regional Framework for ICZM									
Contracting Parties	MAP Components								
		TOTAL 2012-19 €,000 (estimated only for PAP/RAC) *	MTF & external sources €,000 (already mobilised 2012-13)	Links to next Biennium Outputs and Indicative activities of 5-year PoW		Balance €,000 (only for PAP/RAC)	Notes:	Contribution to ECAP & MSSD	
				2012-2013 PoW	MAP 5-year PoW			Moderate ✓	Strong ✓✓
								ECAP	MSSD
1.1 Ratification and Transposition									
1.1.1 [†] Ratification by all Contracting Parties of the Protocol.	1.1.3 [‡] Support for countries to adopt legally binding measures and transpose the Protocol into national legislation through for example comparative and gap analyses, or the dissemination of good practice.	200 PAP/RAC	20			180	▪ Funding for 1 st Biennium secured from external sources (GEF MedPartnership). ▪ Potential for bilateral/voluntary CPs funding.	✓	✓✓✓
1.1.2 Transposition by all Contracting Parties into legislation or guidance, and adoption of legally binding mechanisms.									
1.2 Strengthening and Supporting Governance									
1.2.1 Cross-sectoral and institutional governance mechanisms, such as inter- ministerial committees, coastal commissions and fora, established for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol at and between national and local levels.	1.2.4 Assistance to the Contracting Parties as required in the development of governance structures, including for example the carrying out of gap analyses of legal and institutional arrangements, and the improvement of human and technical capacities.	200 PAP/RAC	0			200	▪ Funding to be secured from MTF and mobilised from external sources. ▪ Potential for bilateral/voluntary CPs funding.	✓ ✓✓	✓✓✓

* Figures are included only for PAP/RAC due to the impossibility to estimate for other MAP components amounts that will be strictly related to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol after 2013.

[†] Code reference refers to the outputs relating to the Contracting Parties in the Action Plan.

[‡] Code reference refers to the MAP Secretariat outputs as presented in the Action Plan.

	1.2.5 Develop and continuously improve the ICZM Governance Platform to support the implementation of ICZM through the provision of information and expert tools, including its continued maintenance and refinement throughout the whole Action Plan period.	700 PAP/RAC	250	1.3.3.2 [§] Developing an interactive ICZM Governance Platform	1.3.3 ^{**} Knowledge sharing and exchange	450	▪ Funding for 1st Biennium secured from MTF and external sources (EU FP7 PEGASO project). ▪ MTF funding required for ongoing maintenance and support (€75,000 pa).	✓✓✓	✓✓
		BP/RAC	135	1.3.3.2 Developing an interactive ICZM Governance Platform (PEGASO partner)	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange				
1.2.2 Common Regional Framework for ICZM developed (under revised MSSD).	1.2.6 Based on progress and learning from national and local strategies, assessment of gaps and needs to be included in Common Regional Framework for ICZM. 1.2.7 Coordination of the preparation of the Common Regional Framework (under revised MSDD)	139 PAP/RAC	5	1.2.1.10 Outlining a Common Regional Framework for ICZM	1.2.1 Regional policies, guidelines and plans necessary for the effective implementation of the Convention, protocols and strategies adopted, updated and implemented	134	▪ Funding for 1st Biennium secured. ▪ Potential for voluntary CPs funding.	✓✓✓	✓✓✓
1.2.3 Transboundary strategies for ICZM allowing for coordination of national coastal strategies, plans and programmes related to contiguous coastal zones, in accordance with the Common Regional Framework developed under revised MSSD).									

[§].Code reference refers to the Expected Results in the consolidated 5-year PoW.

^{**}.Code reference refers to the Main Activities included in the consolidated 5-year PoW.

1.3 Adopting National Strategies and Coastal Implementation Plans and Programmes									
1.3.1 National strategies for ICZM countries by all countries.	1.3.2 Support development of national strategies for ICZM based on regionally relevant examples.	1,495 PAP/RAC	270 (350) ^{††}	2.1.1.1 National ICZM Plans and Strategies in Albania, Algeria, Montenegro and <i>Syria</i> ; Interactive Methodological Framework for ICZM; Outline for ICZM Strategies adapted to Adriatic countries	2.1.1 Implementing ICZM Action Plan; Assist countries in preparing ICZM Strategies and Plans	1,225 (875)	▪ Funding for 1st Biennium secured from MTF and external sources (GEF MedPartnership for 3 pilot countries and SHAPE project for the Outline for Adriatic countries). ▪ (Funding expected from the <i>LITUSnostrum</i> project submitted to ENPI CBCMED). ▪ Future bilateral/ voluntary CPs funding and other grant sources for support to up to 8 additional countries.	✓✓✓	✓✓✓
		MEDPOL	6	1.2.2.3 Assist countries to implement the adopted Regional Plans in the framework of art.15 of LBS Protocol; updating, as needed, Regional Plans and developing NIPs in the framework of the Stockholm Convention	1.2.2 Assistance to countries to implement regional policies and guidelines				
		C. Unit	10	1.2.2.1 Assist countries to prepare NSSD in line with MSSD	1.2.2 Assistance to countries to implement regional policies and guidelines				
	1.3.3 Periodically assess progress and lessons learned through the region as well as provide analyses of comparative practices and experiences.	200 PAP/RAC	0	2.1.3.2 Assessment report on CAMP and CAMP manual updated: regional workshop organised	2.1.3 Implementing ICZM Protocol through specific local and policy initiatives	200	▪ Funding to be secured from MTF and mobilised from external sources.	✓✓	✓✓

^{††} In brackets are indicated resources expected from the LITUSnostrum project proposal submitted for ENPI CBCMED funding.

1.4 Reporting on Protocol Implementation and Monitoring the State of the Mediterranean Coast									
	1.4.3 A reporting format for use by the Contracting Parties and coordination of the reports.	C. Unit together with all MAP components	25	1.2.1.3 Preparing MAP integrated monitoring programme based on EsA 1.2.1.5 Preparing MAP policy on the assessment of marine and coastal environment in line with EsA 1.2.4.1 Assessment report on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	1.2.1 Regional policies, guidelines and plans necessary for the effective implementation of the Convention, Protocols and strategies adopted, updated and implemented 1.2.4 Compliance mechanisms and procedures fully operational			✓	✓
	1.4.4 Report on the stocktaking currently underway on the state of implementation of the Protocol to identify gaps and progress at regional and Contracting Party level.	20 PAP/RAC	20	1.3.3.3 Stocktaking synthesis report	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange	0	▪ Funding secured from external support (EU FP7 PEGASO project) in current biennium.	✓	✓
		BP/RAC	5	1.3.3.3 Stocktaking synthesis report (dissemination of the stocktaking results in an interactive manner, in collaboration with PAP/RAC)	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange				
1.4.1 Regular reports on the progress of implementation according to a reporting format provided by MAP Secretariat in the context of MAP reporting system.	1.4.5 Report on Protocol implementation and Compliance as part of the biennium Report on Treaty Implementation.	C. Unit	30	1.2.4.1 Assessment report on the implementation of the Convention and its protocols	1.2.4 Compliance mechanisms and procedures fully operational			✓	✓
	1.4.6 Gathering data and monitoring ICZM Indicators for the Mediterranean starting with those related to coastal management in the context of the application of the Ecosystems Approach.	BP/RAC	20	2.1.2.3 ICZM indicators in line with the Ecosystems approach developed and tested	2.1.2 Updating and preparing ICZM methodologies			✓✓✓	✓
		INFO/RAC	0	1.3.1.4 INFO/MAP spatial data infrastructure, definition of use cases for SDI based on EsA	1.3.1 Further development of INFO/MAP including the integration of information systems of MAP components				

		C. Unit	20	1.2.1.4 Determining GES and targets in the frame of EsA for 10 ecological objectives	1.2.1 Regional policies, guidelines and plans necessary for the effective implementation of the Convention, Protocols and strategies adopted, updated and implemented				
1.4.2 Regular reports to, periodic monitoring at agreed frequency and reference format on the state and evolution of coastal zones at national level.	1.4.7 Periodic assessment of the State of the Mediterranean Coasts as part of the periodic UNEP/MAP Assessment on the State of the Environment and reflected in the State of the Environment Report as well as the Environment & Development Report.	BP/RAC	0	1.3.3.1 State of Environment Report in 2013	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange		▪ The current budget for 2012-2013 does not allocate specific resources to BP for this task. Nevertheless, SIMEDD is cited because it will contribute to SOED.	✓✓	✓✓

Objective 2: Strengthen the capacities of Contracting Parties to implement the Protocol and use in an effective manner ICZM policies, instruments, tools and processes									
Contracting Parties	MAP Components								
		TOTAL 2012-19 €,000 (estimated only for PAP/RAC)	MTF & external sources €,000 (already mobilised 2012-13)	Links to next Biennium Outputs and Indicative activities of 5-year PoW		Balance €,000 (only for PAP/RAC)	Notes:	Contribution to ECAP & MSSD	
				2012-2013 PoW	MAP 5-year PoW			Moderate	✓
								Strong	✓✓
								Very strong	✓✓✓
2.1 Methodologies and Processes									
2.1.1 Thematic methodologies and technical capacities reviewed in order to assure that ICZM is delivered effectively and practically at national and local levels.	2.1.2 Technical assistance to ensure that ICZM is delivered effectively and practically at the national level consistently across the region.	1,010 PAP/RAC	632	1.1.5.4 Marine spatial planning understood and implemented as appropriate in line with ICZM; Approaches developed and synergies ensured with other relevant organisations 6.1.1.6 Assessment of environmental and socio-economic impacts and adaptation options in two critically vulnerable sites, and evaluation of response options 6.1.2.1 Methodology and tools for mainstreaming climate variability and change developed; Awareness raising for Policy makers on implementation of climate variability and ICZM Protocol 6.1.2.2 Integration of climate change issues and disaster prevention into ICZM Plans and Strategies	1.1.5 Integrate and streamline approaches in implementing horizontal and emerging issues 6.1.1 Analysis of climate change impact	378	▪ Funding for development in 1 st Biennium secured plus external support (EU FP7 PEGASO project, GEF). ▪ MTF funding required for ongoing maintenance and support.	✓✓✓	✓✓✓

		CP/RAC	40	5.1.3.1 Methodology, guidelines and toolkit for integration of SCP in the Mediterranean and related Capacity building activities (Switch MED)	5.1.3 Capacity building (CB) activities and pilot projects on SCP				
		C. Unit	0	6.1.2.3 Existing interministerial coordination mechanisms committed to mainstream climate variability and change issues into ICZM planning processes	6.1.2 Development of methodology and tools for mainstreaming climate variability and change				
	2.1.3 ICZM Guidelines prepared and tested at national and local level.	700 PAP/RAC	20 (302)	2.1.2.1 ICZM Guidelines updated; Outline for ICZM Strategies and Plans; Carrying capacity; MSP	2.1.2 Updating and preparing ICZM methodologies	680 (378)	▪ Funding for 1st Biennium secured from MTF and mobilised from external sources. ▪ (Funding expected from the LITUSnostrum project submitted to ENPI CBCMED). ▪ Potential for bilateral/voluntary CPs funding and grant support.	✓✓	✓✓
		REMPEC	3	2.1.2.6 The ranking of the ports to be equipped in priority with port reception facilities	2.1.2 Updating and preparing ICZM methodologies				
2.2 Protocol Implementation Projects									
2.2.1 Implementation or support for practical projects at the local and transboundary level.	2.2.4 Support for ICZM Protocol implementation projects at local and transboundary level - prototype interventions to assist countries to implement the Protocol - subject to their clear link to the preparation of over-arching national strategies and policies.	4,050 PAP/RAC	250 (1,400)	2.1.3.1 Projects prepared and implemented (CAMPS France, Italy, Spain, Montenegro); pilot project on setback and MSP, carrying capacity, etc. (Carrying capacity methodology testing on pilot sites in Spain, France and Egypt)	2.1.3 Implementing ICZM protocol through specific local and policy initiatives	3,800 (2,400)	▪ Funding for 1st Biennium secured from MTF plus bilateral funding and SHAPE project. ▪ (Funding expected from the LITUSnostrum project submitted to ENPI CBCMED plus FFEM). ▪ MTF funding required plus bilateral/voluntary CPs funding and grant sources.	✓✓✓	✓✓
2.2.2 Protocol implementation projects to strengthen governance at all levels.									
2.2.3 Pilot initiatives targeting and involving key actors in coastal zone, particularly those from	Projects to be based on the								

the business sector.	recognised model developed in the Mediterranean, Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMPs). These include: ▪ CAMPs already underway or approved by the Contracting Parties in Spain, Montenegro, France and Italy. ▪ A further programme - CAMP IIIs - to build in-country capacity and to implement the Protocol at country level - along with thematic demonstration programmes to be agreed and delivered in partnership with donor or sectoral funding.	BP/RAC SPA/RAC CP/RAC MEDPOL REMPEC INFO/RAC C. Unit	49	2.1.3.1 Support CAMP projects as appropriate	2.1.3 Implementing ICZM protocol through specific local and policy initiatives				
2.3 Professional Development, Training and Education									
2.3.1 Organisation of national education programmes on ICZM.	2.3.2 Programme of high-level seminars, round tables and workshops at regional, sub-regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the ICZM Protocol.	200 PAP/RAC	0			200	▪ MTF funding required for ongoing maintenance and support (8 events at 25,000).	✓✓	✓✓
		CP/RAC	10	5.1.5.1 Assist countries to develop and implement National Action Plans on SPP; National Action Plan implementation on the short-medium and long run	5.1.5 Capacity building to implement National Action Plans on Sustainable Public Procurement at local, regional or national level in Mediterranean countries				
	2.3.3 Further development and annual delivery of the MedOpen training course.	80 PAP/RAC	18	1.3.3.4 Capacity building on ICZM Protocol, including a Virtual MedOpen training course	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange	62	▪ Limited funding for 1 st Biennium secured from MTF and SHAPE project. ▪ MTF funding required for ongoing maintenance and support.	✓✓	✓✓

Objective 3:

Promote the ICZM Protocol and its implementation within the region, and promote it globally by developing synergies with relevant Conventions and Agreements

Contracting Parties	MAP Components								
		TOTAL 2012-19 €,000 (estimated only for PAP/RAC)	MTF & external sources €,000 (already mobilised 2012-13)	Links to next Biennium Outputs and Indicative activities of 5-year PoW		Balance €,000 (only for PAP/RAC)	Notes:	Contribution to ECAP & MSSD	
		2012-2013 PoW	MAP 5-year PoW	Moderate ✓	Strong ✓✓			Very strong ✓✓✓	
ECAPMSSD									
3.1 Public Participation and Awareness Raising									
3.1.1 Process reviewed to ensure the participation of civil society and individual citizens in ICZM.									
3.1.2 Support for the annual Mediterranean Coast Day through the promotion of appropriate activities and publicity. 3.1.3 Support for region-wide ICZM awareness raising activities.	3.1.4 Develop an ICZM Awareness Raising and Communication Program 3.1.5 Implement and support the annual celebration of the Mediterranean Coast Day	400 PAP/RAC	81 (104)	1.3.4.6 Organization of Mediterranean Environmental events; dissemination of key success stories; presence at key events including a side event at Rio+20, including communication materials related to MedPartnership project , awareness raising regarding marine and coastal biodiversity, climate change, and promoting Coast Day and ICZM Protocol	1.3.4 One voice campaign for UNEP MAP	319 (215)	▪ Funding for 1 st Biennium secured from MTF and external sources (SHAPE project). ▪ (Funding expected from the LITUSnostrum project submitted to ENPI CBCMED). ▪ Potential for bilateral and grant support.	✓✓	✓✓
		CP/RAC	10	5.1.4.1 Civil society increased awareness; Green shots award well attended; Increased contents of Consumpediamed; Visits and comments in Consumpediamed	5.1.4 Empowering civil society, consumer associations and NGO on SCP and POPs prevention				

		C. Unit	30	1.3.4.5 Media, NGO and Business strategy developed as part of implementation of the Communication Strategy;; Media training for MAP spokespeople 1.3.4.6 Organization of Mediterranean Environmental events; dissemination of key success stories; presence at key events including a side event at Rio+20, including communication materials related to MedPartnership project , awareness raising regarding marine and coastal biodiversity, climate change, and promoting Coast Day and ICZM Protocol	1.3.4 One voice campaign for UNEP MAP				
3.2 Excellence on ICZM issues for the Mediterranean									
3.2.1 Development or support for research programmes for ICZM in accordance with article 15 of the Protocol.	3.2.2 Support for and participation in research programmes for ICZM that support the implementation of the Protocol.	50 PAP/RAC	0			50	▪ Potential for bilateral/voluntary CPs funding and grant sources.	✓✓✓	✓✓
3.3 Promoting the Protocol									
3.3.1 Support for the promotion of the Protocol and its implementation.	3.3.2 Promotion of the ICZM Protocol and good practice in its implementation across the Mediterranean. 3.3.3 Promotion of the ICZM Protocol and its	50 PAP/RAC	0			50	▪ MTF funding required. ▪ Potential for bilateral and grant support.	✓✓	✓✓
		INFO/RAC	0	1.3.3.10 Collection and dissemination of R&D project results related to marine and coastal environments	1.3.3 Knowledge sharing and exchange				

Draft Decision III

Reporting on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Articles 26 and 27 of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona in 1995, herein after referred to as the Barcelona Convention, also the relevant articles of the Protocols to the Barcelona Convention providing for reporting obligations on their implementation,

Appreciating in that respect the progress achieved with regard to the enter into force of MAP legal instruments and in particular the ICZM and Off-shore protocols and noting the urgent need for one additional adoption of amendments for the enter into force of the amendments to the Dumping Protocol bringing all MAP legal instruments and amendments into force,

Noting with concern that seven Contracting Parties have not submitted biannual reports on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and that some of the reports were not received on time,

Noting the increased number of Contracting Parties for which the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols are in force and urging the remaining Contracting Parties to ratify as soon as possible,

Recalling Decision IG 17/18 of the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties that requested the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to develop a reporting format for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol on measures taken by the Contracting Parties to implement the Convention and its Protocols as well as the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Decision 17/ 4 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties that requested the Secretariat, based on information emerging from the reporting mechanism, to prepare a report to every Meeting of Contracting Parties describing the overall situation regarding legislative and institutional progress in the region,

Welcoming the participation of UNEP/MAP - Barcelona Convention in the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreement (InforMEA) which provides a search facility across MEA COP decisions, news, events, national focal points, and – soon to come –national reports and implementation plans,

Decides to

Invite all Contracting Parties to update annually the data provided through the questionnaire prepared by PAP/RAC on ICZM in order to obtain a reference basis. This reference basis will facilitate the finalization of the reporting format, in close cooperation among the Coordinating Unit, PAP/RAC and the Parties. The draft reporting format thus prepared will be submitted to the 18th meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption.

Urge INFO/RAC to revise and make urgently available an amended and more user-friendly on line reporting format aligned with InforMEA.

Request the Contracting Parties to submit to the Coordinating Unit reports, using the approved reporting formats, on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for the biennium 2010-2011 by September 2012 at the latest,

Request the Coordinating Unit:

- to provide, subject to availability of funds, advice to Contracting Parties with the view to enabling them to submit complete reports in a timely manner on measures for the implementation of all MAP legal instruments,
- to present in the period 2012-2013, in consultation with the Contracting Parties, a realistic and feasible proposal on the reporting frequency by the Contracting Parties of their implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.
- to undertake an analysis of information provided in the national reports in order to draw up a report describing the overall situation regarding legislative and institutional progress in the region towards implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and suggest as appropriate further measures and present the report to the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Draft Decision IV

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 ecosystem 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 levels;

Recognizing the need to focus the PoW on ECAP amongst other priorities.

Recognizing also, the importance of moving forward towards establishing InfoMAP following the principles of a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) for the purposes of the implementation of future phases of 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 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 decision-makers (attached as Annex I to this decision) 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 available knowledge and information and with the precious contribution of the Contracting Parties, partners, as well as with the expertise of MEDPOL, SPA/RAC 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 with Operational Objectives and Indicators presented in Annex II to the present decision;

To adopt the timeline and projected outputs of the Ecosystem Approach roadmap implementation presented in Annex III 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 establish an ECAP Coordination Group consisting of MAP focal points, the Coordinating Unit, the MAP components and MAP partners to oversee the implementation of the ecosystem approach, identifying progress gaps in the implementation of the road map and find feasible solutions for the advancement of the ECAP agenda. This Coordination Group will inform the Bureau about the results and the MAP components on the action they need to take;

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 MED POL and in cooperation with other regional competent organisations such as the Secretariats of GFCM, ICAT and ACCOBAMS;
2. Work on the determination of Mediterranean Good Environmental Status (GES) and targets during the next biennium through a participatory process involving MAP components, contracting parties and scientific community, with the leadership role by the Coordinating Unit with the view of submitting the proposed Mediterranean 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 policy on assessments in the framework of the implementation of the ECAP
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, in accordance with 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. Develop with the participation of and contribution from all MAP components and with a leadership role by INFO/RAC 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 outcome and in particular to consider systematically the ECAP indicators when coordinating work of the various MAP components, or evaluating efficiency of MAP actions;

10. Consider the work carried out for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach by all MAP components where appropriate;
11. 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;
12. 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;
13. Mobilize resources for supporting financially the application of ecosystem approach by MAP as a means to effectively achieve the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention.

Annex I

Summary for Decision-Makers

of the Initial Integrated Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coastal Areas Carried out as part of Step 3 of the road map for the application of the Ecosystem Approach

The commitment by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea to an Ecosystem Approach signals recognition of the immense value of the region's seas and coasts, and the singular importance of promoting management that allows for sustainable use.

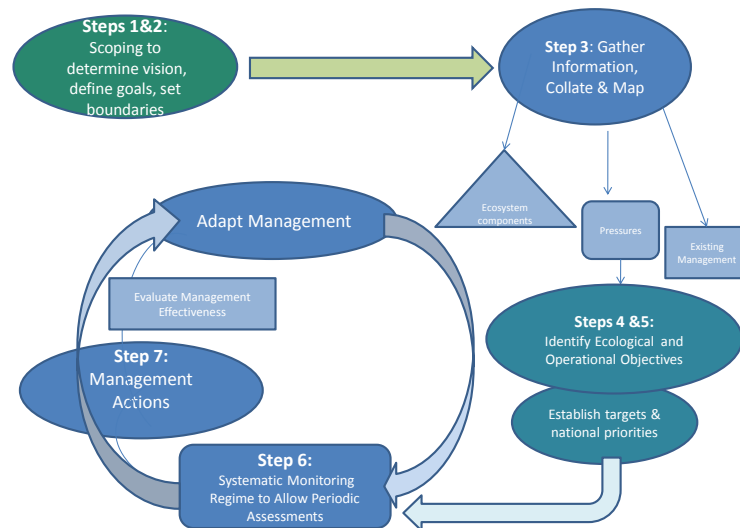
Mediterranean marine and coastal systems are at risk, and as a result, so too are the communities and countries that border the Basin. However, the Mediterranean Action Plan / Barcelona Convention and its 7 associated protocols offer an excellent foundation for coordinated and effective management of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas. Contracting Parties have committed to the progressive application of the Ecosystem Approach (EA) to the management of human activities, and have moved forward to lay the groundwork for policy formulation that addresses priority threats and improves understanding of management needs.

The seven step EA process to which they have agreed is rational and strategic, and comprises: 1) establishing the vision for an ecosystem approach throughout the Mediterranean; 2) elaborating three strategic goals to achieve this vision; 3) undertaking an initial assessment to determine priority issues, information availability as well as gaps that need to be filled; 4) deciding on ecological objectives; 5) determining operational objectives and associated indicators and identifying targets or thresholds for those indicators; 6) developing a monitoring strategy; and 7) elaborating specific management plans and actions that will ensure that ecological objectives and strategic goals are met, moving the Mediterranean countries effectively towards their vision for marine and coastal management.

This Ecosystem Approach goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: a rich mix of elements that interact with each other in important ways. This is particularly important for coasts and oceans. A commercially valuable fish species may depend on a range of widely separated habitats over its life, depending on whether it is young or adult, feeding, spawning or migrating – this being one example of how human well-being and economies are inextricably linked to intact natural habitats. The connection between human welfare and the health of the environment can be described as “ecosystem services” whereby marine and coastal systems provide a wide range of valuable resources and functions to human communities. To ensure the health and economic vitality of communities in the region, therefore, ocean functions must be sustained and protected. This means managing them in a way that acknowledges the complexity of marine ecosystems, the connections among them, and their links with land and freshwater as well.

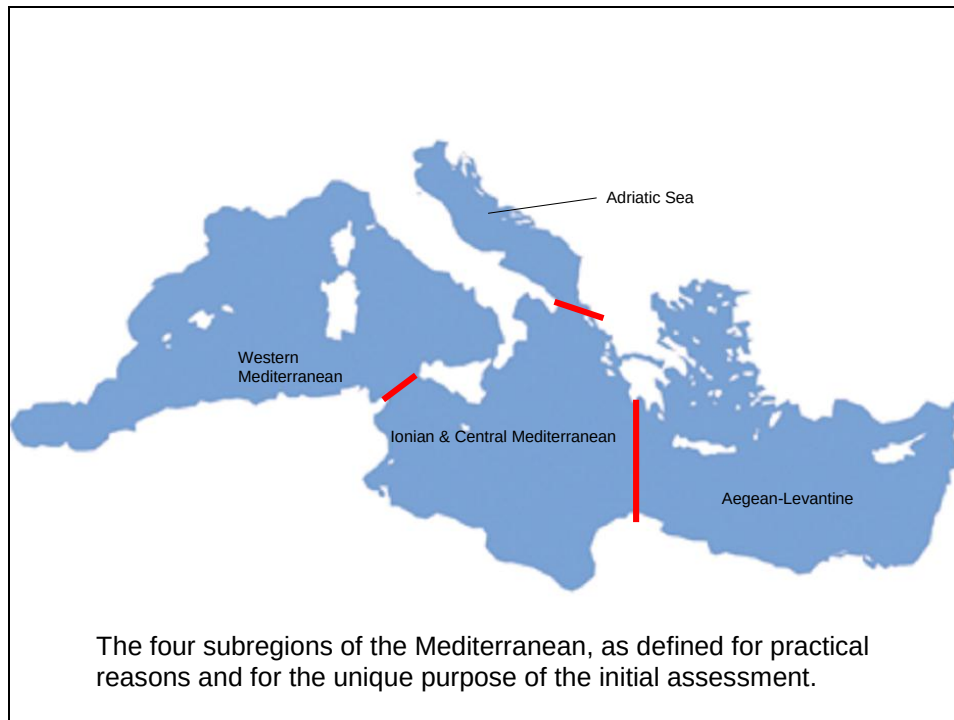
However, before countries collectively adopt an Ecosystem Approach, it is necessary to take stock of environmental conditions and trends. Assessing the information available on coastal and marine ecosystems and their services in the Mediterranean Basin is thus a crucial step (see EA planning diagram below). The Initial Integrated Assessment (IIA) completed during 2010-2011 represents step 3 in the EA process: collating information on the overall nature of ecosystems in the Mediterranean, including physical and ecological characteristics, drivers and pressures that affect the state of the marine environment, conditions or state of the coastal and marine ecosystems, and expected response of ecosystems if trends continue,

where feasible. The goals of the IIA are to define the major basin-wide priority issues to be addressed by the EA and to determine where information that is being gathered within MAP/Barcelona Convention system, combined with published studies, could eventually suffice to elucidate management priorities. The converse of this goal is also important: determining where gaps exist, in order to improve scientific research and monitoring being undertaken by Mediterranean countries so as to provide an adequate foundation for effective and efficient ecosystem-based management going forward.



For the purposes of the IIA, the Contracting Parties provided information, in snapshot as well as longer-term time series, on the physical, chemical, and biological features of the Mediterranean Sea. This information was combined with information from international bodies on uses, pressures, and impacts, to first develop four sub-regional and thematically-oriented assessments, and subsequently an over-arching assessment that attempts to synthesize information from the four subregions. The focus of information gathering and analysis was on status and trends in pressures already identified as important, and reflected in the foci of the Convention's protocols, with the aim of harnessing this information to further an ecosystem approach to coastal and marine management throughout the Mediterranean.

The four subregions of the Mediterranean (see below), as defined by the Contracting Parties for practical reasons and the unique purpose of the initial assessment, present a conglomerate of linked coastal and marine ecosystems, with many shared resources, species and common approaches to both environmental monitoring and management. Each of the major pressures or classes of threat identified by national monitoring, the research undertaken by scientific institutions, and the analysis of multilateral agencies and programs such as MAP, occur across all four subregions – but the priority issues are different in each. This is partly based on the underlying physical and biological characteristics of each subregion, and the degree to which various impacts are being felt by the marine ecosystems within them. The characteristics of each subregion are described briefly below.



The Western Mediterranean subregion has a high level of industrialization and coastal development-related habitat loss and alteration in this region – especially on the north coasts. Tourism drives much of the coastal development and pressure on resources, and tourism is behind much of the degradation of coasts and nearshore waters. In addition to the physical alteration of the environment and the degradation caused by pollution and loss of key habitats, growth in tourism and urbanization drive increasing pressure on resources, including freshwater (limiting availability in wetlands and estuaries and increasing the need for desalination, with its attendant pollution impacts) and fisheries. In the southern portion of this subregion, population growth along the coast has led to degradation from sewage inputs and run-off. Maritime industries, including shipping, energy development, and aquaculture also degrade the environment and impact biodiversity, causing localized pollution as well as broader impacts on the delivery of ecosystem services due to trade-offs.

The Central Mediterranean and Ionian subregion experiences some of the same pressures and drivers, though the major impacts are somewhat different from the western Mediterranean, in part because of the differing physical characteristics of this subregion. There is no direct exchange with waters of the Atlantic, and in contrast to the wide open basin of the western subregion, the central subregion has complex bottom topography and numerous straits through which water masses and species pass. Coastlines are generally not as highly developed as in the Western Mediterranean, though urbanization is a factor in some localized areas. Fishing is a major pressure on species and ecosystems, both due to over-exploitation and incidental catch or by-catch, and due to the use of destructive fishing methods, including dynamite fishing, bottom trawling, and destructive removal of deep corals. Shipping pressures are concentrated in the straits between the African continent and the southern Sicilian coast, and nutrient over-enrichment from sewage and run-off puts the southeastern portion of this subregion at risk of hypoxia.

The Adriatic Sea is a semi-enclosed sea within a semi-enclosed sea; given its limited water exchange, agricultural inputs and urbanization along its western flank, and its relative shallowness, eutrophication is a major issue. Although point source pollution by toxic contaminants has been largely controlled and toxic pollution is confined to a few localized industrial areas, run off and inadequately treated sewage continues to upset the nutrient

balances of the narrow sea, leading to algal blooms, mucilages, and spreading hypoxia. Climate changes may be exacerbating the impacts of these pressures, as well as compounding the effects of invasive species in the subregion. Fisheries over-exploitation is also identified as a pressure, especially in the northern reaches of the central Adriatic. Yet despite the pressures, the Adriatic Sea is remarkably diverse and productive, with a variety of ecosystems providing valuable ecosystem services. Tourism is important to the region, as are fisheries. The Adriatic is also noteworthy in that several of the countries within this subregion have been exploring ways to coordinate research and management, setting the stage for a facilitated movement towards an ecosystem approach.

The Eastern Mediterranean subregion is perhaps the least known of the four subregions delineated for the initial assessment. This subregion is also very diverse in large-scale biodiversity: extensive archipelagos exist in the north, while a wide shelf with alluvial sediments is found around the Nile Delta to the south. The coastline and bottom topography is highly varied, as are the human uses of coasts and seas. While all the pressures that exist throughout the Mediterranean are found within this subregion as well, invasive species and climate change are the top issues of concern. Spreading hypoxia and lowered water quality result from untreated sewage inputs, desalination effluents, and urban run-off. The trends in water quality, invasive species spread, and tropicalization from climate change have not yet devalued this subregion. The northern portion remains one of the primary coastal tourist destinations in the world, and coastal communities throughout the region continue to depend on marine resources.

To the extent this information synthesis provides a common approach to assessment, it has begun to highlight how different threats or pressures have differing levels of importance in each region. Thus pressure-state-impact-response varies, and this initial assessment can only begin to tease out why these responses may be different in different areas. Nonetheless, while the subdivision of the Mediterranean into four regions facilitated the initial assessment, there is great value in synthesizing the information across regions at a Mediterranean-wide level in order to guide the ecosystem approach.

The region is now on track to lead to strategic activities across the Mediterranean at three different levels: 1) at the basin level, where having standardized Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives, and Indicators will put everyone on the same page and allow future assessments to tell states what they need to know; 2) at the national level, with countries being guided through a standardized process for determining priorities and developing in-country management actions; and 3) at the site level, where management tools such as protected areas, regional fisheries measures, cooperation to study or protect areas within Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), and bilateral (transboundary) agreements to reduce pollution loading, could take place.

An overview of all four subregions, taken together with a review of literature on Mediterranean ecology overall, suggests that commonalities may be more pervasive than are differences between subregions. Common to all regions is the recognition that certain coastal and marine habitats deliver extremely valuable ecosystem services that benefit all Mediterranean inhabitants. These multiple services are provided by a wide range of natural habitats, and include not only fisheries resources and tourism values (things for which economic values can be ascertained relatively easily), but also waste assimilation, medium for transport, ability to buffer land from storms, and maintaining ecological balances that make life on Earth possible.

In an attempt to prepare a preliminary analysis of the known economic value of some of these services, the UNEP/MAP Blue Plan Regional Activity Center produced an initial Mediterranean marine ecosystem services valuation report. The study concludes that across the Mediterranean region, ecosystem service benefits may exceed 26 billion euros annually. The bulk of these estimated economic benefits (more than two thirds) come from tourism and

the value of nature supporting such tourism. Other valuable services supported by the studied habitats include provisioning of seafood, waste assimilation, coastal stabilization and erosion prevention, and carbon sequestration, which contribute to the total value with amounts within the same order of magnitude. While the findings of the study are under review, the magnitude of the value estimates for the different ecosystem services studied suggest the relative importance of certain types of habitats and resources in supporting human well-being throughout the basin. As countries discuss how to move forward together toward a more ecosystem-based approach to marine management, priorities may center on those habitats that provide the bulk of these economically, ecologically, and culturally valuable services.

Despite increasing bodies of knowledge due in part to the emerging science of valuation highlighting the value of Mediterranean coastal and marine environments, degradation continues due to direct uses and indirect impacts on ecosystems. The pressures and impacts that are common to all four subregions include:

- ❖ **coastal development and sprawl**, driven by urbanization and tourism development, leading to habitat loss and degradation, and erosion/ shoreline destabilization
- ❖ **overfishing**, and incidental or by-catch, affecting community structure, ecological processes, and delivery of ecosystem services
- ❖ **destructive fishing, including bottom trawling and fishing methods resulting in benthic disturbance**
- ❖ **contamination of sediments and biota caused by pollution, primarily from urbanization and industry, but also from anti-foulants and atmospheric inputs of hazardous compounds**
- ❖ **nutrient over-enrichment, leading sometimes to eutrophication and hypoxia, more regularly leading to ecological imbalances (reduced water quality and growth of algae)**
- ❖ **disturbance and pollution caused by maritime industries, including shipping, energy, aquaculture, and desalination (operational as well as disaster-related)**
- ❖ **invasive species spread, in many cases mediated by climate changes**
- ❖ **degradation of transitional or estuarine areas, which serve as critical nursery areas for commercial fisheries and also support unique assemblages of species**

Additionally, the initial assessment provides some information on ecologically important, biologically diverse, or vulnerable areas, and the potential biodiversity loss (inferred but not yet quantified) that emerges as a priority issue across the whole of the Basin. However, there may be other drivers of change to ecosystems and attendant delivery of ecosystem services that have not been highlighted as basin-wide in the assessment, due to lack of information available across the whole of the Basin. This includes anthropogenic impacts from changing hydrodynamics and sediment delivery (through dams, freshwater diversion, etc.) from watersheds, as well as coastal constructions, which both contribute to changes to shoreline stability and potentially exacerbate sea level-induced erosion.

Since the 2006 UNEP/MAP - EEA report on Priority issues in the Mediterranean environment, some changes in condition are apparent. Improvements in water quality are

discernable in many places, thanks to strategic efforts to reduce pollutant loading. Quantities of hazardous substances such as DDT and heavy metals are declining in most areas. New issues, however, are emerging which warrant attention. Desalination and its effects, particularly with respect to brine release, should be better investigated. The increasing uses of coastal and ocean space for aquaculture, including the grow out operations for bluefin tuna, bring with them the threat of increased pollution, eutrophication, invasive species and pathogen releases, and increased conflicts over reduced access and availability of space for other uses. And impacts on ecology and economy caused by invasive species continue to grow in the region, warranting more serious attempts to prevent new invasions and to control, where possible, impacts caused by these species.

It should be emphasized that the IIA is not a compilation of all scientific information on the Mediterranean Sea and its uses. Care was taken to balance the assessment across the significant variability that exists in availability of information, and across sometimes incompatible datasets. Furthermore, because knowledge was derived from information already being collected for other purposes (for instance to meet obligations under the Convention's protocols), and not from the sort of comprehensive and systematic monitoring program for integrated management that will eventually be adopted under EA, the initial assessment is important not just for summarizing the state of the art, but also for highlighting gaps in data and information. As such, the assessment guides the crucial regionally coordinated approach to monitoring that will emerge from the Ecosystem Approach process in the future.

One key information gap concerns the ability to uniformly assess pressures and states, in order to formulate responses. With the exception of localized pollutants and nutrient and organic matter enrichment, data for some countries is limited, whereas for others it is more extensive. Some countries have begun to assess climate change impacts and have research oriented towards emerging issues such as noise pollution and cumulative impacts assessments, whereas other countries with more limited human and financial resources are focusing at the national level on their obligations under the various Barcelona Convention protocols. It is expected that the rationalized monitoring program that will flow from the ecological and operational objectives will overcome these barriers to understanding pressure-state-impact-response across a wide span of inter-related impacts from human activity. A further gap that the assessment points to is the strong bias towards understanding the ecology and human impacts on shallow water environments, particularly rocky bottoms and intertidal areas, as well as seagrass meadows. While some descriptions of biodiversity and the ecosystem services that flow from other habitats is available, systematic information on pressures and state have not been compiled – with the exception of special transitional and marine areas (such as within protected areas, in Natura 2000 sites in EU countries, etc.). A rationalized system of monitoring using key indicators will overcome these discrepancies in focus.

In line with the Ecosystem Approach, every attempt was made to focus on ecosystem services in coastal and marine areas that are of value to the Mediterranean countries. However, because the study of ecosystem services is still in its infancy everywhere in the world, the assessment has utility in pointing to gaps in information about how communities and nations depend on and value these ecosystems – gaps which if filled could steer Mediterranean countries towards an effective, efficient, coordinated response to the growing pressures being exerted on Mediterranean coasts and marine ecosystems. The conclusions arising from the assessment also have implications for how to raise awareness about the value of Mediterranean ecosystems and their services, with the eventual outcome of improved management.

The Initial Integrated Assessment process has thus helped to highlight commonalities, and possible priorities that should serve as foci for subsequent steps in the Ecosystem Approach.

It has also been extremely useful in highlighting information gaps serving as the foundation to support the next steps in the EA process. These steps include the determination of ecological objectives that reflect common issues for marine management at the regional scale, the determination of operational objectives, indicators, and targets, which will help steer future monitoring and guide decision-making; and the development of management plans at sub-regional, national, or local levels, based on the robust information that will flow from an integrated monitoring regime in the future.

Annex II

Proposed Ecological Objectives

1 Biodiversity

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Biological diversity is maintained or enhanced. The quality and occurrence of coastal¹ and marine habitats² and the distribution and abundance of coastal³ and marine species⁴ 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-indigenous⁵ species⁶ 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 shellfish⁷ 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 habitats¹¹	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

⁹The 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.

¹⁰Monitoring 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

¹³Indicator 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 nourishment

¹⁵ Land-use classes 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 priority¹⁶ 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 enterococci 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

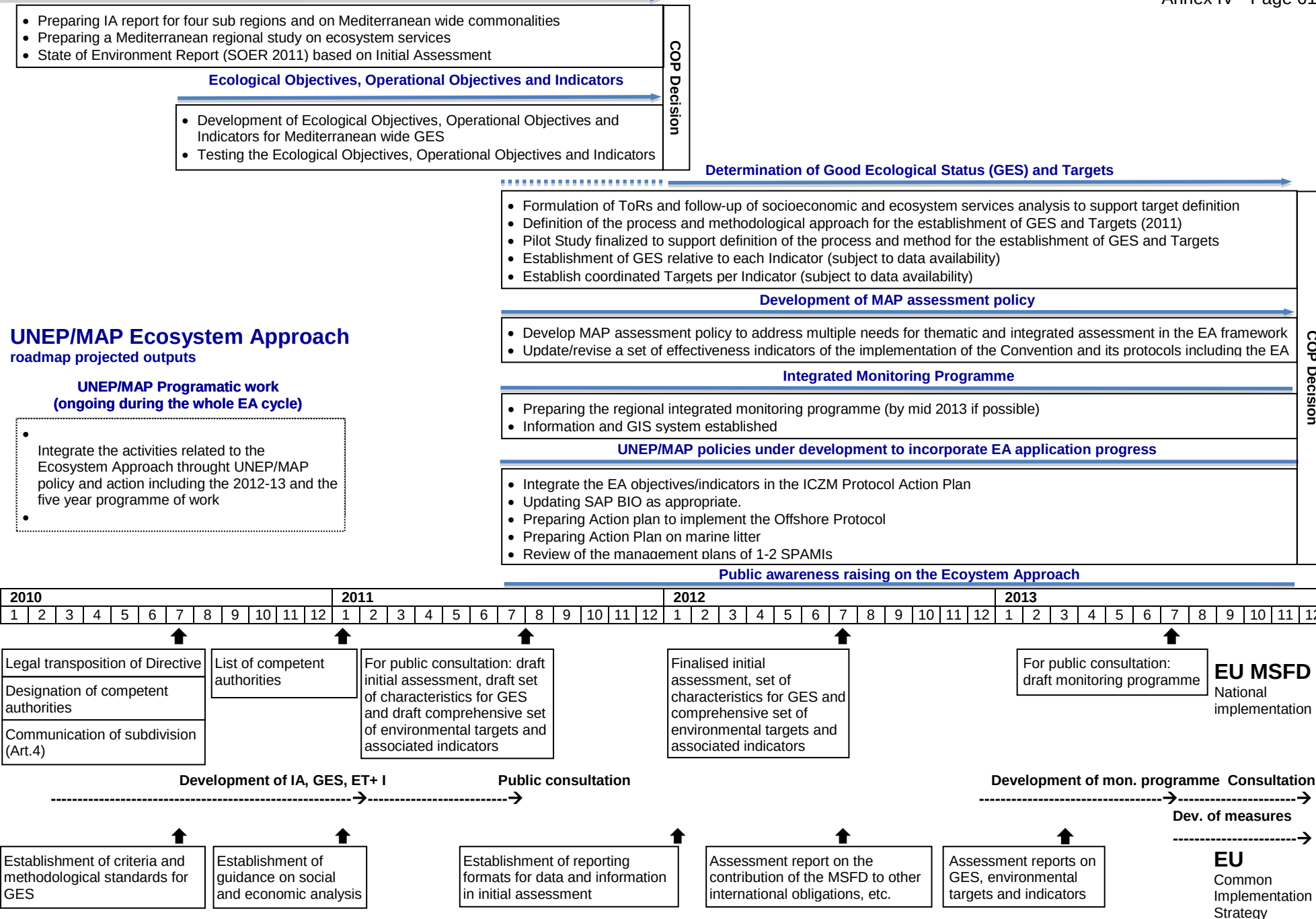
Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment¹⁸	10.1 The impacts related to properties and quantities of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment are minimized	10.1.1 Trends in the amount of litter washed 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.



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

Public awareness raising on the Ecosystem Approach

COP Decision

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

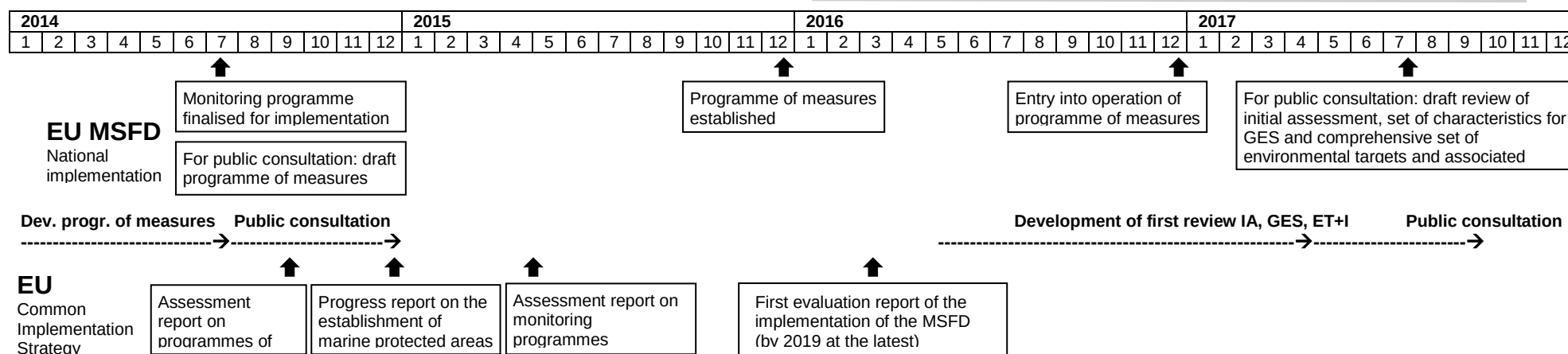
- New regional plans on LBS protocol identified and developed as appropriate
- Regional plans on endangered species, updated or new ones developed as appropriate
- Update as appropriate NAPs (LBS) and SAPs (BIO) to reflect the targets and commitments under the regional plans
- Management plans of selected 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

COP Decision

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

Public awareness raising on the Ecosystem Approach



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	COP Decision
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.	

Public awareness raising on the Ecosystem 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



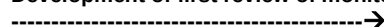
Review established of initial assessment, set of characteristics for GES and comprehensive set of environmental targets and associated indicators



For public consultation: draft review of monitoring programme

EU MSFD
National
implementation

Development of first review of monitoring programme



EU
Common
Implementation
Strategy

Draft Decision V

"Regarding the Amendments of the Annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean"

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Article 23 of the Barcelona Convention on the Annexes and Amendments to Annexes of the Convention and to the Annexes to the Protocols,

Recalling Articles 11 and 12 of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred to as the Protocol, on national measures for the protection and conservation of species and on cooperative measures for the protection of species,

Recalling Articles 14 and 16 of the Protocol, on the adoption of common criteria for the inclusion of additional species in Annexes II and III to the Protocol,

Recalling the recommendation adopted by the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Portoroz, November 2005) that approved the principle of modifying the lists of species included in Annexes II and III to the Protocol on the basis of criteria to be established, and the decision to adopt these criteria, approved during the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, January 2008),

Being aware of the need to ensure that the lists of species appearing in Annexes II and III to the Protocol are updated, taking into account both the evolution of the conservation status of species and the emergence of new scientific data,

Taking into account, the request made to the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas, hereinafter referred to as "SPA/RAC", to evaluate the status of the species listed in Annexes II and III to the Protocol, using the adopted Common Criteria, with a view to submitting an evaluation report and related recommendations for the consideration of the meeting of the Focal Points for SPA in 2011,

Taking into account the results presented by SPA/RAC and the considerations, remarks and reserves made by the SPA/RAC Focal Points during their last meeting (Marseilles, May 2011),

Decides in application of Article 23 of the Barcelona Convention and of the article 14 of the Protocol, to amend the Annexes II and III to the Protocol. In conformity with this amendment, the Annexes II and III will be as indicated in the lists attached to this decision;

Invites the Depositary to communicate without delay to all the Contracting Parties the adopted amendments;

Requests SPA/RAC to assist the Parties to implement this decision.

Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean: List of endangered or threatened species

(The species marked with (*) are deleted from Annex III and added to Annex II)

Magnoliophyta
<i>Cymodocea nodosa</i> (Ucria) Ascherson <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> (Linnaeus) Delile <i>Zostera marina</i> Linnaeus <i>Zostera noltii</i> Hornemann
Chlorophyta
<i>Caulerpa ollivieri</i> Dostál
Heterokontophyta
<i>Cystoseira</i> genus (except <i>Cystoseira compressa</i>) <i>Fucus virsoides</i> J. Agardh <i>Gymnogongrus crenulatus</i> (Turner) J. Agardh <i>Kallymenia spathulata</i> (J. Agardh) P.G. Parkinson <i>Laminaria rodriguezii</i> Bornet <i>Sargassum acinarium</i> (Linnaeus) Setchell <i>Sargassum flavifolium</i> Kützinger <i>Sargassum hornschurchii</i> C. Agardh <i>Sargassum trichocarpum</i> J. Agardh <i>Sphaerococcus rhizophylloides</i> J.J. Rodríguez
Rhodophyta
<i>Lithophyllum byssoides</i> (Lamarck) Foslie (Synon. <i>Lithophyllum lichenoides</i>) <i>Ptilophora mediterranea</i> (H. Huvé) R.E. Norris <i>Schimmelmannia schousboei</i> (J. Agardh) J. Agardh <i>Tenarea tortuosa</i> (Esper) Lemoine <i>Titanoderma ramosissimum</i> (Heydrich) Bressan & Cabioch (Synon. <i>Goniolithon byssoides</i>) <i>Titanoderma trochanter</i> (Bory) Benhissoune et al.
Porifera
<i>Aplysina</i> sp. plur. <i>Asbestopluma hypogea</i> Vacelet & Boury-Esnault, 1995 <i>Axinella cannabina</i> (Esper, 1794) <i>Axinella polypoides</i> Schmidt, 1862 <i>Geodia cydonium</i> (Jameson, 1811) <i>Petrobiona massiliana</i> (Vacelet & Lévi, 1958) <i>Sarcotragus foetidus</i> (Schmidt, 1862) (synon. <i>Ircina foetida</i>) <i>Sarcotragus pipetta</i> (Schmidt, 1868) (synon. <i>Ircinia pipetta</i>) <i>Tethya</i> sp. plur.
Cnidaria
<i>Astroides calycularis</i> (Pallas, 1766) <i>Errina aspera</i> (Linnaeus, 1767) <i>Savalia savaglia</i> Nardo, 1844 (synon. <i>Gerardia savaglia</i>)
Bryozoa
<i>Hornera lichenoides</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)

Mollusca
<i>Charonia lampas</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (= <i>Ch. Rubicunda</i> = <i>Ch. Nodifera</i>) <i>Charonia tritonis variegata</i> (Lamarck, 1816) (= <i>Ch. Seguenzia</i>) <i>Dendropoma petraeum</i> (Monterosato, 1884) <i>Erosaria spurca</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Gibbula nivosa</i> (Adams, 1851) <i>Lithophaga lithophaga</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Luria lurida</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (= <i>Cypraea lurida</i>) <i>Mitra zonata</i> (Marryat, 1818) <i>Patella ferruginea</i> (Gmelin, 1791) <i>Patella nigra</i> (Da Costa, 1771) <i>Pholas dactylus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pinna nobilis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pinna rudis</i> (= <i>P. pernula</i>) (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Ranella olearia</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Schilderia achatidea</i> (Gray in G.B. Sowerby II, 1837) <i>Tonna galea</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Zonaria pyrum</i> (Gmelin, 1791)
Crustacea
<i>Ocypode cursor</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pachylasma giganteum</i> (Philippi, 1836)
Echinodermata
<i>Asterina pancerii</i> (Gasco, 1870) <i>Centrostephanus longispinus</i> (Philippi, 1845) <i>Ophidiaster ophidianus</i> (Lamarck, 1816)
Pisces
<i>Acipenser naccarii</i> (Bonaparte, 1836) <i>Acipenser sturio</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Aphanius fasciatus</i> (Valenciennes, 1821) <i>Aphanius iberus</i> (Valenciennes, 1846) <i>Carcharias taurus</i> (Rafinesque, 1810) <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i> (Gunnerus, 1765) <i>Dipturus batis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Gymnura altavela</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i> (Cuvier, 1829) (synon. <i>Hippocampus ramulosus</i>) <i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Huso huso</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> (Rafinesque, 1810) (*) <i>Lamna nasus</i> (Bonnaterre, 1788) (*) <i>Lethenteron zanandreae</i> (Vladykov, 1955) <i>Leucoraja circularis</i> (Couch, 1838) (*) <i>Leucoraja melitensis</i> (Clark, 1926) (*) <i>Mobula mobular</i> (Bonnaterre, 1788) <i>Odontaspis ferox</i> (Risso, 1810) <i>Oxynotus centrina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pomatoschistus canestrini</i> (Ninni, 1883) <i>Pomatoschistus tortonesei</i> (Miller, 1969) <i>Pristis pectinata</i> (Latham, 1794) <i>Pristis pristis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Rhinobatos cemiculus</i> (E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1817) (*) <i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Rostroraja alba</i> (Lacépède, 1803) <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> (Griffith & Smith, 1834) (*) <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> (Rüppell, 1837) (*) <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Squatina aculeata</i> (Dumeril, in Cuvier, 1817) <i>Squatina oculata</i> (Bonaparte, 1840) <i>Squatina squatina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Valencia hispanica</i> (Valenciennes, 1846) <i>Valencia letourneuxi</i> (Sauvage, 1880)

Reptiles
<i>Caretta caretta</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Chelonia mydas</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> (Vandelli, 1761) <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> (Linnaeus, 1766) <i>Lepidochelys kempii</i> (Garman, 1880) <i>Trionyx triunguis</i> (Forskål, 1775)
Aves
<i>Calonectris diomedea</i> (Scopoli, 1769) <i>Ceryle rudis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Charadrius leschenaultii columbinus</i> (Lesson, 1826) <i>Falco eleonora</i> (Géné, 1834) <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Larus armenicus</i> (Buturlin, 1934) <i>Larus audouinii</i> (Payraudeau, 1826) <i>Larus genei</i> (Breme, 1839) <i>Larus melanocephalus</i> (Temminck, 1820) <i>Numenius tenuirostris</i> (Viellot, 1817) <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pelecanus crispus</i> (Bruch, 1832) <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> (Linnaeus, 1761) <i>Phalacrocorax pygmeus</i> (Pallas, 1773) <i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i> (Lowe, PR, 1921) <i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> (Brünnich, 1764) <i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Pallas, 1764) <i>Sterna bengalensis</i> (Lesson, 1831) <i>Sterna caspia</i> (Pallas, 1770) <i>Sterna nilotica</i> (Gmelin, JF, 1789) <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (Latham, 1878)
Mammalia
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> (Lacépède, 1804) <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> (Lesson, 1828) <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Delphinus delphis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Eubalaena glacialis</i> (Müller, 1776) <i>Globicephala melas</i> (Trail, 1809) <i>Grampus griseus</i> (Cuvier G., 1812) <i>Kogia simus</i> (Owen, 1866) <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> (Borowski, 1781) <i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i> (de Blainville, 1817) <i>Monachus monachus</i> (Hermann, 1779) <i>Orcinus orca</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> (Owen, 1846) <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> (Meyen, 1833) <i>Steno bredanensis</i> (Cuvier in Lesson, 1828) <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> (Montagu, 1821) <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> (Cuvier G., 1832)

Annex III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean: List of species whose exploitation is regulated

(The species marked with (*) are deleted from Annex III and added to Annex II)

Porifera
<i>Hippospongia communis</i> (Lamarck, 1813) <i>Spongia</i> (<i>Spongia</i>) <i>lamella</i> (Schulze, 1872) (synon. <i>Spongia agaricina</i>) <i>Spongia</i> (<i>Spongia</i>) <i>officinalis adriatica</i> (Schmidt, 1862) <i>Spongia</i> (<i>Spongia</i>) <i>officinalis officinalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1759) <i>Spongia</i> (<i>Spongia</i>) <i>zimocca</i> (Schmidt, 1862)
Cnidaria
<i>Antipathes</i> sp. plur. <i>Corallium rubrum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
Crustacea
<i>Homarus gammarus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Maja squinado</i> (Herbst, 1788) <i>Palinurus elephas</i> (Fabricius, 1787) <i>Scyllarides latus</i> (Latreille, 1803) <i>Scyllarus arctus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Scyllarus pygmaeus</i> (Bate, 1888)
Echinodermata
<i>Paracentrotus lividus</i> (Lamarck, 1816)
Pisces
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i> (Bonnaterre, 1788) <i>Alosa alosa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Alosa fallax</i> (Lacépède, 1803) <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i> (Nardo, 1827) <i>Centrophorus granulosus</i> (Bloch & Schneider, 1801) <i>Epinephelus marginatus</i> (Lowe, 1834) <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Heptranchias perlo</i> (Bonnaterre, 1788) <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> (Rafinesque, 1810) (*) <i>Lamna nasus</i> (Bonnaterre, 1788) (*) <i>Leucoraja circularis</i> (Couch, 1838) (*) <i>Leucoraja melitensis</i> (Clark, 1926) (*) <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Mustelus asterias</i> (Cloquet, 1821) <i>Mustelus mustelus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Mustelus punctulatus</i> (Risso, 1826) <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Prionace glauca</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Rhinobatos cemiculus</i> (E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1817) (*) <i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Sciaena umbra</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> (Griffith & Smith, 1834) (*) <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> (Rüppell, 1837) (*) <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) (*) <i>Squalus acanthias</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Umbrina cirrosa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <i>Xiphias gladius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)

Draft Decision VI

Adoption of the Work Programme and Implementation Timetable of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea for the period 2012-2017

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Article 11 of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean hereinafter referred to as the "Protocol", on national measures for the protection and conservation of species,

Recalling Article 12 of the Protocol, on cooperative measures for the protection and conservation of species, and in particular its paragraph 3 on the formulation and implementation of action plans for their conservation and recovery,

Considering the "Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea" adopted by the Contracting Parties in Malta, in October 1999, and more particularly its section G. concerning the assessment of the implementation and revision of the Action Plan,

Considering the "Updated Activity Programme for the implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea" adopted by the Contracting Parties, in Portoroz, in November 2005,

Taking into account Decision IG.19/12 related to the "Amendments of the list of Annexes II and III of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean" adopted by the Contracting Parties, in Marrakech, in November 2009, and more particularly the marine vegetation species newly included in Annex II to the Protocol "List of endangered or threatened species",

Noting the work accomplished by the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) in order to report on the Action Plan achievements over the period 2006-2011,

Taking into account the proposal by the SPA/RAC Focal points Meeting (Marseilles, May 2011) of a new work programme and timetable for the implementation of the action Plan,

Decides,

- 1.** to adopt the "Work Programme and Implementation Timetable of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea for the period 2012-2017", as contained in Annex to this Decision;
- 2.** to modify the list of species requiring particular attention in implementing the Action Plan (Article 8.1) taking into account the amendments to the Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean adopted by the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Marrakech, 2009) and entered into force on the 13th of February 2011. Therefore, the species requiring particular attention in implementing the Action Plan will be as follows:

Magnoliophyta: *Cymodocea nodosa* (Ucria) Ascherson, *Posidonia oceanica* (Linnaeus) Delile, *Zostera marina* Linnaeus, *Zostera noltii* Hornemann

Chlorophyta: *Caulerpa ollivieri* Dostál

Heterokontophyta: *Cystoseira* genus (except *Cystoseira compressa*), *Fucus virsoides* J. Agardh, *Gymnogongrus crenulatus* (Turner) J. Agardh, *Kallymenia spathulata* (J. Agardh) P.G. Parkinson, *Laminaria rodriguezii* Bornet, *Sargassum acinarium* (Linnaeus) Setchell, *Sargassum flavifolium* Kützinger, *Sargassum hornschurchii* C. Agardh, *Sargassum trichocarpum* J. Agardh, *Sphaerococcus rhizophylloides* J.J. Rodríguez

Rhodophyta: *Lithophyllum byssoides* (Lamarck) Foslie (Synon. *Lithophyllum lichenoides*), *Ptilophora mediterranea* (H. Huvé) R.E. Norris, *Schimmelmannia schousboei* (J. Agardh) J. Agardh, *Tenarea tortuosa* (Esper) Lemoine, *Titanoderma ramosissimum* (Heydrich) Bressan & Cabioch (Synon. *Goniolithon byssoides*), *Titanoderma trochanter* (Bory) Benhissoune et al.

Requests the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the Action Plan in accordance with the new work programme and within the time limits set out in its updated timetable, and report on their implementation according to the cycle and format of the MAP reporting system;

Requests SPA/RAC to assist the Parties in the implementation of the new work programme and implementation timetable of the Action Plan.

Annex

Work Programme and Implementation Timetable of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea for the period 2012-2017

TYPE OF ACTION PLANNED	ACTIVITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN	DEADLINE
1. Regulatory activities	- Parties which have not yet done so ratify the SPA/BD Protocol - Help the Parties take new vegetation species in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol into account - Help the countries which have legal protections make them operational and efficacious - Urge the Parties to create MPAs to conserve marine vegetation	As soon as possible As soon as possible From 2013 As soon as possible
2. Scientific knowledge and communication	- Organise a symposium every 3 years - Extend the bibliographical database to all the vegetal species in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol and regularly update it - Make the information layer on distribution of meadows accessible (MedSIG) - Update the information layer on mapping priority habitats - Complete and regularly revise the directory of specialists and laboratories, institutions and organisations concerned	From 2013 From 2013 As soon as possible Every two years At each Symposium
3. Inventorying and mapping the main vegetal assemblages	- Set up a programme for making national inventories on macrophyta species, with staggered planning according to the regions' priorities - Make theoretical probable distribution maps for the main plant assemblages - Implement targeted mapping and inventorying actions (Annex II species, priority sites)	From 2012 As soon as possible From 2012
4. Monitoring and following up over time the main vegetal assemblages	- Establish a programme for setting up monitoring networks for the main marine plant assemblages at national and regional level - Help the countries set up and/or extend their networks for follow-up of plants in the Mediterranean	As soon as possible From 2013
5. Taking on the Action Plan and enhancing national capacities	- Urge the countries that have so far not done so to develop short-, medium- and long-term action plans according to national and regional priorities - Help countries implement action plans - Set up training of 'liaison officers' responsible for providing national training courses - Help the countries set up regular national trainings	From 2012 As soon as possible From 2013 From 2014

Draft decision VII¹

Conservation of sites of particular ecological interest in the Mediterranean

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling the Marrakech Declaration adopted at the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Marrakech, 2009) that called on States to continue the establishment of marine protected areas and to pursue the protection of biodiversity with a view to the establishment by 2012 of a network of marine protected areas, including on the high seas, in accordance with the relevant international legal framework and the objectives of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling, in particular, decision X/31 on Protected areas and decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity adopted at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (Nagoya, Japan, 2010),

Considering also decision X/2, adopted at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and in particular Target 11 by which by 2020 at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes,

Considering the need to enhance efforts towards achieving the 2012 target of establishment of representative network of marine protected areas, [***in the framework of international law and in particular, (when it applies and as appropriate)², the UNCLOS³***], and, in this respect, recognizing the need to promote international cooperation and coordination for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, even through consideration of issues of marine protected areas,

Recalling Article 8 of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred to as the Protocol, on the establishment of the List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) List,

Recognizing the need to facilitate the consultation and coordination processes for the joint preparation of proposals for inclusion in the SPAMI List in accordance with Article 9 of the Protocol,

Considering that the Ninth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted in 2008, in decision IX/20, scientific criteria for identifying Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep sea habitats as well as scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas,

¹ Reservation by Egypt

² Reservation by Greece

³ Reservation by Turkey

Recognizing that the open seas waters and deep-sea habitats in the Mediterranean include features that are essential for the conservation of the Mediterranean marine biodiversity and the sustainable use of the marine living resources,

Having considered the work carried out by the Secretariat and the SPA/RAC to identify EBSAs in the Mediterranean following the CBD scientific and ecological criteria and examined at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas held in Istanbul in 2010 and at the Tenth Meeting of the Focal Points for SPAs held in Marseille in 2011,

Considering the proposals made by France, Italy and Lebanon to include new areas in the SPAMI List and the conclusions of the Tenth Meeting of Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas (Marseille, 2011), regarding the evaluation of their conformity with the criteria provided for in Article 16 of the Protocol,

Recalling Decision 17/12 adopted at the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, 2008) on the procedure for the revision of the areas included in the SPAMI List, stating that for each SPAMI, a Periodic Review should be carried out every six years by a mixed national/independent Technical Advisory Commission;

Encourages Contracting Parties to establish and/or strengthen a range of measures for long-term appropriate management of marine protected areas under national jurisdiction or in areas subject to international regimes competent for the adoption of such measures and to incorporate good governance principles,

Decides to include the following sites in the SPAMI List:

- The Blue Coast Marine Park (France),
- The Embiez Archipelago-Six Fours (France)
- The Porto Cesareo Marine Protected Area (Italy),
- The Capo Carbonara Marine Protected Area (Italy),
- The Marine Protected Area of Penisola del Sinis-Isola di Mal di Ventre (Italy),
- The Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (Lebanon), and
- The Palm Island Nature Reserve (Lebanon),

Requests the concerned Parties to take the necessary protection and conservation measures specified in their SPAMI proposals in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 3 and Annex I to the Protocol,

Requests SPA/RAC to inform the competent international organizations of the newly adopted SPAMIs including the measures taken in these SPAMIs, as provided for in Article 9, paragraph 5 of the Protocol,

Requests SPA/RAC to work with the relevant authorities in Algeria and Italy to carry out during the 2012-2013 biennium the periodic ordinary review for the following SPAMIs, according to the guidelines adopted by the Contracting Parties:

- The Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve (Algeria)
- The Habibas Islands (Algeria)
- The Portofino Marine Protected Area (Italy),

Decides to add to the Annotated Format for the presentation reports for the areas proposed for inclusion in the SPAMI List a new section that could be used for the preliminary declaration of SPAMI proposals to be presented in accordance with Article 9 of the Protocol, paragraphs "b" or "c". The new section appears as Annex I to this decision,

Encourages the Parties and the competent intergovernmental organizations to adhere to the process launched by SPA/RAC on the identification of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) in the Mediterranean,

Requests the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties to contact the CBD Secretariat to present the results on EBSA identification in the Mediterranean contained in Annex II to this decision, as a contribution by the Mediterranean region to achieve the relevant global objectives under the CBD, without prejudice the competence of Contracting Parties over the marine areas that are or could be under their sovereignty or jurisdiction [*in the framework of international law and in particular, (when it applies and as appropriate)*⁴, the UNCLOS]⁵ to adopt possible management and conservation measures

⁴ Reservation by Greece

⁵ Reservation by Israel and Turkey

Annex I

Section to be added in the first page of the annotated format for the presentation reports for the areas proposed for inclusion in the SPAMI List

PRELIMINARY DECLARATION

Regarding the Proposals for inclusion in the SPAMI List to be made in accordance with the paragraphs “b” and “c” of Article 9 of the Protocol, the Contracting Parties could consider making individually or jointly a preliminary declaration stating their intention to conduct consultation processes with the neighbouring Parties concerned with a view to prepare the Presentation Report.

For the preliminary declaration of intention, the Contracting Party/ies would not have to present a complete Presentation Report, only the following information shall be provided to SPA/RAC:

- Name of the area
- Geographic location (please provide a map showing the geographical location of the area. It is implied at this stage that the geographic location is not yet the precise determination of the boundaries of the proposed area)
- Approximate surface area
- Legal status (with a general indication of the kind of measures that would be appropriate for the area)

Such preliminary declaration would allow to get opinions and any possible reactions from other Parties on the SPAMI proposal project and would serve as an invitation to the neighbouring Parties concerned for getting involved in the necessary consultation. Through this declaration, the Contracting Party may as appropriate request SPA/RAC and Secretariat assistance to facilitate the consultation process including with relevant international or regional organizations.

Annex II

List of potential proposed EBSA(s) in the Mediterranean

N°	Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas	Criteria
A	Alborán Sea The seamounts in this portion of the Alborán Sea support a wide array of marine biodiversity, and the site contains sea bird and cetacean critical habitat. The southwestern portion of the Alborán Sea is highly productive and is also a transit corridor for bird, mammal and fish species travelling between the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	Ecological value: Biological diversity Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Vulnerability Uniqueness
B	Balearic Islands area This area of the Western Mediterranean contains seamounts and provides critical spawning habitats for bluefin tuna and critical sea bird and cetacean habitats as well.	Ecological value: Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Vulnerability Uniqueness
C	Gulf of Lions area This highly productive shelf region of the greater Gulf of Lions also contains deep sea canyons that have a high biodiversity significance. The area also shares important cetacean habitats with the contiguous Pelagos Sanctuary, and is probably inhabited by the same cetacean populations that occur in the Sanctuary. It thus represents the natural continuation westward, involving waters off France and Spain, of cetacean conservation measures foreseen in the Pelagos Sanctuary. It is also an important sea bird area.	Ecological value: Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Vulnerability Uniqueness
D	Pelagos Sanctuary It is an important productive area, with upwelling phenomena and diverse key preys for different cetaceans species, which manifest in the area with high abundance. It is the most important known ground for fin whales.	Ecological value: Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species
E	Tyrrhenian Sea This area is highly productive, supporting sea bird, marine mammal and shark species.	Ecological value: Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Vulnerability Uniqueness

F	Tunisian Plateau This portion of the south-central Mediterranean contains critical sea bird and cetacean habitats, deep sea corals, seamounts, and highly productive, very shallow offshore banks. The Tunisian Plateau region of the Sicily Strait supports a high productivity and nursery areas for several shark species as well as critical sea bird habitats.	Ecological value: Uniqueness Biological productivity Vulnerability Importance for life history Importance for threatened species
G	Adriatic Sea This portion of the Adriatic has a high natural productivity that supports an extensive food web, including sea birds, loggerhead sea turtles and several shark species. Considering the high level of degradation of the North-western Adriatic Sea, establishing a protected area in this site would require significant marine restoration effort.	Ecological value: Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species
H	Ionian Sea This area includes cetacean critical habitats and important nursery areas for several shark species. In addition to supporting a broad array of Mediterranean diversity, this northern extent of the Ionian has significant deep sea coral habitats.	Ecological value: Fragility Naturalness Importance for life history Importance for threatened species
I	Aegean Sea This portion of the Aegean Sea is highly productive and includes key habitats for sea birds, the Mediterranean monk seal and other marine mammals, as well as deep sea coral habitats. This area encompasses the Greek National Marine Park of Alonissos and the Northern Sporades.	Ecological value: Biological productivity Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Uniqueness
J	Levantine Sea This area encompasses important bluefin tuna spawning grounds as well as key marine mammal habitats. This area is the most productive in eastern Mediterranean pelagic waters and is likely to provide critical habitats for both fishery species and marine mammals. In addition, the Eratosthenes Seamount has been identified by the GFCM as a critical fisheries habitat and represents high productivity of pelagic and deepwater species, and rich and diverse benthic fauna.	Ecological value: Importance for life history Importance for threatened species Biological productivity Uniqueness Biological diversity Vulnerability
K	Nile Delta Region This southern portion of the Levantine Sea includes recently discovered cold seeps, as well as important sea turtle - and possibly cetacean - habitats.	Ecological value: Uniqueness Importance for threatened species Importance for life history

Draft decision VIII**Regional Plans in the framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources and Activities Protocol of the Barcelona Convention****Draft decision part I: Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of Mercury in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol**

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona 1995, , concerning the obligations of the Parties to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent to eliminate pollution from land based sources,

Recalling also Article 5 of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land- based Sources and Activities, hereinafter referred to as the LBS Protocol, concerning the phasing out of inputs of the substances as presented in its Annex 1.C, that are toxic, persistent and liable to bio-accumulate,

Having regard to Decision 17/8 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) entitled “Implementation of NAPs and the preparation of legally binding measures and timetables required by Art.15 of the LBS Protocol”,

Acknowledging the widespread concerns over the serious adverse effects of mercury on human health and the environment,

Taking into account the work carried out within the framework of United Nations Environment Programme and in particular of the Global Negotiation Process on Mercury as well as the pertinent provisions of the relevant international environmental agreements and other regional agreements of relevance,

Having considered the results of the Assessment on Mercury in the Mediterranean prepared by CP/RAC, recognizing that the current efforts to reduce risks from mercury are not sufficient to tackle the challenges posed by mercury and the need for coordinated action to prevent further environmental contamination by Mercury of the Mediterranean sea and its coastal zone due to its special hydrographical and ecological characteristics as a semi closed sea particularly vulnerable to pollution, including bio accumulation of Mercury,

Noting the different capabilities of the Parties to undertake measures, as well as their common but differentiated responsibilities,

Committed to increased efforts to tackle the global and regional challenges to reduce risks from releases of mercury and the need to manage chemicals of global and regional concern in an efficient, effective and harmonized manner;

Fully aware of the obligation to comply with requirements of the Barcelona Convention and the LBS protocol as per Article 27 of the Convention and Decision IG 17/2 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) on compliance procedures and mechanisms,

Having considered the report of MED POL Focal Points meeting held in Rhodes, Greece, in May 2011,

Decides to adopt the Regional Plan on the reduction of Mercury in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol together with its Appendices hereinafter referred to as the Regional Plan, which are contained in Annex I to this decision;

Urges the Contracting Parties to take the necessary legal, administrative and other measures to ensure the implementation of this Regional Plan and to report on their progress to the Secretariat in accordance with its Article VI.

Urges the Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations, industry, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to continue and enhance their support to the implementation of the regional Plan through the provision of technical and financial resources, such as by supporting the implementation of country-based projects that tackle mercury risk reduction and risk management;

Requests the Secretariat (MED POL and CP/RAC) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to, and organize capacity building programmes for, the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Regional Plan.

ANNEX I

Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of Mercury in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

For the purpose of this Action Plan:

- (a) "Emission Limit Values (ELVs)" means the maximum allowable concentration measured as a "composite" sample, of a pollutant in an effluent discharged to the environment.
- (b) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes, of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste (reference to Annex IV of the LBS Protocol).
- (c) "Secretariat" means the body referred to in article 17 of the Barcelona Convention, as amended in 1995.
- (d) LBS Protocol refers to the amended version of 1996 of the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE II

Scope and Objective:

1. The area to which this Regional Plan applies is the area defined in accordance with Art. 3 of the LBS Protocol. This is intended for all the anthropogenic releases in accordance with the requirements of article 4 of the LBS Protocol.
2. The objective of this Regional Plan is to protect the coastal and marine environment and human health from the adverse effects of Mercury

ARTICLE III

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the levels of mercury contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE IV

Measures

A Chlor alkali industry

- 1- The parties shall prohibit the installation of new Chlor alkali plants using mercury cells with immediate effect.
- 2- The parties shall prohibit the installation of vinyl chloride monomer production plants using mercury as a catalyst with immediate effect.

3- The parties shall ensure that the releases of mercury from the activity of Chlor alkali plants shall cease by 2020 at the latest and

i) that the environmentally sound management of metallic mercury from the decommissioned plants is achieved, including the prohibition of its re-entry into the market.

ii) that the total releases of mercury (to the air, the water and to the products) from existing Chlor alkali plants are progressively reduced until their final cessation with the view not to exceed 1.0g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant. In doing so, the air emissions should not exceed 0.9g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant.

B Non Chlor alkali industry

1. The Parties shall adopt by 2019 National ELVs for Mercury emissions from other than Chlor Alkali industry as follows:

A. Chemical industries using Mercury catalysts:

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
a) Use of mercury catalysts in the manufacture of polyurethane elastomers	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
b) Acetaldehyde production with mercury-sulphate (HgSO ₄) as catalyst	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
c) Vinyl acetate production with Hg catalysts	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
d) Production of the cube (1-amino anthrachion) colours/pigments with Hg catalyst	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
e) Use of mercury intermediates for production of other mercury compounds	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
f) Use of mercury intermediates in the pharmaceutical / chemical industry	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
g) Manufacture of mercury catalysts	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
h) Manufacture of organic and non-organic mercury compounds	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent

B. Batteries industry

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
Manufacture of batteries containing mercury	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent

C. Non-ferrous metal industry

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
a-Mercury recovery plants	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent
b-Extraction and refining of non-ferrous metals	[50]	5	µg/l effluent

D. Waste Treatment

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit Measurement of
Plants for the treatment of wastes	[50]	[5]	µg/l effluent

2. The Parties shall adopt National ELVs for Mercury emissions from incineration plants as follows:

Waste gas	0.05	mg/ Nm ³
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3. The Parties shall take the appropriate measures to reduce the inputs of Mercury emissions from other sectors and use alternatives as appropriate.

4. Mercury containing wastes

The Parties shall take the appropriate measures to isolate and contain the mercury containing wastes to avoid potential contamination of air, soil or water.

5. Contaminated sites

The Parties shall identify existing sites which have been historically contaminated with mercury including at least the old mines and decommissioned Chlor alkali plants), and to take, with regard to these sites, environmentally sound management measures such as safety works, use restrictions or decontamination, as appropriate To this end,

i the Parties shall report to the Secretariat by January 2013 on the identified sites

ii the Secretariat shall prepare guidelines on BEPs for the environmentally sound management of contaminated sites, for discussion and approval by the parties in 2013

iii. the Parties shall report in 2015 on the measures envisaged for the environmentally sound management of the identified sites by making use of the approved guidelines on BEPs.

6. The Parties shall neither open new mines nor re-open old mercury mining sites.

7. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor releases of Mercury into water, air and soil to verify compliance with the requirements of the above table taking into account the guidelines included in Appendix I.

8. The Parties shall take the necessary steps to enforce the above measures.

ARTICLE V

Timetable for Implementation

The Parties shall implement the above measures according to the timetables indicated in the respective Articles. .

ARTICLE VI

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures, on their effectiveness and difficulties encountered. The Contracting Parties shall review the status of implementation of these measures in 2015.

ARTICLE VII

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building, including transfer of know-how and technology, shall be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given upon request to Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The present regional Action Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180 day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the LBS Protocol.

Draft Decision Part II: "Regional Plan on the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol"

Recalling Article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona 1995, concerning the obligations of the parties to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent to eliminate pollution from land based sources,

Recalling also Article 5 the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, as amended in Syracuse in 1996, hereinafter referred to as the LBS Protocol, concerning the phasing out of inputs of the substances as presented in its Annex 1.C,

Having regard to Decision 17/8 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) entitled "Implementation of National Action Plans and the preparation of legally binding measures and timetables required by Art. 15 of the LBS Protocol",

Noting the different capabilities of the Parties to undertake measures, as well as their common but differentiated responsibilities,

Considering the recommendations of the Meeting of the MED POL Focal Points, held in Kalamata in 2009, to include substances releases from food sector in the action list of substances to be addressed as priority in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol implementation,

Considering that BOD₅ is an element contributing to nutrients enrichment in coastal areas of the Mediterranean thus to the occurrence of eutrophication phenomena taking into account the special hydrographical and ecological characteristics of the Mediterranean Sea area as a semi closed sea,

Fully aware of the obligation to comply with requirements of the Barcelona Convention and the LBS protocol as per Article 27 of the Convention and Decision IG 17/2 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) on compliance procedures and mechanisms,

Having considered the report of MED POL Focal Points meeting held in Rhodes, Greece, in May 2011

Decides to adopt the Regional Plan on the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol together with its Appendices hereinafter referred to as the Regional Plan, which are contained in Annex III of this decision,

Urges the Contracting Parties to take the necessary legal, administrative and other measures to ensure the implementation of this Regional Plan and to report on their progress to the Secretariat in accordance with its Article VI,

Requests the Secretariat (MED POL and CP/RAC) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to, and organize capacity building programmes for, the Contracting parties for the implementation of the Regional Plan.

ANNEX II

Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of BOD₅ from selected food sectors in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

For the purpose of this Action Plan:

- (a) "Emission Limit Values (ELVs)" means the maximum allowable concentration measured as a "composite" sample, of a pollutant in an effluent discharged to the environment.
- (b) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste. (Annex IV, A of LBS Protocol).
- (c) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies. (Annex IV, B of LBS Protocol).
- (d) "Secretariat" means the body referred to in article 17 of the Barcelona Convention, as amended in 1995.
- (e) LBS Protocol refers to the amended version of 1996 of the LBS Protocol.
- (f) 1 p.e. (population equivalent) means the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) of 60 g of oxygen per day;

ARTICLE II

Scope and Objective:

1. The area to which this Regional Plan applies is the area defined in accordance with Art. 3 of the LBS Protocol. This is intended for all the food sector industries listed in Appendix I within the hydrological basin discharging directly or indirectly into the Mediterranean Sea.
2. The objective of this Regional Plan is to prevent pollution and to protect the coastal and marine environment from the adverse effects of discharges of organic load (BOD₅) from food sectors.

ARTICLE III

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the levels of organic load (BOD₅) from food sectors contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE IV

Measures

1. Reduction of pollution load by application of BEP and BAT

Industrial Food Plants outlined in Appendix I which discharge more than 4 000 pe into water bodies shall meet the following requirements (24-hour values)

Parameter	Value
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) or Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	160 mg/l 55 mg/l
Biochemical Oxygen Demand BOD ₅ or (BOD ₇)	30 mg/l

In case the food sector installation discharges into the sewerage system, the competent authorities shall establish ELV and an authorization compatible with the operation and the emission discharge values of the urban waste water treatment plant.

Appendix II and document UNEP/MAP MTS 142, entitled "Guidelines for the application of BATs and BEPs in industrial sources of BOD, Nutrients and Suspended Solids for the Mediterranean Region", could be used as relevant references for the implementation of the above measures.

2. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies shall monitor related discharges into water to verify compliance with the requirements of the above table taking into account the guidelines included in Appendix I.
3. The Parties shall take the necessary steps to enforce these measures in accordance with their national regulations.
4. The values referred in this article will be reviewed in 2015 by the Parties on the basis of reports prepared on the implementation of the measures and on possible difficulties encountered, taking into account new developments on BAT and BEP and on EQ standards in the region.

ARTICLE V

Timetable for Implementation

The Parties shall implement by 2014 the ELVs indicated in the table of article IV above on the same sectors outlined in Appendix I, taking into account their national circumstances the respective capacity to implement the required measures and the need to reduce the use of water in the industrial sectors of Appendix II using BAT and BEP

ARTICLE VI

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures, their effectiveness and difficulties encountered.

ARTICLE VII

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building, including transfer of know-how and technology will be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given to Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The present regional Action Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180 day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the LBS Protocol.

REFERENCE METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

Internationally accepted standardized sampling, analyzing and quality assurance methods (e.g. CEN-standards, ISO-standards and OECD-Guidelines) should be used whenever available.

APPENDIX I

BRANCHES OF FOOD INDUSTRIES

- 1) Dairy industry
- 2) Fruit and vegetable processing
- 3) Breweries
- 4) Winery and Distilleries

- 5) Fish processing industry
- 6) Sugar manufacturing
- 7) Vegetable oil processing
- 8) Canning and preserving
- 9) Meat processing and slaughtering

APPENDIX II

GUIDELINES FOR THE REDUCTION OF WASTE WATER VOLUME AND POLLUTION LOAD BY THE FOLLOWING

- automatic control of processes;
- installation of cooling circuits instead of run-through-cooling;
- use of vapor condensates for cleaning operations;
- recycling of preheated water from heat exchangers for cleaning operations;
- recycling of low polluted waste waters for cleaning operations;
- multiple use of cleaning waters;
- use of biodegradable cleaning agents;
- decentralized cleaning stations in order to shorten the pipes for cleaning agents;
- push away of liquid products in pipes with compressed air and vacuum instead of water;
- use of nitric acid for cleaning operations instead of other acids;
- control of product losses by continuous waste water sampling and analyses;
- improving the basic technology for reducing raw material losses;
- installation of safety mechanisms to prevent overfilling;
- use of peroxyacids instead of chlorine-containing cleaning agents and disinfectants to avoid generation of hazardous chlorinated substances;
- mechanical cleaning before cleaning with liquids and disinfection to minimize the use of cleaning agents and disinfectants;

- controlled discharge of waters containing disinfectants in order to protect subsequent biological treatment;
- collection of product residues for further use, e.g. as feed for animals and fertilizers;
- separate collection and disposal of disinfectant rests and used concentrates;
- separate collection and treatment of fat, blood and nutrients;
- transportation of processed fish and sea products in a plant preferably without water;
- equipment of floor drains with fixed sink strainers.

Draft Decision Part III: Regional Plan on the elimination in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol, 1996 of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane; Beta hexachlorocyclohexane; Hexabromobiphenyl; Chlordecone; Pentachlorobenzene; Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether; Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenyl ether; Lindane; Endosulfan, Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Article 8 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean as amended in Barcelona 1995, , concerning the obligations of the parties to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent to eliminate pollution from land based sources,

Recalling also Article 5 the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land- based Sources and Activities, as amended in Syracuse in 1996, hereinafter referred to as the LBS Protocol, concerning the phasing out of inputs of the substances as presented in its Annex 1.C, and the priority given to substances that are toxic, persistent and liable to accumulate,

Having regard to Decision 17/8 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) entitled “Implementation of National Action Plans and the preparation of legally binding measures and timetables required by Art.15 of the LBS Protocol”,

Taking into account the pertinent provisions of the international environmental Conventions, especially the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal,

Taking also into account of the National Implementation Plans in course of development or already developed by the Parties under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

Recognizing that the above mentioned chemicals are persistent organic pollutants that possess toxic properties, resist degradation, bio-accumulate and are transported widely, thus presenting health risks resulting from local exposure as well as pollution of the Mediterranean sea area due to its special hydrographical and ecological characteristics as a semi closed sea particularly vulnerable to pollution, including bio accumulation,

Acknowledging that the production and use of the above mentioned chemicals by the Contracting Parties is prohibited and/or limited in the framework of several international and regional agreements and organizations and that in spite of the actions already taken at regional and national level, the substances that are the object of this Regional Plan although in decreasing amount may still enter the marine environment due to an insufficient management of stockpiles and wastes

Conscious of the need of developing regional regulatory measures for hazardous substances in harmony, as appropriate, with other relevant international environmental agreements,

Fully aware of the obligation to comply with requirements of the Barcelona Convention and the LBS protocol as per Article 27 of the Convention and Decision IG 17/2 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) on compliance procedures and mechanisms,

Having considered the report of MED POL Focal Points meeting held in Rhodes, Greece, in May 2011,

Decides to adopt in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol, the Regional Plan on the elimination and/or reduction of production and use of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane; Beta hexachlorocyclohexane; Hexabromobiphenyl; Chlordecone; Pentachlorobenzene; Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether; Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenyl ether; Lindane; Endosulfan, Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, together with its Annexes which are contained in Annex II to this decision; hereinafter referred to as the Regional Plan.

Urges the Contracting Parties to take the necessary legal, administrative and other measures to ensure the implementation of this Regional Plan and to report on their progress to the Secretariat in accordance with its Article V.

Requests the Secretariat (MED POL and CP/RAC) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to, and organize capacity building programmes for, the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Regional Plan.

ANNEX III

Elimination of 10 Persistent Organic Pollutants (Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane; Beta hexachlorocyclohexane; Hexabromobiphenyl; Chlordecone; Pentachlorobenzene; Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether; Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenyl ether; Lindane; Endosulfan, Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride)

1. Regional Plan on the phasing out of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) "HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER has a CAS No: 68631-49-2 ,207122-15-4 and means other hexabromodiphenyl ethers present in commercial octabromodiphenyl ether. It is used as flame retardant in thermoplastic acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) for the construction, electric appliance and electrical products industries as well as in polyurethane foam for auto upholstery.
- (b) "HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER" has a CAS No;446255-22-7,207122-16-5 and means other heptabromodiphenyl ethers present in commercial octabromodiphenyl ether. It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and flexible polyurethane (PUR) without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.
- (c) TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER "has a CAS No: 40088-47-9, and means other tetrabromodiphenyl ethers present in commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether,. It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and PUR without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industryand
- (d) PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER" has a CAS No: 32534-81-9 and means other pentabromodiphenyl ethers present in commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether. It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and PUR without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.
- (e) "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)" are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.

- (f) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.
- (g) "Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.
- (h) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.
- (i) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, subject to paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that any export or import of these chemicals for the purpose of their environmentally sound disposal, and for the use or purpose which is allowed under Appendix A, is done in accordance with the relevant international rules, standards and regulations.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or

irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;

- (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*. In doing so, the information on the BEPs provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures provided for in Article 3 by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013 at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2013.

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given to Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and they should report to the Secretariat¹ before 2013.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

- a Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.
- b. Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles

List of allowable uses/exemptions

<i>HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER,</i> <i>HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER,</i> <i>TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND</i> <i>PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER</i>	use	1. A Party may allow recycling of articles that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, and the use and final disposal of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, provided that: (a) The recycling and final disposal is carried out in an environmentally sound manner and does not lead to recovery of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether for the purpose of their reuse. This specific exemption/use shall in any case expire in 2020 (b) The Party shall prohibit exports of such articles that contain levels/concentration of any of the four substances exceeding those permitted for the sale, use, import or manufacture of those articles within territory of the Party; and
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¹ Coordinated reporting under Stockholm and Barcelona conventions where appropriate

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER Wastes

1.

A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* are hereby described:

1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:

- i. Stockpiles consisting of or containing HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and its derivatives;
- ii. Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*;

2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste by trained personnel on the basis of:

- i. label information where HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
- ii. or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.

3. Waste holders of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.

4. HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.

5. Mixing or bulking of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.

6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER,

TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.

7. Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
 8. *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.
- B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with *HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the substances concerned, stock piles and waste.

2. *Regional Plan on the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) "LINDANE" has a CAS No: 58-89-9. It is used as high-spectrum insecticide for seed and soil treatment, foliar applications, tree and wood treatment and also for antiparasitic applications to humans and animals.
- (b) "ENDOSULFAN" is technical endosulfan CAS 115-29-7 with its isomers CAS 959-98-8, and 33213-65-9; and Endosulfan sulphate CAS 1031-07-8. It is used to effectively control several pests on a very range of crops.
- (c) "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)" are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.
- (d) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.
- (e) "Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.
- (f) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.
- (g) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:

- (a) the production and use of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its waste, subject to paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that that any export or import of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN for the purpose of their environmentally sound disposal, and for the use or purpose which is allowed under Appendix A, is done in accordance with the relevant international rules, standards and regulations.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
- (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of Lindane and Endosulfan. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures provided for in Article 3 by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013 at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2013.

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given to Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and they should report to the Secretariat² before 2013.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

a Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

b. Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles

List of allowable uses/expemptions for LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	ALLOWABLE USES ^{exemptionss}
LINDANE	Production	None
	Use	None

Chemical	Activity	Allowable use/exemptions
Technical endosulfan* (CAS No: 115-29-7) and its related isomers* (CAS No: 959-98-8 and CAS No: 33213-65-9)	Production	None
	Use	Crop-pest complexes as listed below

Crop	Pest
Cotton	Cotton bollworms, pink bollworm, aphids, jassids, whiteflies, thrips, leafroller
Jute	Bihar hairy caterpillar, yellow mite
Coffee	Berry borer, stem borer
Tea	Aphids, caterpillars, tea mosquito bugs,

² Coordinated reporting under Stockholm and Barcelona conventions where appropriate

Crop	Pest
	mealybugs, scale insects, thrips, flushworm, smaller green leaf hopper, tea geometrid
Tobacco	Oriental tobacco bud worm, aphids
Cow peas, beans, tomato	Whiteflies, aphids, leaf miner
Okra, tomato, eggplant	Fruit and shoot borer, diamondback moth, aphids, jassids
Onion, potato, chillies	Aphids, jassids
Apple	Yellow aphids
Mango	Hopper, fruit fly
Gram, arhar	Aphids, caterpillar, pod borer, pea semilooper
Maize	Aphids, stem borer, pink borer
Paddy/rice	White jassids, stem borer, gall midge, rice hispa
Wheat	Aphids, termites, pink borer
Groundnuts	Aphids
Mustard	Aphids, gall midge

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN are hereby described:
- Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - Stockpiles consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its derivatives;
 - Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN;
 - Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of LINDANE waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 - label information where LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
 - or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
 - Waste holders of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN, including farmers and householders, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.
 - LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
 - Mixing or bulking of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.

6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
 7. Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
 8. LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.
- B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with LINDANE and or ENDOSULFAN.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the substances concerned, stock piles and waste.

3. *Regional Plan on the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE “has a CAS No: CAS No:1763-23-1 and its Salts CAS No:307-35-7 It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and PUR without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.
- (b) “Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)” are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.
- (c) “Wastes” means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.
- (d) “Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes” means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.
- (e) “Best Available Techniques (BAT)” means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.
- (f) “Best Environmental Practices (BEP)” means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, ITS SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, ITS SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its waste, subject to paragraph 2 of this Article
2. The Parties shall ensure that any export or import of this chemical for the purpose of their environmentally sound disposal and for a use or purpose which is allowed under Appendix A, is in done in accordance with the relevant international rules, standards and regulations.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that such PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.
6. Also decides that:
 - (a) The production and use of Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and Perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) shall be eliminated by all Parties except as provided in AppendixA for Parties that have notified the Secretariat of their intention to produce and/or use them for acceptable purposes.

- (b) Parties that produce and/or use these chemicals shall take into account, as appropriate, guidance such as that given in the relevant parts of the general guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices given in Appendix B.
- (c) Every two years each Party that uses and/or produces these chemicals shall report on progress made to eliminate PFOS, its salts and PFOSF and submit information on such progress to the Conference of the Parties pursuant to and in the process of reporting under Article 26 of Barcelona Convention and Art.13 of the LBS Protocol;
- (d) With the goal of reducing and ultimately eliminating the production and/or use of these chemicals, the Contracting Parties shall encourage:
 - (i) Each Party using these chemicals to take action to phase out uses when suitable alternatives substances or methods are available;
 - (ii) The Parties, within their capabilities, to promote research on and development of safe alternative chemical and non-chemical products and processes, methods and strategies for Parties using these chemicals, relevant to the conditions of those Parties. Factors to be promoted when considering alternatives or combinations of alternatives shall include the human health risks and environmental implications of such alternatives;
 - (iii) Synergy with the work carried out under the Stockholm convention on the evaluation of the continued need for these chemicals for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions on the basis of available scientific, technical, environmental and economic information
- (e) Due to the complexity of the use and the many sectors of society involved in the use of these chemicals, there might be other uses of these chemicals of which countries are not presently aware. Contracting Parties which become aware of other uses are encouraged to inform the Secretariat as soon as possible;

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures provided for in Article 3 by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013 at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2013.

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat to the Contracting parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given to the Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and they should report to the Secretariat³ before 2013.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

- a Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.
- b. Article III shall not apply to quantities of the chemicals occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles

List of Accepted production purposes and allowable uses/exemptions for PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE.

