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Introduction

1. The Twelfth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols, held in Monaco from 14 to 17 November 2001, accepted the offer of the Government of Italy to host the Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Catania. Accordingly, the Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols was held in the former Convento dei Benedettini, Catania, Italy, from 11 to 14 November 2003.

Attendance

2. The following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention were represented at the Meeting: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, European Community, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Turkey.

3. The following United Nations specialized bodies, specialized agencies and Convention Secretariats were represented by observers: World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), UNEP Basel Convention Secretariat, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (RAMSAR Convention) and METAP represented by the European Community.

4. The following intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations were represented by observers: IUCN-World Conservation Union, Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet), Amici per la Vita Onlus, Amigos del Mediterraneo, CEDIP-Centro Documentazione Internazionale Parchi, CIDCE-Centre Internationale de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement, Clean Up Greece, Friends of the Earth International, Friends of the Earth Middle East, Greenpeace International, HELMEPA-Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association, ICCOPS-International Centre for Coastal and Ocean Policy Studies, IEF-International Energy Foundation, IJOED-International Juridical Organization for Environment and Development, INDEMER-Institut du Droit Economique de la Mer, MAREVIVO, MEA-Mouvement Ecologique Algérien, MedCities, MIO-ECSDE –Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development, OCOME-Organisation des Communicatrices Méditerranéennes, SAD/AFAG-Underwater Research Society/Mediterranean Seal Research Group, SPNI-Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, UNASD-Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development, WWF-World Wildlife Fund for Nature.

5. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Global Programme of Action Office (UNEP/GPA), the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and the following MAP Regional Activity Centres were also represented: the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the Regional Activity Centre for the Blue Plan (BP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) and MAP Secretariat for 100 Mediterranean Historic Sites.

6. A complete list of participants is attached as **Annex I** to this report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

7. As required by Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties, the President elected by the Twelfth Ordinary Meeting, H.E. Mr.

Bernard Fautrier, Plenipotentiary Minister, Monaco, declared the Meeting open. Reviewing the past two years, he welcomed the fact that the new Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity Protocol (SPA and Biodiversity Protocol) had entered into force and expressed the hope that the new Emergency and Prevention Protocol would soon do so. He nevertheless regretted that two ratifications were still needed for the amended Convention to enter into force and hoped that these would be registered very soon so that this important instrument could come into effect very early in 2004. He paid tribute to the contribution made by NGOs over recent years to the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the region. He wished the new Bureau every success in its very important task of developing and implementing a truly effective Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. Finally, he paid tribute to the staff of MAP and to Mr. Lucien Chabason, whose 10 years as Coordinator would soon come to an end.

8. Mr Antonino D'Asoro, Commune of Catania, welcomed the delegates to the City of Catania, which was well placed to host such an important meeting in view of its commitment to the promotion of sustainable development. He added that, in collaboration with the association Amici per la Vita Onlus and the Ministry of the Environment, Catania was undertaking a new project consisting of an observatory on communication for environmental protection and healthy nutrition with a view to disseminating good practices for sustainable development. The project was based on an approach which considered the environment as a resource to be respected and defended in a context of the future planning of social, economic, territorial, commercial and occupational development that was compatible with the surrounding environment. He therefore hoped that the Thirteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties would prove to be a valuable opportunity for closer collaboration between countries with a view to achieving a future of peace and security in a particularly delicate global context.

9. Mr Ferdinando Latteri, Rector of the University of Catania, welcomed the delegates and expressed pride that this significant event was being hosted by his University. He emphasized the importance for Sicily and Italy of taking new action to promote cooperation in relation to the Euro-Mediterranean environment, particularly in such important areas as the protection of the Mediterranean coastal area, the sea flora and renewable energy supplies. He recalled that the Athenaeum of Catania, as one of the oldest European Universities, was a leading exponent of dialogue, solidarity and cooperation with Mediterranean countries in such areas as research and scientific and cultural exchanges to promote the integration of the various disciplines. He added that the general network of framework agreements with the most important cultural and academic institutions in these countries was being steadily extended, particularly in the form of the Polytechnic and the Humanistic Pole of the Mediterranean, which involved close synergy with national and regional governments and other Sicilian Athenaeums. This commitment should be focused on environmental protection, with particular emphasis on elements of causal interconnection and sustainable development, with a view to helping to resolve the contemporary conflict between the capacity of humankind to use resources and the resulting disturbances in the natural equilibrium. He therefore believed that the present Meeting would be a key event for the Mediterranean, with Sicily once again acting as a bridge between its northern and southern shores.

10. Mr Sergio Illuminato, Amici per la Vita Onlus, said that the organization of the present Meeting, during the six-month Italian Presidency of the European Union, capped over 12 years of support for UNEP in collaboration with MAP and the Italian Ministry of the Environment. He drew the attention of the participants to the important side events that were being held during the Meeting on the themes of environmental films and communication for sustainable development, as well as to the national radio campaign undertaken as initiatives by the observatory for communication on environmental protection and healthy nutrition (OCSASA). He expressed pride in the important contribution that was being made in this way

to placing the Barcelona Convention at the centre of specific awareness-raising and information activities, thereby promoting cultural exchanges and local action.

11. Mr. Lucien Chabason, MAP Coordinator, speaking on behalf of Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP, paid tribute to the Italian authorities, the Ministry of the Environment, the Sicilian region, the Municipality of Catania and Amici per la Vita Onlus for their organizational support and the warm welcome extended to all the participants at the Meeting. He also thanked all of the Contracting Parties for their continued and increased support for the work of MAP over the years. He welcomed the activities carried out by the many NGOs working in the fields of the environment and sustainable development and their value as MAP Partners. Finally, he congratulated the members of the outgoing Bureau on the progress that had been achieved in following up the implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Monaco.

12. The Meeting observed a one-minute silence in tribute to the victims of the bomb attack in Nasiriya, Iraq, on 12 November 2003 and expressed condolences and sympathy for the people and authorities of Italy for the loss of their fellow countrymen.

Agenda item 2: Rules of procedure

13. The Meeting noted that the Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.43/6, Annex XI), as amended by the Eighth Ordinary Meeting, would apply to its deliberations.

Agenda item 3: Election of officers

14. In accordance with Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure and in conformity with the recommendations of the informal meeting of the Heads of Delegations, the Meeting unanimously elected the following officers:

President:	Mr. Corrado Clini	(Italy)
Vice-President:	H.E. Mr Lufter Xhuveli	(Albania)
Vice-President:	H.E. Mr Cherif Rahmani	(Algeria)
Vice-President:	Mr. Mohamed Borhan	(Egypt)
Vice-President:	Ms. Soledad Blanco	(European Community)
Rapporteur:	Mr. Philippe Lacoste	(France)

15. The Contracting Parties requested the Bureau to consider and clarify the issue of representation and membership of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

16. Mr. Corrado Clini (Italy), the newly elected President of the Bureau, took the chair. After welcoming the participants, he confirmed his country's commitment to the Barcelona Convention as a central element in a new phase of cooperation at the Mediterranean level. He emphasized that much needed to be done over the next two years, including the preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, which would be a central pillar of regional development in the years to come.

Agenda item 4: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

17. In a discussion of the provisional agenda (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/1) and the proposed timetable in the annotated provisional agenda (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/2), it was suggested that it would be more appropriate to address Agenda item 11 on the adoption of the Catania Declaration on Thursday morning when all the Ministers would be present. A number of clarifications were also given concerning the order in which the proposed recommendations would be discussed, with particular reference to those in brackets, which had been left for consideration by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties. Finally, it was agreed that two witnesses of pollution in the Mediterranean, brought forward by Greenpeace, would be able to address the Meeting for ten minutes each during the discussion of Agenda item 8 on the implementation of the strategy for the reduction of pollution from land-based sources.

18. The Meeting welcomed the holding of a number of side events organized by France (The French Ecological Protection Zone), Spain (CAMP Mar Menor), MAREVIVO (Rights, Obligations and Controls for a Sea with Quality) and Amici per la Vita Onlus (Forum on Communication, Environment Safeguard and Healthy Nutrition).

19. With the above modifications, the Meeting adopted the provisional agenda (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/1) and the proposed timetable in the annotated provisional agenda (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/2). The Agenda is attached as **Annex II** to this report.

Agenda item 5: Credentials of representatives

20. In accordance with Rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau of the Contracting Parties met on 13 November 2003 under its President to examine the credentials of the representatives of the Contracting Parties attending the Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties. It found the credentials in order and so reported to the Meeting, which approved the Bureau's report on 13 November 2003.

Agenda item 6: Adoption of Recommendations and Programme Budget for 2004-2005

21. Introducing the item, the Coordinator drew attention to the report by the Secretariat on programme, recommendations and budget for the 2004-2005 biennium (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3) and recalled that most of the proposed recommendations had been endorsed by the MAP Focal Points at their meeting in Athens from 15 to 18 September 2003. It was now necessary to validate those recommendations, which would then become final.

Coordination

Legal Framework

22. With regard to the recommendations concerning the legal framework, the Coordinator gave a summary of the current status of ratifications of the revised Convention and the new and revised Protocols, taking into account the most recent information available. Two ratifications were still required for the revised Barcelona Convention to enter into force. A total of fourteen Contracting Parties had ratified the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, which had entered into force in December 1999. However, only four had ratified the Offshore Protocol and the Hazardous Wastes Protocol, respectively. The ratification of the Convention by the Syrian Arab Republic had been taken into account in the new table provided by Spain, which is attached to the present report as Annex VI. While the revised Convention had not yet entered into force, the day when it would do so was not far off. He therefore urged those Contracting Parties that had not yet ratified the revised Convention and its new and revised Protocols to do so.

23. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic confirmed her country's ratification of the revised Convention and the new SPA and Biodiversity Protocol and hoped that it had thereby contributed to their entry into force.
24. The representative of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro said that the process of ratification of the Convention was well under way in her country. Following the approval of ratification by the individual States of Serbia and Montenegro, the Assembly of the State Union was due to approve the law for the acceptance of the amendments to the Convention very shortly.
25. The representative of Croatia said that her country had ratified almost all instruments except the LBS Protocol and Offshore Protocol, although the ratification of the latter was under preparation. Regarding the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, the instrument of ratification had been forwarded to the depositary country.
26. The observer representing Greenpeace commended all the Contracting Parties that had accepted the amendments to the instruments in question, but expressed particular concern at the lack of progress regarding the LBS Protocol and the low rates of ratification of the Offshore and Hazardous Wastes Protocol. He therefore proposed that a recommendation be included urging the Contracting Parties to ratify the Hazardous Wastes and Offshore Protocols.
27. The representative of Turkey said that his country had ratified almost all the Protocols and amendments, and that ratification of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol was currently before the National Assembly.
28. The Coordinator drew attention to the particular importance of the LBS Protocol and Offshore Protocol, given that the important issues involved were not covered by any global legal instrument. As a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) to eliminate land-based pollution had been drawn up in relation to the LBS Protocol, it was particularly important to consolidate the legal framework in that area, among other reasons, as a basis for action by MAP within the framework of the SAP.
29. The representative of Cyprus, referring to the proposed regional instrument for ICAM, suggested that the wording of the relevant recommendation be strengthened to focus on the need for the Contracting Parties to take urgent action to halt and reverse the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone. In a brief discussion, several representatives emphasized that the sustainable management of coastal areas was vital for the reduction of land-based pollution.
30. The Coordinator drew attention to the recommendation concerning the establishment of a Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts on promoting implementation and compliance with the Barcelona Convention and recalled that it would be necessary to designate the members of the Working Group during the Meeting.
31. In response to a request for clarification, Ms. Tatjana Hema (MEDU Programme Officer), explained that the "platform" referred to in the recommendations to promote implementation and compliance with the Barcelona Convention would consist of a paper containing the main elements of the mechanism for ensuring compliance with the Convention. She added that it had already been agreed to harmonize the reporting format with the formats used by other organizations or for other agreements, and that the Working Group would be composed of six experts to be financed out of the MAP budget, but that membership was open to other Contracting Parties at their own expense. The recommendations had been amended by the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points in the light of the experience of the pilot study on compliance reporting.

32. The representatives of Croatia, Greece, Israel, Spain and the Syrian Arab Republic expressed an interest in participating in the Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts.

33. The Meeting approved the recommendations contained in Annex III to this report.

Institutional framework

34. With reference to the recommendations concerning the proposed external overall evaluation of MAP, the Coordinator recalled that the proposal had budgetary implications which would need to be examined when discussing the recommendations relating to financial matters.

35. The representative of Spain suggested that CP/RAC should not be excluded from the evaluation process, since it was important to give visibility to the added value given by the CP/RAC in connection with the achievement of the MAP's goals in the field of its responsibilities. The Coordinator said that thus far MAP had evaluated only the centres over which it had financial control but, if the Contracting Parties so agreed, evaluation could be extended to other centres such as CP/RAC during the following biennium, and also later to ERS/RAC, once it had been restructured. Several representatives agreed to the proposal and the representative of Cyprus called for the evaluation methodology to be assessed with a view to improving the process and learning lessons from past evaluations.

36. The representative of Tunisia emphasized the positive evaluation of SPA/RAC and pledged his country's commitment to providing the Centre with technical, moral and material support in the future.

37. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Cooperation and partnership with United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other partners

38. The representative of Greece emphasized the importance of MAP becoming involved in the implementation of the decisions of the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (UNCSD) at the regional level, and accordingly proposed an amendment to strengthen the recommendation calling for the Secretariat to request accreditation of the Barcelona Convention with ECOSOC.

39. The representative of Spain proposed the addition of a reference to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (London Convention) in the recommendation calling upon the Secretariat to strengthen its cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies.

40. With regard to the recommendation mandating the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to review and decide upon applications by NGOs, the representative of Cyprus proposed an amendment to the effect that the Contracting Parties should be informed as soon as possible of any changes in the list of MAP partners.

41. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Meetings

42. One representative noted that the recommendations to the Secretariat would result not only in lower costs, but would also serve to increase exchanges of experience.

43. The Meeting approved the recommendations contained in Annex III to this report.

Information, public awareness and public participation

44. Introducing the item, the Coordinator noted that the sums necessary to implement the recommendations, which were in accordance with the provisions of Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention, had been included in the draft budget 2004-2005.

45. General support was expressed for the concept of improving communication with a wider public, although several amendments were submitted to improve the transparency of the recommendations. In that vein, it was suggested that all MAP meetings be open to journalists.

46. The representatives of Spain and Cyprus emphasized the importance of the term 'strategic' in the second recommendation to the Secretariat, as a real strategy was needed to involve civil society in the work of the MAP, with a strategic core of people responsible for specific activities. A pragmatic plan should be prepared.

47. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report

Financial matters

48. The Coordinator introduced the six recommendations to the Contracting Parties and pointed out that the United Nations Office in Nairobi had expressed support for all the recommendations of a financial nature.

49. The representative of Spain introduced three recommendations to the Secretariat, which appeared in the addendum to UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5 REV1. The first was meant to stabilize the budget between biennia. The purpose of the second recommendation was to increase the transparency of the budget, and the third was meant to provide assessments that could be used in planning programmes for the following biennium. Several representatives added that the stability of the budget, taking into account the inflation rate, was related only to mandatory contributions and did not take into consideration other sources, such as voluntary contributions.

50. In response to a request for clarification from the representative of Serbia and Montenegro, it was explained that her country's annual contribution for 2004-2005 would be 18 000 euros, based on the most recent evaluation from UNON Headquarters.

51. In answer to queries, Mr. Khaled Ben Salah, Fund Administrative Officer (UNEP/MAP), said that arrears would be expressed in euros on the basis of the dollar/euro exchange rate at the time the budget for 2004-2005 was approved. In reply to the Syrian delegate question, Mr. Chabason said:

- 1) The 2003 contributions must be remitted in accordance with the letter sent by UNON to the respective countries,
- 2) Amounts of Contributions for 2004 and 2005 will be officially sent by UNON in euros to the respective countries in a similar way. The calculation of 2004-2005 contributions was based on contributions as adopted for 2003 in euros by the 12th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Monaco,
- 3) Arrears for previous years (2002) will be inserted in a new table with the exchange rate prevailing at the time where 2004-2005 budget was approved (Nov. 2003).

52. The Coordinator said that a number of other adjustments would have to be made to the budget to cover additional activities decided upon at the meeting of National Focal Points. Those activities were summarized in Document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3 (section I). The first two activities had direct budgetary implications, and they had been accommodated by internal reallocations of funding. However, there were three activities for which no modification was proposed in the draft budget, namely: annual meetings of REMPEC Focal Points (instead of the current meeting once every biennium); partial financing of the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties, which would make it easier for all the countries in the region to host a meeting of the Contracting Parties, if they so wished; and a new temporary post for the preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, which as a temporary post could be financed from the Revolving Fund.

53. Several representatives expressed strong support for the proposal to hold annual meetings of the REMPEC Focal Points, in view of the urgency of the problem of preventing and responding to marine pollution emergency incidents. Funds would also be needed to implement the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol.

54. Another area in which funding still needs to be identified was the extension of the mandate of ERS/RAC, as restructured according to the proposal made by Italy, which also made provision for the financing of the Centre; and for the relaunching of the '100 Historic Sites' programme, which was being processed by France and Tunisia, but would require some funding from MAP. Funding is also needed to be found for the overall evaluation of MAP.

55. For these latter activities, the Coordinator was confident that the necessary resources could be found from various sources within the financing available to MAP, such as slippage on projects, extra-budgetary donations or increases in interest rates, as well as budgetary reallocations during the implementation of the programmes in 2004-2005. In accordance with its mandate, the Bureau would be responsible for seeking and authorizing funding for activities approved by the Contracting Parties.

56. On this understanding, the Meeting approved the recommendations contained in Annex III to this report.

Components

Pollution Prevention and Control

57. The Coordinator recalled that the recommendations under discussion had been reviewed and approved by the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points, with the exception of the recommendations concerning the 50 per cent reduction in BOD from industrial sources, which would be considered in relation to the implementation of the SAP and the 20 per cent reduction in the generation of hazardous waste.

58. Following a discussion of the recommendation concerning the need to take into account the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation throughout the implementation of the SAP, it was recalled that issues such as the use of renewable energy, which were of great importance for sustainable development, would be considered by the MED POL Programme in the context of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).

59. Mr. Civili (MED POL Coordinator) said that the recommendations concerning the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and cleaner production were the fruit of the very close cooperation between MED POL and CP/RAC, an example to be followed in the future. They were also the outcome of intensive work on two Regional Plans containing enormous amounts of data and lengthy discussions and negotiations at the various meetings of focal points. The proposals set specific targets and deadlines for the

reduction of BOD from industrial sources and hazardous waste from industrial installations. The aim had been to set feasible targets and the original earlier deadlines had therefore been changed to 2010. Other international agreements, such as the Basel Convention, and the work of other organizations, including the European Community, had been taken into account. He pointed out that the Regional Plans would be fully updated on the basis of the finalized national baseline budgets due to be ready by the end of 2003.

60. Mr. Victor Macia (CP/RAC Director), referring specifically to the reduction of the generation of hazardous waste, stipulated that the targeted reduction referred to the "hazardous waste generation factor" (quantity of industrial waste generated in relation to industrial GDP in Euro). Countries should work towards the reduction objectives through the implementation of National Action Plans based on the SAP Operational Strategy adopted in Monaco in 2001, taking into account the level of compliance of waste generators with the applicable legislation. The countries themselves would identify the exact areas or installations where such reductions would be targeted. As was the case for BOD, missing data would be supplied from the baseline budget and a review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan would be carried out in 2007.

61. The Coordinator said that the recommendations under consideration were of vital importance in that they represented concrete measures in keeping with the much discussed issue of sustainable development. While there was insufficient data on BOD from industrial sources and hazardous waste from industrial installations, there could be no doubt that huge amounts of pollution were entering the Mediterranean Sea. Industries should be encouraged to take responsibility through investment to make their activities compatible with tourism the protection of the natural environment. Yet in some countries the amounts of industrial waste were on the increase, unlike industrial production itself. The targets and figures proposed in the recommendations were far from arbitrary. They were in line with the relevant proposals of the European Commission and were based on thorough research. It was his hope that the targets could be more rigorous when reviewed in 2007.

62. With regard to the recommendations related to the Dumping Protocol, Mr. Civili, introducing the revised recommendations contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5 Rev 1, explained that it had become necessary to change the recommendations provisionally approved by the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points, which had been based on the assumption that the text of the draft guidelines on the dumping of inert uncontaminated geological materials would be in line with those adopted by a meeting held in October 2003 under the London Convention. However, the London Convention meeting had not been decisive and it was therefore necessary to wait a little longer before adopting definitive guidelines. In these circumstances, it was proposed to call upon the Contracting Parties to provide information to the Secretariat on the procedures used at the national level for the dumping of such materials. This information would then be used for the finalization of the guidelines in due time.

63. The representative of Spain emphasized the importance of the Contracting Parties implementing the recommendation as rapidly as possible with a view to contributing to the London Convention process with regard to the dumping of inert uncontaminated geological materials.

64. With reference to the recommendations concerning REMPEC, the Coordinator noted that they called for the preparation of a regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea. He indicated that the necessary funding would be included in the budget.

65. The representative of Monaco recalled that action in this area had first been initiated by the Institut du droit économique de la mer, based in Monaco. He said that his country

would be willing to host the proposed meeting of national legal and technical experts on this subject in 2004.

66. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Sustainable management of coastal zones

67. The Coordinator, introducing the recommendations, recalled that the corresponding recommendations for the preparation of a legal instrument had been approved by the representatives earlier in the day. A budgetary allocation had been made to continue the implementation of coastal area management projects (CAMPs) in Algeria and to start a project in Slovenia. The Bureau had recommended that concrete proposals be made to assist other countries in such activities.

68. The representative of Serbia and Montenegro announced her country's interest in instituting a CAMP for the Montenegrin coast and its intention to work with the PAP/RAC to that end.

69. The representative of Spain presented the viability study for the CAMP Mar Menor (Murcia-Spain). The meeting welcomed this initiative.

70. The meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, contained in Annex III to this report.

Biological diversity and Specially Protected Areas

71. The new Director of the SPA/RAC in Tunis, Ms. Zeineb Belkhir, summarized the main points of the recommendations concerning biological diversity and specially protected areas, covering the aspects of: the collection of data and periodic assessment of the situation; planning and management; the implementation of the action plans; the elaboration of new action plans; public information; the selection, establishment and management of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs); training activities concerning specially protected areas and species conservation; and the project for the elaboration of the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP/BIO).

