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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of MAP National Focal Points

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**REPORT BY THE COORDINATOR ON
ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE 1998-1999 BIENNIUM
and
RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRAMME BUDGET
FOR 2000-2001
PROPOSAL BY THE SECRETARIAT**

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Preface

In recent years, much progress has been done to increase the effectiveness of MAP, to promote environmental priorities and to integrate environment and development in the Mediterranean Region; governments and local authorities have strengthened their capacities; private companies start to think more green. International donors are more aware of environmental issues and have given better support to environmental initiatives.

However, the pressure on the natural environment remains high: tourism development and leisure activities, urbanisation, transport infrastructures and intensive agriculture, still produce critical impacts on the natural environment and should be better controlled and managed.

The attached document represents the proposals prepared by MAP Coordinating Unit with the support of Regional Activity Centres for activities, budget and recommendations to be implemented during the biennium 2000-2001, with an aim of contributing to new progress in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region.

In this document, most chapters have been divided into four sections which present respectively, issues at stake, responses, gaps and decisions to be taken.

We hope that this presentation will allow a better understanding of the recommendations. The proposed budget is based on an estimated increase of 4% in the obligatory contributions for each year. It should be considered in the context of the dynamisation of MAP, mainly:

1. The entry into force of the new legal instruments which will require more information, training and cooperation and will have as a major consequence the adoption of a completely renovated reporting system.
2. The implementation of a global information strategy which is intended to bridge the existing gaps in that field.
3. The full implementation of MED POL - III and the Strategic Action Programme, which will have to be updated in the framework of the renovated LBS protocol and is supported by GEF.
4. The follow-up of the MCSD recommendations and the finalization of on-going themes as well as the preparation of the next MCSD meeting which will be mainly devoted to the strategic review of the implementation of the Agenda MED 21 and contribution to sustainable development..
5. The preparation of a Strategic Action Programme in the field of marine and coastal biodiversity.
6. The renovation of the Emergency Protocol.

During the next biennium MAP will further strengthen its cooperation with important actors in the region like METAP and CEDARE and will contribute to the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in the field of environment and sustainable development; MAP will also intensify its cooperation with NGO's and environmental networks in the region.

Introduction

1. Since its inception, the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan has, endeavoured to improving the presentation of its proposals concerning the MAP programme and budget, with a view to streamlining its work, improving its managerial process and ensuring synergy and transparency.
2. During the meetings of the Contracting Parties, various positive comments have been made towards further improvement of the MAP documents relevant to the programme and budget for the biennium. The latest example of those suggestions for improvement was made during the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997).
3. On the basis of these decisions, the present document covering the Secretariat's proposal concerning the recommendations and the programme budget for the 2000-2001 biennium, has been prepared by the Secretariat in a slightly better form of presentation, in order to streamline the Secretariat's work and to reflect the revised or new legal instruments approved by the Contracting Parties as well as the establishment of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).
4. Therefore, the purpose of the present proposal is to fill the gaps which still exist in the coordination and the integration of the various components of MAP structure and to clearly identify the necessary responses to the following issues:
 - final products of a MAP meeting to be made more understandable to someone who is not closely connected to MAP;
 - improving justification for the various activities;
 - improving a closer link between objectives of MAP and the various recommendations and budget issues relevant to those activities;
 - more in-depth analysis and discussion of substantial issues. Administrative and financial issues were given more attention as the issues and recommendations were presented mostly on the basis of structural approach.

The intention of this whole exercise is to submit to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties through the meeting of the National Focal Points, an improved, clearer comprehensive and better integrated presentation which may help the countries as well as the MAP structure to immediately identify the major issues and related problems, the response by MAP in the form of a progress report covering the on-going biennium (1998-1999), gaps that remain to be bridged and specific recommendations relevant to the issue in question, together with budgetary allocations.

5. On the basis of the new structure, there will be only one combined and consolidated document covering the two previous documents, namely the "Progress Report by the Coordinator" and the "Recommendations and Programme Budget". In accordance with the new presentation, the present document is divided into three sections:
 - I. Coordination
 - II. Components
 - III. Budget

6. The Coordination Section will deal with activities related to the general coordination of MAP:
 - A. Legal and institutional framework;**
 - B. Information and participation;**
 - C. Cooperation and coordination, with United Nations Agencies, Convention Secretariats, IGO and other funding institutions (EC, GEF, WB, METAP, EIB, etc.)**
 - D. Cooperation and coordination with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)**
 - E. Meetings and conferences organized within the MAP Framework;**

7. The Component Section will deal with major Mediterranean environment and development issues, in the MAP II framework, including all activities to be incorporated in the biennium, which will be implemented mainly by MAP programmes and RACs. There will be only four components under this section of the document:
 - A. Pollution prevention and control;**
 - B. Conservation of biological diversity;**
 - C. Sustainable management of coastal zones;**
 - D. Integrating environment and development.**

8. The Budgetary Section will be a separate section with the same layout as that of the 1998/1999 biennium, but structured in accordance with the new components where the external funds column will not be just "wishful thinking" but will list funds already acquired or with reasonable expectations. Under each component, there will also be a sub-section on the budgetary allocation for that particular component.

9. On the basis of the afore-mentioned factors, the following is the proposed revised structure for the 2000-2001 programme budget for the consideration of the meeting of the National Focal Points.

I. COORDINATION

A LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

A.1 Legal framework

1. Issues at stake

a. Entry into force of MAP legal instruments

In 1994, a protocol concerning the control of offshore activities was signed. The Barcelona Convention and the dumping protocol were revised in June 1995. At the same meeting, a new protocol on specially protected areas and biodiversity was adopted.

In 1996, the LBS protocol was revised and the protocol concerning dangerous waste was adopted. Non of these legal instruments entered into force during the biennium 1998-1999 due to the lack of ratifications.

It should be recalled that the amendments to the Convention shall enter into force between the Contracting Parties having accepted such amendments on the thirtieth day following the receipt by the Depositary of notification of their acceptance by at least three fourths of the Contracting Parties to the Convention.

As for the new protocols on SPA and biodiversity, the offshore and the hazardous wastes, it is stipulated that they shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of at least six instruments of ratifications, acceptance or approval, or accession to the protocol by the Contracting Parties.

b. Amendments to the Emergency Protocol

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have decided that, in order to have an effective strategy for preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution, a policy of prevention of marine pollution from sea-based activities is to be created. Therefore, they agreed at their Tenth Ordinary Meeting (Tunis, November 1997), that the Emergency Protocol is to be amended in order to introduce the provisions necessary to implement the regional strategy on prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships.

c. Liability and compensation

In accordance with Article 16 of the amended Barcelona Convention, it is required that an appropriate rules and procedures for the determination of liability and compensation for damage resulting from pollution of the marine environment in the Mediterranean Sea Area is to be prepared. Since the adoption of the Convention in 1976, the only forward step taken had been the convening of the first meeting of legal and technical experts to prepare appropriate rules and procedures for liability and compensation (September 1997).

d. Reporting System

The provisions of Article 4 of the Barcelona Convention commit the Contracting Parties "to take all appropriate measures in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and those protocols in force to which they are party, to prevent, abate, combat and to the fullest possible extent eliminate pollution of the Mediterranean Sea Area and to protect and enhance the marine environment in that area so as to contribute towards its sustainable development". In the meantime, Article 14 of the Convention stipulates that the "Contracting Parties shall adopt legislation implementing the Convention and the protocols", and Article 26 requests the Contracting Parties to transmit to the organization (MAP Secretariat) reports on:

- (i) the legal, administrative or other measures taken by them for the implementation of this Convention, the protocols and of the recommendations adopted by their meetings;
- (ii) the effectiveness of the measures referred to in sub-paragraph (i) and problems encountered in the implementation of the instruments as mentioned above;
- (iii) the reports shall be submitted in such form at such intervals as the meetings of the Contracting Parties may determine.

In the meantime, Article 27 of the Convention implies that meetings of the Contracting Parties shall assess the compliance with the Convention and the Protocols as well as the measures and the recommendations by the Contracting Parties and shall recommend the necessary steps to bring about their full compliance by the Contracting Parties, in order to remedy the implementation gap between the legislation and enforcement stages. The compliance approach still has not been fully materialized. While enforcement of the provisions of those instruments lies in the hands of each Contracting Party, reports have not been received regularly by the Secretariat on measures taken, permits issued, level of pollution in their waters, legislation adopted to implement the Convention and the Protocol as well as measures undertaken to implement recommendations of the meetings of the Contracting Parties relevant to the MCSD.

2. Responses

- a. In compliance with the various decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties and the Bureau, various contacts with the Contracting Parties had been undertaken urging them to speed-up the ratification process of the MAP legal instruments. The president of the Bureau, on behalf of the Bureau, sent urgent messages to all Contracting Parties, that have not yet done so, urging them to speed up the ratification process. The Secretariat had also been in constant contact with the Contracting Parties with a view to assisting them to comply with the various recommendations in this regard. At the end of 1999, five Contracting Parties have ratified all or part of the MAP legal instruments. However, it is expected that more ratifications will be announced during the rest of 1999. The list of ratifications as at 31 May 1999 is attached as Annex IV to this report.

- b. In response to the Contracting Parties' decision to amend the Emergency Protocol, a meeting of national legal and technical experts on amendments to the Emergency Protocol was convened in Malta on 23 and 24 November 1998. The meeting reviewed REMPEC proposals concerning the amendments to the Emergency Protocol made certain modifications and agreed upon a revised text.

However, it was felt that the proposed amendments were not enough to achieve this objective and further review of the Protocol was still needed in order to reflect the various developments occurred within the MAP framework and also to be harmonized with the texts of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols.

Consultations between the MED Unit, REMPEC and IMO have been undertaken with an objective of finalizing the text to be in line with the texts of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols as recently revised, and in order to bring it in line with some of the more recent development taken at the global and regional level concerning preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution.

- c. The issue of liability and compensation was followed by the Secretariat during the biennium. It was felt that some maturation was still required, before convening the second meeting of experts, taking into consideration on-going consultations on this matter by other international fora.
- d. In order to assist the Contracting Parties to undertake the necessary reporting to the Secretariat in fulfilment of their obligations under Articles 14, 26 and 27 of the Convention, and in conformity with the decision of the last meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, November 1997), concerning the reporting system, a consultant was recruited with a view to preparing a draft system of coherent reporting. The draft reporting system within MAP is contained in document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/Inf.5. However, the draft still needs more in depth review by the Secretariat and by a group of experts before submitting it for final approval by the Contracting Parties.

In pursuance to the newly revised LBS Protocol, in which a new Article 6 calls for the strengthening and/or establishment of systems of inspection related to Land-Based pollution, a Workshop of experts on compliance and enforcement of legislation in the Mediterranean for control of pollution resulting from Land-Based Sources and activities, was held jointly with WHO/MAP, in Athens, Greece on 16-18 March 1999 as part of the MEDPOL programme, to assess the situation in the Mediterranean and to propose future measures for action. The report of the Workshop is contained in document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.160/1.

3. Gaps

Obviously there is an urgent need for the entry into force of the MAP legal instruments as soon as possible in order to provide MAP with a sound legal basis. In addition, the issue of liability and compensation should progress during the next biennium. Finally the reporting system should be finalized and be operational in the context of the entering into force of the legal instruments.

4. Recommendations

The Contracting Parties approve the following recommendations:

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To give high priority to the implementation of the MAP legal instruments.
2. To notify to the Depositary, in writing, and as soon as possible, their acceptance of the amendments to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol), and the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (LBS Protocol).
3. If they have not done so, to ratify, accept or approve of, or accede to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean and its three Annexes (SPA and Biodiversity Protocol), the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol), and the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol).
4. To review their countries' position with respect to other pertinent international conventions, protocols and agreements and to ensure the early signature of those instruments which may have a positive influence on the Mediterranean Basin.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To request the Secretariat (MEDU) to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts to adhere to the MAP legal instruments.
2. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU) to assist the Contracting Parties to incorporate, as relevant as possible, MAP legal instruments in their national legislation
3. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to take the necessary action to make MAP and its legal instruments better known in the Mediterranean region as well as outside the region.
4. To request the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts to regularly report to the Secretariat on the measures undertaken to implement the Convention and its Protocols as well as the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.
5. To request the Secretariat (MEDU) to continue and finalize its work on the MAP Reporting System including MCSD concerns with the assistance of a group of experts composed of the members of the Bureau, and submit the final report to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties for its consideration and approval.
6. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to organize a training programme on

Mediterranean environmental law for government nominated legal and technical nationals involved in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention system and in the handling of other relevant issues concerning legal and institutional protection of Mediterranean marine and coastal environment.

7. To request the Secretariat (MEDU) to follow further developments at the international level and, to convene, when appropriate, in the year 2001, a second meeting of legal and technical experts on liability and compensation.
8. To request the Secretariat (MEDU) to convene in the year 2000, a conference of plenipotentiaries concerning the adoption of the amendments to the Emergency protocol.

5. Budget

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Legal assistance to the Secretariat	MEDU	15,000			15,000		
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	MEDU	15,000			15,000		
Training Programme on environmental law	MEDU	15,000		20,000	15,000		20,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		45,000		20,000	45,000		20,000

A.2 Institutional framework

1. Status and perspectives

a. MAP structure

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have realized that MAP structure does suffer from various discrepancies which necessitate streamlining the Secretariat work, improving its managerial process, ensuring synergy and transparency in its work. One of the main issues pertaining to MAP structure, is related to the Host Government Agreements relevant to RACs. With a view to unifying the status of the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) within MAP framework, meetings of the Contracting Parties recommended that all Regional Activity Centres should have a host government agreement to be signed by the MAP Secretariat and the countries hosting a RAC Centre, specifying the responsibilities of each party, taking into consideration the diversity of the administrative systems and the prevailing circumstances in the host countries.

In order to remedy the various issues in the MAP structure, the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, November 1997) approved a set of recommendations addressed to this issue (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.11/10 (Annex IV, Appendix 1). The recommendations deal with various structural issues including strengthening the legal component of MAP, the organization of the Contracting Parties and MAP National Focal Points meetings, and the status of

the Regional Activity Centres (RACs).

It should be mentioned that since the creation of the Regional Activity Centres, only PAP/RAC and SPA/RAC have had Host Government Agreements (SPA/RAC in 1991 and PAP/RAC in 1996). REMPEC, as a UN Centre has had its own agreement since its establishment. Draft agreements concerning BP, ERS and CP Centres are being negotiated with the concerned countries, namely France, Italy and Spain respectively. Moreover, the Secretariat has already started the implementation of the recommendation concerning the meetings of the Contracting Parties and the National Focal Points. In accordance with these recommendations, the meetings of the Contracting Parties will be held at Ministerial level, in order to deliberate on the general policy, strategic and general political issues relevant to MAP as a whole, while the meetings of the NFPs would be mandated to thoroughly review and finalize the MAP programme and budget and prepare a framework strategy for subsequent approval by the meetings of the Contracting Parties.

Concerning undertaking assessments and financial auditing of RACs, the Secretariat has started this process by undertaking an assessment of the PAP/RAC. The Evaluation Unit of UNEP assisted with an outside Consultant who undertook this assignment during the month of February 1999. The evaluation Report is presented to the present meeting as an information document (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/Inf.5). As regards the financial auditing of RACs, the Secretariat was unable to start this exercise due to financial reasons, however, it intends to start this process during the forthcoming biennium (2000-2001).

Finally, with regard to the recommendations requesting the meetings of MAP National Focal Points to devote one session at the beginning of their meetings to act as the National Focal Points for each of BP and PAP Centres, the secretariat has arranged for the present meeting of MAP/NFPs to start its work by devoting two sessions to review BP and PAP activities. Starting from the next biennium, it is expected that the two Centres will have their own separate meetings for their national focal points.

b. Recent developments in the Coordination Unit

1. The post of Deputy Coordinator and MEDPOL Coordinator have been filled.
2. Mr. G. P. Gabrielides (Senior Programme Officer, MEDPOL) has left the office on 31 March 1999 and the vacancy announcement for his position has been released with a deadline of end September 1999
3. Mr. I. Dharat (Senior Programme Officer) retired on 31 July 1999 and his post is currently being reclassified before the vacancy announcement is released.
4. The selection for the post of Programme Officer, MEDPOL (P.3) has been completed and the incumbent should take up his duties by September 1999.
5. Following the Bureau Meeting of the 29/30 April 1999, the office has undertaken negotiation in order to have all the Administrative posts of

UNEP/MEDU covered by the Programme Support Costs.

6. Mr. F. P. Tissot, Fund/Administrative Officer left on 27 August 1999 to take up his new position in Nairobi and his replacement process has been finalized and the incumbent will join the office soon after short training at Headquarters.

c. Chart of MEDU

Referring to a request of UNEP Headquarters, to review the Chart of the Unit, the Secretariat has prepared a functional chart, hereafter, where the major functions and tasks appear clearly taking into account new developments in MAP.

Until now, MEDU had only a personnel chart. The proposed functional chart reflects MAP developments and is more in conformity with MAP Phase II. The four divisions are obviously not of equal importance in relation with substance and attached staff but they are necessary and complementary, as shown hereunder:

- (i) The division of "Administration and Finance" has a key role as it tackles, in close cooperation with UNON/UNEP in Nairobi, all issues related to the management, use and disbursement of financial resources from MTF and other sources. It also supervises the use of MAP funds by the Programmes and RACs, ensuring that disbursements are done in line with approved programme and budget. Administration of personnel and procurement issues are also covered by this division, in conformity with UN rules and regulations. Concerning automation of the office and data processing which were previously under the responsibility of a computer officer, under the supervision of MEDPOL coordinator, and considering :
- the good level of equipment within MED Unit
 - the easier access to and common use of computers
 - the easier and cheaper access to private computer services, and
 - finally, the lower quantity of raw data to be processed directly by the MEDPOL Secretariat

it is proposed to integrate responsibilities related to automation in administration, which will be supported by existing computer assistant (general service staff).

- (ii) Legal, institutional and cooperation issues will come under the division of "Legal framework and cooperation". It represents a basic function for MAP as it corresponds to the Secretariat's tasks to the Convention and Protocols as well as the necessary development and strengthening of cooperation with IGOs and NGOs partners. Organisation of major institutional meetings, such as the Contracting Parties, the National Focal Points and the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development ones, will fall under its responsibility; obviously, follow-up of status of legal documents, preparation, adoption, ratification, implementation, reporting, and assistance to countries in providing useful tools, represents its main task, to be done in close cooperation

with concerned programmes (MED POL) and RACs (SPA and REMPEC);

- (iii) MAP technical and thematic activities are managed and coordinated by the division of "Programme Management"; it corresponds basically to MAP II programme, for which MEDU assumes a guiding, coordinating and supervising role whereas the activities are mainly undertaken by concerned and respective programmes and RACs. Broadly speaking, this division is concerned with Sustainable Development issues in the Mediterranean. It provides inputs and feedbacks for components of "Legal Framework and Cooperation" and "Information and Communication" divisions.
- (iv) Finally, in conformity with the request of the Tenth Ordinary Meeting (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997) of the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat has prepared a "MAP Information Strategy" with a detailed programme of action. Considering the increasing need for better information and communication and for more visibility of MAP and its activities and achievements, it is getting every day more obvious that more attention should be devoted to this issue, with adequate staff and financial resources. To that end it is proposed to establish a specific division on "Information and Communication" including documentation, library and publication issues, that will come under the responsibility of an Information Officer, a new post to be opened and paid for by the funds which were previously devoted to the post of the Computer Officer.

For each of these divisions and related functions and tasks, a professional from MEDU will be totally or partially in charge of coordination, with the assistance of appropriate General Service Staff, while implementation of related programmes and activities would be done by MEDU and/or concerned Programmes and Regional Activity Centres.

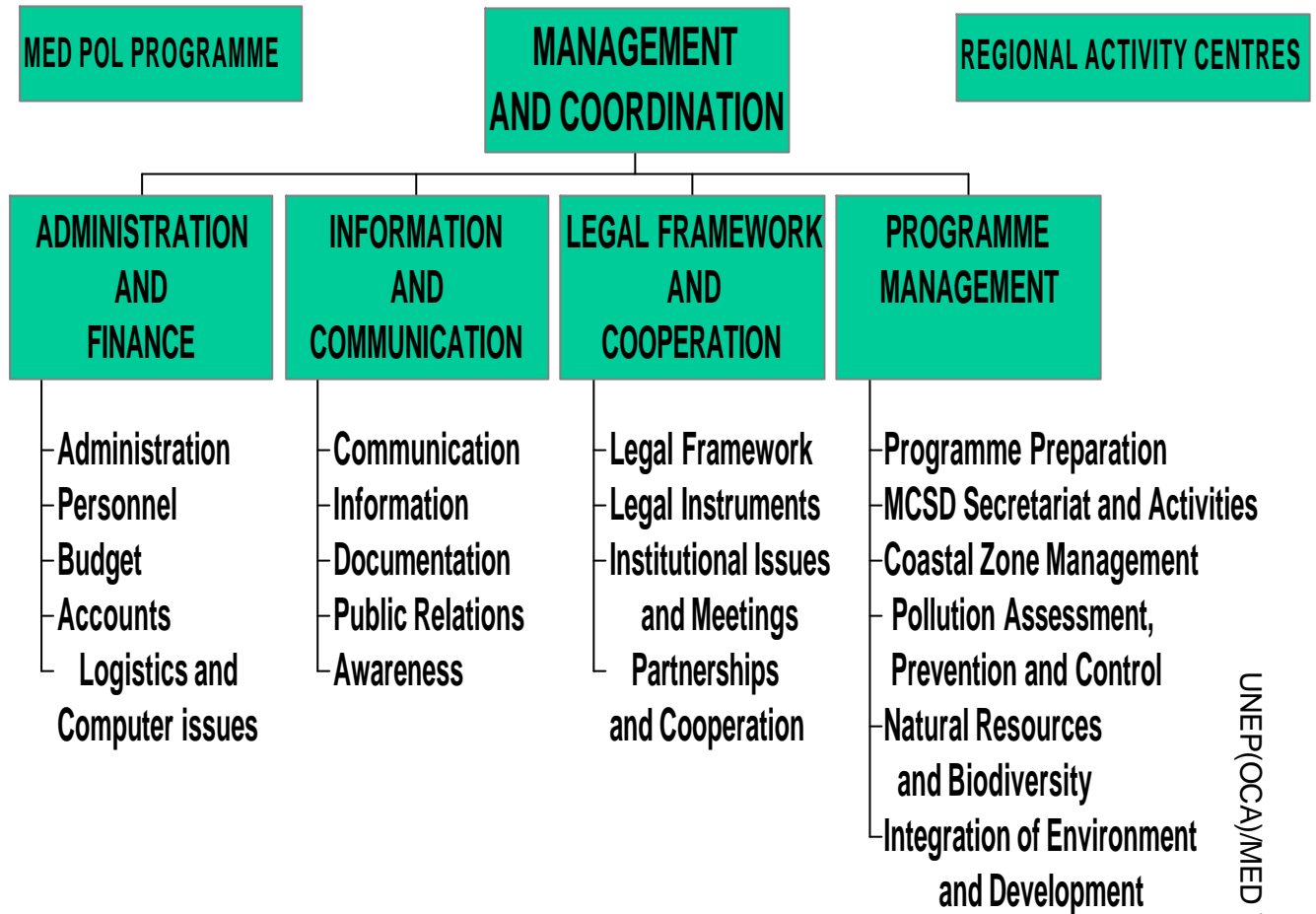
This Chart is expected to give a more coherent view of MEDU/MAP activities, to reinforce their integration and strengthen coordination and team work.