³ Coordinated reporting under the Stockholm and Barcelona Conventions

CHEMICAL	Acceptable Production Purposes	Allowable Uses/exemptions
PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID,ITS SALTS ANDPERFLUOROOCTA NE SULFONYL FLUORIDE	Production of other chemicals to be used solely for the allowable uses. Production for allowable uses	The following acceptable purposes, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following acceptable uses: Photo-imaging Photo-resins and anti-reflective coatings for semi-conductors Etching agent for compound semi-conductors and ceramic filters Aviation hydraulic fluids Metal plating (hard metal plating) only in closed-loop systems Certain medical devices (such as ethylene tetrafluoroethylene copolymer (ETFE) layers and radio-opaque ETFE production, in-vitro diagnostic medical devices, and CCD colour filters) Fire-fighting foam Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants from Atta spp. and Acromyrmex spp. Specific exemption: For the following specific uses, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following specific uses: Photo masks in the semiconductor and liquid crystal display (LCD) industries Metal plating (hard metal plating) Metal plating (decorative plating) Electric and electronic parts for some colour printers and colour copy machines Insecticides for control of red imported fire ants and termites Chemically driven oil production Carpets Leather and apparel Textiles and upholstery Paper and packaging Coatings and coating additives Rubber and plastics

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE Wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - i. Stockpiles consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its derivatives;
 - ii. Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 3. label information where PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
- (a) Waste holders, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.
 - (b) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
 - (c) Mixing or bulking of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.
 - (d) Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
 - (e) Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
 - (f) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.

- B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 "Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region", in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the substances concerned, stock piles and waste.

4. Regional Plan on the elimination of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

(a) *Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane* has a CAS No: 319-84-6. It is an unintentional derivate for discarding. It is a by-product of the production of the insecticide lindane.

Beta hexachlorocyclohexane has a CAS No: 319-85-7. It is an unintentional derivate for discarding. It is a by-product of the production of the insecticide lindane

Chlordane has a CAS No: 143-50-0. Pesticide previously used to treat root disease of banana, mildew, potato moth, rust, other insects, and in traps.

Hexabromobiphenyl has a CAS No: 36355-01-8. It has been used as a flame retardant in thermoplastic acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) for the construction, electric appliance and electrical products industry as well as in polyurethane foam for auto upholstery.

Pentachlorobenzene has a CAS No: 608-93-5. There are currently no intentional uses, although it has been discovered in the following uses: PCBs, packages of dyes, flame retardants and pesticides (quintozene, endosulfan, chlorpyrifos methyl, atrazine and clopirilida). It is also used as an intermediate in the manufacture of the fungicide pentachloronitrobenzene.

(b) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.

(c) "Environmentally Sound Management" of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.

(d) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.

(e) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the elimination of:

- *Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane*
- *Beta hexachlorocyclohexane*
- *Chlordane*
- *Hexabromobiphenyl*
- *Pentachlorobenzene*

contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen and their wastes, subject to paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that any export or import of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene for the purpose of their environmentally sound disposal and for a use or purpose which is allowed under Appendix A, is done in accordance with the relevant international rules, standards and regulations.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that such wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes and the Basel Convention;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BAT and BEPs for environmentally sound management of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. Each Party shall at a minimum take measures to reduce the total releases derived from anthropogenic releases of Pentachlorobenzene, with the goal of their continuing minimization and, where feasible, ultimate elimination in accordance with the obligations under article 5 of the Stockholm Convention taking into consideration the Guidelines on BAT and BEP and new progresses on this issue developed within the framework of the mentioned Convention.
6. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies shall monitor the implementation of the measures.

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures provided for in Article 3 by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013 at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2013.

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology will be provided by the countries and the Secretariat to the Contracting parties in need of assistance. Priority shall be given to the Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify, to the extent practicable, stock piles consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Appendix A, and they should report to the Secretariat⁴ before 2013.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The Regional Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

^a Article III shall not apply to quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

^b Article III shall not apply to quantities of a chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles.

⁴ Coordinated reporting under Stockholm and Barcelona Conventions

APPENDIX B

BAT and BEP for Environmentally Sound Management of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene

- A. Several BAT and BEP for the phasing out of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - a) Stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Annex A;
 - b) Products and articles in use and wastes consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Annex A;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of the waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 - a) label information where pesticides waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
 - b) or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
 3. Waste holders shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession;
 4. Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection program;
 5. Mixing or bulking of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques;
 6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority;
 7. Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordane, Hexabromobiphenyl, Pentachlorobenzene waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country;
- B. The BAT and BEP list mentioned above is not exhaustive; more extensive information is described in the Stockholm Convention technical guidelines
- The Parties shall add to and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned, waste and stock piles.

Draft decision IX

Criteria and Standards for bathing waters quality in the framework of the implementation of Article 7 of the LBS Protocol

The 17th meeting of the Contracting parties

Having regard to Article 7(1) C of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land based sources and activities, as amended in 1996 herein after referred to as the LBS Protocol, that provides for regional cooperation in progressively formulating and adopting common guidelines, standards and criteria dealing with the quality of sea-water used for specific purposes that is necessary for the protection of human health, living resources and ecosystems,

Being aware of the risks for public health associated to bathing in contaminated waters,

Considering the considerable tourist influx in the Mediterranean region and the central role that tourism plays in the development of the Mediterranean coastal states,

Bearing also in mind that the beaches and the adjacent bathing waters are among the most attractive tourist destinations common to all Mediterranean countries,

Acknowledging the need to efficiently exploit the tourist industry without jeopardizing the health of the tourists and swimmers in general,

Recalling the Interim Quality criteria for bathing waters adopted in 1985 by the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution, within the context of the thirteen common measures,

Considering the new Guidelines for safe recreational water environments published by the World Health Organization in 2003 and revised in 2008,

Decides to adopt the criteria and standards for bathing waters in the Mediterranean region which are contained in the **Annex** to this decision,

Urges the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures to ensure the implementation of the Criteria and Standards for bathing waters in the Mediterranean region and establish beach profile for each bathing water within a period of four years and to report to the Secretariat on progress achieved through biennial reporting on the implementation of the LBS Protocol as provided for in its Article 13.

Requests the Secretariat to organize capacity building programmes for the Contracting Parties to comply with the adopted criteria and standards

ANNEX

CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR BATHING WATERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Introduction

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted in 1985 ad interim common criteria and standards for coastal recreational waters, with a view to update them when more evidence would be provided. A new proposal was prepared ten years later but, as at the same time a proposal of a European Council Directive was tabled on the same subject, it was decided to postpone any decision and wait until the new Directive would be operational to avoid any duplication of efforts regarding microbiological analyses and elaboration of data. In the meantime, WHO developed the "Guidelines for Safe Recreational-water Environments" launched in 2003 and the EU abandoned their old proposal and started a new one linked to the WHO Guidelines. Finally, a new EC Directive was adopted by the European Parliament in 2006, and the Mediterranean countries have proposed criteria and standards that comply with both the WHO guidelines and the EC Directive.

The Mediterranean guidelines for bathing waters were formulated in 2007 based on the WHO guidelines for "Safe Recreational Water Environments" and on the EC Directive for "Bathing Waters". The proposal was made in an effort to provide updated criteria and standards that can be used in the Mediterranean countries and to harmonize their legislation in order to provide homogenous data. In addition, in 2009, the guidelines were coupled with the instructions for the preparation of water quality profiles that were used by several countries. As a result, national water quality profiles were presented during the "Consultation meeting for the finalization and approval of criteria and standards for bathing waters along with beach profiles", held in Athens from 8-9 November 2010. The meeting recommended to approve the criteria and standards as well as the methodology used and to present them at the MED POL Focal Points meeting in 2011 with the view at their transmission for approval and adoption at the meetings of the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. It is to be noted that all countries in the Mediterranean undertook pilot studies for the preparation of bathing waters quality profiles, with the assistance of WHO/MED POL.

The main objective of the revised criteria and standards for bathing waters in Mediterranean countries, is to reduce gastroenteritis and other waterborne health risks. They are based on scientific knowledge related to the protection of human health and the environment as well as environmental management experience. They also provide better and earlier information to citizens about the quality of their bathing waters and they range from simple sampling and monitoring of bathing waters to bathing quality management.

The revised criteria and standards require monitoring, assessment and classification of bathing water quality status that is referred to as "excellent", "good", "sufficient" and "poor quality", with each qualification linked to clear numerical quality standards of bacteriological quality. In addition to monitoring, the preparation of beach profiles or bathing water profiles is also required as the most important element introduced in the revised criteria and standards. Their aim is to provide swimmers, as well as authorities, with information about physical, geographical and hydrological characteristics of a bathing water, as well as possible sources of pollution impacting on bathing water quality.

A bathing water profile is primarily intended to improve the understanding of the faecal sources and routes of pollution, and focuses on intestinal enterococci, the indicator for faecal pollution. The new parameter is in fact more representative for faecal pollution than the old one.

Information on the route by which and the extent to which the bathing water quality is negatively influenced should be available. In fact, the manager of the bathing water location will have to give an estimate of which sources of emission negatively influence the bathing water quality and through which dispersion routes. Important is the type of emission (continuous/non-recurrent, specific source/diffuse sources). Moreover, the location-specific characteristics of the bathing water (flowing or isolated) play a decisive role. All the above aspects make the bathing water profile the basis on which the manager can better understand the risks of contamination and propose appropriate measures.

The bathing water profile can therefore be used to better substantiate the management measures taken and to make a better use of funds for the remedial measures.. At the same time, the bathing water profile can be used to inform the society/citizens of the quality of the bathing water and the management measures taken.

In this context, compliance will refer to appropriate management measures and quality assurance, not merely to measuring and calculations.

Criteria and standards

Microbial Water Quality Assessment Category (based on Intestinal enterococci (cfu/100 mL))

Category	A	B	C	D
Limit values	<100*	101-200*	185**	>185**(1)
Water quality	Excellent quality	Good quality	Sufficient	Poor quality/ Immediate Action

Minimum sampling frequency: at least one per month and not less than four in a bathing period including an initial one prior to the start of the bathing period.

* 95th percentile intestinal enterococci/100 mL (applying the formula 95th Percentile = antilog ($\mu + 1,65 \sigma$))

** 90th percentile intestinal enterococci/100 mL (90th Percentile=antilog ($\mu + 1,282 \sigma$), μ =calculated arithmetic mean of the log10 values; σ = calculated standard deviation of the log10 values.

- (1) For single sample appropriate action is recommended to be carried out once the count for IE exceeds 500 cfu/100 mL
- For classification purposes at least 12 sample results are needed spread over 3-4 bathing seasons
 - Reference method of analysis: ISO 7899-2 based on membrane filtration technique or any other approved technique
 - Transitional period 4 years (starting by 1st January 2012)

In combination with the above criteria and standards, a profile should be prepared for each of the bathing water assessed, as follows:

PREPARATION OF BEACH PROFILES (BATHING WATER PROFILES)

Beach profiles should be prepared following a standardized format similar to that provided here below, a copy of which should be displayed for public information on the beach.

In addition, a map has to be included with the sampling points, sources of pollution, facilities and any other relevant information. The classification of the beach as described in the table above should also be included.

Standardized format: General bathing water profile

General Information

Name of beach and bathing area:.....

Location:.....Location on the map (grid reference):.....

Latitude:..... Longitude:.....

Length.....m wide..m depth...m gradient.....cm

Type of bathing area:

☐ open ☐ confined ☐ natural ☐ lake ☐ estuarine ☐ marine

Type of bathing area: ☐ sand ☐ rocky ☐ pebble ☐ grass other.....

Public facilities: No. of: Toilets..... Showers..... Litter bins.....

Is there in place any information system indicating water quality? ☐Yes ☐No

Are methods in place to warn the people of danger? ☐No

☐Yes: ☐Flags ☐megaphones ☐Digital panels ☐other.....

Accessibility: ☐Road ☐Path ☐No access. Is there an adequate parking area? ☐Yes ☐No

Beach usage: ☐swimming ☐sailing ☐motor sports other.....

Number of bathers at peak usage (e.g. Sunday).....

Are dogs or other animals present at the beach? ☐Yes Type..... Number..... ☐No

Water colour: ☐Transparent ☐Not transparent ☐brown green ☐reddish

Are there any algae present? ☐Yes Type..... Amount..... ☐No

Does the beach look clean? ☐Yes ☐No Specify type of dirt.....

Characteristics of surrounding area: (more than one category can be used)

- ☐ urban ☐ residential ☐ industrial ☐ agricultural ☐ dunes
☐ river mouth ☐ hills & mountains ☐ grassland ☐ other.....

Potential sources of contamination to be specified

- ☐ Wastewater discharges ☐ River or stream discharge ☐ Other discharges
☐ Other sources

Average water temperature: (during season) max/min.....

Prevailing wind (N/S/E/W):.....

Prevailing current (N/S/E/W):.....

Distance between mean high and low water:.....

Beach manager or contact in case of pollution incident:

Phone: Mobile phone: Fax:

e-mail:

Address:.....

Organisation:.....

Management team at the bathing area

-.....
-.....
-.....
-.....

Draft decision X

Adoption of the Strategic Framework for Marine Litter management

The 17th meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling the UNEP Global Marine Litter Initiative that took an active lead in assisting eleven Regional Seas Programmes in organizing and implementing regional activities on marine litter;

Recalling the results of the assessment of the status of marine litter in the Mediterranean prepared in 2008 in the framework;

Taking note of the commitments endorsed by the Fifth International Marine Debris Conference and the revised Honolulu Strategy, a global framework strategy to prevent, reduce, and manage marine debris/litter;

Taking note of the process of gradual application by MAP of the Ecosystem Approach for the management of human activities in the Mediterranean region, that includes ecological objectives and operational objectives with associated indicators and targets for marine litter;

Taking into consideration Article 15 of the LBS Protocol for the adoption of action plans, programmes and measures, as well as the annex 1 section C, point 14 of the same Protocol;

Decides to:

Adopt the Policy document and the associated Strategic Framework for Marine Litter management presented as Annexes I and II to this decision;

Request the MEDPOL Programme, in close collaboration with the Contracting Parties and in cooperation with the competent MAP components and partners, to prepare a Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol; and

Invite the Contracting Parties to fully support the process and provide the adequate resources

ANNEX I

A NEW POLICY TO ADDRESS MARINE LITTER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

A new policy to address marine litter in the Mediterranean

Background

Marine litter has been an issue of concern in the Mediterranean since the 1970s. Today the coastline and catchment area of the Mediterranean is home to 427 million inhabitants (7% of the world's population) and to 7% of known marine species; annually the region attracts 25% of the international tourist trade; 30% of shipping traffic passes through the Mediterranean Sea.

The production of marine litter is a result of urbanization and increased economic activities in combination with poor infrastructures throughout the region with more problems, in the south and east Mediterranean countries, where more than 80% of landfill sites are not subject to supervision.

The Mediterranean countries adopted the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (the Barcelona Convention) in 1976. Within the framework of this Convention, in 1980 the Mediterranean countries adopted a Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources. The Protocol recognizes the importance of dealing with the problem of marine litter. In the Annex I of the Protocol marine litter is defined as "Persistent synthetic material which may float, sink or remain in suspension and which may interfere with any legitimate use of the sea". The Protocol was amended in 1996 and entered into force in 2008. The Annex I of the amended Protocol defines litter as "any persistent manufactured or processed solid material which is discarded, disposed of, or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment".

The Mediterranean was designated a Special Area for the purposes of Annex V of the MARPOL 73/78 Convention. Recently the Mediterranean coastal States Parties to the MARPOL Annex V presented a joint submission to the IMO's MEPC, notifying that adequate reception facilities for garbage were provided in their respective ports.

In the framework of the MED POL Programme of UNEP/MAP, a comprehensive Bibliography on Marine Litter containing 440 references and an Assessment of the State of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Persistent Synthetic Materials, which can Float, Sink or Remain in Suspension were published in 1991.

MAP action on coastal and marine litter

The Eleventh Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols, 1999, asked the MED POL Programme to include in its work programme, action on coastal and marine litter and to prepare a relevant assessment.

Following the decision by the Contracting Parties, a Questionnaire about Litter Management in Coastal Zones of the Mediterranean was sent to Mediterranean countries and the answers were analyzed with the aim of preparing a new assessment. The assessment showed that the main sources of coastal litter in the region are river runoff, tourist activities and coastal urban centers. This result indicated that it is the inadequate management of coastal solid waste that is responsible for the presence of litter on the beaches, floating in the water and on the sea bed. In addition to the above mentioned results, it appeared that almost all the Mediterranean countries have policies for the management of coastal solid waste but the enforcement of the policies is weak mostly because of the poor coordination between different national and local administrations dealing with solid waste issues. However, only few countries have policies related specifically to marine litter. Local administration and

municipalities are ultimately responsible for the management of coastal litter in the region. The role of the Ministry of environment is limited to the control aspects.

Based on these facts, MED POL built up a strategy to assist coastal local authorities to improve the management of coastal solid waste and prevent the introduction of litter into the marine environment that was successfully tested through a pilot project implemented in Lebanon. A national replication strategy was also developed and agreed upon by all Lebanese coastal municipalities.

In 2003, in the framework of MED POL, WHO/EURO prepared Guidelines for Management of Coastal Litter for the Mediterranean Region. These guidelines were prepared within the framework of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) to address pollution from land-based activities and are intended to help the responsible authorities, planners and field operators.

Following the Global Marine Litter Initiative of UNEP/GPA of 2006, a new assessment was prepared by MED POL to update the current status of the marine litter problem in the Mediterranean and better understand how it is dealt with by the countries of the region. The new assessment was the result of a joint effort of relevant authorities, IGOs, NGOs, scientists and economic sectors in several Mediterranean countries, and has taken full consideration, and can be regarded as the follow-up to, the collective previous related initiatives and activities of UNEP/MAP.

The assessment relied on the information collected from the completed questionnaires of fourteen Mediterranean countries, analysis of beach clean-up data mainly from the period 2002-2006, the monitoring and recording of litter floating on the sea surface for the duration of the study by HELMEPA member companies with ships traveling in or transiting the Mediterranean, existing literature and initiatives and the direct contacts with local authorities, non-governmental organizations and associations, as well as scientists and individuals, who could provide reliable data on marine litter (recorded or unrecorded). Efforts were made to provide useful statistics that could be further extrapolated to give a quantifiable estimation of the marine litter problem in the Mediterranean.

Recently, in the framework of the gradual application of the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP) for the management of human activities in the Mediterranean by MAP (COP Decision IF 17/6, Almeria, 2008) an Ecological Objective for marine litter has been proposed: "Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment". Also Operational Objectives with associated Indicators are under development. Marine litter monitoring will be implemented in the framework of the ECAP integrated monitoring programme, which will be developed during the biennium 2012-2013.

The main findings of the assessment

- Although useful data on marine litter exists in the region (types, quantities, etc.) it is inconsistent and geographically restricted mainly to parts of the North Mediterranean. Standardized research data for statistical purposes concerning the problem of litter in the Mediterranean is a necessity. Furthermore, information sharing between and among NGOs, IGOs, research institutes, relevant authorities, etc. in the Mediterranean regarding litter data needs to be improved;
- Previous deductions that most of the Mediterranean marine litter is from land-based sources, rather than ships, were confirmed;
- Marine litter found on Mediterranean beaches originates from shoreline and recreational activities and is composed mainly of plastics (bottles, bags, caps/lids etc.), aluminum (cans, pull tabs) and glass (bottles) (52% - based on item counts). This figure is in line with the

global average in the same period (2002-2006). Marine litter from smoking related activities accounts for 40% (collected items) which is considerably higher than the global average;

- In terms of marine litter *floating in the sea*, plastics account for about 83.0%, while all other major categories (textiles, paper, metal and wood) account for about 17% (no. of items observed);

- Besides being an eyesore, marine litter also poses hazards and dangers for wildlife and people. A variety of marine wildlife species was found to be entangled in or injured by marine litter items. In fact, derelict fishing gear, which includes fishing line, nets, rope and lures represents about 70% of all entanglements;

- Most of the countries that provided input to this assessment are undergoing a series of policy reforms relating to marine litter, covering the whole range from waste prevention practices all the way to environmentally sound disposal of waste, with a view to involving a wide range of stakeholders. Administrative coordination, budget allocation, technical capacity and weak enforcement remain the main obstacles. On the up-side, there is a clear indication that private sector involvement is increasing. No country has any kind of cross-border collaboration scheme on the issue of marine litter management;

- The economic impact of marine litter has not been addressed in the region while the specific to the region impacts on nature and humans need to be further identified and explored.

Public awareness and education

In parallel to the assessment, MED POL with the support of the Regional Seas Programme of UNEP developed a medium-term public awareness and education campaign on the management of marine litter in the Mediterranean with the overall objective to contribute to the protection of the environment and the sustainable development of the Mediterranean.

MED POL opted to work with partner NGOs of the region, in the context of a project entitled “Keep the Mediterranean Litter-free Campaign” carried out by the three partner organizations with the support of UNEP/MAP.

The outcome of the project was a brochure produced in 11 Mediterranean languages, a series of awareness and clean-up events and a publication for a common regional strategic approach on how to raise awareness and appropriately educate the public about marine litter. The latter has been developed for the general public as well as for all other stakeholders such as the maritime industry, the tourism sector, agriculture, regional and national authorities, NGOs, the media, etc.

Numerous international organizations and NGOs have conducted surveys and beach cleanup campaigns yielding data and information on marine and coastal litter pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. These efforts, which continue to present, are considered as a reliable source of data and information.

Towards a new strategy for the proper management of marine litter in the Mediterranean

With the entering into force of the Barcelona Convention's LBS Protocol (2008), the entry into force of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol in 2011 and the coming into effect in 2009 of the Mediterranean Sea as a *Special Area* (under Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)), the issue of marine litter management got indeed strengthened.

As a result, the need was felt to enter into a more operational phase and tackle the issue of marine litter with more concrete initiatives. Recently, in planning the medium and long-term work plan for MAP and MED POL, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention asked the Secretariat to formulate a new strategy for the proper management of marine litter in the Mediterranean region and to present it for adoption.

The strategy that is being prepared is based on **the overall goal to ensure that marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect the coastal and marine environment and the impacts related to properties and quantities of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment are minimized, controlled and eliminated to the maximum extent practicable through regional and national activities.** The specific objectives for meeting the overall goal are listed below. These have been developed based on the findings of the assessment report, questionnaires and additional literature. Also, the objectives take into consideration the Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives with associated Indicators and targets for marine litter, which are under development in the framework of the gradual application by MAP of the Ecosystem Approach for the management of human activities in the Mediterranean:

- Objective one: Enhance the proper implementation of existing legislation dealing with municipal solid waste, as well as sea based solid waste, by building or further developing legal and institutional capacity in local and port authorities, and other institutional stakeholders, to manage marine litter within an integrated coastal zone management framework;
- Objective two: Reduce, in view to eliminate, marine litter generated “in situ” (on beaches) with emphasis on plastics and smoking related marine litter;
- Objective three: Influence environmental attitudes and behavior of residents and tourists of coastal areas in the Mediterranean Region with regards to marine litter;
- Objective four: Follow the trends of marine litter generation and distribution through the establishment of a monitoring programme for marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea, based on the ecosystem approach;
- Objective five: Assess lost and abandoned fishing gear and identify and implement counter measures against biological damage;
- Objective six: Establish synergies with on-going and planned initiatives in the Mediterranean Region as they relate to waste and marine litter. In fact, this objective aims at ensuring coherence and coordination of scattered activities undertaken by various stakeholders under all previous objectives.

The strategy is being prepared through a participatory process and its basic elements have already been discussed at expert and Government-designated levels. It is proposed to be implemented through a legally binding Regional Plan based on Art 15 of the LBS Protocol, to be formulated on the basis of the strategic framework prepared by MED POL. The Regional Plan will include activities both at the national and regional levels and will indicate measures, targets and timetables.

While a number of preparatory activities could immediately be implemented at the regional and national levels, the Regional Plan will be prepared during the biennium 2012-2013 and will be presented to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for adoption at their next Meeting in 2013.

ANNEX II

MANAGEMENT OF MARINE LITTER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

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PREAMBLE

The present strategic framework was prepared through a participatory process. The first draft was prepared by a designated consultant and after internal circulation was presented (version 2 September 2008) in a Stakeholder Meeting organised on 18-19 September 2008 in Athens, Greece where the draft document was thoroughly discussed and commented. Based on the discussions of the last meeting of MED POL Focal Points held in Rhodes on 25-27 May 2011, where the strategic framework was presented and welcomed by the participants, the present revised draft was prepared by the Secretariat.

The strategic framework is divided into five sections: Section I provides an introduction to and historic evolution of the issue. Section II states the objectives and principles of the strategic framework. Section III sets out a strategic framework for attaining the objectives; goals have been identified and a list of activities, including proposed partners, as a means to attain the objectives. Section IV includes a log frame and work plan, developed to guide the implementation of this strategic framework. The last Section, V, describes the envisioned implementation modalities. The Parties in this strategic framework shall include all the countries which are signatories of the Barcelona Convention.

1. Introduction

1.1 Marine litter in the Mediterranean

Marine litter is discarded waste or lost material resulting from any kind of human activity that has made its way into the marine environment, including material found on beaches or material that is floating or has sunk at sea and accumulated in the sea bottom.

Marine litter was recognised already in the 1960s as an important problem for marine life but since then the volume of marine litter and the associated with it environmental, economic and social problems are growing rapidly globally and in the Mediterranean.

The magnitude of the problem has lead to growing concern internationally and to a certain extent also in the Mediterranean by several governments, organisations, scientists and a series of litter surveys and awareness campaigns, which, however, until now are still rather limited in scope and small in comparison to the scale of the problem

The landlocked Mediterranean Sea (Figure 1) has a surface area of 2.5 million km² and a coastline of approximately 46,000km, 73% of which lies in the northern coast.



Figure 1: The Mediterranean Sea and countries of the Mediterranean region

The coastline and catchment area is home to 427 million inhabitants (7% of the world's population) and to 7% of known marine species; annually the region attracts 25% of the international tourist trade; 30% of shipping traffic passes through the Mediterranean sea (2005c). The production of marine litter is a result of urbanization and increased economic activities in combination with poor infrastructures throughout the region with more problems, in the south and east Mediterranean countries, where more than 80% of landfill sites are not subject to supervision.

Marine litter was implicitly dealt with in the Mediterranean through the legal and institutional framework to address the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea provided by the *Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution* (Barcelona Convention) and the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This was later amended and renamed the *Convention for the Protection of the*

Marine environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean. The convention includes seven protocols some of which are directly or indirectly relevant to marine litter:

- a. The prevention and elimination of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft or incineration at sea;
- b. Cooperation in preventing pollution from ships and, in cases of emergency, combating pollution of the Mediterranean Sea;
- c. Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources and activities;
- d. Specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean;
- e. Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil;
- f. Prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal; and
- g. Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean.

Since the implementation of the Protocols against pollution from land-based sources and activities (LBS) and of the prevention of dumping and hazardous waste are under the guidance of the Marine Pollution Assessment and Control programme of MAP known as MED POL, marine litter is also under MEDPOL's supervision.

MED POL has assisted countries to develop action plans and programmes. The Strategic Action Plan (SAP) was prepared by MED POL and Contracting Parties in 1998 to address land-based pollution; specifically the Action Plan has identified pollution hot spots, pollution sensitive areas along with planned activities to be implemented up to the year 2025. Under the guidance of MED POL countries then prepared National Action Plans (NAPs) in which specific areas of intervention were identified and assessed the needed budget. In both the SAP and NAPs among the main priority areas (wastewater, industrial waste and solid waste), marine litter sources are implicitly included.

With the ratification by Croatia and Syria of the LBS protocol on 11th May 2008, the Protocol has entered into force. This paves the way for MED POL in partnership with Parties to develop pollution reduction programmes and apply legally binding targets in order to eliminate land based pollution including marine litter.

In 1987 due to the lack of information on marine and coastal litter UNEP/MAP convened a meeting jointly with IOC and FAO in order to enhance understanding of the quantity, composition and origin of persistent materials in the Mediterranean Sea. As a result of the meeting a pilot project was implemented in five countries (Cyprus, Israel, Italy, Spain and Turkey) to assess marine and coastal litter and a report was published entitled "*Assessment of the state of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by persistent synthetic materials which may float sink or remain in suspension*". In 1996 a wide scale assessment was conducted for the purposes of informing the Parties to the Barcelona Convention, this assessment entitled "*The State of the Marine and Coastal Environment in the Mediterranean Region*" provided in depth review of all sectors of the economy within the region, which have a direct impact on the Mediterranean Sea in general and which also contribute to marine litter. Furthermore a comprehensive bibliography was compiled containing 440 reference covering eight thematic areas on the subject which has been a particularly useful resource for scientist working in the region.

In 2001, MED POL undertook a comprehensive assessment on the status of the management of coastal litter in the Mediterranean. The results of the assessment showed that the main sources of coastal litter in the region are run-off from rivers, tourist activities and coastal urban centres. This result indicates that inadequate coastal solid waste management is responsible for the presence of litter on beaches, floating on water or on the sea bed (benthic). The above mentioned results are in contradiction with the fact that, almost

all the Mediterranean countries have policies for the management of coastal solid waste. In fact, the problem is related to the enforcement of the policies which is, in general, very weak because of the poor coordination between different national and local administrations dealing with solid waste management issues and the inadequate infrastructure and understaffed services. However, perhaps the most important root problem is the absence of proper behaviour by the population which is due to lack of a waste-free culture, awareness and education. Although only few countries have specific policies related to marine litter, usually local administration and municipalities are ultimately responsible for the management of coastal litter in the region. The role of the Ministry of Environment and/or other Ministries (Mercantile Marine, Interior, etc.) is limited to provision of guidelines and control.

Based on these facts, MEDPOL built up a process to assist – as a first step - coastal local authorities in order to improve the management of coastal solid waste and prevent the introduction of litter into the marine environment. In this line, MED POL implemented in 2004-2005, with the cooperation of RAMOGE and UNADEP, a pilot project with the Municipality of Tripoli, Lebanon in which direct technical and legal assistance was provided in combination with a public awareness campaign. As a follow-up of this pilot project, a national replication strategy has been developed and agreed upon by all Lebanese coastal municipalities.

Various technical reports have been published by UNEP/MAP, within its “MAP Technical Reports Series” focusing on technical and policy related aspects of marine litter and solid waste management. Furthermore there are reports on case-studies related to marine litter which have been implemented under UNEP/MAP and MED POL. In 2003, UNEP MAP published guidelines for management of coastal litter in the Mediterranean Region. The guidelines were prepared under the framework of SAP and specifically address land-based sources of marine litter, and aimed to provide a common framework for responsible authorities, planners and field operators to formulate national and regional development strategies within the context of the environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea. In 2005 a global perspective on marine litter was made available by UNEP “Marine Litter - An analytical overview”, within which various global and regional tools were included as well as recommendations for future activities in this area.

2. OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

2.1 Objectives

The overall goal of this Strategic Framework is to ensure that marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment and the impacts related to properties and quantities of marine litter in the marine and coastal environment are minimized, controlled and eliminated to the maximum extent practicable through regional and national activities.

Marine litter is, for this strategic framework, a category of substance listed under the LBS Protocol and for the purposes of this strategic framework it will be defined as **any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment**. Marine litter consists of items that have been made or used by people and deliberately discarded into the sea or rivers or on beaches; brought indirectly to the sea with rivers, sewage, storm water or winds; accidentally lost, including material lost at sea in bad weather (fishing gear, cargo); or deliberately left by people on beaches and shores. Although in some countries organic material (e.g. faeces) may be included in litter, in the present document only manufactured material (including processed timber) is considered.

The specific objectives for meeting the overall goal are listed below. These have been developed based on the findings of the assessment report, questionnaires and additional literature:-

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <u>Objective one:</u> | Enhance the proper implementation of existing legislation dealing with municipal solid waste, as well as sea based solid waste, by building or further developing legal and institutional capacity in local and port authorities, and other institutional stakeholders, to manage marine litter within an integrated coastal zone management framework. |
| <u>Objective two:</u> | Reduce, in view to eliminate, marine litter generated “in situ” (on beaches) with emphasis on plastics and smoking related marine litter. |
| <u>Objective three:</u> | Influence environmental attitudes and behaviour of residents and tourists of coastal areas in the Mediterranean Region with regards to marine litter. |
| <u>Objective four:</u> | Follow the trends of marine litter generation and distribution through the establishment of a monitoring programme for marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea based on the ecosystem approach. |
| <u>Objective five:</u> | Assess lost and abandoned fishing gear and identify and implement countermeasures against biological damage |
| <u>Objective six:</u> | Establish synergies with on-going and planned initiatives in the Mediterranean Region as they relate to waste and marine litter, including the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. In fact, this objective aims at ensuring coherence and coordination of scattered activities undertaken by various stakeholders under all previous objectives |

2.2 Principles of the strategic framework

The underlying concept of this strategic framework is that marine litter is a local, national as well as trans-boundary problem requiring specific measures at each level and across all levels; particular to the Mediterranean region is that due to the different levels of economic development amongst the countries a *partnership* approach is required. The management of marine litter is not a standalone activity; removing the eyesore which marine litter causes is only treating the symptom not the cause, therefore its management must fall under an integrated approach to solid waste management both on land and at sea (see Figure 2). For this reason there are numerous actors and activities in the management of marine litter that are interlinked and must be incorporated in any strategy which attempts to reduce marine litter.

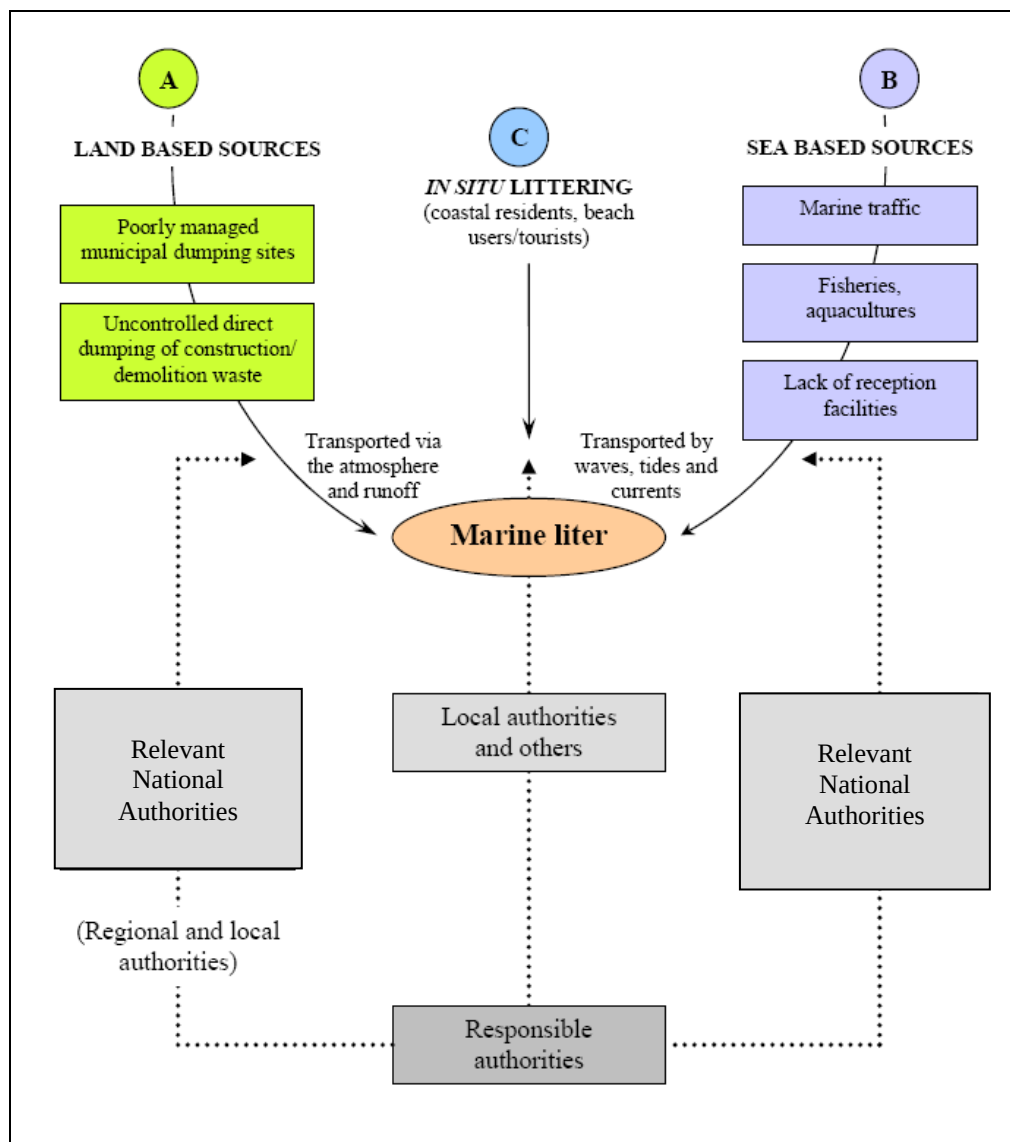


Figure 2. Main sources of marine litter and responsible authorities in the Mediterranean countries

Figure 2 presents the three major sources of litter that the strategic framework addresses and the relevant authorities in the majority of the Mediterranean countries: **(A)** land based sources including all municipal, industrial and demolition waste that finds its way to the coast via the atmosphere (winds) or runoff; **(B)** sea based sources from all kinds of marine traffic (tankers, merchant or cruise ships and pleasure craft), fisheries and off shore aquaculture, and **(C)** “in situ” littering activities by coastal residents, tourists or other “users” of the beach.

The magnitude of the marine litter problem in each country is, to a large extent, directly related to the level of efficiency of solid waste management services provided by local and port authorities for municipal solid waste (A) and sea generated waste (B), respectively. Both these problems are addressed by specific Protocols of the Barcelona Convention and MARPOL and therefore the present strategic framework supports and further advocates and facilitates the implementation of the aforementioned provisions. As a consequence, this strategic framework does not focus on the construction of large scale solid waste management infrastructure, such as landfills, waste reception facilities at ports and material recycling facilities. It is understood that these have already been identified, and in some cases funded, through the NAPs and the SAP. Therefore, this strategic framework focuses mostly on the “in situ” generated waste (C) as well as on what may inevitably “escape” towards the beach and sea by sources (A) and (B) even if the latter are managed properly. In this sense apart from technical solutions that will be included to effectively address (C), the strategic framework will contribute in building legal and institutional capacities of local and port authorities and other institutional stakeholders will provide software support to on-going and planned large scale SWM related investments (covered under the NAPs and other national and regional activities) in the form of public awareness, professional sectorial guidelines, policy formulation and advocacy.

Many of the aforementioned activities and tools have been developed in the Mediterranean region by regional, national and local NGOs, local authorities, schools and various civil society organisations and the strategic framework encourages the continuation and enhancement of their involvement. Figure 3 presents some of the key management tools and activities employed in the strategic framework and principle actors/stakeholders to be involved.

The strategic framework will be supported and in return will enhance, both directly and indirectly, the following existing conventions and legislation: Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; MARPOL 73/78 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Annex V); London Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Dumping of Wastes (1996 Protocol); Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal; Agenda 21, Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; EC and Mediterranean Standards for bathing waters, EC Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC), EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

This strategic framework does not intend to duplicate efforts in the region to de-pollute the Mediterranean. It has been drafted to specifically support the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Initiative and therefore the same time frame has been adopted.

Finally, this strategic framework follows a precautionary approach and where appropriate the polluter pays principle will be implemented. The application of economic instruments, in particular for supporting local and national authorities to implement cost recovery programmes, is given emphasis in this strategic framework.

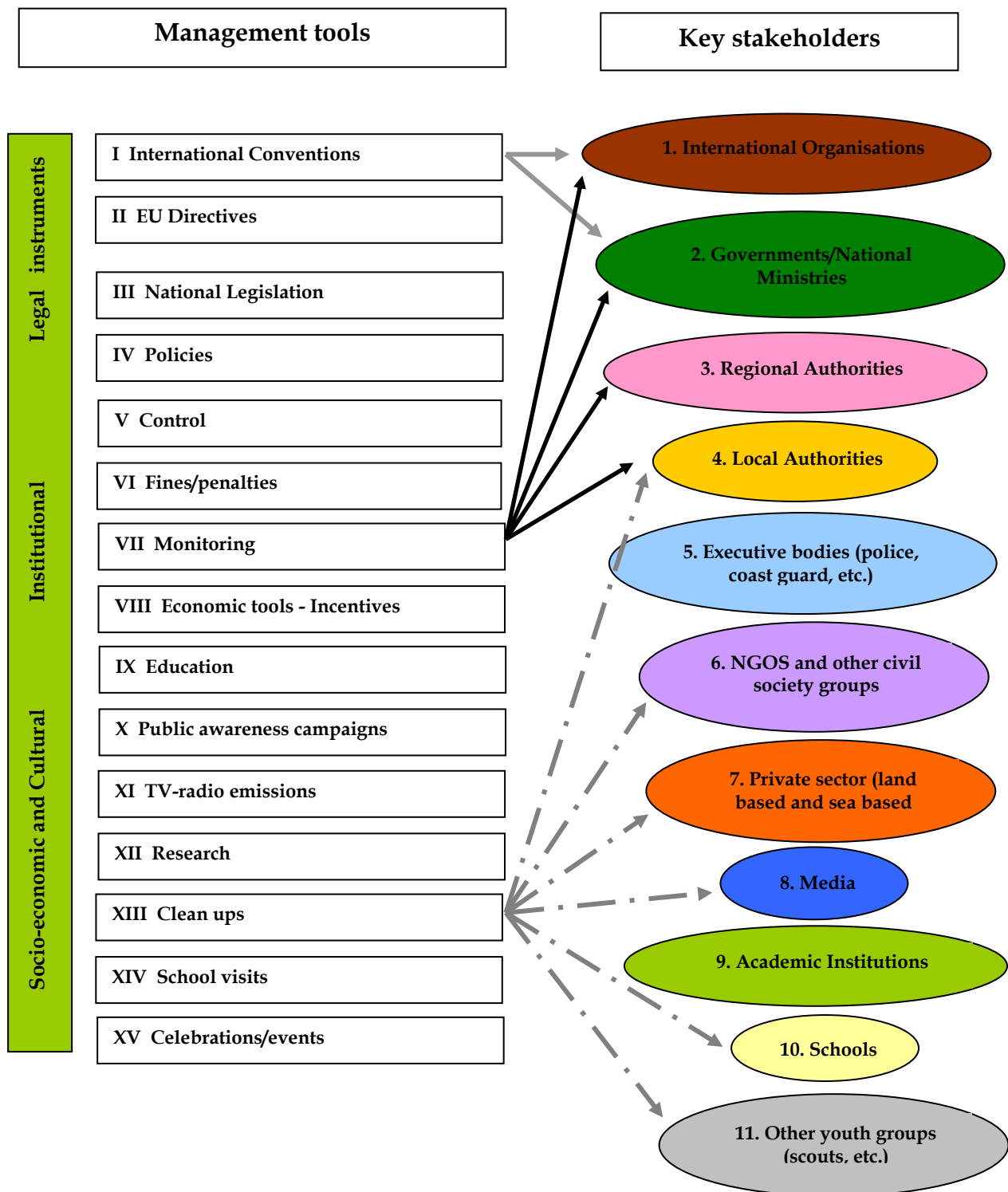


Figure 3. Common management tools/activities and stakeholders to be involved in the implementation of the strategic framework

3. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

3.1 Objective one: Enhance the proper implementation of existing regional legislation dealing with municipal solid waste, as well as sea based solid waste, by building or further developing institutional and legal capacity in local and port authorities and other institutional stakeholders to manage marine litter within an integrated coastal zone management framework

Justification and background of proposed activities: Shoreline and recreational activities pollution is the main source of marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea, accounting for 52% of litter. The sea based pollution from ships, fisheries and off-shore aquacultures is important too, but of lower magnitude. The Assessment report indicates that in some countries, litter is reaching the Mediterranean Sea through sewer systems and that the origin of land-based litter outside the tourist season was from drainage and outfall. Furthermore assessments of pollution hotspots in the Mediterranean Region conducted under MED POL and used in MeHSIP reports noted many open dumps or poor management of sanitary landfills in coastal zones. Furthermore some coastal towns have also received legal action from the EU for the poor waste management and operations of illegal disposal sites.

Ensuring that port reception facilities are operated properly is of utmost importance if MARPOL Annex V is to be effective in reducing the amount of garbage being disposed by ships. REMPEC has recently conducted an assessment of waste reception facilities indicating the needs still existing.

Within the Mediterranean Region the LBS Protocol covers a wide range of land based polluting categories, with its entry into force it is now an opportune time to set legally binding targets and develop regional legislation on land based sources of marine litter similar to MARPOL Annex V which covers the sea based ones.

In parallel, the main waste management related legislations are the European Union's Waste Directive (2006/12/EC), Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) and Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC) which provide a legal framework, but this applies only to 7 out of the 21 countries of the Mediterranean Region. Few countries which have ratified the LBS protocol have addressed marine litter in national legislation; the country questionnaire administered by MED POL, found that only five countries had specific marine litter policies, the remaining countries included marine litter under national waste management legislation. The recent ratification of the LBS protocol by all Parties offers an opportunity for the formulation of a regional marine litter legislation.

Because of the difference in the level of economic development between the countries of the Mediterranean region, (GDP values are lower for South and East Mediterranean countries), access to public services and the level of employment is also lower. This variance trickles down to the local governance level and the availability of financial, technical and human resources to effectively manage public services. Solid waste management (SWM) is a public service which, in general, receives the least amount of attention and funding from national and international resources; projects on energy, water and sanitation are the more popular attracting most of the development aid. Solid waste management does not seem to be a priority area for governments. In the SAP MED, TDA and the NAPs, country priorities were in waste water treatment works, industrial pollution control and then solid waste management.

Therefore, under this objective National Governments and through them regional and local authorities are strongly urged, encouraged and facilitated to the extent possible to implement the provisions deriving from International/Regional Conventions, Directives and other guidelines aiming at effectively reducing managing and stopping waste from reaching the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea either through streams, rivers and drains or via waves, currents and tides.

This requires: for land based sources, an effective municipal waste management system to ensure that waste receptacles are provided, that waste is stored properly, collected frequently and disposed or recycled appropriately so that waste doesn't become litter. It also requires a drainage system that is maintained and constructed to block litter entering water bodies. Both the provision of solid waste management services and drainage infrastructure require that the responsible authorities have the human resource, infrastructural and financial capacity to manage these services. *Construction of landfills, procurement of waste collection fleet, improvement of drainage and sewer systems are multimillion euro investments and are not under the scope of this strategic framework.* For sea based sources: effective collection, transport and reception facilities at ports and other designated areas.

This objective focuses on the management aspect of marine litter, in particular the legal, institutional and technical requirements for local/port authorities and other institutional stakeholders to effectively manage marine litter and to maintain clean beaches.

In this respect and taking into account the different levels of public service delivery amongst the Mediterranean countries, the more developed countries are encouraged to transfer technology and knowhow and build capacity in the less developed countries. One way to achieve this is by twinning; local or port authorities in a more developed country could be paired with those of a less developed one.

Proposed activities at regional level

Medium term activities

- Activity 1.1: Document and make use of experience of countries in the Region which have specific marine litter policies and practices in place (based on 3.1).
- Activity 1.2: Develop policy guidelines on drainage and marine litter management for high level decision makers.
- Activity 1.3: Prepare operational guidelines for environmentally and ecologically friendly downloading from ships and port/marina cleaning equipment.
- Activity 1.4: Review, update and develop training programmes to support institutional aspects of the management of marine litter.

Long term activities

- Activity 1.5: Develop and implement twinning programmes for cross-border capacity building within local and port authorities in the application of marine litter management knowledge and technology.
- Activity 1.6: Continue the work on assessing and monitoring the operation of port waste reception facilities as stipulated under MARPOL and provide assistance to ports, harbours and small marinas to develop and implement effective waste disposal procedures.
- Activity 1.7: Facilitate eligible countries to develop proposals and apply to donors for grant financing of above activities.

Proposed activities at national levelMedium term activities

- Activity 1.8: Local authorities to integrate beach clean ups into SWM systems and establish networks to improve exchange of experiences between the various national/sub-national/local management authorities.
- Activity 1.9: Mapping of the solid waste infrastructures and/or lack thereof on coastal zones (such as landfills, open dumps, transfer points, etc.). Assessment of the impact of waste disposal sites as point sources of marine litter. Proposals for improvement and, whenever feasible, submission of projects to International Financial Institutions.
- Activity 1.10: Support institutional and technical capacity building of national and local administrations in order for large scale waste management projects to be developed and implemented.