72. The representative of Spain drew attention to the proposed inclusion in the SPAMI list of the Parque nacional marítimo terrestre del Archipiélago de Cabrera, clarifying that this was not in fact the only national park in the Spanish network, as stated in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf. 15, but the only joint maritime/land archipelago in the Mediterranean. He called upon all parties to contribute to the progress that needed to be made regarding Specially Protected Areas.

73. The representative of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF – International) drew attention to the need for integrated protection in relation to the PSSAs and MPAs. WWF – International had drawn up a list of urgent SPAMIs which he appealed to all Contracting Parties to endorse so that by the subsequent meeting of the Contracting Parties their integrated protection could be ensured in the context of the preservation of biodiversity.

74. The Coordinator replied that at the recent World Congress on Protected Areas held in Durban it had been highlighted that coastal area protection was very low in comparison to the protection of land areas. Attention had therefore been drawn to the need to extend the protection of coastal areas, and UNEP Executive Director Dr Klaus Töpfer had called for the number of maritime protected areas to be increased. He endorsed the appeal issued by WWF – International to embark on action to protect coastal areas, and emphasized that

closer collaboration was needed between countries, MAP and other international bodies on the subject, pointing to the example of the protection area for cetaceans resulting from the agreement between Monaco, France and Italy.

75. The meeting approved the recommendations (as amended), contained in Annex III to this report.

Integrating environment and development

76. The Coordinator recalled that, in the context of the report that was being prepared by the Blue Plan on environment and development in the Mediterranean region, the recommendations originally submitted to the Meeting of the MAP National Focal Points had been redrafted to make them more focused and concise.

77. In a brief discussion of the proposed recommendations, it was emphasized that the dissemination of MAP/Blue Plan documents should be targeted and coordinated to achieve the optimal impact and to avoid a situation of information overload.

78. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Environmental Remote Sensing Regional Activity Centre (ERS/RAC)

79. The representative of Italy introduced an informal document containing recommendations and a programme budget for 2004-2005 for a restructured ERS/RAC. The restructuring was being undertaken in order to refocus and consolidate the operation of the Centre. The management of the Centre would now be entirely in public hands, under the responsibility of the Sicilian Region and the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory, with the private company that had previously managed the Centre only providing services. That would meet concerns regarding competition with the European Space Agency. The Centre would also optimise its information and communication technology and train operators, in line with Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention. Other information activities within MAP would also benefit from the Centre's activities. The total estimated cost for the biennium 2004-2005 would be about 1 800 000 euros. If the Contracting Parties adopted the proposal, they should also consider how the programme was to be sustained in the future. A plan to implement the proposal should be developed with the Secretariat so that the restructuring could be completed by 2005.

80. The representative of Spain said that his country would be willing to cooperate in ensuring that the restructuring fulfilled the three main aims of: increasing knowledge and information, on the basis of satellite imaging of the Mediterranean; fostering effective communication between countries; and ensuring that exchanges were based on interoperability. If the name of the Centre was to be changed to reflect its new activities, it was important that the term 'remote sensing' be retained.

81. Several representatives agreed that care should be taken to avoid duplication in MAP's information and communication activities. The representative of Greece emphasized that the Centre should not only carry out monitoring by remote sensing, but should make the resulting database available for use by all the Contracting Parties. Moreover, it was also stressed that the concept of "e-governance" should be handled carefully.

82. The Coordinator welcomed the proposal, which had no additional budgetary implications for MAP. He hoped that the new collaboration would result in an improvement of the MAP website. The comments that had been made would be taken into consideration in the final wording of the recommendations.

83. The meeting approved the recommendations, as amended to reflect the above comments, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Reorientation of the '100 Historic Sites' programme

84. The representative of France, introducing the plan for the reorientation of the '100 Historic Sites' programme, recalled that the programme had been originally introduced in 1985 to add a cultural dimension to the work of MAP. An audit of the programme in 2001 had concluded that it should be linked to sustainable development, which was now MAP's central mission. It had also been recommended that multinational relations should be strengthened. The MCSD had been asked to make proposals for the reorientation of the programme. The report contained in Annex IV of document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3 indicated that heritage sites of different kinds should be identified and that means of raising interest in the sites should be found. Funds would be sought from various international, regional and local partners and heritage associations. Two recommendations to the Contracting Parties were therefore proposed concerning the transformation of the 'Historic Sites programme' into a programme for the Mediterranean cultural heritage and sustainable development and inviting Tunisia and France, in consultation with the Secretariat, to seek partners interested in participating in the programme, to specify the precise arrangements for the implementation of the programme, and to report on it regularly.

85. The Meeting approved the recommendations contained in Annex III to this report.

General statements

86. H.E. Mr. Altero Matteoli, Minister of the Environment and Territory of Italy, welcomed the participants to the Meeting and paid tribute to all those, including the City of Catania and the Sicilian region, which had contributed to hosting the Meeting in such beautiful surroundings. He said that Italy was hosting this very important international Meeting as both a Mediterranean country and the current President of the European Union. He emphasized that the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Action Plan, as the first regional cooperation agreement for sustainable development, had investigated a valuable process of regional cooperation and integration which, among other results, had facilitated the establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership between the countries of the European Union and those on the southern shore of the Mediterranean. He added that MAP now had a vital role to play in the development of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD). In this respect, it would be important to ensure effective synergy at the institutional level within MAP and its activity centres, while extending bilateral and multilateral environmental cooperation in the region. He referred in this connection to the partnership programmes undertaken by Italy with many Mediterranean countries and added that Italy had set up a special trust fund of 15 million euros under the World Bank for the co-financing of projects undertaken by Italian enterprises in the fields of renewable sources of energy, the protection and conservation of water resources and action to combat desertification. Italy had also undertaken to restructure and strengthen the ERS/RAC Centre in Palermo to provide support for the remote sensing and monitoring of the sea and the coast. Finally, Italy would finance MAP activities for the preparation of the MSSD to an amount of 100,000 euros over the biennium and would host the next meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development in April/May 2004. Another important initiative in this field was the International Forum for Partnership in Sustainable Development, to be held in Rome in March 2004. In conclusion, he hoped that the present Meeting would provide a basis for the development of new models of partnership and cooperation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean. The full text of H.E. Mr. Matteoli's speech is contained in Annex VII to this report.

87. Ms. Marina Noè, Industrial Assessor, Sicily, said that the presence of so many Ministers at the Meeting was a tangible demonstration of the increasing unity within the

Mediterranean area. It was highly appropriate that such an important meeting was being held in Sicily, which was particularly sensitive to the issues of environmental protection and food security and was fully committed to taking up the dual global challenge of preserving the natural and marine ecosystems and promoting energy and food security, which formed the basis for sustainable development. She recalled that Sicily also hosted one of the MAP activity centres, namely ERS/RAC, which would be restructured in its functions of providing support for remote sensing in the Mediterranean Basin, with a view to observing conditions and any changes in the natural ecosystems in the Mediterranean. She hoped that the Meeting would address other important environmental and sustainable development issues in the region, with particular reference to maritime safety. In this respect, she emphasized that it was necessary to prevent any further ecological disasters in the region. Governments therefore needed to develop common strategies for the safety of maritime traffic and the treatment of wastewaters from ships. She called on Mediterranean coastal states to require certificates attesting to the construction of ships passing through the Mediterranean, which should all have double hulls, and for specially approved institutions to carry out specific supervision in this respect. While ballast waters from ships should not be subject to over-restrictive rules, other wastewater from ships needed to be properly treated with the installation and use of appropriate reception facilities in ports.

88. Mr. Umberto Scapagnini, Mayor of Catania, welcomed all the participants to a Meeting which was an important occasion for the City of Catania and would carry out an essential function in reviewing the environmental situation in the region and in further developing rules and agreements on the protection of the Sea. In view of its central position in the Mediterranean, Sicily was strategically placed to act as a point of reference in promoting collaboration between the countries on the northern and southern shores of their common sea. In this respect, he called on the Meeting to address a number of vital issues for the Mediterranean. The first of these concerned the maritime traffic passing through the Mediterranean Sea. A high level of cooperation was required so that Mediterranean countries could control this potential risk effectively. Great efforts were also needed from governments throughout the region to face up to the challenge of pollution from land-based sources. Moreover, it was vital to preserve biodiversity in the particularly difficult conditions of the Mediterranean Sea in order to safeguard the future of the generations to come. This would require a more balanced approach to the application of technological progress. He added that Catania was particularly active in supporting a number of initiatives intended to promote important aspects of sustainable development. These included the Observatory on Communication on Environmental Conservation and Healthy Nutrition, in collaboration with Amici per la Vita Onlus, and the Sasa cinema event on environmental and nutrition issues, as well as the organization of a meeting of Ministers of Education and Research from Mediterranean countries. All of these activities were focused on the issue of communication, which was vital in order to raise awareness so that the environment and natural resources could be preserved for future generations.

89. Mr Shafqat Kakakhel, Deputy Executive Director, UNEP, welcomed the participants to the Meeting on behalf of UNEP. He paid tribute to the current Coordinator of MAP, who was shortly to retire; the name of his successor would be announced shortly. He expressed admiration and gratitude to Mr Chabason for his leadership and dedication, and said that his great vision, professionalism and diplomacy had been instrumental in ensuring the success of MAP. He added that MAP was UNEP's flagship regional seas programme, providing a shining example to other regions of how countries could collaborate to address common environmental challenges and promote sustainable development. Although MAP had required support from UNEP in its early years, it was now a strong, independent entity. It set a good example for partnerships, collaborating with other members of the United Nations system, other international institutions, including the European Commission, and donor agencies such as the Global Environment Facility and Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial. Finance was one of the main determinants of the sustainability of the programme, and prospects for new support from the Global Environment Facility would facilitate future

implementation of MAP. MAP's contribution to development of the European Marine Strategy, an ambitious approach to protecting marine ecosystems and to sustainable use of marine resources, would be vital. UNEP planned to enhance and revitalize its Regional Seas Programme, so as to build on existing achievements and to reflect the United Nations General Assembly Millennium Goals and the outcomes of the Johannesburg Summit. Greater participation of all partners and stakeholders, including civil society, would be encouraged. He assured the meeting of UNEP's continued support for MAP. The full text of Mr Kakakhel's speech is contained in **Annex VIII** to this report.

**Agenda item 7: Implementing the Johannesburg Plan in the Mediterranean:
Prospects for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable
Development and preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for
Sustainable Development**

90. The Chairperson recalled that one of the main goals of the Barcelona Convention was to ensure balanced use of resources by the countries of the Mediterranean to improve economic development while at the same time protecting the environment. The progress to be made over the coming biennium would depend on a common vision and a renewed sense of responsibility, with strengthened cooperation, not only among the countries of the region, but also within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

91. Mr. Arab Hoballah, Deputy Coordinator, introduced the item, drawing attention to section III of document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3, the recommendations contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5, and documents UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/10 and UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.8. Vision and orientations were prepared that would consolidate the framework for the preparation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), which would be presented to the Contracting Parties at their next ordinary meeting. Efforts had been made to increase the visibility of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) during the preparation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, and a series of publications had been issued. Furthermore, a proposal for a partnership initiative had been prepared, which would further improve the visibility and preparation of the MSSD. UNEP/MAP would also seek accreditation to attend meetings of the United Nations ECOSOC and UNCSD. Nevertheless, further progress was required, with a better communication strategy. A number of issues related to sustainable development that had been raised at the World Summit, including poverty and gender equality, were also relevant to the Mediterranean region and would be taken into account in the strategy. The programme of work of the MCSD would be reviewed, in the same way as that of the United Nations CSD, with an implementation review one year and policy discussions and negotiations the next. The preparatory process for the MSSD has involved high-level experts in the environment and other fields, including finance. A clear political impetus was needed from the Contracting Parties so that the MSSD could encompass a wider range of issues, including: economic development; innovation, education and training; preservation of cultural diversity; national and local governance; and peace and security. The preparation would involve all components of the MAP, in collaboration with United Nations agencies, the European Union and civil society.

92. Mr. Paul Mifsud, on behalf of H.E. Mr. George Pullicino, Minister for Rural Affairs and the Environment of Malta, paid homage to the work of Mr. Chabason in advancing the work of MAP. He had had the privilege of working with the Coordinator at the meeting held in Malta in 1999. The MCSD was an important initiative, and much had been accomplished; nevertheless, a number of problems had been identified by the Task Force that had been established to review the Commission's work. In his view, the way forward would be to focus the new strategy on the issues that had been clearly outlined in the Mediterranean Declaration to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. He further proposed that the Coordinator should be more directly involved in the work of the MCSD. It

was essential that a Mediterranean strategy for Sustainable Development be in place by 2005.

93. H.E. Mr. Dragisa Burzan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro, indicated that, based on the new constitutional arrangements agreed to and bearing in mind the importance of the Adriatic Sea for Montenegro, the Government of Montenegro would be acting within MAP on behalf of the State Union. The Barcelona Convention and its Protocols were in the final phase of the ratification process in Serbia and Montenegro. His country's active membership in MAP, resulting in the promotion of the sustainable development of the Montenegrin coast, would help achieve some key goals of Serbia and Montenegro's national environment policy. He pledged his cooperation with MAP's bodies and hoped that the integration of his country in all MAP programmes would be given full support by the Contracting Parties and Secretariat, and he invited the Secretariat to offer support in particular with regard to the drawing up of the National Action Plan in the framework of MEDPOL. Acknowledging the importance of the SAP/BIO project for the protection of biodiversity in the Mediterranean, he asked for his country to be included in the project's preliminary phase. He attached importance to cooperation with the MCSD and the formulation of a CAMP project in his country to promote the goals of sustainable development. Closer cooperation with the European Commission was also important, particularly regarding the preparation of the European Marine Strategy, which would define guidelines and measures for the reduction of pollution and the protection of the marine environment in the Mediterranean Sea. He added that he hoped for assistance from the European Commission in improving and harmonizing his country's legal capacities in relation to the above areas.

94. H.E. Ms. Tokia Saifi, Secretary of State for Sustainable Development of France, said that France continued to attach great importance to the WSSD and was closely following the activities of the UNCSD, whose work would serve as a basis for the MCSD. She emphasized the importance of improving the MCSD's methods of work, particularly by reinforcing the follow-up of the implementation of its recommendations. She added that the ten-year work programme for sustainable production and consumption was of great importance for both North and South and that economic, social and environmental aspects were an integral part of sustainable development. She added that local authorities needed to be involved in the implementation of the Johannesburg commitments and that it was important to take into account the links between the environment and cultural diversity. Indeed, these were the pillars of the French national strategy for sustainable development. The outcome of work to prepare the MSSD should be ambitious but realistic, and concentrate on a few specific areas, rather than efforts being dispersed. In her view, the preparation of the MSSD should be inspired by the work currently being undertaken by the Blue Plan, with particular reference to the report on environment and development. In conclusion, she indicated that France's contribution to Mediterranean sustainable development efforts would include the hosting of an informal meeting of experts at the end of February 2004 in Marseille, with the aim of reaffirming the identity of the Mediterranean region and generating operational proposals based on a vision shared by all the active partners at the regional, national and local levels.

95. H.E. Mr. Bernard Fautrier, Minister Plenipotentiary of Monaco, pledged his country's support for the work being carried out by MAP. He said that he endorsed the preparatory work for the MSSD, as presented in the documents submitted to the Meeting, and had no objections to the proposed recommendations. With regard to the future of the MCSD, he emphasized that care should be taken to ensure that its work was neither too dispersed nor too ambitious, but should focus on the themes of the ten-year programme established at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg that were of importance for the Mediterranean.

96. H.E. Mr. Lufter Xhuvëli, Minister of the Environment of Albania, said that his country attached great importance to the protection of the environment and, in the much more

favourable climate that now existed concerning environmental protection in Albania, it was fully intended to bring the national legislation, monitoring and reporting systems related to the environment into line with the European model, with the support and help of the international community. Albania had ratified the Barcelona Convention and all other MAP instruments, except for the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, the ratification of which was expected shortly. He expressed his appreciation of the work carried out by all MAP bodies, particularly regarding their efforts to help Albania fulfil its obligations under the Convention and Protocols. He expressed his agreement in principle with the recommendations and programme budget prepared by the Secretariat; however, their implementation would require effective political support and financial resources, and in that respect he was in favour of promoting partnership between MAP structures and the European Commission and other actors in their respective fields of common interest. He attached importance to the MSSD and to the regional strategy for the reduction of land-based sources pollution, in relation to which Albania was now preparing a national strategy for which he would welcome support. In this respect, he also expressed interest in developing a national strategy for a water monitoring programme in conjunction with MEDPOL.

97. Mr. Michael Constantinides, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus, acknowledged the importance of the MAP process in addressing the problems of the Mediterranean region. He said that clear guidelines for sustainable development still needed to be worked out and regional cooperation strengthened. Free trade issues had to become compatible with environmental concerns, which should be integrated upstream in development policies. He expressed the view that the MCSD was more relevant than ever in the post-WSSD era and welcomed the MCSD's composition, pluralism and participatory approach. He drew attention to the need to protect freshwater resources and the challenges posed by climate change, which in his view were two of the major issues to be covered by the MSSD. He concluded by emphasizing the social and cultural dimensions of sustainable development and the need for multilateral support in this respect.

98. Mr. Juan Maria del Alamo Jimenez, Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of Spain, said that MAP was at a crucial stage in its existence as the Johannesburg Summit was beginning to produce results. The Government of Spain was fully committed to the goals agreed upon by the international community at the Summit, in particular the fight against poverty and the new Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development should be seen as a logical follow-on to those commitments. It was urgent to determine precisely how the MSSD should be prepared, to identify the interested parties and involve them in the entire process. MAP was the ideal framework in which to prepare the MSSD, but the Contracting Parties and the general public also had to be involved. The Euro-Mediterranean political context was appropriate for developing the MSSD, provided that the priorities agreed upon in Johannesburg were respected. The fundamental principles to be applied had already been defined at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference (Barcelona, 1995) and confirmed at the Fifth Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Foreign Ministers (Valencia, 2002). Spain was convinced that peace, stability and security were common values to be strengthened by all countries in the region by all the means at their disposal. He added that the document "Preparation for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development: Vision and Orientations" would serve as a useful basis for preparing the final text, which should contain practical suggestions for including the relevant financial institutions and other actors in the implementation of the strategy. Looking to the more distant future, he hoped that it might be possible to add a specific annex on sustainable development to the Barcelona Convention.

99. Ms. Miriam Haran, Director-General, Ministry of the Environment of Israel, said that her country was sincerely committed to protecting the Mediterranean Sea, an extremely valuable natural asset that connected the region with the rest of the world. Emphasizing the importance of sustainable development, she said that Israel was interested in taking an active part in the preparation of the MSSD. Following the Johannesburg Summit, the

Government of Israel had called upon all Ministries to prepare a strategic sustainable development plan, to be updated every three years; the process would involve public participation and set measurable goals. While efforts had been made through the MCSD to promote issues of common concern, her country believed that significant action was required at the national level. The MCSD should therefore prepare guidelines for countries to implement the principles of sustainable development. Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and other MAP activities had encouraged the authorities to protect coastal resources and the fragile coastal ecosystems, but specific legislation was needed. Consequently, the Ministry of the Environment had prepared draft legislation, due to be passed by the Knesset within twelve months, which also established principles for the management and sustainable development of the coastline.

100. Mr. Alexander Lascaratos, Head of Delegation, Greece, paid tribute to the Italian authorities for the organisation of the meeting and congratulated Italy for its Presidency of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties for the next biennium. He recalled that closer cooperation between MAP and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership had been the result of a Greek initiative, leading to the adoption of a decision to this effect by the Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties. The Athens Declaration, adopted in Athens at the Euro Mediterranean Partnership Ministerial meeting held in July 2002, had reiterated that commitment and he hoped that the Catania Declaration would enhance progress towards a rapprochement between the North and the South in general. Greece had closely followed the work of the MCSD since its inception. While the initiative was headed in the right direction, there were problems of orientation, which had been manifest at the Cavtat meeting, and he suggested that the MAP Secretariat should consider ways of reforming the organization of the MCSD. The conducting of the Cavtat meeting and the preparation of the relevant documents were not satisfactory. Some of the specific shortcomings of the MCSD had already been covered by previous speakers. In particular, he added that the problems faced by the international community outside the Mediterranean region should not be ignored. All the Contracting Parties were committed to the global goals established by the UNCSD, and the MCSD should help the countries meet their commitments at the international level, since MAP could be seen as the regional implementation forum for UNCSD.

101. H.E. Mr. Janez Kopac, Minister for the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy of Slovenia, said that his country saw the MCSD as the coordination body for the various regional activity centres and for creating a synergy in the region for the sustainable use of marine resources. Slovenia hoped that the MSSD would be ready for the next meeting of the Contracting Parties, which his country would be willing to host. An integrated approach based on multilateral cooperation to support joint actions in the region would boost the regional economy, but in view of the numerous programmes aimed at environmental protection and economic development, it was important to avoid duplication. Slovenia currently held the presidency of the Adriatic-Ionian initiative, which presented opportunities to further the strengthening of sub-regional cooperation for the sustainable development of the marine environment and the conservation of marine habitats. This cooperation had already led to the creation of the trilateral Contingency Plan for the Northern Adriatic, along with commitments both to accelerating the process of ratifying the Kiev SEA Protocol and to promoting integrated coastal zone management, which was now being prepared in Slovenia for the entire sea region in the country. Slovenia, Greece and Italy would be asking the European Commission to consider establishing a special fund for the Adriatic-Ionian area to support the implementation of these programmes in non-European Union Member States.

102. Ms. Reem Abed-Rabboh, Director, Water Safety Directorate, Ministry of Local Administration and Environment of the Syrian Arab Republic, said that her country felt there was a need for a common socio-economic vision of the approach to be adopted to sustainable development, which would require reforms and innovations. Above all, the gap between North and South could not be overlooked. The northern countries were suffering from pollution resulting from their advanced level of economic development and

industrialization, and were currently eager to improve the welfare of their populations, which was their legitimate right. The southern countries, on the other hand, lacked infrastructure and were economically less developed, which meant that their populations struggled to eke out a livelihood. Consequently, the northern countries should reconsider the manner in which they assisted developing countries by giving priority to more dynamic projects in which emphasis was placed on their feasibility, rather than on theoretical aspects. The Syrian Arab Republic supported all United Nations initiatives to promote sustainable development, along with United Nations resolutions aimed at freeing the region from the threat of all weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear arms. She reaffirmed the will of her country to make every effort to fulfil all its commitments in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan and to strengthen its involvement in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

103. H.E Mr. Mokhtar Reguieg, Ambassador of Algeria, emphasized the importance for his country of the work carried out by MAP and gave an update of the progress made in the completion of the national action plan, with the close cooperation and financial assistance of the Coordinating Unit. He emphasized Algeria's commitment to the process of meeting the goals set by the Johannesburg Summit. He said that sustainable development in the Mediterranean basin was a shared objective requiring joint actions by all concerned countries, based on an integrated multidimensional approach. The real problem lay in implementation, which raised the question of the goals that had been set. In his view, the keys to future action were the financial, technological and human means for the implementation of the programme and the necessary political will. Peace and development had to be complementary goals in the region. The countries of the South faced galloping demography in addition to their other problems of economic development, and their ambitions had to be translated into concrete action. Two or three decades earlier it had already been acknowledged that environmental protection in the Mediterranean would be a long-term task, but since then the situation had worsened rather than improved in the South. He called on the countries of the North to take more firm action to help those of the South through the provision of practical assistance. Despite the difficult situation faced by his country over the past decade, the authorities had continued to plan and implement a number of important environmental activities and programmes, including the creation of the Ministry and the formulation of a national Plan of Action for the Environment and Sustainable Development. He thanked the Mediterranean partners for their support and called for broad assistance in the implementation of the environmental component of the new development initiative for Africa (NEPAD).