The Contracting Parties are requested to comment on this functional chart before forwarding it to UNEP.

PROPOSED FUNCTIONAL CHART

UNEP/MAP

Coordinating Unit



2. Recommendations

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To abolish the practice of the examination of the BP and PAP activities at the beginning of the regular meetings of MAP National Focal Points and request the Secretariat to organize separate meetings for BP and PAP National Focal Points.
2. To continue to assess the regional objectives while giving the priority to the relevance of the 100 historic sites problem in the framework of MAP Phase II objectives, taking into account the work programme of the MCSD, and present the appropriate options and recommendations to the next Contracting Parties meeting.

A.3 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

Background

Established in 1995 as an Advisory Body to make proposals to the Contracting Parties within the framework of MAP the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) has the following mandate:

- (a) to identify, evaluate and assess major economic, ecological and social problems set out in Agenda 21, make appropriate proposals thereon to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, evaluate the effectiveness of the follow-up to the decisions of the Contracting Parties and facilitate the exchange of information among the institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
- (b) to enhance regional cooperation and rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.

At their Extraordinary Meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted the Terms of Reference and the Composition of the Commission. According to the Terms of Reference, the Commission is composed of 36 members, consisting of high-level representatives from each of the Contracting Parties (21), representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations (15), working in the fields of environment and sustainable development. Strongly believing that the role of local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs is very important during this new era of MAP, the meeting of the Contracting Parties approved a new dimension in MAP relations with these three groups by accepting that they shall participate in the work of the Commission as fully-fledged members on an equal footing with representatives of the Contracting Parties.

Synopsis of activities

The first meeting of the MCSD was held in December 1996 in Rabat and the most recent one, the fifth meeting, was held in Rome in July 1999. Meanwhile, the second, third and fourth meetings took respectively place in Palma de Majorca, May 1997, Sophia-Antipolis, October 1997 and Monaco, October 1998. Costs of most of these meetings were mainly covered by the host member. Between the MCSD meetings,

intensive technical work was undertaken at the various experts meetings or workshops, usually attended by qualified thematic experts, ensuring a more coherent and multidisciplinary activity.

Thanks to its unique composition and its method of work, the MCSD has aroused curiosity and interest not only among member but also for a large number of IGOs and NGOs. The content of UNEP's Executive Director speech to the fifth MCSD, praising up its exemplarily, the dynamic participation and contribution from non Contracting Parties members and the large participation of Observers are some of the positive signs of interest. Building its programme of work on Mediterranean priority issues, several thematic working groups were established under the coordination of one or two task managers and with the support of MAP's Secretariat (concerned Regional Activity Centres and Programmes).

In conformity with its mandate, the MCSD has already submitted two sets of recommendations and proposals for action on "Sustainable Management of Coastal Regions" and "Management of Water Demand" to the Contracting Parties who adopted them at their last meeting (Tunis, November 1997). For the next Contracting Parties meeting, the MCSD will submit for adoption three new sets of recommendations and proposals for action, related to "Sustainable Development Indicators", "Tourism and Sustainable Development" and "Information, Awareness, Environmental Education and Participation". The remaining three themes are expected to be completed during the next biennium.

In addition to the finalisation and follow up of the 8 priority themes identified in 1996, the Secretariat will assess the feasibility of new themes to be proposed for the next bienniums, mainly from 2001 and on. In addition and in conformity with its mandate, a "Strategic Review for the year 2000" will be prepared for the next MCSD meeting to be held in Tunis in November 2000.

Membership issue

Regarding the composition of the MCSD and mainly the nomination of the candidates representing the three major groups (local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs), the Contracting Parties, at their Extraordinary meeting in Montpellier 1996, have requested the Bureau to carry on the selection process and nominate those 15 non-Contracting Parties members for a duration of two years. In order to ensure continuity and avoid some negative effects on the programme of work, the Contracting Parties decided in Tunis, November 1997, to extend the present membership of the Commission, until their next meeting in Malta, October 1999. Therefore, the Contracting Parties are expected to decide on the selection process for the renewal of membership for the 15 non-Contracting Parties members. As per the rules approved by the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat has requested the Contracting Parties MAP Focal Points to propose candidates for the groups of "local authorities" and "socio-economic actors"; for the NGOs group, they have been requested to submit directly their interest to the Secretariat.

Regarding the selection and nomination process for the non-Contracting Parties members the Contracting Parties might consider one of the following options:

- either to select and nominate the new members during the Contracting Parties meeting;
- or to delegate to the Bureau, as previously, the mandate for selecting and nominating the new members.

This important issue of renewing memberships has been discussed at the fifth MCSD meeting and the following options have been identified, taking into account that the MCSD Steering Committee will meet next December 1999 and that several experts meetings/workshops will be organised before the next MCSD meeting:

1. either the Contracting Parties decide that the MCSD with its new composition will be considered as applicable and effective for the next MCSD meeting (November 2000 in Tunis); then the actual Steering Committee can ensure its task without disruptions.
2. or the Contracting Parties decide that the MCSD with its new composition should be considered as applicable and effective from the time the selection is made; in that case, as the Steering Committee will be elected only at the MCSD meeting, there is a risk of discrepancy between the composition of the actual Steering Committee and the new Commission. In that context, an option could be to renew the mandate of the three non-Contracting Parties members of the Steering Committee.

B. INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION

1. Issues at stake

- a. An adequate public awareness, information and participation in matters related to the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region, is a prerequisite for the success of any MAP strategy towards the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the sustainable development of the region. In this respect, principle 10 of the Rio Declaration provides that, at the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment. Chapter 40 of Agenda 21, also adopted by UNCED, contains important provisions on information for decision-making as well.
- b. MAP Phase II contains provisions stressing that public information and public participation are a dimension essential to the policy of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Mediterranean region. In the meantime, Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention request that the Contracting Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities shall give to the public appropriate access to information and the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process relevant to the field of application of the Convention and the protocols.

2. Gaps

- a. Despite the efforts of the MAP Secretariat to prepare a broad-range network of activities, meetings, studies and publications built up over almost 25 years, MAP is still far from having achieved the impact needed if public support is to be resumed. However major gaps still exist in this process. In fact, MAP still is unknown to many people within and outside the region. The public still feels that too little has been done to protect the Mediterranean environment, and it still tends to negatively view the environment in the region, which was sometimes due to the persistence of old ideas. Such assistance is no longer acceptable as the Mediterranean is a well known one for Tourism and attracted a lot of attention worldwide. Therefore, an appropriate information strategy has to be formulated and approved by the Contracting Parties, and a full time Information Officer and a full time Librarian have to be recruited.

3. Responses

- a. When selecting its priority themes in 1996, the MCSD had clearly recognized the importance of that issue by establishing a working group on "Information, Awareness, Environmental Education and Public Participation". A workshop was organized in December 1998 and in May 1999 the Working Group reviewed and agreed upon a list of recommendations.
- b. In compliance with the relevant recommendations of the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 18-21 November

1997) and the meetings of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 28 March 1998 and Tripoli, 16-17 November 1998), the Secretariat has prepared a draft of "MAP Information Strategy" which was submitted to the Bureau for its review and comments. The document briefly indicates MAP's mandate and role concerning this issue and a proposed strategy describing the kind of information and the message(s) to be communicated to the MAP partners and the public as well as indicating the most effective environmental communication procedure to be used. The Secretariat proposal also contains concrete recommendations relevant to the field of information and participation.

- c. Pursuant to a decision by the Bureau (Tripoli, November 1998), a meeting of a Working Group on MAP Information Strategy was held in Athens, on 1-2 April 1999. The Working Group composed of information experts representing the members of the Bureau. The Working Group thoroughly reviewed the draft MAP Information Strategy, made the necessary improvements and suggested it for the consideration of the present focal points meeting. The report of the meeting was issued as document: UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.158/2.
- d. The Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Athens, 29-30 April 1999), reviewed the draft recommendations, made certain modifications and suggested them for the approval of the meeting of the Contracting Parties. The set of recommendations appears as Annex II to the report of the Bureau (UNEP/BUR/54/5).
- e. While preparing and finalizing such long-term information strategy, the MAP Secretariat, including its regional centres, had been exerting all efforts to improve the publication and dissemination of MAPs information material (Brochures, leaflets, press releases, MedWaves, MAP Technical Reports Series, meeting reports, rosters, stickers, and the MAP Home Page).
- f. During the period under consideration, the MEDU library, which houses and manages a special collection of scientific and technical publications together with a complete collection of MAP meeting documents and services as a depositary for UNEP and other UN scientific reports and publications, offered assistance and reference services to the MEDU staff and the Mediterranean scientific, professional and student community.

4. Recommendations

- a. Approve the text of the MAP Information Strategy contained in Annex III to the present report.
- b. To invite the Contracting Parties to adopt the MCSD recommendations on "Information, Awareness, Environmental Education and Public Participation", as included in the report of the Fifth Meeting of the MCSD (Rome, 1-3 July 1999), document: UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.156/6.

5. **Budget**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Publication and dissemination of MAP Technical Reports	MEDU	15,000			10,000		
Library services (environmental awareness and educational assistance)	MEDU	5,000					
Preparation, translation, Printing and dissemination of MAP Newsletter MEDWAVES (Arabic, English and French)	MEDU	40,000			40,000		
Support to public awareness campaigns at the national level	MEDU	20,000		20,000	20,000		20,000
Preparation, editing, translation, printing and dissemination of brochures and reports, including the use of the Internet	MEDU	50,000		20,000	30,000		20,000
Preparation of an information kit for the public and for the press	MEDU	20,000		10,000	10,000		10,000
Training on Information Strategy, tools, networking	MEDU	20,000		20,000			20,000
Support to follow-up of MCSD on information and participation	MEDU		10,000	10,000		10,000	10,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		170,000	10,000	80,000	110,000	10,000	80,000

C. Cooperation and coordination with United Nations Agencies, Convention Secretariats, IGOs and other funding institutions

1. Issues at stake

At the various meetings of the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat had been invited to strengthen and coordinate its cooperation with relevant United Nations Agencies, Convention Secretariats and other relevant Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGOs), especially with EU, GEF, METAP, CEDARE, the League of Arab States and IUCN, for the benefit of the environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean region.

2. Responses

In compliance with the decisions of the Contracting Parties, contacts and cooperation with various convention secretariats, UN Agencies and other relevant IGOs were developed and strengthened. During the last biennium 1998-1999, various activities were undertaken, including:

- Contacts have been intensified and upgraded with relevant Secretariats of environmental conventions (CITES, Oslo-Paris Commission, Black Sea, Basel, CMS, Bern Convention), The Secretariat of the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD), with a view to coordinating and upgrading working relations. Contacts were established between SBC and SPA/RAC during which it was agreed that a Memorandum of Cooperation between the two Secretariats would be established;
- Following a recommendation of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), SPA/RAC worked on strengthening its collaboration and coordination in the context of the Bern Convention, and its participation in the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy. In this context, SPA/RAC participated to the following meetings:
 - 17th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Strasbourg, 1-5 December 1997);
 - 18th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Strasbourg, 30 November-4 December 1998).
- SPA/RAC also actively participated in the production of technical documents prepared under the responsibility of the Council of Europe within those frameworks.
- An annual meeting of Regional Seas Convention Secretariats and Action Plans have been organized by UNEP with a view to coordinating activities of the various Secretariats and upgrading their cooperation. MAP Secretariat is participating on a regular basis in these meetings. The second Global Meeting of Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans was convened in the Hague, on 5-8 July 1999. The Coordinator of MAP participated in this meeting.
- Within the general framework of coordination and collaboration with the MedWet Programme and the Bureau of the Ramsar Convention, SPA/RAC represented the Mediterranean Action Plan at the following meetings:

First Meeting of the Mediterranean Wetlands Committee (MEDCOM1)
(Thessaloniki, Greece, 15-16 March 1998);

Third Pan-European Regional Meeting of the Convention on Wetlands
(Riga, Latvia, June 1998);

Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Wetlands Committee
(MedWet/Com2) (Valencia, Spain, 31 January-2 February 1999).

- SPA/RAC is acting as a referee in the project "Biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean sea (marine and coastal ecosystems) : gaps in species, communities and habitat protection", being undertaken within the Mediterranean Programme of WWF. A meeting with WWF representatives aimed at presenting the project and defining the terms of SPA/RAC participation was held in Tunis on 29 April. SPA/RAC participated in the meeting held in Trieste, 26-27 June 1998 aimed at defining the methodological aspects of the project;
- various projects were implemented within the MED POL programme, in close cooperation with relevant UN Agencies (WHO, IAEA, WHO, UNESCO/IOC, IMO);
- the most important activity within MED POL was related to the preparation of a project relative to the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activity, to be implemented with the financial assistance of GEF;
- METAP has also expressed its readiness to be involved in the implementation of the SAP project based on the criteria adopted by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties;
- the Blue Plan has participated in several international conferences and meetings, organized by the World Tourism Organization, UNEP Industry and Environment office, European Environment Agency (EEA): several BP/RAC activities were undertaken jointly with the EEA (notably the Mediterranean parts of the EU 98 report), the Joint Research Centre (Ispra & IPTS in Sevilla) the ICTSD (on trade and environment questions), with the "Centre des Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (on agricultural questions) UNEP/GRID, Eurostat, OECD, CEDARE, the World Bank and METAP on indicators; further, the Blue Plan is participating along with the Global Water Partnership, the World Water Council and Mediterranean partners to the elaboration of a Vision on water in the next century.
- with a grant of \$110,000 from the European Commission, a meeting of Government-designated Experts was organized by MED POL and held in Malta, on 30 November - 2 December 1998, with a view to finalizing the Guidelines for the Management of Dredged Material. This grant includes also the preparation of a report on "Improving the Environment in the Mediterranean", mainly through success stories, expected for October 1999;
- the Split Centre (PAP/RAC) undertook various cooperative activities with UN agencies (UNEP Water) and IGOs (METAP, CEDARE).
- intensive contacts have been undertaken with the European Commission covering its financial mechanism including MEDA/SMAP, with a view to securing financial assistance to MAP projects. Various projects from MEDU and RACs

have been submitted to EC for funding.

3. Gaps

- a. Despite the intensified efforts to benefit from the various financial opportunities offered by regional and international financing institutions, there are still many opportunities to be utilized. The EU offers, through the MEDA/SMAP mechanism still, due to different reasons, was not fully utilized. The financial opportunities of the regional financial and developments Banks (Islamic Bank, African Development Bank, Arab Bank for Development) have not been utilized.
- b. Developed Contracting Parties can also offer more and tangible financial and technical assistance to the developing countries.
- c. Contacts with other developed countries having special environmental assistance programmes have not been developed. Intensive contacts should be launched by the MAP Secretariat and by interested Contracting Parties.

4. Recommendations

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. Invite the Secretariat (MEDU and RACs) to further strengthen its cooperation with relevant United Nations Agencies, Environmental Convention Secretariats and other intergovernmental organizations:
 - with WHO, IAEA, WMO, UNESCO/IOC and IMO, in the implementation of the MED POL III programme;
 - with GEF, METAP and the European Commission in the implementation of the SAP programme;
 - with the UN/Commission on Sustainable Development and other UN Agencies in the implementation of MCSD programme, particularly as regards indicators;
 - with the Arab League Council of Arab Ministers in charge of the environment in the fields of water resources management, industrial pollution, education and public awareness, training, coastal management and the various themes of the MCSD;
 - with CEDARE on sustainable development, coastal management, information and public awareness;
 - with the Black Sea Secretariat concerning marine pollution;
 - with CBD in establishment of operational linkage.
2. To organize training courses on the MAP programme every year for national officials at MEDU.
3. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU and RACs) to prepare projects to be financed by MEDA/SMAP.

5. **Budget**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Training of National officials at MEDU	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		10,000			10,000		

D. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS)

1. Issues at stake

- a. It is the general policy of UNEP/MAP to encourage relevant international, regional and national Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the Mediterranean region to cooperate with and participate in the work of UNEP/MAP in carrying out environmental protection and sustainable development activities.
- b. The objectives of MAP's collaboration with NGOs are to advance the general purposes of MAP and to promote the policies, strategies and programmes derived from the Barcelona Convention and its related protocols and the decisions of the Contracting Parties and in particular, in training and mobilising public attention to critical environmental issues, in creating a favourable climate for environmental actions, public support and monitoring, and in promoting the policies of their own organizations in support of UNEP's goals. Moreover, the purposes of such collaboration are to secure expert information and advice and technical cooperation and assistance from NGOs and to enable organisations which represent important sections of public opinion in the Mediterranean to express the views of their members.

2. Responses

- a. In response to the above mentioned objectives concerning MAP/NGO cooperation, the Secretariat has proposed to the Contracting Parties that the Rules of procedure of MAP meetings and conferences be amended to secure that NGOs which have direct concern in the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution be invited to MAP meetings, including the meetings of technical committees. The proposal was accepted and the Rules of procedure were amended accordingly.
- b. Moreover, in order to institutionalize MAP relations with relevant NGOs in the region, the meetings of the Contracting Parties have adopted a list of NGOs which would be MAP partners and Guidelines aiming at improving and strengthening cooperation between MAP and NGOs in the Mediterranean region.
- c. A Directory of all NGOs, MAP partners was prepared by the Secretariat (72 NGOs are listed).
- d. During the period under consideration, various joint activities were undertaken by MEDU and RACs in the field of organizing joint workshops, conferences and issuing and disseminating environmental bulletins.
- e. In response to a decision by the last meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, November 1997), requesting the Secretariat to establish a working group with the objective of undertaking a methodological reflection in relation to NGOs participation in MAP, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, convened the meeting of the Working Group in Athens, on 9 October 1998. The meeting was able to agree on a set of recommendations on the subject (see doc: UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.147/3) which was also reviewed by the meeting of the Bureau in Tripoli (16-17 November 1998) requesting the Secretariat to continue its work on the issue and submit a report to the present meeting of MAP National Focal Points, taking into consideration the comments made by the Bureau (see doc: UNEP/BUR/53/5).

3. **Recommendations**

(a) **Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties**

1. Adopt the recommendations suggested by the MAP/NGO Working Group and reviewed by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties as presented in **Annex I** to this report.
2. Invite the Contracting Parties to implement the various recommendations relevant to cooperation with NGOs suggested by the MAP/NGO Working Group and the Bureau.

(b) **Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat**

1. Invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to implement the various recommendations concerning MAP/NGOs cooperation presented in **Annex I** to this report.
2. To include the following Non-Governmental Organizations in the NGO/MAP list of Partners:

Academia Mediterranea Halicarnassensis (Turkey)

AMWAJ of the Environment (Lebanon)

Arab NGO Network for Environment and Development (RAED) (Egypt)

Centre Méditerranéen de l'environnement (CME), France

Cyprus Conservation Foundation (Cyprus)

European Environmental Policy and Law Institute (EEPALI) (Greece)

Environnement et Développement au Maghreb (ENDA) (Morocco)

Lebanese Environment Forum (LEF) (Lebanon)

Legambiente (Italy)

Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece (STPS) (Greece)

3. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RAC's) to further strengthen their cooperation and assistance to Mediterranean NGOs incorporated in the NGO/MAP list of Partners.

4. **Budget**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Support to non-governmental organisations and other major actors	MEDU	30,000	9,000	50,000	25,000	9,000	50,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		30,000	9,000	50,000	25,000	9,000	50,000

E. MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED WITHIN MAP FRAMEWORK (MEDU & RACS)

1. Issues at stake

- a. In accordance with the provisions of "Article 14" of the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols "Barcelona Convention", the Contracting Parties shall hold ordinary meetings once every two years.
- b. In addition to the Contracting Parties meetings, various other meetings are held regularly, such as: decision-making meetings (Bureau of the Contracting Parties), advisory meetings (meetings of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development -MCSD), National Focal Points meetings for MAP and the Regional Activity Centres (RACs), technical meetings (MEDPOL meetings and other meetings relevant to legal issues and NGOs) and other technical meetings organized within the framework of the Regional Activity Centres.
- c. The purposes of all these meetings are to review the implementation of the Barcelona convention and its protocols as well as the various decisions of the Contracting Parties and prepare the programmes for the future biennium. Moreover, consultation with and advice of the representatives of the Contracting Parties as well as those of the Intergovernmental and Non-Governmental Organizations are fundamental to conceive effective actions for the best pursuing of the MAP objectives.