Long term activities

- Activity 1.11: Work with ministries and local/port authorities who have already developed Integrated Coastal Zone Management plans to include management of marine litter.
- Activity 1.12: Assist competent authorities to develop SWM plans, which include the management of marine litter, and investment strategies for smaller towns (i.e. of populations less than 100,000) which were not included in SAP.
- Activity 1.13: Parties to encourage sub-national and local authorities to develop proposals for financing activities under the EU Neighbourhood Policy, the European Investment Bank (EIB), African Development Bank, GEF and other International Financial Institutions.

3.2 Objective two: Reduce in view to eliminate marine litter generated “in situ” (on beaches) with emphasis on plastic and smoking related marine litter

Justification and background of proposed activities: As identified already in chapter II1 the third important source of marine litter are the beach-goers, seasonal tourists anglers and other people using on occasion the coast for recreation or other purposes, or those who purposely use empty spaces near the coast to illegally dump garbage, rubbish, construction debris and other waste. Illegal activities need to be dealt with by the authorities by regularly patrolling the coastal areas and imposing heavy fines. To do so some legal and institutional changes are necessary in most countries to allow for rapid and effective prosecution and imposition of the fines. At the moment this is not an easy procedure in most Mediterranean countries. Setting up a regulatory framework by the responsible ministries, will provide the basis for the implementation of law enforcement and application of environmental economic instruments to reduce, manage and stop marine litter entering the sea. The Israeli Clean Coast project has set up a good example of enforcement procedures on beach goers caught littering. A regulatory framework should also include the enforcement of adequate port reception facilities and requirements of garbage management plans by ships and smaller vessels, as well as compliance by local authorities to solid waste management systems.

The present objective of the strategic framework deals with what is “found” on the beach in the present phase of reality and what is likely to be found there either because it is generated “in situ” or because it may “escape” from other sources despite the good results that may be expected under the implementation of objective one. Therefore, we need to deal under this objective with institutional and technical solutions for: (1) preventing “in situ” generation of litter and (2) cleaning up the beaches from all kinds of litter.

The information provided in the Assessment Report and the available literature indicates that plastic products (bags, bottles, bottle caps, food containers, fishing nets, packaging etc..) are the main litter items both on beaches and at sea; at least 50% of marine litter is a plastic product. In terms of environmental protection and de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, plastic is particularly hazardous as it does not degrade, it simply breaks down into smaller particles which can persist for 450 years (hard plastic) and it may also cause death and injury to certain marine species.

Recent studies have shown that the presence of plastic in our seas and oceans leads to secondary pollution; research conducted by the University of Athens has looked at pollution from heavy metals “extracted” from marine litter and in particular from plastic waste; the University of Plymouth is looking into the long-term effect of micro-plastic particles, of sizes as small as 20 microns, that have been found in abundance in sand and sediment, there is also a risk that these particles are entering the marine-food chain; and lastly scientific research is showing that many types of plastics when exposed to sea water and sunlight change their characteristics and enhance their sponge-like properties, absorbing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and pesticides.

The second most abundant litter item in the Mediterranean Region is smoking related debris; filters, cigar ends and cigarette packaging. Cigarette litter has a shorter life span, about 5 years, but leaches toxic substances into the marine environment and can be ingested by marine species. Furthermore, the public’s attitude is that discarding cigarettes into the environment is not related to marine litter as it is thought that cigarettes degrade immediately. Therefore educating the public and providing sufficient cigarette bins are key factors in stopping cigarette related litter from reaching the marine environment.

Another marine litter item which has a negative impact on the marine environment is fishing gear. In the Assessment, abandoned on the coast or lost fishing gear accounted for 5% of litter on beaches (litter from ocean/waterway activities). Furthermore, the floating marine litter survey conducted by HELMEPA in 2008 noted that the number of fishing gear, ropes and buoys counted was 2% of the total litter observed. Fishing gear is also dealt with under objective one. But despite the fact that they may not be the most abundant litter item on beaches and at sea and in keeping with the precautionary principle, their longevity (longer than plastic - fishing nets take 600 years to disintegrate), makes it important to address them also under this objective of the strategic framework.

Removing and reducing the input of plastic and cigarette litter from the Mediterranean Sea and its beaches will drastically reduce the quantity of litter. This objective, and the strategic framework as a whole, will therefore give particular emphasis on these two categories. However, with the effective implementation of the objectives under this strategic framework it is envisioned that all other litter categories such as fishing gear, glass, aluminium cans, paper etc. will also be reduced. Some necessary activities are related to capacity building and attitudes and are covered in the subsequent objectives and activities. The activities proposed under this objective draw on the lessons learnt from implementing the SAP and specifically relate to technical and legal aspects of cleaning-up beaches and managing marine litter.

Proposed activities at regional levelMedium term activities

- Activity 2.1: Collect good practices and provide guidelines to countries on legal and institutional aspects in effectively patrolling and imposing fines on those illegally dumping waste in coastal areas and littering on beaches.
- Activity 2.2: Prepare guidelines for environmentally and ecologically friendly mechanical beach clean-ups.
- Activity 2.3: Propose guidelines (eventually in cooperation with other competent international bodies) including incentive schemes for introduction of environmentally friendly fishing gear.

Proposed activities at national levelMedium term activities

- Activity 2.4: Support the International Coastal Clean-up campaigns with aim to increase the number of countries participating in campaigns and also the number of volunteers and beaches cleaned. The campaigns and reporting on the results of the clean-up exercises will be linked to objective four.
- Activity 2.5: Identification of hot spots and conducting emergency clean-up of hotspots and beaches. Once the area is clean, it is more likely that people will refrain from littering, especially if this is followed by an awareness campaign as outlined in objective three.
- Activity 2.6: Appropriate national authorities to develop a legal framework to introduce enforcement procedures for waste recycling activities (sorting of waste, provision of recycling disposal points) where national waste recycling legislation exists.

Long term activities

- Activity 2.7: Local Authorities to work with the private sector and other actors to introduce the means to reduce marine litter on beaches with a special focus on plastic and smoking related litter.
- Activity 2.8: Work with conservation NGOs and fishing communities to adopt areas in the Mediterranean Sea and ensure that these areas are litter free. Similar to the concept of adopt a beach.
- Activity 2.9: In the absence of national waste recycling legislation, local authorities should take responsibility and set targets for amount of waste required to be recycled.

3.3 Objective three: Influence environmental attitudes and behaviour of residents and tourists of coastal areas in the Mediterranean Region with regards to marine litter

Justification and background of proposed activities: The high proportion of marine litter from land-based sources is largely due to (a) Uncontrolled dumping by coastal residents and (b) the influx of tourists during the summer season, taking into account that as many as 155 million tourists visit the Mediterranean region each year. Coastal residents are increasing progressively throughout the Mediterranean, since cities but also second and third residence settlements (summer homes) increase. Due to poor local infrastructures and negligence,

coastal residents are key polluters of the coast. Tourists are also constantly increasing in numbers. A recent European Investment Bank report had predicted that annual tourist arrivals in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries would rise by as much as 19.4% (Morocco), 16.3% (Syria), 15% (Turkey), 14.9% Lebanon and 14.4% (Algeria) between 2006-2010. Furthermore, the report highlights that tourism for the majority of these countries is driven by international markets; the same applies for southern European countries whose tourist population is from northern European countries. Tourism is an important income earner for the Mediterranean countries, for example Cyprus earns as much as 29% directly and Malta 35% indirectly from tourism.

The Assessment report indicates that the sudden increase in population of coastal urban centres results in more than 75% of annual waste being generated in these summer months. Moreover studies have shown that tourists generate, on a per capita basis, more waste than local inhabitants especially in the absence of adequate solid waste management systems. In addition, in some cases there is a lack of capacity by the waste management authority to cope with the increase in population from tourism. The tourism sector being an important income earner for the Mediterranean Region must feature prominently in this strategic framework.

The 3R paradigm of waste management: reduce, reuse and recycle should be the focus of this objective. Reducing the amount of waste being generated by both tourists and local inhabitants is the most important of the 3Rs; if waste can be prevented from reaching the coastline and Mediterranean Sea in the first place then managing it becomes simpler.

It is important to connect individual behaviour to a clean coast and instil waste-wise values to all users of the marine environment. The main group to target are the coastal residents; it is this group's actions which will influence whether or not neighbours and visitors will respect the clean and litter-free environment. The more the local residents keep their coasts clean, the more likely it is that the tourists and visitors will follow suit. Therefore, residents of the coastal and inland areas will need to reduce the amount of waste they generate and ensure that it is disposed of appropriately so as not to end up in drains and waterways. Furthermore, influencing attitudes of residents in order to create a socially responsible environment, i.e. the public enforces the law - it is socially unacceptable to litter. These values and attitudes to the environment can be attained through education and a public awareness campaign

The second group which should be targeted are tourists, who may think that as the litter is not in their country, their littering actions won't have a direct affect on them back home. It is important therefore to influence their behaviour and perception of litter. Tourists should understand first that just as they share the benefits of a coast they need to share the responsibility of keeping it clean for others. Furthermore due to the particular nature of marine litter, waste can be conveyed by wind and water, and therefore it is a common problem, beyond a particular site, practically with no boundaries.

Littering at sea follows the same principle, leisure boat users must be informed of the waste disposal procedures on board and the effects of littering on the environment. Under MARPOL Annex V, all boats larger than 12meters are required to have garbage management plans. Charter yacht companies and sports centres should make it mandatory that no waste is thrown overboard by informing clients and providing adequate waste receptacles.

Finally, educating children and adults through proper formal, non-formal and informal education for sustainable development programmes on the importance of a clean environment is the most long term, cost effective method for ensuring sustainable development in the future.

The private sector in the tourist industry has an important role to play in influencing attitudes and behaviours of both tourists and those working in the tourism industry. Hotels, airlines, sea transport networks and travel agencies, are directly affected if beaches and the sea are polluted with litter - tourists will simply not visit these areas and demand for services will decrease. Therefore, involving these groups as drivers of change will create a win-win situation within the context of this strategic framework. Examples of environmentally and socially responsible private sector initiatives include CSR schemes as well as awards such as the TUI Green Medal scheme.

Influencing behaviour can also be attained through the introduction of incentives to individuals, private and public institutions. Incentives to reduce marine litter and keep beaches clean can include environmental audit schemes such as the European Union's Eco-management audit system (EMAS) and ISO 14001 series for hotels as has been successfully implemented in various countries (i.e. in Spain) and the positive "labelling" scheme of beaches (Blue Flag programme) that includes management of litter. Furthermore, financial incentives such as recycling schemes, local taxes on consumption of plastic bags, reduced waste collection fees for sorted waste from ships or litter caught in nets and trawls by fishermen can also be adopted.

Line Ministries responsible for Tourism, Education, Local Authorities, Maritime and the Environment, should understand that environmental degradation of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastline is a cross-cutting issue and requires the cooperation of all authorities and each one of the ministries. In order to involve the various line ministries and all other stakeholders in this strategic framework, it is suggested that in the framework of the strategic framework an assessment of the economic, social and environmental impact that marine litter has on the Mediterranean Region be undertaken on a country by country basis in order, on the one hand to assign a financial value to clean beaches and sea and, on the other, assess the "cost of inaction" where littering is allowed inhibited. A regional prototype study could be carried out with examples from various parts of the region. This will ensure political buy-in and pave the way for law enforcement through the application of environmental economic instruments, while it will raise the awareness of the public. The role of schools, civil society organisations and local authorities in raising awareness is of cardinal importance. Many of the campaigns could be organised and run by regional, national and local NGOs, schools and local authorities.

The proposed tools of communication for influencing attitudes amongst tourists, coastal residents, the private sector and decision makers should cover a whole spectrum of methods, channels and means. Efforts should be made for using 'litter free' methods such as – internet (using existing sites), television and the radio. Another form of advertisement is air advertisement which catches the attention of the beach user. The litter-free campaign should pride itself for using innovative communication channels instead of classic litter oriented communication tools such as flyers and posters, which, of course, are not excluded if the circumstances require such an approach.

Proposed activities at regional level

Medium term activities

- Activity 3.1: Carry out a prototype pilot assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts that marine litter has in the Mediterranean Region in order (a) to assign a financial value to clean beaches and (b) assess the cost of inaction if littering continues inhibited. This assessment and its methodology may act as a blue-print for relevant national assessments.
- Activity 3.2: Promote a communication strategy in order to present the findings of the economic, social and environmental assessments and marine litter surveys

undertaken as part of this strategic framework (see 3.1 etc.) and provide periodic updates on marine litter hotspots and the general environmental situation of Mediterranean Sea.

Long term activities

Activity 3.3: Encourage and coordinate in cooperation with regional NGO networks a major public awareness Mediterranean “litter free” campaign and educational programmes on marine litter reduction and beach clean-ups.

Activity 3.4: Implementation of regional and national programmes on promoting sustainable consumption and production in cooperation with the Marrakech Process and thereafter.

Proposed activities at national level

Medium term activities

Activity 3.5: Undertake an assessment to ascertain the economic aspects of, social and environmental impact of pollution from marine litter at national and local level (based on 3.1).

Long term activities

Activity 3.6: Involve all line ministries and local/port authorities in the dissemination of the findings of the assessment (3.5).

Activity 3.7: Develop and implement in cooperation with all willing stakeholders national and local ‘Litter-free’ Mediterranean Sea campaigns. Use information from above activities to support public awareness campaigns with emphasis on coastal residents and tourists. Involve the media, particularly TV channels and radio stations, in active promotion of the “Litter free Mediterranean Sea” campaigns.

Activity 3.8: Promote simple formal and non-formal ESD in schools on the multiple impacts of marine litter and what can be done to prevent it. This activity should take into consideration already existing training material. The activity should include a component on training of teachers.

Activity 3.9: Encourage local authorities to work with schools, NGOs and other CS groups to conduct voluntary beach clean ups.

Activity 3.10: Work with line ministries to implement incentive schemes for coastal areas using appropriate standards such as the ISO 14001 standard and the EMAS.

Activity 3.11: Develop partnership frameworks with sea transport network providers to ensure waste-wise behaviour onboard and adequate disposal of waste on and off-board.

Activity 3.12: Work with the tourism sector in coastal areas to introduce sustainable tourism. Develop concrete proposals of how the tourism industry becomes more eco friendly and protect the environment from littering.

Activity 3.13: Assess the various financial opportunities to assist all competent local authorities and other stakeholders at national or local level to implement the

aforementioned activities and replicate existing Programmes either through a cost recovery system (charging beach users and law enforcement) or grant financing for start-up activities.

3.4 Objective four: Establish a monitoring programme for marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea based on the ecosystem approach

Justification and background of proposed activities: From the assessment report and an independent literature review it is clear that monitoring marine litter in the Mediterranean has been haphazard. The data collected is not systematic, does not answer key questions and the methodologies employed are different. This questions the validity of the data for drawing conclusions on the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean region. A well thought, methodologically sound monitoring programme is essential in order that the strategic framework produces tangible and measurable results.

Monitoring of marine litter should not only indicate the categories (types), distribution and trends of marine litter but should indicate its sources and activities leading to its production and, most importantly, should indicate if the adopted litter management/mitigation strategies are effective or need further adaptation.

Furthermore, monitoring should facilitate the assessment of the ecological, financial and social impact of litter (threats to marine biota and damages to health, tourism, recreation, etc.).

A full marine litter monitoring programme is a complex, expensive and not easy task, which includes collection, interpretation and dissemination of various sets of data on marine litter. Also a litter monitoring programme should be part of a broader integrated marine monitoring programme, in line with the national priorities of the countries, as well as with its regional/international commitments. In the framework of the gradual application of the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP) for the management of human activities in the Mediterranean, Ecological Objectives (EO), Operational Objectives (OO), with associated Indicators and targets for marine litter are under development by UNEP/MAP. In Table 1 are presented the proposed EO, OO and indicators, which will be submitted for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Table 1
Ecological Objectives, Operational Objectives, and targets proposed
in the framework of the gradual application of the ECAP

Ecological Objective	Operational Objectives	Indicators
Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect coastal and marine environment	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

Therefore, a monitoring programme for litter will be developed during the biennium 2012-2013, in the framework of the new integrated monitoring programme for the application of the ECAP.

In the development of the new integrated monitoring programme of ECAP, the recently developed “UNEP/IOC Operational Guidelines on Survey and Monitoring of Marine Litter” provides a useful standardised methodology, which should be taken into consideration in the development a methodology suitable for the Mediterranean region. These guidelines have been developed for monitoring beach, benthic and floating litter and provide detail sampling techniques and survey protocols. In the Mediterranean Region many opportunities exist to use and accordingly improve on-going marine litter monitoring programmes: i) the surveys conducted to monitor marine litter on land and at sea, although ad-hoc and not systematic, provide an opportunity for up scaling, ii) various types of beach clean-up campaigns serve a dual purpose of environmental protection and awareness raising, these programmes attract many volunteers and can be a useful source of data if the data collection methodology is improved and standardised. There are also sub-national and local authorities who are actively involved in managing marine litter and cleaning beaches and in parallel also monitor the trends of marine litter.

The proposed monitoring programme will require coordination at the regional and national level (Figure 4) and should take into account all relevant regional initiatives. At the regional level MED POL will coordinate this activity and promote the appropriate methodologies. It will be responsible for the evaluation and dissemination of marine litter related information which has been provided by designated national agencies. At the national level, it is proposed that the main institutions or groups involved in marine litter data collection: NGOs, Local/Port Authorities and universities, set up a light coordination structure and select one of them to act as the designated focal point/national agency for collecting the data and keeping record of the carried out marine litter monitoring activities.

Monitoring at the regional level may require, apart from trawl surveys, remote observation surveys employing integrated Geographic Information System (GIS), where floating litter is not collected. These systems are the way forward as they facilitate the development of an interactive database and visually display results through maps. The information contained in this database will have been provided by the designated national bodies, details of which are elaborated in the activity section, and evaluated by MED POL. Furthermore it is anticipated that this system will have multiple users such as environmental groups, policy makers, planners, etc. and will support many activities included in this strategic framework and in the wider scope of MED POL and its activities, supporting as well objectives one and four of this strategic framework.

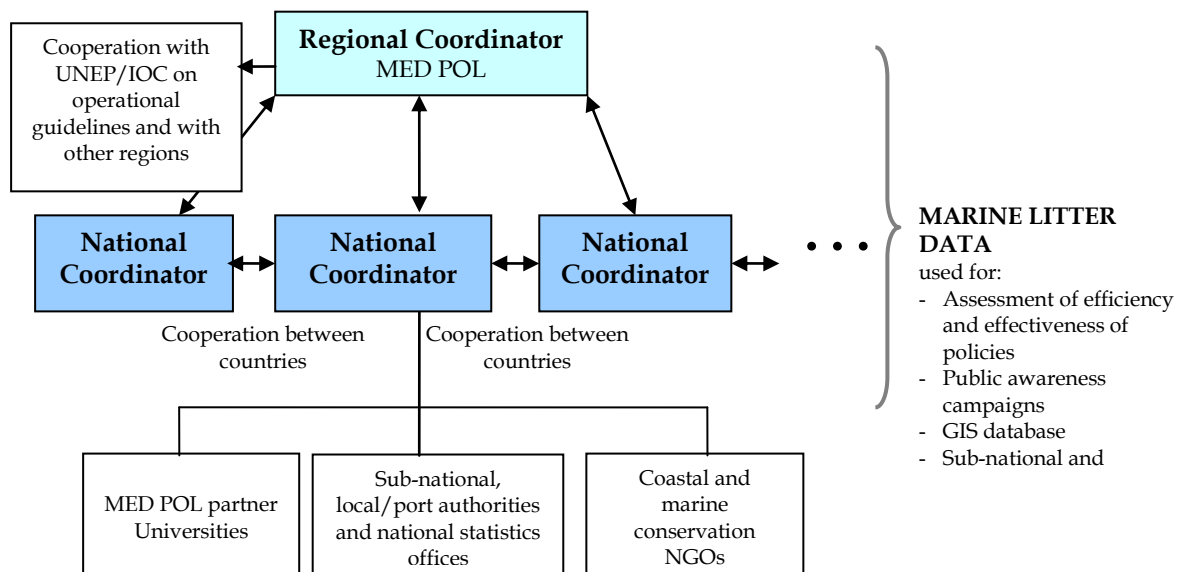


Figure 4: Proposed monitoring framework

At the national level, the designated national body will coordinate the data collection on land and at sea. The national body will be responsible for collating and documenting the information from the various marine litter surveys and reporting to MED POL.

Regarding monitoring litter at sea, it is an area which needs further additional support as until now very few surveys have been conducted and consequently there is little data on the quantity and impact of benthic and floating marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea. The UNEP/IOC guidelines, together with available monitoring methodologies for litter at EU level or at national level, will be used as a basis for the development a Mediterranean monitoring Programme for marine litter.

The follow up of the implementation and effectiveness of environmental and waste policies and national legislation will be an integral part of the monitoring component and therefore it is proposed that the MED POL questionnaire continues to be sent to the countries regularly. The MED POL/UNEP questionnaire has been designed to collect information on legal, policy and waste management issues and therefore offers a systematic route for countries to report on qualitative information. The questionnaire will need to be reviewed, and if necessary revised, to reflect the current political and legislative situation in the region. In addition, the indicators in this questionnaire should be aligned to the indicators under development for the gradual application of the Ecosystem Approach. *Training of trainers sessions and a training*

manual will need to accompany this questionnaire. The *training of trainers* will ensure national level capacity to administer the questionnaire and the *training manual* will be a reference guide and aid for MED POL, trainers and country focal points to administer the questionnaire effectively. This activity will also ensure that 'institutional memory' is retained for reporting on marine litter related activities in the long term.

Proposed activities at regional level

Medium term activities

- Activity 4.1: Develop guidelines on monitoring marine litter taking into consideration the UNEP/IOC guidelines. Stakeholders in this process include universities, research institutions, other development agencies, representatives of local and port authorities, national statistics offices, NGOs and other civil society organisations.
- Activity 4.2: Formalise the already developed country questionnaire on "Litter management in coastal zones of the Mediterranean Basin" and offer training in administering the questionnaire. It should be sent for completion to the countries every four (4) years.
- Activity 4.3: Develop and agree on a set of indicators from quantitative (baseline survey) and qualitative (questionnaire) data, in the framework of the gradual application of the ECAP.
- Activity 4.4: Agree on a reduction of marine litter by a year to be determined, based on the national baselines developed by each country, taking into consideration the fluctuation of litter between two time horizons. This baseline will be used to measure progress in the reduction of marine litter, it is therefore important that the methodology for conducting the baseline is statistically and scientifically robust and there is consensus amongst all the partners taking into account the methodologies developed under the ECAP, UNEP/IOC guidelines and international practice.
- Activity 4.5: Integrate the marine litter monitoring system into the MED POL information system. The system will include the baseline information, indicators and will be used to track progress in reducing marine litter. In-putting of data will be a continuous process.

Long term activities

- Activity 4.6: Consider best practices in the region and implement pilot projects on the collection of floating and sea-bed litter by following the UNEP/IOC guidelines.
- Activity 4.7: Fundraising for the establishment of a full-scale marine litter monitoring programme from country contributions, bilateral agencies and international financial organisations.

Proposed activities at national level

Medium term activities

- Activity 4.8: Countries to develop a sampling framework and conduct a baseline study of marine litter based on the ECAP indicators.

Activity 4.9: Countries to conduct routine monitoring programmes in the framework of the ECAP integrated monitoring programme of MAP and report results to the national coordinator and MED POL.

Long term activities

Activity 4.10: Parties to establish and implement national marine litter monitoring programmes on the basis of the ECAP.

Activity 4.11: Capacity building on implementing the UNEP/IOC guidelines on monitoring marine litter.

3.5 Objective five: Assessment of lost and abandoned fishing gear and countermeasures against biological damage

Justification and background of proposed activities: Every abandoned, deliberately discarded or lost at sea fishing gear is part of the marine litter, considering the definition of marine litter given at the international level: “any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment”. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Seas Programme recognises the immediate and direct interconnection between marine litter and lost/abandoned fishing gear and related debris.

The fishing gear could be lost at sea for several reasons (bad weather conditions, accidental cutting of buoys by vessels, etc.) or abandoned because leaving it in the sea is a convenient means of illegal disposal. Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations considered the ghost fishing a big concern generating additional mortality in overexploited marine ecosystems. Ghost nets are often considered perpetual “killing machines” that never stop fishing. Some studies were performed to quantify the decay of efficiency of ghost net, these parameters depends on many factor as the type and dept of seabed where the net remains, the velocity of biofouling development, visibility or transparency of water etc.

Overall catch rates of lost/abandoned fishing gear vary so greatly that a global estimate would be meaningless. It was considered lost tangle nets to catch around 5 percent of the total commercial catch. Several studies on static fishing gear have shown it to be about 10% of the target population. Fish and crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs are frequently caught in lost or discarded fishing gear. The major damage seems to be caused by cages traps, placed on the seabottom, in which there is a self baiting phenomenon. Lost traps also continue to attract fish and crustaceans, which enter them in search of food or shelter.

Also other fishing gear as drifting net and trammel nets may act actively killing a great number of marina fauna. Drift netting is a fishing technique where nets, called drift nets, are allowed to drift driven by current at the sea surface. Drifting nets travel the seas with the currents and tides continually fishing as they progress through the waters. As they are unattended and roaming, they fish indiscriminately, not only catching threatened species but undersized and protected fish/marine mammals as well.

Trammel nets are fishing net with three layers of netting that is used to entangle fish or crustacea. A slack central layer with a small mesh is sandwiched between two taut outer layers with a much larger mesh. The net is kept vertical by the floats on the headrope and weights on the bottomrope. Trammel nets are used especially near the coasts in rocky habitats characterised by high biodiversity and continue to fishing species of high economic value.

Lost/abandoned fishing gear continue to trap passing fish ‘unintentionally’ (by-catch) also of particularly endangered and protected species. Floating parts and suspending parts of

abandoned fishing gear entangle wildlife such as marine mammals, sea turtles, sea birds and fish, often attracted by fishes that have been caught or entangled in nets and fishing lines.

Due to the resistance to degradation of synthetic materials (nylon, polyethylene and polypropylene), once discarded or lost, fishing gear remain in the marine environment, with negative economic and environmental impacts. Lost/abandoned fishing gear is lately becoming increasingly a world wide evident nuisance. It is assumed that hundreds of thousands tonnes of nondegradable fishing nets are abandoned or lost in the world oceans every year. Worldwide, this phenomenon is having an impact on the sustainability of already stressed fisheries. Ghost fishing kills thousands of fish that might otherwise have found their way to the market. An estimated US\$ 250 million in marketable lobster is lost each year from ghost fishing.

Furthermore, derelict fishing gear in the form of nets and ropes, invisibly floating just below the water's surface, can cause significant risks to vessel operations. Nets, ropes and other derelict gear, it has been documented, have entangled vessel propellers and rudders resulting in costly repairs, significant loss of operational time, and endangering boater and crew safety.

Moreover, lost/abandoned fishing gear, like other marine debris, has the capacity to travel for very long distances and through different habitats, transporting with them invasive species from one sea area to another.

Proposed activities at regional level

Medium term activities

- Activity 5.1: Strengthening co-operation between Regional Fishery Bodies and Mediterranean strategic framework.
- Activity 5.2: Develop training programmes to support Fishery Bodies on the aspects of the management of lost/abandoned fishing gear.
- Activity 5.3: Develop an awareness campaign, together Fishery Bodies, to the fisheries to sensitize them on environmental and economic consequences following the abandoning of fishing gear at sea.
- Activity 5.4: Propose guidelines (eventually in cooperation with other competent international bodies) including incentive schemes for introduction of environmentally friendly fishing gear.
- Activity 5.5: Integrate a lost/abandoned fishing gear monitoring system into the MED POL information system. The system will include the baseline information, indicators and will be used to track progress in reducing lost/abandoned fishing gear.
- Activity 5.6: Stimulate and encourage Parties to cooperate in conduction of a baseline study on lost/abandoned fishing gear particularly aimed to understand the extension of the problem in the Mediterranean sea and the best available solutions.
- Activity 5.7: Strengthening the cooperation among Fishery Bodies, the scientific community and the fishing industry in reviewing of fishing gear materials and developing of new technologies.

Long term activities

Activity 5.8: Continue the work on assessing and monitoring the operation of port waste reception facilities as stipulated under MARPOL and provide assistance to ports, harbours and small marinas to develop and implement effective waste disposal procedures, with particular reference to lost/abandoned fishing gear.

Proposed activities at national levelMedium term activities

Activity 5.9: Quantification of the problem at national level through a estimation of the amount of gear being purchased by fishers within a country, the number of fishers, the number of vessels, and estimate the loss versus the collection of used and expired fishing gear.

Activity 5.10: Conduct routine monitoring programmes and mapping activities of lost/abandoned fishing gear and report results to the national coordinator and MED POL.

Activity 5.11: Provide assistance to fisheries to recover their lost fishing gear from the water

Activity 5.12: Develop reception facilities available for the disposal of disused fishing gear and other wastes from vessels.

Long term activities

Activity 5.13: Work with conservation NGOs and fishing communities to adopt areas in the Mediterranean Sea and ensure that these areas are lost/abandoned fishing gear free. Similar to the concept of adopt a beach.

Activity 5.14: Establish and implement national lost/abandoned fishing gear monitoring programmes on the basis of regional agreements.

3.6 Objective six: Establish synergies with on-going and planned initiatives in the Mediterranean Region as they relate to marine litter

Justification and background of proposed activities: This objective should be understood as a continuous and systematic effort in parallel to all and each one of the previous four objectives. The synergies to be obtained will strengthen the activities described at regional and national level under each one of the previously described objectives. It is included as an additional objective because there are many actors in the region, ranging from other United Nations Organisations, European Commission (Marine Strategy Framework Directive), NGOs and research institutes which are working to address various aspects of the issue of marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea at various levels. There are also large scale waste management related programmes financed by International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the EU and bilateral aid from which financial assistance to implement activities related to capacity building in this strategic framework can be catalysed. This strategic framework proposes that partnerships with these organisations be either strengthened, and if no partnerships exist that they are established, in order to meet the common objectives.

This section has identified four categories of partners and proposes various activities which can be undertaken in the medium term, at the regional and national level in coordination with them. Some have already been identified under objectives one to four.

a) Proposed synergies with other United Nations Organisations and conventions

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 (MARPOL 73/78) Annex V – The MARPOL Convention, was laid down as international law by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 1973 and was amended by a Protocol in 1978. Known as MARPOL 73/78 it regulates types and quantities of waste that ships may discharge into the sea, taking into account the ecological sensitivity of different sea areas. Under MARPOL the Mediterranean Sea is classified as a Special Area. Annex V is the main legislation covering the prevention of pollution from garbage by ships; it deals with the different types of waste disposed and the manner in which they are disposed of. The legislation prohibits the disposal of all plastics and prohibits the disposal of garbage in Special Areas. The implementation and enforcement is the responsibility of the contracting parties to Annex V. The provision of waste reception facilities is the responsibility of port or local authorities, and sometimes this is contracted out to the private sector. The latest information provided to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) regarding reception facilities for garbage in the Mediterranean region stated that these are available and cover all the relevant ports. As a result the IMO agreed that MARPOL Annex V legislation will take effect as of 1st May 2009.

Conventions and Regional Seas Programmes : Marine litter is also a matter of concern for all other Regional Seas Programmes and in particular for OSPAR and HELCOM that have already implemented a number of related activities. Most of the Regional Seas Programmes include marine litter management in their strategic approach. Collaboration in the areas of common interest (methodology, monitoring, analysis of results, capacity building, policy, etc.) would contribute to the implementation of the activities in the Mediterranean.

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Code of conduct for responsible fisheries: Fishing gear as litter in the sea occurs either due to natural factors in the course of normal operations (bad weather, entanglement etc..) or deliberately (abandoning illegal fishing nets or broken gear). In either instance managing abandoned or lost fishing gear is an important avenue in reducing marine litter. In the Mediterranean Region there are many types of fisheries which require a different management approach, for example large scale commercial fishing can be largely controlled by Port Authorities however small scale artisanal fishing have a social and cultural dimension which requires a more integrated approach. In-line with FAOs 'Code of conduct for responsible fisheries', the present strategic framework proposes a selection of cost-effective activities to manage lost and abandoned fishing gear and an enforcement system for reducing abandoned fishing gear. In addition, collaboration would also be encouraged with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) of FAO.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - Following the precautionary approach, this strategic framework is forward looking and in order to mitigate future pollution of the Mediterranean Sea from natural hazards, the issue of climate change is addressed. Increased incidents of flooding and heavy rainfall is anticipated for the Mediterranean Region in the winter months as well as a rise in sea level of 1 metre. Coastal cities such as Thessaloniki (Greece) and Venice (Italy) and regions such as Kastela Bay (Croatia) and the Nile Delta (Egypt) are reported to become the most affected. Anticipating the future effects of climate change in the Mediterranean Region is paramount to an effective strategy for de-polluting Mediterranean Sea. Increases in incidences of flooding without proper measures to control the influent flood water into the Mediterranean Sea will result in debris accumulated in-land: in drains, roads, waste disposal sites and river catchment areas being swept into the Mediterranean Sea. The clean-ups costs of removing the debris will be high and can be avoided if proper measures are put in place to stop waste entering the Mediterranean Sea.

The recent attention which climate change has had and also the MAP activities on this topic, provides an opportunity for the Mediterranean to be in the lead of efforts to reduce marine litter from floods and other phenomena linked to climate change in the Mediterranean Region. Furthermore the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol has made

provisions for natural hazards from climate change and is therefore already part of a framework in which this strategic framework can support.

UNEP/United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) – Following the concept proposed under Objective I, that the management of marine litter can be separated into the generation of marine litter and prevention of litter reaching the Mediterranean Sea, this activity proposes focusing on the generation of waste. Following on from the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the need to address unsustainable consumption and production, a 10 year framework has been prepared by UN DESA's Division for Sustainable Development and UNEP. This framework known as the "Marrakech Process" was launched in 2003 and aims to: i) assist countries in their efforts to green their economies, ii) help corporations develop greener business models and iii) encourage consumers to adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

Medium term activities

- Activity 6.1: Development of pedagogical tools and guidelines for the shipping sector on marine litter, management of shipping waste and use of port reception facilities. This activity can replicate the best practices of NGOs on training and motivating crew and ship owners to take a more active role in the environment.
- Activity 6.2: Work with countries to implement MARPOL Annex V through development of own legislation and policies.
- Activity 6.3: In collaboration with other competent international organizations and private sector develop a compendium of environmentally safe fishing gear in the Mediterranean Region.
- Activity 6.4: Port authorities to set up a reporting system for abandoned and lost fishing gear.
- Activity 6.5: Advocate for the recent "Adaptation Fund" of UNFCCC to be available to Mediterranean Countries for use in ensuring proper measures against pollution of the Mediterranean Sea from land-based litter.

Long term activities

- Activity 6.6: Engage with UNDESA and UNEP to support efforts to reduce per capita generation rates in the Mediterranean Region.

b) Proposed synergies with International Financial Institutions and the European Union

In implementing this strategic framework MED POL should ensure that marine litter is recognized as an integral part of solid waste management investments. In support of on-going efforts by the EU, World Bank and bilateral agencies, the strategic framework should allow for software activities to support large scale infrastructure projects.

Mediterranean Hot Spot Investment Programme (MeHSIP) The MeHSIP programme is an activity of the Horizon 2020 project. A preliminary report has been prepared identifying pollution hotspots eligible for EIB funding and based on MEDPOL pollution hot spots work and studies. During the data collection phase for this report, information from UNEP/MAP and MED POL were evaluated, in particular the pollution hot spots along with the National

Action Plans submitted by all parties to the Barcelona Convention. The report identifies fundable projects under wastewater, municipal waste and industrial waste, the projects identified require loan financing for construction or rehabilitation of wastewater and solid waste disposal facilities. The projects are mainly rehabilitation and construction of landfills but there is a potential to include management of coastal and marine litter activities. It is clear that in the southern and eastern Mediterranean countries the problem of coastal unmanaged landfills and open dumps is contributing substantially to marine litter. Furthermore, some landfills not located on the coast but in the catchment area inland are also point sources of marine litter pollution. The construction of sanitary landfills and other waste disposal and collection technologies is outside the scope of the present marine litter strategic framework, nevertheless their implementation is crucial for de-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. Furthermore, any effective investment in hardware (solid waste management infrastructure) must be accompanied by software activities in order to catalyze the environmental and health benefits of the investment. It is proposed that under the investments of Horizon 2020, a series of activities identified in the strategic framework should be developed at regional and, mainly, at national level, including:-

- Public awareness to stop littering;
- Environmental education in schools;
- Capacity building in Local and Port Authorities to integrate marine litter clean up activities into operational plans;
- Developing of regional legal frameworks to address marine litter; and
- Advocacy for clean technology options to minimise litter.

MedStat -The European Union (EU) has initiated the MedStat programme which is a statistical co-operation to support the EU's Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (MEDA) programme. An opportunity exists here to fund the monitoring activities in this strategic framework through offering additional information on marine litter and therefore supporting MedStat's Environment subtheme.

EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive -The directive sets up for the first time an overall, integrated policy for the protection of the marine environment which is faced with a number of threats including loss or degradation of biodiversity and changes in its structure, loss of habitats, contamination by hazardous substances and nutrients and the impact of climate change. It requires Member States have to take the necessary measures to achieve or maintain good environmental status in the marine environment by the year 2020. The directive divides the EU waters into maritime regions and Member States by 2015 should develop programmes and measures designed to achieve or maintain good environmental status, which should enter into operation by 2016 at the latest. Marine Litter is specifically mentioned as one of the elements which must be addressed.

Medium term activities

Activity 6.7: Provide software assistance in education, institutional and legal capacity building and public awareness campaigns to support the MeHSIP infrastructure projects funded by the European Investment Bank.

Long term activities

Activity 6.8: Jointly develop capacity building projects for local and port authorities to manage marine litter.

Activity 6.9: Following the entrance into force of the LBS Protocol, MED POL to work with the EU to develop legally binding targets for the reduction of marine litter and align targets to Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

c) **Synergies with national level programmes and NGO activities**

There are major regional NGO networks and numerous NGOs and national or local institutions with considerable experience, expertise and programmes on the management of marine litter and environmental protection which are being successfully implemented. Not all of these programmes can be mentioned in this document, however this strategic framework encourages the replication of best practices inter and intra nation in the Mediterranean Region. Below are two good practices that can have an impact on reducing marine litter if replicated on a larger scale.

Blue flag Programme and Clean Coast Index: The Blue Flag Programme, although original formed in response the EU Bathing Water Directive, has members outside the EU. The Programme awards blue flags to beaches that meet the four criteria of; environmental education and information; water quality; environmental management; and safety and service for both coastal areas and marinas. Under the environmental management criteria for beaches it requires that the beach be clean and a beach clean-up committee established. For marinas, the requirements are under this criteria are that adequate and well managed litterbins must be in place, recycling facilities must be offered and that no pollution from boat washing/repair areas may enter the sewage system or natural surroundings. The Blue flag Programme is already in operation in Cyprus, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.

The Clean Coast Programme is an initiative of the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection to ensure and achieve clean beaches, especially unauthorized beaches. The Programme operates under four main areas: the continuous cleaning of beaches by municipalities; education of the public; enforcement; and advertising and public relations. The beaches are classified according to an index, ranging from 0-20, which measures cleanliness by the number of litter items found in a particular area, the fewer the items per area the lower the index.

Both these programmes should be considered as good practices for the management of marine litter. The Clean Coast Programme offers a measuring system for beach litter (which can also be included in activities under Objective four and can easily be inserted into a GIS system) and in implementing the Blue Flag Programme the environmental management of coastal areas is attained. Efforts should be made to replicate both Programmes; the Clean Coast Programme can either be a stand-alone activity or integrated into the Blue Flag Programme. A win-win situation can be achieved if support in terms of technological know-how on marine litter issues and publicity of the Blue Flag Programme can be offered by MED POL in return for the FEE to offer assistance to new members joining the programme and making in concerted effort to replicate the Programme in more countries. For the effective and sustainable implementation of these Programmes financial assistance and capacity building will be required for NGOs, Port/Marina and Local Authorities.

Medium term activities

Activity 6.10: MED POL to provide technical knowledge to local monitoring programmes on the management and monitoring of marine litter (based on UNEP/IOC guidelines).

Long term activities

Activity 6.11: Parties to work with programmes such as Blue Flag and Clean Coast to replicate them in other coastal areas.

d) **Universities and Research Institutes**

Universities and research institution are important partners in supporting research and development (R&D) in the field of marine litter. They also provide a platform for exchange of information at both the national and regional level. These bodies can also provide scientific knowledge and policy direction to the wider scope of the strategic framework. Furthermore under the EU programme “Oceans for tomorrow” there will be a call for research on marine litter. This 2011 call will address the pathways of marine litter, especially micro-plastics, its degradation process, its toxicity and impacts.

Long term activities

Activity 6.12: Engage with research institutes to promote research and development in the field of marine litter and provide scientific knowledge and policy direction activities described in the strategic framework.

4. LOG FRAME AND WORK PLAN

Overall goal		Specific objectives	Expected results	Sources & means of verification	Activities		Assumptions
					Regional level	National level	
To minimize and further eliminate, to the fullest possible extent, marine litter in the Mediterranean Region through regional and national activities.	1	Enhance the proper implementation of existing regional legislation dealing with municipal solid waste, as well as sea based solid waste, by building or further developing institutional and legal capacity in local and port authorities and other institutional stakeholders to manage marine litter within an integrated coastal zone management framework.	Integration of marine litter strategies, policies and technical knowledge, in Local and Port authorities' operations.	Specific marine litter policies at local level. Availability of marine litter related technologies. Funding of new marine litter related activities. Local/Port authority reports.	<u>Medium term</u> Document and make use of experience, develop policy and operational guidelines, review, update and develop training programmes. <u>Long term</u> Develop and implement twinning programmes, assess and monitor the operation of port waste reception facilities, facilitate eligible countries to develop proposals and apply to donors.	<u>Medium term</u> Beach clean-ups, establishment of networks, mapping of solid waste infrastructures, assessment of the impact of waste disposal sites, support institutional and technical capacity building of Local and National administrations for large scale project development and implementation. <u>Long term</u> Inclusion of marine litter management in existing ICZM plans, assist competent authorities to develop SWM plans, project development assistance	Local/port authorities willing to adopt Integrated Coastal Zone Management protocol. Commitment by all parties to the implementation of MARPOL Annex V. Commitment by Local/port authorities to improve marine litter. Workable partnerships between NGOs, Local Authorities and Schools for beach cleanups.
	2	Reduce in view to eliminate marine litter generated "in situ" (on beaches) with emphasis on plastic and smoking related marine litter.	Reduction in the input of marine litter while maintaining the coasts clean.	Beach clean ups. NGO assessment reports. Waste management reports from Local and Port authorities	<u>Medium term</u> Collect good practices and provide guidelines on clean ups, introduce incentive schemes, conduct	<u>Medium term</u> Support the ICC campaigns, identify hot spots and conduct emergency clean-ups, development of a legal framework to introduce	Commitment and participation by Local/Port authorities, NGOs, informal sector and private sector (hotel, shops and

					a study on the impact of climate change, propose guidelines.	enforcement procedures for waste recycling activities. <u>Long term</u> Local Authorities to work with the private sector, NGOs, etc., set targets for amount of waste required to be recycled.	supermarkets). Capacity for NGOs and artisanal fishing groups to work together.
	3	Influence environmental attitudes and behaviour of residents and tourists of coastal areas in the Mediterranean Region with regards to marine litter.	Reduction in the amount of waste produced by local residents and tourists.	Amounts of waste collected from receptacles. Number of marine litter Impact Assessments. Awareness and Education materials. Hotels, enterprises, etc. participating in litter reduction activities.	<u>Medium term</u> Carry out a prototype pilot assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts of Marine litter, promote communication strategy. <u>Long term</u> Encourage and coordinate in cooperation with regional NGO networks awareness campaigns, promote sustainable consumption and production.	<u>Medium term</u> Undertake an assessment to ascertain the economic aspects of, social and environmental impact of pollution from marine litter. <u>Long term</u> Develop and implement national and local campaigns, promote simple formal and non-formal ESD, develop partnership frameworks, introduce sustainable tourism, assess financial opportunities, replication for start up activities	Adherence to results of monitoring exercise. Political will from line ministries. Communication and transport networks willing to participate. Involvement of local authorities in enforcement of anti-litter strategies.

	4	Establish a monitoring programme for marine litter in the Mediterranean Sea.	Marine litter monitoring programme in the framework of the ECAP integrated monitoring programme under the coordination of UNEP/MAP – MEDPOL established.	Country reports, coastal and sea-based litter clean up campaigns, research and development conducted by Universities.	<u>Medium term</u> Adapt and adopt UNEP/IOC guidelines on monitoring marine litter, taking into consideration the ECAP, administer questionnaire every 4 years, develop common indicators, agree on a reduction of marine litter by a year to be determined, integrate the monitoring system in the MEDPOL information system. <u>Long term</u> Identify best practices and implement pilot projects, fundraising for the establishment of a marine litter monitoring programme.	<u>Medium term</u> Conduct a baseline study, conduct routine monitoring programmes, report results in the framework of the implementation of ECAP. <u>Long term</u> Establish and implement national monitoring programmes. Capacity building on implementing the adopted guidelines.	Communication between National and Regional Coordinators. Basic capacity in national coordinators to collect and interpret data provided by local organizations in a timely manner. Collaboration at the regional and national level.
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	5	Assessment of lost and abandoned fishing gear and countermeasures against biological damage	Reduction in the amount of fishing gear lost in the sea and protection of marine species	Reporting systems on for abandoned and lost fishing gear, tools and guidelines for shipping sector	Awareness campaigns and capacity building programmes, cooperation with other competent bodies	Support MARPOL implementation, develop pedagogical tools and guidelines for the shipping sector, address the issue of abandoned and lost fishing gear	Collaboration enhanced among national stakeholders and International Organizations
	6	Establish synergies with on-going and planned initiatives in the Mediterranean Region as they relate to marine litter.	Financial assistance catalysed from other on-going and planned projects.	UNEP led software activities in large scale infrastructure projects, Implementation of Blue Flag programmes, etc. partnerships in place.		<u>Medium term</u> Provide software assistance and public awareness in support of the EIB's MeHSIP projects, support local monitoring programmes. <u>Long term</u> Develop joint capacity building projects, develop legally binding targets and align them to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, work with programmes such as Blue Flag and CCI, engage with research institutes to promote R&D.	Collaborative attitude between partners. Consensus by EU and international agencies to integrate marine litter in solid waste management investments. Willingness of Clean Coast Index, FEE and Blue Flag Programme to expand activities.

5. IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

It is suggested that the overall strategic framework will be part of the MED POL activities and that MED POL will be responsible for coordinating and monitoring progress.

To assist MED POL in the implementation of the strategic framework an internal communication strategy should be developed. This will ensure that the partners are familiar with their reporting duties and that progress on meeting targets is closely monitored by MED POL.

The work plan in section four has identified potential partners to work with MED POL in implementing the monitoring component of the strategic framework. Partners at the national level are mainly line Ministries, sub national agencies, local/port Authorities, tourist related private sector, waste related private sector, NGOs and other civil society organisations.

In terms of financing the activities in this strategic framework there are various options. One of the objectives of this strategic framework is to develop synergies with other programmes and support on going efforts by international development and bilateral agencies. It is foreseen that additional financial resources will be catalysed through this approach. Furthermore the information from the socioeconomic assessment should also provide impetus for the private sector (hotels, transport networks), local/port authorities and governments to play a larger role and invest more in managing marine litter. Finally, volunteers and advocates of a clean marine environment play a crucial role in this strategic framework. The goodwill and human resources offered by this group is part of this strategic framework, and their in-kind contribution will go a long way in covering some activities.