104. Ms. Catherine Day, Director General for Environment, European Commission, emphasized the commitment of the European Community to sustainable development. The Commission had been involved since the beginning of the process of developing the MSSD. It was prepared to renew its commitment and to offer full support to the strategy that would, it was hoped, be adopted in two years time. Although the documents relating to the MSSD that were before the Meeting raised some specific issues, the European Commission generally welcomed the proposed MSSD and looked forward to working closely with the MCSD in this connection.

105. Mr. Berj Hatjian, Director General, Ministry of Environment of Lebanon, said that the human race was the weakest link in the ecosystem. He emphasized that the population of human beings was many fewer than that of other species, such as fish and plants, was less widely geographically distributed than for example, butterflies and flowers, and was less adaptable to environmental conditions. Humans were more vulnerable to a diversity of diseases such as, AIDS and SARS, and did not have such a long life expectancy as, for example, turtles or cedar trees. Moreover, humans were the most damaging to their life-supporting ecosystem, as witnessed by the state of the Mediterranean Sea and the depletion of the ozone layer. He added, in this respect, that Lebanon's short, narrow, vulnerable coastline was home to more than 70 per cent of the country's population and was a critical hotspot of biodiversity. The loss of this valuable resource from the potential adverse effects

of sea pollution and climate change would be a loss not only to Lebanon, but to the world as a whole. All sectors of society in his country were concerned about the potential environmental impact on its coastline of maritime pollution, climate change, as well as other actions suffered, and were working together for sustainable ecological development. He called on the participants to maintain their commitment to sustainable ecological development to preserve the environment for future generations by letting nature take its course.

106. Mr. Roko Andričević, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning of Croatia, said that his country had been actively participating in all MAP activities. It had ratified three Protocols to the Barcelona Convention as well as the amended Convention and urged all other countries in the Adriatic sub-region to do likewise. Croatia had also made considerable progress in implementing the SAP and the SAP/BIO. Outside the MAP framework, Croatia was active in other multilateral cooperation initiatives, participating in METAP and the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative and in work related to the ESPOO Convention, which he called on other Mediterranean countries to ratify. An International Symposium on "The Adriatic – A Central European Sea under Pressure", had been held at Zadar, Croatia, in June 2003. Croatia was fully committed to supporting multilateral action aimed at reducing transboundary pollution in the Mediterranean. Consequently, Croatia was particularly interested in and was actively pursuing the plans for a new strategic partnership, involving GEF, the World Bank and Mediterranean countries, and had offered to host in Dubrovnik a stocktaking meeting for all the Contracting parties and other partners, scheduled to take place early in 2004. The aim of that meeting was to develop a new mechanism for strategic partnership, similar to the experience of the Danube-Black Sea Basin, to follow-up the current GEF Project being implemented in conjunction with MAP/MED POL.

107. H.E. Mr. Omar Mohammed Sudani, Minister of the Environment of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, said that in the wake of the Johannesburg Summit it was for MAP to ensure that sustainable development was made a top priority. Every Mediterranean country had a responsibility to strive towards that goal. He recalled that the region would increasingly face a demographic imbalance: in 1950 one third of the region's population lived on the southern shores, but it was estimated that by 2025 that proportion would rise to two-thirds. Moreover, much of the population in the South was aged under 20, whereas in the North it was ageing rapidly. In the South, since much of the development had so far been unsustainable, it had resulted in high levels of pollution from urban areas and rivers. Unregulated development along the coasts posed a threat to water resources and to the environment in general. Every effort should therefore be made to remove the obstacles to progress, which included military action and economic or political sanctions. For many years, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had been forced to divert scarce resources away from sustainable development to take measures in response to international sanctions. The lack of qualified experts was another serious problem facing the country. He therefore called for enhanced dialogue between the North and South, taking into account the special needs of Africa, a continent to which several Mediterranean countries belonged.

108. H.E. Mr. Habib Haddad, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources of Tunisia, emphasized the importance of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for the protection of the coast. Tunisia had prepared a national plan for establishing marine and coastal reserves and had managed to establish three reserves to be included in the list of SPAs. His country had also developed a new project to control pollution in hotspots, particularly those listed in the SAP/MED. In September 2003, Tunisia had hosted the Euro-Med Forum on the Protection of the Marine Environment, in which the various approaches to combating marine pollution had been examined and which had resulted in the Carthage Declaration. While he supported European and international measures taken in response to accidents involving oil tankers, he expressed concern that the European measures constituted a threat to the southern shores of the Mediterranean and therefore called for greater cooperation and dialogue between the European Union and the Mediterranean

region in this field. He endorsed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the proposal to set up a working group to identify the necessary programmes and mechanisms for its implementation. In conclusion, he expressed the belief that the 5+5 Summit to be held in Tunisia in December 2003 would contribute to improved partnership and more active cooperation for sustainable development.

109. Ms. Guzin Arar, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Forestry of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Osman Pepe, said that MAP, with its highly dynamic structure, was an extremely effective platform for implementing global targets related to the environment and sustainable development at the regional level. The initiative to restructure the MCSD, by strengthening its role and mandate, was crucial and would complement the work on the MSSD. Since the Johannesburg Summit new perspectives for reducing marine pollution had been opened up. MAP should, in her view, continue to protect the Mediterranean by ensuring that the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols were applied. Turkey had ratified most of the Protocols and aimed to complete the process as soon as possible. In particular, she urged other Contracting Parties to ratify the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, as Turkey had already done. The enlargement of the European Union would have a direct impact on its cooperation with MAP. The European Union could no doubt draw on the nearly three decades of MAP's experience when setting up its own marine strategy, taking into account the importance for Europe of the Mediterranean Sea in terms of the economy, transport, the environment and its unique ecology and natural resources.

110. Ms. Kuwabara-Yamamoto, Executive Secretary, UNEP Basel Convention Secretariat, recalled that one of the recommendations of the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development had been to strengthen the implementation of existing multilateral environmental agreements at the regional level. In this context, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention had endorsed closer cooperation between the Basel Convention and regional seas conventions and action programmes. There was an excellent basis for cooperation between the Barcelona Convention and the Basel Convention, as all the parties to the former were parties to the latter. She therefore suggested the development and implementation of cost-effective joint actions between the two Conventions in such areas as: training in waste management principles, procedures and technologies; raising public awareness; assistance in developing national legislation and regulatory measures relating to waste management; harmonization of reporting requirements between the two Conventions, where appropriate; and the development of joint waste management programmes in relation to the protection of the marine and coastal environment. She drew attention to the global partnership initiative with local governments and municipalities, with the participation of interested environmental NGOs and industry, to address the question of hazardous wastes and wastes collected from households in urban areas of developing countries. By necessity, the issue of total waste management would be addressed under this initiative, since the segregation of municipal wastes from industrial wastes at source was lacking in many cities in developing countries. She hoped that the initiative could be extended to cover the question of pollution from cities, which posed a threat to social, economic and environmental development in the Mediterranean. In this respect, she looked forward to the early entry into force of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol.

111. Several representatives, noting that the Contracting Parties were being called upon to approve the Vision and the Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, observed that these documents had not been reviewed by the meeting of MAP National Focal Points. Nor had they been approved by the MCSD itself, which had mandated its Steering Committee to finalize them. They made the general comment that it was difficult to discuss such important documents in sufficient detail during the present ministerial meeting, when they had not previously been reviewed by the MCSD and the MAP National Focal Points.

112. With regard to the proposal to establish a steering committee to supervise the preparation of the MSSD, many representatives emphasized that there was no need to increase bureaucracy by creating a further steering committee. It was also pointed out that it was incorrect to refer to "the MEDU/MCSD Secretariat", as the MCSD did not have a secretariat.

113. The observer representing Friends of the Earth International welcomed the documents prepared by the MCSD, but suggested that greater emphasis should be placed on agriculture and rural development in the framework orientations for an MSSD.

114. The observer representing MIO-ECSDE emphasized that her organization was in favour of the proposed MSSD and had been working towards the adoption of such a strategy since 1996. She called upon the Ministers to ensure a high-level representation on the MCSD. She added that MIO-ECSDE participated in the MCSD and as such was in a position to help in raising its profile and speeding up the implementation of its recommendations.

115. The observer representing the Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development (UNASD) emphasized the need for support to be provided for capacity-building activities, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean, to promote integrated protection against pollution. He also called for the projects undertaken in this field to be integrated into action for sustainable development.

116. The observer representing MedCities emphasized that, when developing national strategies, it was important to consider the various aspects of life in cities. These included combating poverty, access to basic services, the development of sustainable consumption patterns and means of transport, as well as the positive aspects that cities could have on the surrounding region, particularly in terms of local development, the growth of the service economy, education and sustainable services. He therefore called for greater focus in the preparation of the MSSD on the manner in which national strategies could be related to more specific action relating to urban areas.

117. The Coordinator, responding to the points raised, recognized the validity of the concerns expressed that some documents were submitted directly to the Contracting Parties without first being reviewed by the MCSD and the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points, particularly since many of the documents covered very significant matters relating to sustainable development. However, he recalled that the direct transmission of the documents to the Contracting Parties was in accordance with the decision adopted by the Contracting Parties at their Meeting in Tunis. If it were to be decided to reverse this process, a recommendation would have to be adopted to this effect and more time would need to be allocated to the meetings of the MAP National Focal Points for this work. With regard to the hesitancy expressed by certain speakers concerning the recommendation calling for the approval of the Vision and the Framework Orientations for an MSSD, he proposed that the Contracting Parties could merely take note of these important documents, rather than formally approving them. Turning to the proposal to establish a Steering Committee to supervise the preparation of the MSSD, he noted that there was a consensus that no further such bodies should be established and that the process of supervising the preparation of the MSSD could therefore be carried out either by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, or preferably by the MCSD Steering Committee. The latter offered the advantage that its composition reflected that of the MCSD, although if this solution were to be adopted it would be necessary to authorize the MCSD Steering Committee to meet more regularly than the single annual meeting envisaged in the terms of reference of the MCSD. In relation to the comments made concerning the creation of a temporary post within the Secretariat for the preparation of the MSSD, he indicated that this proposal would have the advantage of further integrating the activities relating to the MSSD into the MAP structure. On the subject of the final two recommendations to the Contracting Parties, he noted that they constituted an appeal for greater support and involvement by the Contracting Parties in the work of the

MCSD and the preparation of the MSSD. As such, they would clearly be beneficial. The Bureau would examine this issue at its next meeting.

118. Following this discussion, and noting that although there was no major disagreement on the subject of the proposed recommendations, but that further refinements might be required to certain recommendations, the Chairperson suggested that an additional period of time, namely up to 15 January 2004, should be afforded to the Contracting Parties to submit proposals to the Chair, which would endeavour to achieve the necessary consensus on the basis of the proposals made in this manner. Clearly, where there were contradictions between the proposals made, the Chair would engage in the necessary dialogue with a view to submitting the outcome for approval by the Bureau at its next meeting, so that a coherent set of principles could be conveyed to the next meeting of the MCSD for the preparation of the MSSD.

119. On the basis of the above proposal and the position as outlined by the Coordinator, the Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report, subject to further refinement of recommendations I.A.3 (a) 4, 5 and 6, as indicated by the Chairperson.

Proposals of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) for recommendations concerning the Commission's assessment and prospects

120. Mr. Hoballah, introducing the recommendations contained in Annex III, Appendix I, to document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3, explained that they had already been adopted by the Eighth Meeting of the MCSD in Cavtat, Croatia. Referring in particular to the recommendations relating to the assessment and prospects of the MCSD, he recalled that an evaluation had been carried out of the manner in which the MCSD prepared its recommendations, its methods of work and its relations with its various partners. In general, it had been concluded that the MCSD should continue to discharge its role as a think tank/high-level policy forum, but that it should seek to establish its credibility more firmly with a view to engaging in more active dialogue with international and regional agencies, countries, the various bodies of MAP and civil society. It had also been agreed that its role was largely as a catalyst for the promotion of sustainable development.

121. The Coordinator expressed the opinion that the recommendations proposed were of a reasonable nature and that, in the same way as the UNCSD, it had been necessary to overcome a number of teething problems in what was after all a very new body. The Steering Committee of the MCSD should therefore be commended on guiding this important assessment exercise so that the MCSD could set off once again on a sound basis.

122. In the discussion of the recommendations, many representatives expressed the belief that the evaluation process provided a solid basis for the MCSD to be more effective in future so that it would be better prepared to undertake its important work, particularly in relation to the MSSD. They therefore expressed general support for the proposed recommendations.

123. On the specific point concerning the proposal that the MCSD should in 2004 adopt a programme of work for the period 2005-2015, misgivings were nevertheless expressed that such an important exercise should be undertaken before the finalization of the MSSD, which would provide the basis for the work of the MCSD for the foreseeable future. It was therefore suggested that the programme of work should be reduced in length and should only be of a medium-term nature. Moreover, it should be specified that the programme of work would be revised when the MSSD was finally adopted. The question was also raised as to whether such an important matter should not be submitted to the Contracting Parties or to its Bureau for final approval. In this connection, it was recalled that, in accordance with its terms of reference, the MCSD was empowered to set its own agenda, but that the Contracting Parties

were clearly free to call for an important matters such as the programme of work, to be submitted to the Bureau for approval if they so wished.

124. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Agenda item 8: Implementing the strategy for the reduction of pollution from land-based sources (LBS)

125. Mr. Civili, introducing the item, summarized the concrete achievements of the first two years' work on the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), as outlined in section IV of document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG. 15/3. He drew particular attention to the fact that the activities of the biennium had created a solid technical, scientific and legal basis to help governments in the long-term implementation of the SAP. With regard to the reduction of industrial pollution, the calculation of the national baseline budget of emissions and releases had been commenced, and the countries were expected to have finalized their baseline budgets by the end of 2003. Countries were also preparing their national diagnostic analyses as a basis for the preparation of national action plans (NAPs) during the next biennium. The success of the first two years' work in preparing the ground for the implementation of the SAP had attracted funding from a number of sources, including the GEF, FFEM, METAP and ICS-UNIDO, which was expected to stimulate governments to invest more public funds.

126. The representative of Spain, Mr. Victor Escobar, urged all Contracting Parties to ratify the amendments to the LBS Protocol, which would provide the SAP with a solid legal basis. MAP should be congratulated, with the GEF, for having helped countries to complete national baseline budgets and to launch the process of preparing NAPs. Implementation of the SAP was better advanced than any other MAP project, with a sound legal basis, NAPs and interagency platforms and donors, and it could serve as an example for other efforts, such as the SAP/BIO.

127. The President noted that possible investments to implement the SAP objectives and targets would encourage technical innovation and industrial competition, thus linking economic development to sustainable development. That would also be relevant for the proposed Mediterranean free-trade zone.

128. The representative of France expressed satisfaction for the work carried out on implementation of the SAP. An essential feature of the programme was that it was concrete and had realistic objectives. She confirmed the willingness of her country to prepare its baseline budget before the end of 2004.

129. The representative of Serbia and Montenegro said that the Government of Montenegro fully supported the MED POL programme, and its national institutions would be interested in participating in the implementation of the SAP.

130. The representative of Lebanon stressed that the process of the implementation of the SAP should increase the involvement and responsibility of the private sector and civil society, as private companies were often implicated, with local authorities, for example in the treatment of municipal wastes. He submitted a recommendation to that effect, which was accepted by the Meeting.

131. The Coordinator agreed that involvement of the private sector was important, as the financial implications of the implementation of the SAP targets were very high. Representatives of the chemical and agricultural industries should also be encouraged to participate in MAP meetings. In addition, the MCSD already involved local and central governments and might be a suitable forum for discussion of the implementation of the SAP.

132. The representative of Greece expressed support for the SAP and satisfaction with the work of the Secretariat.

133. The observer representing WWF-International, referring to the process of the implementation of the SAP, said that it was certainly weakened by the fact that the LBS Protocol had not yet entered into force. He therefore made an appeal, on behalf of a number of NGOs, for those governments that had not yet done so to ratify the LBS Protocol. The text of the appeal is attached as Annex IX to the present report.

134. An observer representing Greenpeace International welcomed the target adopted by the Contracting Parties for the reduction of hazardous waste from industrial installations by 20 per cent by the year 2010. He also drew attention to a case arising from an illegal waste trade between Italian companies and Romania. As a result, a number of barrels of waste had been dumped in the Black Sea and washed up on the Turkish coast. While calling upon the Italian government to take the necessary remedial measures, the participants were invited to listen to the concerns expressed by two witnesses from Sinop and Izmit in Turkey, respectively.

135. The President, speaking on behalf of Italy, indicated that the investigation was still going on and that it had not yet been proven if there were Italian companies involved and, if yes, which ones they eventually were. Pending the conclusion of the investigation, Italy has started to work, as a voluntary act of environmental cooperation, with the Turkish authorities to clean up the contaminated site.

136. The Meeting approved the recommendations, as amended, which are contained in Annex III to this report.

Agenda item 9: Adoption of the Strategic Action Programme for Biodiversity (SAP BIO)

137. Introducing the item, the Coordinator said that the draft Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region was the outcome of considerable work done by SPA/RAC, with contributions from a variety of partners, and financial assistance from GEF. It was also recalled that it had been decided to call the instrument the Strategic Action Programme, rather than Plan.

138. Ms Zeineb Belkhir (Director of SPA/RAC) described the aim and preparation process of SAP BIO. The aim of the instrument was to provide the Mediterranean countries with an integrated strategy comprising actions to be taken at the national and regional levels to address the complexity and extent of pressures on and threats to the marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean basin. The process itself had entailed three stages: data collection, data analysis and assessment, and identification of the priority actions. Those priority actions would fall into seven categories: inventorying, mapping and monitoring Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity; conservation of sensitive habitats, species and sites; assessing and mitigating the impact of threats to biodiversity; developing research to complete knowledge and fill in gaps concerning biodiversity; capacity-building to ensure coordination and technical support; information and participation; and awareness-raising. All countries had made active contributions to the preparation process, which had been piloted by SPA/RAC but had been fully participatory, thanks to the setting up of consultative committees at the national level. The data analyses had also served for establishing investment portfolios for implementing the national actions. Other partners, such as international and regional organizations, NGOs, potential donors and all stakeholders had been involved in the preparation. Similarly all related instruments and accords had been taken into account in order to ensure synergy and harmonization, while the instrument fully integrated the concept of sustainable development. The relevant document had been

approved at a series of meetings of the national focal points, including the latest such meeting held in Athens in September 2003. Immediately after adoption by the Contracting Parties there would be a preparatory phase, during which all partners and potential donors would be contacted. The instrument would be publicly unveiled at a Launching Conference, due in October 2004, at which full media coverage would be crucial.

139. The representative of Serbia and Montenegro reaffirmed his country's interest in participating in the SAP BIO. His country's authorities were ready to work with SPA/RAC on the preliminary stage of its implementation, and specifically on the identification of priority activities to be implemented on the Montenegrin coast.

140. The representative of Spain restated his country's support for the proposed instrument, which would complement other major initiatives, such as the SPAMIs. The protection of natural areas was one of the main tools for preserving nature and he was proud to remind the Conference that of the 12 existing SPAMIs seven were located in Spain. His country was also working hard to implement the European Habitats Directive and more specifically the Natura 2000 network. He presented information on some of the specific protection initiatives undertaken in Spain with regard to endangered species and habitats in the Mediterranean. One concerned the Mar Menor Ramsar wetland site in Murcia, home to several endangered species of flora.

141. The representative of the European Community said that the SAP BIO was a very important document since it went beyond declarations of intent and set out the practical steps for Contracting Parties to take in order to protect species and habitats. Not only would it help to preserve the better-known species and habitats such as the Monk Seal and Posidonia, but would also take care of the more obscure ones that comprised the rich biodiversity of the Mediterranean. She therefore hoped that the SAP BIO would be adopted and rapidly implemented.

142. The representative of Cyprus said that the sustainable development of biodiversity was a key component of social and economic development, so his country would have no difficulty in accepting the SAP BIO. It was often difficult for small island nations to face that challenge; real estate in protected areas where building was prohibited in order to preserve the natural environment was worth huge amounts of money, which added economic pressure to the others. Nevertheless, Cyprus had made protection of special areas of natural interest one of its priorities and Cypriot law had already incorporated the relevant provisions of the EC Habitats Directive. Cyprus had selected a list of over 30 sites, covering some 20 per cent of the island's territory, to be proposed for inclusion in the Natura 2000 network. He added that nature protection was likelier to succeed when it was fully supported by local stakeholders, which was why his country's authorities had embarked upon a consultation process to secure the broadest possible consensus. He was pleased to note that some of the national action plans listed in Table 3a of the investment portfolio in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15.9 reconciled economic development with protection.

143. The representative of France remarked that the plan was difficult to describe to the general public and that efforts should be made to improve communication of its aims. His Government was studying the 'investment portfolio' of the programme to determine how it could best participate. A network of managers of coastal and marine protected areas should be encouraged. Biological and socio-economic indicators concerning the work undertaken under the Alpine Convention might be helpful.

144. The observer representing the World Wildlife Fund said that the SAP BIO project addressed an essential aspect of integrated protection against threats to the marine environment. He appealed to countries to take action to declare MPAs. A list of sites in 13 countries which his organization considered should be protected, according to the criteria of the SAP BIO and in conformity with the Barcelona Convention, had been circulated to

participants and could be consulted on his organization's and RAC/SPA's website. The representative of Lebanon called attention to its action plan for designating the Palm Islands nature reserve as a protected area.

145. The observer representing Amigos del Mediterraneo urged countries to ratify the relevant Protocol. He recalled that his organization had asked at the previous meeting of the Contracting Parties that a balance be achieved in designating SPAMIs around the Mediterranean.