2. Responses

- a. In compliance with the decisions of the last meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, November 1997), various decision-making and technical meetings were held during the 1998-1999 biennium, including:
 - three meetings of MEDU and RAC on MAP programme (Athens, 22-23 January 1998, Cairo, 1 June 1998, and Athens, 11-12 January 1999);
 - three meetings of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 28 March 1998, Tripoli, 16-17 November 1998, and Athens, 29-30 April 1999);
 - two meetings of the MCSD (Monaco, 20-22 October 1998 and Rome 1-3 July 1999);
 - various expert meetings, working group meetings and workshops were held in the frame of the MCSD during 1998 and 1999, related to all MCSD priority themes, with the support of MEDU and concerned RACs, and under the coordination of respective Task Managers;
 - meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD (Tunis, 8-9 March 1999);
 - meeting of REMPEC National Focal Points (Malta, 25-28 November 1998);
 - final presentation conference for the Sfax/CAMP project (Sfax, 15-16

- December 1998);
- meeting of SPA National Focal Points (Tunis, 12-14 April 1999);
 - meeting of MEDPOL National Coordinators (Reggio, Calabria, Italy, 20-23 June 1999);
 - meeting of CP/RAC National Focal Points (Barcelona, 20-21 May 1999);
 - final presentation conference for Fuka-Matrouh/CAMP project (Cairo, 8-9 June 1999);
 - various technical meetings of experts were also held in the framework of MEDPOL and RACs programme of activities and on information issues by MEDU.
- b. The reports of all these meetings were distributed to all participants and to MAP Focal Points urging them to implement the various recommendations contained therein.
- c. In order to comply with the decisions of the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat has consolidated its efforts in order to further improve the presentation of MAP documents. The present document is a further attempt in this direction. It has been prepared in a better form of presentation, in order to streamline the Secretariat's work and to reflect the revised or new legal instruments approved by the Contracting Parties as well as the establishment of the MCSD.
- d. As mentioned earlier, the role of the meetings of MAP National Focal Points as well as of the Contracting Parties have been more clarified through the decision of the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 1997) on MAP structure.
- e. For further information on MAP and RAC meetings, the Calendar of meetings organized within the framework of MAP and RACs during 1998-1999 is attached as **Annex II** to this report.

3. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat:

1. To invite the Secretariat to convene the proposed meetings as reflected in the Budgetary Component Section;
2. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to strictly observe the relevant rules concerning dispatching invitations and documents for the various MAP meetings;
3. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU & RACs) to improve and upgrade the form of presentation of MAP documents, reports and information material;

4. Budget

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
12th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to review and approve the 2002-3 programme budget	MEDU						200,000 a
Meeting of the MAP National Focal Points to consider the progress of the Action Plan and prepare the 2002-3 programme budget	MEDU				100,000		
Sixth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)	MEDU	30,000 b		50,000			
Seventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)	MEDU				20,000 c		60,000
Meetings of the Steering Committee on the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (one per year)	MEDU	20,000			10,000		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	35,000			35,000		
Meeting of the Regional Activity Centres' Directors and the Coordinating Unit for programming and coordination of MAP activities (one per year)	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Second Meeting of Mediterranean Government designated experts on Liability and Compensation	MEDU				20,000		60,000
Presentation Conferences for CAMP projects (launching, mid-term, final) participation of RACs	MEDU	30,000			20,000		
Follow-up of the recommendations of the MCSD(reporting, feasibility studies and assistance)	MEDU	20,000	11,681	30,000	10,000	20,000	30,000
Support for the preparation of the "Strategic Review for the Year 2000 "participation of RACs	MEDU	20,000	30,000	30,000			
Joint workshop with UNCSD on National Sustainable Development Strategies	MEDU	10,000	20,000	30,000			
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		175,000	61,681	140,000	225,000	20,000	360,000

- a: To be hosted by the Government of
- b: To be hosted by the Government of
- c: To be hosted by the Government of

II. COMPONENTS

A POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

1. Issues at stake

(a) Land-based pollution assessment and control

Land based sources account for more than 80% of the total pollution load in the Mediterranean. The intensity of demographic pressure, the nature and intensity of development activities, the state and type of industry and agriculture are some of the factors contributing to the region's pollution problems. It is possible to identify municipal and industrial wastewater and solid waste, agricultural runoff, atmospheric deposition and competing activities on the coast for the exploitation of natural resources, as the main sources of degradation of the Mediterranean marine environment.

Sewage is one of the most significant pollutants affecting the coastal environment of the Mediterranean region. Municipal wastewater reaches the sea principally via sewers. Residences, hotels, other tourist facilities, businesses and even industries are often, though not always, connected to municipal sewer systems. These systems may, or may not be connected to wastewater treatment facilities. Sewage treatment capacity has generally increased in the region, with approximately 50-60% of coastal towns in Member States now served by a wastewater treatment plant. Improperly discharged municipal sewage can have a serious impact on marine and freshwater ecosystems, human health, fishing and other economic and recreational activities.

The amended Land Based Sources (LBS) Protocol adopted by Mediterranean Member States in 1996, identifies domestic wastewater treatment and disposal as a key sector requiring the preparation of action plans and measures for the elimination of pollution from land based sources and activities. The Mediterranean Member States have now made a commitment through the adoption in 1997 of the Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land Based Sources (SAP), to dispose by 2005, sewage from cities and urban agglomerations exceeding 100,000 inhabitants and in areas of concern in conformity with the provisions of the LBS Protocol.

The large quantities of solid wastes generated each year in Mediterranean urban areas near the coast (approximately 5 million tons), also contribute to the degradation of water resources. As a result, litter, including plastics, debris and organic material are observed floating and suspended in water and accumulating in harbors. Some methods of waste reduction also have environmental effects. Incineration compacts the amount of waste, however contributes heavily to air pollution and marine deposition. In this context, Mediterranean Member States have made a commitment through the adoption of the SAP, to establish in cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants, by 2005, environmentally suitable systems for the collection, reduction at source and disposal of urban solid waste.

In spite of some improvements noted in a number of countries, the region does not possess overall the adequate capacity to manage hazardous wastes in what would be considered as an environmentally sound manner. Hazardous industrial wastes are often mixed with municipal wastewater and solid wastes, stored in an unsafe manner on industrial sites or dumped illegally. This increases the risk of contamination of water resources and marine pollution. As part of the SAP, Member States made a commitment to prepare at the earliest possible opportunity a Mediterranean Strategy for

the management of hazardous wastes, based on the principles of prevention, reduction and reuse and the application of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practice (BEP).

Industrial pollutants, including pesticides, PCBs, and other organohalogen compounds, PAHs, heavy metals, and organometallic compounds, have become an increasingly important problem in the Mediterranean in the past decade. These pollutants are produced in more than 200 petrochemical and energy installations, basic chemical industries and chlorine plants, located along the coast and catchment basins of rivers, in addition to cement plants, steel mills, tanneries, food processing plants, textile mills and pulp and paper mills. Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) which are persistent, bioaccumulate and pose a risk of causing adverse effects to human health and the environment, accumulate in living organisms, undergoing bioconcentration and biomagnification as they move up the food chain. 12 of these have been identified as substances requiring priority attention (PCBs, dioxins and furans, aldrin, dieldrin, DDT, endrin, chlordane, hexachlorobenzene, mirex, toxaphene, and heptachlor). Although highly industrialised Mediterranean countries, which have been in the past responsible for 70-80% of the industrial pollution entering the Mediterranean, have been now implementing significant pollution reduction programmes, to-day as much as 80% of industrial effluents in developing countries are still discharged directly into the Mediterranean without previous treatment.

The LBS Protocol identifies at least 14 sectors of industrial activity as key targets for setting priorities for the preparation of action plans and measures for the elimination of pollution from land based sources and activities. Member States have made a commitment through the adoption of the SAP to phase out by 2010 inputs of the twelve priority POPs, while aiming at a minimum 50% reduction of the input of these substances by 2005, and to formulate and adopt by 2005, guidelines for industrial wastewater treatment and disposal.

Agricultural runoff into rivers and estuaries is a source of pesticides and other agricultural chemical inputs into the Mediterranean. Pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.) are extensively used in conjunction with agriculture. The negative effects of pesticides in the marine and coastal environment include damage to seagrass beds and other aquatic vegetation from herbicides as well as changes in reef community structure. Pesticides cause fish kills in areas of poor water circulation, and groundwater and drinking water supplies may become contaminated. Areas under particular threat are those with reduced water exchange and circulation. Fertilizers used in agriculture are one source of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus compounds) reaching the coastal zone. The excessive discharge of nutrients into coastal waters is a major cause of eutrophication, especially in confined waters of limited circulation. "Red tides" are now frequent in certain parts of the region, and adversely affect seaside resorts. Member States made a commitment in 1997 through the adoption of the SAP, to promote sustainable agricultural and rural development in the Mediterranean and prepare national strategies for the controlled use of fertilizers to reduce losses of nutrients from agriculture and the controlled use of pesticides.

Atmospheric pollutants generated by industry, power plants, residential heating and motor vehicles are causing increasingly widespread air pollution in the region. Although largely contained in large cities and major industrial areas, air pollutants also have broader impacts. Certain pollutants such as mercury and chromium enter the Mediterranean Sea from the atmosphere in the same quantity as from rivers. Atmospheric inputs of lead in to the Mediterranean are larger (about 90% in the western Mediterranean) than riverine inputs. Mediterranean Member States have made a commitment through the adoption of the Strategic Action Programme that by the year 2005 the levels of air pollutants in cities exceeding 100,000 inhabitants shall be in conformity with the provisions of the LBS Protocol and other internationally agreed provisions.

(b) Sea-based pollution prevention and control

Among the world oceans and seas, the density of merchant vessel traffic in the Mediterranean is particularly significant. About 30% of international sea-borne trade originates from or is directed to the numerous Mediterranean ports, or passes through the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean Sea is, and still remains, a major route for transporting oil and gas from the Middle East and North Africa to Europe and North America, whilst on the basis of a broad assessment, excluding vessels that are in seaports for a reason, about 1,500 cargo vessels of > 150 GRT sail the Mediterranean Sea at any one time. The Mediterranean also has a fairly extensive coastline in relation to its water mass and pollution hazards, in particular, accidents to vessels which can pose a major local problem are extremely critical to the tourist industry which is one of the major pillars of the economy.

The Mediterranean region was the third region after the North and Baltic Seas where a regional agreement for co-operation in combatting pollution in case of emergency has been adopted - the first under the aegis of UNEP. The rationale behind such an agreement is that where national efforts are insufficient to deal with a major pollution accident, the pooling of resources and expertise provides a cost-effective way of combatting an accidental spill which cannot be immediately dealt with by one state alone.

The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combatting Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency adopted in 1976 by the coastal States provides the legal framework to strengthen the Mediterranean countries' response capabilities and to facilitate international co-operation in the field of combatting accidental marine pollution. The coastal States also set up REMPEC (formerly "ROCC") to assist them with their commitments under the Protocol.

Although much has been done to develop collective capabilities by assisting countries build strong national institutional bases supported by adequate equipment and human resources, the situation to date in developed countries of the Mediterranean region seems adequate to deal with this type of pollution risk, however the capacity of the developing countries will need further strengthening.

Indeed, chronic pollution in the Mediterranean from operational discharges also needs consideration. Although the Mediterranean is classified as a sensitive area under MARPOL 73/78 where no oil discharge is permitted, the main sources of pollution in the Mediterranean related to maritime traffic still are:

- illegal operational discharges of oil (e.g. discharge of oily bilge-water; chemical and oil tank washing);

- discharge of refinery effluents;
- accidents to pipelines and terminals;
- accidents to merchant vessels.

Whilst reaffirming their commitment to preparedness for and response to and co-operation in cases of accidental marine pollution, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted, in 1995, the following priority fields of activities within the transport field for the forthcoming decade (1996 - 2005) which take into account Agenda MED 21:

- to promote, in accordance with the MARPOL 73/78, the installation of port reception facilities for the collection of solid and liquid wastes generated by ships;
- to encourage the installation of navigational aids and monitoring systems;
- to promote regional co-operation for control of the implementation by ships of the relevant international Conventions on the protection of the marine environment from pollution by ships.

Pursuant to the adoption of a regional strategy on the prevention of pollution by ships and by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, action has already been taken to start the revision process for amending the Emergency Protocol to provide the necessary legal framework to tackle these fields of priority mentioned above, as well as for amending the objectives and functions of REMPEC in light of these fields of priority. It is expected that the translation of the revised Protocol into practical efforts will significantly reduce pollution from maritime transport and related activities. On the other hand, such efforts involve not only technical and financial problems, but also difficulties related to differences in priority setting in the coastal States due to economic variety, in part. The success of these efforts will depend on the enhancement of co-operation and the reinforcement of a regional attitude.

(c) Cleaner production and sustainable development

The Mediterranean region has limited material resources that should be better used and preserved. Industrial pollution is one of the main causes of Mediterranean degradation, in combination with random urbanisation, uncontrolled energy and water consumption, tourism, the increasing concentration of population on the coastline, and the economic and social characteristics of the region.

Pollution prevention through cleaner production and waste minimisation is an objective that is perfectly integrated in the efforts towards sustainable development.

The two latest MAP Protocols (land-based sources and transboundary waste movements) focus on cleaner production as the tool to instrumentalize the policies and recommendations that should be implemented.

2. **Responses**

(a) Land-based pollution assessment and control activities

Coordination activities

As a follow up to the approval of the MED POL Phase III Programme (Montpellier, 1996) and of the general policy lines for its implementation (Delphi, 1997), the MED POL Secretariat, with the assistance of IAEA/MEL of Monaco and MED POL consultants, visited eleven countries (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Slovenia, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey), and contacted Greece and Monaco, to identify the laboratories/institutions who would participate in the Programme and to assess their capabilities in view of the launching, in particular, of the trend monitoring and the biological effects monitoring activities. As a result, a number of capacity building programmes were prepared on which to base the assistance to be provided to the countries in need.

A letter was also sent to all National Coordinators in May 1998 to explain and solicit comments on how the Secretariat was proposing to follow the decisions of the Contracting Parties concerning the implementation of the Programme and at the same time to ask the Coordinators a number of information needed for the launching of the activities.

Cooperation was strengthened with the European Environment Agency (EEA) on a number of subjects such as biomonitoring, assessment tools and exchange of available data. In this framework, MAP and MED POL in particular were contacted by EEA for the preparation of the report : "State and pressures of the marine and coastal Mediterranean environment" where available Mediterranean data and information were used. The first draft of the report was circulated to MAP Focal Points for comments and suggestions. The final version of the report is expected to be ready by the end of the year.

In view of the starting of the activities of Phase III, and as a request by the Contracting Parties in Montpellier, an independent evaluation of MED POL Phase II was initiated with the assistance of Mediterranean experts. The first draft was completed in May 1999 and it is now being reviewed by additional experts. The evaluation will be finalised by the end of the year and transmitted to Contracting Parties.

Concerning MED POL staff, with the recruitment of Mr F. S. Civili as the MED POL Coordinator in January 1998, one post (First Officer, P4) became vacant. The post was revised and re-classified at the P3 level (Programme Officer) and was advertised according to UN procedures. The selection process of the candidates was completed in May 1998 and the results of the ad hoc Panel were sent to UNEP Nairobi for finalization and approval. The post is expected to be filled by the summer 1999. In April 1999, the post of Senior Programme Officer (G.P.G. Gabrielides, P5) became vacant with the departure of the incumbent. The post was revised and re-classified at the P4 level and the vacancy announcement is being prepared. The recruitment procedures are expected to be finalised by the end of the year.

Pollution assessment

Draft national programmes covering site specific trend monitoring were sent to the Secretariat by Albania, Greece, Slovenia, Tunisia and Turkey which are being discussed and finalised for signature. Other countries are being contacted aiming at

finalising the larger possible number of programmes by the end of 1999.

As a follow up to the capacity building programme and the country visits, during the period 1998-1999 (up to May 1999) financial assistance in the form of small equipment and material was given to the participating laboratories as follows: Albania USD 6,500, Algeria USD 34,000, Egypt USD 33,000, Libya USD 29,000, Morocco USD 11,000, Syria USD 28,000 and Turkey USD 23,000. Additional available funds will be provided to countries to assist the preparation and the implementation of their programmes.

Concerning monitoring of biological effects, efforts were made to include the relevant activities in the national monitoring programmes. To this effects, contacts were made with Cyprus, Greece, Egypt, Malta and Tunisia. Assistance is available for the implementation of the activities and will be provided as soon as the specific national programmes are finalised.

During 1998-1999, a Manual for the biomarkers recommended for the MED POL biomonitoring programme was prepared and finalised with the assistance of Mediterranean scientists and in cooperation with RAMOGE. In addition, RAMOGE prepared a video cassette which would be attached to the Manual to better explain the use of the selected techniques. The Manual and the video cassette will be soon distributed to National Coordinators and participating institutes.

Concerning the work on biomonitoring, contacts were also made with other Convention Secretariats and DGXII of the European Commission to exchange information on scientific and technical aspects related to the selected techniques and to seek additional funds from outside sources to assist countries of the Mediterranean region.

With the assistance of WHO, work continued on the identification of sources and loads of pollution. The MED POL National Coordinators were requested to provide additional data in the framework of the Survey on Mediterranean Land-Based Sources of Pollution - a survey initiated in the preceding years but which still presented large gaps. During the first phase of the collection of data for the Survey of Land-Based Sources of Pollution and the Pollution Hot Spots, documents and questionnaires were used in order to prepare the basis for an inventory of treatment and discharge of wastewater of coastal Mediterranean cities with more than 10,000 inhabitants.

The data gathered, which was organized in a uniform manner, was sent to all MED POL National Coordinators in order to ensure their reliability. A lot of data, however, were still missing from the larger countries due to the difficulty in gathering all the necessary information.

In November 1998, with the assistance of the MED POL Coordinators and through extensive exchange of correspondence, the inventory was completed. The corrected data was sent to all MED POL National Coordinators for verification. Comments were received from a number of countries and were taken into account for the preparation of a new version of the document (UNEP(OCA)MED WG161/5) which was submitted to National Coordinators for final comments and remarks in view of its approval.

The Data Quality Assurance programme related to chemical contaminants continued under the technical responsibility of IAEA. In the course of country visits, laboratories were visited by experts and the sampling and analytical techniques were discussed and verified. In addition, in the framework of the Intercalibration of analytical techniques for organochlorine compounds, two sediment samples (IAEA-383 and IAEA-408) were prepared and sent, respectively in 1998 and 1999, to a total of sixty-nine laboratories in

the region.

As in the past, training courses were organised and fellowships were provided to a total of 35 scientists from 16 countries. The training courses were organised in the framework of the analysis of the priority parameters of MED POL and fellowships were provided to assist the attendance of scientists at Meetings related to the MED POL work programme.

Pollution control

In the framework of the launching of the compliance monitoring activities, in May 1998 information was requested by the Secretariat to all National Coordinators on the existing legislation related to marine pollution and on national monitoring systems related to control and compliance. In view of the very few responses, a second letter was sent at the beginning of 1999 to a number of countries asking for details on existing national compliance monitoring programmes as well as for their data and results. A total of six countries provided the information requested.

From the little information gathered, it was apparent that the existing compliance monitoring systems were in many cases incomplete and not including information on remedial action to be taken in cases of non-compliance. As a result, a draft document: "Remedial action in cases of non-compliance with established pollution control criteria in the Mediterranean" was prepared with the assistance of Mediterranean experts under the supervision of WHO/MED POL. Following a peer review, the document will be finalized and sent to MED POL National Coordinators for comments.

In addition to the above, questionnaires were prepared with the assistance of WHO in order to collate information from all countries on: (a) the legislative background from which permitting, compliance and enforcement provisions are formulated; (b) the administrative structure currently used for compliance and enforcement; and (c) the characteristics of the permitting process, compliance practices and enforcement organization. In this context, a workshop for experts on Compliance and enforcement of legislation in the Mediterranean for control of pollution resulting from land-based sources and activities was convened jointly with WHO/MAP in Athens from 16 to 18 March 1999. The overall objectives of the workshop were to assess the situation in the Mediterranean on compliance and enforcement of legislation, with particular emphasis on inspectorates, and to propose future measures for action. The report of the Meeting is presented as reference document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 160/1.

The workshop was attended by 18 experts, representatives of the Contracting Parties, five international experts and representatives of relevant RACs, IGOs and NGOs. The participants prepared and presented country reports on compliance and enforcement in their countries which were included in the report of the workshop. The above-mentioned questionnaires were completed by all participants for the collection, at the national level, of information on activities related to compliance monitoring and enforcement of legislation with the aim to provide rapid statistical assessment of the existing situation. The Meeting recommended the establishment of an informal regional network for exchange of information and ideas on the subject, capacity-building programmes for the strengthening of the national inspectorate systems, and assistance to countries, upon request, for the improvement of enforcement activities. Additional information on the evaluation of the questionnaires and of the existing international networks on compliance and enforcement was provided to the Meeting of MED POL National Coordinators in document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG161/Inf.3.

A Consultation on compliance with maximum permissible levels of contaminants in seafood, convened jointly by UNEP/MAP, FAO and WHO, was held in Larnaca, Cyprus from 24-26 June 1998. It was attended by government-designated experts from 15 Contracting Parties.

On the basis of the reports presented by the experts, it was possible to distinguish three categories of countries: (a) those which had legal provisions, administrative structures and programmes related to monitoring and enforcement; (b) those which had regulations but were weak in enforcement; and (c) those which were in the process of creating structures and enacting legislation. The Meeting recommended that Contracting Parties make every effort to put in place legal provisions for the protection of human health from consumption of seafood (fish and shellfish) and implement relevant monitoring and enforcement programmes. The report of the Meeting is contained in reference document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 144/3.

During the implementation of the activities related to the Identification of Regional Pollution Hot Spots, some problematic issues were identified, the most important being the lack of trained personnel for the operation of municipal wastewater treatment plants. As a result, a regional Workshop for wastewater treatment plant operators' trainers was organized in Athens at the SERDC premises from 4 to 9 May 1998. It was attended by 17 experts from Mediterranean countries. The purpose of the workshop was to enable the trainers who participated to organize similar national training courses for operators. The report of the training course was published by WHO as EHCO/050203.

As a follow-up to the above training course and after preliminary contacts concerning the convening of national courses in some countries, a national training course was organized by WHO/MAP in Alexandria from 2 to 5 April 1999. The training course was attended by 19 participants from all the governorates of Egypt, employed as operators, or potential operators, of wastewater treatment plants. The training course was convened at the facilities of the Alexandria General Organization for Sanitary Drainage which is located next to the Alexandria East Wastewater Treatment Plant. For the needs of the course, which was made in Arabic, a training manual was prepared also in Arabic based on the results and the documents used for the regional course, and taking into account the national and local needs. The lecturers were selected by the local organizers. The report of the course was published by WHO as EHCO/050203.

A regional training workshop on wastewater treatment plant management was organized in Sophia Antipolis from 21 to 24 April 1999 at the premises of the International Office for Water. The purpose of the workshop was to provide practical assistance to the Contracting Parties for the effective reduction of pollution generated by land-based sources and to enable experts to organize similar national training courses for managers. The regional workshop organized by WHO/MAP was attended by 15 experts. It is expected that, as a follow-up to the regional workshop, a national workshop would be soon organized in one of the countries represented at the Workshop in collaboration with the trained national experts. The report of the course was published by WHO as EHCO/050204.

Research

In view of the very limited funds available during the biennium for research, very few new research proposals were submitted and only a limited number of projects were carried out.