Government, ministries and local/port authorities should as far as possible aim to finance environmental protection through internal budgets, the development of economic instruments and implementation of polluter pays principle within this strategic framework will serve to finance some of these activities. For countries with lower economic development it is proposed that these countries engage with specific departments within EU (FEMIP, ENPI and Europe Aid), African Development Bank, the World Bank, other United Nations Programmes and bilateral partners, for soft loans and grants. In order to leverage funds from these institutions this strategic framework has included the preparation of assessments and development of policies and strategies, which will assist these countries and institutions in the negotiation process.

Draft decision XI

Regional strategy addressing ship's ballast water management and invasive species

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Desirous to address the risk arising from the introduction of invasive alien species through ships' ballast water, which has been recognized as one of the four greatest threats to the world's oceans and which can cause extremely severe and irreversible environmental, economic and public health impacts,

Recalling the objectives of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 and particularly its Article 13 whereby, to achieve these objectives, *"the Parties bordering enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, shall endeavor, taking into account characteristic regional features, to enhance regional co-operation, including through the conclusion of regional agreements"*,

Further recalling Decision IG.19/11 adopted at the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Marrakesh, November 2009) to develop a regional strategy on ships' ballast water management in the Mediterranean within the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), and which encouraged the Mediterranean GloBallast Regional Task Force to endeavor to finalize such regional strategy as soon as possible, for possible adoption by the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;

Highlighting the relevance of the strategy to the process of gradual application by MAP of the ecosystem approach for the management of human activities in the Mediterranean region, that includes ecological objectives and operational objectives with associated indicators for the introduction of non indigenous species in the ecosystem,

Noting that the Mediterranean region is one of the six high priority regions included in the GEF/UNDP/IMO Project entitled *"Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water"* (*"GloBallast Partnerships Project"*),

Further noting that the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) was designated as the Regional Coordination Organization (RCO) for the implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project in the Mediterranean in collaboration with the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA),

Acknowledging the advanced status of implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project in the Mediterranean, and particularly the work undertaken by the Mediterranean GloBallast Regional Task Force, with the support of REMPEC, towards the development of a regional strategy on ships' ballast water management in the Mediterranean,

Considering that the 10th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC endorsed and recommended the adoption of the *Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management*, including its Action Plan and Timetable, as well as the "General Guidance on the Voluntary Application of the D1 Ballast Water Exchange Standard by Vessels Operating between the Mediterranean Sea and the North-East Atlantic and/or the Baltic Sea" by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention,

Recognizing the dialogue established with other Regional Seas Agreements, in order to ensure efficient handling of the issue of ships' ballast water management and taking into consideration that the General Guidance Document was adopted by the Contracting Parties to the OSPAR Convention during their last Ministerial Meeting (September 2010), and by the Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention during the 32nd Meeting of the HELCOM Commission (March 2011);

Adopts the *Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management*, including its Action Plan and Timetable, as set out in Annex I to this Decision, and the "General Guidance on the Voluntary Application of the D1 Ballast Water Exchange Standard by Vessels Operating between the Mediterranean Sea and the North-East Atlantic and/or the Baltic Sea", as outlined in Annex II to this Decision, and agrees to the joint submission, with the other concerned Regional Seas Agreements, of the General Guidance Document to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO);

Invites the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures for its implementation;

Requests REMPEC and SPA/RAC to assist the Parties in its implementation.

ANNEX I

MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY ON SHIPS' BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT

MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY ON SHIPS' BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT

1. The present Strategy takes into account all relevant international, regional and sub-regional instruments and mechanisms, as well as all relevant Mediterranean action plans, policies and decisions, including Decision IG 17/6 of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention related to the implementation of the ecosystem approach adopted under the Barcelona Convention and its protocols (adopted at their 15th Ordinary Meeting (Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008, UNEP (DEC)/MED IG.17)).

2. The Mediterranean Sea herewith refers to the Mediterranean Sea area as defined in Article 1 of the Barcelona Convention, i.e. the *"maritime waters of the Mediterranean Sea proper with its incorporated gulfs and seas, bounded to the west by the meridian passing through the Cape Spartel lighthouse, at the entrance of the Straits of Gibraltar, and to the east by the southern limits of the Straits of the Dardanelles between Mehmetcik and Kumkale lighthouses"*.

Definition

3. For the purpose of this present Strategy, the term "invasive alien species" means "Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens", as defined in Article 1.8 of the 2004 International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention).

General objective

4. The general objective of the present Strategy is to establish the framework for a regional harmonised approach in the Mediterranean on ships' ballast water control and management which is consistent with the requirements and standards of the BWM Convention, as outlined in its Article 13.3.

Introduction

5. Invasive alien species have serious economic, environmental and human health impacts and are now recognized as one of the greatest threats to biodiversity globally. In marine and coastal environments, invasive alien species have been identified as one of the four greatest threats to the world's oceans. Ships' ballast water is of particular concern as a vector of introduction of invasive alien species in the Mediterranean Sea because of the large quantities of ballast water coming from different marine environments around the world being discharged at Mediterranean ports. Ballast sediments are also of concern for management as they provide a substrate for a variety of marine species, notably dinoflagellates.

6. The 2004 BWM Convention provides a critically needed set of management tools to address the issue and calls for regional cooperation and harmonization of policies to attempt solving this transboundary marine environmental issue. Although the BWM Convention has not yet entered into force, the national process of ratifications is underway in many countries. Meanwhile, voluntary measures complying with the requirements of the Convention are needed in order to minimize the introduction of invasive alien species in the Mediterranean Sea.

7. The present Strategy is composed of eight Strategic Priorities and of an Action Plan and Workplan/Timetable for its implementation.

Strategic Priority 1. Support international instruments developed to minimize the introduction of invasive alien species in the Mediterranean

8. Growing recognition of the impacts of invasive alien species has led to a widespread response to the issue, in the form of legal instruments as well as programmes aimed at developing practical, technical solutions. The Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992, (CBD) provides the basis for measures to protect biodiversity against invasive alien species (Article 8 h) and comprehensive Guiding Principles in this field have been adopted under this Convention in 2002¹.

¹ The Conference of the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted Guiding Principles for the Implementation of Article 8 (h). (COP 6 Decision VI/23, The Hague, 16-19 April 2002).

9. The International Maritime Organization (IMO), its member States and the maritime industry have been working on the issue of ships' ballast water introduction for more than twenty years, initially developing voluntary guidelines and then developing a legally binding international regime to meet the new challenges posed by the problem. In February 2004, these global efforts culminated with the adoption of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention). The Convention sets out strict treatment standards for ballast water discharges, which, when in force, will apply to different ships at different times depending on their construction date and their tanks' ballast water capacity. Additionally, the Convention provides guidance for the type approval of ballast water treatment systems and identifies detailed procedures to ensure that the environmental toxicity of ballast water is evaluated and minimized, resulting in safe discharges of treated ballast water. This is especially important when systems use chemical treatment methods.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention support the work for the minimization of the introduction of invasive alien species being carried out by the relevant organisations and forums, particularly the work of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and are committed to take all appropriate actions toward the ratification of the BWM Convention for its entry into force as soon as possible.**

Strategic Priority 2. Maintain capacity-building activities and initiatives in the Mediterranean region

10. The implementation of the IMO /GEF /UNDP GloBallast Partnerships project (*Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water*) was initiated in 2008. The GloBallast Partnerships builds on the pilot phase and will focus on the implementation of the BWM Convention by assisting countries to enact legal, policy and institutional reforms to minimize the impacts of invasive alien species transferred by ships. Under this project, a number of important activities and initiatives are being undertaken in the Mediterranean region, which significantly help develop and strengthen the expertise within the region and the capacity of the Mediterranean coastal States in the field of ballast water management. However, the lifetime of the GloBallast Partnerships Project is limited and the project is expected to terminate in 2014.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention stress the need to continue efforts made in the region to enhance capacity building, knowledge transfer and training of personnel after the GloBallast Partnerships Project terminates, and to involve relevant international and regional co-operation mechanisms, non-governmental organisations and agencies for the continuation of the process initiated.**

Strategic Priority 3 Develop advanced knowledge on environmental condition of the Mediterranean and ships' mediated introduction of invasive alien species

11. The development and updating of knowledge in the field of ships' mediated introduction of invasive alien species in the Mediterranean is fundamental in order to have a sound scientific, technical and legal basis as a solid basis for management measures. Significant progress has been made to better understand the relation between maritime transport and invasive alien species introduction in the marine environment of the Mediterranean. Biodiversity impacts of species introduction and maritime traffic trends in the Mediterranean in the region have been identified and are outlined below.

12. **Research has shown that the Mediterranean marine ecosystems and resources have been and continue to be severely compromised by invasive alien species**, and remain at high risk of further invasion as maritime traffic escalates. Zenetos and et.al (2008) have reported 903 alien species in the Mediterranean basin² based on literature up to April 2008. The rate of biological invasions in the Mediterranean is estimated at one new species entry every nine days.

² A.Zenetos, E. Meriç, M. Verlaque, P. Galli, C.-F. Boudouresque, A. Giangrande, M. E. Çınar and M. Bilecenoğlu (2008), *Mediterranean Marine Science* 9/1, 119-165.

13. Of these species invasions, 21 percent are believed to have arrived with vessels, however many more have relied on the local shipping traffic for secondary spread within the Mediterranean region. Ballast water has been implicated in many serious invasions of the region including the Comb Jelly (*Mnemiopsis leidyi*), which has led to fisheries collapse in the Black and Caspian Seas. The Mediterranean GloBallast Task Force produced a review of scientific and technical studies related to ships' ballast water and invasive alien species produced by research institutes and universities of the Mediterranean region. The review highlighted that while the introduction of invasive alien species is well documented in certain countries, there are important information gaps in certain areas of the Mediterranean.

14. **The Mediterranean is a major shipping transit route.** In 2006, around 10,000 mainly large vessels transited the area en-route between non Mediterranean ports. Merchant vessels operating within and through the Mediterranean are getting larger and carrying more trade in larger parcels. Vessels transiting the Mediterranean average 50,000 DWT and are, on average, over three times larger than those operating within the Mediterranean³.

15. Overall vessel activity within the Mediterranean has been rising steadily over the past 10 years and is projected to increase by a further 18 per cent over the next 10 years. Transits through the Mediterranean are expected to rise by 23 per cent. Increases in vessel activity will be coupled with the deployment of ever larger vessels. Chemical tanker and container vessels will show the highest rates of growth in respect of port callings within the Mediterranean over the next ten years whilst increases in transits will be most pronounced in the product and crude tanker sector.

16. **Intra-Mediterranean traffic.** Seaborne trade between Mediterranean littoral States, which is relatively underdeveloped, represents 18 per cent of the total Mediterranean littoral States' trade. The top 20 Mediterranean port to port trade routes measured in terms of number of voyages are dominated by high frequency small size Intra Mediterranean passenger traffic. However, the top 20 transit routes through and voyages within the Mediterranean, measured by vessel capacity and therefore cargo volumes, are dominated by larger tanker, container and dry bulk vessels.

17. **The Mediterranean is both a major loading and unloading centre for crude oil.** Approximately 18 per cent of global seaborne crude oil shipments take place within or through the Mediterranean. North African ports in Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Persian Gulf oil shipped via Egypt account for over 90 per cent of all crude oil loaded in the Mediterranean. Italy accounts for nearly half of all crude oil unloaded in the Mediterranean. Exports of crude oil from Black Sea ports averaging at over 100 million tonnes a year are expected to continue to rise, resulting in continued seaborne transits via the Istanbul Straits and increased use of eastern Mediterranean ports linked to new pipelines intended to bypass the Istanbul Straits. The resumption of Iraqi crude supplies via Ceyhan in Turkey and via Syrian ports will reverse the trend seen over recent years of declining crude exports from these ports.

18. The efforts initiated to compile relevant data and enhance the knowledge on the above issues are to be acknowledged, however, these efforts need to be strengthened with comprehensive species inventories, data on species present in ports and data related to maritime traffic in the region, as well as relevant oceanographic data. The compilation of comprehensive species inventories for individual ports plays a significant role in ballast water management. For a port to effectively manage the ballast water associated with its shipping movements, data must be available and complete from the local port as well as from the source ports for the ballast water being received. It is important that the methods and approaches used to compile a baseline list of species within a port are standardised among countries. Port Biological Baseline Surveys (PBBS) are in this regard, an important tool for knowledge management.

- **The Contracting Parties promote, individually or through regional co-operation, research and development programmes in the field of invasive alien species and ships' ballast water management, as means to enhance knowledge and help setting scientific grounds on which best measures on controlling the transfer of invasive alien species can be based. The Contracting Parties also agree that results of such scientific work should be made available to all interested public.**

³ This paragraph as well as the following paragraphs describing the maritime traffic in the region are extracted from the Study of Maritime Traffic Flows in the Mediterranean Sea, Final Report, REMPEC (2008).

Strategic Priority 4. Use risk assessment as a reliable tool to assist in ballast water management decision-making and in compliance, monitoring and enforcement procedures

19. **Risk assessment and ballast water management.** Risk assessment can be helpful in ensuring that the provisions of the BWM Convention are applied in a consistent manner, based on scientifically robust groundwork. In particular, the IMO has developed Guidelines for the implementation of the BWM Convention under which risk assessment is needed. The Guidelines on Designation of Areas for Ballast Water Exchange (G14) are of particular relevance for the Mediterranean region, as these address the sea areas where a vessel cannot exchange its ballast water and where the port State may designate areas, in consultation with adjacent or other States, where a ship may conduct ballast water exchange. The IMO also recommends carrying out risk assessment when a Party, within waters under its jurisdiction, is granting exemptions to ships (G7 Guidelines for Risk Assessment under Regulation A4 of the BWM Convention).

20. Risk assessment is also essential to have a sound knowledge of the overall risks for introduction of invasive alien species associated with the maritime traffic in the Mediterranean region. When resources are limited, management actions such as compliance, monitoring and enforcement (CME) may be prioritized according to the higher risk areas or vessels.

21. **Biological invasion of ports.** Major shipping ports are often the first places where invasive alien species are introduced and become established. Port Biological Baseline Surveys (PBBS) are used to develop a baseline list of species – both native and non-native – that are present in a shipping port. Subsequent long-term monitoring regimes should be put in place to continue building an information base in this field and detect any new invasions. This data can be used to communicate risks to other shipping ports or countries, as appropriate, and provide an essential reference point for management of non-native species. As they target marine pests, PBBS can also help raise awareness of marine pest issues within the region. Most importantly, they allow any existing introductions to be recorded, tracked, and managed.

22. **Ports at risk of biologic invasion.** Some Mediterranean ports are more at risk of biological invasion as they are ports receiving greater volumes of ballast water originating from ports located outside the Mediterranean sea. These ports are the following: Arzew, Sidi Kerir Terminal, Algeciras, Tripoli, Eleusis, Ceyhan, Port de Bouc, Banias, Brindisi, and Bizerta. It has been estimated that 69% of the ballast water received by Mediterranean ports concerns three countries: Algeria, Egypt and Libya, as these countries host important oil terminals, where oil tankers arrive on ballast to load cargo. It has to be noted that the coast line of these three countries forms almost all the south coastline of the Mediterranean. In addition, it should be noted that once an invasive alien species is introduced in one port located in the Mediterranean Sea, there is a risk of secondary introduction of other ports located within the region⁴.

- **The Contracting Parties consider risk assessments at national, sub-regional or regional level, as an appropriate tool to guide on ballast water management measures and are committed to establish surveys and monitoring programmes including reporting and alert mechanisms.**

Strategic Priority 5. Decide upon voluntary regional arrangements in the Mediterranean and ensure sub-regional and national strategies are in line with these

23. Given the transboundary nature of invasive alien species issue, it must be recognized that individual countries cannot effectively address this concern on their own. A harmonized regional ballast water management regime has to be agreed upon by the Mediterranean coastal States, which takes into account the maritime traffic lanes in the region and the origin and distribution of ballast water in the ports of the region, as well as the particular geographical constraints of the area and associated scientific and oceanographic data.

⁴ This section is based on the result of a study on ballast water origins and volumes in the Mediterranean, which was carried out by Mr. Bouteville for REMPEC in 2008, using the Study of Maritime Traffic Flows in the Mediterranean Sea, Final Report, REMPEC (2008).

24. As the BWM Convention is not yet in force, voluntary measures are called for in order to address the ships' ballast water mediated introduction of invasive alien species in the Mediterranean Sea. In addition, harmonised procedures incorporated in a compliance, monitoring and enforcement (CME) system should be implemented by all countries of the region. Sub-regional approaches within the Mediterranean Sea area (e.g. the BWM Sub Commission in the Adriatic Sea) are also encouraged and existing sub-regional agreements in the Mediterranean region should consider integrating BWM issues in their work, in coherence with the regional approach adopted. National strategies established by Mediterranean coastal States should take into account and be consistent with the policy and arrangements agreed upon at sub-regional and regional levels.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention work collaboratively to adopt regional voluntary arrangements concerning ballast water management in the Mediterranean region, consistent with the requirements and standards set in the BWM Convention.**

Strategic Priority 6. Consider other regional seas strategies and initiatives

25. Harmonization of approaches to ballast water management across regional seas is essential to help achieve the goals of the BWM Convention. Communication and alignment with neighbouring regions and their BWM structures (e.g. PERSGA Strategic Action Plan for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, the Black Sea Strategy) is needed to ensure consistency between the regimes, and also to promote sharing of information between these interlinked marine regions. A dialogue should also be established with other relevant regional seas Secretariats such as the OSPAR Commission for the North-East Atlantic, which agreed in June 2007 on "General Guidance on the Voluntary Interim Application of the D1 Ballast Water Exchange Standards in the North-East Atlantic", the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) for the Baltic Sea, which developed a roadmap towards a harmonised implementation of the IMO BWM Convention, and the ROPME Sea Area which recently adopted regional measures on ballast water management exchange.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention are committed to enhance and maintain cooperation with the neighbouring regions of the Mediterranean Sea and with other relevant regional agreements in order to ensure that the measures adopted are consistent with other ballast water management regional arrangements.**

Strategic Priority 7. Keep the Strategy and Action plan under review and assess their implementation progress

26. The Strategy and Action Plan should be subject to periodic review to take into account emerging issues, outcomes of research and development (R&D) activities and experience gained from its operation and implementation.

27. Periodic gatherings of representatives of the regional co-ordinating mechanism and Secretariats should be arranged to assess progress with implementation of the various regional strategies and arrangements and facilitate reaching a harmonised approach at the global level.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention call for regular meetings with the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the ongoing relevance of the Strategy, and overall effectiveness of activities carried out under the Action Plan, and that the work accomplished in the various regional seas regarding the management of ballast water is on the agenda of meetings and forums gathering the various regional Secretariats and agreements.**

Strategic Priority 8. Work on the identification of adequate resources to implement activities under the Strategy and Action Plan

28. The identification and securing of adequate resources for implementing the Strategy and Action Plan should be investigated from various sources, including IMO, REMPEC, and other MAP Regional Activity Centres, regional and international shipping and port industries, bilateral and multilateral donors and technical cooperation programmes.

- **The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention long-term objective is to ensure the sustainability and continuity of activities from self-financing sources within the region.**

**Action Plan for the Implementation of the Regional Strategy
on Ships' Ballast Water Management**

The present Action Plan identifies eight main measures to be taken at regional level, sub-regional or national level in accordance with the Strategic Priorities, and include a workplan/ timetable for their implementation (**Annex I**).

Action 1. Ratify the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention)

The urgent ratification of the BWM Convention is called for in order that, when it enters into force, the treatment standards for ballast water discharges become applicable to ships. To help the process out at national level, national policy initiatives preparing the ground and leading to the ratification should be undertaken.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to form a national policy working group to lead the process towards the ratification of the BWM Convention;
- b) to draft the instrument of ratification for adoption through the proper channels with their respective Government system and;
- c) to develop national legislation including fines for violators, which will give effect to the BWM Convention once ratified, as well as secondary regulations and technical arrangements for its enforcement.

Action 2. Adopt harmonised arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region

The harmonized arrangements are based on the relevant components and requirements of the BWM Convention. Until such a time as the Convention has entered into force, the arrangements should remain an interim voluntary instrument. This does not prejudice the right of any Contracting Party to determine special requirements in certain areas under their jurisdiction, in conformity with international law.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to adopt as soon as possible harmonized voluntary arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region (**Annex II**); and
- b) to notify all interested parties of the adoption of harmonized voluntary arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean sea through notices to shipping and instructions to surveyors.

Action 3 Establish a solid Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) system in the Mediterranean region

In association with the development and implementation of the harmonized regional ballast water management regime, a generic compliance, monitoring and enforcement system (CME) needs to be developed to ensure compliance with the measures proposed within the regime. The CME system should incorporate the following:

1. requirement for ships to collect and record information about their BWM practices (i.e. uptake, management en route and discharge);

2. means for ships to transmit this information to the Port States' BWM regulatory authority, and to subsequently receive directions from them;
3. provision for examination/auditing of the ships' official log books or other official records to ascertain compliance with the BWM requirements of the Port State;
4. ability by the appropriate authority to obtain ballast water and sediment samples and carry out any necessary testing;
5. legal provision for enforcement measures to be applied for non-compliance with the required BWM requirements, and provisions for applying sanctions to violations; and
6. effective communication arrangements on a regional level to ensure proper tracking of violations and exchange of experience during the application of the CME system on a national level.

The proposed CME system for the region is attached as **Annex III**.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to adapt their existing Port State Control & CME systems to integrate the harmonized BWM CME procedures; and
- b) to establish and maintain up to-date a regional communication system possibly within a clearing house mechanism (CHM), to allow exchange of experience and tracking of violations utilizing existing control agreements such as the Paris MoU and the Mediterranean MoU on Port State Control.

Action 4. Establish a survey, biological monitoring and risk assessment system for Mediterranean ports

The development of a uniform regional biological monitoring system for Mediterranean ports is crucial to understanding the nature of what is being managed, and supporting the methods through which the management is implemented. The process of developing this system should be composed of the following elements:

- Collection of data (biological, physical, chemical) on port environments;
- Reviewing best practices, existing literature and approaches, in order to agree on common approaches/protocols;
- Identifying biological data requirements for proposed risk assessment and management measure (non-indigenous species, invasive alien species (IAS));
- Identifying long-term monitoring procedures (parameters, frequency);
- Reviewing existing monitoring programmes, if any, to see if these meet common approaches/protocols;
- Preparing common implementation guidelines on Port Biological Baseline Surveys and Monitoring.

In some areas of the Mediterranean region, countries may identify sub-regional mechanisms for collaboration on surveys, monitoring and risk assessment. For example, in the Joint Commission for the protection of the Adriatic Sea waters and coastal areas, Croatia, Italy, Slovenia and Montenegro have formed the Ballast Water Management Sub-Commission (BWMSC) which focus on the Adriatic Sea area, and through which information on port surveys and IAS management is being shared.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to develop a regionally standardised biological sampling and monitoring protocol for use of Contracting Parties in building the necessary biological and environmental databases to support the IAS management objectives;

- b) to collaborate, preferably following sub-regional approaches where relevant, on biological survey and monitoring activities, including to promote and ensure sharing of technical capacity, resources and results;
- c) to seek institutional support at the national level to conduct port biological surveys and plans for monitoring, as part of their national strategy for ballast water and IAS management;
- d) to adapt and use the regional CHM for sharing of data related to port surveys and ongoing biological monitoring; and
- e) that a regional-level risk assessment should be produced based on the information made available through biological surveys, as well as the shipping movement and ballast water discharge databases.

Action 5. Enhance expertise; facilitate knowledge transfer and capacity building in the Mediterranean region

Given the absence of national legislation and technical initiatives related to ballast water management in several Mediterranean States, an effective Capacity Building programme should be established to assist in carrying out activities which will assist in implementing the Strategy and Action Plan. Capacity building activities should cover the following:

- identification of National Lead Agencies and relevant stakeholders for ballast water issues and formation of cross-sector / inter-ministerial working groups and committees;
- communication and awareness raising activities;
- port biota baseline surveys, monitoring and ballast water risk assessment;
- research and development projects;
- drafting of national ballast water legislation and regulations;
- compliance monitoring and enforcement;
- developing national ballast water management strategies and action plans; and
- developing self-financing mechanisms.

Training activities should be organised both at regional and sub-regional level taking into consideration similarities such as the geographical areas concerned (i.e. Eastern and Western Mediterranean countries), the language, the status of ratification etc.). In addition, these training activities should be carried out using the “Train the Trainer approach”, where appropriate, and used by countries to replicate these training activities at national level.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to investigate the possibility of including training programmes and other capacity-building activities in the regular programme of work of the relevant Regional Activity Centres of MAP;
- b) to seek and secure support, individually or through REMPEC, from the IMO Technical Cooperation Division (TCD), or other international organizations for national, sub-regional or regional training courses and other capacity-building actions in support of activities of the Action Plan;
- c) to disseminate protocols and tools for standardization of technical approaches that could be used to conduct regional and national activities;
- d) that countries with specific expertise on ballast water management related activities help organise national, sub-regional or regional training sessions; and
- e) to replicate such training on a national level through the establishment of a national training programme on ballast water management activities.

Action 6. Enhance public awareness on ships' ballast water and invasive alien species issues

With a view to alert general and targeted public to the risks associated with introducing non-indigenous marine species in the marine environment, and in this way add to the efforts towards preventing and controlling the introduction of IAS into the Mediterranean Sea, coastal States and the maritime industry should involve themselves in endeavors to raise knowledge and awareness on the subject. General or specific awareness materials, according to the type of public targeted, are to be used when they exist, or be developed, preferably in the local language of their respective countries. Awareness materials already prepared by IMO-Globallast are available for download from its website⁵ including brochures, posters and other educational documents and tools. Where possible, collaborative partnerships will be forged between countries, and with NGO's and other public interest groups to aid in organising targeted public awareness campaigns.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to use IMO Globallast Public awareness materials and translate these to local languages for dissemination at national level;
- b) to carry out national seminars and workshops to raise awareness among the various stakeholders involved; and
- c) to develop local case studies that may be used effectively for awareness and leveraging support within the Mediterranean region and its sub-regions.

Action 7. Set-up a web-based Mediterranean mechanism for exchanging information

To facilitate information exchange related to ballast water management issues among the Contracting Parties, an information exchange network is considered necessary in the Mediterranean region. This network will facilitate communications with and between countries, as well as function as a clearing house mechanism (CHM) for data and ballast water management related information within the region.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to establish a web based Regional Information System based on the structure outlined in Annex IV;
- b) to explore possible options and functionalities of the system and decide upon the body responsible for coordinating the development of the web-based Regional Information System;
- c) to set-up a Steering Committee for this project; and
- d) to explore possible options and decide upon the body responsible for hosting and maintaining the web-based Regional Information System.

Action 8. Incorporate the Action Plan evaluation within the Barcelona Convention reporting system and procedure

The Action Plan is subject to periodic review to accommodate any developments on ballast water management at the regional or global level and adjusted / updated accordingly. The implementation of the Action Plan should be carried out under the coordination of REMPEC as a continuation of the present efforts of the Centre devoted to enhance expertise in the region on ballast water management issues. In addition, actions taken on a national level should be evaluated periodically under the Barcelona Convention to determine their effectiveness.

⁵ <http://globallast.imo.org/index.asp?page=AwarenessMaterials.htm&menu=true>

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, agree

- a) to mandate REMPEC to coordinate and assist with the implementation of the Action Plan in the region, in collaboration with the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) where relevant;
- b) that REMPEC will inform its meetings of Focal Points, which take place every two years, on the status of implementation of the Action Plan, for subsequent transmission to the Ordinary Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and
- c) to provide REMPEC with the relevant information on national-based activities with the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the ongoing relevance and overall effectiveness of activities carried out under the Action Plan.

Annex 1

Mediterranean Strategy and Action Plan on Ships' Ballast Water Management

Work Plan and Implementation Timetable

Action Points	Activities	Year				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1. Ratify the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention).	a) Form a national policy working group to lead the process towards the ratification of the BWM Convention.	✓	✓			
	b) Draft the instrument of ratification for adoption through the proper channels with the Government system.	✓	✓			
	c) Develop national legislation including fines for violators, which will give effect to the BWM Convention once ratified, as well as secondary regulations and technical arrangements for its enforcement.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Adopt harmonised arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region.	a) Adopt harmonized voluntary arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region.	✓				
	b) Notify all interested parties of the adoption of harmonized arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region through notices to shipping and instructions to surveyors.	✓				

Action Points	Activities	Year				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
3. Establish a solid compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) system in the Mediterranean region.	a) Adapt existing Port State Control & CME systems to integrate the harmonized BWM CME procedures.	✓	✓	✓		
	b) Establish and maintain a regional communication system possibly within a clearing house mechanism (CHM), to allow exchange of experience and tracking of violations utilizing existing control bodies such as the Paris MoU on Port State control and the Mediterranean MoU on Port State Control.		✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Establish a survey, biological monitoring and risk assessment system for Mediterranean ports.	a) Develop a regionally standardised biological sampling and monitoring protocol for use of Contracting Parties in building the necessary biological and environmental databases to support the IAS management objectives.		✓	✓		
	b) Collaborate, preferably following sub-regional approaches where relevant, on biological survey and monitoring activities, including to promote and ensure sharing of technical capacity, resources and results.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	c) Seek institutional support at the national level for port biological surveys and monitoring, as part of the national strategy for ballast water and IAS management.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	d) Adapt and use the regional CHM for sharing of data related to port surveys and ongoing biological monitoring.		✓	✓	✓	✓
	e) Produce a regional-level risk assessment based on the information made available through biological surveys, as well as the shipping movement and ballast water discharge databases.		✓	✓		

Action Points	Activities	Year				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
5. Enhance expertise; facilitate knowledge transfer and capacity building in the Mediterranean region.	a) Investigate the possibility of including training programmes and other capacity-building activities in the regular programme of work of the relevant Regional Activity Centres of MAP.	✓	✓			
	b) Seek and secure support, individually or through REMPEC, from the IMO Technical Cooperation Division, in support of activities of the Strategy and Action Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	c) Disseminate protocols and tools for standardization of technical approaches to regional and national activities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	d) Countries with specific expertise on ballast water management related activities help organise national, sub-regional or regional training sessions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	e) Replicate such training on a national level through the establishment of a national training programme on ballast water management activities.		✓	✓	✓	✓
6. Enhance public awareness on ships' ballast water and invasive alien species issues.	a) Use IMO Globallast Public awareness materials and translate these to local languages for dissemination at national level.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	b) Carry out national seminars and workshops to raise awareness about the issue among various stakeholders.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	c) Develop local case studies that may be used effectively for awareness and leveraging support within the Mediterranean region and its sub-regions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Action Points	Activities	Year				
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
7. Set-up a web-based Mediterranean mechanism for exchanging information.	a) Explore possible options and functionalities of the system and decide upon the body responsible for coordinating the development of the web-based Regional Information System.	✓	✓			
	b) Set-up a Steering Committee for this project.		✓			
	c) Explore possible options and decide upon the body responsible for hosting and maintaining the web-based Regional Information System.		✓	✓		
	d) Have the Regional Information System operational.				✓	✓
8. Incorporate the Action Plan evaluation within the Barcelona Convention reporting system and procedure.	a) Mandate REMPEC to coordinate and assist with the implementation of the Action Plan in the region, in collaboration with the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) where relevant.	✓				
	b) REMPEC to inform the Meeting of Focal Points, which takes place every two years, on the status of implementation of the Action Plan, for subsequent transmission to the Ordinary Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.			✓		✓
	c) Forward to REMPEC the necessary information with the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the ongoing relevance and overall effectiveness of on national-based activities carried out under the Action Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Annex 2

Harmonized voluntary arrangements for ballast water management in the Mediterranean region

Introduction

The harmonised voluntary interim regime is being submitted under paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (Ballast Water Management Convention) whereby Parties with common interest to protect the environment, human health, property and resources, particularly those bordering enclosed or semi-enclosed seas, shall endeavour to enhance regional cooperation, including through the conclusion of regional agreements consistent with the Convention. The proposed arrangements take into account other adopted regional policies on ship's ballast water exchange.

The regime forms also part of a regional strategy on ships' ballast water management, developed within the Mediterranean Action Plan⁶, with the technical support of the GloBallast Partnerships Project⁷. It is based on the requirements of the Ballast Water Management Convention and is being proposed as an interim regime. The regime is voluntary; therefore, ships entering the Mediterranean Sea area are encouraged to apply these guidelines on a voluntary basis as from [XXXXXXXX].

This regime will no longer apply when a ship meets the ballast water performance standard contained in regulation D-2 of the Convention, or when the Convention comes into force and a ship has to apply the D-2 standard in accordance with the application dates set out in regulation B-3 of the Convention.

Definitions

Convention means the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments; and is hereunder referred to as "Ballast Water Management Convention";

Mediterranean Sea area means the Mediterranean Sea proper including the Gulfs and seas therein with the boundary between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea constituted by the 41° N parallel and bounded to the west by the Straits of Gibraltar at the meridian of 005°36' W;

Black Sea area means the Black Sea proper with the boundary between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea constituted by the parallel 41°;

Red Sea area means the red sea proper including the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba bounded at the south by the rhumb line between Ras si Ane (12°28'.5 N, 043°19'.6 E) and Husn Murad (12°40'.4 N, 043°30'.2 E).

1. Ships entering the waters of Mediterranean Sea area from the Atlantic Ocean (Straits of Gibraltar), or from the Indian Ocean through the Red Sea (Suez Canal) or leaving the waters of the Mediterranean Sea area to the Atlantic Ocean (Strait of Gibraltar) or to the Indian Ocean through the Red Sea (Suez Canal), should:

- (a) undertake ballast water exchange before entering the Mediterranean Sea area, or after leaving the Mediterranean Sea area, as applicable, according to the standard set out in the D-1 Standard of the Ballast Water Management Convention, and at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest land and in waters at least 200 meters in depth⁸;

⁶ The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) are the following: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, The European Community, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

⁷ GEF / UNDP / IMO project "Building partnerships to assist developing countries to reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms in ship's ballast water (Globallast Partnerships)".

⁸ These geographical parameters are those set by Regulation B-4.1.1 of the Ballast Water Management Convention.

- (b) in situations where this is not possible, either due to deviating the ship from its intended voyage or delaying the ship, or for safety reasons, such exchange should be undertaken before entering the Mediterranean Sea area, or after leaving the Mediterranean Sea area, as applicable, according to the standard set out in the D-1 Standard of the Ballast Water Management Convention, as far from the nearest land as possible, and in all cases in waters at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest land and in waters of at least 200 meters depth⁹.

2. Ships should, when engaged in traffic between:

- i. ports located within the Mediterranean Sea area; or
 - ii. a port located in the Black Sea area and a port located in the Red Sea area; or
 - iii. a port located in the Black Sea and a port located in the Mediterranean Sea area; or
 - iv. a port located in the Red sea area and a port located in the Mediterranean Sea area.
- (a) undertake ballast water exchange as far from the nearest land as possible, and in all cases in waters at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest land and in waters of at least 200 meters depth. The areas, one of which being unfit for ballast water exchange due its size, where such requirements are met in the Mediterranean Sea area, appear in the map provided in **Appendix**;
 - (b) in situation where this is not possible either due to deviating the ship from its intended voyage or delaying the ship, or for safety reasons, exchange of ballast water should be undertaken in areas designated by the port State for that purpose¹⁰;

and, if a port State decides to designate a ballast water exchange areas,

- (c) such areas shall be assessed in accordance with the *Guidelines on designation of ballast water areas for ballast water exchange* developed by the International Maritime Organization¹¹, and in consultation with adjacent States and all interested States.

3. Sediments collected during the cleaning or repairing operations of ballast tanks should be delivered in sediment reception facilities in ports and terminals, according to Article 5 of the Ballast Water Management Convention, or be discharged beyond 200 nautical miles from the nearest land of the coastline when the ship is sailing in the Mediterranean Sea area.

4. Exemptions can be granted to a ship on a voyage between specified ports or locations within the Mediterranean Sea area, or to a ship operating exclusively between specified ports or locations within the Mediterranean Sea area. These exemptions are to be granted according to Regulation A-4 1 of the Ballast Water Management Convention and based on the *Guidelines for risk assessment under regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention* developed by the International Maritime Organization¹².

5. As per Regulation B-4 of the Ballast Water Management Convention, if the safety or stability of the ship is threatened by a ballast water exchange operation, this operation should not be undertaken. The reasons should be entered in the ballast water record book and a Report should be submitted to the maritime authorities of the Port of destination.

6. Each vessel calling at a port within the Mediterranean Sea area is required to have on board a Ballast Water Management Plan complying with requirements of the *Guidelines for Ballast Water Management and Development of Ballast water Management Plans* developed by the International Maritime Organization¹³ and to keep a record of all ballast water operations carried out.

⁹ These geographical parameters are those set by Regulation B-4.1.2 of the Ballast Water Management Convention.

¹⁰ Regulation B-4.2 of the Ballast Water Management Convention.

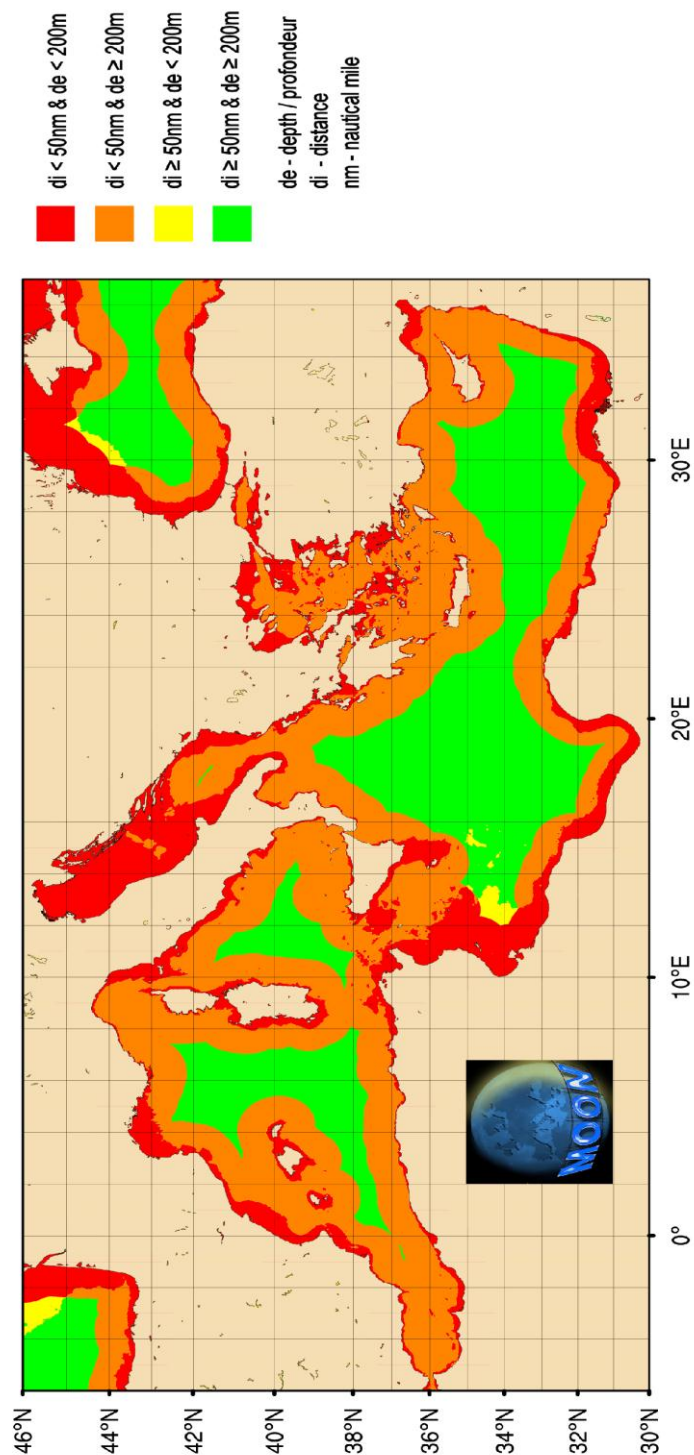
¹¹ Guidelines on Designation of Ballast Water Areas for Ballast Water Exchange (G14), adopted on 13 October 2006. Resolution MEPC.151(55).

¹² Guidelines for Risk Assessment under Regulation A-4 of the BWM Convention (G7), adopted on 13 July 2007. Resolution MEPC.162(56).

¹³ Guidelines for Ballast Water Management and Development of Ballast Water Management Plans (G4), adopted on 22 July 2005. Resolution MEPC.127(53).

Appendix

**Areas in the Mediterranean Sea meeting the requirements set out
in Regulation B-4.1.2 of the Ballast Water Management Convention
(at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest land in waters of at least 200 meters depth)**



Annex 3

Harmonized Procedures for a Regional Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement System

Introduction

1. The invasion of alien species into new marine environments through ships' ballast water and sediments consist one of the greatest threats for the coastal and sea ecosystems. It is estimated that 3-5 billion tonnes of ballast water are carried annually by ships worldwide. While ballast water is of high importance to the operation of a ship, it is, at the same time, a great environmental threat due to the fact that over 7000 kinds of different microbes, plants and animals are being transferred worldwide every year. The introduction of the above-mentioned organisms into a new marine ecosystem may disturb its balance and affect the economic activities mainly, in the sectors of fishery and tourism, and it may cause illnesses or even death to human populations.

2. It is a matter of high priority that a State develops firstly compliance monitoring and enforcement measures (CME) in line with port State control guidelines developed by IMO¹⁴, and secondly includes research and constant monitoring measures, with view to developing sufficient knowledge concerning the introduction of new organisms in terms of types, ports of origin and possible effect on the local marine environment, which will aid the risk assessment process and refine any CME requirements. This information is especially important when interim measures are being considered in order to mitigate the risk of new invasions.

3. Effective communication arrangements should be established on the regional level to ensure proper tracking of violation and the exchange of experience during the application of the CME.

A. Aims of a Ballast Water Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) System.

4. A CME is the essential component of the overall Ballast Water Management regime or National Strategic Framework designed to assess whether or not a ship has met the IMO Convention's and ports state's BWM requirements, and where necessary, enforce these requirements. There are various mechanisms which a competent authority can use to satisfy itself that the rules and requirements are being met. These may involve sampling or testing, auditing of records, observation or any other action or a combination of these actions and may vary from one country or region to another. The CME will also change in time when the BWM Convention is ratified.

5. A Ballast Water CME System aims at two things:

1. assess the ship's compliance with the requirements of Ballast Water Management Convention; and
2. gather data from the ship (such as the port of origin of ballast water, ballast water treatment regime, volume of untreated water to be discharged, where and when the discharge is likely to take place, amongst others) so that the port State, in the interim period prior to the BWM Convention coming into, force can:
 - identify the risk of harmful aquatic organisms being introduced into an area through the ballast water tanks of a ship ;
 - undertake risk assessments for the interim management of the risks posed by ballast water as a vector for the movement of non-indigenous species; and,
 - Identify phytoplankton toxic organisms or other organisms that could be dangerous to public health (e.g. fish-shell toxins) and potentially be imported into the region through ballast water, and analysis of their potential effects (ecological and socio-economic).

6. The collection of this data after the BWC comes into force will also contribute to the formation and development of exemptions and additional measures.

¹⁴ These guidelines are expected to be finalized by IMO during 2012.

7. In addition, in order to undertake risk assessments and decide upon management measures, a CME should be backed up with research on:

- the distribution of harmful aquatic organisms (native, non native cryptogenic) in a port or a sea area.
- gathering data on species in the port of origin of ballast water being discharged in their ports.

B. Components of a Ballast Water Compliance-Monitoring and Enforcement System.

i. Actions by Competent National Authorities

8. The competent Port State Authorities may sample or require samples of ballast water and sediments as part of port State Control enforcement of the BWM Convention, once the Convention has entered into force. It should be noted that guidance on port State control for the BWM Convention is being developed at the present time at the IMO. Port State control is likely to take the form of an initial check of the documentation, the certification of the equipment and the state of the equipment. This will only be backed up with indicative analysis or full sampling if the port State control Officer suspects that there is a problem and cannot find clear grounds in the initial inspection that the ship does not comply with the BWM Convention. Additionally, the port State may wish to target the ship due to previous issues or reports from third countries. Work is being completed at IMO on when and how indicative analysis/full scale testing should be undertaken.

9. Additionally competent National Authorities may require or ask vessels to provide information on exchange or samples in order to collect data for research undertaken to mitigate risk. This can be done on a ballast water reporting form which can be used to check if the ship has applied any interim management requirements set by the port State. However, unless the collection of this information is enshrined in local or national regulations, this submission of information or access to the ship to take samples cannot be made mandatory. It should be noted that there is no requirement to report within the IMO Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention.

ii. Sample Analysis of Ballast water to check that the D-1 Standard has been met

10. Relative simple and quick salinity tests or other indicators of exchange (e.g. Coloured Dissolved Organic Matter), may be able to verify if exchange has been performed (D1-standards) and the ballast water was sourced from the location reported by the ship, or not.

11. However, this is only an indicator and should not be relied upon as the sole basis for enforcement action, as ballast water exchange in specific sea areas has limitations with respect to the safety and stability of the ship and the time needed to exchange water to meet the requirements of the BWM Convention's D-1 Standard (ships may not be able to complete exchange during very short voyages). In such cases the ship should not be penalised for not exchanging their ballast water to the BWM Convention's standards.

iii. Sample Analysis of Ballast water to check that the D-2 Standard has been met

12. In case that the Port State authority wants to check if the vessel is in compliance with the D-2 standard of the BWM Convention, then detailed sampling and testing for compliance with the D-2 Standard should be performed. Guidelines on sampling were developed under the aegis of IMO, namely the "Guidelines for Ballast Water Sampling (G2)", and further guidance is being developed by the same organisation at the present time on indicative analysis (methods of analysing ballast water quickly), which would speed up the sampling and analysis process.

13. If port State Control identifies that sampling and analysis of ballast water and sediments samples is needed, specialist experts such as marine scientists and technicians, who have the appropriate training needed to work onboard ships, should undertake this. Therefore, arrangements with an accredited technical institute/ university or with an accredited laboratory to carry out the analysis may be required. Moreover, the most critical aspect of such analysis is the number of organisms in the discharge and the organisms' viability, however, it is important to highlight that this

sampling and analysis of organisms in the ballast water could be difficult to accomplish without delaying a ship especially in remote ports.

14. During the sampling, analysis of the following suggested parameters should be taken into account:

1. Bacteria and other pathogens in the D-2 Standard;
2. Number of organisms >50 µm , specifically checking of viability of species; and,
3. Number of organisms <50 and >10 µm, specifically checking of viability of species.

15. The sampling and analysis of ships' ballast water should follow standardized official methods, some of which are still in development. This is important to assure the quality of the results globally and will provide support to any enforcement action.

iv. Sediments and ships ballast water tanks being cleaned or repaired

16. According to Article 5 of the Convention, Parties should designate those ports and terminals where cleaning or repair of Ballast tanks occurs, so that adequate facilities will be provided with the entry into force internationally of the BWM Convention for the reception of sediments from ships calling at those ports of terminals, taking into account the respective guidelines being developed by the IMO. Countries in the region are invited to provide information on the availability of port reception facilities for sediment, so cleaning or repair of ballast tanks can occur in Mediterranean Ports.

v. Other Research

17. In order to help risk assessments for the development of interim measures, additional measures or exemptions, information should be collected on the biology and physicochemical properties of water and sediments in ports (port of departure and port of arrival). In case that this isn't feasible in an area, any available published information should be reviewed. Furthermore, this monitoring should be linked with an alert system so that ships taking up ballast water in an area of concern can be subjected to appropriate emergency ballast water management methods, depending on the nature of the risk that has been identified.