146. The observer representing MedWet, expressing strong support for the SAP BIO project, hoped that it would serve as a reference for the coordination of actions around the Mediterranean.

147. The representative of Algeria described his country's strategy for preserving biodiversity and protected areas, which had financial support from the State and from donors. A number of local organizations were active, with aims similar to those of the SAP BIO.

148. The representative of Egypt emphasized that biodiversity should be conserved not only in protected areas, but throughout the Mediterranean.

149. The Coordinator noted that the main source of funding for the preparation of the SAP/BIO was the GEF, but he welcomed the interest of France through FFEM for its future implementation. Other bilateral sources should be found, as it was essential that adequate funding be found before the end of the biennium 2004-2005, so that the momentum achieved could be maintained. However, means should be found to integrate the concept into the development of fishing, tourism and agriculture. He was pleased to note that some of the national action plans listed in Table 3a of the investment portfolio in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15.9 reconciled economic development with protection.

150. The Meeting approved the recommendations contained in Annex III to this report.

Agenda item 10: Promoting European Commission/MAP partnership

151. Introducing this item, the Coordinator noted that to date MAP's relations with the European Union had been somewhat fragmented, despite the existence of institutional relations (the European Community being a Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention), European Union financial support and technical cooperation. However, partnership between MAP and the European Union would shortly be entering a new phase with the accession of Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta in 2004, possibly followed by other countries. At the same time, the European Community was developing an increasing number of directives concerning coastal areas, ranging from those concerning household wastewater and wastewater treatment plants in coastal cities to its recent adoption of a recommendation on Integrated coastal zone management. The European Union had also adopted initiatives in the field of the prevention of maritime accidents and pollution (the Erika I and II packages), in which it was important for MAP to cooperate and which had provided a stimulus to MAP in the process of preparing the Prevention and Emergency Protocol. He drew attention to the need to integrate the objectives of sustainable development into the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. More active cooperation with the European Environment Agency was also required. MAP therefore wished to move from a fragmented approach to a more strategic one, along the lines of the proposed recommendations.

152. The representative of the European Commission thanked the Coordinator for highlighting some of the reasons for reinforced cooperation between MAP and the European Commission. Both sides had everything to gain from this cooperation, and there was support at the ministerial level for synergy between the two bodies. While the European Commission would continue to draw up legislation, it would at the same time adopt a holistic approach to

the protection of the marine environment. The European Commission would like to draw on the experience of MAP in its initiatives such as the development of a European Marine Strategy. In this process the European Commission also wished to share its experience in environmental policy with MAP, whose concerns it shared, so that reinforced cooperation would lead to the mutual enrichment of policy development.

153. The representative of Malta drew attention to a major weakness in the Mediterranean region of concluding bilateral rather than multilateral agreements, and hoped that greater cooperation between MAP and the European Union would improve the situation. Another emphasized the importance of integrating sustainable development into the Barcelona process and drew attention to the Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers of Agriculture that was to be held shortly after the Meeting, highlighting the need to enlarge this initiative to incorporate social and territorial dimensions. The representative of Cyprus said that European Community legislation and directives represented a lighthouse of hope in an otherwise bleak situation, and that the Mediterranean region should therefore aspire to work for sustainable development in partnership with the European Union.

154. The representative of Algeria, welcoming the proposal to strengthen the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, said that the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area needed an environmental dimension. He noted that the European Community did not always integrate the South into its programmes, and he cited as an example the funding of assistance for ports. In his view, it was in the European Union's interests to improve environmental conditions and economic prosperity in the whole region, not only in European countries. Africa and its problems could not be ignored in any global strategic vision, since they were not dissociable from the Mediterranean region. In this connection, he drew attention to the forthcoming NEPAD Environment Action Plan Conference to be held in Algiers.

155. The observer representing Greenpeace International expressed concern that priority would be given in the proposed Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area to the liberalization of trade and economic interests over environmental, development and social concerns, and particularly sustainable development.

156. The observer representing Friends of the Earth Middle East welcomed the enhanced partnership between the European Union and the Mediterranean region, which had always been encouraged by NGOs. However, this partnership would have a negative impact on the environmental and social conditions in the region unless sustainable development were fully integrated into it. She therefore urged that every effort be made to push ahead with the sustainable impact assessment process, which had already been delayed.

Agenda item 11: Adoption of the Catania Declaration

157. The Coordinator introduced the new version of the Catania Declaration, which had been revised by the Ad-hoc working group established during the meeting, chaired by France and with the support of the Secretariat, to take into account the view expressed during the initial discussions. In his view, agreement had now been reached on the main points that had been left in suspense, and particularly Article 17 concerning the preparation of a regional strategy for the prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships, which had been the subject of lengthy discussions. He therefore believed that the text was now ready for adoption.

158. The representative of the European Community fully endorsed the Declaration, welcoming in particular its balance between political objectives and concrete action, and the emphasis placed on the necessary reinforced cooperation between MAP and the European Union. Noting that Article 3 referred to additional and more substantial support from the European Union, she said that the European Union looked forward to greater involvement and had a lot to share with, and gain from, its Mediterranean neighbours. Regarding the

European Marine Strategy, which resulted from the need for a new cooperative approach to the marine environment, she invited all Contracting Parties, including non-European Union countries, to make an active contribution to ensuring that the Strategy was well rounded and integrated.

159. The representative of Spain, recalling in particular the recent accident involving the Prestige and its effects on his country, drew attention to the need for awareness of the risks at accident involved in the transport by ship of hazardous substances in the marine environment with a view to ensuring that such accidents did not happen again. He called for existing measures to be strengthened and new ones adopted in the interests of greater marine security, and was in favour of the urgent entry into force of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol to combat pollution, as well as a strategy for the implementation of the Protocol.

160. The representative of France has declared to fully support the proposal of the European Community and Spain and recalled the meeting that France has ratified the new Emergency Protocol.

161. The representative of Slovenia applauded the balanced text of the Catania Declaration, with its welcome emphasis on the issue of marine transport and specific targets for the reduction of pollution. The amendments had resulted in a more concrete document. The sustainable use of marine resources would result in a healthier economy in the whole region and the MSSD would make an excellent contribution to sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

162. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic welcomed the strengthened cooperation between the European Union and the Mediterranean in the area of sustainable development that would result from the Catania Declaration. Nevertheless, while the document mentioned the North-South divide, it failed to give any nuances or to describe in detail the sensitive issues involved. The terrible marine disasters that had affected northern countries, such as the Prestige accident, took up a large part of the text. On the other hand, the problem of industrial and domestic waste and other issues facing the southern countries were not mentioned. Nor did the Declaration urge the Contracting Parties to adopt the LBS Protocol. In her view, this undermined the credibility of the commitment by the Contracting Parties' to reducing pollution at the national level. The Meeting agreed to reflect these concerns in the text of the Declaration

163. Several other representatives expressed support for the Declaration, drawing attention in particular to the importance of the European Community initiative to develop a European Marine Strategy and calling for the ratification and entry into force of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol at the earliest possible date.

164. The Meeting adopted the Catania Declaration, which is attached to the present report as Annex V.

Agenda item 12: Date and place of the Fourteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005

165. The Meeting accepted the offer by Slovenia to host the Fourteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005, at a date to be fixed in agreement with the Bureau.

Agenda item 13: Other business

166. The representative of Greece recalled that during the reception hosted by the Mayor of Catania the evening before, the MAP Coordinator had been awarded a medal in recognition of his achievements. He suggested that the Coordinator also be awarded the

MAP Medal, which he fully deserved, at the following meeting of the Contracting Parties in Slovenia, and proposed that the related expenses be covered by Greece's voluntary in cash contribution to MAP. The Meeting approved the proposal.

167. During the course of the Meeting, a cooperation agreement was signed between UNEP/MAP and the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

Agenda item 14: Adoption of the Report

168. The Report and Recommendations, as amended, and the budget as contained in Annex IV to this report were approved.

Agenda item 15: Closure of the Meeting

169. After the usual exchange of courtesies, the Meeting closed at 19.20 hrs on Friday 14 November 2003.

Annex I

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Annex II

AGENDA FOR THE CONTRACTING PARTIES MEETING CATANIA, 11-14 NOVEMBER 2003

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Rules of procedure
3. Election of officers
4. Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work
5. Credentials of representatives
6. Adoption of Recommendations and programme budget for 2004-2005; future of the RAC/ERS
7. Implementing the Johannesburg Plan in the Mediterranean
8. Implementing the strategy for the reduction of LBS pollution
9. Adoption of the Strategic Action Plan for Biodiversity (SAP BIO)
10. Promoting European Commission/MAP partnership
11. Adoption of the Catania Declaration
12. Date and place of the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005
13. Other business
14. Adoption of the Report
15. Closure of the Meeting

Annex III

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2004 - 2005

The Contracting Parties agreed:

I.A COORDINATION

I.A.1 Legal framework

I.A.1.1 Status of ratification of the Convention and the Protocols

1. To urgently accept the amendments to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment against pollution (the Barcelona Convention); the Protocol for Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (the Dumping Protocol); and the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (the LBS Protocol).
2. To ratify, accept, approve or accede as soon as possible to the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (the Prevention and Emergency Protocol).
3. Also, as soon as possible, to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Protocol concerning Specially-Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol).
4. To request the depositary country (Spain), together with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, to take an active role in encouraging the Parties to speed up the ratification process.

To request the Secretariat:

To undertake the necessary actions to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts with a view to the entry into force of the MAP Phase II legal instruments.

I.A.1.2. Regional Instrument for ICAM

1. To affirm the urgent need to halt and reverse the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management.
2. To take note of the feasibility study and its various options for the regional legal instrument on coastal management.

To request the Secretariat:

To prepare a draft text of the regional protocol on integrated coastal management, on the basis of a broad process of consultation among experts and all other interested parties in view of its consideration by the CPs.

I.A.1.3 Liability and compensation

To request the Secretariat:

To prepare a feasibility study for submission to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005 covering the legal, economic, financial and social aspects of a liability and compensation regime based on the organization of a participatory process with the Contracting Parties and socio-economic actors and with a view to avoiding overlapping with any other liability and compensation regime.

I.A.1.4. Reporting system and mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance with the Barcelona Convention

1. To commence the implementation of Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention starting from the biennium 2002-2003 on the basis of the updated reporting format, as indicated in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/9.
2. To approve the establishment of a Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts to be assigned the following tasks:
 - a. to elaborate a platform to promote the implementation of and compliance with the Barcelona Convention to be submitted for consideration to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005;
 - b. to provide guidance for the preparation of the regional report on the status of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the biennium 2002 – 2003;
 - c. The Working Group should be composed of six experts nominated by the Contracting Parties, respecting geographical distribution, along with one representative from the MAP partners. The progress achieved in the process should be regularly shared with all the Contracting Parties.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To provide assistance to the Contracting Parties to strengthen their reporting capacities and systems.
2. To prepare a regional report on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the biennium 2002-2003 for submission to the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points and of the Contracting Parties in 2005.
3. To prepare reporting formats and guidelines for the non-legal component of MAP with a view to having a draft for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 2005 Ordinary Meeting.
4. To further work towards the harmonization of reporting procedures with other multilateral environmental agreements and the respective European Union directives and present a consolidated report on the progress of its work, including a proposed updated format, for consideration by the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005.

I.A.1.5. Assistance to countries in legal matters

To request the Secretariat:

To strengthen support to countries on legal matters related to the protection of marine and coastal zones in the Mediterranean.

I.A.2 Institutional framework

I.A.2.1. MAP and RACs evaluation

To request the Secretariat:

1. To launch the external overall evaluation of MAP, including the evaluation of the MED POL Programme; with a view to presenting it to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005. In this process the document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/5 "Draft Strategic Assessment of the General Framework of the Barcelona Convention (MAP evaluation)" could be considered as an input, while ensuring the consideration of other inputs from Contracting Parties.
2. To take note of the recommendations included in documents UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/6 Draft Report on "Evaluation of SPA/RAC: Programme Assessment and Prospects"; and UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/7 "Evaluation of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)" including the "Management Performance Audit of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)" and to propose positive follow-up .
3. To submit to the Bureau during the next biennium a proposal, in cooperation with the Government of Tunisia and UNEP, related to the future status of SPA/RAC, taking into account the future general orientations to emerge from the overall evaluation of MAP and the evaluation study of the Centre.
4. To approve the proposals made by the MCSD and finalized at Cavtat in May 2003 concerning the transformation of the "100 Historic Sites" Programme, established in the framework of MAP in 1985, into a programme for the Mediterranean cultural heritage and sustainable development.
5. To invite Tunisia and France, in consultation with the Secretariat, to seek in 2004 partners interested in participating in the above-mentioned programme, to specify the precise arrangements for the implementation of the programme, and to report on it regularly.
6. To launch an external evaluation of CP/RAC and ERS/RAC, drawing on the lessons learned from the previous evaluations in terms of approach, methodology and criteria.

I.A.3 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

1. To take note of the Vision and the Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (UNEP(DEC)/MED. IG.15.10) and to submit comments and proposals to the President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties before 15 January 2004 with a view to refining them.
2. To provide the necessary support and contribute to the preparatory process of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), giving due consideration to the additional comments and proposals.
3. To do their utmost for providing voluntary support for the MCSD in general and the preparation of the MSSD in particular, through specific financial contributions and/or secondment of qualified staff.
4. To entrust the Steering Committee of the MCSD with the task of supervising the preparation of the MSSD; in this context, the Steering Committee would have to meet as necessary for that purpose.
5. To approve the creation of a post within the UNEP/MAP Secretariat, for a duration limited to two years, for the activities of the MCSD/MSSD.
6. To approve the MCSD proposed recommendations on MCSD assessment and prospects (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3, Annex III, Appendix I), as amended by the Contracting Parties and attached hereto (Appendix 1) .

To request the Secretariat:

1. To organize the preparatory process for the MSSD on the basis of a broad participatory approach and to submit the Strategy document to the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption.
2. To establish an Advisory Group composed of between five and eight experts to assist in the preparation of the MSSD.
3. To improve cooperation with major groups and partners for a more active contribution to MCSD activities, and in particular the MSSD.
4. To provide assistance to countries and partners for the implementation and follow-up of the MCSD's recommendations.

I.A.4 Cooperation and partnership with United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other partners

I.A.4.1. Cooperation with international and regional organizations:

1. To support the strengthening of partnership and cooperation between MAP and the European Commission.

2. To provide support for the Secretariat in promoting cooperation and coordination with the relevant intergovernmental organizations and Conventions through the exchange of information and joint activities.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To undertake the necessary steps to request the accreditation of the Barcelona Convention with UN-ECOSOC, so as to improve the visibility of the Mediterranean and be able to participate directly in UNCSD as an observer, with a view to increasing its involvement in the implementation of UNCSD decisions at the regional level.
2. To elaborate a work programme for cooperation with the European Commission, for adoption by the Bureau at its first meeting in 2004, based on the following priorities:
 - strengthening the cooperation between MAP and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in conformity with the Athens Declaration, 2002;
 - association of the European Commission with the implementation of the SAP MED and SAP BIO;
 - participation of the European Commission in the process of preparing the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;
 - involvement of MAP in the process of implementing the European Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management ;
 - cooperation with the European Commission for the development of the strategy for the implementation of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol.
 - involvement of MAP in the process of preparing and implementing the European Marine Strategy as confirmed in the Catania Declaration adopted at the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, with a view to providing a holistic framework to deal with the protection and conservation of the marine environment.
3. To elaborate a work programme for cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA) for adoption by the Bureau at its first meeting in 2004, in order to rationalize the already fruitful collaboration between MAP and EEA.
4. To strengthen cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies including IMO and their regional offices or commissions, as well as with the Secretariats of environmental conventions, such as the London Convention, and other intergovernmental organizations; by taking into consideration the outputs of the "Environment for Europe" process.
5. To promote cooperation with the Ionian Adriatic Initiative and the Arab Region cooperation programme (through the League of Arab States, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia/ ESCWA, UNEP/Regional Office for West Asia/ROWA, UNEP/Regional Office for Africa/ROA, UN/Economic Commission for Africa/ECA and CEDARE), and if possible through memoranda of cooperation with joint activities.
6. To prepare joint projects to be submitted for external funding by relevant intergovernmental organizations, and particularly their regional offices or commissions, including MEDA/SMAP , UNEP/GPA and other programmes.
7. To strengthen cooperation with regional institutions such as the Regional Environmental Centre for East and Central Europe/REC, ReREP programme, Baltic 21 Programme, and MedWet and the conventions under the United Nations Regional Seas Programme and other regional seas agreements and programmes.

8. To develop a joint programme of work with the Euro-Arab Management School to promote training and capacity building on issues of interest to the Contracting Parties such as preparation and management of projects, legal framework and reporting to strengthen cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies and their regional offices or commissions, as well as with the Secretariats of environmental conventions and other intergovernmental organizations.

I.A.4.2 NGOs and other partners

1. To approve the revised list of MAP partners as contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.17.
2. To include the following NGOs in the list of MAP partners: Institute for Sustainable Development in Management of Natural Resources (INARE), Greece; Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development, UNSAD Lebanon, already considered by the Bureau, together with two newly proposed ones: Mediterranean SOS Network (Greece), ECAT Tirana (Environmental Centre for Administration and Technology, Albania).
3. To mandate the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to review and decide upon, after consultation with the Contracting Parties, applications in conformity with the criteria decided upon by the Contracting Parties and to inform them as soon as possible of any changes in the list of MAP partners.
4. To enhance and facilitate the participation of civil society in the meetings of the Contracting Parties.
5. To encourage the participation of municipal councils as an important means of heightening their awareness of the Convention and furthering their shared rights and responsibilities in that regard.
6. To recognize the private sector as a key player in social corporate responsibility, in keeping with the sustainable development measures proposed by WSSD and with the fundamental "polluter-pays" principle, and accordingly involve the private sector fully in the implementation of the Convention, thereby enhancing resource mobilization.

To request the Secretariat:

To further strengthen its cooperation and assistance to Mediterranean NGOs included in the list of MAP partners, giving priority to those active in the East and South of the Mediterranean.

I.A.5 Meetings

To request the Secretariat:

1. To continue convening the joint Meeting of the National Focal Points of BP/RAC, PAP/RAC and ERS/RAC while enhancing its preparation and coordination.
2. To hold joint meetings of the MED POL National Coordinators and the CP/RAC Focal Points and share the experience gained by the two programmes in the framework of

the implementation of the SAP, with a view to offering countries the necessary assistance in relation to the reduction of industrial pollution.

I.A.6 Information, public awareness and public participation

To promote public participation and access to information on environmental and sustainable development related issues in the region in general and in MAP's fields of activity in particular.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To further consolidate MAP's activities in the fields of information, awareness and public participation, with increased focus on:
 - Providing assistance to countries to promote public participation and access to and dissemination of information while promoting the involvement of civil society;
 - Further networking with communication and media professionals, organizing thematic workshops and regularly disseminating press releases and features;
 - Initiating the process of preparing an updated publication on the state of the environment in the Mediterranean region in collaboration with concerned partners;
 - Consolidating MAP information tools, in particular by updating the MAP web site; the MAP *MedWaves* magazine and other publications, such as the MAP Technical Reports Series, as well as the library services and the MAP information dissemination system; and also by preparing summaries of the studies and documents of MAP and its Centres, in the major MAP languages, as appropriate.
2. To commence the preparation of a strategic approach to information, public awareness and public participation, in the context of Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention.

I.A.7 Financial matters

1. To approve the conversion to euro currency of the unpaid pledges for previous years, as they appear in the status of contributions table.
2. To delete the name Yugoslavia from the status of contributions table.
3. To encourage the settlement of the arrears of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the concerned countries by the end of 2005.
4. To approve the integration of participation of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in the budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.
5. To encourage and support the introduction of a yearly voluntary contribution.
6. To approve the proposed 2004 – 2005 budget.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To prepare an evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities accomplished during the period 2004-2005, and a timetable for the intermediate goals and the final completion of the activities.

2. To prepare in cooperation with the Bureau and the Contracting Parties a draft budget for the biennium 2006-2007 based on the principle of budgetary stability related to the budget for 2004-2005.
3. In preparing the draft budget for 2006-2007, to link the activities to clear objectives that could be assessed against the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the commitments related to sustainable development.

II. COMPONENTS

II.A. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

II.A.1. Pollution from land-based sources (MED POL)

II.A.1.1 Programme policy and coordination

1. To sign and ratify the Stockholm Convention by 2004 in view of the complementarity of SAP MED and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.
2. To sign and ratify the 1996 London Protocol to the 1972 London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To evaluate the MED POL Programme and formulate a new phase of MED POL (2006-2013) responding to the needs of Mediterranean countries in terms of the assessment, prevention and control of marine and coastal pollution, including the impacts of rivers on the marine environment. The programme should represent an effective tool for achieving sustainable development by examining the modalities and implications of implementing the ecosystem-based approach as a management framework for MED POL and other components of MAP, taking into consideration the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and European Union legislation and the Strategy for the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment and the legislation and capabilities of concerned countries.
2. To take into account throughout the implementation of the SAP the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and particularly the issues of: energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energy, water and sanitation, and new financial arrangements, as a contribution to the MSSD.
3. To discuss and negotiate, in consultation with the MED POL National Coordinators, the formulation and the launching of possible additional projects with partners/donors for the implementation of the SAP objectives and targets.
4. To explore ways of ensuring increased participation and ownership of the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders in all MED POL activities through their involvement in:
 - the identification of activities and issues to be addressed by MED POL;
 - the preparation of draft technical and policy documents to be submitted for consideration to the MED POL National Coordinators, which could be

achieved by the identification of leader country(ies) or observer(s) responsible for undertaking such a task or tasks.

II.A.1.2 Implementation of the LBS Protocol and the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

1. To prepare National Action Plans to address pollution of marine and coastal zones from land-based activities as part of the implementation of the SAP; the Plans should be operational by 2005, should focus at least on the identified pollution hot spots and should take into account the objectives and targets of the SAP, as well as the guidelines and regional plans developed by MED POL and CP/RAC.
2. To adopt the approach proposed by the Secretariat in the Regional Plan for a 50 per cent reduction in BOD from industrial sources considering the target date of 2010 to be reviewed in 2007, and to ask the Secretariat to update the data and information included in the Plan on the basis of the national baseline budgets of pollutant releases.

Explanatory note:

(The reduction of BOD from industrial sources has to be achieved taking into consideration the SAP Operational Plan adopted by the CPs at their 12th Meeting in Monaco 2001 and the flexibility measure included in the guidelines for the preparation of the National Action Plans under which any targeted reductions are to be implemented only in industrial sites which are not in compliance with the related national and/or international standards. A review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan will be carried out in 2007).