A project was carried out under the technical supervision of WHO entitled: "Assessment

and control of coastal sea pollution in the Punat Bay". The project, carried out by the Analysis and control Technology Institute in Zagreb, Croatia, studied the concentration of metals in antifouling paints used in Marina Punat and elaborated and proposed input reduction measures and monitoring. The project also improved the existing mathematical models related to currents, source inventory and transport routes. The project was funded with US \$9,000.

A new research project was initiated under the technical supervision of WMO on wet and dry deposition fluxes of trace elements and major ions from atmosphere to the eastern Mediterranean basin. It was carried out by the Department for Environmental Engineering in Ankara, Turkey, with a contribution of US \$ 5,000.

Two additional projects were carried out as continuation of previous years on the atmospheric input of trace species along the Mediterranean coast of Israel (Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research Institute, Haifa, contribution US \$ 5,000) and on the atmospheric input of inorganic nitrogen to the Adriatic Sea (Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Zagreb, contribution US \$5,000).

Two projects were initiated under the technical supervision of IOC. The first one was signed in 1998 with the Marine Biological Station in Piran (Slovenia), on indicators for the ecological characterization of the coastal waters affected by municipal waste waters. The project, which includes intensive field and laboratory work for the construction of phytoplankton and zooplankton time series and the study of the effects on nutrient enrichment from municipal wastewater and the identification of stress indicators, received a grant of US \$ 9,800.

The second project is dealing with the study of time-series to determine anthropogenic influences on ecological cycles and long-term changes in the North Levantine Basin. It was signed with the Institute of Marine Science in Erdemli, Turkey, and received a grant for 1998 of US \$ 5,000.

Implementation of the LBS Protocol/Strategic Action Programme (SAP)

Following the signature of the revised LBS Protocol (1996), the Secretariat, as requested by the Contracting Parties, worked to set the basis for the implementation of its provisions.

As a result, after obtaining a US \$350,000 PDF-B grant from GEF for the preparation of a Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP) - which represented a basic requirement of the LBS Protocol- the Secretariat submitted to the GEF Council a proposal for a larger three-year project aiming at preparing the basis for the implementation of the SAP activities in the form of a Project Brief.

A Meeting of the MAP/GEF National Coordinators was held in Athens, on 22-23 January 1998 to discuss, amend and approve the content of the Project Brief which would be submitted to the GEF Council for approval and funding (UNEP(OCA)MED WG.138/2). The Project Brief, which described the content of the Project including the work plan and budget of the activities, was approved by the MAP/GEF National Coordinators who considered it a concrete contribution to the implementation of the SAP and stressed that, considering that the GEF funds were addressed to assist only twelve Mediterranean countries, the funds put in the project by MAP should be used to the benefit of all Contracting Parties for the implementation of the SAP activities. The Project Brief was approved by the GEF Council in April 1998 (see reference doc. "Project Brief: "Determination of Priority Actions for the Further Elaboration and

Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea") with a contribution from GEF of 6,29 million US \$, a participation of 3,04 million US \$ in cash and kind from the countries and 1,12 million US \$ in cash and kind from MAP.

In view of the ambitious nature of the SAP, the Secretariat further worked to ensure possible additional funds and expertise to complement those put at the disposal of the Project. As a result, an additional 1,6 million US \$ was, in principle, assured from the French GEF (FFEM) as well as a contribution in kind from METAP who will participate in the coordination and follow up of the activities. Additional contributions are still sought from other sources such as FAO and other Organizations.

Since the approval of the Project Brief by the MAP/GEF National Coordinators and subsequently by the GEF Council, the Secretariat has worked on the preparation of the administrative project document which describes in detail the activities. A number of small meetings and consultations were also held with the partners and cooperating Organizations and Centres to discuss the operational aspects of the Project. The project document is now expected to be approved by the UNEP/GEF Coordination Unit and subsequently by the GEF Secretariat by the end of the year. The activities related to the implementation of the SAP are therefore expected to start at the beginning of the year 2000.

Regional and subregional cooperation is crucial for the development and implementation of successful action to protect the transboundary marine environment from land-based activities. The GEF co-financed SAP MED Programme provides a broad framework and timetable for the implementation of mechanisms and measures that will lead to the protection of the marine environment from harmful land-based activities. To make SAP MED sustainable, economic instruments should be identified that will assist in developing a sustainable financial platform for the continued implementation of the SAP MED in the longer term.

PAP/RAC prepared the project document on development and implementation of economic instruments for the sustainable implementation of SAP MED. The project document workplan rests heavily on findings of the PAP/RAC priority action "Integrated planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Zones" implemented in the period 1990-1997. This activity brought to detailed analysis on the application of economic instruments in selected Mediterranean countries.

The effective implementation of the SAP activities by the countries, which is directly related to the fulfilment of the requirements of the LBS Protocol, is now concrete and substantially supported by the GEF Project. In particular, the activities foreseen in the three-year Project address a number of necessary actions which will prepare the ground for the fulfilment by the countries of both the mid- and long-term targets and objectives of the SAP.

Implementation of the Dumping Protocol

As a follow up to the First Meeting of Government-designated Experts to prepare Guidelines for the Management of Dredged Materials held in Valencia in 1996, a second Meeting was held in Malta from 30 November to 2 December 1998. The Meeting was hosted by the Maltese Government with the financial assistance of the European Commission. The Meeting worked on the draft Guidelines and agreed on a text which was transmitted to the Meeting of MED POL National Coordinators for approval. The document (UNEP(OCAMED WG.157/Inf.7), which will incorporate final comments and remarks which will be transmitted by the MED POL Coordinators by September 1999, if

later adopted by the Contracting Parties, will substantially contribute to the solution of the problem of the dumping of dredged material which is considered as common in the Mediterranean. The adoption of the Guidelines also responds to a requirement of the 1995 Dumping Protocol.

Implementation of the Hazardous Waste Protocol

No specific activities related to the future implementation of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol were implemented during the biennium. However, as part of the work plan of MED POL for the coming biennium, a number of preparatory activities related to the future implementation of the Protocol are now proposed to be implemented in view of their inclusion in the Mediterranean GEF Project.

(b) Sea-based pollution prevention and control activities

a. In response to the issue of combatting accidental marine pollution, in conformity with the strategy adopted in 1989 and with the programme approved by the various Ordinary Meetings of the Contracting Parties, REMPEC carried out activities aimed at improving and strengthening the regional system for co-operation and mutual assistance in cases of emergency and at increasing the levels of preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution of individual coastal States.

b. REMPEC mainly concentrated its activities on:

- training;
- capacity building at different levels;
- assistance in cases of emergency.

c. At the same time, REMPEC contributed to coastal area management activities.

Training

d. During the period under observation, REMPEC conducted a national training course/seminar in Syria in April 1998.

Capacity Building at the Regional Level

e. The Centre has continued to develop tools as an aid to decision-making and which form part of its regional information system. A new version of the TROCS database will be circulated to the coastal States by mid-1999.

Capacity Building at the Sub-Regional Level

f. In June 1996, REMPEC submitted to the EC for approval and financing, through the LIFE financing instrument, a project proposal concerning the development of spill response capabilities of Cyprus, Egypt and Israel. The Project was approved in December 1996 and the relevant contract was signed by the EC and IMO, on behalf of REMPEC, in February 1997.

g. The following activities have been carried out under this Project in 1998:

- the combined First Meeting of National Operational Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Sub-regional Contingency Plan and the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee (Egypt, March 1998);
 - a Meeting of a Working Group on National Experts on Communication (Cyprus, April 1998);
 - 2 national training courses on communication and reporting in Cyprus and Egypt respectively (April 1998);
 - a joint oil spill response exercise (Cyprus, November 1998);
 - the Second Meeting of National Operational Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Sub-regional Contingency Plan (Cyprus, November 1998);
 - Phase Two of sensitivity mapping and spill modelling activities (envisaged for the early half of 1999).
- h. Discussions and preparatory works are still going on for the preparation of a project leading to the development of a Sub-regional system for combatting major marine pollution incidents in the North Adriatic (Croatia, Italy, Slovenia).

Capacity Building at the National Level

- i. The Centre has continued to give priority to the development of national systems for preparedness and response and to the adoption of sub-regional contingency plans. These areas constitute the main impetus of present and of future actions of REMPEC.
- j. The activities of the Centre primarily focussed on Albania, Lebanon, Libya, Malta and Syria. These States are in the process of developing their own national systems.
- k. A Seminar for decision-makers and governmental officials as well as an interministerial meeting for discussing a project proposal for the development of the Syrian preparedness and response system was organized in Lattakia in April 1998. Competent Syrian national authorities prepared a draft national contingency plan, which was subsequently translated into English and submitted to REMPEC for comments in August 1998. REMPEC prepared a project proposal for the development of the Syrian preparedness and response system, which has been submitted to the EC/LIFE - 99 financial instrument.
- l. Several meetings took place between the competent Maltese authorities and REMPEC leading to:
- the signature in February 1998 of the Memorandum of Understanding which outlined the method of co-operation between Maltese authorities and REMPEC and the assistance of the Centre;
 - the preparation and the submission to the EC/LIFE - 98 financial instrument of a project proposal for the development of sensitivity mapping and spill modelling;

- the preparation of Interim Emergency Response Procedures.
- m. At the first Meeting of experts on the implementation of the multi-annual rolling work programme for maritime transport in the Mediterranean, organized within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and held in Cyprus October 1996, regional projects concerning maritime safety and pollution prevention were identified.
- n. As agreed at the Cyprus meeting and subsequently by the REMPEC Focal Points Meeting, REMPEC prepared and submitted to the European Commission DG/VII two project proposals:
 - port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily residues;
 - preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution by ships which includes three main components.
- o. Prior to their transmission to the European Commission, REMPEC received as requested, written support from Ministries in charge of maritime transport or/and Ministries of Environment from the non-EU countries participating in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.
- p. The project proposal concerning preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution was not accepted by the European Commission DG/VII, which subsequently requested REMPEC to make certain modifications.

Capacity Building at the Port Level

- q. Following the request put forward by Turkey, a pilot project has been prepared by REMPEC related to a risk assessment study and associated capacity building for preparedness and response for the ports of Mersin and Iskenderun, which was submitted to the EC/LIFE - 98 financial instrument (DG/XI/A/4). The project has been accepted and the related activities should start by early March 1999. The duration of the project is estimated to be three years.
- r. Following a meeting which took place in Slovenia in June 1997, REMPEC prepared a draft proposed project in 1998 on "Risk assessment and associated capacity building for preparedness and response to maritime related accidents involving liquid chemicals in bulk for the Port of Koper (Slovenia)." The technical and financial component of the draft project has been completed in early 1999 and is currently under review by the relevant Slovenian authorities for a decision to submit the project to the EC-PHARE financial instrument (DG/1/A) in 1999.

Assistance in Cases of Emergency

- s. In conformity with its responsibility to organize and maintain the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU) in a state of operational readiness, REMPEC, with a view to facilitating the activation of MAU in case of emergency, negotiated arrangements with selected centres of expertise taking into account that the effectiveness of the MAU may largely depend on the availability of the back-up

resources and logistic support, which the established centre of expertise can put at the disposal of experts forming the MAU.

(c) Cleaner production and sustainable development

The application of new and contrasted technologies and practices has become crucial for both development and the environment. The availability of technologies and techniques via-co-operative technology transfer to be adapted to specific local conditions is a crucial aspect.

As pollution prevention should be implemented by the industrial sectors, it becomes necessary setting up a permanent channel of communication between the local centres and these industrials' sectors. Such channel should be opened by means of *information and promotion* of cleaner production opportunities.

The peculiarities of the different countries, customs, languages and social and industrial structure make necessary that spreading of cleaner techniques and pollution prevention was carried out by local centres or agencies. Within this context, it is clearly understandable that *training of local trainers is the best way to do it*.

It is also necessary to provide companies, mostly small and medium sized enterprises, with *up-dated information* concerning opportunities they have to implement and the advantages that it could represent their implementation. As well as , it should be avoided the transfer of obsolete technology and/or of technology not suited to regional characteristics. Awareness and the adoption of cleaner alternative production systems could lead to regulatory changes being made to facilitate and promote such systems being adopted by the companies.

3. Gaps

(a) Land-based pollution assessment and control activities

On the basis of the work carried out at the regional as well as the national level concerning reduction and elimination of land-based pollution, it appears that large gaps still exist. In particular, concerning the future implementation of the LBS Protocol, priority should be given to a number of basic activities which will assist the countries in fulfilling their obligations, such as the preparation of regional strategies and plans which will be essential for the formulation of national action plans for the elimination of land-based pollution.

Concerning the continuous assessment of pollution, National Monitoring Programmes are still not prepared in all countries. Programmes should contain provisions for trend, compliance and biological effects monitoring. To this end, priority should be given to capacity building for the formulation and design of Programmes to improve the often limited capacities in sampling and analysis as well as the managerial use of the results of the monitoring activities.

With reference to the activities related to compliance and enforcement of legislation, many countries still lack experience and capacity to organise the necessary activities. National legislations often need to be re-formulated and updated on the basis of the adopted regional Agreements.

The research component within the framework of MED POL does not seem to be any longer adequate in view of the limited funds available and of the need to create a more

dynamic system to follow in real time the development of possible emergency pollution issues.

Finally, in view of the adoption of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities, which is to be considered a concrete and effective tool for the long-term elimination of pollution, the delayed ratification of the LBS Protocol has become the most important gap for the effective protection of the Mediterranean basin. The entry into force of the Protocol would in fact provide the SAP the necessary legal strength and would boost its implementation.

In relation to the above, a work plan for the implementation of MED POL was discussed at the Meeting of the MED POL National Coordinators held in Reggio Calabria (20-23 June 1999) and is now presented to this Meeting as document UNEP(OCA)MED WG.157/Inf.6.

(b) Sea-based pollution prevention and control activities

Certain gaps concerning the implementation of the Emergency Protocol and the regional strategy for the prevention of the pollution from ships still exists, such as:

- a. the state of development of the national system for preparedness and response (including trained personnel, resources and organizational structures) within some Contracting Parties' States is not at the desired level and hence can disrupt the mechanism of mutual assistance between neighbour states as well as the possibility for the development of sub-regional contingency plans;
- b. the standard pollution reporting system to inform coastal states directly or through the Centre is not always adhered to;
- c. the extension of national contingency plans to hazardous substances other than oil is still in its infancy;
- d. the incorporation of the oil industry within the organizational infrastructure for preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution in some Contracting Parties' States;
- e. the establishment, where necessary, of port reception facilities for the collection of ship wastes;
- f. the prevention of pollution from operational discharge from ships.

(c) Cleaner production and sustainable development

The level of information available in the different countries with regard of pollution generation, legal framework and enforcement, as well as pollution prevention concept is really different. This has to led a certain degree of distortion.

Although cleaner production is gaining position as a tool for increasing competitiveness, there is still a lack of environmental awareness amongst company's management. Environment is still considered in most cases only as an added cost. An activation of the local capacity building to stimulate cleaner production is needed, as well as the introduction of the concept of pollution prevention.

There is a need of economic instruments, legislation and persuasive tools to promote cleaner production and ease technology transfer. That is why the first step should be to collect information about legal and statutory framework of cleaner production in the different countries and about possibilities and difficulties of cleaner production implementation in the Region.

The transfer of information, experiences, case studies, success stories and innovations between the Mediterranean Region has to be promoted. It is also needed an integral approach to avoid pollution transfer in the Mediterranean region.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties:

(a) Land-based pollution assessment and control activities

1. To give emphasis to the implementation of action-oriented pollution control activities and, to this effect, to give priority to the implementation of the activities of the SAP and especially to those included in the GEF Mediterranean Project; in particular, activities related to pollution hot spots where the full cooperation and contribution of the countries are indispensable for their success.
2. To formulate and implement monitoring programmes, including trend monitoring, biological effects monitoring, biological monitoring as feasible, as well as compliance monitoring related to the control and enforcement of national and regional legislation.
3. To continue and strengthen cooperation with the competent UN Cooperating Agencies, Regional Activity Centres, intergovernmental and international organizations, sub-regional agreements and programmes and, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations for the implementation of the SAP and other MED POL-related activities approved by the Contracting Parties. In particular, to welcome the continued cooperation with WHO in relation to the pollution control activities, the very positive cooperation established with GEF, FFEM, METAP and the other supporting organizations for the implementation of the Mediterranean GEF Project and the important contribution from RAMOGE for the implementation of the activities related to biological effects monitoring.
4. To establish Inter-ministerial National Committees for a full coordination of the activities related to the implementation of the Mediterranean GEF Project.
5. To adopt the Guidelines for the Management of Dredged Material which were prepared by the Secretariat in close cooperation with Government-designated experts as part of the implementation of the Dumping Protocol (see document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/Inf.7).

(b) Sea-based pollution prevention and control activities

1. To adopt the amendments to the Emergency Protocol proposed by the Meeting of National Legal and Technical Experts on the Amendment to the

Emergency Protocol.

2. To adopt the corresponding amendments to the Annex to the Resolution 7 related to the objectives and functions of REMPEC proposed by the Meeting of National and Technical Experts on the Amendment to the Emergency Protocol.
3. To agree to the resolution taken by the meeting of REMPEC Focal Points held in Malta 25 - 28 November 1998 requesting the Coordinator to have the professional post of an administrator provided for in the budget for the next biennium.
4. To approve the proposal of the meeting of REMPEC focal points held in Malta 25 - 28 November 1998 that as regards prevention of pollution of ships, no activity should commence other than the programme on port reception facilities for which financing is presently being considered by the E.U within the MEDA programme until the necessary personnel is made available

(c) Cleaner production and sustainable development

1. To invite the Contracting Parties to promote and stimulate the introduction of Mediterranean Best Available Technologies (BATs) and Best Environmental Practices (BEPs) within the Mediterranean companies.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat:

(a) Land-based pollution assessment and control activities

1. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to continue to assist countries in the preparation, finalization and implementation of their National Monitoring Programmes which should include monitoring of trends, biological effects monitoring and compliance monitoring.
2. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to work on the processing and analysis of the data resulting from the trend monitoring and to give priority to the implementation of data quality assurance programmes.
3. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to give special emphasis to the organization of activities related to compliance with, and enforcement of, the regional and national legislation related to land-based pollution and, as a result, to establish, organize and coordinate the work of an Informal Network on Compliance and Enforcement.
4. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to re-organize the research component of MED POL Phase III by identifying and following up on a regular basis emerging pollution issues in cooperation with National Coordinators, Mediterranean scientists and the competent UN Cooperating Agencies in order to formulate relevant studies, assessments and research projects to be carried out by Mediterranean national Institutions.
5. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to cooperate fully with the GEF Secretariat for the coordination of the Mediterranean GEF Project and, accordingly, to give priority during the biennium to the MED POL activities related to the pollution control included in the GEF Project and in the SAP.

6. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to start the process of updating the SAP by taking into account developments in the scientific, technical, economic, environmental and legal fields in order to ensure effective implementation of the SAP.
 7. To request the Secretariat (MED POL) to continue the work related to the preparation of the necessary Guidelines as requested by art. 4 and 6 of the 1995 Dumping Protocol, in view of their adoption by the Contracting Parties.
 8. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to implement "Economic Instruments" activity of the GEF funded SAP MED project, and to use findings of this project in preparing bankable projects to follow once completed PAP/RAC activities and MAP CAMP programmes.
- (b) Sea-based pollution prevention and control activities
1. To request the Secretariat (REMPEC) to be charged with implementing the provisions of the amended Emergency Protocol pending its adoption and entry into force.
 2. To instruct the Secretariat (REMPEC) that as regards the provision concerning the prevention of pollution of ships, no activity should be initiated other than the programme on port reception facilities for which financing is presently being considered by the E.U within the framework of the MEDA programme until such times that the necessary personnel is made available.
- (c) Cleaner Production and Sustainable Development
1. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to develop all the activities approved by the Spanish Government and (ratified) by the Contracting Parties.
 2. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to participate and actively cooperate with the Industry and Sustainable Development Group within the MCSD, as well as other activities related to Cleaner Production.
 3. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to call for and organise the Second Experts Meeting on Surface Treatment and Coating Sector and on Leather Industry by October 1999.
 4. To request the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to continue publishing and disseminating cleaner production success stories on the new collection called MedClean to show real examples of pollution prevention and cleaner production achieved by different companies from MAP countries, mainly on the priority sectors.
 5. To request the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to continue publishing and disseminating the CP News bulletin with news about the programmes, achievements, etc. from the different NFP.
 6. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to prepare a questionnaire and to start the collection and systematisation of data on:
 - Legal and statutory framework of cleaner production in the different countries to present to a report to the Contracting Parties about possibilities and difficulties of cleaner production implementation in the

Region.

- Inventory of agents dealing with cleaner production in each country.
 - Tools and methods used in the MAP countries to approach cleaner production to the industrial sectors.
7. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to make a video about pollution prevention alternatives for the surface treatment sectors as well as for the olive industry.
 8. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to prepare a Web page about Cleaner Production.
 9. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to elaborate a guideline of advantages/disadvantages, cost indicators and real examples of the continuous extraction system and the new continuous extraction system.
 10. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to elaborate a list of suppliers on olive technology.
 11. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to make a guideline of conditioning that have an effect on water quality (baths and rinsing) on the surface treatment sector.
 12. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to publish a document of good-housekeeping practices that could be implemented in the Mediterranean industries.
 13. To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to adapt the MOED (minimisation oriented environmental diagnosis) methodology for the Mediterranean Area.