18. Any observation of new invasive alien species should be shared with other port States within the region and added to relevant global databases on the invasion of alien species. This will also help the international shipping industry and Port Authorities to be informed on any increase of invasive alien species in certain areas and to enable the authorities in the area to notify ships with additional information on pertinent ballast water management.

C. Enforcement measures and possible types of violations.

19. Enforcement measures should be applied in case it is established that a ship is non-compliant, i.e. the ship is in violation of the BWM requirements of the BWM Convention and/or any other requirements of the port State, such as ballast water emergency measures, ballast water exchange zones or additional measures (given that such requirements have been communicated to the ship before arrival by the Port State).

20. In the event that samples are found not to meet the BWM Convention's D1 or D2 standards during port State control, either through "clear grounds" identified in port State control, or through indicative analysis or full scale/indicative sampling, the ship may be required to stop the discharge of Ballast Water in a port. If this is the case then the ship would have to fix the problem before continuing to discharge ballast water. Additionally, Port State authorities should avoid undue delays to ships when taking any samples. Actions taken towards ships violating the BWM Convention should be in the form of penalties and sanctions which must be backed up by national law and should be proportional to the level of violation.

21. Non-compliance situations (Violations) can be divided into two types:

1. Non compliance resulting in potential risks which could be:

- a situation outside the control of the ship, for example where severe weather conditions have prevented a ship from managing its ballast water as required by the Port State, or
- deliberate non-compliance with the Port State's BWM requirements.

2. Non-compliance NOT resulting in potential risks such as:

- Incomplete record keeping by a ship with a strong record of compliance.

22. Each situation of non-compliance should be treated on its merits with all factors being taken into account before any enforcement action is taken. Penalties and sanctions could be applied with different levels ranging from none in cases of situations outside the control of the ship, to very high in cases of deliberate non compliance such as deliberate discharge of untreated / un-exchanged ballast water with full knowledge of the Port state BWM requirements.

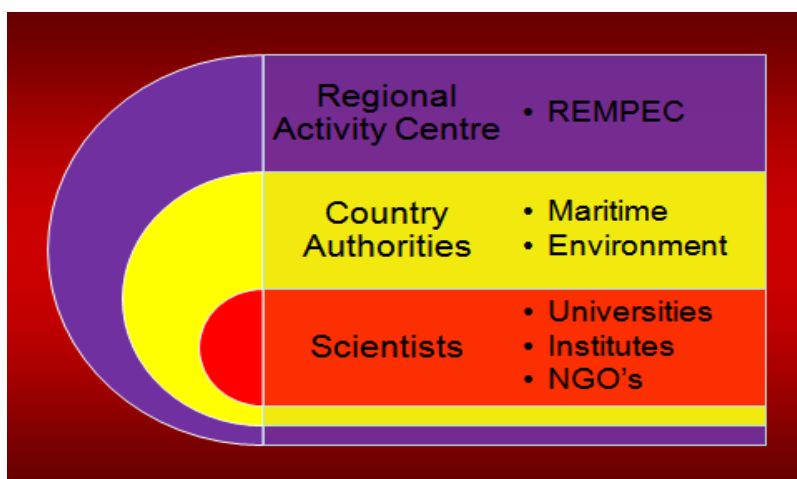
23. It is recommended that the penalties and sanctions regime set up for the BWM Convention is aligned with any existing penalties and sanctions applied to shipping for other MARPOL related violations.

Annex 4

Web-based Mediterranean information exchange system

INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYSTEM

An appropriate mechanism for exchanging information is a web based system that covers all kind of information which will be collected by the contribution of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (hereafter referred as the "Parties"). The data input to the system will be elaborated by three streams:

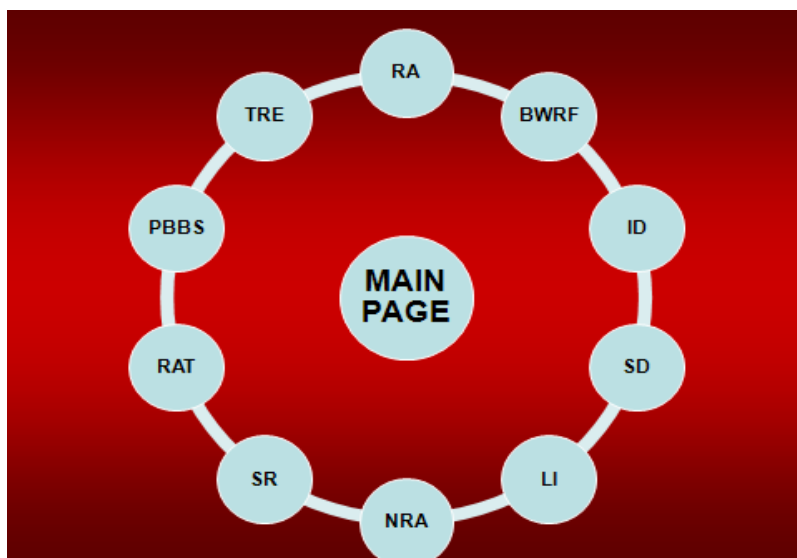


The scientific institutes of the Parties will produce relevant information. This information will be coordinated and evaluated by the governmental authorities of the Parties. The Regional Activity Centre is a gatherer body which also makes a gap analysis and makes coordination in order to produce incomplete information.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The system will be used via internet. Each Party could enter the system by using one username and password.

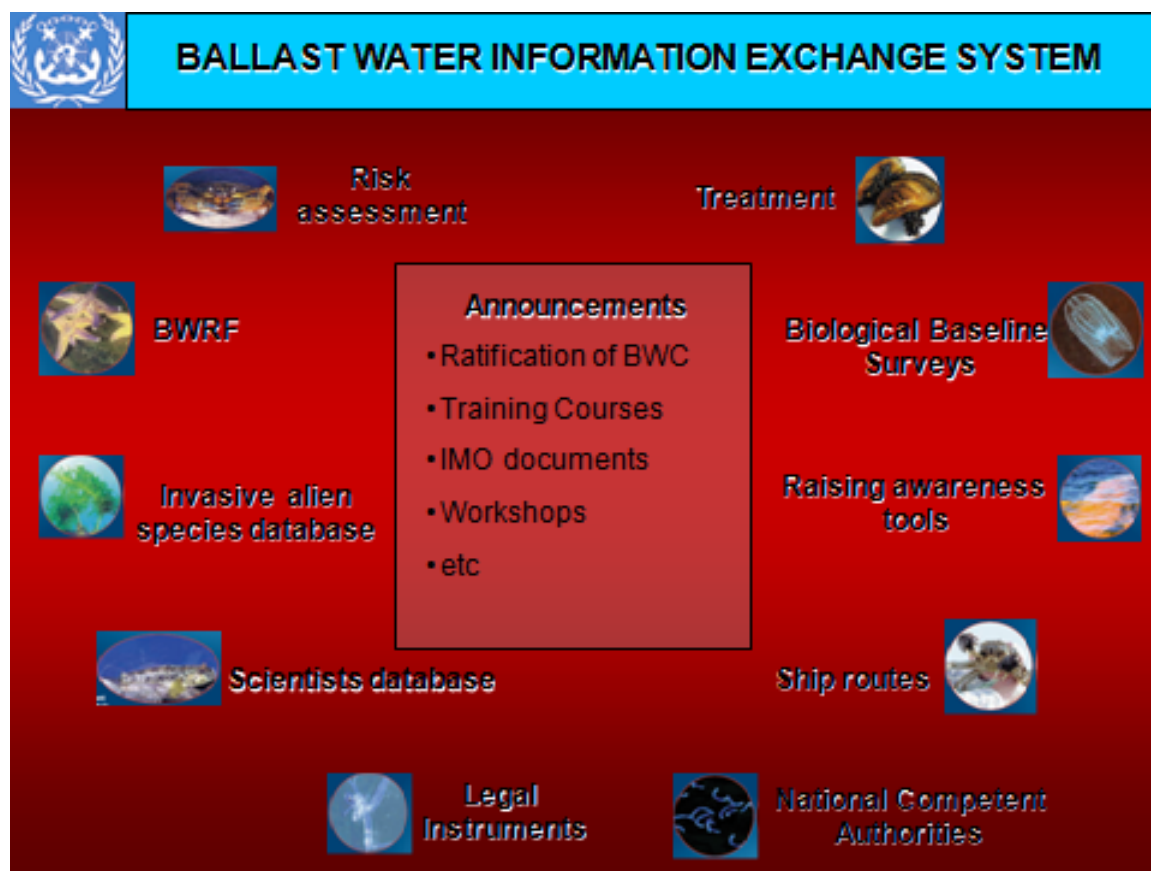
It will contain a home page from which one can access to the information module pages. Ten information modules were defined.



These ten modules are as follows:

1. Risk assessment
 - a. Risk assessment of Ports of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention
 - b. Risk assessment methodologies, guidelines
 - c. Results of risk assessment studies done by other countries from other Regions and Regional or intergovernmental Regional Organizations
 - d. Target invasive alien species
2. Ballast Water Reporting Form
 - a. Ballast water reporting form system
 - b. Statistical results of ballast water discharges
3. Invasive alien species Database
 - a. Searching by name and habitat
4. Scientists database
5. Legal Instruments
 - a. Ballast Water Management Convention
 - b. Guidelines
 - c. National legal instruments
6. National Competent Authorities
 - a. Globalballast Partnership Focal Points
 - b. Maritime Authorities
 - c. Scientific Institutes
7. Ship routes
8. Raising awareness tools
9. Port biological baseline surveys
 - a. Port biological baseline survey guideline
 - b. PBBS Workshop presentations
 - c. PBBS Studies
10. Treatment
 - a. Treatment system inventory
 - b. IMO approval procedure
 - c. Systems approved by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention

HOME PAGE WHERE THE LINKS OF THE GENERAL INFORMATION MODULES ARE LOCATED



This page provides icons in order to reach the information modules. The GISIS system of the IMO was designated as an example for this system. One can reach each module by clicking on the relative icon. Moreover, some announcements and news about the activities on ballast water management could be placed on the centre of the page.

Module 1- RISK ASSESSMENT

The Mediterranean region needs a detailed ballast water risk assessment study in order to develop the ballast water management system. Also, all the scientific works, studies and guide documents should be collected together in order to assist the relevant national competent authorities. The data are collected under three titles:

Risk Assessment

- ❑ Risk assessment study in the ports of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention
- ❑ Risk assessment methodologies, guidelines,
- ❑ The results of risk assessment studies done by countries from other Regions and Regional or intergovernmental Regional Organizations
- ❑ Target Invasive Alien Species

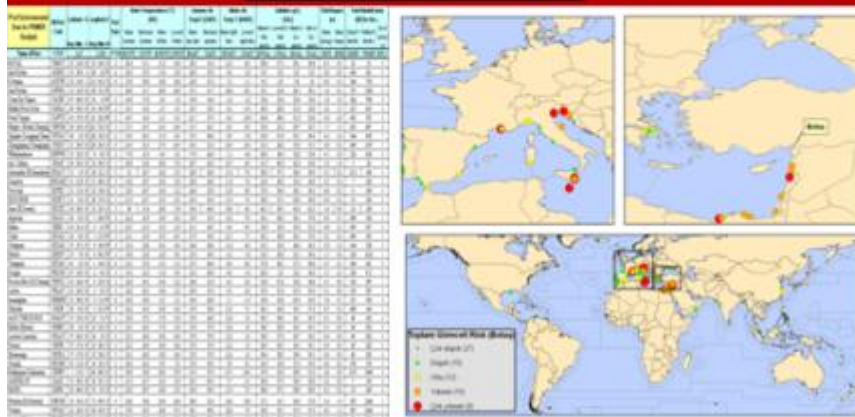
Risk Assessment Study in the Ports of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention:

“Risk assessment Study of the Ports of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention” includes a database for the risk assessment results. The ports can be chosen with the action bar. After choosing the port the hereunder results will be showing.

Risk Assessment

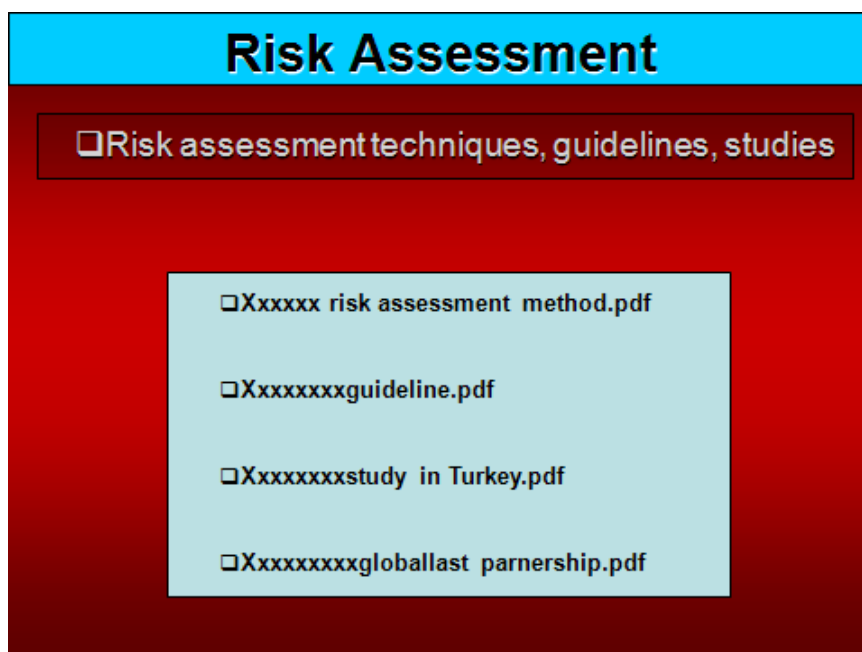
Risk Assessment of the ports of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention

Turkey-Ceyhan



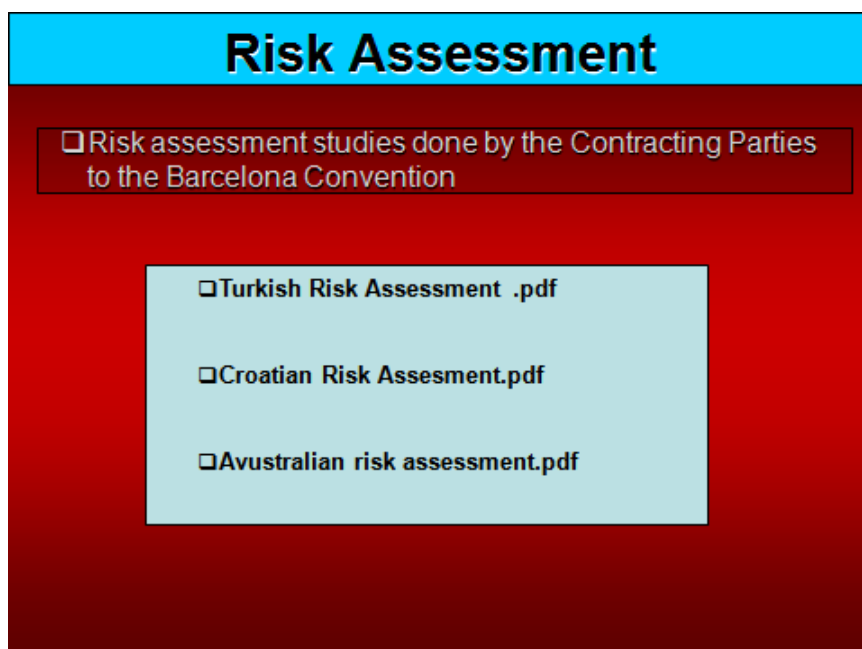
Risk Assessment methodologies, guidelines:

Under this title, relevant information documents, guidelines and workshop presentations can be found in pdf format.

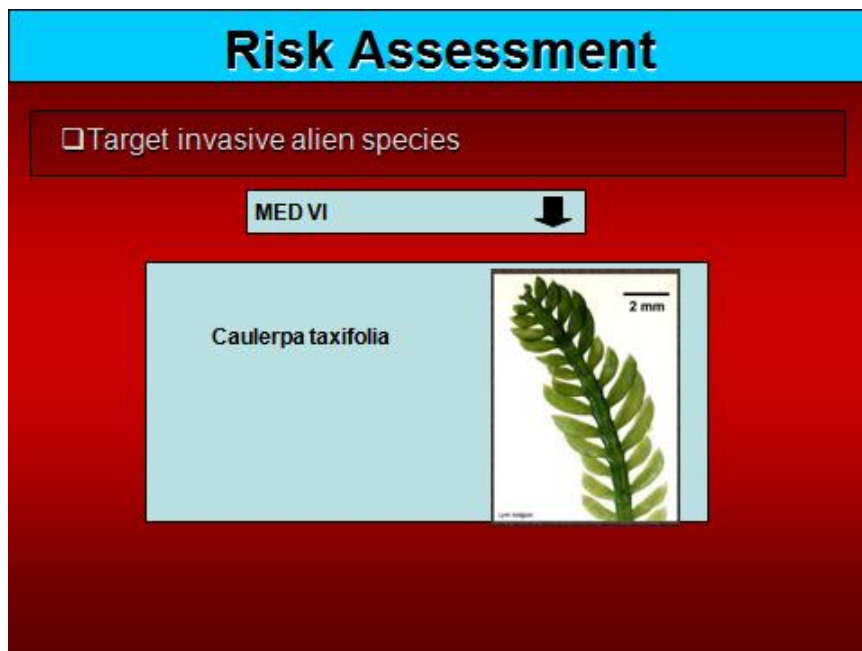


The results of risk assessment studies done by countries from other Regions and Regional or intergovernmental Regional Organizations:

Also, the risk assessment studies done by countries from other Regions and Regional or intergovernmental Regional Organizations could be found in a different page.

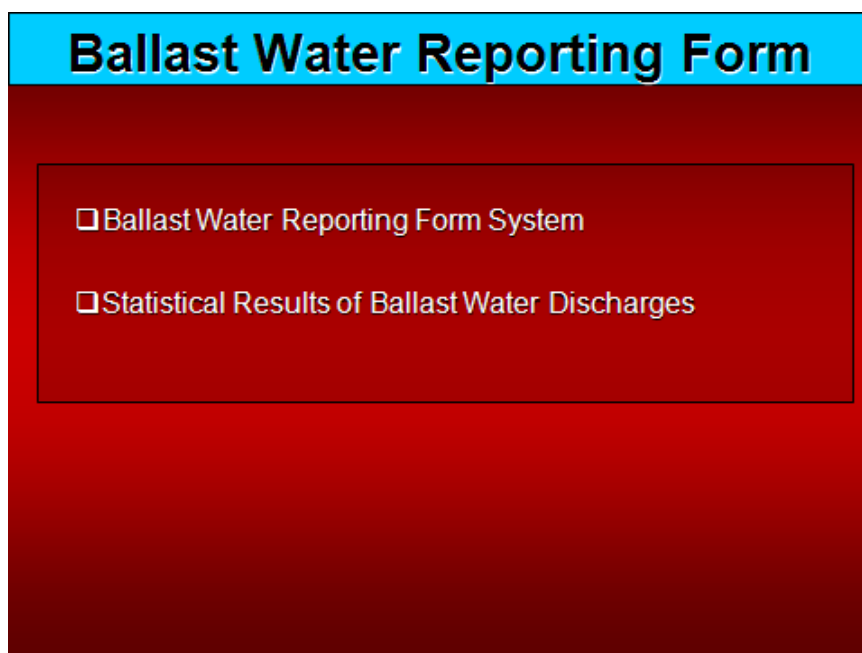


The target invasive alien species can be found with respect to the biological region.



Module 2- BALLAST WATER REPORTING FORM

One of the most important inputs into the ballast water management system is the information which could be obtained from the ballast reporting forms. The origin and volume of ballast water discharged to the Ports of Parties can be easily provided from the reporting forms. The data provided from the forms is a very important input for ballast water risk assessment studies. A web based system should be designed in order to collect the ballast water reporting forms. The ships or the agents of the ships or the harbour masters of the ports of Parties could record the data to the system.



Ballast Water Reporting Form System

The ballast water reporting forms can be reached with the action bar by choosing the ports.

Ballast Water Reporting Form

☐ Ballast Water Reporting Form System

Turkey-Ceyhan

IMO NO	Ship Name	Arrival Port	Arrival Date	BWRF
9394222	Murat-1	Ceyhan	11.04.2009	BWRF
9586521	Sea liner	Ceyhan	12.04.2009	BWRF
9816283	Daisy	Ceyhan	11.04.2009	BWRF
9926895	Constansa	Ceyhan	10.04.2009	BWRF
9116165	Eagle	Ceyhan	11.04.2009	BWRF

After choosing the port from the action bar, all the ships calling that port will be shown. It can be reached to the original ballast water reporting form by clicking the yellow BWRF icon. Entries related to flag on BWRF shall use only official names of States as recognized by the United Nations chosen only from action bars. The user chooses the arrival and departure port only from action bars. Parties will confirm the names of their ports.

Ballast Water Reporting Form

☐ BWRF

Vessel Name:	Type:	IMO Number:	Specify Units: m ³ , MT, LT, ST
Owner:	GT:	Call Sign:	Total Ballast Water on Board:
Flag:	Arrival Date:	Agent:	
Last Port and Country:	Arrival Port:	Total Ballast Water Capacity:	
Next Port and Country:			

4. BALLAST WATER HISTORY: RECORD ALL TANKS THAT WILL BE DEBALLASTED IN PORT STATE OF ARRIVAL; IF NONE GO TO NO. 5

Tanks/Holds (list multiple sources/tanks separately)	BW SOURCE				BW EXCHANGE : circle one: Empty/Refill or Flow Through					BW DISCHARGE			
	DATE ddmm y	PORT or LAT. LONG	VOLUME ME (units)	TEMP P (units)	DATE ddmm y	ENDPOINT INT LAT. LONG.	VOLUME ME (units)	% Exch.	SEA Hgt. (m)	DATE ddmm y	PORT or LAT. LONG.	VOLUME ME (units)	SALINITY (units)

Ballast Water Tank Codes: Forepeak=FP, Afterpeak=AP, Double Bottom=DB, Wing=WT, Topside=TS, Cargo Hold=CH, O=Other

The Statistical Results for Ballast Water Discharges

There is an instrument which can collect the data from online BWRF's and draw graphics with respect to the ports chosen from the action bar.

Ballast Water Reporting Form

☐ Ballast Water Discharge

Turkey-Ceyhan



Ceyhan-Turkey	Ballast water Discharge (tons)	Ballast Water Intake (tons)
2007	100 000	20 000
2008	120 000	23 000
2009	150 000	30 000



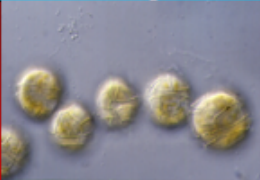
Module 3- INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES DATABASE

This module consists of a data base of the invasive alien species spread globally. It contains every kind of information about the invasive alien species.

[illegible]

Again an action bar is used to choose the species from name. It will also have a searching device from habitat. After choosing the species, the page of the species will be opened that contains picture and information about the species.

Invasive Alien Species Database



Species Name:	Alexandrium minutum
FILUM:	Pyrrophyta
ORG.GROUP :	Dinophyceae
HABITAT:	Sea
FEED:	Ototrophic, micsotrophic
ORIGIN:	Northern Atlantic Ocean
INVASIVE FROM:	Sweden coasts, Iran Bay, Mediterranean
IMPACTS:	
ID:	645
REFERENCE :	http://www.nodabis.org

Module 4- SCIENTISTS DATA BASE

In this module all of the scientists who are working on invasive alien species are going to be put in together. Parties are only allowed to include details of scientists/universities resident/situated in their territory.

Scientist Database

Name	Research Area	University	Country	Contact

Module 5- LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

All the IMO publications and the national legal instruments of the Parties will be located here in pdf format.



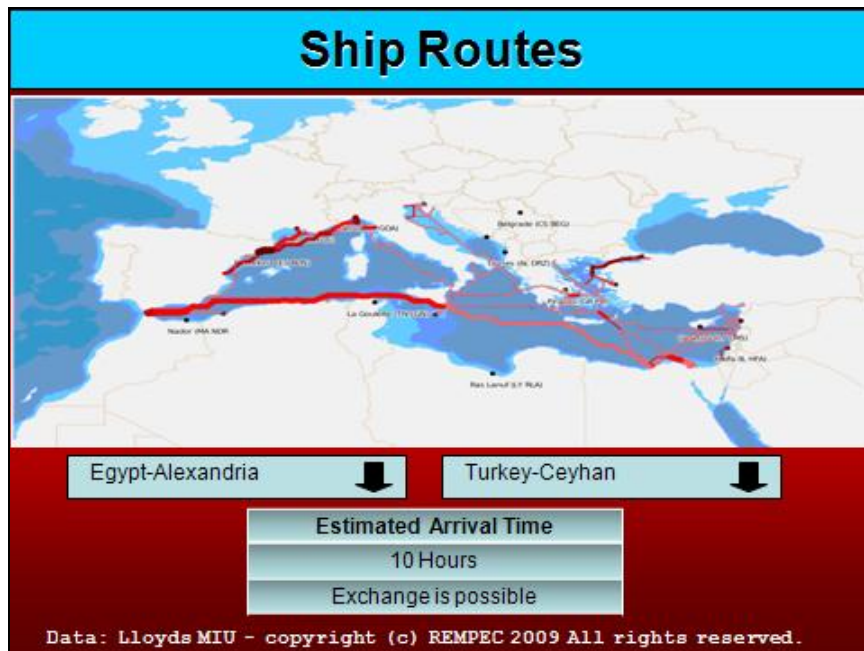
Module 6- NATIONAL COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

In this module all the contact details of the national authorities of the Parties will be collected.



Module 7- SHIP ROUTES

An analysis instrument will be produced in order to determine the exchange limitations of the routes. The user only chooses the arrival and departure port from action bars. Parties will confirm the names of their ports. The instrument calculates the estimated arrival time and the possibility of the exchange.



Module 8- RAISING AWARENESS TOOLS

All the media instruments produced by the Parties could be placed on this module.



Module 9- PORT BIOLOGICAL BASELINE SURVEYS

In this module, all the documents concerning the port baseline surveys of Parties could be collected.

Port Biological Baseline Surveys

- ☐ Port Biological Baseline Survey Guideline.pdf
- ☐ PBBS Workshop Presentations.rar
- ☐ PBBS Studies.rar

Module 10- TREATMENT

In this module all the documents concerning the ballast water treatment activities could be collected.

Treatment

- ☐ Treatment Systems Inventory.pdf
- ☐ IMO approval procedure.pdf
- ☐ Systems approved by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.pdf

ANNEX II

“GENERAL GUIDANCE ON THE VOLUNTARY INTERIM APPLICATION OF THE D1 BALLAST WATER EXCHANGE STANDARD BY VESSELS OPERATING BETWEEN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC AND/OR THE BALTIC SEA”

“General Guidance on the Voluntary Interim Application of the D1 Ballast Water Exchange Standard by vessels operating between the Mediterranean Sea and the North-East Atlantic and/or the Baltic Sea”

1. In anticipation of the coming into force of the International Maritime Organization's International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (the BWM Convention), vessels operating between the marine areas as defined further in point 3, would be expected to apply on a voluntary basis, as from [XXXXXXXX], the following guidelines to reduce the risk of non-indigenous species invasion through ballast water. The guidelines are addressed to the vessels covered by Article 3 of the BWM, taking into account the exceptions in Regulation A-3 of that Convention. This Guidance does not replace the requirements of the BWM Convention, but provide the part of interim Ballast Water Regional Management Strategies for the Baltic Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the North-East Atlantic being developed under Article 13 (3) of the BWM Convention by the contracting parties to either the OSPAR Convention, the Helsinki Convention or the Barcelona Convention*. This Guidance will no longer apply when a ship is in a position to apply the D-2 Standard of this Convention, or the Ballast Water Management Convention comes into force and a ship has to apply the D-2 Standard.
2. If the safety of the vessel is in any way jeopardised by a ballast water exchange, it should not take place. Additionally these guidelines do not apply to the uptake or discharge of ballast water and sediments for ensuring the safety of the vessel in emergency situations or saving life at sea in the waters of the Mediterranean Sea, the Baltic Sea and the North East Atlantic.
3. Definitions:
 - **North-East Atlantic:**
 - those parts of the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans and their dependent seas which lie north of 36° north latitude and between 42° west longitude and 51° east longitude (but excluding the Baltic Sea and the Belts lying to the south and east of lines drawn from Hasenore Head to Griben Point, from Korshage to Spodsbjerg and from Gilbjerg Head to Kullen, and the Mediterranean Sea and its dependent seas as far as the point of intersection of the parallel of 36° north latitude and the meridian of 5° 36' west longitude);
 - that part of the Atlantic Ocean north of 59° north latitude and between 44° west longitude and 42° west longitude.
 - **The Baltic Sea:**
 - the Baltic Sea and the entrance to the Baltic Sea bounded by the parallel of the Skaw in the Skagerrak at 57 44.43'N; and,
 - **The Mediterranean Sea:**
 - the maritime waters of the Mediterranean Sea proper, including its gulfs and seas, bounded to the west by the meridian passing through Cape Spartel lighthouse, at the entrance of the Straits of Gibraltar, and to the east by the southern limits of the Straits of the Dardanelles between the Mehmetcik and Kumkale lighthouses.

4. Each vessel operating in these waters should:
 - have a Ballast Water Management Plan which complies with the Guidelines for ballast water management and development of ballast water management plans (G4) (IMO resolution MEPC.127(53)); and,
 - record all ballast water operations in a ballast water record book.
5. Vessels leaving the Mediterranean Sea and proceeding to destinations in the North-East Atlantic or the Baltic Sea should exchange all their ballast tanks to the standards set out by the D-1 Standard of the Ballast Water Management Convention, at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest land in water at least 200 metres deep, as soon as they enter the North-East Atlantic. It should be noted that the best place to do this is in waters that meet these criteria to the west of Portugal, Spain and France, as most of the waters of the English Channel and its approaches, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea are less than 200m deep. A map identifying these areas can be found in Figure 1¹.
6. Vessels entering the Mediterranean Sea from the North-East Atlantic or the Baltic Sea and proceeding to destinations in the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea or elsewhere should exchange all their ballast tanks to the standards set out by the D-1 Standard of the Ballast Water Management Convention, at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest land in water at least 200 metres deep, before they leave the North-East Atlantic. A map identifying these areas can be found in Figure 1.
7. If, for operational reasons, exchange is not possible at least 200 nautical miles from the nearest land in water at least 200 metres depth, then such exchange should be undertaken as far from the nearest land as possible outside the Mediterranean Sea, and in all cases in waters at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest land in waters of at least 200 metres depth. It should be noted that nowhere in the Baltic Sea fulfils these criteria (Figure 2).
8. The release of sediments during the cleaning of ballast tanks should not take place within the Baltic Sea, or within 200 nautical miles of the coastline of the North-East Atlantic, or within the Mediterranean Sea.

* Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, The European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, The Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

¹ For vessels leaving the Mediterranean or the North East Atlantic proceeding to destinations near Tarrifa Cape a different regime for ballast water exchange could be considered.

Figure 1: Map of North West Europe showing the 200 nautical miles and 50 nautical miles contours and the 200m depth contour.

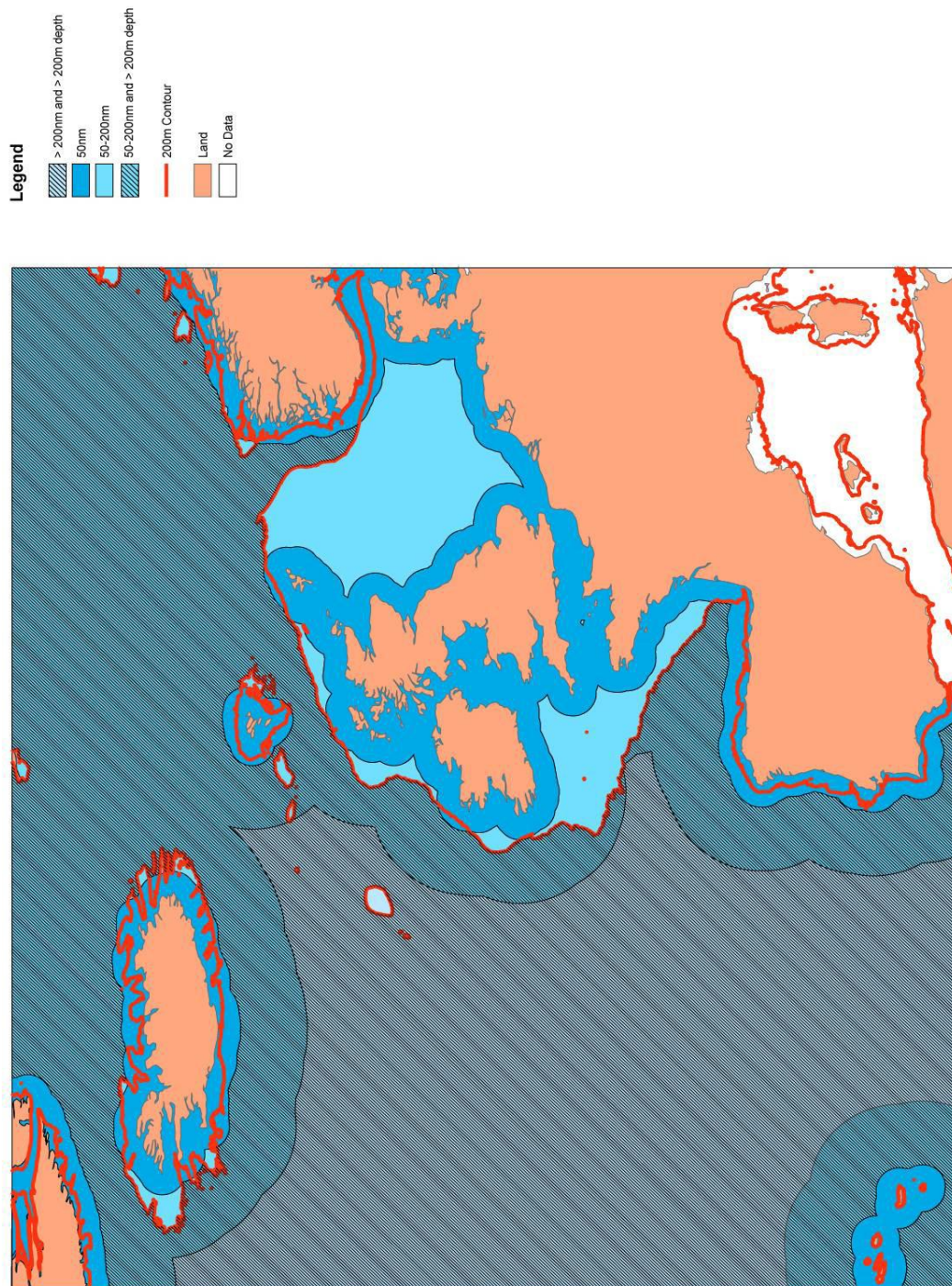


Figure 2: Map of the Baltic Sea showing areas of more than 50 nautical miles from the nearest land and areas of 200 meters depth.

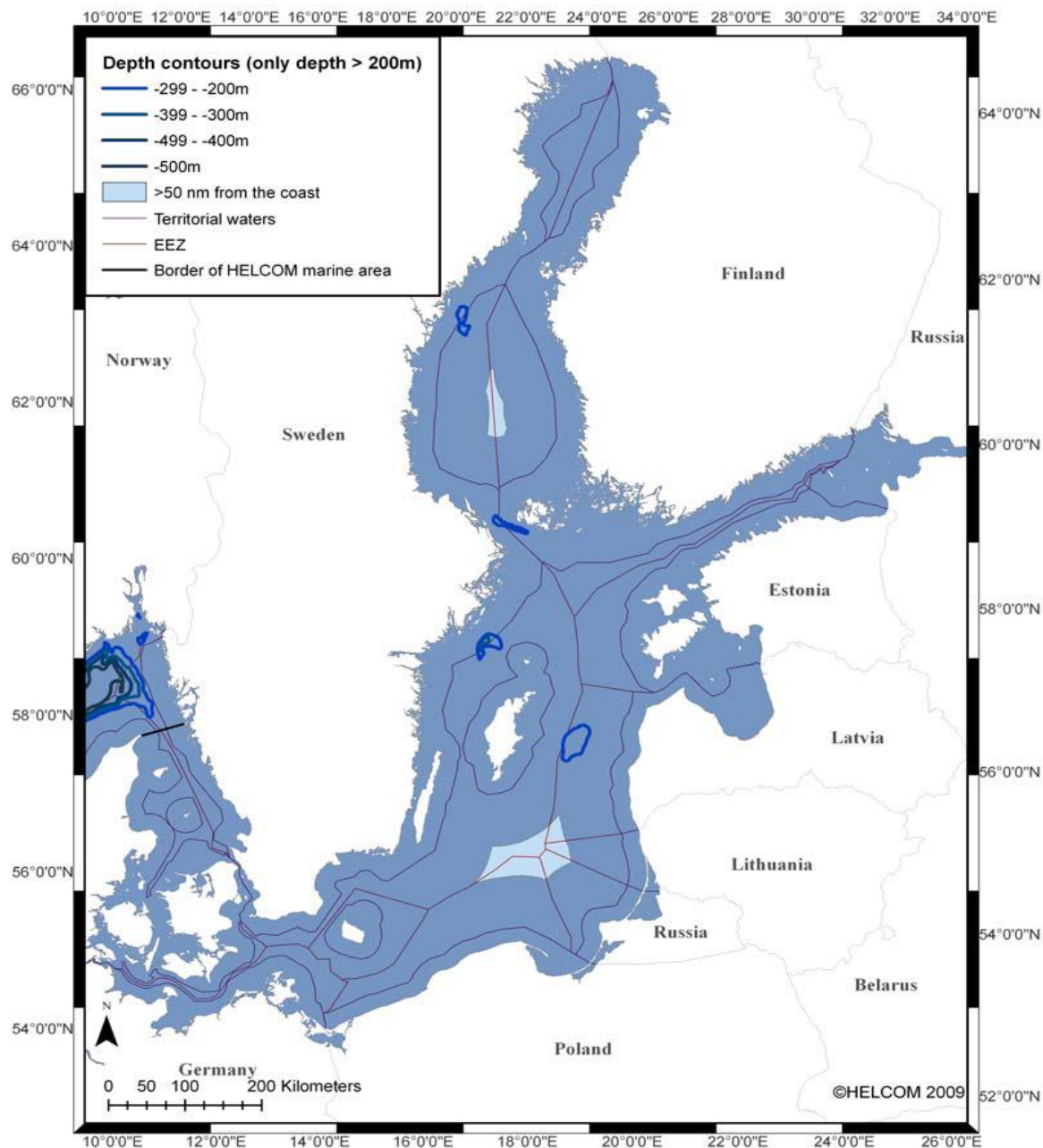
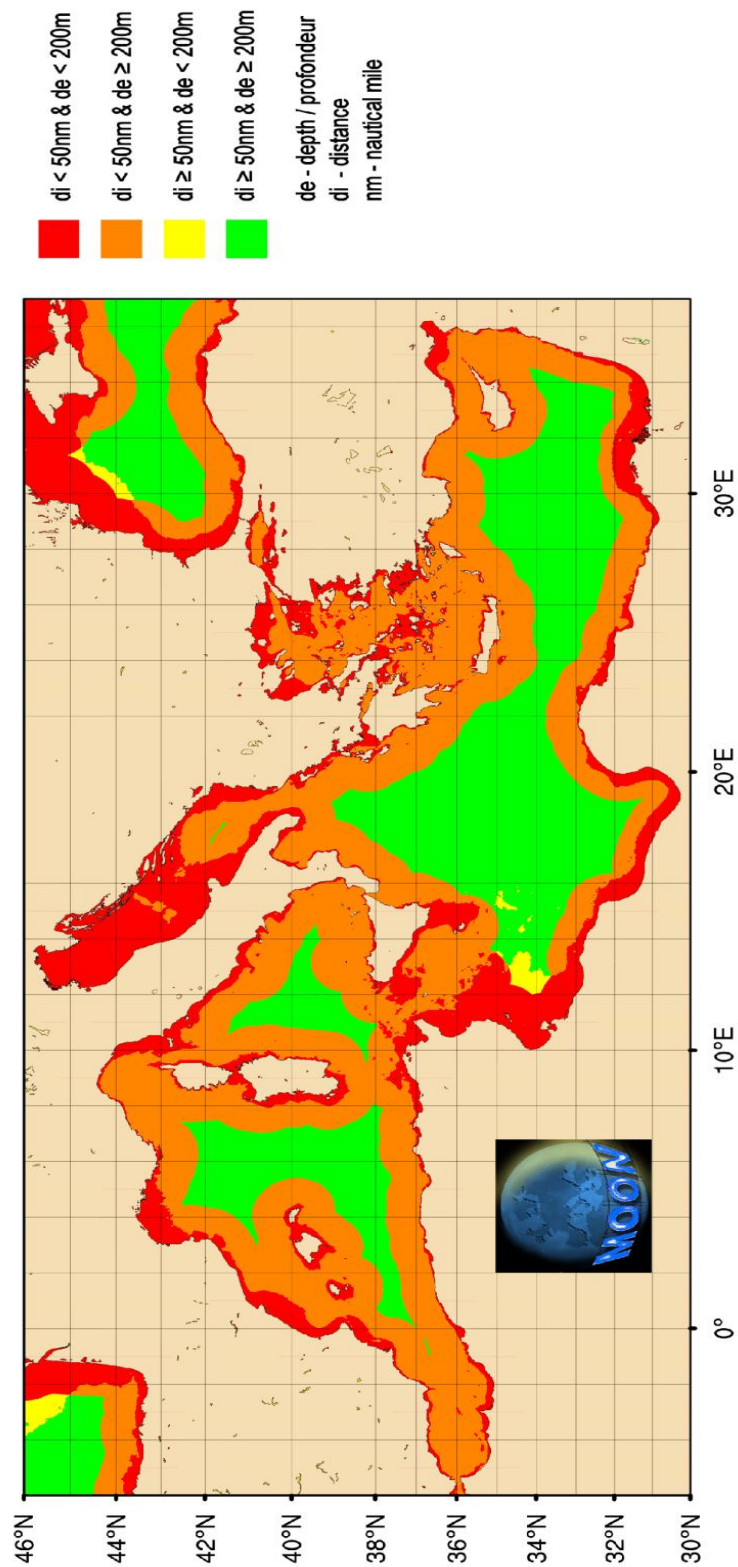


Figure 3: Map showing the areas in the Mediterranean Sea of at least 50 nautical miles from the nearest land in waters of at least 200 meters depth.



Draft decision XII

Action Plan to implement the Protocol of the Barcelona Convention concerning the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties

Having regard to Resolution I of the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries on the Protocol concerning the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil, hereinafter referred to as Offshore Protocol, that adopted the Offshore Protocol in Madrid, Spain in 1994,

Acknowledging the major importance of the entry into force of the Offshore Protocol on 23 March 2011 following ratification by 6 Contracting Parties (Albania, Cyprus, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia),

Recognizing the importance of having the Offshore Protocol ratified by all Contracting Parties with a view to preventing, abating, combating and controlling pollution in the protocol area resulting from activities, inter alia by ensuring that the best available techniques environmentally effective and economically appropriate, are used for this purpose.

Desirous of ensuring that the Protocol shall begin to produce beneficial effects at the earliest possible moment and facilitating its implementation at regional and national levels through coordinated actions with the support of the Coordinating Unit and REMPEC,

Conscious that significant accidents caused by Offshore activities could have long term adverse consequences for the fragile ecosystems and biodiversity of the Mediterranean Sea due to its enclosed nature and special hydrodynamics as well as negative consequences on the economies of the Mediterranean Countries especially for tourism and fisheries,

Urges all the Contracting Parties who have not yet done so to ratify the Offshore Protocol as early as possible (and preferably before the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties) with the view to having the Protocol entering into force for all the Parties;

Requests the Coordinating Unit to

Establish an ad hoc working group coordinated by REMPEC composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and observers from representatives of the concerned industries, relevant international organizations and MAP partners with a view to:

1. lead the work for preparing an in depth assessment and stock taking analysis of the existing practical measures in place in the Mediterranean countries with regard to Offshore activities as a baseline to measure progress towards Protocol implementation in the future;
2. prepare the Action Plan, the objective of which shall be to:
 - Identify the scope of the work of MAP for a 10 year period, objectives, key activities and major outputs, priorities, timeframe, mid-evaluation and related indicators and resources needed for the effective implementation of the Protocol;

- address governance related issues with regard to the role of MAP components for facilitating the implementation of the Offshore Protocol Action Plan;
- address necessary partnerships with other organizations, industry and other actors to be established including the MAP Partners to support the successful implementation of the Offshore Protocol;

Requests REMPEC, in accordance with the provisions of the Offshore protocol and Prevention and Emergency protocol (2002) as well as REMPEC mandate, to take into consideration, to the extent possible, offshore oil exploration and production activities when assisting in the revision of national or sub-regional oil pollution contingency plans;

Invites all the Contracting Parties to update annually the data provided through the questionnaire prepared by REMPEC in order to obtain a reference basis., and enable the Secretariat to develop an effective capacity building and assistance programme based on the needs of the Contracting Parties.

