



United Nations Environment Programme



Distr.
RESTRICTED

UNEP/WG.118/2/Rev.1
24 January 1985

Original: ENGLISH

Third Meeting of the Working Group on
Scientific and Technical Co-operation
for MED POL

Athens, 27-31 May 1985

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, by adopting the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean (MED POL - PHASE II) at their second meeting in Cannes, 2-7 March 1981, agreed that:

"A standing Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation will be established by the Contracting Parties to assist them in their review of the progress of the programme and the evaluation of the results. It will advise UNEP on technical and policy matters related to the programme and prepare recommendations for submission through UNEP, as the secretariat of the Convention, to the meetings of the Contracting Parties. The Group will consist of national MED POL co-ordinators designated by the relevant national authorities and will meet at least once a year."
(UNEP/IG.23/11, annex V, paragraph 51.

The first meeting of the Working Group was held in Athens, 28 September - 2 October 1981, to review the steps proposed by the secretariat for the launching of MED POL - PHASE II, and to advise the secretariat on technical and policy matters related to MED POL (UNEP/WG.62/7).

The second meeting of the Working Group was also held in Athens, 21-25 November 1983, to review the progress made in the implementation of MED POL - PHASE II, as well as the planned activities for 1984 and 1985. The Working Group also reviewed the assessment of the state of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by mercury and micro-organisms, and the progress in the implementation of the protocols associated to the Convention (UNEP/WG.91/12).

The present third meeting of the Working Group is convened by the Executive Director of UNEP to review and evaluate the progress made by the MED POL programme since the second meeting of the Working Group and the activities proposed for 1986-1987 biennium, including their financial implications. In addition, the meeting will be asked to review those activities of the Mediterranean Action Plan which are either related to the implementation of MED POL or which may benefit from the results of MED POL.

The recommendations of the Working Group will be transmitted by the secretariat to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September, 1985) in order to assist them in the evaluation of the progress achieved in implementing the activities related to MED POL, and in deciding on their future development.

The following annotations of the proposed agenda for the meeting were prepared by the secretariat to assist the Working Group in their deliberations.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting.

The meeting will be opened at 10.00 hours on Monday, 27 May 1984, in the conference room of the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, Athens, by the representative of the Executive Director of UNEP. All National Co-ordinators for MED POL have been invited to attend the meeting as members of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation. Representatives of FAO, UNESCO, IOC, WHO, WMO, IAEA and IMO have also been invited to attend the meeting.

Agenda item 2. Rules of procedure.

The rules of procedure adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols will apply for the meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, annex XI).

Agenda item 3. Election of officers.

The meeting will be invited to elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

Agenda item 4. Adoption of the agenda.

The agenda, as proposed in document UNEP/WG.118/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the meeting.

Agenda item 5. Organization of work.

In view of the work expected to be accomplished, it is proposed that the Working Group works only in plenary sessions. Ad hoc discussion groups or drafting committees may be formed by the bureau of the meeting, in consultation with the secretariat. Simultaneous English - French interpretation will be available for all plenary sessions.

Agenda item 6. Progress in the implementation of the MED POL - PHASE II (1983-1985)

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/3, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with the co-operating agencies. It contains information on the progress achieved in the implementation of the monitoring and research activities of the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean (MED POL - PHASE II) since the last meeting of the Working Group.

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, to evaluate the reported progress in the implementation of MED POL and to make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Executive Director of UNEP with a view to their transmission to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September 1985).

Agenda item 7. Proposed monitoring and research activities for 1986 and 1987 and related budget provisions.

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/4, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with the relevant co-operating agencies. The document contains proposals for 1986 and 1987 monitoring and research activities and the related proposed for budgetary allocations.

The meeting will be invited to review and evaluate the proposals contained in the document and to make recommendations to the Executive Director of UNEP on the future developments and implementation of MED POL with a view to their transmission to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September 1985).

In particular, advice is expected from the Working Group with regard to the allocation of the financial assistance (equipment, technical assistance, training, fellowships, etc.) to the collaborating MED POL research centres participating in the monitoring and research networks.

Agenda item 8. Assessment of the present state of pollution by mercury in the Mediterranean Sea and review of the control measures taken by the Contracting Parties.

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/5, prepared in close collaboration with FAO and WHO and formerly issued as UNEP/WG.91/5.

The second meeting of the Working Group has reviewed preliminarily the basic contents and recommendations of the document. This meeting will be invited to review the document in detail and to consider the reports (UNEP/WG.118/Inf.22) which have been requested from MED POL National Co-ordinators on the control measures taken by their Government to implement the recommendation of the Contracting Parties to use the proposed FAO/WHO/UNEP interim environmental quality criteria for mercury in seafood as the basis for adoption of legal and/or administrative measures in their States (UNEP/IG.49/5). The recommendations of the Working Group will be transmitted to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September, 1985).

Agenda item 9. Assessment of the present state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and review of the control measures taken by the Contracting Parties.

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/6, prepared in close collaboration with WHO. The document is a revised version of formerly issued UNEP/WG.91/6.

The second meeting of the Working Group has reviewed preliminarily the basic contents and recommendations of the document. This meeting will be invited to review the document in detail and to consider the reports (UNEP/WG.118/Inf.22) which have been requested from MED POL National Co-ordinators on the control measures taken by their Government to implement the recommendations of the Contracting Parties to use the proposed WHO/UNEP interim environmental quality criteria for coastal recreational waters, shellfish and shellfish-growing waters as the basis for adoption of legal and/or administrative measures in their States (UNEP/IG.49/5). The recommendations of the Working Group will be transmitted to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September, 1985).

Agenda item 10. Assessment of the present state of pollution by petroleum hydrocarbons in the Mediterranean Sea.

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/7, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with IOC and based mainly on the results reported during the pilot phase of MED POL by laboratories participating in project MED POL I and through the Regional Oil Combatting Centre (ROCC), as well as on the results of discussions and recommendations by various expert meetings convened in the framework of MED POL and the ROCC.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document.

Agenda item 11. Progress in the implementation of the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft.

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.118/8, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of informations reported by the countries signatories of the protocol.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document, and in particular, the proposed recommendations prepared by the secretariat for the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (September 1985).

Agenda item 12. Meeting of experts for the technical implementation of the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea from land-based sources.

The secretariat will inform the Working Group on the preparations for the meeting of experts on the technical implementation of the Protocol on land-based sources (documents UNEP/WG.118/Inf.11 and UNEP/WG.118/Inf.12).

The Working Group will be invited to comment on the preparation for that meeting and to advise the secretariat on the strengthening of MED POL activities which may contribute to the implementation of the protocol.

Agenda item 13. Other business.

Other subjects relevant to MED POL which might be brought to the attention of the meeting by its participants or by the secretariat will be discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 14. Adoption of the report.

A draft report of the meeting will be submitted to participants for adoption.

Agenda item 15. Closure of the meeting.

The meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairman of the meeting and by the representative of the Executive Director at 18.00 hours on Friday, 31 May 1985.