**** All CP/RAC activities are subjected to the approval of the Spanish Government.**

5. **Budget**

II. **COMPONENTS**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Assistance from REMPEC or through REMPEC's consultants to States in developing their capacities in the fields of preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution	REMPEC	10,000			8,000		
Assistance as above to States in developing port emergency response system	REMPEC	7,000			9,000		
Assistance as above to States in preparing and developing bilateral and multilateral agreements	REMPEC	4,000			5,000		
Development of the regional information system (RIS), library, website and information dissemination	REMPEC	8,000			9,000		
Development of TROCS and of the Mediterranean Information Decision Support Integrated System	REMPEC		11,000			11,000	
Assistance to countries in case of emergency (Mediterranean Assistance Unit)	REMPEC	4,000			4,000		
Assistance to countries in the Organisation of National Training Courses	REMPEC	10,000			10,000		
Assistance to countries in CAMP activities	REMPEC	11,000			20,000		
Regional specialised training course (25 participants) 3 per biennium	REMPEC	40,000		20,000	70,000		50,000
Meeting of REMPEC's Focal Points	REMPEC	40,000					
Two years project on port reception facilities for collecting ship generated garbage, bilge waters and oily waters	REMPEC			400,000 a			240,000 a
Three years project "Risk Assessment of the ports of Marsin and Iskandarun, Turkey" with associated capacity building for the State for preparedness and response to marine pollution	REMPEC			206,000 b			206,000 b
Three years project to develop the natural system for preparedness for and response to accidental pollution in the Syrian Arab Republic	REMPEC			146,000 c			151,000 c
Support to sub-regional agreement between Cyprus, Egypt and Israel	REMPEC	15,000			15,000		
Inventory and analysis of experienced remote sensing monitoring activities to support the LBS Protocol, the MED POL Programme and sea pollution assessment and setting-up of operational plans	ERS/RAC	5,000			5,000		
National Focal Points Meeting of CP/RAC	CP/RAC						

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Assessment of Pollution: Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of trend monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	80,000			80,000		
Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of biological effects monitoring	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000		20,000	20,000	
Technical Review Meeting on the progress of implementation of the trend and biological effects monitoring	MEDPOL				30,000		20,000
Training and Fellowships and Data Quality Assurance Programmes	MEDPOL	70,000			70,000		
Identification of, and research on, pollution emerging issues	MEDPOL	40,000			40,000		
Review of data and information on pollution Hot Spots and Sensitive Areas (WHO)	MEDPOL			59,000 d			
Consultation Meeting to identify prioritization criteria for pollution Hot Spots and Sensitive Areas (WHO)	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 d			
Consultation with countries for pre-investment studies	MEDPOL				10,000		50,000 d
Pre-investment studies for pollution abatement in selected hot spots	MEDPOL						2,000,000 e
Consultation Meeting to select pollution Hot Spots for pre-investment studies	MEDPOL	10,000		50,000 d	10,000		
Assessment of health related aspects of the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (WHO)	MEDPOL			15,000 f			15,000 f
Enforcement and Control: Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of compliance monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	30,000			30,000		
Assistance to countries for compliance and enforcement of legislation and systems of inspections (WHO)	MEDPOL				40,000		
Consultation Meeting of the informal Network on compliance and enforcement	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000	20,000			
Training courses related to systems of inspection (WHO)	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000	90,000 g			30,000 g
Consultation Meeting on criteria and standards for health-related monitoring of coastal recreational and shellfish waters (WHO)	MEDPOL				30,000		30,000 f
Intercalibration exercise on determination of microbiological pollution (WHO)	MEDPOL				40,000		10,000 f
LBS Protocol/Strategic Action Programme (SAP)/GEF Project: Finalization of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)	MEDPOL			106,000 d			
Preparation of Regional Guidelines for pollution abatement as part of GEF Project	MEDPOL	50,000		104,000 d			36,000 d

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Preparation of Regional Plans for pollution abatement as part of the GEF Project	MEDPOL	100,000		105,000 d			
Preparation of National Action Plans to address pollution from land-based activities	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		480,000 d
Assistance to countries for the preparation of National Action Plans	MEDPOL				40,000		75,000 d
Expert assistance to the inter-ministerial national committees	MEDPOL			180,000 d			
Meetings at national level for the preparation and presentation of National Action Plans	MEDPOL				20,000		80,000 d
Consultation Meeting on reporting methodology for LBS Protocol	MEDPOL				50,000		
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to river pollution monitoring	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 g			60,000 g
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to waste water treatment plant operation and management (WHO)	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 g			60,000 g
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to cleaner production techniques	MEDPOL	25,000		140,000 d	5,000		10,000 g
Assistance to countries for the preparation of PRTRs	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
Economic Instruments Implementation of the SAP MED project (support to the national authorities in the implementation of economic instruments in ICAM and mitigation of pollution from land-based activities)	PAP/RAC	40,000		140,000			100,000
Dumping Protocol: Preparation of regional Guidelines according to Art. 4 and 6 of the Protocol	MEDPOL	20,000					
Meeting of Government Experts to approve Guidelines	MEDPOL						70,000 h
Hazardous Wastes Protocol: Assistance for the implementation of the Protocol	MEDPOL				5,000		
Coordination: Meeting of MED POL National Coordinators	MEDPOL				20,000		50,000 h
GEF Project Coordination Meetings	MEDPOL				45,000		139,000 d
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		789,000	71,000	1,961,000	760,000	31,000	3,962,000

- a: Funds secured through the EU/DGVII-1/EuroMediterranean Partnership (MEDA)
b: Money allocated to Turkey within the framework of the three years LIFE project, of which REMPEC is technical manager.
c: Funds secured through the EU/DGXI/LIFE Programme.
d: Fund secured from GEF
e: \$ 1,000,000 from GEF and \$1,000,000 from FFEM.
f: Funds partly secured through WHO
g: Funds secured through FFEM.
h: Funds expected from host countries

B. CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Although the Mediterranean Sea is only 0,8% of the area and less than 0,25% of the volume of the world oceans, it includes about 7% of the world marine fauna species, 18% of the world marine flora and a high level of endemism (28% of Mediterranean species).

A total of 10,000 to 12,000 marine species have been registered for the Mediterranean sea (with 8,000 species for fauna excluding protozoa), a rich biodiversity which represents 8 to 9% of world seas species richness. Among the marine species registered in the Mediterranean sea, about 1,000 species for flora and for fauna 1,935 different species of Arthropoda, 1,376 Mollusca, 776 Annelida, 593 Porifera (6.5% of World sponges) and 420 Cnidaria (4.6% of World cnidarian) are assessed.

The distribution of biodiversity throughout the Mediterranean is not homogenous. The biodiversity of the Western Mediterranean is greater than that of the Eastern Mediterranean: 51% greater for Fucophyceae and nearly 100% greater for fauna. The fact that the research effort has been less in the Eastern Mediterranean cannot alone explain such a difference.

About 350 species are considered as introduced into the Mediterranean, most of them being lessepsian immigrants from the Red Sea. The rest of the introduced species arrived with fouling, on ships' hulls, as ornamental species for aquaria and especially with aquaculture (species which have escaped from sea farms and species that accompany aquaculture species).

The sources of pressure on the Mediterranean and its shores are various. Several types of impact on biodiversity are more or less related to demographic increase, including physical occupation of space, production of liquid and solid wastes, increased exploitation of resources, etc. There is also tourism which induces various forms of degradation of the natural environment, as well as direct negative effects on species and their habitats. The Mediterranean is characterized by a very high density of sea ports, as well as by a large volume of transiting traffic that does not enter the Mediterranean ports. The impact of this activity is noticeable with respect to pollution and the introduction of foreign species brought in on the hulls of ships and in ballast water. Maritime traffic constitutes a permanent threat to the ecosystems, particularly where the transporting, of pollutant substances such as oil is concerned.

Despite the initiatives and efforts made by the Mediterranean countries toward the conservation of natural heritage, loss and degradation of habitats continue to occur in the Mediterranean both in the marine and terrestrial part of the coastal zone. Indeed, degradations of critical habitats (such as sea grass meadows and wetlands) are still recorded. The Posidonia meadows, which are considered the most important ecosystem in the Mediterranean, have dwindled considerably, in particular in the vicinity of the large Mediterranean urban centres. Certain fishing gear, which are harmful to non-targeted species and to the sustainability of fishing are used in many countries. As far as the terrestrial part of the Mediterranean coastal zone is concerned, wetland drainage, their use as waste discharging area, uncontrolled development of urbanisation and tourism resort on sites of ecological interest are among the main sources of damage to the natural heritage.

Evidence have been growing in the last decades on important negative impacts of human activities on the Mediterranean populations of several species. This is known for flag

species like the Mediterranean Monk Seal (which is one of the species most threatened with extinction in the world), marine turtles and cetacean species, but is also evident for several species of plants and invertebrates (e.g. *Patella ferruginea*).

The Mediterranean is a vulnerable ecological unit, whose protection requires the joint action of its riparian countries. Although these countries are not the only users of this sea, they are the most concerned by its conservation. Many of them are dependent on it and its degradation has a direct effect on the sustainability of various sectors of the economy (tourism, fishing, etc.). They must therefore co-ordinate and adapt their economic policies to reduce pressure on the coastline and the marine ecosystems.

It is also important to protect sites of interest that contain elements of high natural value, particularly the ecosystems that are characteristic of the Mediterranean and those habitats that are important for the survival of species. This could be done by setting up protected areas and introducing programmes to manage them. Many such achievements have been recorded in the Mediterranean, but several sites of interest are not yet protected, as is the case for the habitats of certain threatened species. As for management measures, these are still insufficient, or even non-existent, in a number of Mediterranean protected areas.

An adequate knowledge of the status and, where possible, the evolution of biological diversity is a prerequisite for the design of appropriate conservation and management plans and programmes. Generally speaking, it may be said that there has not been sufficient study of the Mediterranean.

Within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan, the Mediterranean countries undertook several initiatives for the conservation and the sustainable use of their common natural heritage. The issues at stake, responses, remaining gaps and recommendations in this field for the biennium 2000 - 2001 are presented below.

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

1. Issues at stake

- a. An adequate knowledge of the status and, where possible, the evolution of biological diversity is a prerequisite for the design of appropriate conservation and management plans and programmes. In this respect, the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, art. 3.3 and 15, and the MAP - Phase II contain provisions for the preparation of inventories of the elements of biological diversity important for its conservation and sustainable use. MAP Phase II also provides for such inventories to be prepared according to common criteria jointly established by the Contracting Parties.
- b. Within this framework, the Contracting Parties recommended SPA/RAC
 - "*to assist States in drawing up inventories of those elements that make up the natural marine and coastal Mediterranean heritage, as a first step in view of developing national strategies for the conservation of biodiversity*" (IX Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995);
 - "*to prepare common criteria and guidelines for the preparation, at the national level, of inventories of sites, species and other elements of biological diversity,...*" (Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996). Following these recommendations, common criteria for the preparation of national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest were elaborated, which were adopted by the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to

the Barcelona Convention (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997). The same meeting invited RAC/SPA to work on elaborating the technical tools provided by the criteria in view of their application. Such tools include:

- a model classification of marine and coastal habitat types for the Mediterranean region;
- reference lists of habitat types and species to be annexed to the criteria;
- a standard data form for the compilation of information concerning the sites included in the national inventories.

The meeting also decided that the above-mentioned technical tools " *will be finalized at the level of the meeting of the National Focal Points of SPA and adopted at the level of the Meeting of the Contracting Parties*".

2. Responses

- a. In compliance with the relevant recommendation of the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997), RAC/SPA worked on the elaboration of technical tools necessary for the preparation of national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest according to the common criteria adopted. The activities undertaken are presented separately for each output.
- b. Model Classification of marine habitat types for the Mediterranean region. In elaborating this classification, initial guidance was received from the Meeting of Experts on criteria for the preparation of inventories of the elements of biological diversity in the Mediterranean region (Athens, 8-10 September 1997), which recommended using as a working basis the classification established for the French coasts within the "ZNIEFF-mer" initiative. A first draft Classification of Benthic Marine Habitat Types for the Mediterranean Region was prepared in collaboration with Ms. Bellan-Santini, who had already participated in elaborating of the "ZNIEFF-mer" classification. The draft classification was presented as working basis to the Meeting of Experts on Marine Habitat Types in the Mediterranean region, convened by RAC/SPA in Hyères, France, from 18 to 20 November 1998, with a financial and technical support from the French Government. The meeting produced a revised version of the classification, which was presented to the 4th meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA (Tunis, 12-14 April 1999) for further elaboration and finalization. The meeting finalized the classification of marine benthic habitats. It also proposed the establishment of a group of experts nominated by the National Focal Points for SPA aimed at working on a classification of marine pelagic habitats.
- c. Classification of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types. A draft classification of the habitats of Mediterranean coastland was compiled in English, on the basis of the existing classification of Palaeartic habitats. A French nomenclature of the habitat units was also produced. These products were presented to the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA for information and comments. With the aim of providing further input to the above-mentioned classification, notably concerning southern Mediterranean habitats, a listing of Tunisian coastal habitats is being compiled.
- d. Reference list of habitat types to be annexed to the criteria. An evaluation of the conservation interest of the habitats identified within the above-mentioned Classification of Benthic Marine Habitat Types for the Mediterranean Region was carried out during the Meeting in Hyères, on the basis of a working draft prepared

by the Secretariat. On the basis of the outcome of the meeting of experts, a draft reference list of marine habitat types for the selection of sites to be included in the national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest was elaborated by the Secretariat and finalized by the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA.

- e. Reference list of species to be annexed to the criteria. A working proposal for the definition of the list was elaborated by RAC/SPA on the basis of annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, and was finalized by the 4th Meeting of National Focal Points for SPA.
- f. Standard Data Form (SDF) for the compilation of information concerning the sites included in the national inventories. A first draft of the SDF in English and French was produced by RAC/SPA with the help of consultants, and was submitted to the Contracting Parties through the National Focal Points for SPA for comment. On the basis of comments received, a revised version was produced, which was presented to the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA. The meeting could not finalize the SDF, and decided that National Focal Points would nominate experts who would send their comments and proposals to SPA/RAC, with the aim of preparing a revised draft, to be submitted to the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points and subsequently transmitted to the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- g. RAC/SPA is assisting Albania in the preparation of a first inventory of marine habitats along the coasts of that country. The activity was identified as a priority within the assistance RAC/SPA has provided to Albania in the elaboration of their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and constitute a first pilot initiative to test the applicability of the classification of marine habitat types described above. The activities which are envisaged imply:
 - C improving Albanian capacities in the study and monitoring of marine biodiversity by
 - training of Albanian experts in the sampling, identification and monitoring of benthic marine habitats;
 - donation of basic equipment for carrying out field studies;
 - C carrying out a field study of marine benthic habitats along Albanian coasts. To carry out such activities, a Memorandum of Understanding was established with the Biology Department of the Lecce University (Italy). A training course on techniques for inventorying marine benthic habitats is organized in Lecce from 7 to 23 June for four Albanian experts designated by the National Environmental Agency of Albania. The programme of a survey of Albanian coasts is currently being elaborated.

3. Gaps

- a. Available knowledge on marine habitats is in general very limited and fragmentary in the Mediterranean. Available information indicates however that severe pressure of anthropic origin is being exerted on several habitats playing critical ecological roles and/or of great patrimonial value, leading to their regression or disappearance. Basic data and information on their distribution, status and trend is essential and urgent with a view to identifying and planning appropriate monitoring, conservation and management measures.
- b. Similarly to what has been done for marine habitats in 1998-1999, a reference

classification of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types for the Mediterranean region needs to be established, from which priority habitats should be selected to guide the identification of sites to be inventoried (terrestrial and wetland section of the reference list of habitats to be annexed to the criteria).

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To adopt
 1. The reference classification of benthic marine habitat types for the Mediterranean region (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/6);
 2. The marine section of the reference list of habitats for the selection of sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/7);
 3. The reference list of species for the selection of sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 157/8);
 4. The Standard Data-Entry Form for National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG. 157/9).
2. To evaluate and, where necessary improve the information on, the status and trends of marine habitats mentioned at the reference list of habitats for the selection of sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest in the areas under their sovereignty and jurisdiction.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to assist the Mediterranean countries in applying the adopted criteria for the preparation of national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest, focussing for the biennium 2000-2001 on marine sites to be identified by the presence of priority habitats, in particular meadows and biogenic constructions (*Lithophyllum* rim and coralligenous)
2. To request the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to convene in the year 2001, a meeting of experts on coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types in the Mediterranean region.

B.2 Planning and management

(i) Implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of Mediterranean marine turtles

1. Issues at stake

- a. In the last decades, evidence have been growing on important negative impacts on the populations of Mediterranean marine turtles by human activities. The most serious identified threats are :
 - deterioration of the critical habitats for the life cycle of marine turtles, such as nesting, feeding and wintering areas, and migration routes;
 - incidental or intentional capture in fisheries;
 - pollution.

- b. The Parties to the Barcelona Convention included among their priority targets for the period 1985-1995 the protection of Mediterranean marine turtles (Genoa Declaration, September 1985). To this purpose, they adopted in 1989 the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles. In 1996, the Parties confirmed their commitment to the conservation of marine turtles by including the 5 species of marine turtle recorded for the Mediterranean in the List of Endangered and Threatened Species annexed to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995). The Protocol calls on the Parties to continue to cooperate in implementing those action plans already adopted.
- c. RAC/SPA is entrusted with a role of support and coordination in the implementation of the Action Plan. To fulfil this task, since the adoption of the Action Plan, RAC/SPA devoted part of its resources to assist the Contracting Parties in its implementation.

2. Responses

RAC/SPA activities in this field have been directed towards the following objectives: (i) the improvement of scientific knowledge on some aspects of the biology of sea turtles that are directly linked to their conservation, in particular the localization of their nesting sites; (ii) the assessment of the impact of human activity on sea turtles; (iii) the dissemination of information and the exchange of experience through the organization of meetings, training sessions and the publication of technical documents; (iv) information and awareness of target groups as well as of the general public.

- a. Following a recommendation of the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, RAC/SPA convened in 1998 a Meeting of Experts on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles. With the aim of providing technical input to the meeting, RAC/SPA undertook the following main activities:
 - preparing a technical report on marine turtle nesting and population dynamics in the Mediterranean;
 - preparing a technical report on the interaction of marine turtles with fisheries in the Mediterranean;
 - convening a working group of independent experts on the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean. The group met in Tunis on 27 and 28 March 1998, and was effective in providing input to the above-mentioned technical reports and in elaborating a first draft revised version of the Action Plan. A further draft was then finalized by RAC/SPA after the meeting and circulated to members of the group for their further opinion. On the basis of comments received, a new draft version was elaborated.

The Meeting of Experts on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles was convened in Arta, Greece, from 27 to 29 October 1998, with the main objectives of reviewing the implementation of the action plan so far achieved, revising the Action Plan itself in the light of new knowledge become available since it was adopted, and discussing priorities and measures for its further implementation. The meeting enjoyed the logistic and financial assistance of the Greek Government and local authorities, and the MAP Co-ordinating Unit. The main output of the meeting was a draft amended version of the Action Plan. The meeting also proposed the

convening of another meeting of experts aimed at producing a list of priority actions to be submitted to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

- b. At its meeting held in Tripoli from 16 to 17 November 1998, the Bureau of the Contracting Parties approved the convening of this new meeting and agreed, at the suggestion of the chair, to hold the meeting in Tunis. The French Government kindly offered financial support for its organization. The Meeting of Experts on priority actions for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles was convened in Tunis (Tunisia) from 18 to 20 February 1999, and was effective in producing a draft list of priority actions, which were proposed to be annexed to the revised action plan. The draft revised action plan and list of priority actions were reviewed by the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA with a view to being transmitted to the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption.
- c. In 1998, in accordance with the recommendations made by the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the RAC/SPA organised, jointly with the WWF, MEDASSET (Mediterranean Association to Save the Sea Turtle), the Marine Research Centre (Tajura) and the Technical Centre for the Protection of the Environment (Tripoli) a field mission to prospect the Libyan coast between Tripoli and the Tunisian border for the study of marine turtle nesting. This survey was the third phase of the programme launched in 1995 to prospect the Libyan coast. The first phase took place during the 1995 marine turtle nesting season, with the participation of the same partners, and was devoted to a study of nesting along the Libyan coast lying between the Egyptian border and Sirte. The second phase, carried out in 1997 by Libyan researchers, allowed the part of the Libyan coast lying between Sirte and Tripoli to be prospected. The various surveys enabled significant nesting sites of the *Caretta caretta* loggerhead turtle to be discovered, particularly in the eastern part of the Libyan littoral. The RAC/SPA, jointly with the Libyan national focal point, is presently studying measures to be implemented for the conservation of the marine turtle nesting sites in Libya.
- d. Following the discovery in 1993 of nesting sites for *Caretta caretta* at Kuriat Islands (Tunisia), RAC/SPA is pursuing its assistance to the concerned authorities in the monitoring of the nesting beaches. Support was given to the work of a seasonal station managed by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning with scientific support from the National Institute for Sea Sciences and Technologies. Since marine turtle nesting sites have become extremely rare in this part of the Mediterranean, RAC/SPA prepared a study to elaborate a national plan for the conservation of the species in the entirety of its distribution area in Tunisia, through concrete actions for conservation and data collection on all the stages in the lives of marine turtles and associated species. The draft national plan was submitted (February, 1999) to the concerned authorities. In pursuing its assistance in the elaboration and implementation of the plan, SPA/RAC worked on the evaluation of the feasibility of establishing a turtle rescue centre and protecting the nesting beaches on Kuriat islands.

- e. Within the framework of a coordinated marine turtle tagging programme, an information and public awareness poster and folder were produced in French, English and Arabic. A modified version of the folder in Croatian was produced in collaboration with the Croatian NGO *Natura*.

3. Gaps

- a. Major gaps in the implementation of the action plan at the regional and national level can be inferred from the list of priority actions proposed to be annexed to the action plan itself.
- b. A major identified gap is represented by the difficulties in the dissemination and exchange of information and experience among the different groups and scientists active in the Mediterranean. Indeed, the situation in the Mediterranean region with respect to the study and conservation of marine turtles is characterized by a considerable number of initiatives and actors, however with no or very little contact among them. The reasons for this situation are many, but the lack or exiguity of opportunities of meeting and publication have certainly played an important part in it.
- c. Most initiatives aimed at reducing the impact of fisheries on marine turtles imply the participation in the negotiations and decision making of the persons in charge with fishing activities, at national and international levels. However their involvement has been until now very limited. The establishment of a constructive dialogue between the representatives of the conservation and the fishing sectors is to be considered a priority. At the same time, collaboration between fishermen and conservationists deserves to be developed with a view to implementing programmes aimed at reducing fishery-related mortality, and carrying out assessment studies on the impact of fisheries.

4. Recommendations

(a) **Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties**

1. To adopt the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles, including the List of Priority Actions for further implementation of the Action Plan (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/4).
2. To invite the Contracting Parties to foster the involvement of the fishing sector in the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean.

(b) **Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat**

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to convene the first Mediterranean Conference on marine turtles, to be jointly organized with the Secretariats of the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals and of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, and in collaboration with other concerned Organizations.
2. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to work on the preparation of
 - an inventory of marine turtle nesting, mating, feeding and wintering areas and migration routes all around the Mediterranean, compiling and synthesising the information in an Atlas;

- a directory of marine turtle specialists in the Mediterranean;
- training and information/awareness modules and tools addressed to fishermen, aimed at reducing the mortality of marine turtles incidentally caught in fishing gear.