Draft decision XIII

Governance

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Recalling Article 17 of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean hereinafter referred to as the Barcelona Convention;

Recalling also Decisions IG 17/5 regarding the Governance paper adopted by the Contracting Parties at their 15th Meeting held in Almeria (Spain) in 2008 launching a MAP-Barcelona Convention Governance reform as well as follow up decisions IG 19/5 on the Mandates of the MAP Components and IG 19/8 including the first Five-Year Strategic and Integrated Programme of Work which was adopted by the 16th Meeting of Contracting Parties held in Marrakesh (Morocco) in 2009;

Reaffirming the commitment of the Contracting Parties to continue strengthening the MAP-Barcelona Convention's governance system based on increased ownership by the Contracting Parties; cooperation and integration among MAP components towards agreed overarching priorities; result oriented programming and planning; higher visibility of the MAP-Barcelona Convention; and, increased synergy, cooperation and partnership with relevant regional and global institutions and initiatives as called for in the Marrakesh Declaration adopted by the Ministers and Heads of Delegation at the 16th Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2009;

Welcoming steps taken to establish cooperation with regional and global initiatives, Multilateral Environmental Agreements and international organizations including but not limited to CBD, GFCM, UfM, EEA and IUCN and encouraging the Secretariat to also strengthen its cooperation with civil society partners in line with Decision 19/6 adopted by the 16th Meeting of Contracting Parties in Marrakesh (2009) with a view to ensuring synergy, enhancing efficiency, multiplying impact and avoiding duplication;

Recognizing the role of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) in providing a useful multi-partner platform to contribute to regional sustainable development and provide a valuable advise to Contracting Parties in this regard, however emphasizing the need for better focusing the MCSD contribution to the MAP system taking into consideration the results of the discussions to be held in Rio+20;

Appreciating the progress achieved with regard to the actions needed to bring MAP system into line with the Governance Paper, including Measures already taken to improve fund management, address deficit and to enhance delivery of the Programme of Work (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.363/Inf.22) and further ideas and discussions on ways to improve the governance of the MAP-Barcelona Convention held at the 72nd and 73rd Bureau of Contracting Parties (Athens, Rome), while stressing the necessity to urgently complete and implement all the actions included into the Governance Paper; also endorsing its satisfaction with regards to the progress achieved and suggestions made in the areas of communication and planning;

Welcoming the progress made in the preparation of the new Host Country Agreements for the MAP Regional Activity centres in accordance with the Governance Paper and endorsing the recommendations made by the 70th Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention held in Rabat (Morocco) in this regard;

Acknowledging the significant role UNEP plays in carrying out the functions of Secretariat to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and welcoming UNEP's proposal to cooperate with the Contracting Parties in clarifying and updating the administrative arrangements governing its action as administrator of the Barcelona Convention, and hence emphasizing the urgent need to finalize a specific Agreement on the matter;

Emphasizing the need to continue improving MAP governance by further enhancing the coherence, efficiency, accountability and transparency of its operations;

Acknowledging the need to enhance accountability, collaboration and coordination across the MAP system, and the role of the Executive Coordination Panel to that end;

Decides:

To request the Bureau with the support of the Coordinating Unit to start a process of reviewing the terms of reference of the Bureau for the consideration of the 18th Contracting Parties;

To request the Coordinating Unit to start a process of reviewing the terms of reference of the Executive Coordination Panel for the consideration of the 18th Contracting Parties;

To request the Secretariat, in prior consultation with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, to prepare formal collaboration with the GFCM, CBD, IUCN and UfM and, as stipulated in article 11 of its ToR and to initiate cooperation and partnership with other relevant regional and global Organizations, as appropriate, and to present the results for adoption by the Parties;

To request the Secretariat to complete the review of the current list of MAP partners on the basis of the criteria established in Decision 19/6 on "MAP/Civil society cooperation and partnership" and submit the list for consideration and approval by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties during next biennium and submit it for endorsement by the meeting of the Contracting Parties;

To invite the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) to work, taking into consideration the availability of funds in consultation with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and with the assistance of the Secretariat, on reforming the MCSD in particular through (i) revising its composition to ensure greater representativeness and foster a sense of ownership by the entire Mediterranean; and, sharpening its role and further enhancing its contribution to sustainable development in the Mediterranean and the national level as well as the mechanisms of Barcelona Convention and present the results for adoption by the Parties. To this end, the conclusions and recommendations of its 14th meeting (Budva, Montenegro, 2011), as well as the upcoming Results of the Rio+20 Summit (2012) should be considered, as appropriate;

To urge countries hosting MAP Regional Activity Centres to finalize the new Host Country Agreements as soon as possible, in accordance to the draft prepared and submitted to them by the Secretariat and attached as Annex I to this decision;

[To urge] the Coordinating Unit to develop a common policy for all MAP component on staff costs to ensure that any modification of salaries and other related administrative costs will be equitably applied among all MAP components and will not burden the MTF;

To request the Coordinating Unit to develop and apply specific guidelines to ensure that, in engaging consultants, MAP components give due consideration to establish the need for the consultant, the qualifications and to ensure the previous involvement of Parties through the national focal points and the use of the expertise available in the Mediterranean countries;

To request that the Directors of the MAP components establish regular contacts with their relevant focal points to ensure their full involvement in the implementation of the MAP activities and in particular to previously agree on the workload to be carried out by the Countries.]*

To take note of the Functional Review carried out for the Coordinating Unit and MEDPOL and **to request** the Secretariat to extend the process, in appropriate manner accompanied by a management by performance assessment, to cover the whole MAP system, taking into account the specificity, mandate and context of each MAP component. The Functional Review should be realized in accordance with the ToR set out in Annex II of this decision, during the 1st year of the next biennium. {All needed consultations will be held during the second year of the biennium to propose budgetary and administrative procedural tools for its implementation after its adoption by the Contracting Parties in 18th meeting}¹. [Annexes all in brackets];

To request UNEP to work during the next biennium with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties on finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Secretariat Services to and support of the Convention, including the policy on bad debts and to submit the Memorandum of Understanding to the 19th Meeting of Contracting Parties;

To adopt the Resource Mobilization Strategy in Annex III (reservation of Italy on Annex III) to this Decision and request the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties to use it to guide their efforts for ensuring adequate financial resources to the activities of the Programme of Work;

To urge the Secretariat to fully apply the Resource Mobilization Strategy as a relevant tool to ensure stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for MAP;

To adopt the UNEP-MAP Communication Strategy 2012-2017 in Annex IV to this Decision and request the Secretariat to work on its implementation, in cooperation with INFO/RAC and other relevant MAP components, in partnerships with relevant stakeholders, MAP partners and Contracting Parties themselves. In this context, Contracting Parties will collaborate in achieving the objectives outlined in the strategy and support the Secretariat in mobilizing other actors and inspiring partners and stakeholders.

¹ reservation by Italy [Annexes all in brackets]

* Additions proposed by Italy

ANNEX I

Host Country Agreement

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)
CONCERNING
AS A REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (RAC) OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)**

DRAFT

The Parties to the present Agreement,

Desiring to define the status of in its capacity as a Regional Activity Centre of MAP insofar as the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have agreed to vest it with a mandate [through the Protocol on...../decision.....] for carrying out activities aimed at implementing the Protocol on at the regional level; and other regional responsibilities in accordance with the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

Considering that UNEP has been entrusted by the Contracting Parties to carry out functions of Secretariat and support them in implementing the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, which it carries out directly through the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) or, under Coordinating Unit's supervision, through MAP's Regional Activity Centers;

Taking into account that the RAC..... being the national entity established by the Government to carry the RAC's functions and being legally independent from the UN, is a RAC of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), and has thereby been entrusted with a supporting and technical role in accordance with the functions assigned to it in Article of the Protocol/in paragraph..... and Decision

Recalling decision IG 17/5 of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, January 2008) entitled "Governance Paper", requesting the harmonization of the institutional status of the Regional Activity Centers and the coherent implementation of their activities led by the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan so that a fully functional and consolidated system of good governance for MAP will be achieved;

Recalling decision IG 19/5 on the mandates of the MAP components, as adopted by the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Marrakech, Morocco, November 2009) providing for a clear definition of the regional mandates and main tasks of each of the MAP Regional Activity Centers under a set of common strategic and operational principles;

Recalling, also that the Government of is a Party to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1: **USE OF TERMS**

For the purposes of the present Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) “*Barcelona Convention*” means the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, done at Barcelona on 16 February 1976, as amended on 10 June 1995;
- (b) “*UNEP*” means the body designated as responsible for carrying out secretariat functions pursuant to Article 17 of the Barcelona Convention and referred to as the Secretariat;
- (c) “*Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan*” (hereinafter referred to as MAP Coordinating Unit) means the Unit within the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) designated by the Executive Director of UNEP as responsible for the administration of MAP;
- (d) “*General Convention*” means the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946;
- (e) “*RAC*” means the national entity established by the Government of....., as MAP Regional Activity Centre{title} by decision{number} of the meeting of the Contracting Parties in {year}.
- (f) MAP components are the Regional Activity Centers of MAP and the MEDPOL Programme which mandates are described in Decision IG 17/5.

ARTICLE 2: **PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this Agreement is to regulate the status of the Regional Activity Centre....., to operate as an integral part of MAP, with regional tasks and responsibilities, whose work is entirely focused on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocol on.....
2. This agreement also aims at outlining the modality of working relationships with the MAP Coordinating Unit and the other MAP components.

ARTICLE 3: **LEGAL CAPACITY**

The RAC..... shall have legal personality, independent from that of UNEP and the UN, and as accorded by the legislation of the Government of..... It shall in particular have the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose movable and immovable property and to be a party to legal proceedings, including the receipt and management of funds.

ARTICLE 4: PREMISES

1. The Government of shall ensure the availability of adequate premises needed for the work of the RAC, including furnishing of the premises, telecommunication facilities and maintenance of these premises and facilities, and shall provide an in-cash counterpart contribution for the general operation of the RAC and for the implementation of the regional activities assigned to the RAC.
2. The RAC shall be located in{place}.

ARTICLE 5: MANDATE AND TASKS

1. In carrying out its regional role, the RAC, following internal arrangements with the government of..... , who proposed it, shall perform the tasks assigned to it by the Protocol onof the Barcelona Convention, decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties, and those deriving from the implementation of the functions entrusted to it by the Coordinator of MAP.
2. Specific activities under such tasks, as well as the relevant implementation modalities and legal and financial obligations of the RAC, shall be specified in memoranda of understanding and specific project documents to be signed between the RAC and UNEP.
3. The RAC shall protect, in accordance with the decisions of the Contracting Parties, the confidentiality of information transmitted to the RAC, in the framework of its mandate, regional role and tasks.

ARTICLE 6: FINANCIAL RESOURCES

1. The contribution provided by the Government of for the RAC under Article 4(1) shall be paid directly by the Government to the RAC. The amount of such resources (cash and kind) shall be pledged at the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Convention.
2. The financial resources provided to the RAC through the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) shall be kept by UNEP in a duly designated bank account in the currency in which they are to be remitted. These resources will be available to the RAC for the implementation of its programme of work as adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties, in conformity with the memoranda of understanding and specific project documents signed for that purpose between the RAC and UNEP.
3. The RAC shall submit an annual audit report to the MAP Coordinating Unit and the Bureau of the Contracting Parties. The RAC will ensure that such audit is performed by an independent and reputable audit firm.
4. The MAP Coordinating Unit reserves the right to have the records of the RAC related to the MTF and UNEP managed funds reviewed and audited, in accordance with the internal and external auditing procedures provided for in the UN Financial Regulations and Rules. The Government and the RAC agrees to provide its full and timely cooperation with any such inspection, post-payment audits or investigations.

These rights and obligations of the Parties stipulated herein under Article 6 paragraph 4 shall not lapse upon termination of this agreement.

5. Within the scope of its applicable regulations, rules and standard business practices, the Government of and UNEP, individually or jointly, shall seek additional funding or other support for the RAC from sources other than the Mediterranean Trust Fund, in the framework of a MAP Joint Resource Mobilisation Plan and for the purpose of increasing the capacity of the RAC in the implementation of its programme of work as adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

1. Meetings and Conferences organized by the RAC in carrying out its mandate and regional tasks shall be open to all participants designated by the focal points of the Contracting Parties to the Convention and MAP Partners in accordance with the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.
2. The Government of shall extend to such participants the privileges and immunities provided under Article IV of the General Convention. Such immunities will be provided to participants to meetings convened under UNEP auspices, to funds provided by UNEP and to the UNEP staff assigned to work with the RAC for the meeting.

ARTICLE 8: EMBLEMS, LOGOS, LANGUAGE, VISIBILITY

1. The RAC's right to use of the name, emblem or logos of UNEP, or any abbreviation thereof, in publications and documents produced by the RAC, is subject to prior written authorization by UNEP in each case and shall be included in subsequent pertinent agreements between the RAC and UNEP, in accordance with the UN regulations, rules and standard business practices.
2. In no event will authorization of the UNEP name or emblem, or any abbreviation thereof, be granted for commercial purposes.
3. As MAP working languages are English and French, all efforts shall be made to use both languages in meetings and RAC's publications.
4. The RAC shall contribute to enhancing the impact and overall visibility of MAP across the region on the basis of a corporate and integrated approach as decided by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 9: RELATIONSHIPS

1. The RAC shall provide information on the implementation of its mandate and activities to the focal points of the Contracting Parties to the Convention. For the preparation and implementation of the programmes of work and its specific technical outputs the RAC is guided by the RAC focal points views, to whose meetings it provides technical support and secretariat services, as appropriate.

2. The Government of shall designate a competent government authority to communicate and exchange information with the RAC and to support and facilitate, as appropriate, the implementation of the RAC's mandate and regional tasks within the country.
3. The activities of the RAC shall be carried out under the general programmatic guidance and oversight of the MAP Coordinating Unit which certifies implementation of the entrusted activities. To this end, the MAP Coordinating Unit shall *inter alia*:
 - a) monitor the implementation of the RAC's programme of work as adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties and report regularly to the Contracting Parties thereon;
 - b) provide formal and informal guidance to the RAC on issues requiring its involvement in the RAC's work, particularly on cross-cutting issues, issues of legal nature, visibility of the MAP system, coordination of the RAC's activities with that of other MAP components and overall representation and coordination with various international organizations and programmers of MAP relevance;
 - c) undertake any additional action to facilitate the more effective and efficient programmatic coordination and oversight that may be assigned to it by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties
4. The RAC shall closely cooperate with other MAP components with a view to ensuring coherence, integration, efficiency and effectiveness in implementing MAP's programme of work as adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 10: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Insofar as the Contracting Parties have given to the RAC the mandate to implement activities under the MAP and in particular the Protocol on....., and that the government ofproposed to host the RAC and abide by the decisions of the Contracting Parties as regards the functioning of the RAC and the provision of the necessary means and facilities for its operation, further to the agreement of the Contracting Parties, the Governance Structure of the RAC shall be as follows:

(A) The Steering Committee

1. The RAC shall be guided by a Steering Committee composed of:
 - a) One Representative of the Host Country;
 - b) One Representative of the MAP Coordinating Unit;
 - c) One Representative of the UNEP programmatic area or UN entity that is relevant to the area of expertise and mandate of the RAC, as appropriate
2. The Steering Committee shall be endowed with all powers necessary for the guidance of the RAC. To this end, it shall *inter alia*:

- a) Advice on evolving international knowledge and experiences related to the purpose and mandate of the RAC and on useful synergies to be established with relevant organisations with a view to maximizing the achievements of the RAC and compliance of its mandate;
 - b) Review generally the implementation of projects according to memoranda of understanding and project documents signed between the RAC and UNEP, as well as overall operational issues;
3. The Steering Committee shall develop and adopt its rules of procedure.

(B) The Advisory Board

1. The RAC may establish an Advisory Board which shall offer advice to the Steering Committee and to the Director on the role and the performance of the tasks of the RAC as provided in Article 5, ensuring that a wider perspective is taken into account and an interdisciplinary and integrated approach is promoted.
2. The specific terms of the function of the Advisory Board and its composition are approved by the Steering Committee.

(C) Director

1. The RAC shall have a full-time Director, who shall administer the RAC, and such personnel, appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Article, as is necessary for the exercise of its functions.
2. The Director of the RAC shall be appointed following consultations with the MAP Coordinating Unit.
3. The Director shall represent the RAC and, subject to the provisions of the present Agreement, shall have responsibility for the operation and administration of the RAC in conformity with the guidelines adopted by the Steering Committee.
4. The Director shall convene the Steering Committee as need be, prepare the provisional agenda for its sessions and submit to it any proposals which he/she considers desirable for the running of the RAC.
5. The Director shall draw up and submit every six months a report to the MAP Coordinating Unit, an annual report to the Steering Committee, and a bi-annual report to the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention on the activities of the RAC, through the MAP Coordinating Unit.
6. The Director shall, from time to time, communicate to the government ofand the MAP Coordinating Unit a list of all internationally recruited personnel and experts of the RAC, and additions or amendments to the list as necessary.

(D) PERSONNEL

1. Locally recruited personnel, whose posts are financed by the Government, will be appointed by the Director in accordance with the national law.

2. Locally recruited non-UN personnel, whose posts, in accordance with the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its protocols, are financed from the MTF and other UNEP managed funds, shall be appointed by the Director in accordance with the personnel policies applicable to the RAC, and after consultation with the MAP Coordinating Unit.
3. Internationally recruited non-UN personnel, whose posts, in accordance with the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its protocols, are financed from the MTF and other UNEP managed funds, shall be appointed by the Director, in accordance with the personnel policies applicable to the RAC, and after consultation with the MAP Coordinating Unit.
4. The selection and appointment of UN personnel assigned to the RAC shall follow the applicable UN rules and procedures.
5. Consultants for the RAC, whose engagement is financed from the MTF and other UNEP managed funds shall be selected by the RAC following UNEP criteria and policies as well as those adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.
6. The Government of shall take the necessary steps to simplify the procedures for issuing entry visas, residence permits, and work permits to internationally recruited personnel and members of their families forming part of their households. In the case of UN personnel assigned to the RAC, the provisions of the General Convention shall apply.
7. The Government of shall take the necessary steps to simplify the procedures for granting entry visas to representatives or experts of the Contracting Parties on official MAP business.

ARTICLE 11: PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF UNEP PROPERTY, FUNDS AND ASSETS
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1. Property, funds and assets held by or for the use of the RAC, which were acquired with financing from the MTF and other UNEP managed funds, and which are property of UNEP, wherever located and by whosoever held, shall enjoy immunity from any form of legal process.
2. UNEP's property, funds and assets, as defined in paragraph 1, shall be exempt from all direct taxes, value added tax, customs duties, prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports, and social security contributions, as appropriate.
3. The salaries and emoluments of staff appointed by UNEP shall be exempt from taxation.
4. UNEP's archives held by the RAC in the exercise of its mandate and regional tasks shall be inviolable. The term archives includes, *inter alia*, all records, correspondence, documents, manuscripts, photographs, films, recording, discs, tapes and other information storage devices.

ARTICLE 12: PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF UN PERSONNEL AND EXPERTS

UN personnel assigned to work in the RAC and experts on missions traveling to in their official capacity in connection with the activities of the RAC, shall enjoy the privileges and immunities provided for in Articles V and VI of the General Convention.

ARTICLE 13: SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

The Parties to the present agreement shall endeavour to solve any dispute relating to its interpretation and application by negotiation or other amicable mode of settlement. Should attempts at amicable negotiation fail, any such dispute shall, upon request by either Party, be referred to arbitration in accordance with the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) arbitration rules then prevailing.

ARTICLE 14: AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

At the request of either Party, consultations shall take place with respect to amendment of this agreement. Any such amendment shall be given effect by written agreement between the Parties.

ARTICLE 15: FINAL CLAUSES

1. The present agreement shall enter into force either one year after the signature by both Parties; or on the first date by which the Government has confirmed to UNEP that the Government's conditions precedent have been satisfied, whichever occurs earlier. During the transitional period, from the signature date to entry into force, the Government shall communicate to UNEP every four months, information on measures taken to implement its conditions precedent.
2. For the purpose of Article 15 paragraph 1 above, the Government's conditions precedent include the following:
 - i) Establishment of the RAC by the Government in accordance with Article 3 above;
 - ii) Provision of adequate premises needed for the RAC and/or any other conditions precedent, as deemed appropriate.
3. From the date of its entry into force, this agreement shall replace the Agreement between the Government of and the United Nations Environment Programme concerning *{Name of the relevant agreement}* of {date}
4. The present agreement may be terminated by either Party by providing six months written notice to the other Party.

5. In the event of the RAC being moved from the territory of, this agreement shall, after the period reasonably required for such transfer and for the relocation of UNEP's property from, cease to be in force.
6. The present agreement shall remain in force until terminated in accordance with paragraphs 4 or 5 above. Its content shall be reviewed every [] years.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the duly authorized representatives of the Parties affix their signatures below

.....

.....

For the United Nations Environment Programme

For the Government of....

DONE in duplicate at ----- this ----- day of -----
200-- in English and {Country} languages, both texts being equally authoritative.

ANNEX II

Functional review of the UNEP/MAP Components

Terms of Reference (ToR)

Background

UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention aims to better equip itself to efficiently and effectively address the challenges of the future. This has been a repeated request by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention and was part of the OIOS recommendations to UNEP/MAP.

In this context, The UNEP/MAP undertook a functional review with a view to assess functions required for the implementation of the Programme of Work by the two MAP – Barcelona Convention units administered by UNEP (Coordinating Unit and MEDPOL). The functional review determined key functions to be performed by these two units; the skills sets of staff required to perform these functions, streamlined financial and administrative processes as well as strengthened decision-making and accountability. The review was forward looking, preparing UNEP/MAP to better address the evolving mandates and demands received from the Contracting Parties.

At the Extended Bureau meeting held in Athens, Greece, 3-5 October 2011, the members requested the Secretariat to extend the Functional Review to the whole MAP system including any staff position not yet assessed, whilst acknowledging that the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) are different and should therefore be consulted in appropriate manner. Moreover, following on from conclusions from Bureau meetings it has been agreed during the UNEP/MAP's focal point meeting that management-by-performance assessment shall be conducted which will enhance functional analysis by insuring evaluation based on performances and outputs of each component. The Bureau requests that provision should be made to ensure that the review is implemented during the first year of the next biennium.

In order to complete the functional review, the UNEP/MAP requires the services of an expert mission to work in close association with the entities or other UN co-operating agencies responsible for the administration of the RACs.

Purpose

The mission will:

1. take stock of the Five Year Programme of Work and the Protocols and identify priority activities for each Component based on the decisions of the Contracting Parties; in particular decision on Governance (Almeria, 2008), and decision on Mandates of Components (IG.19/5, Marrakesh 2009);
2. Consider the previous evaluations conducted in the MAP system;
3. Identify functions required for the implementation of these priorities;
4. Determine skills sets of staff and experiences in their work area required to perform these functions, [and the coherent and equitable cost of salaries];
5. Assess the ratio between planned activities and achievements;
6. Assess the review of the financial and administrative processes undertaken to date and suggest additional changes, as need be, with a view to streamline and strengthen decision making and accountability; and,

7. Assist the Component in the preparation of an organizational structure and job descriptions based on the functional groupings and priorities;
8. Assess the financial sustainability of the costs and the equitable sharing of the available resources among all MAP's components

Scope of the work

- The functional review will assess each Component as a whole vis-a-vis its vision and Five Year Strategy. Thus, it will be functional based. It may identify gaps and misalignments in unit responsibilities, job descriptions, reporting lines and overall performances.
- The functional review will be an operational tool to ensure adapting MAP to Contracting Parties substantive and managerial demands to enhance performances, while ensuring the coherence with the available financial resources, including on ways to improve the ratio between staffing and activities [and the equitable sharing of resources among all components]. In doing so, the functional review shall also take due consideration of all available resources for the components and not limit itself to MTF resources.
- It should build on experiences of other Regional Seas Components practices as well as other similar organizations, as appropriate.
- It should also build upon the credibility and positive image of Components thus contributing to the overall public standing of the MAP.
- It should evaluate the employee satisfaction, as well as the customer/client satisfaction as criterion of performance measurement.
- The guiding principles to be applied in the exercise are that: [reduction of staffing costs], staffing is adequate as far as possible for the purpose of implementing the strategic priorities identified in the five-year Programme of Work as well as to fulfill the components' mandate; posts levels follow the efficiency [and remuneration] standards of the Organization for similar operations; resource projections availability are strictly respected; [all components are financially supported in an equitable manner; salaries are coherent and appropriate among all components]; and, the exercise is done professionally, impartially and practically. The review should propose a timely and urgent implementation of its recommendations.

Outputs

- A report containing:
 - recommendations on key functions to be performed by each Component to implement UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention priorities as established by the Contracting Parties;

- recommendations on the sharing of budget resources among all MAP components
 - recommendations on the skills sets and experiences of staff to perform those functions;
 - an assessment of the state of play of financial and administrative processes and recommendations of processes to be improved;
 - a proposed staffing table, organigramme and salaries level coherent with the resources available and future projections;
 - a plan to urgently adjust into that staffing table that respects budget limitations, clearly identifying short-term, mid-term and long-term actions; and,
 - suggestions for an Office structure and revised job descriptions.
- A 3 to 5 page summary of the recommendations made highlighting the rationale behind proposed changes.
 - Recommendations on the development of the different performance management types, differentiating between well-structured tasks and activities and the others, less structured, related to the research projects

Time-line and composition

Provision should be made to ensure that the review is carried out during the first year of the biennium and implemented within 2013.

The mission will do some preparatory work in advance of their arrival and spend up to a week on-site in each Component. Assistance in preparation of job descriptions could be completed after the visit to the Component, as need be.

The team will be composed of two profiles: a substantive expert on environment issues; and a change management expert. Finalization of revised and proposed job descriptions may be done off-site once the mission is completed but in coordination with every component.

Method of Work

The mission will work in close consultation with all functional units, Office staff and management and with the Bureau.

The mission will start with a staff meeting during which the objectives of the mission will be again presented and the mission will share with all the staff the proposed methodology to complete their work. An end of mission debriefing with preliminary findings will be presented to all staff before their departure from the on-site visit.

The final report and overall proposal of the mission will be submitted to the Coordinating Unit in due time and share it with the components.

Sources of information

- UNEP/MAP COP November 2009, Appendix 1, Five Year Programme of Work (2010-2014) and Decision IG. 19/5 on the Mandates of MAP components;
- Marrakech Declaration, 2009,
- Governance Paper, Decision from the COP in Almeria, January 2008;
- UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Programme of Work and Budget (2012-2013)
- Audit Report of the Financial Performance of the UNEP/MAP(May 2009;
- Component Organigramme and Job Descriptions
- Thematic decisions of the Contracting Parties taken in 2008 and 2009
- MAP external evaluation 2005, as well as previous evaluations conducted at component 's level
- Resource mobilization and fund raising consultancy report

Note: Additions made by Italy are in brackets

ANNEX III

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY FOR UNEP/MAP

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY

This strategy proposes avenues for obtaining additional funds in support of UNEP/MAP objectives, as well as improvements in coherence, coordination and programme management that would support resource mobilization efforts. Appendix one presents a detailed list of activities in the 2012-2013 Programme of Work for which funding has not been secured. The document includes comments provided by Contracting Parties.

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), and its legal framework, the Barcelona Convention, were adopted in 1975 and 1976 respectively, under the umbrella of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The main objectives of the Barcelona Convention are to assess and control marine pollution; ensure sustainable management of natural marine and coastal resources; integrate environmental protection into social and economic development; protect the marine environment and coastal zones; protect natural and cultural heritage; strengthen solidarity among Mediterranean coastal States; and contribute to an improvement of the quality of life in the Mediterranean region. Seven Protocols addressing specific aspects of Mediterranean environmental conservation further develop and complete the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention legal framework.

UNEP/MAP is recognized as a unique regional environmental legal framework and policy development process. As the guardian of the Barcelona Convention it coordinates the implementation of the Convention and related protocols. Its historical role in the Mediterranean is well recognized and respected both by the Parties and other key players in the region. It is the key environmental governance structure in the Mediterranean, with a longstanding pollution monitoring programme, a network of focal points in partner countries and a diversified network of regional activity centers that offer their expertise to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols in the Mediterranean countries.

The 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea and the European Union (EU) are the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention. They decide on MAP strategies, programmes and budget at biannual Ministerial meetings. A Coordinating Unit, based in Athens, performs legal and representational functions, facilitates dialogue and coordinates MAP's Programme of Work. Six technical Regional Activity Centers and a programme, so-called MAP components, assist Mediterranean countries in fulfilling their commitments under the Convention and the Protocols: MEDPOL, Greece, is responsible for marine pollution assessment and control; REMPEC, Malta, for Marine Pollution Emergency Response; SPA/RAC, Tunisia, for Biodiversity and Protected Areas; PAP/RAC, Croatia, for the promotion of Integrated Coastal Zone Management; BP/RAC, France, for prospective analyses of environment and sustainable development; CP/RAC, Spain, for Sustainable Consumption and Production; and INFO/RAC, Italy, for Environmental Information Systems.

UNEP/MAP is primarily financed by the Contracting Parties through assessed contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF). Other sources of funding include voluntary contributions from the European Commission and its Contracting Parties, UN organizations, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other ad hoc donors. UNEP/MAP thus enjoys a relatively solid funding base and does not depend on external donors for its core activities. However, to realize its full potential and implement an ambitious agenda, raising funds is an integral part of UNEP/MAP work.

The MAP system can therefore build on solid experience in raising funds, but needs to replace a largely ad hoc approach, whereby each MAP component struggles to find resources in order to meet its objectives, with a more coordinated and systematic approach. Such an approach will build on, and be greatly facilitated by, the continued implementation of the decision adopted by the Contracting Parties in 2008 to improve coordination, coherence and programme management. Working towards a stronger brand and a more unified UNEP/MAP system, as recommended in the 2010-2015 Information and Communication Strategy, will be equally important in supporting resource mobilization

efforts. It is therefore timely to develop a resource mobilization strategy with the following main objectives:

- ***Secure adequate funding and support for the objectives of UNEP/MAP, in order to implement the Mediterranean Action Plan as developed in the five year plan;***
- ***Obtain timely, predictable and flexible voluntary funding, allowing for appropriate long-term planning of activities.***

The above would be achieved through a combination of financial resources aiming at supporting the UNEP/MAP as a whole, targeting a broad range of activities, including core functions; as well as specific priority activities included in the relevant plans and obtained within the framework of a coordinated, strategic and systematic approach.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND DONOR RELATIONS

Resource mobilization cannot be carried out in isolation, but must be placed in the broader context of overall UNEP/MAP goals, strategy, objectives and activities. The success of resource mobilization efforts will depend on the quality and performance of the organization as a whole: on the perception of its governing bodies, leadership and staff, on its added value, and on the relevance and cost-effectiveness of its activities. Resource mobilization therefore requires the combined effort of every level of the Organization to make its case for support: in justifying plans and budgets and demonstrating its added value, results and impact, as well as accountability for funds provided.

Developments in the donor community

Donor behavior has undergone significant changes over the past 10 to 15 years. Some are the result of the principles of the Paris Declaration and Accra Action Agenda. While these principles were specifically developed to make aid to recipient countries more effective, they have also influenced donor policies more generally, including in the provision of aid to the UN and other international organizations. Donors are increasingly providing aid to support the overall strategies of the recipient, relying on the recipients' own systems for reporting and accountability, and harmonizing their approaches to the recipient. Donors expect policies to be directed toward achieving clear goals, for progress toward these goals to be monitored, and for donors and recipients to be jointly responsible for achieving these goals. As a result, aid is often provided under broad strategic partnerships and cooperation arrangements between donor and recipient based on mutually agreed objectives. In short, donors no longer simply hand over money - they expect to be active partners.

While these are common trends, funding can be unpredictable as donors are driven by foreign and domestic policies, as well as by the media, NGOs and individuals in their funding choices. Donors' policies, definitions, priorities and reporting requirements also still vary greatly and lack coordination and standards. Organizations on the receiving end therefore have to relate to a patchwork of policies and practices that, taken together, do not necessarily add up to a coherent system for financing.

The UNEP/MAP seems to be confronted with this patchwork type of earmarked funding rather than benefiting from the tendencies resulting from the Paris/Accra agendas. The MAP system is faced with a heavy workload that comes from having to deal with a multitude of conditions, timelines and formats for submissions and reports. Lack of predictability that hamper planning and implementation, high staff costs, the obligation to advance money and find match funding add to the challenges.

A more assertive and concerted approach to resource mobilization should aim to decrease the dependency on a patchwork of small earmarked funds from many sources, and tap into resources that could potentially support a broad range of activities across the system, and include funding staff costs to lighten the burden on MTF.

Funding to the United Nations and other international organizations

Governments, especially those of wealthy industrialized countries, are the main sources of funding for most UN, international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). United Nations organizations typically receive between 80 and 95 percent of funds from their 10 biggest donors in this category. While progress has been made in expanding the donor base to include the private sector, emerging economies and the Arab world, income from those sources remains fairly modest. UNICEF is the exception, with more than one billion US dollars, or a third of its income, from the private sector, mainly made up of small contributions given on a regular basis by a large number of individuals around the world.

Foundations are private entities, established by individuals, companies or groups to distribute funds to organizations, and in some cases, to needy individuals. They are independent, with their own income, operating in accordance with criteria set by their funding sources and initial founders. They are similar to government aid agencies in that they are set up to donate money. Similar methodologies and approaches can therefore be applied in cooperation with both.

Working with private sector sources other than foundations requires different approaches, skills and networks. Turning wealthy individuals, corporations or the public at large into donors involves the ability to find, understand and persuade them to support one's organization. The various components of the UNEP/MAP system have experience in raising funds from bilateral and multilateral donors (mainly the Contracting Parties, the GEF and the EC) and to a limited degree from private ones.

Virtually all organizations that rely on voluntary funds have created devoted capacity for resource mobilization. The number of staff depends on the size and type of funding sources, and range from units with a handful staff to several hundred (UNICEF is an example of the latter). In general terms, raising funds from governments and foundations takes less investment than from the private sector.

COHERENCE, COORDINATION AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Donors need to be confident that activities for which financial support is provided have been subjected to thorough review and prioritization and that their contributions are managed efficiently. Solid programme management is therefore an important basis for successful resource mobilization. The presentation of convincing outlines of activities and budgets, thorough reports on implementation and use of funds are equally important for obtaining funds and an important resource mobilization tool.

The Governance paper (UNEP (DEPI)/MED IG. 17/4) provides a series of recommendations, many of them well underway, on how to improve coherence, coordination and programme management, all of key importance for successful resource mobilization. Of particular importance is the introduction of a cycle of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluations and a Five-Year Programme of Work with six main themes: governance; integrated coastal zone management; biodiversity; pollution control and prevention; sustainable consumption and production; and climate change. The Five-Year Plan and the more specific biannual plan and budget provide a framework for approaches, submissions and negotiations with donors and any external funds should go towards the objectives of the Plans. Both documents would benefit from a more user-friendly format, which would target external, interested partners as well as serving as an internal document. It would also benefit from the addition of a short, succinct narrative outline of the future direction and strategic goals of UNEP/MAP. It should answer simple, yet critical and fundamental questions such as what the organization is doing, and how, where it should be going in the future, and what it will take for the organization to achieve its stated goals. The strategy should set out main goals, core business lines, priorities, expected results and the methods employed to ensure good performance.

The Plans should aim to a) serve as the basis for resource mobilization b) encourage predictable and flexible funding; c) promote an equitable spread of contributions; d) encourage better coherence and coordination; and, e) project a professional image of the organization.

The introduction over the past few years of a strong planning framework will serve UNEP/MAP, with its diverse and loose structure, and be conducive to resource mobilization efforts.

CURRENT AND POTENTIAL DONORS

UNEP/MAP is funded by its Contracting Parties through ordinary contributions, made available on a biannual basis to the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF). While providing a solid funding base, the amount, currently some € 5.5 million annually has not increased for the past three biennia as a result of a freeze on contributions introduced in 2004. In fact, inflation during the period since has resulted in an erosion of funds, while increasing demands have been placed on the MAP system. The Contracting Parties acknowledged in its meeting in Marrakesh in 2009 that lifting the freeze was necessary to enable the successful delivery of many of its mandated tasks. However, for the time being the recent financial crises poses a challenge to the implementation of this recommendation.

Additional voluntary funds to implement the key objectives of an ambitious agenda are therefore a necessity and a feature of UNEP/MAP work almost since its creation. One third of total funds available to UNEP/MAP come from voluntary contributions. While some of the CPs, in particular Italy, France, Spain, Greece and countries hosting the Regional Activity Centers (RACs) provided most of the voluntary funds in the past, other actors, in particular the European Union (EU) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), have created new and increasingly better resourced funding modalities in order to meet growing environmental concerns. EU and GEF funds have benefitted UNEP/MAP greatly, enabling the implementation of key objectives of the Five-Year Plan in a more sustainable manner, with support increasingly provided within the framework of strategic partnerships, based on joint objectives. The aim of this strategy is to broaden the donor base beyond the above-mentioned donors. Current and potential funding sources available to UNEP/MAP include:

Bilateral donors mainly but not exclusively among the Contracting Parties. They carry the main responsibility for the UNEP/MAP system as its founders and owners, propose and decide on programmes, and can ensure that demands placed on the system are commensurate with resources at its disposal. They can lead by example; their commitment to the system serves to convince and inspire other donors to support. While the current financial situation limits the availability of funds, no effort to increase voluntary funds from this group should be spared. Bilateral donors other than the Contracting Parties, while concerned about environmental issues affecting the Mediterranean region, have rarely contributed to MAP activities.

The European Union (EU) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). EU and GEF are likely to remain UNEP/MAP's major donors for the near future. Their funds are available through direct funding and through a variety of initiatives created to address specific, or a range of environmental concerns, often by groups of donors and organizations. *MedPartnership*, which is led by UNEP/MAP and the World Bank, receives most of its funds from GEF and supports activities to protect the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. *Horizon 2020*, established by the EU and a coalition of partners, aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean through activities such as capacity building, pollution prevention and control and monitoring (including information-sharing systems).

Multilateral donors in particular UNDP, with offices in most of countries relevant to UNEP/MAP, could potentially become a strong partner. The World Bank has been a partner in several initiatives, such as the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (known as the MedPartnership, see above) and now also provides direct support to UNEP/MAP through the GEF funded "Knowledge and Governance" component of their Sustainable Development Programme. The European Investment Bank (EIB) and other financiers have created a group for funding Mediterranean investment projects. Possibilities for cooperation with the African Development Bank could be also explored.

A number of private foundations focus on environmental issues and should be further explored by UNEP/MAP. Examples include the Oak Foundation (climate change mitigation and conservation of marine resources), MAVA (conservation and biodiversity) and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. Further cooperation with TOTAL Foundation, which has already contributed some funds, could be explored.

Private sector funds have been provided to UNEP/MAP components at a modest level so far and could potentially be tapped into once the capacity to identify potential donors in this group and manage such relations are in place. Approaches to the private sector must take into account various challenges and risks that such cooperation may involve.

The European Union (EU)

UNEP/MAP has a strong and privileged partnership with the EU as an active Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and a major donor and policy driver in the Mediterranean region. EU policy development in the environmental sector contributes to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention through the legislation and activities of the Member States, as well as through a range of programmes and technical assistance (TA) that the EU has set in place for non-EU members in the Mediterranean. EU funds can be obtained through:

- *Direct grants*, intended for long-term, stable partnerships with international organizations based on mutually agreed objectives. The UNEP/MAP has benefited from small direct grants from the EU in the past.
- *Calls for proposals*, which are competitive bids managed either directly from Brussels or by EU country delegations. This funding source could be more beneficial to UNEP/MAP if a more systematic and coordinated approach was applied. When applying for funds under this modality, attention should be given to safeguarding UNEP/MAP priorities and work load involved.

The main funding instrument of relevance to UNEP/MAP is the thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP). The European Commission provides funds to UNEP under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2004. In its 2010 annual High-Level Meeting, the EC and UNEP agreed to develop a multi-annual joint programme of work under the ENRTP. UNEP/MAP has so far drawn most of their EU direct funds from the ENRTP, which are available to all countries except EU members and industrialized countries. The introduction of a joint programme of work aims to increase predictability and coherence in EU funding for UNEP. A recent agreement on two large projects under this programme will be developed in early 2012. Its implementation will support of the implementation of UNEP/MAP's Ecosystems Approach and Sustainable Consumption and Production.

Other potential thematic funding instruments include Regional and Research Funds. The Research Funds (FP7), which UNEP/MAP has started to participate in recently include the *Pegaso* and *Perseus* programmes.

Geography-based funding instruments of importance to UNEP/MAP activities include the *European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)*, which covers the Southern Mediterranean partner countries, and the *European Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA)*, which covers the candidate and accession countries in the Western Balkans and Turkey. These funding instruments have been valuable for the implementation of UNEP/MAP strategies, such as the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of and Response to Pollution from Ships supported by the SAFEMED I and II Projects and implemented by REMPEC. However, there is concern that changing EU priorities towards direct implementation of technical cooperation programmes by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), may imperil the mandate and funding opportunities of REMPEC.

Access to most of these instruments is based on a call for proposals. In the past, UNEP/MAP has participated in applications for these funds through consortia led by other organizations. Some Contracting Parties have raised concerns that such arrangement may jeopardize the priorities of Contracting Parties and the impartiality of UNEP/MAP, by favoring initiatives of some of its Contracting Parties over others, or by the participation of individual RACs in such initiatives without sufficient coordination with the Secretariat. To address these concerns, a recent application attempted to ensure the engagement of the entire UNEP/MAP system and invited all eligible countries to participate. There is also a concern that too many initiatives led by their own Steering Committees shifts decision-making in establishment of UNEP/MAP priorities away from the Contracting Parties, to these project-leading bodies.

It is also important to explore the opportunities that have opened up thanks to the establishment of the recent Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), which has a mandate to find financing for projects, with a focus on the de-pollution of the Mediterranean.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

GEF, an independent financing organization set up in 1991 with 182 member governments to address global environmental issues, has become the largest single global fund for environmental financing. It works with governments, international institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector on a wide range of environmental issues. As many other donors, GEF has moved towards broader programme funding in line with the Paris/Accra agendas, which encourages efforts by countries and organizations to harmonize, align and manage aid for results using a set of measurable indicators and related targets. GEF areas of work have evolved over the years and considerable attention has been given to the Mediterranean predominantly through its International Waters Focal Area.

The *Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership)* is a collective effort led by UNEP/MAP and the World Bank for the long-term reduction of environmental stress in hot-spots identified in the SAPs. Co-funded by GEF, it carries out activities in 13 countries operating through 12 executing agencies and with the financial support of 48 co-funders. This Partnership consists of two complementary components: the Regional Component led by UNEP/MAP and the Investment Fund led by the World Bank. Sustainability is addressed by integrating the project in the legal, institutional and programmatic framework of UNEP/MAP. The Replication and Communication component of the project aims to promote best practices throughout the region and to provide support to countries for their replication. This will provide concrete support to the implementation of the 5-year Programme and Resource Mobilization Strategy in the future. This symbiosis, between GEF International waters, which handles trans-boundary water issues, and UNEP/MAP, which facilitates environmental governance and secures sustainable implementation of agreed measures, is almost unparalleled.

A new GEF project on climate variability will start this year.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOURCE MOBILIZATION OBJECTIVES.

The following recommendations, addressed to the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties, are in line with the Governance paper. While most recommendations are included in the Programme of Work, some will only be implemented once the resources are made available.

General

- Prepare the next 5-year Programme for the Mediterranean in a format that can be shared with donors. Include a vision statement and clear targets.
- Establish and maintain close and professional working relations with main donors based on dialogue, credibility and transparency. Nurture relations with donors through informal contacts, information sharing, and dialogue on substance and policies.
- Present UNEP/MAP as a coordinated and integrated system with common goals and programmes in discussions with donors and in multi-partner initiatives.
- Be selective in approaching donors: give priority to those able to provide broad programme funds with conditions that UNEP/MAP can reasonably meet. Broad funding helps the organization stay its course towards the attainment of overall goals, whereas a patchwork of small heavily earmarked contributions may complicate or even undermine the organization's own priorities. Too specific and earmarked contributions will use up limited capacity of the office.
- Make full use of the support and engagement of the Contracting Parties and Focal Points as advocates for funding and support to UNEP/MAP within their own and other governments, as well as with other relevant partners.

- Emphasize the need for the Contracting Parties, as the “owners” of the UNEP/MAP system, to provide voluntary funds in addition to MTF funds.
- Further deepen cooperation with the European Union, UNEP/MAPs most important donor, while exploring further possible funding sources of relevance within the EU (see recommendations related to specific donors).
- Explore the possibility for secondments of staff from the Contracting Parties and of a programme of Junior Professional Officers that exist in UNEP and other UN organizations.
- Consider the introduction of an appeal for funds that builds on the biannual plan, which should aim to provide donors with a comprehensive overview of the goals, objectives, activities and requirements of UNEP/MAP.

Coherence, coordination and programme management

- Give high priority to the continued implementation and resourcing of recommendations for better coherence, coordination and programme management as set forward in the governance paper. These are key to successful resource mobilization.
- Make the management of donor funds and approaches an integral part of the programme management cycle.
- Integrate resource mobilization into the agenda of the Executive Coordinating Panel to ensure coordination and ownership.
- Ensure that all approaches for funding are guided by the Five-Year and Biannual Plans.
- Formulate plans and budgets in user-friendly formats that are conducive to resource mobilization and the preparation of submissions to donors.
- Complement the Plans with narrative strategic outlines that set out main goals, core business lines, priorities, expected results and the strategies to be employed to ensure good performance.
- Establish a planned and systematic approach to evaluations. In addition to obvious internal benefits, evaluations serve to convince donors that UNEP/MAP is committed to self-learning and improvement.
- Establish systems for reporting on the implementation of activities, which respond to the needs and expectations of the donors in terms of structure, content, transparency and timing. Reports on the implementation of activities and use of funds are as important as succinct plans, and help donors convince their constituencies that money provided to UNEP/MAP is well spent. A uniform system for reporting, which is acceptable to as many donors as possible, will serve to avoid a multitude of reporting formats.

Internal capacity and systems for resource mobilization

- Invest in dedicated capacity for resource mobilization, starting by staffing the newly proposed post for programme management and resource mobilization. While the current financial situation may not be conducive to the creation of additional functions, no serious, well-coordinated resource mobilization can be carried out without it. Such a function could usefully be attached to the Coordinating Unit. Main tasks would include developing and implementing resource mobilization strategies; establishing and maintaining regular and systematic contacts with donors; advising the Coordinator and RAC Directors on funding and donor relations; working with RACs in preparing comprehensive appeals, submissions on planned activities, requirements and reports on the implementation and use of funds; keeping major donors abreast of developments and activities in a systematic manner; negotiating comprehensive partnership arrangements and funding agreements; and establishing and maintaining systems for timely follow-up of contributions. Consider assigning staff at the regional centers to enhance coordination and cooperation between the Coordinating Unit and the RACs. The role of the ECP is key in guiding this process.
- Prepare and issue guidelines for UNEP/MAP staff on resource mobilization that build on this strategy. These should serve to clarify division of responsibilities, frameworks for funding requests, and clearance processes for funding requests and reporting. They should also ensure information-sharing on issues such as funding approaches to donors, feed-back from

donors, funding indications and firm pledges, earmarking and conditions, and the preparation of material for donors and relevant financial information.

- Prepare specific guidelines on how to manage relations with private sector. While presenting obvious benefits, cooperation with private sector entities engaged in activities with a negative impact on the environment may involve risks in terms of damage to the reputation and the credibility of the Organization. There are plenty of examples of guidelines and principles on private sector engagement to tap into within the UN. These include the UN Business Guidelines and the Global Compact Principles as well as more specific ones within the various UN agencies and programmes and in major NGOs working on environmental issues.
- Set up and maintain a sustainable system for the administration of voluntary contributions that is consistent with and an integral part of the planning cycle, and that would give up to date information on the funding situation vis-à-vis planned budgets. For this purpose, create a MAP-wide tracking system that would be helpful in registering pledges, payments, allocations and reporting requirements and serve to improve coordination and identify gaps and possible overlaps

Recommendations related to specific donors

- Deepen cooperation with all relevant services of the European Commission.
- Enhance synergies with other EU organizations and initiatives (i.e. Horizon 2020 and the European Environment Agency (EEA) to increase the efficiency of donor expenditure and avoid duplication and overlap.
- Participate actively in the second round of the ENRTP to ensure access to direct grants. Finalize proposals on Sustainable Consumption and Production and on the Ecosystems Approach. Explore and follow up on further thematic funding sources in collaboration with focal points, for access to funds based on call for proposals.
- Develop a system for close coordination at the country level between focal points of UNEP/MAP, MEDPOL and RACs, and EU delegations and/or EU focal points, in order to help Parties exploit funding opportunities with the EU.
- Build on results delivered under current GEF partnerships, when developing future initiatives such as the replication and communication strategies and the sustainable financing tools developed for the implementation of the National Action Plans (NAPs) adopted under the Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS) Protocol framework.
- Start developing a portfolio of proposals for future GEF funding as soon as possible, since the application and negotiating process is long.
- Engage in discussions with the EU, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the World Bank on regional initiatives which may help advance the ecosystems approach to management. Consider starting with a programme to expand environmental investments in the Adriatic Sea, complementing the Mediterranean to Spot Investment Programme (MeHSIP) in the Southern Mediterranean building on the interest among the Parties to advance in this direction. Similar regional initiatives may be worth pursuing.
- Strengthen and operationalize partnerships with the Union for the Mediterranean secretariat, the Marseilles Center and other regional partners by bringing an integrated UNEP/MAP programme of activities to the table.
- Explore funding opportunities with private foundations that focus on environmental issues, such as the Oak Foundation, which focuses on climate change mitigation and conservation of marine resources, MAVIA, which focuses on conservation and biodiversity, and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, among others.

Appendix 1 presents a detailed list of activities in the 2012-2013 Programme of Work for which funding has not yet been secured.