II.A.1.3. Monitoring

To consider monitoring as an essential tool for assessing and controlling pollution, as well as the effectiveness of measures taken within the framework of sustainable development, and therefore to formulate, implement and operate permanent monitoring programmes, including the newly adopted eutrophication programme, in accordance with the agreed MED POL objectives and methods, including the assessment of the resulting status of transitional, coastal and marine waters.

II.A.1.4. Reporting

1. To adopt the concept of the reporting system on the implementation of the SAP, as proposed by the Secretariat.
2. To consider the document containing guidelines for the use of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) formats (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.233/2) and its annexes on: (i) the reporting format; (ii) codes to be used to complete the reporting format; (iii) industrial sectors for PRTR reporting; and (iv) list of substances released onto land, water and air for PRTR reporting as the basis for the development of national PRTR systems.
3. To integrate the PRTR concept as part of the national environmental policy.
4. To consider environmental and industrial associations and other relevant stakeholders as important partners in the implementation of national PRTR pilot projects.

5. To explore ways of fully integrating small and medium-sized enterprises into the PRTR system.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To launch pilot projects to test the feasibility of the reporting system on the implementation of the SAP.
2. To continue to provide assistance to the Mediterranean countries for the implementation of national PRTR pilot projects (potential beneficiaries include Albania, Algeria, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia).
3. To strengthen cooperation with ICS-UNIDO for the implementation of future PRTR systems.
4. To enhance the regional communication programmes in the field of PRTR through the development of regional information dissemination networks.
5. In view of the importance of the sustainability of PRTR reporting, to continue working with the Alexandria project, taking into consideration the possibility of covering additional industries.

II.A.1.5. Activities related to the implementation of the Dumping Protocol

1. To adopt the guidelines on the dumping of platforms and other man-made structures proposed by the Secretariat, which were prepared in close consultation with national authorities.
2. To provide information to the Secretariat on the procedures used at the national level for the dumping of inert geological material (permits issued, definition of inert material, site selection, etc.) that will be used as the basis for the finalization of the existing draft Guidelines.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To start the preparation of Guidelines for the placing of matter for a purpose other than dumping such as artificial reefs.
2. To follow the international developments, in particular at the level of the London Convention, related to the preparation of Guidelines on the Dumping of Inert Geological Material, to collate information on national practices, to harmonize and finalize accordingly the existing draft Guidelines prepared by the Secretariat and subsequently submit them to Contracting Parties for adoption.

II.A.2 Marine pollution prevention and control (REMPEC)

1. To support the preparation of the strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships with a view of its adoption by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005.

2. To support REMPEC's efforts for the development of monitoring activities in the Mediterranean to detect, prevent and combat pollution in conformity with the relevant international Conventions and regulations.
3. To support the implementation of the proposed projects for the assessment of maritime traffic in the Mediterranean and the related risks, and on the prevention of operational pollution (illicit discharges).
4. To support the preparation of a regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea.
5. To provide REMPEC with the additional human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, either by seconding professional officers to the Centre or by sponsoring their recruitment.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To extend the network of REMPEC correspondents to national authorities responsible for maritime affairs.
2. To continue the process of preparation of the strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships in close cooperation with the relevant national authorities, inter-governmental organizations, the European Union and the socio-economic and environmental actors.
3. To proceed with the preparation and examination of the feasibility of a draft regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea and to organize a national legal and technical expert meeting in 2004 accordingly.

II.A.3 Cleaner production

1. To readapt the role of the CP/RAC as a tool for the achievement of sustainable development by Mediterranean industry, within the framework of the implementation of the SAP, on the basis of its evaluations.
2. To adopt the approach proposed in the regional plan for the reduction of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial installations by 20 per cent by the year 2010 to be reviewed in 2007, and to ask the Secretariat to update the data and information included in the Plan on the basis of the national baseline budgets of pollutant releases.

Explanatory note:

(The targeted reduction refers to the "hazardous waste generation factor" (quantity of industrial hazardous waste generated in relation to industrial GDP in Euros) and countries should work towards these objectives through the implementation of National Action Plans, on the basis of the operational strategy adopted by the CPs at their 12th Meeting in Monaco in 2001 based on the flexibility measure included in the guidelines for the preparation of the National Action Plans taking into account the level of compliance of waste generators with the applicable legislation. A review of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan will be carried out in 2007).

To request the Secretariat:

1. To assist the countries in the implementation of the regional plan for the reduction of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial installations and in particular to:
 - a. check the data included in the plan, on the basis of the national baseline budgets required by the SAP;
 - b. assist countries in reviewing their legal framework;
 - c. study the financial mechanism required for implementation of the plan;
 - d. review periodically the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan.
2. To promote the exchange of knowledge between the various actors who play an influential role in terms of the Mediterranean environment.
3. To collaborate in initiatives aimed at spreading eco-efficiency in the Mediterranean at the regional, sub-regional, national or local levels, taking into consideration the priority issues established by the SAP, the MCSD and other relevant MAP programmes and activities.
4. To strengthen cooperation with other programmes and components of MAP, and particularly with MED POL, for the implementation of the SAP.

II.B. BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS

II.B.1. Collection of data and periodic assessment of the situation

To adopt the reference list of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types for the selection of sites, as approved by the meeting of SPA Focal Points, to be included in the national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest, and to apply the classification as an indicator.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To integrate the reference list of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types for the selection of sites to be included in the national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest into the standard data-entry form (SDF) and to provide assistance to countries for its use.
2. To assist countries in carrying out case studies of inventories of natural sites of conservation interest, using the standard data-entry forms (SDF).

II.B.2. Planning and management

II.B.2.1 Implementation of the action plans

1. To invite all the concerned parties to hold a high-level meeting to define appropriate ways of urgently implementing action for the effective protection of the Mediterranean Monk seal, on the basis of the reports of the expert group convened by SPA/RAC in 2002.
2. To promote when necessary the creation of protected zones in those areas where Mediterranean monk seals are concentrated.

3. To take the necessary steps for a more efficient application of the Action Plan, including the protection of the turtle habitats.
4. To take note of the Guidelines to improve the involvement of marine turtle rescue centres as an additional tool to reduce their mortality and raise public awareness, and to support the creation of rescue centres where necessary. Existing centres should follow the above guidelines as appropriate.
5. To take note of the ACCOBAMS-SPA/RAC guidelines for the development of national networks of cetacean strandings and promote the development of such networks at the national level.
6. To take note of the document on recommendations for a code of conduct for whale watching in the Mediterranean Sea and recommend the use of the guidelines finalized by ACCOBAMS, and SPA/RAC.
7. To invite Parties which have not yet done so to join ACCOBAMS.
8. To promote research programmes to identify/define critical areas for the threatened *Tursiops truncatus* and *Delphinus delphis* populations and discover the wintering areas of *Balaenoptera physalus*.
9. To take the necessary steps to carry out, within the programmed deadlines, the activities envisaged in the implementation calendar of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea.
10. To grant, in accordance with paragraphs 25 and 26 of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea, the status of Action Plan Associate to the Greek National Centre for Marine Research (NCMR, Greece) and of Action Plan Partner to Nautilus (Italy).

To request the Secretariat :

1. To provide assistance to countries to implement urgent actions for the effective protection of monk seals in the Mediterranean, on the basis of the report of the expert group convened by SPA/RAC in 2002.
2. To prepare an evaluation report on the status of the Mediterranean monk seal for submission to the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
3. To translate the fishermen's guide into local languages and to adapt it to national circumstances.
4. To organize a coordination workshop for the standardization of tagging programmes and the centralization of information.
5. To establish collaboration with the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM) of FAO to undertake educational campaigns for fishermen to haul, handle, release and record correctly turtles that are caught accidentally.
6. To create a permanent website assembling the available data of interest for the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean. The site of the Mediterranean Conference will be used and will also include a Mediterranean newsletter, as recommended by the Action Plan.

7. To organize the second Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles in collaboration with the relevant organizations.

In the framework of SPA/RAC-ACCOBAMS cooperation:

8. To assist countries in the creation of national stranding networks and attempt to set up a regional network for strandings in close coordination with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat.
9. To assist countries in the elaboration of National Action Plans for the Conservation of Cetaceans.
10. To assist countries in the promotion of practices aimed at broadening the activities of coastal fishermen to include alternative activities that are more compatible with the conservation of dolphin populations.
11. To collaborate with the relevant organizations to assess the level and effect of by-catch on cetacean populations in Mediterranean fisheries.
12. To assess the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea and to prepare a report on this subject for submission to the next meeting of SPA National Focal Points.

II.B.2.2 Elaboration of new action plans

1. To adopt and implement the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fish (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea and consider, as appropriate, the proposals for the conservation of these species by other relevant international bodies, CITES in particular, and the advice of the appropriate fisheries bodies.
2. To adopt and implement the Action Plan for the Conservation of Bird Species listed in Annex II to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.
3. To adopt and implement the Action Plan on Species Introduction and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To promote the implementation of the action provided for in the Action Plan according to its timetable:
 - establish a network and directory of collaborators;
 - support the definition of Protocols for: (i) monitoring commercial landings and discards by species; and (ii) recording data on rarely observed, endangered and protected species;
 - contribute to information campaigns and publish materials for public awareness;
 - create guidelines for the reduction of the presence of sensitive species in by-catch and for their release if caught, to be prepared and published in the appropriate languages;
 - organize a symposium on Mediterranean chondrichthyan fish;
 - support the establishment of/or support existing centralized databases.

2. To work in collaboration with the Action Plan partners for the implementation of the action provided for in the Action Plan in accordance with the timetable for implementation.
3. To promote the implementation of the actions provided for in the Action Plan according to the timetable for implementation.

II.B.3. Public information

To request the Secretariat :

To optimize the dissemination of information on the activities carried out, particularly through the preparation of materials in various forms, including new electronic formats (CD-ROMs, etc), and the improvement and regular updating of the SPA/RAC web site.

II.B.4. Selection, establishment and management of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)

1. To investigate the possibility of approaching IMO to propose that a number of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance be designated as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, and to assess whether the current legal status of the Mediterranean would allow the establishment of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas.
2. To include on the SPAMI list the following sites:
 - Parque nacional marítimo terrestre del Archipiélago de Cabrera;
 - Acantilados de Maro-Cerro Gordo.
3. To establish contingency plans for the protection of SPAMIs in case of accidental pollution.
4. To adopt the criteria and procedures for awarding the Mediterranean Diploma for SPAMIs envisaged in MAP Phase II.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To cooperate with IMO with a view to starting the process of designating SPAMIs as PSSAs.
2. To assist countries in improving the management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
3. To assist countries in preparing and implementing prevention and contingency plans for MPAs.

II.B.5. Training activities concerning specially protected areas and species conservation

1. To take note of the Mediterranean Initiative on Taxonomy and promote its implementation at the national and regional levels.
2. To invite representatives of the concerned international and regional organizations to participate in the implementation of this initiative.

3. To promote the training of taxonomists by inviting the concerned university institutions to encourage post-university specialization in taxonomy and by organizing national and/or bilateral cooperation systems to encourage students to specialize in taxonomy (fellowships, grants, etc.).

To request the Secretariat:

1. To develop, through bilateral cooperation and other appropriate channels, a regional training programme on the management of protected areas, taking into account existing initiatives at the national and regional levels.
2. To contact the relevant international organizations and collaborate with them in implementing the Mediterranean Initiative on Taxonomy, particularly through training courses for taxonomists.

II.B.6. Project for the elaboration of the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO)

To adopt the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO) and take the necessary measures for its implementation at the national and regional levels.

To request the Secretariat:

To carry out the action provided for in the follow-up chapters of the SAP BIO concerning the preparatory phase and the launching of the SAP BIO, and to identify bilateral and multilateral mechanisms with a view to facilitating the financing and implementation of the SAP BIO

II.B.7. Cooperation and synergy

To facilitate linkages with other regional intergovernmental processes which can assist in the implementation of agreed actions in the context of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.

To request the Secretariat:

To reinforce existing partnerships for the implementation of national and regional action and identify additional opportunities for joint implementation and fund-raising with international and national partners, thereby increasing cooperation and synergies.

II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

II.C.1 Sustainable management of coastal areas

1. To urge the relevant authorities to improve the implementation of the MCSD's recommendations on the sustainable management of coastal areas.

2. To continue efforts for the adoption and/or improvement of national legislation for sustainable coastal management, taking into account the work carried out by PAP/RAC and other international organizations.
3. To support sub-regional activities for the sustainable management of coastal areas, with a view to developing sub-regional strategies, programmes, action plans (such as the Adriatic Action of Plan) and projects in related fields.

To request the Secretariat:

1. To support and assist countries in the implementation of ICAM methodologies and to undertake thematic studies with a view to developing relevant guidelines and action plans on the issue of coastal land and sea environment and the utilization of its resources, and the sustainable financing of ICAM activities.
2. To assist countries in preparing their national reports on integrated coastal management.
3. To undertake the necessary analyses and prepare a report on the state of Mediterranean beaches, and to develop a regional plan to combat coastal erosion.
4. To pursue the development and implementation of ICAM tools and instruments, and specifically the coastal information systems, rapid coastal environmental assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in coastal environments, economic instruments for coastal management, Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) for tourism and Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM) plans.
5. To assist countries in the development of sub-regional initiatives for ICAM and ICARM taking into account and creating synergies with similar initiatives.

II.C.2. Implementation of CAMPs

1. To invite the authorities in Algeria, Cyprus and Slovenia to continue their efforts to support the implementation of CAMP projects in their countries and to invite Morocco and Spain to commence preliminary activities with a view to launching the projects in their countries.
2. To call on the authorities in the countries where CAMP projects have been completed to implement follow-up activities by securing the necessary financial and human resources, with the support of MAP and PAP/RAC.
3. To invite countries where there have not yet been any CAMP projects to propose new projects and to prepare the respective feasibility studies. Countries that have already implemented CAMP projects are invited to consider new projects in light of the recommendations of the proposed ICAM/CAMP strategy, particularly bearing in mind the new types of CAMP projects.

To request the Secretariat :

1. To coordinate MAP activities in relation to CAMP projects under the overall responsibility of MEDU, including the development of new types of CAMP projects, such as the transboundary projects.

2. To prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, to implement the ongoing MAP CAMP projects and the projects whose implementation has been decided on.
3. To propose to countries where MAP CAMP projects have been completed the introduction of new and/or the adaptation of existing instruments for environmental management, which would enable the follow-up of CAMPs, and to assist those countries to prepare viable projects in continuation of completed MAP CAMP projects.

II.C.3. The future of coastal zone management and CAMPs within MAP activities

To prepare regional, national and local ICAM strategies and programmes, using the methodologies, tools and instruments for the implementation of ICAM, and to aim to adopt the regional strategy on integrated coastal area management (ICAM) and CAMP in 2005.

To request the Secretariat:

To prepare, in consultation with regional stakeholders and in coordination with MEDU and the concerned MAP components, the regional strategy for integrated coastal area management and CAMP, ensuring a strong synergy with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

II.C.4. Capacity building and training

To request the Secretariat:

To continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of national and local institutions by means of traditional and internet-based training courses, regional conferences and workshops on strategic and thematic issues relevant to ICAM.

II.C.5. Information dissemination and awareness

To request the Secretariat:

To continue the exchange of information on ICAM through the clearing-house mechanism, assist countries to prepare their own national clearing-houses for ICAM, maintain the informative website and publish and disseminate guidelines, thematic papers, programme results and other achievements.

II.D INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

1. To contribute to the finalization and dissemination of the Mediterranean Environment and Development Report (and spin-off publications) and, where necessary, have them translated into languages other than English and French.
2. To ensure broader targeted and coordinated dissemination of MAP/Blue Plan documents dealing with environment and development integration (water demand management, free trade and environment in the Euro-Mediterranean context,) among competent authorities and professional bodies.

3. To support activities related to financing and cooperation for sustainable development and to agricultural and rural development.
4. To improve the implementation of the MCSD's recommendations related to indicators and evaluate the progress and difficulties encountered.
5. To support the implementation by national statistical offices of the MEDSTAT Environment Programme and favour the conclusion of an agreement between MAP and EUROSTAT in order to guarantee the optimum use of the outputs by the Contracting Parties.
6. To encourage national and local authorities, associations in the hotel sector and profit and non-profit organizations to apply the Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) for tourism activities as a common tool for sustainable development of tourism.
7. To support efforts to introduce better practices for urban water resources management, in particular the implementation of the relevant guidelines.
8. To support activities related to soil erosion/desertification control and management as an essential element of sustainable development in the region, and to support the partnership of MAP with the relevant international organizations and institutions.
9. To support ERS/RAC activities and the new objectives of the Italian centre towards the ERS-ICT/RAC by the 14th Meeting of Contracting Parties in 2005;
10. To request Italy to sign a Host Country Agreement with UNEP/MAP, clarifying the status and the structure of ERS/RAC, as well as its objectives and contribution to UNEP/MAP;
11. To request the Italian authorities to draw up and develop the new programme of the Italian RAC towards the Information and Communication Technology Centre, in close cooperation with the UNEP/MAP Secretariat, taking into account the suggestions of other countries, and present a proposal for consideration by the Contracting Parties in 2005.

To request the Secretariat:

With respect to BP/RAC

1. To finalize the Mediterranean Environment and Development Report in cooperation with other MAP components and support the elaboration of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.
2. To proceed with the activities related to cooperation, financing and economic tools for sustainable development and to take part in the consultation process of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area sustainability impact assessment launched by the European Commission.
3. To develop with competent regional organizations (*Silvamediterranea* /FAO, ICAMAS (International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies) a prospective vision on sustainable rural development to assist in the changes of policies.

4. To deepen the prospective analysis on transports, urbanization and sustainability and to contribute together with REMPEC to the implementation of the proposed project for the assessment of maritime traffic in the Mediterranean and the related risks.
5. To proceed with the implementation of tourism and sustainable development related recommendations (assessment of economic tools for the management and protection of natural and cultural sites, feasibility study of a cooperation mechanism).
6. To implement, together with national statistical offices, the *MEDSTAT-Environment* project, Phase II, and to improve synergy with Ministries of the Environment and data producers.
7. To draw up a regional assessment of progress made in the implementation of recommendations adopted relating to indicators and observatories in order to contribute to the strengthening of sustainable development policies and strategies.
8. To evaluate the usefulness of compound indices of sustainability for the Mediterranean region.
9. To assist countries implementing sets of indicators for sustainable water management, while taking other regional initiatives into account.

With respect to PAP/RAC

1. To assist countries in their endeavours to implement the MCSD's recommendations on urban management and sustainable development through the development of appropriate urban management tools and instruments, and by establishing mechanisms for the exchange of experience of good urban management practices.
2. To assist countries in the implementation of the guidelines for urban regeneration and in the incorporation of ICAM into urban management.
3. To promote the use of Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) as a tool for the sustainable development of tourism through the enhancement of the capacity of national and local institutions by continuing to offer technical assistance, and to take steps to incorporate it in the ICAM process.
4. To support local authorities in implementing guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management.
5. To develop partnerships with international and regional organizations active in the field of the control and management of soil erosion/desertification, and to implement the sub-regional project on the control and management of soil erosion and desertification in the Maghreb countries.

With respect to ERS/RAC

1. To implement its programme of activities in close cooperation with concerned MAP components and to extend its scope of activities to information and communication technologies;
2. To prepare a Host Country Agreement in close cooperation with the concerned Italian authorities.

APPENDIX 1

Proposals of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) for recommendations concerning the Commission's assessment and prospects

Eight years after its establishment, a considerable amount of work has been done by the MCSD in many fields of sustainable development, and a wide range of recommendations and proposals for action have been made. This has been a rich source of inspiration for the Contracting Parties and all the sustainable development partners in the Mediterranean. In order to make the work of the MCSD more efficient and visible, and to improve the participation of the different civil society groups, a review and assessment of the MCSD's organization and methods of work were considered necessary by Contracting Parties as well as the MCSD. Accordingly, the MCSD, at its Seventh Meeting held in Antalya, established a Task Force from among its members to consider the issue of its assessment and prospects. The MCSD considered the Task Force's report (finalized in April 2003 and attached for information) at its Eighth Meeting in Cavtat and decided to propose to the Contracting Parties that they adopt the following set of recommendations, aimed at further strengthening the Commission and refocusing its action in the post-Johannesburg era:

1. The MCSD should continue to be a think tank/high-level policy forum for identifying, evaluating and examining sustainable development issues in the region. The Commission should seek to better establish its credibility so as to extend its active dialogue with international and regional agencies and national governments, as well as all the bodies within MAP and civil society, in order to assist their work and strengthen their contribution to sustainable development.
2. To improve the efficiency and credibility of the MCSD, special attention should be given to the organization of dialogue on substantive policy issues at the annual meetings, to the progress of work of the thematic groups and to the networking of MCSD members with other stakeholders at regional and national levels.
3. Aiming to secure a more coherent regional approach on sustainable development and in line with the overall concern for improving global environmental governance, as evidenced by UNEP's Cartagena Agreement on governance and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, UNEP/MAP Secretariat is urged to act as a catalyst and renew initiatives for the establishment of an informal Interagency Platform in the Mediterranean in consultation with the regional offices of agencies active in the region on sustainable development issues.
4. The recommendations and proposals for action of the MCSD should not be restricted only to formal approval by the Contracting Parties (CPs), which have the major responsibility to deliver. The UNEP/MAP Secretariat, with the support of other MAP bodies, through external resources if necessary, should elaborate on the strategic recommendations and proposals for action, making them more explicit and strengthening them with detailed guidelines. Implementing the recommendations and proposals for action remains the responsibility of governments at all levels in cooperation with other stakeholders. Follow-up responsibility should mainly be entrusted to MEDU, which should also encourage all MAP bodies to integrate such recommendations and proposals for action in their regular activities and programmes of work, including in their mainstream reporting requirements.

