

**Decision IG.20/3****Reporting on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols**

*The 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties,*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

***Decides to***

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

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

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

**Request** the Coordinating Unit:

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