Appendix I - Analysis of external funding by donor

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
1.1.1	Political bodies of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols fully operational and effective	1.1.1.1	17th Contracting parties meeting successfully held; Adequate meeting facilities and Secretariat services provided; Working documents made available to parties in 4 working languages within deadlines; Adequate representation ensured; Reports translated and published in 4 languages	C U	0	350		350			Host Country
1.1.2	MAP and Components focal points system fully aligned	1.1.2.1	MAP focal point meeting successfully held; Progress achieved during the previous biennium reported; Draft thematic decisions agreed; Programme of work and budget reviewed;	CU	0	50		50			
		1.1.2.3	REMPEC focal point meeting successfully held	REMPEC	0	10		10			Host Country
		1.1.2.4	Joint BP/RAC , PAP/RAC, INFO/RAC Focal Point meeting successfully held	BP	30	0			France		
		1.1.2.6	CP/RAC Focal Point Meeting successfully held	CP	50	0			Spain		
		1.1.2.7	Cross-system functional review carried out	CU	0	30		30			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
1.1.3	MAP advisory bodies for sustainable development fully operational and effective	1.1.3	15th MCSD and its annual steering committee meetings successfully held; Meeting reports submitted to the 18th CPs meeting; Reports prepared and translated; MSSD update and implementation advanced, implementation of Switch Mediterranean results shared with MCSD members, including the work for integrating SCP, green economy and climate change adaptation	CU	0	60	60			EU (SWITCH MED)	
1.1.4	Greening of MAP events	1.1.4	All events organized by MAP and its components are organized according to sustainable criteria	CP	25	0			Spain		
1.1.5	Integrated and streamline approaches in implementing horizontal and emerging issues	1.1.5.1	Ownership of the parties to implement Ecosystem approach (EA) roadmap ensured	CU	0	260	260			EU (ECAP)	
		1.1.5.2	Governance of high seas issues followed up on regular basis; Policy papers prepared and legal and technical advice provided to Contracting parties; Workshop on reporting for regular process; MAP work on high seas governance projected at regional and global level	CU	0	70		70			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.1.5.3	Renewable energies and mitigation techniques such as carbon sequestration addressed by MAP decision making bodies and linkages made with related global processes; Policy papers prepared and legal and technical advice provided to Contracting parties; technical assessment finalized	CU	0	25		25			
		1.1.5.3	Renewable energies and mitigation techniques such as carbon sequestration addressed by MAP decision making bodies and linkages made with related global processes; Policy papers prepared and legal and technical advice provided to Contracting parties; technical assessment finalized	MEDPOL	10	70		70	Spain		Spain, Contracting Parties
		1.1.5.4	Marine spatial planning understood and implemented as appropriate in line with ICZM; Approaches developed and synergies ensured with other relevant organizations	PAP	15	0			EU-IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME: Shape		
1.1.6	Improved capacity for integrated strategic planning using result based management	1.1.6	Improved capacity for integrated strategic planning using result based management	CU	0	316.778		316.778			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
1.1.7	Results oriented partnerships established with international and civil society organizations MAP partners	1.1.7.1	Interagency cooperation established; Existing collaboration agreements with key regional actors updated and shared with the Bureau; Joint activities with partners implemented where appropriate	CU	0	5		5			
		1.1.7.3	Partnership with WB MCMI for improved governance of the Mediterranean	BP	112.32	702	702		Regional Governance and Knowledge Generation Project	Regional Governance and Knowledge Generation Project	
			Sub-total (1.1)		242.320	1948.778	1022.000	926.778			
1.2.1	Regional policies, guidelines and plans necessary for the effective implementation of the Convention , protocols and strategies adopted, updated and implemented	1.2.1.1	Updating/Developing the indicators of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development following the MSSD implementation assessment and presented at 15th MCSD meeting	BP	0	150	150			Regional Governance and Knowledge Generation Project	
		1.2.1.2	Integration of SCP and Green economy in MSSD, including SCP indicators, and regional cooperation through stakeholder dialogue and mobilizing other actors in the framework of the MCSD building also on experiences of the implementation of SCP in other regions (SWITCH-Asia) and preparing the implementation Plan for SWITCH Mediterranean activities.	CU	0	600	600			EU (SWITCH MED)	
		1.2.1.3	Preparing MAP Integrated Monitoring programme based on ecosystem approach	MEDPOL	0	200	200			EU (ECAP)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.2.1.4	Determining GES and targets in the framework of Ecosystem Approach for 11 ecological objectives, piloting as appropriate and supporting this process through socio-economic and cost of environmental degradation analysis	BP	0	150	150			EU (ECAP)	
		1.2.1.4	Determining GES and targets in the framework of Ecosystem Approach for 11 ecological objectives, piloting as appropriate and supporting this process through socio-economic and cost of environmental degradation analysis	BP	100	500	500		EU FP7 (PERSEUS)	EU FP7 (PERSEUS)	
		1.2.1.4	Determining GES and targets in the framework of Ecosystem Approach for 11 ecological objectives, piloting as appropriate and supporting this process through socio-economic and cost of environmental degradation analysis	CU and MAP components	0	520	520			EU (ECAP)	
		1.2.1.5	Preparing MAP policy on the assessment of marine and coastal environment in line with the ecosystems approach and regular process	CU	0	100	100			EU (ECAP)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.2.1.6	Assessing the national legal and administrative systems, including authorization, inspection, preparedness and response capabilities available in the Mediterranean with regard to offshore activities including the preparation of an action plan to implement the Offshore protocol	CU	0	170	170			EU (ECAP)	
		1.2.1.7	Updating the Strategic Programme to protect marine and coastal biodiversity (SAP BIO) with the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and ecosystems approach	SPA	0	30	30			EU (ECAP)	
		1.2.1.8	Assessment of the implementation of the SAPMED through the NAPs and taking into account the gradual application of the ecosystems approach	MEDPOL	0	10		10			
		1.2.1.9	Preparation of a detailed marine litter regional Plan including costs, targets and deadlines and programmes of measures in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol	MEDPOL	0	200		200			EU (ECAP)
		1.2.1.9A	Implementation of selected activities of the Strategic Framework for the management of marine litter	MEDPOL	0	160		160			EU
1.2.2	Assistance to countries to implement regional policies and guidelines	1.2.2.10	Control of maritime traffic by developing the VTS capacity improved	REMPEC	189	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		1.2.2.11	Maritime Safety and Pollution Prevention improved	REMPEC	54	0			EU (SAFEMED)		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.2.2.2	Support in the application of National SCP Action Plans	CP	41	0			Spain		
		1.2.2.3	Assist countries to implement the adopted Regional Plans in the framework of Art 15 of LBS Protocol; updating, as needed, of adopted Regional Plans and develop NIPs in the framework of the Stockholm Convention	CP	25	0			Spain		
		1.2.2.4	Provision of technical assistance to countries for the implementation of Hazardous Waste and Dumping Protocols	MEDPOL	0	60		60			Funds through CP/RAC
		1.2.2.7	Countries ready to undergo an audit of their level of implementation of the mandatory IMO instruments	REMPEC	55	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		1.2.2.8	Flag States better prepared to discharge their obligations under IMO Conventions	REMPEC	55	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		1.2.2.9	Countries better prepared to discharge their duties as Port States; port state control regime in the Mediterranean strengthened	REMPEC	31	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
1.2.3	Effective reporting and implementation	1.2.3.1	Further research on the implementation by CPs of the Guidelines on liability and compensation issues	CU	0	40		40			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.2.3.2	Assisting countries to submit reports as per art. 26 of the Barcelona Convention, legal and technical advice provided, reporting format upgraded, reporting database established and links with InforMEA secured	INFO	15	0			Italy		
		1.2.3.3	3 SPAMIs evaluated (Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve / Habibas Islands / MPA of Portofino)	SPA	0	30		30			SPAMIs countries: Italy, Algeria
1.2.4	Compliance mechanisms and procedures fully operational	1.2.4.1	Compliance committee (CC) successfully held ; non compliance situations identified and addressed, Legal and technical assistance to countries provided to overcome difficulties, legal advice provided to the Coordinating Unit; Assessment report on the implementation of the Convention and its protocols presented to the meeting of the CPs	CU	0	120		120			
			Sub-total (1.2)		565.000	3040.000	2420.000	620.000			
1.3.1	Further development of INFO MAP including the integration of information systems of MAP components	1.3.1.1	INFO MAP regional node finalized; template to collect users need; technical guidelines and user need analysis document prepared; common and shared Infomap standards for interoperability, infomap regional services, data centre, agora, infomap portal shared services, Web2.0 tools completed	INFO	493	0			Italy		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.3.1.2	Assistance provided to countries in establishing integrated and shared environmental national nodes of Infomap as appropriate, SEIS national roadmap prepared in 3 pilots	INFO	0	375		375			
		1.3.1.3	Country visits, user requirement analysis report, country specific roadmap	INFO	0	255		255			
		1.3.1.4	InfoMAP spatial data infrastructure, definition of use cases for SDI based on ecosystem approach, implement use cases with Components and countries, carry out interoperability test, technical guidelines prepared, assistance provided, review of existing tools and means for the monitoring and vigilance of the Mediterranean Sea and its coasts	INFO	180	75	50	25		EU (ECAP)	
		1.3.1.8	MED POL Data bases management, development of GIS, maintenance of Info System	MEDPOL	0	100	100			Funds through INFO/RAC	
		1.3.1.9	User requirement analysis for ICZM platform integration with InfoMAP	INFO	95	20		20	Italy		
1.3.2	Upgrade and maintain MAP and its components websites and on line libraries	1.3.2.2	Integrated on line UNEP/MAP library established including library maintenance (purchasing of books/periodicals)	CU	0	15		15			
		1.3.2.3	Effective and up-to-date website of MEDPOL	MEDPOL	0	75	75			Funds through INFO/RAC	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
1.3.3	Knowledge sharing and exchange	1.3.3.1	State of Environment report in 2013	CU	0	50		50			
		1.3.3.1	State of Environment report in 2013	SPA	0	30		30			
		1.3.3.10	Collection and dissemination of R&D project results related to Marine and coastal environment; Newsletter produced on periodical basis	INFO	55	0			Italy		
		1.3.3.2	Developing an interactive ICZM Governance Platform	PAP	92	0			EU-FP7: Pegaso		
		1.3.3.3	Stocktaking synthesis report, An Introduction to legal and technical aspects to the ICZM Protocol	PAP	20	0			EU-FP7: Pegaso		
		1.3.3.4	Capacity building on ICZM Protocol, including a Virtual MedOpen training course conducted	PAP	12	0			EU-IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME: Shape		
		1.3.3.5	Updated maritime traffic flow information and benchmarking the traffic flows trends with previous trends	REMPEC	15	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		1.3.3.6	Workshop sharing lessons from Deepwater Horizon Incident	REMPEC	0	70		70			
		1.3.3.8	Creation of global communities interested in SCP, co-feeding, through on line interaction (more than 150 members participating) and effective dissemination and knowledge exchange on SCP among Mediterranean stakeholders and MAP components	CP	11	10		10	Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		1.3.3.8	Creation of global communities interested in SCP, co-feeding, through on line interaction (more than 150 members participating) and effective dissemination and knowledge exchange on SCP among Mediterranean stakeholders and MAP components	CP	11	10		10	Spain		
1.3.4	One voice campaign for UNEP MAP	1.3.4.1	MAP and MCSD's contribution to sustainable development (focus on Green Economy, SCP and governance) presented at RIO+20	CU	0	15	15			EU (SWITCH MED)	
		1.3.4.3	Information material on Pollution reduction	MEDPOL	0	60		60			
		1.3.4.6	Organization of Mediterranean Environmental events; dissemination of key success stories; presence at key events including a side event at RIO+20, including in communication materials related to MEDPartnership project, awareness raising regarding marine and coastal biodiversity, climate change, and promoting coast day and ICZM Protocol	PAP	81	104	104		EU-IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME: Shape	EU, ENPI (LITUSnostrum)	
			Sub-total (1.3)		1,065.000	1,264.000	344.000	920.000			
2.1.1	Implementing ICZM Protocol Action Plan Assist countries in preparing ICZM Strategies and Plans	2.1.1	National ICZM Plans and Strategies in Albania, Montenegro and Algeria; Interactive Methodological Framework for ICZM, Outline for ICZM Strategies adapted to Adriatic countries	PAP	30	350	350		EU-IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME: Shape	EU, ENPI (LITUSnostrum)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
2.1.2	Updating and preparing ICZM methodologies	2.1.2.1	ICZM Guidelines updated; Outline for ICZM Strategies and Plans; MSP, coastal risks, climate change, landscape management, tourism, land policies, carrying capacity. Analysis of land-use change with satellite images	PAP	0	302	302			EU, ENPI (LITUSnostrum)	
		2.1.2.2	Developing a participatory territorial prospective method	BP	40	0			Pegaso project		
		2.1.2.3	ICZM indicators in line with the Ecosystems Approach developed and tested	BP	0	20	20			Pegaso project	
		2.1.2.3	ICZM indicators in line with the Ecosystems Approach developed and tested	BP	63	0			Pegaso project		
		2.1.2.6	The ranking of the ports to be equipped in priority with port reception facilities is established	REMPEC	0	15	15			EU (SAFEMED)	
2.1.3	Implementing ICZM protocol through specific local and policy initiatives	2.1.3.1	Projects prepared and implemented (CAMPs Spain, Italy, France, Montenegro; Pilot projects on Setback and MSP; Carrying Capacity, etc.), promoting the integration of biodiversity issues and SCP in the ICZM processes and CAMP projects	CP	18	20		20	Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		2.1.3.1	Projects prepared and implemented (CAMPs Spain, Italy, France, Montenegro; Pilot projects on Setback and MSP; Carrying Capacity, etc.), promoting the integration of biodiversity issues and SCP in the ICZM processes and CAMP projects	PAP	10	1400	400	1000	EU-IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME: Shape	EU, ENPI (LITUSnostrum)	FFEM (GEF France)
		2.1.3.2	Assessment report on CAMP and CAMP manual updated: regional workshop organized	PAP	0	30		30			
			Sub-total (2.1)		161.000	2,137.000	1,087.000	1,050.000			
3.1.1	Ecosystem based management Assessing the economic impact	3.1.1.1	Economic effects of marine protected areas on the territorial development estimated.	BP	160	0			FFEM		
		3.1.1.2	Joint socio-economic evaluation with GFCM of the fishing activities carried out in pelagic ecosystems and deep benthic habitats (Open seas, including deep seas); The economic value of the pelagic and deep sea habitat evaluated	SPA	0	50	50			EU (ECAP)	
		3.1.1.3	Economic impact of sustainable fishing in the Mediterranean evaluated	BP	0	120		120			
			Sub-total (3.1)		160.000	170.000	50.000	120.000			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
3.2.1	Assistance to countries to carry out field survey, monitoring and mapping of biodiversity	3.2.1.1	Mapping of seagrass meadows and other assemblages and habitats of particular importance for the marine environment in Mediterranean areas, Elaboration of an Atlas of seagrass meadows distribution in the Mediterranean	SPA	0	100		100			TOTAL Foundation
3.2.2	Assistance to countries to implement the regional action plans on endangered species	3.2.2.5	Elaboration of Taxonomic Reference Lists	SPA	0	40		40			Private Foundations
3.2.3	Assistance to countries to implement Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention	3.2.3.1	More awareness and better knowledge of the provisions of the BWM Convention	REMPEC	54	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		3.2.3.2	Development of national ballast water management strategies	REMPEC	20	10	10		EU (SAFEMED)	IMO ITCP	
		3.2.3.3	Knowledge of surveillance personnel enhanced and harmonized	REMPEC	36	15	15		EU (SAFEMED)	IMO ITCP	
		3.2.3.4	Coastal States are able to quickly identify possible threat of invasive alien species from incoming ships	REMPEC	0	50	50			IMO ITCP	
			Sub-total (3.2)		110.000	215.000	75.000	140.000			
3.3.1	Assist countries to establish SPAMIs	3.3.1.1	Consultation processes are initiated and financially and technically supported	SPA	0	110	110			EU (ECAP)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		3.3.1.2	Participate in oceanographic campaigns in open sea areas, including the deep seas, the elaboration of the management plans based on ecosystem approach	SPA	0	150	150			EU (ECAP)	
		3.3.1.3	Support the work of the work group that will be responsible to draw up the joint presentation reports for inclusion of areas in the SPAMI List; Existing data collected and presentation reports filled	SPA	0	30	30			EU (ECAP)	
		3.3.1.4	Elaboration of the management plans based on ecosystem approach for two SPAMIs and its ecological and operational objectives	SPA	0	200	200			EU (ECAP)	
3.3.2	Strengthening the marine protected areas network	3.3.2.1	Establishment of coordination mechanisms for regional MPA management ; Awareness raising, communication and information activities implemented	SPA	0	30		30			
			Sub-total (3.3)		0.000	520.000	490.000	30.000			
4.1.1	Undertaking pollution related assessments and support to countries in implementing monitoring programme	4.1.1.2	Assistance to countries for the implementation of national monitoring programmes, for 4 countries	MEDPOL	0	200	200			EU (ECAP)	
		4.1.1.3	Data quality assurance for bathing water analyses	MEDPOL	0	10	10			WHO	
		4.1.1.4	Assessment of national needs for capacity building for the implementation of integrated monitoring programmes of ECAP	MEDPOL	0	100	100			EU (ECAP)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
4.1.2	Technical assistance to countries in the field of liability and compensation for marine pollution from ships	4.1.2.1	Enhanced knowledge on oil spill claims management	REMPEC	0	70	50	20		IMO ITCP	MOIG
		4.1.2.2	Awareness and knowledge on liability for HNS pollution incidents improved	REMPEC	54	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
4.1.3	Support to countries in the field of preparedness and response to marine pollution incidents	4.1.3.1	Level of knowledge and preparedness at national level in the field of contingency planning increased	REMPEC	0	217.526	217.526			IMO ITCP, EU (POSOW)	
		4.1.3.5	Contracting Parties have a common approach to risk assessment	REMPEC	0	158.986	152.986	6		EU (MEDESS4MS)	IMO ITCP, IPIECA, MOIG, OGP
		4.1.3.6	Enhanced knowledge on waste management and development of National Oily Waste Management Plan	REMPEC	0	12		12			IMO ITCP, IPIECA, MOIG, OGP
			Sub-total (4.1)		54.000	768.512	730.512	38.000			
4.2.1	Pollution reduction demonstration projects, including the sound management of POPs	4.2.1.3	Identification and dissemination of BATs and BEPs in activity sectors of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia within the scope of the Regional Plans (BAT4MED project)	CP	130	0			EU-FP7 BAT4MED project		
		4.2.1.4	Technical assistance to countries not targeted in BAT4MED in the application of BATs and BEPs and alternatives for the prevention and minimization of mercury, new POPs and BOD from the food sector	CP	100	150		150	Spain		EU-FP7 BAT4MED project

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		4.2.1.5	Assistance to countries to reduce unintentional POPs, greenhouse gases and heavy metals by developing/upgrading and implementing BAT/BEP in key economic sectors in Mediterranean countries	CP	40	110		110	Spain		GEF
		4.2.1.6	Awareness and capacity building activities and materials to assist Mediterranean countries in sound management of PCBs stocks in national electric companies	CP	20	0			Spain		
4.2.2	Establishing PRTR	4.2.2	PRTR prepared in two additional countries	MEDPOL	0	105	105			Funds through INFO/RAC + EU (SEIS)	
4.2.3	Management and maintenance of Waste water treatment plants, including the addressing of environmental and health aspects with regard to bathing waters and tourism establishments	4.2.3.1	Experts in two countries trained, preparation of sustainability report	MEDPOL	0	20	20			WHO	
		4.2.3.2	Preparation of technical guidelines on beach profiles	MEDPOL	0	10	10			WHO	
		4.2.3.3	Pilot projects to implement Guidelines for environmental health risks in tourist establishments	MEDPOL	0	10	10			WHO	
4.2.5	Promote compliance monitoring and	4.2.5.1	Terminal operators engaged in a safety programme	REMPEC	0	15		15			OCIFMF/MOIG

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
	enforcement with the provisions of the main international maritime conventions	4.2.5.2	Exchange of experience and information between law enforcement officials conducive to better enforcement of MARPOL Annex I	REMPEC	0	20		20			WB Sustainable Med project
		4.2.5.3	Knowledge of surveillance personnel enhanced and harmonized with respect to the MARPOL Convention	REMPEC	0	30		30			EU, IMO ITCP
		4.2.5.4	Delegation of authority by flag States well monitored	REMPEC	84	0			EU (SAFEMED)		
		4.2.5.5	Knowledge on implementation of AFS Convention enhanced and harmonized	REMPEC	0	24	24			IMO ITCP	
			Sub-total (4.2)		374.000	494.000	169.000	325.000			
5.1.1	Analysis of renewable marine energies	5.1.1	Feasible renewable marine energy identified and estimated	BP	0	320		320			EIB
5.1.2	Green Economy and SCP	5.1.2.1	New entrepreneurs have received training on green entrepreneurship; green entrepreneurs have received technical support to develop, to scale-up their business projects and create new green local employment opportunities; entrepreneurs have applied for programmes of financial and/or technical support	CP	282	0			Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		5.1.2.2	Regional Platform for Green Competitiveness with database sorted by intelligent search fields per sector and SCP tool; database widely used: Increased awareness and knowledge exchange among Mediterranean stakeholders on benefits brought by the shift to SCP	CP	124	0			Spain		
		5.1.2.3	Operating a network of Local Antennas for Green Competitiveness and Green Economy; Systematic follow-up of SCP initiatives and case studies developed: SCP case studies disseminated	CP	240	0			Spain		
		5.1.2.4	Award for innovation for green economy granted to an entrepreneurship project initiative and disseminated among Mediterranean countries	CP	84	0			Spain		
		5.1.2.5	CP audits to boost the adoption of green competitiveness (GRECO) as tool for Mediterranean companies to succeed in the global market; GRECO projects identified, audits implemented SMEs applying for CP financial schemes	CP	282	0			Spain		
5.1.3	Capacity building (CB) activities and pilot projects on SCP	5.1.3.1	Methodology, guidelines and toolkit for integration of SCP in the Mediterranean and related Capacity building activities (Switch MED)	CP	400	400	400		EU (SWITCH MED)	EU (SWITCH MED)	

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		5.1.3.2	Increased knowledge of representatives from public sector, business and civil society on CP, SCP, Green Public Procurement, Green Banking, Green jobs, Carbon and Water footprint	CP	140	0			EU (H2020)		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	124	0			Spain		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	124	0			Spain		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	120	0			Spain		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	120	0			Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	120	0			Spain		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	120	0			Spain		
		5.1.3.3	Improved environmental, economic, health and social conditions for local community, opportunities for replication identified; reduction of environmental impacts and toxical chemicals associated to the target areas	CP	124	0			Spain		
5.1.4	Empowering civil society, consumer associations and NGO on SCP and POPs prevention	5.1.4.1	Civil society increased awareness; Green shots award well attended; Increased contents of consumpediamed; Visits and comments in consumpediamed	CP	140	0			Spain		
		5.1.4.2	Training civil society young leaders on SCP tools for Mediterranean Undertake Free of chemicals" Regional Campus and replication in a country	CP	26	0			Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		5.1.4.3	Reinforcing the role of NGOs in raising awareness on population on POPs; 2 local NGOs including the POPs in their work programmes and disseminating the awareness material to 200 hundred people	CP	25	0			Spain		
5.1.5	Capacity building to implement National Action Plans on Sustainable Public Procurement at local, regional or national level in Mediterranean countries	5.1.5.1	Assist countries to develop and implement National Action Plans on SPP; National Action Plan implementation on the short-medium and long run	CP	83	0			Spain		
5.1.6	Capacity building to implement Sustainable Procurement and Green Campus in Universities	5.1.6.1	Mediterranean Universities develop Plans to implement Sustainable Procurement, National experts share and decide on the plans and its implementation on the short-medium and long term	CP	83	0			Spain		
		5.1.6.2	Introduce SCP concepts in the academic programs (on SCP, Environmental Policies and POPs); Internships programmes activated with universities and business schools, Training course for Master and doctoral students by experts from the academia/international organizations	CP	83	0			Spain		

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
		5.1.6.3	Enhanced involvement of Mediterranean regional organizations and networks in SCP and SCM; Enhanced partnerships and MoUs signed Projects jointly implemented	CP	41	0			Spain		
			Sub-total (5.1)		2,885.000	720.000	400.000	320.000			
6.1.1	Analysis of climate change impact	6.1.1.1	On surface water, Availability of water resources in the Mediterranean river basins in 20125 and 2050 estimated	BP	28	0			France		
		6.1.1.3	Raise awareness on the potential effects of Climate Change on the fate of POPs in the environment through workshops for policy makers, NGOs and other stakeholders	CP	17	0			Spain		
		6.1.1.4	Development and elaboration of a assistance programme to countries to address the CC issue and its impacts on natural marine habitats and endangered species	SPA	0	60	60			GEF climate variability project	
6.1.3	Elaboration of indicators of climate change impact on biodiversity in specially protected areas	6.1.3	A first set of indicators of climate change impact on biodiversity in specially protected areas elaborated in consultation with relevant experts	SPA	0	60		60			
6.1.4	Monitoring climate change	6.1.4.2	Better knowledge of the actual emissions from ships in the Mediterranean sea	REMPEC	0	20		20			
			Sub-total (6.1)		45.000	140.000	60.000	80.000			

					2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013	2012-2013			
No	Main Activities	Result No	Description	Lead component	EXT1	EXT2	EXT2 under negotiations (a)	EXT2 to be mobilized (b)	Donor EXT1	Donor EXT2a	Potential Donor EXT2b
6.2.1	Adoption and Follow-up activities to the Regional Adaptation to climate change framework	6.2.1	Key actions implemented to include: introduction of adaptation measures into land-use and water resource planning in the coastal zone; vulnerability maps, awareness raising programmes targeted to decision makers, local communities and the population at large, and ensuring that early warning systems are in place to predict extreme events	CU	0	635	635			GEF climate variability project	
			Sub-total (6.2)		0.000	635.000	635.000	0.000			
6.3.1	Assistance to countries for the proper management of desalination activities and on water re-use	6.3.1.1	New desalination plants properly managed	MEDPOL	0	60		60			EDS
			Sub-total (6.3)		0.000	60.000	0.000	60.000			
			GRAND TOTAL		5661.320	12112.290	7482.512	4629.778			

ANNEX IV

UNEP/MAP Communication Strategy

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1. Background

1.1 Overview

The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) has come a long way since its inception in 1975. MAP's general objective is to contribute to the improvement of the marine and coastal environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. Its main political achievement is the adoption of the Barcelona Convention and seven legal protocols conceived to protect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, and establishing an institutional framework of cooperation covering all 21 countries bordering The Mediterranean Sea. In this context, MAP components assist Mediterranean countries to fulfil their commitments under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, and implement the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties including the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and MCSD recommendations. Now counting 22 Contracting Parties, MAP sets out a coherent legal and institutional cooperation framework to facilitate, support and coordinate regional action to improve the quality of life of the Mediterranean population through responding to pressures on the environment and reducing negative impact as well as restoring and maintaining ecosystem status, structures and functions.

An effective and targeted communications strategy supports the environmental objectives put forward in the Barcelona Convention and amplifies the reach of MAP messages.

The Convention's **main advocacy objectives** are to:

- Assess and control marine pollution;
- Ensure sustainable management of natural marine and coastal resources;
- Integrate the environment in social and economic development;
- Protect the marine environment and coastal zones through prevention and reduction of pollution, and as far as possible, elimination of pollution, whether land or sea-based;
- Protect the natural and cultural heritage;
- Strengthen solidarity among Mediterranean coastal States;
- Contribute to improvement of the quality of life.

In order to fully take advantage of latest developments, and to tackle new challenges and opportunities as well as scientific progress, MAP in 2009 shifted to a flexible planning mode. The Contracting Parties adopted the first five year strategic and integrated work program, covering the period 2010-2015. The work program is guided by the overarching objective to implement the ecosystems approach in The Mediterranean through six thematic priority areas:

- Combating pollution;
- Biodiversity conservation and protection;
- Integrated coastal zone management;
- Sustainable consumption and production;
- Adaptation to climate change;
- Improved governance.

Policy and communication activities need to follow the same vision. Therefore, this Communications Strategy, conceived for the period 2012-2017, seeks to support the political objectives of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and aligns with the above-mentioned priorities. This strategy builds on the initial communications approach and will aim

to advance MAP's overall goal of addressing threats to the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean Sea.

The strategy has been developed in line with the Governance decision included in the report of the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols from 18 January 2008¹, the mandates of the MAP components and objectives to enhance the impact and visibility of MAP actions as defined during the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols in Marrakesh (Morocco), 3-5 November 2009², the assessment of MAP information activities at the Bureau meeting in Rabat in May 2010, and MAP's Information Strategy presented at the fifth meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel in Tunisia in February 2009. It is to be presented and approved by the Contracting Parties at [OCCASION] in [LOCATION] on [DATE].

1.2 Overall Communications Approach

The UNEP-MAP communications approach is undergoing a timely strategy revitalisation. The new Communications Strategy 2012-2017 will align with the political priorities of UNEP-MAP and the thematic areas outlined in the five year strategic and integrated work program 2010-2015. It is also informed by insights gained from independent research carried out by a communications agency in 2010, which serves as the basis for this strategy. The researchers undertook expert interviews with internal and external stakeholders, a materials audit, online research and an analysis of selected media coverage, which resulted in a perceptions-oriented communications landscape assessment and recommendations.

As mandated by the Governance Paper³, the Secretariat presented the preliminary recommendations of the external assessment to 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 Rabat (Morocco), 5-6 May 2010⁴ where the three pillar approach, on which this strategy is based, was endorsed:

- Pass a MAP common message across with a view to clearly brand all components as part of the same organization;
- Identify and mobilize strong partners from the civil society and from private sector;
- Use a campaign approach with view to inspire other actors, at regional and national levels and the public at large, around key issues.

This strategy builds on the groundwork achieved over the recent years and consolidates key achievements, including the regional annual Coast Day celebrations in Slovenia and Turkey as well as of the establishment of the annual Ecomeda Forums and the regional presentations of the State of Environment and Development Report of 2009 with the participation of the Environment Ministers and of their partners. Concurrent to this, the strategy outlines new structures, approaches and tools necessary to increase MAP's visibility and maximize the impact of common policies, strategies, action plans and analysis

¹ UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.17/10

² UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.19/8

³ UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.17/10

⁴ UNEP/BUR/70/5

designed to advance the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the Mediterranean region and internationally.

Although the UNEP-MAP goals remain ambitious, they are set against the backdrop of financial realism. The formulation of this strategy has been guided by an understanding that UNEP-MAP financial and human resources are finite. Practical and budgetary feasibility has therefore been taken into account when developing this 5-year strategy and focus has been placed on the approaches which can be implemented with MAP's current resources.

This strategy seeks to:

- address benefits of and barriers to communication, both external and internal;
- outline communications goals and specific objectives 2012-2017;
- suggest an approach to codifying key messages;
- define target groups;
- propose an overall strategic communications framework;
- measure success against objectives.

It is also a flexible and evolving framework that aims to be reactive to the challenges present in the Mediterranean region while providing all MAP components with appropriate guidance so that tools and communication activities to advance our collective goals can be easily identified.

This strategy recognizes the potential that UNEP-MAP can have that transcends data gathering and information dissemination and suggests proactive communication activities that unleash this potential further.

A separate and more detailed Action Plan, defining principal actions, timelines and owners, is attached to this document,

2. Communications Strategy

2.1 Strategic issues assessment

As any other large organization, UNEP-MAP similarly faces risks and opportunities that ultimately shape the UNEP-MAP communications strategy in the Mediterranean. To set a benchmark for future planning in 2010 UNEP-MAP contracted a consultancy to assess existing communications and information programs as well as to solicit in-depth and confidential opinions from internal and external stakeholders alike, concerning UNEP-MAP's visibility and effectiveness. The developed SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis (see Annex I) synthesized the major findings and forms the basis for MAP's communication niches, targets, needs and opportunities presented in this strategy. UNEP-MAP subsequently held a workshop in the margins of the meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel in Barcelona (Spain), 8-9 July 2010 to discuss and present the findings to the participants. The ECP Meeting endorsed the presented recommendations and the three pillar approach and nominated focal points for communications within MAP components.

2.1.1 Benefits

External

Effective external communication increases visibility and public support for MAP's objectives for the protection of marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean. It will further enhance MAP's credibility as a regional body supporting and coordinating the

implementation of the Barcelona Convention and Protocols. This strategy is envisaged to act as a further springboard for communicating globally about MAP'S key issues and in key upcoming environmental fora.

Internal

Effective internal communication leverages existing synergies, optimizes impact and enhances awareness and involvement of staff. The goal of streamlined internal communications processes is a more integrated approach towards creating a bigger push for the same environmental issues from the MAP Coordinating Unit, components, and partners, thereby strengthening the organization's collective capacity to communicate and engage externally.

2.1.2 Barriers

External

- Changes in the political and economic situation in the Mediterranean countries bear the risk of shifting focus, resources and commitment from communicating about the extensive need for further converging environmental policies in the Mediterranean riparian countries.
- Today's heavily saturated media landscape poses a challenge to effectively breaking through to extended target audiences with UN-driven stories on environmentally sustainable practices.
- Media and other multipliers⁵ have a documented appetite for human interest stories based on country-, citizen-, and people-centric data. The current organizational structure is not favourable to tracking results easily and demonstrating the impact of UNEP-MAP actions in this way.

Internal

- There is a lack of capacity to centralize information; this is a consequence, inter alia, of inadequate coordination, limited awareness and structural deficiencies. In order for staff and partners to act as effective ambassadors, a culture shift is needed towards "360 degree communication".
- UNEP-MAP operates within a limited financial framework and our staff is not geared towards supporting a major communications undertaking. However, there is confidence that current assets can be optimized to advance common communications objectives or for reaching wider external audiences, including the general public, through mainstream media or digital tools.
- The division of communications responsibilities as well as sub-optimal strategic alignment between the Coordinating Unit and MAP components constitutes a barrier to impactful external communication since tasks and structural relations were not always clearly defined.

2.2 Goal

External

The overarching goal is to maximize the visibility of MAP's activities and achievements in promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean region through media and other multipliers. More specifically, the aim is to enhance and stimulate an active awareness of the fact that within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, MAP is

⁵ Multipliers: relays of information to disseminate key messages.

coordinating action and facilitating cooperation amongst its stakeholders in order to deliver tangible results in the protection of the environment of the entire region.

Media, mainstream and social, is considered as an important channel for stimulating a constructive conversation around MAP issues and our role therein and thereby actively advancing our implicit and explicit advocacy.

The importance of information collection, production and dissemination has been recognized and proposals have been made to improve ways to inform and engage target audiences.

Internal

The overall goal is to foster an organizational culture in which communication is considered equally critical to the success of the UNEP-MAP mission. Furthermore the aim is to align internal stakeholders around common objectives and assign a more active role in the roll-out of jointly-agreed activities to all parties.

2.3 Specific Objectives

The following aims have been set to be achieved through an integrated communication approach:

- **Raise awareness** about the critical role that the UNEP-MAP system plays in the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the region.
- **Strengthen MAP's status** as an authoritative voice on the environment in the Mediterranean.
- **Engage key stakeholders** to support UNEP-MAP issues and activities in public fora and act as advocates, directly and indirectly.
- **Highlight** the need for good governance and integrated marine and land ecosystem management in the Mediterranean.
- **Inform and mobilise** the Mediterranean population with our narrative through key information and media channels.
- **Improve** internal communications practices within MAP and its components.
- **Increase** quality and quantity of media coverage.
- **Improve** quality and dissemination of information materials. \

2.4 Target Audiences

UNEP-MAP takes a focused approach to communications to ensure maximum output at strategy mid-term review in 2014/15. The available tools and resources set an operating framework within which target audiences have been prioritized, therefore external communication activities are primarily aimed at stakeholders and multipliers involved in issues related to the sustainable development of the Mediterranean. *Note:* UNEP-MAP recognizes the benefits of large public-facing awareness campaigns, but has opted to remain focused and leverage MAP components and partners for maximum reach.

- The **stakeholder** community includes governments, in particular Contracting Parties, RACs, Focal Points, and partners.
- The second target group, **multipliers**, include media, NGOs, multilateral organizations, national and local administrations, businesses and academics/researchers. Those groups serve as effective communication channels to further amplify UNEP-MAP messages to the general public, in particular coastal residents, and also act as relays for more targeted initiatives.

2.5 Key Messages

For this communications strategy to be truly successful, MAP's overall goal, specific objectives and key messages need to fully align across its components.

Effective message frameworks are dynamic and adaptable over time as conditions change, and as behaviours evolve, and where successes and barriers are encountered. Common messaging will be informed by and tailored to the specific needs of the various target audiences and guided by the global environmental agenda and specific political developments in the region.

A solid message platform will provide a framework for understanding MAP and its role in a way that differs from others. Applying and reapplying common messaging consistently, broadly and coherently will lead to a clear, recognizable identity and an ability to speak with one voice and many accents. Ultimately, there is a clear link between effective communications and impactful advocacy.

Primary research has shown that broader audiences are not conversant in the specialized terminology used by MAP and have their own interests and perspectives. Therefore, the common messaging will use simple and clear language that will be understood by educated generalists from within and outside the field of environment.

- A key component of this strategy will be the ultimate alignment on messaging which will result in the creation of messaging framework including:
 - MAP's goal and vision of success;
 - Areas MAP works in;
 - How MAP's work brings solutions to Mediterranean issues;
 - What MAP concentrates on.

2.6 Strategies

MAP's Information and Communication Strategy 2012-2017 is based on a "campaign model" – Unify, Mobilize and Inspire (see Annex II). This campaign model creates a solid but sufficiently agile communications framework that can guide our activities in the next five years. It sets out a forward-looking campaign that is to unfold sequentially based on a series of tactical approaches in line with key political priorities, milestone projects and platforms.

2.6.1 Structure: More effective internal coordination

Effective communication cannot be achieved by the Coordinating Unit alone. Therefore, a clear communications structure across MAP and its components needs to be created, including the assignment of different and strategic roles to the various categories of Focal Points of the Contracting Parties and to the RACs.

To this end, the Coordinating Unit will develop guidelines through a Communications Responsibility Matrix to help organise and direct the harmonised implementation of communication activities by all internal parties.

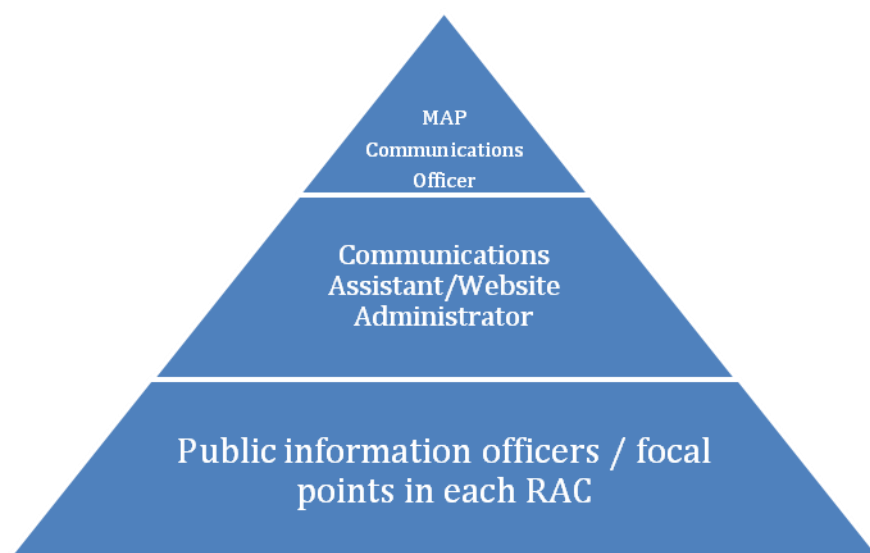
In addition to this coordination function, the Coordinating Unit has to ensure a supporting role by providing adequate resources and tools whilst encouraging active participation of RACs as defined in the Protocols to the Barcelona Convention as well as subsequent decisions of Contracting Parties.

A **Regional Activity Centre for Information and Communication** (INFO-RAC) was established in 2005 to enhance the visibility of MAP. Its mandate specifically refers to

information and communication, and it operates to contribute to “collecting and sharing information, raising public awareness and participation, and enhancing decision-making processes at the regional national and local levels.”⁶ In this context, the mission of INFO-RAC is to provide adequate information and communication services and infrastructure technologies to Contracting Parties to implement Article 12 on public participation and Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention on reporting, as well as several articles related to reporting requirements under the different Protocols, thus strengthening MAP information management and communication capabilities.

The new communications structure will be an important tool to leverage INFO/RAC’s expertise and experience in implementing strong communications tactics and sharing it across the MAP network. In addition to its environmental information responsibilities, we see INFO/RAC’s role as one of an ‘enabling partner’ directly embedded in the MAP communications structure. INFO-RAC is envisaged to handle specific communication tasks while establishing a clear reporting structure led by the MAP-based Communications Officer to ensure common strategy and execution across the MAP system and to ensure that all communications efforts are in line with MAP’s strategic communications priorities.

New communications structure includes the following roles:



Key strategies:

- Align and streamline internal processes and maximize scarce resources to achieve greater impact;
- Maximize internal ownership through participatory processes;
- Emphasize INFO/RAC’s role as enabling partners and leverage INFO/RAC’s expertise and experience in implementing strong, locally-relevant communications tactics and sharing it across MAP’s network;
- Train internal stakeholders through advocacy and regional communications workshops;

⁶ UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG. 19/8

- Empower the MAP Communications Officer in Athens to coordinate and drive the strategy.

2.6.2 Channels: Better access to better information

MAP is a public body and as such has a duty to inform, which it does through two key operational entry points: the website and MAP components. It is a key function of the MAP librarian to provide users with access to MAP publications and documents as well as other library holdings through the MAP website and the staff intranet. At present, MAP is hampered by inadequacies in functionality and reach. This strategy seeks to optimise the impact of information tools at our disposal by producing more diversified and higher quality content, timely information and a feedback loop.

Key strategies:

Implement a wider, multimedia-based approach by developing additional communications tools/outputs/channels in order to:

- Engage target audiences in viewing MAP-related content through improved website, social media channels and other visual materials to take advantage of opportunities in digital space and reduce paper costs;
- Bring the MAP success story to life in real, human terms through country-, citizen-, and people-centric data and visual materials;
- Consolidate messages to appear as the clear voice for the Mediterranean marine environment on the international policy level;
- Implement a media strategy with news and human interest stories to educate various audiences;
- Leverage synergies with our partners including UNEP HQ and the UNEP/MAP/GEF project “Medpartnership” whose resources and assets are complementary.

2.6.3 Targeted Campaigns: Stimulating active awareness

This strategy utilises a combination of complementary communications tools to ensure optimal message uptake and broadest possible reach in target regions. It also factors in the need to remain agile and locally relevant: different countries have different communication cultures, and with a toolbox of materials and initiatives, the communication mix can be varied and adapted as required whilst maintaining the overall message.

Key strategies:

- Focus on three key milestones projects and/or platforms each year to demonstrate impact and relevance and to drive steady media coverage that also taps into longer-lead feature opportunities;
 - Drive interest in and support for Med Coast Day;
 - Establish the State of the Environment report/bi-annual thematic reports as key plank for our external communication;
- Capitalize on synergies with stakeholders and local partners around key milestone projects/platforms in order to drive the news agenda;
- Leverage international milestones and observances to ensure broader relevance of our work (see Action Plan for more detail);
- Optimise impact of our information materials through better design, thematic focus and new distribution channels.

2.6.4 Proactive Partnerships: Raising the profile of our actions

This strategy outlines a set of approaches that seek to enhance MAP's overall visibility and impact. MAP partners and stakeholders play an immensely valuable role in this process as they lend their voice to our information and communication campaigns. Taking into consideration the limit of MAP resources and capabilities, improving stakeholder coordination, aligning messages, strategies and resources will increase efficiency as well as demonstrate impact and on-the-ground relevance.

Key strategies:

- Engage select advocacy NGOs to amplify media outreach efforts as well as to engage the general public with whom they have more direct ties;
- Enlist and empower third party advocates to amplify MAP messages through media and in information materials;
- Showcase work/collaboration with the private sector through business-media;
- Add voices of partner international organizations such as GEF in media to raise MAP's visibility with key audiences;
- Align in-country/regional communications efforts with key challenges and priorities to demonstrate relevance of MAP issues.

3. Measurement

It is important to consider measurement at the beginning and be clear from the start about what is to be achieved, how the objectives will be met and what measurements will be used along the way to monitor progress and success.

Measuring is directly linked with strategy and impact. It not only concerns quantitative results but also qualitative analysis of the significance and meaning behind the findings. In an environment where communication has the power to shape conversation and drive policy outcomes, it is critical to measure the effectiveness of all strategies and tactics.

As it is impossible to measure everything, and not everything that is important can be measured a manageable number of key indicators have been identified as areas of focus. The metrics that can be used are numerous and varied including: tracking the number of information requests put to INFO/RAC's, number of press briefings, perception tracking surveys, analyzing website traffic, setting up ratings buttons for online content etc.

A three-pronged approach to measurement will be applied, combining relevant metrics, strategic interpretation and forward-looking insights, including the following:

- Quantitative measures, such as media metrics, website hits and information requests;
- Advocacy measures, which track and evaluate engagement and delivery of messages by others;
- Reputation measures, which tap into media influencers to assess progress and inform changes to tactics and approaches.

Using the primary research conducted by an independent consultant in 2010 as a communications baseline/benchmark, a mid-term review in 2014/15 will be aimed for to use as opportunity to take stock of progress and, if necessary, calibrate the approach.

Success will result in key audiences having a positive regard for UNEP-MAP and its mission, accompanied by an awareness of key messages, and/or perceptions consistent with the message framework agreed in 2012.

4. Resources

This strategy can be partially implemented with the use of existing financial and human resources. Currently, the Coordinating Unit can rely on a budget of approximately EUR 180,000 for the two-year period of 2012-2013 dedicated to operationalising external communications activities in addition to some additional resources in the Regional Activity Centres. A Communications Officer who will be supported by an Information Assistant/Website Administrator will help us fully capitalise on our new approach.

5. Annex I – SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS

- Unique and successful representation of the region on equal footing
- Legal framework empowers Ministers for Environment
- Successful projects and outcomes in place
- Source of new data and research, and environmental knowledge and expertise
- Effective communication at technical level
- Holistic approach: scientific, technical, legal
- Strong network of partners
- Present online, understood and used by stakeholders familiar with MAP

OPPORTUNITIES

- Draw on region's diversity and knowledge
- Unique environmental bridge between North/South Mediterranean
- Partners willing to advocate MAP's goals
- Many stakeholders stand to benefit from engaging with MAP
- Global visibility on climate change
- Information increasingly accessed online – more interactive and wide-reaching
- Catalyst for environmental information outside of MAP

WEAKNESSES

- Mediterranean's different political priorities
- Governments do not always support Environment Ministries
- Confusion about MAP and its activities
- MAP's communications centre on focal points
- Complex internal structure
- Lack of centralized coordination between MAP and RACs
- Gaps in governance
- Information activities focus on technical level
- Lack of high-level political support

THREATS

- Decentralized structure makes it difficult to speak with one voice
- Limited financial resources and capacity unlikely to dramatically change
- Loss of some credibility because of insufficient concrete outcomes
- Varied online access across Mediterranean limits advocacy
- Lack of global visibility on some of MAP's issues

6. Annex II – Campaign approach

UNIFY

The One Voice campaign

- Create a clear communications structure in MAP
- Agree on common messaging based on solid research and therefore create a bigger push for the same environmental issues from MAP, including the MAP components and all of the partners
- Maximize internal buy-in with internal launch and consistent internal materials

MOBILISE

Proactive partnerships

- Implement 2012-2017 communications strategy, anchored around three key milestones projects or platforms each year
- Tailor materials to reach broader audiences
- Train MAP and partners through advocacy and regional communications workshops and support for select NGO partners to engage public
- Create same look, feel, messages on all websites – profile success stories

INSPIRE

Advocate Ignition

- Identify and engage select advocacy NGOs to amplify outreach efforts and inform key opinion formers
- Launch business roundtable to discuss MAP certification or criteria for partnership
- Leverage international organizations to raise visibility and influence with media and political audiences
- Engage the general public by tailoring materials, leveraging NGO partners and through media
- Implement a media strategy with news and human interest stories and background briefings to educate journalists