5. The Commission will periodically review and assess implementation of its recommendations and proposals for action. In order for the MCSD to be enabled to fulfill this function, the following should be adopted:
 - The Secretariat should prepare a common reporting format, following the Commission's Programme of Action, in consultation with CPs.
 - The Secretariat, on the basis of short voluntary reports from governments and the other actors on progress made with regard to the Commission's recommendations and proposals for action, should prepare a concise report on implementation and submit it to the MCSD.
 - The MCSD should review the report, assess progress made, formulate its findings and suggestions concerning implementation and submit them to the meetings of the CPs for further consideration.
 - Selected working groups could reconvene from time to time in order to assess the results of the periodic monitoring of the implementation of their recommendations and proposals for action.
6. The Commission's composition is its main strength and any changes should maintain its open, autonomous, advisory and representative nature, with members that are informed experts from various sectors and civil society in general. The MCSD should continue to consist of 36 members, with 15 seats allocated for the non-governmental sectors, on the basis of a flexible, broad and representational approach (e.g. trade unions, federations of professionals, consumer groups, women, youth, etc); members proposed by non-governmental partners should accept that they have a responsibility to consult with the sectors they represent on any particular issue.
7. To each session two to three ad hoc members could be invited, having special competence in the matters included in the agenda of a meeting.
8. The Commission will hold ordinary meetings once every year, to last for three days and consider a limited number of issues each time. In its working methods, the Commission and its groups should be encouraged to fully utilize the potentials offered by modern technology. The practice of holding meetings in various countries will be maintained, but proposals to host such meetings should be accompanied by a substantial contribution of the host country towards the logistics of the meeting.
9. The reasons that restrict the effective and active participation of some groups should be addressed through direct contacts with the organizations concerned so as to allow all groups to take advantage of, and contribute to, the opportunities and challenges offered by the setting up of the MCSD.
10. Representatives of the various agencies to MCSD meetings should be invited not only to MCSD meetings, but also, on the basis of the relevance of the issues to their interests, to meetings of working groups, participating with equality of interaction as stakeholders.
11. Every effort must be exerted to establish connections with the Type II Initiatives launched either in Johannesburg or later which are of special interest to the Mediterranean. The Commission should also strongly encourage its members to develop additional partnership Initiatives guided by the UNCSD 11 set of criteria for partnerships.

12. The MCSD proposes to the CPs that they mandate the MAP Coordinator to identify, through outside professional advice, the appropriate means required for the MAP structure, including the MCSD, to successfully respond to the requirements for the promotion of sustainable development at regional level and make appropriate recommendations thereon to the CPs.
13. A clear distinction should be maintained between the functions of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat (coordination, policy and strategic issues, etc) and the function of the RAC support centres (basically for “thematic issues” and related activities including some kind of follow-up). All RACs are encouraged to refocus their programmes more on sustainable development issues and act as support centres for the scientific and technical aspects of the MCSD’s “thematic” activities.
14. The potentials offered by current manpower resources and relevant arrangements within MEDU should be fully utilized, with outside professional advice if necessary, in order to give greater visibility not only to the MCSD but to MAP itself, as an integral part of a structured communications strategy.
15. A multi-stakeholder fund-raising strategy should be developed as an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development under preparation within MCSD/MAP.
16. At its 2004 session, the Commission should prepare a medium-term Programme of Work for the period 2004-2007 to be endorsed by the Bureau, based on the priorities of relevant global, regional and national initiatives, such as the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and national commissions on sustainable development, as they relate to the Mediterranean specificities; this programme will then be revised in line with the objectives and priorities of the MSSD once approved by the Contracting Parties.

Annex IV
PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR
2004 - 2005

SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2002	2003	2004	2005
I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS				
1. COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece				
- Secretariat's Personnel and Operating Costs	676,321	691,385	683,351	651,616
- MEDPOL Personnel	392,121	401,452	374,496	381,657
- Operating Costs covered by the Greek Counterpart Contribution	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000
2. MEDPOL COOPERATING AGENCIES	285,226	288,497	244,418	245,872
3. REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)	711,705	720,832	650,148	640,227
4. BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)	551,100	557,700	551,100	557,700
5. PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)	422,400	433,400	422,400	433,400
6. SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)	343,750	345,950	360,000	360,000
7. ENVIRONMENT REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (ERS/RAC)	0	0	0	0
8. CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)	0	0	0	0
SUB-TOTAL	3,822,624	3,879,216	3,725,912	3,710,472
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS*	439,741	447,098	427,169	425,161
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS	4,262,365	4,326,314	4,153,081	4,135,633

* The Programme Support Costs of 13% is not charged to the Greek Counterpart Contribution.

ACTIVITIES:

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2002	2003	2004	2005
II. ACTIVITIES				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	687,817	656,393	731,540	647,277
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	1,116,500	990,837	1,155,903	1,130,903
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	388,300	335,500	372,903	309,403
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	418,000	495,000	422,396	423,696
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	359,700	348,700	306,902	277,901
SUB-TOTAL	2,970,317	2,826,430	2,989,644	2,789,180
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (13%)	330,192	311,599	337,106	311,046
TOTAL ACTIVITIES FUNDED	3,300,509	3,138,029	3,326,750	3,100,226

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2002	2003	2004	2005
A. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF (excluding the EC voluntary contribution)				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	616,413	566,500	659,540	554,277
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	1,081,300	922,637	1,121,903	1,063,903
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	217,800	203,500	222,903	199,403
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	220,000	324,500	189,103	190,903
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	260,700	236,500	223,402	207,901
SUB-TOTAL	2,396,213	2,253,637	2,416,851	2,216,387
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (13%)	304,358	285,823	311,331	285,270
TOTAL ACTIVITIES FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF	2,700,570	2,539,460	2,728,182	2,501,657

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2002	2003	2004	2005
B. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EC VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	71,404	89,893	72,000	93,000
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	35,200	68,200	34,000	67,000
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	170,500	132,000	150,000	110,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	198,000	170,500	233,293	232,793
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	99,000	112,200	83,500	70,000
SUB-TOTAL	574,104	572,793	572,793	572,793
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (4.5%)	25,835	25,776	25,776	25,776
TOTAL ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EC VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION	599,939	598,569	598,569	598,569

**AGGREGATE BUDGET COVERING ACTIVITIES , ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS
FOR THE COORDINATING UNIT AND THE CENTRES (in Euro):**

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2002	2003	2004	2005
COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	715,317	683,893	731,540	647,277
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	1,508,443	1,532,837	1,497,846	1,473,273
TOTAL	2,223,759	2,216,730	2,229,386	2,120,550
MEDPOL				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	803,000	841,500	815,000	820,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS MEDPOL COOPERATING AGENCIES	285,226	288,497	244,418	245,872
TOTAL	1,088,226	1,129,997	1,059,418	1,065,872
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	313,500	182,337	320,903	290,903
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	711,705	720,832	650,148	640,227
TOTAL	1,025,205	903,169	971,051	931,130
BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	275,000	280,500	283,402	245,901
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	551,100	557,700	551,100	557,700
TOTAL	826,100	838,200	834,502	803,601
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	387,200	403,700	379,896	389,696
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	422,400	433,400	422,400	433,400
TOTAL	809,600	837,100	802,296	823,096
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	410,300	368,500	392,903	329,403
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	343,750	345,950	360,000	360,000
TOTAL	754,050	714,450	752,903	689,403
ENVIRONMENT REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (ERS/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000
CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS	769,933	758,697	764,275	736,207
GRAND TOTAL	7,562,874	7,464,342	7,479,831	7,235,859

SOURCES OF FINANCING (in Euro):

	2004	2005
A. Income		
MTF Contributions	5,557,277	5,557,277
Greek Counterpart Contribution	440,000	440,000
UNEP Counterpart Contribution	22,000	22,000
Total Contributions	6,019,277	6,019,277
Unpaid Pledges for 2002/03 and prior years (average estimate)	1,020,000	
Bank Interest 2003-2004 (estimation)	460,000	
Total expected income	13,518,553	
B. Commitments		
Commitments	6,142,763	5,926,859
Programme Support Costs	738,499	710,432
Total commitments	13,518,553	

	2004	2005
A. Income		
Voluntary Contribution of EC	598,568	598,568
B. Commitments		
Activities funded through the EC Voluntary Contribution	572,793	572,793
Programme Support Costs (4.5 %)	25,776	25,776
Total commitments	598,569	598,569

Bank interest is calculated according to the bank interest received for 2001-2002 of US Dollars 525,000 converted to Euro at the July 2003 rate of exchange.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2004-2005:

Contracting Parties	%	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2003 (in €)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2004 (in €)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2005 (in €)
Albania	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Algeria	1.05	58,163	58,163	58,163
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.30	16,619	16,619	16,619
Croatia	0.97	53,730	53,730	53,730
Cyprus	0.14	7,755	7,755	7,755
EC	2.50	138,483	138,483	138,483
Egypt	0.49	27,143	27,143	27,143
France	37.97	2,103,262	2,103,262	2,103,262
Greece	2.81	155,653	155,653	155,653
Israel	1.47	81,427	81,427	81,427
Italy	31.37	1,737,670	1,737,670	1,737,670
Lebanon	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Libya	1.97	109,124	109,124	109,124
Malta	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Monaco	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Morocco	0.28	15,511	15,511	15,511
Slovenia	0.67	37,113	37,113	37,113
Spain	14.99	830,337	830,337	830,337
Syria	0.28	15,511	15,511	15,511
Tunisia	0.21	11,632	11,632	11,632
Turkey	2.25	124,634	124,634	124,634
Sub-total	100.00	5,539,277	5,539,277	5,539,277
Serbia and Montenegro	-	0	18,000	18,000
TOTAL FROM CPs		5,539,277	5,557,277	5,557,277
Host Country (Greece)		440,000	440,000	440,000
UNEP Environment Fund		55,000	22,000	22,000
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		6,034,277	6,019,277	6,019,277

Estimated Counterpart Contributions in Cash/Kind of Contracting Parties hosting Regional Activity Centres and of the U.N. Agencies participating in the MEDPOL Programme. The amounts have been provided to UNEP by the respective Centres and Agencies.

Countries		2004 (,000 €)	2005 (,000 €)
Croatia	PAP/RAC	135	135
France	BP/RAC	702	702
Italy	ERS/RAC	600	600
Malta	REMPEC	70	70
Spain	CP/RAC	625	625
Tunisia	SPA/RAC	99	99
U.N. Agencies			
WHO	MED POL	90	90
IAEA	MED POL	200	200
UNESCO/IOC	MED POL	65	65

I. COORDINATION

I.A.1 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2004				2005			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
Legal Assistance to the Secretariat	MEDU	13,000				12,000			
Assistance to countries to develop their national legislation and national enforcement of control mechanisms in line with the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and the adopted protection measures, and reporting	MEDU	20,000				25,000			
Implementation and Compliance Working Group/Working document	MEDU		11,000				11,000		
Liability and Compensation/Working document	MEDU	10,000				3,000			
Assistance to countries to develop their reporting system	MEDU	44,000		20,000		5,000			
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		87,000	11,000	20,000	0	45,000	11,000	0	0

I.A.2 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2004				2005			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
Preparation of strategic approach in the context of implementation of Article 15 of the Convention*	MEDU	15,000				15,000			
Evaluation of MAP	MEDU				**				**
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		15,000	0	0	0	15,000	0	0	0

* As proposed during the Meeting of MAP Focal Points, Athens, September 2003.

** As decided by the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the evaluation will take place either in 2004 or in 2005

I.A.3 MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Preparatory process and elaboration of Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development-MSSD (consultants and working sessions)*	MEDU	43,540	31,000	100,000**	20,000	30,000	30,000
Follow up of Implementation of MCSD Recommendations and support to countries and partners	MEDU	15,000	10,000			10,000	
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		58,540	41,000	100,000	20,000	40,000	30,000

* The final allocation of the budget between MEDU and the RACs will be decided upon through the process of the preparation of the MSSD.

** Voluntary contribution from the Government of Italy.

I.A.4 COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Support to non-governmental organisations and other major actors	MEDU	55,000	11,000		33,000	33,000	
Promotion of regional cooperation (REC, ESPOO, EAMS, LAS)	MEDU	10,000					
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES	MEDU	65,000	11,000	0	33,000	33,000	0

I.A.5 MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED WITHIN THE MAP FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Regional workshop to review draft of MSSD report	MEDU				30,000	20,000	40,000
Meetings of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCS D)-one per year	MEDU	40,000		50,000*	50,000		40,000
Meetings of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (one per year)	MEDU	20,000		10,000	20,000		10,000
Meetings of the Bureau (two per year) to review the progress of the Action Plan, advise the Secretariat on matters arisen since the meeting of Contracting Parties, and decide on programme/ budget adjustments	MEDU	50,000			30,000		
Meeting of the MAP National Focal** Points to consider the progress of the Action Plan and the 2006-7 programme budget followed by the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties*** to review and approve the 2006-7 programme budget	MEDU				100,000**		50,000***
Meeting of the Regional Activity Centres' Directors and the Coordinating Unit for programming and coordination of MAP activities (one per year)	MEDU	5,000			5,000		
Consultation meetings of experts on Liability and Compensation	MEDU	10,000			15,000		
Meetings of the working group on implementation and compliance	MEDU	30,000			30,000		
Meeting on reporting system	MEDU	35,000					
Presentation Conferences for CAMP projects (participation of RACs)	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Provision for unforeseen costs related to the organisation of Meetings	MEDU	10,000			15,000		
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES	MEDU	210,000	0	60,000	305,000	20,000	140,000

* Hosted and funded by the Government of Italy

I.A.6 INFORMATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2004				2005			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
Preparation, editing, translation, printing and dissemination of MAP reports, including the upgrading of the MAP website	MEDU	55,000				55,000			
UNEP MAP web site Optimisation	ERS/RAC				20,000*				20,000*
Preparation and printing of information material for the public and the press	MEDU	25,000				15,000			
Preparation, translation, printing and dissemination of the MAP magazine MEDWAVES (Arabic, English and French)	MEDU	35,000				30,000			
Workshop for Mediterranean Communication Professionals on coverage of pollution reduction from LBS (jointly with MED POL) - Regional	MEDU	35,000			30,000				
Workshop for Mediterranean Communication Professionals on Biodiversity (jointly with SPA/RAC) - Regional	MEDU	35,000			30,000				
Assistance to countries for the promotion of Public Participation (implementation of Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention)	MEDU	5,000	11,000		30,000	6,277	11,000		
Preparation and Printing of MAP Technical Reports Series (MTS)	MEDU	7,000				3,000			
Library services	MEDU	5,000				5,000			
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		202,000	11,000	0	110,000	114,277	11,000	0	20,000

* Funds to be provided by the Italian Government.

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2004				2005			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
TOTAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION		637,540	22,000	72,000	270,000	532,277	22,000	93,000	190,000

II. COMPONENTS**II.A POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
A. LAND BASED POLLUTION: Implementation of SAP/LBS Protocol Assistance to countries for the preparation of NAPs including finalization of NDA and BB	MEDPOL	28,000	22,000	a,e	20,000		
Regional training course on the preparation of NAPs	MEDPOL	10,000		d			
Government-designated Meeting of Experts to review the process of long-term implementation of NAPs	MEDPOL	40,000		a			
Workshop on institutional and financial aspects for the implementation of NAPs	MEDPOL	30,000		a			
Consultation Meeting on the handling of BB data including information system	MEDPOL	30,000					
Preparation of a review document on environmental impacts and financial aspects of sewage treatment plants as well as on natural systems and small scale sewage treatment plants (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	15,000					
Preparation of a review document on environmental impacts of wastewater use practices with guidelines on physical and chemical parameters and a code of good practice for wastewater use (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	15,000					
Preparation of guidelines for sludge treatment, disposal and use (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	15,000					
Assistance to countries for management of municipal sewage (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	20,000			10,000		
Government-designated Meeting of Experts to review regional guidelines and documents related to municipal sewage (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL				40,000		b
Preparation of a review document on alternative methods to avoid the use of POPs including preparation of guidelines (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	10,000					
Assistance to countries for updating/development of national regulation related to industrial releases	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Assistance to countries for formulation and implementation of national monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	140,000			140,000		
Data-quality assurance (chemical analysis) (IAEA/MED POL)	MEDPOL	110,000			110,000		
Data-quality assurance (Bio-monitoring)	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Assistance to countries for implementation of Eutrophication monitoring programme	MEDPOL	30,000			30,000		
Assistance to countries for implementation of preliminary activities related to bathing water criteria (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL				15,000		b
Government-designated experts meeting to review monitoring activities	MEDPOL				50,000		c
Assistance to countries for the implementation of marine litter guidelines	MEDPOL	15,000			15,000		
Regional training course on wastewater reclamation and use in the Mediterranean (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL			a			
National training courses on wastewater treatment plant operation and management (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL			a			
National training courses on environmental monitoring and inspection (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL			a			b
Regional training course on river monitoring	MEDPOL			a			
National Training course on river monitoring	MEDPOL			a			
Assistance to countries for use of BAT and BEP	MEDPOL	15,000			15,000		
Studies and research on emerging issues related to the marine environment	MEDPOL	30,000			40,000		
Training and Fellowships	MEDPOL	30,000			30,000		
Assistance to countries for the use of SAP and LBS Protocol reporting system	MEDPOL	15,000			25,000		
Implementation of additional PRTR pilot project	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Assistance to countries for the implementation of preparatory work on marine pollution indicators	MEDPOL	25,000			2,000	33,000	
Assistance to countries for compliance and enforcement of legislation and systems of inspection (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Meeting of the Informal Network on Compliance and Enforcement of regulations	MEDPOL				18,000	22,000	b
<u>Dumping Protocol</u> Updating of guidelines	MEDPOL	10,000			5,000		
Assistance to countries for the implementation of dumping guidelines	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
<u>Hazardous Wastes Protocol</u> Assistance to countries through Basel Convention Regional Centres for the management of hazardous wastes	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
<u>Coordination and policy</u> MED POL National Coordinators Meeting	MEDPOL				50,000		c
Preparation of revised MED POL Programme (2006 - 2013)	MEDPOL	50,000			50,000		c

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Preparation of State of Environment Report in cooperation with EEA	MEDPOL	10,000					
To implement specific pilot projects in specific areas (hot spots) to support SAP and MED Pol for sea water quality monitoring (i.e. eutrophication monitoring) and water dynamics assessment	ERS/RAC			10,000 *			15,000 *
B. SEA BASED POLLUTION <u>Pollution Prevention</u> Preparation of a Strategy for the implementation of the new Prevention Emergency Protocol to be proposed within the framework of MAP Phase 3.	REMPEC	64,000	12,000				
Assistance to the Mediterranean Coastal States in the implementation process of marine pollution prevention policies, including short-term advisory services to individual coastal States as well as bilateral and subregional co-operation agreement between States.	REMPEC	30,000			8,000	12,000	
Assistance to countries in addressing specific issues related to the protection of the marine environment (e.g. AFS, ballast water, PSSAs, places of refuge, emergency towing)	REMPEC	25,000			20,000		
MEDA project port reception facilities in the Mediterranean region.	REMPEC			282,216			
Extension of port reception facilities activities to non MEDA countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Libya and Slovenia)	REMPEC	35,000					
Preparation of a comprehensive training programme on prevention of pollution from sea based sources.	REMPEC			**			
One regional and one national seminar on prevention of pollution from sea based sources in the Mediterranean region.	REMPEC	20,000			65,000		
One subregional seminar on prevention of pollution from sea based sources in the Mediterranean region	REMPEC			**			**
Preparation of a regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea	REMPEC			***			
<u>Pollution Control</u> Assistance to countries in case of Emergencies (Mediterranean Assistance Unit).	REMPEC	2,000					
Assistance to MCS in maintaining/improving existing national and subregional systems of preparedness and response	REMPEC	28,000			30,000		

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Assistance to MCS in development of new national and subregional systems for preparedness and response	REMPEC	15,000			30,000		
Assistance to individual country in development of port emergency plans for accidents involving HNS.	REMPEC				20,000		
One regional and one national seminar on preparedness and response to marine pollution from the sea based sources	REMPEC	65,000			20,000		
One sub-regional seminar on preparedness and response to marine pollution from sea based sources	REMPEC			**			**
To carry out pilot projects in specific areas of the Mediterranean (e.g. the Sicily Channel) on the application of space technologies for oil spill prevention and control, as well as maritime transportation control in cooperation with REMPEC	ERS/RAC			10,000 *			10,000 *
Assistance to Mediterranean Countries: capacity building, training, focused on sea water quality and oil spill monitoring, maritime transportation control relying on remote sensing, modeling and GIS techniques	ERS/RAC	20,000			20,000		
<u>Information</u> Development of information system and technology (e.g. Website, RIS, MIDSIS, Library database, publications), delivery of information, education activities	REMPEC	24,903			12,903		
Meetings 7th REMPEC Focal Points Meeting (two representatives per country: maritime and environmental authorities)	REMPEC			50,000 ****	73,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		1,121,903	34,000	352,216	1,063,903	67,000	25,000

Notes: a = GEF; b = WHO; c = Host country; d = FFEM; e = UNEP/GPA

* Funds to be provided by the Italian Government.

** IMO has made an oral commitment to support financially these components in 2004 and 2005. The amount has to be defined at a later stage and confirmed by IMO after the approval of the integrated technical co-operation programme

*** Meeting to be hosted by Monaco

**** Following a proposal at the MAP Focal Points Meeting (Athens, September 2003) to have a yearly Focal Points Meeting with only one delegate per country

Note:

In 2002 REMPEC has presented to EC/LIFE two proposals for two projects, total amount of EUROS 313,000 and EUROS 304,938 respectively for the biennium, to be carried out in Albania (development of a National Contingency Plan, 3 years project) and Turkey (ports emergency plans in Mersin and Iskenderun, two years project). If granted, the relevant activities may start somewhere in 2004.