(ii) Implementation of the Action Plan for the management of the Mediterranean monk seal

1. Issues at stake

- a. The Mediterranean monk seal is one of the species most threatened with extinction in the world. It is classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN (IUCN, 1996). The most important threats to the species nowadays are all human-related, and include (i) deliberate killing by fishermen, (ii) incidental catch in fishing gear, (iii) depletion of fish stocks and (iv) destruction or deterioration of its habitat.
- b. The Parties to the Barcelona Convention included among their priority targets for the period 1985-1995 the protection of Mediterranean monk seal (Genoa Declaration, September 1985). To this purpose, they adopted the Action Plan for the management of the Mediterranean Monk seal. In 1996, the Parties confirmed their commitment to the conservation of the monk seal by including the species in the List of Endangered and Threatened Species annexed to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995). The Protocol calls on the Parties to continue to cooperate in implementing those action plans already adopted.
- c. RAC/SPA is entrusted with a role of support and coordination in the implementation of the Action Plan. To fulfil this task, since the adoption of the Action Plan, RAC/SPA devoted part of its resources to assist the Contracting Parties in its implementation.

2. Responses

RAC/SPA activities in the reported period have been directed towards (i) the definition of priority action for the implementation of the plan, and (ii) the acquiring and exchange of scientific and technical information.

- a. In compliance with the recommendations of the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, RAC/SPA organized a Meeting of Experts on the implementation of the action plans for marine mammals (monk seal and cetaceans) adopted within MAP. The meeting was held in Arta, Greece, from 29 to 31 October 1998, and enjoyed the logistic and financial assistance of the Greek Government and local authorities, and the MAP Co-ordinating Unit. With a view to assisting the work of the experts under the agenda items relative to the Action Plan for the management of the Mediterranean monk seal, RAC/SPA produced the following documents:
 - Current status of Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) populations;
 - Vulnerability of small Mediterranean monk seal groups and conservation policy.

The work of the meeting produced recommendations on topics to be addressed as a matter of priority in the further implementation of the action plan. The recommendations of the meeting as reviewed and approved by the Fourth Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA are annexed to the present document.

- b. RAC/SPA organized in collaboration with the Cyprus Department of Fisheries and the Cyprus Wildlife Society (CWS) a field study along Cyprus coasts aimed at assessing the existence of a resident monk seal colony and of suitable habitats for the species. A field survey was carried out, and was successful in identifying suitable habitats of the species in the area of study and evidence for its presence.
- c. On the basis of indications given at the meeting of experts held in Arta, RAC/SPA is working on the organization of a survey aiming at assessing the possible presence of a monk seal population and the existence of suitable habitats for the species in the archipelago of La Galite (Tunisia). The activity is expected to be implemented in collaboration with the competent Tunisian authorities and ICRAM (Italy), and is scheduled to be held in Autumn 1999.

3. Gaps

- a. The Mediterranean monk seal is legally protected in virtually all countries within its range of distribution. However, important gaps exist in law enforcement, and deliberate killing and disturbance of seals still constitute the major threats to the species at several locations. An integrated approach combining awareness campaigns for fishermen and enforcement of appropriate legislation and regulations was recommended by the meeting of experts held in Arta.
- b. Habitat loss or degradation constitute the other major threat to seals. The establishment of protected areas aimed at protecting important seal habitats is recommended by the action plan, but the number of protected sites encompassing seal habitats is still extremely limited in the Mediterranean, and existing ones are not always conveniently managed. The adequate protection and management of important seal habitats was recognized as a priority by the already mentioned meeting of experts in Arta.
- c. In spite of the highly threatened status of the species, there is relatively little basic knowledge of population size and parameters, habitat use and movement. This lack of knowledge could prevent the identification of adequate conservation measures.

4. Recommendations

(a) **Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties**

- 1. To take note of the recommendations of the Meeting of experts on the implementation of the action plans for marine mammals (monk seal and cetaceans) adopted within MAP (Arta, 29-31 October 1998) on topics to be addressed as a matter of priority in the further implementation of the Action Plan for the management of the Mediterranean monk seal (see Annex VI of this report). To invite the Contracting Parties to implement those recommendations pertaining to their responsibility.

(b) **Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat**

- 1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to assist the Contracting Parties in improving their knowledge of monk seal population size and parameters, habitat use and movement.

(iii) Implementation of The Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the

Mediterranean Sea

1. Issues at stake

- a. The main objectives of the Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea, adopted by the Contracting Parties in 1991, are (i) the protection and conservation of cetacean habitats and (ii) the protection, conservation and recovery of cetacean populations in the Mediterranean Sea Area.
- b. Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean includes 18 cetacean species which are considered as endangered or threatened.
- c. The conservation of cetaceans requires that the Contracting Parties undertake actions to ensure legal protection for the cetacean species and their habitat and to control fishing activities which are harmful for them.

2. Responses

- a. To promote exchange among the Mediterranean specialists, RAC/SPA compiled and issued in 1998, in collaboration with Tethys Research Institute (Italy) and the Interim Secretariat of ACCOBAMS, the second edition of the Directory of Marine mammal specialists (Mediterranean and Black Sea).
- b. In accordance with the recommendations of the meeting of the *ad hoc* group of experts convened in Montpellier (March 1994), RAC/SPA promoted the organization of Research/Training Cruises for the study of cetaceans in the Eastern and Southern part of the Mediterranean Sea. The first cruise took place from 25 May to 3 June 1997 in the Ionian Sea waters of Keffalonia (Greece). In 1998, RAC/SPA has organized a second research-training cruise on cetaceans in the waters between Sicily, Tunisia and Malta from 23 May to 1 June 1998. Five Mediterranean Countries (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Malta and Tunisia) have been invited to participate to the cruise, for a total of 10 Researcher/Trainees; however, only 9 participants attended the cruise. Aim of the cruise was to train the participants on how to organise and run a field research project on cetacean ecology. The sharing of knowledge promoted by this research-training cruise is likely to facilitate the implementation of common research programmes on the ecology of cetaceans in the Mediterranean.
- c. At the occasion of the World Marine Mammal Science Conference, held in Monaco from 19 to 24 January 1998, RAC/SPA has organized in collaboration with the ACCOBAMS Interim Secretariat and with the CIESM, an informal meeting on the basic measures for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.
- d. In October 1998, with the logistic help of the Greek Ministry of the Environment, RAC/SPA organized a meeting of experts to evaluate the implementation of the action plans for the conservation of marine mammals (monk seals and cetaceans) adopted within the MAP framework (Arta, Greece 29-31 October 1998). To facilitate the experts' work on the items of the agenda relating to the 'Cetaceans' action plan, the RAC/SPA prepared reports on (i) the status of cetaceans in the Mediterranean, (ii) the impact of fishing activities

on cetaceans in the Mediterranean, and (iii) the stranding of cetaceans in the Mediterranean. The recommendations of the meeting as reviewed and approved by the Fourth Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA are annexed to the present document.

- e. In conjunction with the above mentioned meeting of experts on the implementation of the action plans for marine mammals, RAC/SPA organized a one day workshop on the monitoring of cetacean strandings in the Mediterranean. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the feasibility of establishing a Mediterranean network for the study of cetacean strandings.
- f. At the request of the Croatian National Focal Point for MAP, RAC/SPA provided financial support for a survey aimed at evaluating the Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) population along Croatian coasts. The project was carried out by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Zagreb.

3. Gaps

- a. According to the country reports made by the delegations at the Arta meeting, most Contracting Parties have enacted or are preparing legislation of relevance to the protection and conservation of cetaceans. There is no protected areas established especially to protect cetacean species habitat.
- b. Data on the populations is lacking or incomplete for all cetaceans species recorded in the Mediterranean. Some species are better studied than others, but the data is still sketchy. A relatively large amount of study has been done on the Fin Whale, for instance, but data is only available for the Western Mediterranean, and particularly for the summer period. Geographically, there is also a very marked difference in the amount of information available between the northern part of the western basin and the rest of the Mediterranean. This lack of data is due to several factors, in particular the absence of programmes that are co-ordinated and planned for the long term.
- c. The study of strandings of cetacean specimens could significantly help improve our knowledge on the cetacean populations in the Mediterranean, on these species' biology and ecology, and on the main causes of death. However in the Mediterranean region the study of cetacean strandings is carried out at present only in certain countries, and this is rarely done in the context of organised networks in a way that will allow the best advantage to be made of all the cases of observed strandings.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

- 1. To ratify, if they have not done so, the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area.
- 2. If they have not done so, to grant a legal protection status to the cetacean species appearing in the Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.

3. To promote the establishment of national networks for the monitoring of cetacean strandings.
4. To take note of the recommendations proposed by the Meeting of Experts on the implementation of the Action Plans for marine mammals (monk seal and cetaceans) adopted within MAP (Arta, 29-31 October 1998), on topics to be addressed as a matter of priority in the further implementation of the action plan for the management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/3/Annex VI. To invite the Contracting Parties to implement those recommendations pertaining to their responsibility.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to assist the Contracting Parties in the establishment of national networks for the monitoring of cetaceans, and to ensure to the extend possible the co-ordination at Mediterranean level among the national networks.
2. To invite the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to organise a Co-ordination/Training workshop to elaborate concerted monitoring methods to be proposed for use by the Mediterranean teams.

(iv) Implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea

1. Issues at stake

- a. Considering the increasing pressure, often anthropic in origin, exerted on marine vegetation species in the Mediterranean, and the serious decline of meadows which has been recorded in several Mediterranean areas, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, at their 10th Ordinary Meeting (Tunis, November 1997), requested the RAC/SPA to elaborate an action plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea.

2. Responses

- a. RAC/SPA organized a Meeting of experts for the elaboration of the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea (Tunis, 9-10 April 1999). The meeting finalized a draft action plan which was subsequently reviewed and approved by the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points for SPA, with a view to being submitted to the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption. The draft Action Plan defines the priorities in terms of species, assemblages and conservation actions, and sets a workplan for the implementation of the main envisaged actions.
- b. The main objectives of the Action Plan are (i) ensuring the conservation of macroscopic marine vegetation species and vegetal assemblages in the Mediterranean, (ii) avoiding loss and degradation of the seagrass meadows, and of other vegetal assemblages of importance for the marine environment and (iii) ensuring the conservation of marine vegetal assemblages that could be considered natural monuments, such as barrier reefs of *Posidonia* and organogenic surface formations, terraces (platforms with vermitids covered by soft algae) and certain *Cystoseira* belts.

3. **Gaps**

- a. Available knowledge on marine vegetation species in the Mediterranean is at present insufficient, and often fragmentary.
- b. Most stakeholders in the coastal zone of the Mediterranean are generally insufficiently informed about meadows, their values and their distribution. Therefore, in their projects of infrastructure development, they do not take into account the existence of meadows.
- c. In several Mediterranean countries marine vegetation species and meadows are not protected, and the assessment of the impact of human activities on them is not compulsory.

4. **Recommendations**

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To adopt the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean, as contained in document: UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.157/5, and to see that the measures it provides for are implemented according to the timetable annexed to the Action Plan.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA), acting as coordination structure for the Action Plan for the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea, to work at the implementation of the Action Plan according to the timetable annexed to it.

(v) Development of Specially Protected Areas

1. Issues at stake

- a. Marine and coastal protected areas are useful tools for the conservation, management and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity.
- b. The SPA Protocol invites the Mediterranean countries to establish Specially Protected Areas to ensure the protection of sites of natural interest and the habitats which are in danger of disappearing or critical to endangered or endemic species.

2. Responses

- a. RAC/SPA organized in 1998 a study mission to Slovenia aimed at drawing up a comprehensive study on the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity in that country (protected areas, species conservation, institutions, legislation, ...). The mission team included two Slovenian experts from MZVNKD Piran, two RAC/SPA consultants and one staff of RAC/SPA. The mission enabled a diagnosis to be made for conservation of sites of natural interest on the Slovenian littoral. The report offers a certain number of suggestions, particularly on institutional and legislative aspects and on the developing of these sites. Following the mission, and at the request of the national focal point for SPA, the RAC/SPA organized a study assignment for Slovenian experts to go to France to visit sites that are similar to the Secovlje salt marshes.

This is a protected wetland in Slovenia, where a project to improve its management and development is under way.

- b. A study mission to Croatia is being organized under the same terms of the one described in the previous paragraph. The mission is scheduled to take place in September 1999.
- c. In 1998, following a request from the National Focal Point for SPA of Egypt, RAC/SPA organized a mission of expert to Egypt aimed at providing assistance in undertaking the preparatory work for the official declaration of lake Brullus as protected area. The mission identified the main threats hanging over the natural site and proposed measures to control the threats and for the protection of the wetland component of the site.
- d. At the request of the Tunisian national focal point for SPAs, RAC/SPA has carried out a study on marine protected areas in Tunisia. The study was used as the working base for a national seminar organized by the ANPE, with support from the RAC/SPA. The various ministerial departments and organizations concerned by marine environment protection in Tunisia were represented at this seminar, which led to precise recommendations being made concerning, particularly, the legislative aspects that govern the setting up of marine protected areas in the country. In the same context, the RAC/SPA has carried out a pilot study for protecting a significant *Posidonia* meadow situated in the Gulf of Tunis.

3. Gaps

- a. The number of marine and coastal protected areas have increased during the last years, however several sites of interest are not yet protected, as is the case for the habitats of certain threatened species. Furthermore, management is still insufficient, or even non-existent, in a number of Mediterranean protected areas. This is particularly true for the marine species and sites.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To give high priority during the biennium 2000-2001, to the identification of marine sites possessing sensitive, threatened or rare habitats with a view to establishing marine protected areas; and to give every support to the improvement of the management of marine protected areas.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to assist the Mediterranean countries in establishing new SPAs to protect sensitive, threatened or rare marine habitats and to improve the management of the already protected marine sites.

(vi) Conservation of Biological Diversity

1. Issues at stake

- a. Pressure on biological diversity in the marine and coastal environment of the Mediterranean region has been growing dramatically in the last decades, mainly in relation to uncontrolled urban, industrial and tourism development

and resource exploitation. A shortage of environmentally sound management strategies, under the pressure of rapid socio-economic development, has favoured activities in which short-term economic advantages were ensured but which had, in the long-term, negative impacts on the conservation of biological resources.

- b. In compliance with the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), most Mediterranean countries have recently drawn up, or are in the process of drawing up, strategies and plans for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Provisions in this regard also exist in the MAP - Phase II and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean. Having noted a certain deficiency in the consideration of marine biodiversity in the strategies being elaborated, the RAC/SPA started since 1997 an activity of assistance to the Parties aimed at fostering the adequate taking into account of marine biodiversity within the strategies. In this regard, the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties invited SPA/RAC " *to pursue its assistance to the Contracting Parties in the preparation of National Strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, duly taking into account marine biodiversity in those strategies.* "
- c. Adequate management of biological diversity requires its regular monitoring. A specific provisions in this respect in contained in art. 3 para. 5 of the 1995 SPA Protocol. Considering the amplitude of the task, the opportunity of identifying synthetic indicators to be used in early warning monitoring systems for environmental changes which might affect negatively biodiversity was recognized in several forums. An interest in this regard was expressed by some delegations at the 10th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- d. The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean is in the process of being ratified by several Mediterranean countries. With a view to providing a logical basis for its implementation from its entry into force, the Parties included in the project "Determination of priority actions for the further elaboration and implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea", funded through GEF and to be executed by MAP, the preparation of a Strategic Action Programme for the conservation of biological diversity in the Mediterranean region.

2. Responses

- a. RAC/SPA is assisting Albania in the preparation of its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), particularly as regards marine biodiversity. A RAC/SPA consultant visited Albania in May 1998. The main aims of the mission were (i) to make contact with the relevant Albanian experts/officers involved in the preparation of the strategy; (ii) to provide input to the strategy on the subject of marine biodiversity; (iii) to identify further needs for preparing and implementing the strategy with a view to defining further assistance from RAC/SPA. The assignment was effective in identifying priorities in relation to marine biodiversity in Albania. In this regard, a major output of the mission was a draft workplan for the inventory, protection and management of marine biodiversity in Albania. Further input to the process was provided through the review of the draft BSAP. The above-mentioned activities were also instrumental to RAC/SPA in identifying an activity of assistance to Albania aimed at:

- improving Albanian capacities in the study and monitoring of marine biodiversity;
 - carrying out a first inventory of marine benthic habitats along Albanian coasts.
- b. Following the interest expressed by some countries' delegations at the 10th Ordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties and at the meeting of experts on criteria for the preparation of inventories of the elements of biological diversity in the Mediterranean (Athens, 8-10 September 1997), RAC/SPA started a preliminary assessment of the initiatives underway as well as of the state of the art on the subject of indicators of biological diversity. To this purpose, a report was prepared mainly aimed at (i) taking stock of progresses in the work on biodiversity indicators carried out within the Convention on Biological Diversity, (ii) reviewing and evaluating the state of the art on the subject of biological indicators of biodiversity in marine and coastal environments, with special attention to the Mediterranean region. The report was presented to the attention of the 4th meeting of National Focal Points for SPA. Always on the subject of biodiversity indicators, following its participation to the Second Meeting of the Group of Experts on Sustainable Development Indicators in the Mediterranean (Sophia Antipolis, 10-11 May 1999), SPA/RAC is working in coordination with the task managers and the BP/RAC on the description and evaluation of a set of indicators for biodiversity to be presented to the Fifth Meeting of the MCSD.
- c. Within the framework of the project "Determination of priority actions for the further elaboration and implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean Sea", funded through GEF and to be executed by MAP, RAC/SPA is expected to be responsible, in collaboration with FAO, for the elaboration of a Strategic Action Plan for Biodiversity in the Mediterranean. In this connection, RAC/SPA worked on the elaboration of the relevant sections of the project document to be established with UNEP as GEF Implementing Agency. Staff missions were accomplished to the MAP Coordinating Unit and FAO Headquarters with a view to (i) discussing the terms of the preparation by RAC/SPA of the relevant sections of the project document, (ii) discussing the general orientations and the procedure to be adopted in preparing of the SAP Biodiversity, and (iii) defining the terms of the collaboration with other Organizations, in particular with FAO. A coordinating meeting with representatives of IUCN, WWF, FAO and MEDU was held in Tunis on 1 March 1999. RAC/SPA input to the project document was finalized and transmitted to the Co-ordinating Unit.

3. Gaps

- a. Marine biodiversity remains poorly considered in most strategies and plans. Reasons for this are several, but the main one is most probably the important existing gap in basic knowledge on marine biodiversity compared to terrestrial one.
- b. Specific biodiversity conservation issues can hardly be addressed in adequate detail within general biodiversity strategies. The elaboration of specific plans has to be considered useful in this respect, but this practice is still little developed in the region.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To improve the knowledge on marine biodiversity in areas under their sovereignty and jurisdiction, and to take marine biodiversity duly into account in the elaboration of their plans and strategies.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to pursue its assistance to the Contracting Parties in improving the knowledge on their biodiversity, and notably the marine component, and to develop strategies and plans for its conservation and management.

B.3 Public information

1. Issues at stake

- a. The activities the RAC/SPA has carried out since it was created allowed it to dispose of a bulk of data of scientific interest dealing with the conservation of the elements of marine and coastal biodiversity (species, habitats, ecosystems) in the Mediterranean.
- b. Generated or collected to support actions undertaken by the RAC/SPA at a regional level or by countries at a national or local level, these data are of certain use to ameliorate the sustainable management of elements of biodiversity in the region, in so far as they are diffused to national and local institutions and to the other stakeholders involved in the management of natural resources.
- c. This data are presently included in very specialized technical reports, what does not favour an appropriate diffusion, both to potential users in the Mediterranean region and to people in other regions interested to make comparisons with data from the Mediterranean and to assess the contribution of MAP to the improvement of knowledge concerning biodiversity at the global scale.
- d. Therefore, it is appropriate to give priority to the diffusion of data produced and/or collected by RAC/SPA, within the framework of the information strategy that is in the process of being set up within MAP.

2. Responses

- a. In response to this need to facilitate the diffusion of available scientific data it dispose of, and to make its activities better known, the RAC/SPA has produced a certain number of pamphlets, booklets and well illustrated scientific publication (Directories, technical reports, manuals, etc.).
- b. At the occasion of the 4th Meeting of the National Focal Points SPA/RAC launched its Home Page (<http://www.rac-spa.org.tn>). This site was conceived by SPA/RAC to serve as a permanent link with its National Focal Points and partners, and to make available and disseminate in a computerized form its main directories and data bases.

3. Gaps

- a. Apart from some pamphlets of presentation of its role and activities and of three Actions Plans for the conservation of endangered marine fauna species, namely cetaceans, marine turtles and the monk seal, the other publications of the RAC/SPA are scientific

and technical documents whose reading is difficult for the non-specialists. The publication of such documents in their present form does not favour the diffusion of information to other concerned people, in particular those who are involved in the management of natural resources. Therefore, it is interesting to look for other forms of diffusing this scientific information for future usage.

4. Recommendations:

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties:

1. To use, where appropriate, the documents published by RAC/SPA in the conception and implementation of information and awareness campaigns addressed to those who are concerned with the sustainable management and the protection of biodiversity at the national and local level.
2. To inform regularly the RAC/SPA of the achievements at the national and local level in the fields of implementation of the Action Plans for the conservation of endangered species and the development of specially protected areas.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the secretariat:

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to synthesise available scientific data in technical publications, including those of RAC/SPA, so as to present them in a better comprehensible forms for the less specialized readers.
2. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to synthetize the good experiences realized in some countries of the region, so as to presenting them in better diffusible forms to country institutions all over the region, with a view to making them known and facilitating the exchange of experience.
3. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to edit a liaison/information bulletin (BIO-MED) aimed at diffusing the syntheses being elaborated and the country experiences to all countries of the region (specialized institutions, natural resources managers, NGOs, etc.)
4. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to develop its website and use it to diffuse the syntheses being elaborated.

B.4 Exchange of experience and strengthening of national capabilities

1. Issues at stake

- a. As set out by the MAP Phase II, the protection and management of the natural and cultural heritage need specific competencies and adequate financial and technical resources.
- b. In the Mediterranean region, there are at present important differences in the availability of such competencies and technologies, and several Mediterranean countries expressed the need to receive assistance from RAC/SPA to improve their national capabilities in the field of conservation and management of sites of natural interest and endangered species.

2. Responses

- a. SPA/RAC provided grants to nationals from Mediterranean countries to undertake training sessions on the conservation of marine turtles at Lara Station, Cyprus. The initiative was undertaken in collaboration with the Cyprus Wildlife Society, with the support of the Department of Fisheries of Cyprus. Training sessions of the duration of about 10 days were held in July-August. 1998 and 1999.
- b. Following requests received from several national focal points for SPA, RAC/SPA promoted the participation of specialists from Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries to the training seminars on Mediterranean Cetology, organised by the "Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes" (Montpellier, France) in 1998 and 1999.
- c. SPA/RAC/SPA sponsored the participation of 4 scientists from Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Morocco, Turkey) to the World Marine Mammal Science Conference, held in Monaco, 19-24 January 1998.
- d. In collaboration with the Moroccan Water and Forest Ministry, the RAC/SPA organised a national training session on the development of marine protected areas. The programme for this session was designed taking Morocco's specific needs in this field, as identified in consultation with the national focal point for SPA, into consideration.
- e. A training workshop on scientific monitoring programmes in protected areas was organized in Tunis in June 1998. The workshop had the support of the National Agency for Environmental Protection (Tunisia), the Port-Cros National Park (France), the Miramare marine reserve (Italy) and the Tour du Valat Biological Station (France).
- f. In order to better adapt its training activities to the needs of the Contracting Parties, the RAC/SPA launched in December 1998, a study of the needs of Mediterranean countries for training staff assigned to the management of protected areas. The object of the study was to collect information on (i) the staff assigned to the management of marine and coastal protected areas at site level and at national level; (ii) the tasks for which they are responsible; (iii) the training programmes and opportunities available; and (iv) the needs as regards training and technical manuals. A preliminary version of the study was drawn up on the basis of missions of consultants to several Mediterranean countries and of the compilation of data available on the subject in other countries.
- g. Within the framework of its assistance to Tunisia in the establishment of a Marine Turtle Rescue Centre, SPA/RAC organized a specialization training session for 5 Tunisian experts on rescue techniques for marine turtles. The session was held in Naples, Italy, from 7 to 12 June 1999 and was organized in collaboration with the Naples Zoological Station "Anton Dohrn".
- h. RAC/SPA is working on the organization of a national training session on the development of marine protected areas in Tunisia (Tunis, September 1999). Contacts are underway with Algeria, Syria and Turkey, to assess the feasibility of organizing a similar national training sessions in those countries.

3. Gaps

- a. Training opportunities in the field of nature conservation remain very limited in the region. The exiguity of resources available constitute a major obstacle for their enhancement.

4. Recommendations

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (RAC/SPA) to pursue its assistance to the Mediterranean countries to improve their national capabilities in the field of the conservation and management of natural heritage, and to seek for additional funding from external sources.

B.5 Budget

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	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		50,000	50,000		25,000	35,000
Expert meeting on coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitats	SPA/RAC				30,000		20,000
<u>Legal measures</u> Assistance to countries in the setting up and enforcement of their national legislation in the field of sites and species conservation	SPA/RAC	10,000			10,000		
<u>Planning and Management</u> Implementation of the Action Plan for threatened species (monk seal, marine turtles, cetaceans and marine vegetation) adopted within MAP	SPA/RAC		50,000			50,000	
Mediterranean Symposium on marine vegetation	SPA/RAC	20,000					
Assistance for the implementation of CAMPs	SPA/RAC	25,000		25,000	25,000		25,000
Assistance to countries for the establishment and management of SPAs	SPA/RAC		25,000	25,000		20,000	30,000
Setting up of strategies and plans in the field of biodiversity conservation	SPA/RAC		35,000			5,000	
<u>Public information</u> Elaboration and diffusion of data and information relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	SPA/RAC	18,000			18,000		
<u>Exchange of experience and strengthening of national capabilities</u> Training sessions on the scientific and technical aspects of the conservation of the natural common heritage	SPA/RAC	40,000		10,000		30,000	20,000
SPA National Focal Points Meeting	SPA/RAC				40,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		113,000	160,000	110,000	123,000	130,000	130,000

C. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

1. Issues at stake

Scarce and fragile natural resources in the Mediterranean region have always affected the development of its coastal areas. It is imperative that these resources are being used in a sustainable manner, ensuring the sustained economic growth, the improvement in the quality of life of the coastal population while maintaining, at the same time, the integrity of coastal ecosystems.

Population and its activities, such as urbanisation, industry, tourism, agriculture, transport, etc. tend to be concentrated in the coastal regions, which are more accessible, better serviced and connected, and often more favourable for economic activity. During the past decades the coastal population throughout all Mediterranean countries has experienced tremendous increase. Of the 350 million people in the Mediterranean countries, some 130 million live on the coast. This trend is expected to be continued in the future (the Blue Plan scenarios forecast the growth of coastal population to 195-217 million in the year 2025). The coastal population is not, and will not, be equally distributed among all countries. Northern countries will experience a population decline, while the southern and eastern countries will experience a rather steep population growth. It is also estimated, that approximately 75-80% of future population will live in cities, many of them located on the coast.

The concentration of economic activities and the ensuing clashes in usage in coastal areas of the Mediterranean have two principal consequences, elements of which have not contributed to the hitherto development along the principles of sustainability : (1) excessive use of natural resources, and (2) non-adequate disposal of industrial and domestic wastes. These impacts are the cause of depletion of natural resources, serious problems of pollution (the numerous "hot spots" around the Mediterranean), and the degradation of ecosystems and landscapes. It particularly affects the narrow coastal strip, which has the most valuable and the most vulnerable natural and man-made resources, landscapes and ecosystems.

Coastal land is being rapidly overtaken by urbanisation and other industrial and tourism activities reducing, thus, patches of non-urbanized land along the coastline to a minimum. The biggest threat is to coastal marine and terrestrial habitats. During the last 50 years or so, Mediterranean as a whole has lost one million hectares of wetlands. Dune loss is another serious threat to coastal areas. It is estimated that 75% of the dunes in southern member countries have been lost since 1960. The land covered by forests is constantly decreasing. Every year, 200000 ha of forests are burned. Demand for water is constantly increasing, while the resources are being depleted by pollution, salinisation, and overconsumption. Coastal erosion is causing damage to more than 30% of the beaches in the EC countries.

The main reason for increased levels of pollution in certain cases is industrial activity, marine shipping, while, very often, it is inadequately treated waste water in large urban agglomerations. The pollution often threatens large areas surrounding these agglomerations. Thus, for example, a recent survey of 150 beaches in three member states has shown that 25% of the sites pathogen count exceeded recommended safe levels. Waste volumes are expected to increase from 0.4 billion cubic metres to 1.5 billion by 2025. Full treatment of waste water is still to be desired in many Mediterranean coastal communities.

The situation of conflict is still the most important characteristic of coastal development processes. Conflict on the use of coastal resources, threats to natural habitat areas,

pollution and resource degradation seriously affect the potential of coastal areas to support the human activities. The existing situation, thus, does not square with the principles of sustainable development. The implementation of land planning and protection policies as well as tackling all issues in an integrated approach, is therefore a major challenge for the Mediterranean. It must allow for:

- a better balance to be struck between the coastal regions and the hinterland;
- a better balance to be struck between human activities and the protection of resources in natural areas of the coastal regions;
- the coastal strip to be protected against all-out development, and the conservation and restoration of the quality of natural and cultural landscapes ;
- anticipating and preventing irreversible destruction of resources; and,
- an effective system of coastal planning and management, including the adequate legislative and regulative instruments, has to be implemented in the majority of the Mediterranean countries.

a. Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM)

The Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) approach offers a conceptual framework to organise policy actions in a process leading to better co-ordination of public policy in coastal areas integrating environmental, socio-economic, and physical concerns. "The Priority fields of activities for the environment and development in the Mediterranean basin (1996-2005)" adopted at the Contracting Parties meeting in 1995, under point 3. – "Integrated management of coastal areas" - envisages (i) development of appropriate measures and techniques for integrated management of coastal areas and coastline protection, and (ii) to develop the capabilities of each country in this field through training. However, in spite of large MAP efforts, ICAM has not yet become the standard approach in tackling the problems of sustainable management in the majority of Mediterranean countries and the full integration between sectors, stakeholders, administrative levels and plans has not yet been achieved.

b. Coastal Areas Management Programme (MAP/CAMPs)

MAP CAMPs are programmes aimed at introduction of the integrated coastal area management at sub-national or national levels, as well as at institutional strengthening and capacity building. "The Priority fields of activities for the environment and development in the Mediterranean basin (1996-2005), envisages under (iii) formulation and implementation of programmes on management of coastal areas, particularly in pilot zones. The MAP-PAP/RAC and METAP assessment of coastal zone initiatives in Mediterranean carried out in 1997-98 (see the document "Assessment of Integrated Coastal Area Management Initiatives in the Mediterranean: Experiences from METAP and MAP"), and recommendations adopted at the MAP/METAP Regional Workshop in Cairo in 1998, showed the advantages of bringing together all the parties concerned for coastal planning and management in such programme, but indicated the danger that work produced might not always be fully utilised by the relevant stakeholders.

c. Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD)

After the PAP/RAC-EcoMediterranea workshop in Benidorm (September 1997) and the Third MCSD meeting in Sophia Antipolis (October 1997), the Working group on Coastal Zone Management proposed to the Contracting Parties a number of recommendations and tools to improve the institutional framework for ICAM, secure the efficient coastal zone management, make law enforcement more efficient, break information barriers and raise the ecological awareness, use efficiently financial mechanisms for implementation

of ICAM activities, and increase viability of ICAM in the Mediterranean. The Contracting Parties have implemented these recommendations only partially. Many urban areas of the Mediterranean are experiencing high growth rates and show many shortcomings in providing housing, basic environmental and other urban services, etc.). The Working Group for Urban Management should answer the questions how to manage these issues.

2. Responses

The introduction of protective laws and national agencies for the planning and protection of the coasts (such as the APAL in Tunisia and the Conservatoire du Littoral in France) appear as appropriate responses to some of the issues related to sustainable management of coastal areas.

a. Tools and techniques for ICAM

PAP/RAC contributed to the strengthening of capabilities of local and national institutions, authorities and experts in implementation of the ICAM process. Assistance to Mediterranean countries in ICAM activities were offered by MAP and continued to develop methodological approach to ICAM trying to make it acceptable to all Mediterranean countries.

Within this framework, the following were achieved:

- Training course on integrated coastal area management with Workshop on Valuation of Coastal Public Property (Split, February 1998);
- MAP/METAP Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management in the Mediterranean was held (Cairo, June 1998);
- Training course on environmental information system in ICAM was organized (Izmir, February 1999);
Participated in a number of international gatherings actively promoting ICAM, as well as publishing reports in a number of international publications;
- Advised and assisted Malta National Tourism Organisation and Ministry of tourism in preparing carrying capacity tourism assessment in Malta;
- Missions for ICAM plan preparation to Egypt, Tunisia and Israel;
- printed and distributed relevant guidelines documents for integrated coastal area management.
- Development and implementation of specific tools and techniques in integrated coastal area management. Two Expert group meetings were organised on Guidelines for integrated coastal area and river basin management (December 1998 and March 1999). The draft Guidelines will be edited and the final version published in October 1999. With the support of UNEP's Water Branch an interregional meeting will be organised in December, and a demonstration project on the river Cetina in Croatia will be carried out until the end of 1999.
- Prepared a document on application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in the Mediterranean, which was adopted at the expert meeting in Split (January 1999).

b. MAP/CAMPs

Greater knowledge has been acquired by BP/RAC in the setting up of CAMPs with an approach which is both curative and preventive thanks to the implementation of local prospective study exercises.

Document "Assessment of Integrated Coastal Area Management Initiatives in the Mediterranean: Experiences from METAP and MAP (1988-1996)" was prepared by PAP/RAC and published and distributed by the World Bank to a number of Mediterranean countries' institutions and experts as well as to a large number of regional institutions and experts. MAP/METAP Workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management in the Mediterranean (Cairo, 1998) assessed various integrated coastal area management initiatives in the Mediterranean, strongly proposed the continuation of CAMPs, and gave a number of recommendations in their effective implementation.

On the basis of conclusions of the meeting of the MAP Co-ordinating Unit and the RAC Directors, PAP/RAC assumed its role as the Coordinator of all CAMP activities and subsequently the Centre prepared a detailed manual for the implementation of CAMPs, on the basis of which the future CAMPs will be prepared.

Concerning the individual CAMP projects, the following has been achieved:

CAMP Sfax (Tunisia) was finalized by organising the Final Presentation Conference (Sfax, 15-16 December 1998). PAP/RAC carried out with the local team three activities within CAMP Sfax: Integrated Management of Water Resources, GIS with BP/RAC's assistance, and Integrated Management Plan. PAP/RAC water resources activity achieved a high level of integration among solutions related to water resource management, aquifer protection and management, urban solid waste management and urban liquid waste, all well integrated further within the Integrated Management plan. GIS of the coastal area of Sfax proved to be an important tool in integrated resources management at the CAMP level. PAP/RAC helped national authorities to prepare the CAMP Sfax Integrated Report.

A wide ranging prospective study was carried out by a local team with Blue Plan backing. Its aim was to identify the main environmental/developmental issues and possible breakdowns in the long term, as well as to inform those in charge about the various alternatives. They are illustrated by an information system, drawn up by the Blue Plan, which is available to the authorities. The overall results were put to the closing conference of the Sfax CAMP (December 1998). The participatory territorial prospective approach followed in Sfax aroused a great deal of interest.

A report aimed at providing input to the elaboration of a management plan for the natural area of Thyna including the historic site, the recreational park and the wetland area (salt-pan) was finalized by SPA/RAC. To improve local capacities on the subject of management of natural areas in the vicinity of cities, RAC/SPA organized a field visit for three local officers involved in the CAMP project to Cap Lardier Reserve, Port Cros National Park and Portquerolles Island in France.

Within the framework of the CAMP/SFAX project, REMPEC has finalized the development of an Atlas in paper and GIS format to be used by decision makers in response activities to accidental marine pollution.

SPA/RAC assisted ANPE and the MAP Coordinating Unit in the organization and running of the final presentation conference of the CAMP/Sfax, and prepared and edited the report of the Conference. At the closing conference of the project held in Sfax, special emphasis was given to the results of the training course for the users; in fact the participants, together with the trainers, produced new operational maps and scenarios

as proof of their capability, not only to use the Atlas and GIS, but more importantly, to handle the system completely. In accordance with the recommendations of the final presentation conference of the CAMP/Sfax project, SPA/RAC, on behalf of MEDU, established a working group to further elaborate the proposed integrated plan taking into account the results and recommendations of the final presentation conference.

CAMP Fuka-Matrouh (Egypt)

PAP/RAC carried out land suitability analysis and prepared carrying capacity analysis for tourism. Inventory GIS database and suitability analysis of Fuka-Matrouh area was prepared. The second mission on ICAM helped in completing the Fuka-Matrouh ICAM Plan. During the mission on Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA), PAP/RAC assisted national team and relevant institutions in adopting a SEA methodology, which served as a basis for preparation of the SEA report.

The Blue Plan's contribution came in the form of a report entitled "A framework for accumulating consequential data and knowledge (May 1995)", which was drawn up by an Egyptian expert, and a report on "Systemic and prospective analysis for environment-friendly management (February 1996)", drawn up by a Turkish expert.

In June 1999, the ERS/RAC Centre presented the activities carried out in the framework of the CAMP for Fuka-Matrouh (Egypt). In March 1998, ERS/RAC, as a follow-up to the CAMP for Fuka-Matrouh, held a Forum in Cairo in cooperation with EEAA and NARSS, where planners, decision-makers and remote sensing experts debated on possible connections between environmental priority requirements and remote-sensing derived information.

In 1998, as a follow-up to the Forum in Egypt activity, the ERS/RAC deepened its contacts and meetings with Egyptian experts and officials, in order to set up a bilateral proposal to be submitted for outside funds.

All sectorial reports were completed in March 1999, while the CAMP Fuka Integrated report was completed in May 1999. PAP/RAC assisted EEAA in organizing the final presentation conference held in Cairo on 8-9 June 1999.

CAMP Israel

CAMP Israel is near its completion. In the framework of the implementation of activity "Sustainable Development for Open Space and Biodiversity", a document on major long-term environmental issues in Israel relating to biodiversity was prepared by SPA/RAC. The activity was implemented with the collaboration of PAP/RAC in its capacity of coordinator of this CAMP.

The BP/RAC supported the sustainability analysis in the fields of transport and energy.

The final presentation meeting of the RESSAC project (which is the ERS contribution to the CAMP for Israel) was held in Tel Aviv on 13 and 14 April 1999 and the results of the project have been officially transferred to the Ministry of Environment, Planning Department. In the framework of the same CAMP, the "SARSAIL" inventory of Israeli remote sensing organisations (companies, ministries and universities) and relevant activities has been carried out. It provided a state-of-the-art of remote sensing applications and potentialities in Israel.

The major PAP/RAC output will be The First National Strategy for Sustainable Development, within which a number of specific coastal management issues will be investigated (management of the coastal sand reservoir, management of cliff instability, management of coastal risks and hazards, report on ICAM in Israel, etc.).

CAMP Malta

CAMP Malta will start soon. Maltese experts finished the feasibility study and PAP/RAC experts had intensive consultations with Maltese national experts and institutions regarding the CAMP Malta workplan. The Agreement will be signed in October 1999, while the Inception Report will be completed in September 1999. In addition, REMPEC is contributing to the preparation of the CAMP/MALTA project, under the co-ordination of PAP/RAC. In the meantime, the ERS/RAC has organized within the framework of the Malta/CAMP, a Forum on support of remote sensing techniques to planning and decision-making processes (6 July 1999). The Tunis Centre for SPA set a mission to Malta (June 1999) aimed at defining the terms of reference of the activity relevant to Marine Conservation Areas.

CAMP Lebanon

PAP/RAC has assumed its role as the coordinator of all CAMP activities. A mission was organized on March 1999 by MEDU and PAP/RAC, a detailed and open discussions with concerned staff and institutions was undertaken, so as to avoid further misunderstandings on the objectives of CAMP, organization of work and expectations. It was decided to consider the coastal region south of Beirut between Damour and Sour (Tyr) but not including this southern important city as already under intensive study. Obviously all available information and related on-going projects will be taken into account.

From the discussion it was clear that this coastal region requires urgent attention, in relation with urban waste, agriculture and tourism issues. A draft TOR for a feasibility study was prepared, to be then finalized by PAP/RAC who will then process with a contract with the Lebanese team.

The draft study is expected for the end of June, a review in the second half of July, a final one for September and a draft agreement for October. Within the framework of this CAMP, the Lebanese partners, mainly from MOE, have expressed the need to focus on a certain number of pilot/demonstration projects, at the level of local authorities, with different characteristics (urbanization/agriculture/protection of green areas, littoralization/industry/pollution, urbanization/tourism/landscape). The feasibility study should provide relevant justification for such case studies.

CAMP Morocco (Al Hoceima)

Within the framework of the preparatory activities for the drawing up of the CAMP Agreement, SPA/RAC organized a field mission to the site of Al Hoceima. The main objectives of the mission were the identification (i) of the main natural features and elements of interest of the marine part of the site, and (ii) measures for its conservation and management. The identified activities will be proposed for the CAMP agreement to be signed between MAP and the Moroccan Authorities.

CAMP Algeria

In light of the Blue Plan's comments on the first version of the preliminary study the Algerian team then drafted its final version (March 1998). During a Blue Plan mission (June 1998), an international seminar on "The environment, development, and the protection of the coastal areas" devoted one of its workshops to the Algerian CAMP. In addition, the remaining loopholes to be dealt with (preventive activity, formulation) were identified by a meeting of the CAMP's Algerian steering committee. The initial draft of the agreement was drawn up with Blue Plan's assistance (January 1999).

CAMP Slovenia has not yet been launched, but an ICAM project of Slovenian coast is already prepared within EU Phare Programme. PAP/RAC is well informed on this Project which will serve as the basis for CAMP preparation in the year 2000.

c. Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

After the PAP/RAC-EcoMediterranea workshop in Benidorm (September 1997) and the Third MCSD meeting in Sophia Antipolis (October 1997), the Working group on Coastal Zone Management proposed to the Contracting Parties a number of recommendations and tools to improve the institutional framework for ICAM, secure the efficient coastal zone management, make law enforcement more efficient, break information barriers and raise the ecological awareness, use efficiently financial mechanisms for implementation of ICAM activities, and increase viability of ICAM in the Mediterranean. The Contracting Parties have implemented these recommendations only partially.

Within the MCSD Working Group on ICAM, an expert group meeting was organised by PAP/RAC in Cyprus (March 1998), which set a framework for finalising guidelines for the preparation of national legislation on ICAM. Questionnaire was prepared for information on national legislation on ICAM in Mediterranean countries. After the analysis of questionnaire, Guidelines will be published for preparation of national legislation for coastal area management in Mediterranean countries.

The MCSD Working group for urban management held two meetings (Split, June 1998 and April 1999) which defined the workplan and timetable of implementation of the Working group programme and prepared recommendations to be adopted by MCSD at its meeting in Rome (July 1999).

PAP/RAC has been assigned the leading role in supporting the MCSD Working Group on Urban Management.

Coastal area management was chosen as one of the SMAP's five priorities, which should mean that substantial means can be drummed up in this area.

d. Remote Sensing

Sustainable management of coastal zones is a major commitment of MAP, which is called to support it through multidisciplinary efforts of its components, following Contracting Parties' decisions. The Remote Sensing/Regional Activity Centre (ERS/RAC), according to its mandate, cooperates by implementing a proper strategy, which is aimed at promoting, supporting and applying remote sensing techniques and methods - as well as their integration with other sources of information - for the monitoring of environmental conditions and transformations in the Mediterranean in support of the decision making processes and policies of the basin's countries. The Centre is therefore, within the MAP system, a reference to other MAP components and

Mediterranean countries for information on remote sensing projects, activities, actors, achievements and data, as well as for its use in MAP projects and programmes. Coordination and development of operational projects based on the integrated use of remote sensing techniques, as well as capacity building activities and technical assistance to Mediterranean countries are priority issues of ERS/RAC according to its mandate.

In 1999 ERS/RAC launched the implementation of the STEPINMED database (Space Techniques-based Environmental Projects and programmes in the Mediterranean) in the Internet, containing information relevant to Projects and Programmes supported by remote sensing, carried out or on-going in the Mediterranean area at local/national, sub-regional and regional level, as well as on concerned organizations. The aim is to strengthen the central role of the Centre in the Mediterranean for exchanging information on remote sensing, demonstrating the usefulness and broad application of this technique in the environmental field. Publications and reports relevant to all the above-mentioned activities have been issued.