II.B BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
<u>Data collection and periodic assessment of the situation</u> Collection of data and assistance to countries for the preparation of inventories of species and sites	SPA/RAC		10,000			40,000	
Mediterranean Initiative for Taxonomy	SPA/RAC	30,000	25,000				
Development of a Mediterranean clearing-house mechanism on biological diversity	SPA/RAC	15,000			10,000		
<u>Legal Measures</u> Assistance to countries in setting up and enforcing their national legislation related to sites, habitats and species conservation	SPA/RAC	5,000					
<u>Planning and management</u> Implementation of Action Plans adopted within MAP for threatened species and species management	SPA/RAC	11,903	70,000	10,000	11,903	70,000	10,000
Establishment of strategies and plans in the field of biodiversity conservation	SPA/RAC	18,000	40,000	15,000			
Workshop on the monitoring of the introduction of alien marine species and invasive species	SPA/RAC	30,000					
Assistance to countries for the establishment and management of SPAs	SPA/RAC	55,000		687,000	15,000		
Elaboration of indicators on marine and coastal biodiversity	SPA/RAC	10,000					
Expert meeting on the indicators on marine and coastal biodiversity	SPA/RAC				30,000		10,000
<u>Public Information</u> Elaboration and dissemination of data and information relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	SPA/RAC	13,000	5,000		25,000		
Assistance to the National Focal Points for SPA for information action on the SPA Protocol and the Action Plans	SPA/RAC				15,000		
<u>Exchange of experience and strengthening of national capabilities</u> Training sessions on the scientific and technical aspects of the conservation of the common natural heritage	SPA/RAC	35,000			37,500		
<u>Meeting of the SPA National Focal Points</u>	SPA/RAC				55,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		222,903	150,000	712,000	199,403	110,000	20,000

II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
CAMPS: Coordinating role; implementation of ICAM activities in Algeria, Cyprus, Slovenia; implementation of specific activities; natural resources management; participatory programmes; data management; capacity building; environmental assessment; sustainable urban management; CCA for tourism; preparation of ICAM strategies, programmes and plans; preparation of bankable projects as a follow-up of CAMP activities; preparatory activities for CAMP project in Spain and Morocco	PAP/RAC	22,000	111,793	110,000	19,000	120,293	110,000
Implementation of a system for the assistance to the management of the Algerian coastal zone located between Cherchell and Zemmouri	ERS/RAC			100,000 *			110,000 *
Capacity building of stakeholders in CAMPs	PAP/RAC		20,000			20,000	
Follow-up of CAMPs: Assistance to countries to follow-up the implementation of proposed programmes (preparation of projects)	PAP/RAC	5,000	10,000			10,000	
Assistance to CAMPs to cover biodiversity and SPA related activities	SPA/RAC		20,000			20,000	
Systemic & prospective sustainability analyses: - Elaboration of guidelines	BP/RAC		21,000			26,000	
- Implementation in the concerned CAMPs, and related information system	BP/RAC		34,000				
Analysis of Land use / Land cover and relevant dynamics, for sustainable development in Mediterranean coastal zones (on-going CAMPs)	ERS/RAC	30,000			30,000		
Information technology to facilitate data dissemination and communications	ERS/RAC			50,000 *			50,000 *
ICAM Development of ICAM and ICARM methodologies: application of tools and instruments for ICAM - SEA, coastal information systems, hazard assessment risk management, financing model for sustainable coastal development, local management models	PAP/RAC	30,000			30,000		
Assistance to Mediterranean countries in preparing their national reports on coastal management (Algeria, Egypt)	PAP/RAC	7,000					
Assistance to countries in developing their national legislation for ICAM and activities in preparing a regional legal framework for ICAM	PAP/RAC	30,000			10,000		

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Regional workshop to discuss the proposal for regional legal instrument on ICAM	PAP/RAC				26,500		
Development of a regional strategy to fight coastal erosion in Mediterranean coastal areas	PAP/RAC				10,000		
Regional workshop to discuss and adopt the programme of action to fight coastal erosion in the Mediterranean coastal areas	PAP/RAC					20,000	
Preparation of the report on the state of beaches in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC	16,000			10,000		
Diagnostic analysis of landscape management practices in Mediterranean countries: typology, patterns, management guidelines, outstanding landscapes	PAP/RAC	15,000			10,000		
Update of the regional "clearing house" for documentation, information dissemination and awareness on coastal area management initiatives in the Mediterranean countries: update and improvement of the Regional clearing house mechanism	PAP/RAC	8,700			8,000		
Preparation of the regional ICAM/CAMP strategy	PAP/RAC	12,403	16,500				
Workshop to review the regional strategy for ICAM/CAMP	PAP/RAC				4,403	16,500	10,000
Development and implementation of the internet-based open training course on ICAM (MEDOpen): approach, methodology, training documents, case studies, selection of candidates, help desk, discussion groups, the first training course, examinations	PAP/RAC	13,000			8,000		
National Focal Points Meeting of PAP/RAC (jointly with BP/RAC and ERS/RAC)	PAP/RAC				25,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		189,103	233,293	260,000	190,903	232,793	280,000

* Funds to be provided by the Italian Government.

II.D INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Environment/development report, valorisation, communication & dissemination	BP/RAC	55,000		180,250	45,000		49,450
Free-Trade and the Environment, cooperation & Financing sustainable Development (in the framework of MCSD)							
- Economic tools for sustainable development	BP/RAC	24,000		100,000 *			
- Funding and Co-operation for Sustainable Development (workshop)	BP/RAC		35,000				
Integrating sustainability in sectorial policies							
<u>Natural resources, rural development and agriculture</u>							
- Forests: Silva Mediterranean program (case studies, prospective vision, regional workshop)	BP/RAC			150,000 *			150,000 *
- Agriculture & Rural development: case studies (indicators), prospective vision (in collaboration with the CIHEAM)	BP/RAC	25,000		25,000 *	40,000		25,000 *
- Water: follow up of progress on indicators & good practices (in relation to MCSD)	BP/RAC	6,902		60,000	6,901		60,000
- Regional training course on application of guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management	PAP/RAC	25,000					
- Implementation of the sub-Regional project in Maghreb countries: definition of protection, rehabilitation and management measures in pilot areas, strategy development and preparation of management plans	PAP/RAC	20,000			15,000		
- Regional training on the methodologies, tools, procedures and technologies of erosion and desertification control and management (Syria and Lebanon)	PAP/RAC		7,500			7,000	
- Implementation of the Life Third Countries project on improving coastal land degradation monitoring in Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic	ERS/RAC	3,000		44,000 **			
<u>Transport and urbanization, urban management and sustainable development (in relation with MCSD)</u>							
- Prospective case studies & experts meeting	BP/RAC	8,500	20,000			27,000	30,000 *

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2004			2005		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
- Implementation of the recommendations of the MCSD Working Group on Urban Management and Sustainable Development: development of urban management tools, integration of coastal management and urban management, regional exchange of experience	PAP/RAC	10,000			5,000		
- Maritime transports: data collection and analysis, preparation of Marenostrum project, jointly with REMPEC	BP/RAC			*			*
<u>Tourism and sustainable development (notably in relation with MCSD)</u> '- Regional TC on application of Carrying Capacity Assessment for Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC				15,000		
- Regional studies, experts meeting on economic tools & mechanism of cooperation	BP/RAC	21,000				36,000	
<u>Sustainable management of cultural heritage</u>	MEDU			60,000 a			b
Indicators, Statistics & Data base - Indicators: experts meeting, regional workshop	BP/RAC	12,000	8,000		40,000		
- National Focal Points meeting of BP/RAC (Jointly with PAP/RAC and ERS/RAC)	BP/RAC				25,000		
- National Focal Points meeting of ERS/RAC (Jointly with PAP/RAC and BP/RAC)	ERS/RAC						30,000 ***
- Medstat Environment Project	BP/RAC			706,000			650,000
- Trainings on ECHEMS (data base)	BP/RAC		13,000				
- Support to Mediterranean Countries and BP/RAC for indicators evaluation (CAMPs and other MAP activities)	ERS/RAC	13,000		5,000 ***	16,000		5,000 ***
Information and Communication Technologies - To carry out pilot projects in specific areas of the Mediterranean, by applying Information and Communication Technologies	ERS/RAC			200,000 ***			200,000 ***
- ICT Pilot Project towards SAP implementation in Sicily	ERS/RAC			50,000 ***			50,000 ***
- ICT uses for prevention and vessels navigation security and control	ERS/RAC			45,000 ***			45,000 ***
- Mediterranean Forum on the preliminary process of the Mediterranean e-school, e-education, e-training Community Initiative	ERS/RAC			70,000 ***			70,000 ***
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		223,402	83,500	1,695,250	207,901	70,000	1,364,450

* Pending financing decision.

** PAP/RAC is to receive EURO 17,700 in 2004 out of the Project, lead by ERS/RAC, and co-funded by EC.

*** Funds to be provided by the Italian Government.

(a) For the adoption of the work programme; (b) Funds to start implementing the programme.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS
1. COORDINATING UNIT (including MED POL), Athens, Greece

	Approved Budget (in €)			Approved Budget (in €)			
	2003			2004		2005	
		MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP
Professional Staff	m/m						
Coordinator - D.2	12	148,651		172,534		135,052	
Deputy Coordinator - D.1	12	137,788		136,007		136,007	
Programme Officer - P.4	12	108,160		94,404		96,528	
Admin/Fund Management Officer - P.4	12	*		*		*	
MEDPOL Coordinator - P.5	12	126,439		118,720		120,921	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.4	12	105,765		96,528		98,652	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.3/P.4	12	96,650		88,031		90,156	
Information Officer - P.3/P.4	12	98,786		90,156		92,279	
MSSD Officer- L.3	12	-		**		**	
Total Professional Staff		822,239		796,379		769,594	
Administrative Support (b)							
Meeting Services Assistant - G.7	12		37,422		37,591		37,591
Administrative Assistant – G.7	12	*		*		*	
Senior Secretary - G.5/G.6	12		26,884		28,050		28,952
Administrative Clerk - G.5/G.6	12	*		*		*	
Computer Operations Assistant - G.6	12	*		*		*	
Budget Assistant - G.6 /G.7	12	*		*		*	
Administrative Assistant - G.6	12	*		*		*	
Library Assistant - G.6	12		32,391		32,556		32,556
Programme Assistant- G.5	12		27,771		25,720		26,521
Secretary – G.4	12		25,526		22,844		23,556
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.5	12	27,975		28,926		28,926	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	22,675		22,844		23,556	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	21,948		19,447		19,447	
Administrative Clerk - G.4/ G.5	12	*		*		*	
Administrative Clerk - G.4/ G.5	12	*		*		*	
Information / Documentation Assistant - G.5	12		24,133		23,314		24,116
Clerk - G.3	12	*		*		*	
Temporary Assistance		8,800		10,000		10,000	
Training of MEDU Staff		11,000		10,500		10,500	
Overtime		16,500		8,750		8,750	
Hospitality		13,200		11,000		12,500 ***	
Total Administrative support		122,099	174,126	111,467	170,075	113,679	173,292
Travel on Official Business		148,500		150,000		150,000	
Office Costs							
Rental			155,100		155,100		155,100
Other Office costs (including sundry)			110,773		114,825		111,608
Total Office costs		0	265,873	0	269,925	0	266,708
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		1,092,837	440,000	1,057,846	440,000	1,033,273	440,000

* Paid under Programme Support Costs

** Proposal for a post to be opened in relation to the preparation of the sustainable development strategy. Duration limited to 2 years. Financial allocation of Eu 70,000 per year from the MTF revolving fund.

*** Including the Contracting Parties Meeting in 2005.

2. MED POL COOPERATING AGENCIES

		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2003		2004	2005
		MTF		MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m				
WHO Programme Officer/Senior Scientist, MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) P.5	12	131,351	120,921	120,921	
IAEA DQA Consultant	12	20,900	-	-	
Total Professional Staff		152,251	120,921	120,921	
Administrative Support					
WHO Secretary MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) G.5	12	28,790	28,926	28,926	
IAEA Laboratory Assistant MEL (Monaco) G.6	12	56,855	55,771	57,225	
IOC Temporary Assistance - IOC/HQ (Paris)		5,500	5,500	5,500	
Total Administrative Support		91,145	90,197	91,651	
Travel on Official Business					
WHO (Athens)		16,500	15,000	15,000	
IAEA (Monaco)		16,500 *	15,000 *	15,000 *	
IOC of UNESCO (Paris)		3,300	3,300	3,300	
Total Travel		36,300	33,300	33,300	
Office costs		**	**	**	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		279,696	244,418	245,872	

* Includes field missions for the Data Quality Assurance Programme

** Office costs incurred by WHO staff stationed in the Coordinating Unit in Athens are covered by the MED Unit office costs. Office costs incurred by all agencies at their own Headquarters or Regional Offices are covered by the respective agencies as part of their counterpart contributions.

**3. REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC) Valletta, Malta
Cooperating Agency IMO**

		Approved Budget (in €)	Approved Budget (in €)	
		2003	2004	2005
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Director - D.1	12	137,788	133,420	133,420
Programme Officer - P.5	12	131,351	120,921	120,921
Programme Officer - P.4	12	112,953	85,998	88,031
Programme Officer - P.4	12	94,402	84,002	85,998
Administrative Officer (P.1) (i)	*	-	13,532	22,166
Temporary:				
Technical Assistant (MEDA) -P.3 (ii)	12	-	-	-
Junior Professional (VCI) - P.2 (iii)	12	-	-	-
Junior Professional - P.2 (iv)	12	-	-	-
Total Professional Staff		476,494	437,873	450,536
Administrative Support				
Administrative Assistant - G.7 (i)	*	11,300	1,283	0
Information Assistant - G.7	12	23,741	19,399	19,834
Assistant Head of Office- G.6	12	22,282	15,929	16,320
Clerk/Secretary - G.4	12	19,346	15,853	16,186
Clerk/Secretary - G.4	12	17,695	14,528	14,858
Maintenance/Officer Assistant - G.4	12	20,173	15,853	16,186
Bilingual Secretary (v)	12	-	-	-
Administrative Assistant - G.6 (v)	12	-	-	-
Temporary:				
Clerk/Secretary MEDA - G.4 (ii)	12	-	-	-
Total Administrative Support		114,538	82,845	83,384
Travel on Official Business		48,400	55,000	40,000
Office costs		81,400	74,430	66,307
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		720,832	650,148	640,227

(i) Position partly financed by IMO by a contribution of EURO 13,000 in 2004 and 2005, and by Italy (EURO 8,000 in 2004 and 2005) as part of the Italian additional voluntary contribution to MTF for REMPEC (EURO 45,000 a year).

(ii) Position financed by the MEDA Project on reception facilities.

(iii) Position financed by the French Oil Industry.

(iv) Position financed by the Italian Oil Association

(v) Position financed by Italy (EURO 35,000 in 2004 and 2005) as part of the Italian additional voluntary contribution to MTF for REMPEC (EURO 45,000 a year).

* Incumbent will move from the General Service to the Professional level in April 2004

**4. BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)
Sophia Antipolis, France**

		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2003		2004	2005
		MTF		MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m				
President	12				
Director (a)	12	-			
Scientific Director (a)	12	-			
Environmental Economist	12	114,400	112,200	114,400	
Territorial Analysis and Prospective Expert	12	93,500	92,400	93,500	
Computer and Data Base Expert (b)	12	61,600	60,500	61,600	
Environment Expert (c)	12	-	-	-	
Institutional Studies and Environment Expert (d)	12	5,500	5,500	5,500	
GIS, Database and Computer Expert (c)	12	-	-	-	
Environment Expert (a)	12	-	-	-	
Admin/Finance Officer	12	66,000	63,800	66,000	
Cartography and computer expert (c)	12	-	-	-	
Water expert (c)	12	-	-	-	
Senior Statistician, Project Manager (c)	12	-	-	-	
Senior expert, Silva med. Project manager (a)	12	-	-	-	
Environment expert, Silva Med. project (e)	12	-	-	-	
Total Professional Staff		341,000	334,400	341,000	
Administrative Support					
Data Collection Assistant/Senior Secretary	12	56,100	56,100	56,100	
Bilingual Secretary	12	56,100	56,100	56,100	
Project Secretary (c)	12	-	-	-	
Documentation Officer (d)	12	-	-	-	
Project Secretary (e)	6	-	-	-	
Temporary Assistance (b)		17,600	17,600	17,600	
Total Administrative Support		129,800	129,800	129,800	
Travel on Official Business		37,400	37,400	37,400	
Office and Operating costs		49,500	49,500	49,500	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		557,700	551,100	557,700	

- (a) Seconded by the French Government.
 (b) Supplemented by other projects and funds.
 (c) Covered by other projects for 2004 and 2005.
 (d) Covered by other projects, and Euro 5,500 from MTF for MAP activities.
 (e) Paid under the operating budget of the French Government and from external sources.

5. **PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)**
Split, Croatia

		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2003		2004	2005
		MTF		MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m				
Director	12	60,500	58,300	60,500	
Deputy Director	12	45,100	42,900	45,100	
Total Professional Staff		105,600	101,200	105,600	
Administrative Support					
Senior Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	31,900	30,800	31,900	
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	30,800	29,700	30,800	
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	30,800	29,700	30,800	
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	30,800	29,700	30,800	
Administrative Assistant	12	30,800	29,700	30,800	
Financial Assistant	12	30,800	29,700	30,800	
Temporary Assistance		16,500	16,500	16,500	
Total Administrative Support		202,400	195,800	202,400	
Travel on Official Business		36,300	44,400	44,400	
Office costs		89,100	81,000	81,000	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		433,400	422,400	433,400	

**6. SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)
Tunis, Tunisia**

		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2003		2004	2005
		MTF		MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m				
Director	12	37,950 *	37,950*	37,950*	
Scientific Director***	12	50,600	50,600	50,600	
Expert	12	19,250 *	19,250 *	19,250 *	
Expert	12	71,500	71,500	71,500	
Administrative Officer	12	-	27,000	27,000	
Total Professional Staff		179,300	206,300	206,300	
Administrative Support					
Administrative Assistant	12				
Bilingual Secretary	12	13,750	13,750	13,750	
Bilingual Secretary	12	13,750	13,750	13,750	
Driver	12	7,700	7,700	7,700	
Finance Officer	12	2,200 *	2,200 *	2,200 *	
Cleaner	12	**	**	**	
Caretaker	12	**	**	**	
Temporary Assistance		22,000	25,000	25,000	
Total Administrative Support		59,400	62,400	62,400	
Travel on Official Business		31,900	31,900	31,900	
Office costs		59,400	59,400	59,400	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		330,000	360,000	360,000	

* Represents funds allocated to supplement the salary paid by the Host Country.

** Paid by the Host Country.

*** Replacing the Data Researcher post, this new title was proposed at the SPA/RAC Focal Points meeting in 2001, and confirmed at the MAP Focal Points Meeting (Athens, September 2003).

7. **ENVIRONMENT REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (ERS/RAC)**
Palermo, Italy

	Approved Budget (in €)			
	2004		2005	
	MTF	ITALY CP	MTF	ITALY CP
Technical Director		60,000		60,000
Administrative Director		60,000		60,000
Employees		50,000		50,000
Consultants		80,000		80,000
Administrative costs		15,000		15,000
Office costs (Sicily)		10,000		10,000
Head Office costs (Rome)		20,000		20,000
Travel on Official Business		20,000		20,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		315,000		315,000

8. **CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)**
Barcelona, Spain

	Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS	*	*

* Personnel and Operating Costs are fully funded by the Spanish Government.

Annex V

CATANIA DECLARATION

The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention), meeting in Catania, Italy, from 11 to 14 November 2003 in the framework of the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP),

Reaffirming their commitment to achieving sustainable development at regional, national and local levels, as well as to the issues agreed upon and the decisions taken in the Mediterranean Declaration for the 2002 Johannesburg Summit and its Plan of Implementation;

Aware that the promotion of sustainable development and the protection of the environment require more effective cooperation with international institutions and major groups, and active participation of NGOs and the private sector;

Recognizing the necessity for coherent sustainable development strategies, integrating economic, social and environmental issues and through adequate governance;

Reaffirming that protecting and enhancing the environment is necessary as well as an opportunity for sustainable social and economic development;

Emphasizing the need to further control and prevent all kinds of pollution affecting the quality of the natural resources and the health of the Mediterranean people;

Underlining the importance of the sustainable management of coastal regions and the need for a strategic approach and a coherent framework in this respect; and

Concerned at the asymmetrical development and technological gap among the Mediterranean coastal States;

Agree that:

1. The Mediterranean Partners and Actors in general and MAP in particular should play an active role in the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) at the regional level;
2. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) to be prepared for 2005, the work programme of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) in general, and the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) in particular, should give due consideration to the global issues that are of major concern to the Mediterranean, in particular the JPOI and the UN-CSD programme of work;
3. Additional and more substantial support from the European Union would help the promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean, and particularly the preparation of the MSSD, especially for improving convergence, reducing technological gaps and promoting appropriate institutional and capacity building;
4. The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) adopted under the Land-Based Sources Protocol (LBS Protocol) and the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP/BIO), which constitute a major contribution to

sustainable development in the Mediterranean, should be implemented, as appropriate, and followed up effectively with adequate support and resources; in this context the LBS Protocol should enter into force as soon as possible and the procedures for acceptance of the amendments be urgently finalized by the countries that have not yet done so.

5. Regional strategies for Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) together with an appropriate regional legal framework should be prepared, including guidelines for national strategies; in this context each coastal state should participate actively in implementing sustainable development activities and should encourage multilateral actions and avoid any unilateral action with a negative impact on neighbouring coastal states;
6. All concerned partners should be actively involved in the development and implementation of sustainable development policies and activities, in particular the business sector and NGOs, through a participatory approach and operational partnerships for joint programmes/projects;
7. Cooperation should also be strengthened with the European Commission, League of Arab States, United Nations agencies and programmes and other concerned organizations, such as the RA.MO.GE. Agreement and the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, for the development and implementation of the MSSD and marine strategies with concerned countries.

Moreover,

Considering that the European Community has launched a preparatory process for a European Marine Strategy, taking into account Mediterranean concerns

Emphasizing the strategic importance of the cooperation between MAP and the European Commission, for the MSSD as well as for the marine strategy, in particular through strengthening ties between MAP and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, as confirmed in the Athens Ministerial Declaration of 10 July 2002; and

Recognizing the necessity for a contribution from the Mediterranean, as one of the Regional Seas lapping the shores of Europe, to the preparation of this marine strategy;

The Contracting Parties agree that:

8. The initiative of the European Community to develop a European Marine Strategy should be encouraged as it will contribute to prevent, abate and combat pollution of the Mediterranean Sea area and to enhance the protection and conservation of the marine environment in that area;
9. The EU should take full account of the specific features of the Mediterranean marine environment and the concerns of the Mediterranean countries, particularly the most vulnerable and threatened ones, in the development and implementation of the European marine strategy, to the preparation of which, UNEP/MAP will be associated;
10. Cooperation with the European Community in its efforts to develop and implement the European Marine Strategy should be strengthened, both as individual sovereign states bordering a regional sea, and as parties to the Barcelona Convention;

11. Co-operation between actors involved in the protection of the marine environment at regional level should be promoted and implemented, with the aim of drawing synergies and of avoiding duplication of efforts;
12. There are concerns of common interest, such as contamination by hazardous substances and nutrients namely those coming from land-based sources, the losses of biological diversity, the unsustainable management of the coastal areas and fisheries resources, illegal discharges, the introduction of non-indigenous species and the risk of maritime accidents;
13. Joint answers should be fully explored, such as, inter alia, improved national enforcement of existing rules and regulations, the application of the ecosystem approach, taking into consideration the legislation and capabilities of concerned countries, or the elaboration of a common approach on monitoring and assessment;
14. The outcomes of activities and programmes carried out by the Convention and its Parties should be duly recognized and taken into account in the preparation and the implementation of the Strategy;
15. The MAP Co-ordination Unit and the European Commission will jointly facilitate the participation of the Contracting Parties and civil society in this cooperation process.

Finally,

Concerned at the accidents at sea such as the Erika and Prestige cases and the possible pollution risks and impact of similar accidents on the Mediterranean marine environment, as well as at reducing voluntary acts of pollution, and convinced of the importance of protecting all Contracting Parties from the risk of maritime pollution;

Bearing in mind the legal framework at the global and regional levels for the protection of the marine environment; and

Convinced that the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol represents an efficient tool for strengthening cooperation and protecting the marine environment in the Mediterranean;

Aware that close cooperation between Mediterranean countries is essential for preventing and combating maritime pollution;

The Contracting Parties agree that:

16. Every effort should be done to ratify the protocol concerning cooperation in preventing pollution from ships and, in cases of emergency, combating pollution of the Mediterranean Sea and to act jointly in the implementation of its provisions;
17. MAP will prepare a regional strategy for the prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships in view of its adoption at their 14th meeting in 2005, including precise commitments and deadlines, as appropriate, by addressing the following priorities:
 - a) To ensure that each Contracting Party meets its obligations as a Flag State, Port or Coastal State within the framework of international law and in particular, when it applies and as appropriate, the UNCLOS, to which many Mediterranean countries are Parties, as well as in conformity with relevant rules adopted by IMO;

- b) To ensure the enforcement of national legislation related to prosecution of offenders illicitly discharging polluting substances. In doing so, due attention should be paid to the need for achieving even-handed treatment of such offenders throughout the Mediterranean region;
- c) To establish and implement at the national level the procedures for monitoring and surveillance of sea areas under their jurisdiction;
- d) To establish a comprehensive regional network for monitoring, detection and reporting of illicit discharges from ships;
- e) To strengthen the level of enforcement and the prosecution of illicit discharge offenders;
- f) To provide all major ports in the Mediterranean with adequate reception facilities for wastes generated on board ships, including ballast waters, according to the provisions of Annex I and Annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as amended by the 1978 Protocol relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78);
- g) To ensure the coherent implementation of the provisions of Annex I to MARPOL 73/78 related to the carriage of heavy grades of oil in single hull tankers and work within IMO to accelerate the phasing out of single hull tankers;
- h) To identify appropriate procedures in order to facilitate the decision when designating a place of refuge for a ship in distress;
- i) To study and identify the areas of the Mediterranean Sea where maritime safety and control of maritime traffic are in need of improvement;
- j) To propose to IMO the establishment of additional Vessel Traffic Separation Schemes deemed necessary for improving the safety of navigation;
- k) To set up additional Vessel Traffic Management and Information Systems (VTMIS) considered necessary as a complementary tool for improved control of maritime traffic, where agreed by all parties with a common interest, according to IMO guidelines;
- l) To promote, develop and implement sub-regional and local contingency plans for preparedness and response to marine pollution by oil and other hazardous and noxious substances as well as arrangements for their enforcement, covering the entire Mediterranean region;
- m) To adopt Mediterranean guidelines on emergency towing including, if appropriate, agreement on sharing towing capacity between neighboring states;
- n) To evaluate, in line with the work of relevant protocols of the Barcelona convention, the need for developing Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) in the Mediterranean and to submit subsequent proposals to IMO, as necessary;
- o) To work for further improvement of the relevant conventions related to liability and compensation for environmental damage caused by accidental pollution from ships, such as the new 2003 Fund Protocol;

18. The EU and other concerned partners, in particular the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, should join in the preparation and implementation of the regional strategy related to the Prevention and Emergency Protocol;
19. In this context, it would be important to provide support to the Contracting Parties that are in need, and where maritime security and the control of maritime traffic requires action, to give them the means to protect themselves against accidents and pollution of the marine environment.

To this end, the Contracting Parties:

20. *Commit* themselves to taking the necessary measures and actions, and providing adequate support for the implementation of the above, either directly or through the Mediterranean Action Plan.

Annex VI

STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS

**Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention
for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols
as at 10 November 2003**

Contracting Parties	Barcelona Convention 1/			Dumping Protocol 2/			Emergency Protocol 3/			New Emergency Protocol 4/		
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	-	-	-	-
Algeria	-	16.02.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	-	25.01.02	-	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	-	25.01.02	13.06.03**	-
Cyprus	16.02.76	19.11.79	15.10.01	16.02.76	19.11.79	18.07.03	16.02.76	19.11.79	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
European Community	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	12.08.81/AP	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Egypt	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	-	-	-	-
France	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	25.01.02	25.01.02	02.07.03	-
Greece	16.02.76	03.01.79	10.03.03	11.02.77	03.01.79	-	16.02.76	03.01.79	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Israel	16.02.76	03.03.78	-	16.02.76	01.03.84	-	16.02.76	03.03.78	22.01.03	22.01.03	-	-
Italy	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Lebanon	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	-	-	-
Libya	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Malta	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	25.01.02	25.01.02	18.02.03	-
Monaco	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	25.01.02	25.01.02	03.04.02	-
Morocco	16.02.76	15.01.80	-	16.02.76	15.01.80	05.12.97	16.02.76	15.01.80	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Slovenia	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Spain	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	10.10.2003	-	26.12.78/AC	-	-	26.12.78/AC	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Tunisia	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	25.01.02	25.01.02	-	-
Turkey	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	-	-	20.05.03**	-
Yugoslavia	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	-	-

Accession = AD Approval = AP Succession = SUC

*F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganised State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention

**Turkey and Croatia notified their ratification of the new Emergency Protocol to UNEP/MAP pending notification from the depositary country.

Contracting Parties	Land-Based Sources Protocol 5/			Specially Protected Areas Protocol 6/		SPA & Biodiversity Protocol 7/		Offshore Protocol 8/		Hazardous Wastes Protocol 9/	
	Signature	Signature	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature	Signature
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	10.06.95	26.07.01	-	26.06.01	-	26.07.01
Algeria	-	02.05.83/AC	-	-	16.05.85/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	12.06.92/SUC	-	-	12.06.92/SUC	10.06.95	12.04.02	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	17.05.80	28.06.88	12.10.01	-	28.06.88/AC	10.06.95	15.10.01	14.10.94	15.10.01	-	-
European Community	17.05.80	07.10.83/AP	12.11.99	30.03.83	30.06.84/AP	10.06.95	12.11.99	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	18.05.83/AC	-	16.02.83	08.07.83	10.06.95	11.02.00	-	-	01.10.96	-
France	17.05.80	13.07.82/AP	16.04.01	03.04.82	02.09.86/AP	10.06.95	16.04.01	-	-	-	-
Greece	17.05.80	26.01.87	10.03.03	03.04.82	26.01.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Israel	17.05.80	21.02.91	-	03.04.82	28.10.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
Italy	17.05.80	04.07.85	07.09.99	03.04.82	04.07.85	10.06.95	07.09.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Lebanon	17.05.80	27.12.94	-	-	27.12.94/AC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	17.05.80	06.06.89/AP	-	-	06.06.89/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Malta	17.05.80	02.03.89	28.10.99	03.04.82	11.01.88	10.06.95	28.10.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	28.10.99
Monaco	17.05.80	12.01.83	26.11.96	03.04.82	29.05.89	10.06.95	03.06.97	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Morocco	17.05.80	09.02.87	02.10.96	02.04.83	22.06.90	10.06.95	-	-	01.07.99	20.03.97	01.07.99
Slovenia	-	16.09.93/AD	08.01.03	-	16.09.93/AC	-	08.01.03	10.10.95	-	-	-
Spain	17.05.80	06.06.84	17.02.99	03.04.82	22.12.87	10.06.95	23.12.98	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Syria	-	01.12.93/AC	-	-	11.09.92/AC	-	10.10.03	20.09.95	-	-	-
Tunisia	17.05.80	29.10.81	01.06.98	03.04.82	26.05.83	10.06.95	01.06.98	14.10.94	01.06.98	01.10.96	01.06.98
Turkey	-	21.02.83/AC	18.05.02	-	06.11.86/AC	10.06.95	18.09.02	-	-	01.10.96	-
Yugoslavia	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	-	-	-	-

*F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganised State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention

- 1/ Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
- 2/ The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
- 3/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
- 4/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea
Adopted (Malta): 25 January 2002
Entry into force*:
- 5/ The Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources (LBS Protocol)
Adopted (Athens): 17 May 1980
Entry into force*: 17 June 1983
- 6/ The Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)
Adopted (Geneva): 3 April 1982
Entry into force*: 23 March 1986
- 7/ The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 10 June 1995
Entry into force*: 12 December 1999

8/ Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation (Offshore Protocol) of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil

Adopted (Madrid):
Entry into force*:

14 October 1994

9/ Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol)

Adopted (Izmir):
Entry into force*:

1 October 1996

* The amendments are not yet into force

Annex VII

STATEMENT OF H.E. MR ALTERO MATTEOLI Minister of the Environment and Territory of Italy

President Fautrier, Colleagues Ministers of Mediterranean countries, Doctor Topfer, Mr. Chabason, President Cuffaro, Mayor Scapagnini Representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and a pleasure to have you in Catania for the 13th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution.

On behalf of the Italian Government I wish to thank the Mayor of Catania, Umberto Scapagnini, and the president of the Sicilian Region, Antonio Cuffaro, for the intelligent and “sustainable” hospitality in this magnificent city and on this beautiful Mediterranean island.

Italy hosts this Conference of the Parties as a Mediterranean country, and as the appointed EU Presidency.

In this twofold official capacity we would like to highlight the great international significance of this meeting and the importance that Italy attaches to the Barcelona Convention.

I would like to remind that the United Nations Conference of Stockholm (1972) on “Human Environment” indicated the Mediterranean as the region with high priority for the development of an integrated program of environmental protection which takes into consideration economic, social, cultural factors, present in the area.

The Mediterranean Action Plan and the Barcelona Convention (1976) provide the first real example of an agreement of regional co-operation for sustainable development, and represent a tangible implementation of the indications highlighted during the Conference of Stockholm;

The Action Plan and the Convention represented the beginning of an interesting and challenging process of co-operation and regional integration, which has also favoured the creation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership among the EU member countries and other countries on the South and East side of the Mediterranean, adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference of Barcelona in 1995.

The Partnership aims at identifying and developing common projects, in the perspective of creating a free trade area in the Mediterranean, to be achieved by 2010, financed by the EU programme.

In the framework of MEDA, local and regional plans for the protection of the environment and for sustainable development, financed by the short and medium term Environmental Action Plan in the Mediterranean area achieved great importance.

In the context of the Convention of Barcelona, the enhancement of links and integration between the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Environmental Action Program, highlighted in the Ministerial Declaration of Athens, July 2002, is essential to give concreteness to the strategy for sustainable development of the Mediterranean, which was approved during the Johannesburg's Summit.

The Conference of the Parties in Catania represents the opportunity to set up the priorities and the work plan, which we should complete within 2005, in order to allow the approval of the Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean at the next 14th Conference of the Contracting Parties.

Thus it will be important to consolidate the positive results achieved up to now – thanks to the work carried out by the Secretariat, by the Regional Activity Centres and by the Governments – for the drafting and implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes for the reduction of pollution from land-based sources, and for the protection of Biodiversity, which represent the two guideline tools for reducing pollution in the Mediterranean and for the safeguard of the endemic Species, unique in their contribution to the ecosystems.

At the same time it will be necessary to ensure an effective synergy between:

The institutional levels, thus the presidency and the secretariat of the Barcelona Convention together with the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development and the European Commission;

The work programme of the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Environmental Action Programme,

Moreover, it will be important to consolidate and to enlarge the bilateral and multilateral environmental co-operation in the Mediterranean area.

I would also like to mention the environmental co-operation programme and the partnerships for the renewable resources recently started-up with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia and Montenegro.

The programmes involve the development of integrated coastal management projects, the combat against desertification, the promotion of renewable resources, the disposal and the energetic recovery of waste, the promotion of “sustainable development”, and the strengthening of national and local capabilities for the environmental governance.

These projects also represent an opportunity to favour private investments for the transfer of clean technologies and for the sustainable economic growth of the Southern Mediterranean countries.

For this purpose, a 15 million euro Trust Fund has been deposited to the World Bank, earmarked to co-finance several projects, carried-out by Italian companies, for renewable resources, water protection and preservation, and combating desertification. This represents our effort for the environmental protection of the Mediterranean area and the regional environmental co-operation aiming at the use of the environment as a development opportunity.

I would like to remind that apart from the development of a bilateral and multilateral co-operation programme, Italy is focused on empowering and re-training the ERS/RAC Centre of Palermo, in order to secure a qualified and continuous technical support to coast and seas monitoring and teledetection activities. The strengthening of the Centre aims also at the establishment of a Regional Centre for Mediterranean Technological Information and Communication.

In short, I also would like to inform you about the further effort by the Ministry of the Environment and Territory in supporting the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. We will fund, in fact, activities of the MAP Secretariat for the preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development over the next 2004-2005 with 100.000 euro.

Furthermore we offered to host in Italy the next meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development scheduled for April-May 2004. As for the Strategy for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean and to other important initiatives on the same issue, we will have the opportunity to discuss during the International Forum for the Partnership on Sustainable Development that will take place in Rome from the 4th to the 6th of March 2004, at the FAO headquarters.

In conclusion, I hope these three days will allow further and tangible progresses to achieve new models of partnership and co-operation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

Thank you and good work!

Annex VIII

STATEMENT OF MR SHAFQAT KAKAKHEL Deputy Executive Director of UNEP

Minister Matteoli, Mayor of Catania, Representatives of the region of Sicily, Heads of Delegations, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured and please to welcome you to the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (commonly referred to as Barcelona Convention). I would like to convey to you the greetings and best wishes of Dr Klaus Toepfer, the Executive Director of UNEP, who is not able to be with us here today. I would also like to thank the Government of Italy for hosting this important meeting in Catania.

I would like to pay tribute to Monaco and to M. Fautrier for guiding the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Regarding the next two years we offer our felicitation to Italy for its election as Chair of the Bureau. We have no doubt that Minister Matteoli or Director General Clini will guide the Bureau of the Barcelona Convention and the MAP Secretariat in addressing the growing challenges facing the Mediterranean Sea.

This meeting comes as the current coordinator of the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Action Plan, Mr. Lucien Chabason, is on the eve of retirement. On behalf of the Executive Director and all of my colleagues at UNEP I would like to express our admiration and gratitude to Mr. Chabason for his leadership and dedication throughout his tenure in this important post. I am certain you will all agree that his great vision, professionalism and diplomacy have been instrumental in ensuring the success of the MAP, and will join me in wishing him success in all of his future endeavors. Finding a suitable successor to Mr. Chabason has indeed been a challenge, but we hope we will be able to announce the Secretary's General decision on the appointment in the very near future.

The Mediterranean Action Plan is UNEP's flagship Regional Seas Programme, and provides an excellent example to other regions of how countries can join together to address common environmental challenges. When the MAP was first established, UNEP had to provide the programme with a great deal of support; now, however, it is an independent, strong and vibrant entity. It has grown in size quite considerably, with significant initiatives such as the Programme for the Assessment and Control of Pollution in the Mediterranean region (often referred to as 'MED POL'), the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, and six Regional Activity Centres being added over the years.

We hope that other regions will be able to follow this lead and develop similar mechanisms and initiatives.

The Mediterranean Action Plan also sets a good example in relation to partnerships. The MAP collaborates closely with other members of the UN family, the European Union, and other intergovernmental organizations, in addition to a number of donor agencies such as the Global Environment Facility and the French FFEM (Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondiale). Finance is indeed one of the main elements required for the sustainability of the programme, and prospects for new support from the GEF will greatly enhance implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan in the future.

It is also encouraging to note that MAP's continued support to the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, which adds value at both regional and national levels. We anticipate vital contributions from MAP to the process of development of the European Marine Strategy, which will represent an ambitious new approach to protecting and conserving marine ecosystems and to the sustainable use of marine resources, all within the framework of the ecosystem approach. There will of course be strong ties to the MED POL, which will complete its third phase in the coming biennium and turn to the formulation of Phase IV. This next phase will focus on achieving sustainable development in implementing activities for the prevention of marine pollution, also through the ecosystem-based approach.

I note with pleasure that the Catania Declaration highlights that the Strategic Action Programme adopted under the Land-Based Sources Protocol constitutes a major contribution to sustainable development in the Mediterranean. This in turns adds value to the adoption of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, an instrument being used to revitalise the Regional Seas. We are pleased to see these synergies.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the 22nd session on the UNEP Governing Council, held in February of this year, governments requested the Executive Director to encourage and support regional seas conventions and action plans to incorporate new strategic elements into their programmes of work. In response we are revisiting the global direction of our entire Regional Seas Programme. Our proposed new strategy for an enhanced Regional Seas Programme, which will be discussed at the 5th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas in Nairobi from 26 to 28 November, is intended to build upon existing achievements and to reflect the Millennium Development Goals and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. It incorporates a strengthened role for regional seas in promoting the fundamental principles of sustainable development and includes greater outreach to partners and stakeholders. We are pleased that Mr. Chabason will be joining us for this important meeting, and look forward to using the MAP as a model for the further development of other regional seas agreements and initiatives.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish you success in your deliberations.

Thank you.

Annex IX

NGO APPEAL FOR RATIFICATION OF THE LBS PROTOCOL

Acknowledging and appreciating the efforts that Mediterranean Countries are carrying out on a voluntary basis to implement the LBS Protocol;

Considering the important threat posed to the marine environment by land based sources of pollution;

But at the same time being aware of the dangers of not yet having a fully consolidated and operative legal instrument to counter these impacts;

Reaffirming the innovativeness, appropriateness and effectiveness of the measures and actions contained in the LBS protocol to phase out this kind of pollution;

The following NGOs who are UNEP/MAP partners and present in Catania:

**Amici per la Vita Onlus – Italy,
CEDIP – Italy
Clean Up Greece
Friends of teh Earth
Greenpeace
IEF
Marevivo – Italy
MIO-ECSDE
Mouvement Ecologique Algérien
OCOME – Tunisia
SAD AFAG – Turkey
SPNI – Israel
UNASD – Lebanon
WWF**

Call on the Mediterranean Governments who still have not ratified the Land Based Sources of Pollution Protocol and namely,

Algeria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Serbia Montenegro and Syria

to make special effort to carry out all the necessary steps to ratify the Protocol as soon as possible and not later than the next 6 months, in order to allow this legislative framework to enter into force.

Annex X

LIST OF ACCREDITED JOURNALISTS

ALBANIA**Massmedia and Environment Agency****Albanian TV****Mr Xhemal MATO**

Address: Rr Villazen Huta Vila 26, Tirana

Tel: +355 4 364 100

Fax: +355 4 222 68 53

e-mail: xhmato@icc-al.org

e-mail: zafrirr@haaretz.co.il

URL: www.haaretz.co.il

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**NTV Hayat** (tv station)**Ms. Azra GUNIC**

Address: Topuzovo Polje 51, Visoko

71000 Sarajevo

Tel: +387 33 271 110

Fax: +387 33 271 111

e-mail: Azrab17513@hotmail.com

URL: www.ntvhayat.com

LEBANON**Annahar** (daily newspaper)**Ms. Marlene KHALIFEH**

Tel: +961 9620087

Fax: +961 1338582

e-mail: marlenekhalife@yahoo.co**MALTA****The Malta Independent** (daily newspaper)**Mr. Karl SCHEMBRI**

Address: Standard House, Birkirkara Hill,

St. Julian's St. 109, Malta

Tel: +356 21345888 ext 218

Fax: +356 21346062

e-mail: kschembri@independent.com.mt

URL: www.independent.com.mt

CROATIA**Vecernji list** (daily newspaper)**Ms. Marina SERIC**

Tel: +385 1 6300438

Fax: +385 1 6300677

e-mail: marina.seric@vecernji.net

URL: www.vecernji-list.hr

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO**TV Montenegro****Mr. Sebrija VULIC**

Tel: +381 82 330 348

Fax: +381 82 330 348

e-mail: vulic@cg.yu

EGYPT**Akhbar El Yom** (daily newspaper)**Mrs. Hebatalla HUSSEIN KAMEL ISMAIL**

Address: 6 El Shafa St, Cairo

Tel: +202 5807427

Fax: +202 57 82 510 / 520

e-mail: Hussein_heba@hotmail.com

URL: www.akhbarelyom.org.eg

SLOVENIA**Delo** (daily newspaper)**Mrs. Dragica BOSNJAK**

Tel: +386 147 37 253

Fax: +386 147 37 255

e-mail: dragica.bosnjak@delo.si

GREECE**Kathimerini** (daily newspaper)**Ms. Manina DANOU**

Address: Sokratous 57, 104 31 Athens

Tel: +30 210 4808148

e-mail: maninaro@hotmail.com

URL: www.ekathimerini.com

Agencia EFE (national news agency)**Mr Iñigo ALVAREZ**

Address: Via dei Canestrari 5,

00186 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 066 834087

Fax: +39 066 834918

e-mail: eferoma@efe.it

ISRAEL**Ha Aretz** (daily newspaper)**Mr. Zafrir RINAT**

Address: 21 Schocken St., 61001 Tel Aviv

Tel: +972 3 5121212

Fax: +972 3 5121209

TUNISIA**Agence Tunis Afrique Presse (TAP)**

(national news agency)

Mme Nejiba KRIMI BEN DHAOU

Address: 7, Avenue Slimen Ben Slimen

2092, El Manar II, Tunis

Tel: 216 71597186

e-mail: achrefasma@yahoo.fr

URL: www.adnkronos.com

TURKEY

Milliyet (daily newspaper)

Mr. Kadri GURSEL

Address: Dogan Medya Center,
Bagcilar, 34554 Istanbul
Tel: +90 212 505 6227
Fax: +90 212 505 6226
e-mail: kgursel@milliyet.com.tr
URL: <http://www.milliyet.com.tr>

ITALY

> **Corriere Della Sera** (daily newspaper)

Mr. Franco FORESTA MARTIN

Address: Via Tomacelli 160, 00100 Rome
Tel: +39 06 688281
Fax: +39 06 68602574

> **La Repubblica** (newspaper)

Mr. Antonio CIANCIULLO

Address: Piazza Indipendenza 11/b
00100 Rome
Tel: +39 06 49822242
Fax: +39 06 49822923

> **ANSA** (national news agency)

Ms. Elisabetta GUIDOBALDI

Address: Via della Dataria 94
00187 Rome
Tel: +39 06 67741
Fax: +39 06 6774529
URL: www.ansa.it

ANSA (Sicily office)

Tel: +39 095 580552
Fax: +39 095 333005

Mr. Domenico TROVATO

Mr. Maurizio D'Arro

Ms. Orietta SCARDINO (photographer)

> **RAI** (national TV)

Mr. Piero MAENZA

Mr. Guglielmo TROINA

Mr. Nino AMANTE

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