3. Gaps

Not enough is known about prospective approaches, which make it possible to anticipate the negative impact of development, and to allow decision-makers to make informed choices in the long term. Nor are these approaches widely enough applied. Prospective approaches offer a broad range of tools (structural analysis, scenarios, indicators of sustainability) which are too rarely used.

Knowledge about land use is still lacking. The Lacoast programme only applied to the coasts of the European Union, and MAP does not have homogeneous comparative images for all coastal regions which would show changes in land use.

Only a handful of countries already have laws and agencies for the planning and protection of the coasts which are on a par with the challenges to be overcome, and equipped with the necessary means. Moreover, there is not enough linkage between the thinking and activity at regional, national and local levels, resulting in a consequent loss of efficiency. This worrying situation pleads for the preparation and implementation of a regional project.

a. ICAM

In spite of large MAP efforts, ICAM has not yet become the standard approach in tackling the problems of sustainable management of coastal areas in the majority of Mediterranean countries and the full integration between sectors, stakeholders, administrative levels and plans has not yet been achieved.

In the meantime, ICAM is still not fully incorporated in legislation of the majority of the Mediterranean countries. Although coastal areas are comprised both of the land and the sea component, the national legislation in many countries too often applies to land component only, neglecting the integrated approach to coastal area management. Experts and institutions in Mediterranean countries are still in need of the support for implementation of the integrated coastal area management approach. This is especially true in ICAM tools and techniques application, and technical assistance in practical ICAM implementation.

b. MAP/CAMPs

CAMP interventions always start as a multi objective activity but, for a variety of reasons, some of the objectives have not been achieved. The whole initiative is more successful in its overall catalytic role than with regard to strict fulfilment of its objectives.

The feasibility studies were not envisaged, and financial sources very often were not secured in advance of programme implementation. Even if good results in preparing CAMP follow-up proposals are achieved, they are often left unrealised because of low financial sustainability.

National teams for CAMP implementation sometimes lack capacity to implement CAMP projects in the most efficient way. CAMP implementation often runs up against many difficulties, and sometimes against the weakness of environmental administration in countries.

c. MCSD

Not enough efforts have been employed to involve in MAP projects all the stakeholders, particularly NGOs or the general public. The present funds allocated to the MCSD in the 1998-1999 biennium were not enough. Taking into account of the fact that the MCSD must launch new themes at the same time as it is completing the on-going themes, additional funds should be allocated to the Commission.

Moreover, the implementation of MCSD recommendations by the Contracting Parties should be supported by MEDU and concerned RACs.

d. Remote sensing

Sustainable management of coastal zones needs a stronger basis of information upon which decisions and plans may be effectively developed, and to this purpose, a higher operational involvement of the MAP components and of the Mediterranean countries should be pursued, also relying on support of advanced techniques. A closer cooperation and coordination among all parties involved in CAMPs is highly needed for jointly setting up exhaustive feasibility studies, for reaching more effective outcomes, and for producing beneficial follow-ups. Planners and decision-makers need more encouragement and assistance in availing themselves of data and information derived from the application of advanced techniques such as remote sensing, in order to cost-effectively improve their decision and policy making process.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties:

General

1. To support the drawing up and concerted implementation of a regional programme for sustainable management of the coastal areas, pooling the means available from MEDA, MAP, and the Countries.
2. To strengthen the institutional mechanisms which contribute towards better land planning, particularly laws on the protection of the coasts, and the planning and protection agencies.
3. To invite concerned authorities to give due consideration to MCSD recommendations on sustainable management of coastal regions.

ICAM

4. To review the countries' position with respect to incorporating ICAM in their respective national legislations, with special emphasis on legal enforcement and implementation of ICAM policies.
5. To support and assist the national and local institutions in using methodologies, tools and techniques for implementation of ICAM, developed by MAP.

MAP/CAMPs

6. To invite authorities of Algeria, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco and Slovenia to support preparation and implementation of CAMPs in their countries. Objectives of these CAMPs should be clearly stated in MAP CAMP agreements. Furthermore, CAMPs should be focussed on fewer fully implementable activities, with strong sectorial integration approach. National teams for implementation of CAMPs should be consisted of highly reputed experts with experience in integrated coastal area management.
7. To invite authorities where MAP CAMPs are completed, to prepare and implement a follow-up programme in cooperation with MAP.

Remote sensing

8. To widen the use of remote sensing-derived information and its integration with information from other sources, in planning and decision-making processes for the sustainable management of other zones.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat:

Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

1. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU with concerned RACs, such as PAP, BP, ERS) to draw up and implement a regional MEDA programme on the sustainable management of the coastal areas, including consolidation of the necessary knowledge (assessment of changes in land use, institutional analyses..), the networking of pilot operations in the regions, and the consolidation of national and local level activities.

ICAM

2. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to continue supporting Contracting Parties in implementation of ICAM plans and programmes and to provide technical assistance for ICAM when specifically required by Contracting Parties.
3. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of Contracting Parties' national and local institutions regarding ICAM preparation and implementation, by means of regional and national training courses, and to enlarge the information component by increased publishing and dissemination (including electronic means) of methodological documents, programme results and other achievements.
4. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to continue development of ICAM tools and techniques, specifically SEA, EIA, CCA for tourism, coastal information systems,

economic instruments, and land and sea use planning systems.

5. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to test guidelines for integrated coastal area and river basin management.

MAP CAMPs

6. Invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist national and local authorities in better anticipating developments by consolidating prospective approaches and related information systems, particularly within the framework of the CAMPs.
7. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to co-ordinate work of various MAP activities in relation to CAMPs, within the overall coordination responsibility of the Coordinating Unit
8. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, implement the on-going MAP CAMPs and those for whose implementation decision has already been taken.
9. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to suggest countries where MAP CAMPs are completed the introduction of new or adaptation of the existing economic instruments which would enable follow-up of CAMPs, as well as to assist those countries in preparation of bankable projects which will represent continuation of MAP CAMPs.
10. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to contribute, in the framework of a close cooperation among the MAP components, to the implementation of ongoing and future CAMPs, including capacity building activities.

MCSD

11. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to support the follow up of MCSD recommendations on ICAM and stimulate the introduction of national legislation for ICAM.
12. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to support the MCSD Working group on urban management and to help formulate recommendations for sustainable growth of Mediterranean cities.
13. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to provide support to the MCSD working groups on other activities of MCSD which are relevant to PAP/RAC.

Remote sensing

14. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to assist Mediterranean countries in the field of monitoring of environmental issues through remote-sensing techniques, and to support activities of other MAP components with remotely sensed information and data, and their integration with ones from other sources.
15. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to continue strengthening its central role for exchange with Mediterranean countries of information on remote sensing applications, through meetings, direct contacts, inventories, as well as through the further development of its web site on the Internet.

16. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to endeavour to extend to a Mediterranean dimension the results achieved through its projects, in order to help improving environmental knowledge and understanding in support to the decision-making processes.
17. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to assist Mediterranean countries in setting-up activities for monitoring state and changes of priority environmental issues (i.e. desertification, coastal changes, urban expansion), seeking also external sources for funding.
18. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to make every effort to convene meetings of the National Focal Points of ERS/RAC, on a regular basis, through soliciting external funds for this purpose.

5. **Budget**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
MAP CAMPs Co-ordinating role; implementation of ICAM activities, natural resources, capacity building, preparation of programmes and plans; integration of results and activities; and preparation of bankable projects as a follow-up of CAMP programmes	PAP/RAC	45,000	85,000			130,000	
MCS D Support to follow up MCS D recommendations on ICAM (implementation of ICAM instruments, tools and techniques)	PAP/RAC	9,000			15,000		
ICAM 'Development of ICAM methodology; development and elaboration of tools & techniques for SEA, CCA for tourism, coastal information systems, land and sea use planning systems; and capacity building and institutional strengthening (national and regional workshops and training courses)	PAP/RAC	20,000	20,000		20,000	50,000	
National Focal Points Meeting of PAP/RAC	PAP/RAC				30,000		
Contribution to on-going and planned CAMPs as to remote sensing applications (preliminary studies, capacity building, assistance).	ERS/RAC	10,000			10,000		
Meetings and workshops to introduce, to national planners and decision-makers from Mediterranean Countries, remote-sensing-based activities and their support to the sustainable development process.	ERS/RAC	5,000	10,000			10,000	20,000
Improvement and maintenance of the STEPINMED database in the Internet.	ERS/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Assistance to Mediterranean Countries for the setting-up of proposals to be submitted for outside funds.	ERS/RAC		5,000			6,747	
National Focal Points Meeting of ERS/RAC	ERS/RAC						30,000 a
Consolidation of prospective approaches and related information systems	BP/RAC	10,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	10,000
Preparation for and implementation of MEDA Programme (participation of most RACs)	MEDU						
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		104,000	140,000	10,000	90,000	216,747	60,000

a. External funds to be provided by the Sicilian local administration

D. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The question of integrating development and the environment in the Mediterranean is as vast as it is complex and difficult to grasp.

Given the scope of the subject, work on analysis and proposals within the framework of MAP and the MCSD is being undertaken on two complementary levels.

The first general level involves the observation- and prospective study- of major demographic, social, economic and environmental developments, particularly with the aim of providing information regarding the problems to be overcome and the type of response to be encouraged. This systemic and prospective approach is based on a certain number of indicators and analysis work in line with the major principles of sustainable development defined at the Rio Conference in 1992 (chapter D1).

The second level involves focussing attention and proposals on certain priority issues. Taking into account the present-day situation in the Mediterranean and work going on within MAP and the MCSD, it is proposed that for this biennium emphasis should be placed on 3 major subjects: tourism (chapter D2), urban development and the environment (chapter D3), and rural development, natural areas and resources (chapter D4).

D.1. Observation and prospective study of the environment and development Assessment of progress towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean

1. Issues at stake

- a. The first Blue Plan scenarios (published in 1989) revealed the limited sustainability of development trends which are causing ever more damage to the environment and increasing social injustice, unbalanced socio-economic development between North and South.
- b. The Mediterranean therefore faces the challenge of finding how to shift from a trend-type scenario to an alternative type one, which is more in tune with the ideas of sustainable development. This type of development requires in particular the setting up of North-South and South-South cooperation, and volition-based policies to make economic growth, environmental protection and social equity compatible.

2. Responses

- a. The adoption of an Agenda Med 21 in 1994, the extension of the Mediterranean Action Plan's (MAP's) mandate in 1995, and the setting up of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) in 1996 demonstrate the regional will to identify the challenges to be overcome, and to promote suitable responses. Since then, some important work has been done in several fields.
- b. The setting up of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership since 1995 is also the first example of a structured attempt at regional level to create North-South cooperation between the 15 countries of the European Union and 12 Mediterranean third countries. The main economic decision is the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area project planned for 2010, with flanking policies under the MEDA programme. A short and medium-term programme for the environment (SMAP) has been adopted.

Finally, the European Commission with its LIFE Third-countries programme has supported BP/RAC in carrying out many activities on environmental capacity-building (in particular support for Mediterranean and national environment and development observatories, and the drawing up of Mediterranean indicators for sustainable development).

- c. Several Mediterranean states have made considerable efforts to build up their institutional systems with an eye to better protecting the environment, achieving more balanced land planning, and promoting the concept and policies of sustainable development.
- d. The work done by BP/RAC on indicators at regional level, but also within several countries, represents significant progress. It has meant that a limited common set of indicators of sustainable development could be proposed and taken on board by the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, and tests have been or are at present being run in several countries (Tunisia, France, Slovenia, Morocco). This work, which backs up the role of the observatories or equivalent agencies, should be of assistance in the drawing up of synthesis reports on the development of the national and regional situation, and in assessing progress (or delays) towards sustainable development. BP/RAC obtained the comments from the other RACs in this issue. At regional level, and as support centre for the MCSD priority theme on sustainable development indicators, BP/RAC convened on 10-11 May 1999, an expert group meeting in Sophia Antipolis. This group agreed upon a list of sustainable development indicators, and BP/RAC prepared a first set of calculated indicators at the Rome MCSD Meeting.
- e. ERS/RAC has analysed already identified indicators and defined the ones among them that may be effectively monitored by remote sensing.

3. Gaps

- a. Indicators are key elements for pursuing integration between environment and development, and a big effort is needed by all the MAP components to identify proper ways and means to get a comprehensive knowledge on them at national and regional level.
- b. The calculation of selected indicators must be done in accordance with a method which is as homogeneous as possible in all countries. Many of them still do not have observatories or equivalent agencies and often data is still lacking.
- c. Even though many indicators have already been selected, there is a lack of proper information on most of them, due to the difficulty of finding relevant objective, homogeneous, comparable and updated data, as well as of monitoring their evolution in time and space, both at national and regional level.
- d. The assessment work, which needs to be done, is still suffering from a lack of relevant and comparable information. This applies in particular to:
 - environmental statistics, which are still far from satisfactory in most countries;
 - maps showing trends in land use for all watersheds and the coastal strip, which are still generally lacking, and do not allow the necessary retrospective comparisons to be made (the LaCoast programme only applied to the Mediterranean coasts of the European Union);

- the assessment of costs incurred due to insufficient account being taken of the environment in land planning and development policies.
- e. Remote sensing, even though not sufficiently used, has proved to be a valid and cost-effective tool for monitoring some of them in an objective, homogeneous, updatable way. In order to bridge this gap, there is the strong need of promoting scientific and technical assistance to the Mediterranean Countries.
- f. This analysis work should also be completed or consolidated in many areas, particularly the assessment of public policies, including analysis of the free-trade-environment relationship, and the economic instruments to be promoted for the protection of the environment and sustainable development.
- g. Overall, and in spite of the efforts made at regional, national and local level, present developments correspond more to a trend scenario than to an alternative scenario of sustainable development. The "responses" applied at these different levels would therefore still appear to be most inadequate, which raises the question of what structural reforms should be implemented, and how appropriate North-South and South-South cooperation is to be overcome.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties

1. To invite the Contracting Parties to approve the MCSD recommendations on indicators of sustainable development, as included in the report of the Fifth meeting of MCSD (Rome, 1-3 July 1999), document: UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.156/5.
2. To invite the Contracting Parties to give priority to actions devoted to acquire proper knowledge on environmental indicators at national level, in view of extending such a knowledge at a regional level, also resorting to integrated use of remote sensing and advanced techniques.
3. To invite the Contracting Parties to include in their legislation new economic instruments, or to adapt existing economic instruments, in order to make feasible follow-up of MAP related activities.
4. To invite the Contracting Parties to consolidate the policy assessment work which they are at present carrying out, and to promote the structural reforms and institutional tools which could assist in ensuring more effective action towards sustainable development.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts to implement the MCSD recommendations as regards sustainable development indicators.
2. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to draw up an assessment comparing the actual situation in the year 2000 in the field of environment and development, with the 1985 Blue Plan scenario for the same year. A macro-economic assessment making it possible to update scenarios for 2025 shall also be carried out and will complement the retrospective and prospective demographic analysis carried out

in 1999.

3. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to encourage and assist the countries in setting up and/or consolidating the functions of an Observatory for environment/development changes through the provision of methodological and technical support, cooperation and exchange of experiences, with the aim of promoting a Mediterranean network;
4. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist countries in their assessment work: calculating the Indicators of Sustainable Development selected by the MCSD, mobilizing experts, and providing assistance to national observatories, organizing regional workshops, drawing up country profiles, and preparing a regional report on environment and development;
5. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to continue the analysis work on free trade and environment in the framework of the MCSD;
6. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to begin the assessment of some social aspects of sustainable development (poverty, health) in the framework of the MCSD;
7. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to take stock of exercises for assessing the costs incurred as a result of inadequate account being taken of the environment and the economic instruments which could be of use to the environment, and setting the ball rolling on this question at regional level;
8. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to consolidate communication and training activity in order to strengthen action and reflection towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
9. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist in the consolidation of environmental statistics in the countries, through notably the implementation of the MEDSTAT - Environment programme;
10. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC) to check the present availability of information on indicators that can be monitored by remote sensing, and to cooperate with Mediterranean Countries, also providing them with scientific and technical assistance, for the monitoring of indicators through remote sensing.
11. To invite the Secretariat (ERS/RAC), also in cooperation with other MAP Components, to support the MCSD in the preparation of programmes to be implemented in the framework of the MAP.
12. To invite the Secretariat (MEDU) to coordinate the preparation of a "Strategic Review for the year 2000" as requested by the MCSD terms of reference, and to look for necessary funds.

D.2 Tourism and Sustainable Development

1. Issues at stake

- a. The Mediterranean countries are the world's leading tourist destination (it attracts 30% of international tourists). The tourists are largely concentrated in the coastal regions where their numbers are on the up and up and could well reach between 196 and 281 million (national and international tourists) by the year 2010 according to the Blue Plan scenarios.
- b. This sector is therefore of major economic importance to the region, and considerable public and private investment is being mobilised for its development, which is leading to far-reaching changes in the affected areas.
- c. Development of tourism activities in the Mediterranean is still concentrated on fast growth of touristic income, including environmental effects. Tourism activities in Mediterranean should be developed in accordance with the carrying capacity of the touristic zones, which is especially important in case of sensitive coastal areas. National and local institutions usually do not possess capacity to assess carrying capacity of relevant touristic zones, or prefer fast and uncontrolled development of touristic activities.
- d. Experience shows that it is exceedingly difficult to control these developments, and that they can cause considerable impact on the environment. The sprawling touristic infrastructure of the coasts is a major problem. Hotel, property and leisure complexes, and road, port and airport infrastructures with a tourist vocation, which are usually irreversible, are tending to spring up in the natural coastal sites of high ecological and landscape value, often the very ones which should be protected as a priority.
- e. Inversely, tourism is still highly undeveloped in the hinterland, where it could actually play a useful role to the benefit of rural societies, and in safeguarding the natural and cultural heritage.
- f. The challenge for the Mediterranean is, therefore, to learn how best to reconcile tourism and sustainable development by drawing on past experience, both positive and negative. The protection of the Mediterranean heritage largely depends on this, as does the future role of the Mediterranean in world tourism, and the capacity to promote sustainable development in the region. This is a major challenge, but one which is also essential in terms of regional North-South cooperation.

2. Gaps

- a. Overall, the responses which have been applied thus far are completely inadequate. The general situation is still one in which development takes little account of sustainable development and where there is no control of the tourist build-up of the coasts. This can be largely explained by the lack or inadequacy of determined policies aimed at reconciling tourism and sustainable development. With some exceptions, the legislative, regulatory or technical instruments (coastal planning and protection agencies, natural parks...) adapted to coastal protection or the promotion of better-integrated tourism which makes the most of the natural and cultural heritage are still too thin on the ground or do not have the necessary means.

- b. Moreover, carrying capacity assessment for tourism activities has not yet become a common tool for sustainable development of tourism in Mediterranean countries.
- c. A further, major shortcoming is the lack of any structured regional policy which would allow the public authorities, NGOs and leading professionals to be coherently mobilised along the same lines, in order to reconcile tourism and sustainable development.
- d. The lack of any financial system which would allow the tourist industry to make a significant contribution to the protection and correct management of the natural heritage which it exploits is also regrettable.
- e. Generally speaking, there is a need for more exchange, information and training on the tourism-sustainable development relationship in the Mediterranean.

3. Responses

- a. In 1998 and 1999, tourism was the focus of some in-depth work carried out within the framework of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), which facilitated the organisation of a very fruitful exchange of experience, and meant that a much fairer idea could be developed of the challenges, present-day responses, shortcomings to be corrected, and activities to be promoted.
- b. In the wake of increased environmental awareness, particularly amongst northern European customers, several professionals are striving to improve the environmental management of the tourist industry. These efforts could affect flow management in particular (waste management, energy, water consumption and recycling....).
- c. The main problem of the building-up of the coasts and controlling development needs to be tackled at a completely different level, however. Clear public will is essential. Several states have taken steps in this direction (by signing tourism-environment agreements, carrying out pilot operations, demanding impact studies...). Local authorities are also striving towards this end. This is what is happening, for example, in the Balearic Islands, where people have become aware of the risks and the need for increased public control, along with determined protection and rehabilitation measures (implementation of Agendas 21 and several laws on land planning and protection).
- d. As the support centre, and with the backing of PAP, the Blue Plan organized two meetings of experts (Monaco, December 1997 and Sophia Antipolis, April 1998) by way of preparation for a workshop which was held in Antalya (Turkey) in September 1998. Financed by Turkey, this workshop brought together more than sixty participants. An initial assessment was drawn up during the workshop on the state of tourism in the Mediterranean. Basing itself on exchange of experience (case studies), the workshop also saw the drawing up of some draft recommendations and actions, which subsequently went before the 4th MCSD meeting (Monaco, 20-22 October 1998).

The Blue Plan drafted the report from the workshop (April 1999), which was published in the "MAP Technical Reports" series.

In May 1999, PAP/RAC and BP/RAC organized an experts meeting in Split in order to re-group and detail the final recommendations from the working party on "Tourism and Sustainable Development" to go to the 5th MCSD (Rome, July 1999)

- e. Main PAP/RAC effort in improving capacity of relevant national and local institutions in sustainable development of tourism was preparation and dissemination of the Guidelines for carrying capacity assessment for tourism in Mediterranean coastal areas. Furthermore, Maltese authorities invited PAP/RAC to cooperate with the Ministry of Tourism and the National Tourism Organisation in preparing the carrying capacity assessment study for tourism in Malta. This study will be used for preparation of the Tourism development strategy of Malta.
- f. PAP/RAC carried out the national training course on CCA for tourism in Libya (March 1999), which should enhance the capability of Libyan national and local institutions in planning for sustainable development of tourism in Libyan coastal area.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties:

- 1. To invite the Contracting Parties to approve the MCSD recommendations on Tourism and Sustainable Development (MCSD recommendations on Tourism and Sustainable Development are being finalized, as requested by the fifth meeting of the MCSD, and will be addressed directly to the next Contracting Parties meeting).
- 2. To invite the Contracting Parties to encourage their national and local authorities, profit and non-profit organisations to apply where appropriate carrying capacity assessment for tourism activities as a common tool for sustainable development of tourism.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

- 1. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts to implement the recommendations addressed to them.
- 2. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to prepare the "White Paper" on tourism and sustainable development in the Mediterranean in conjunction with the country and concerned partners experts.
- 3. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to promote use of carrying capacity assessment as a tool for sustainable development of tourism, through enhancement of Mediterranean national and local institutions capacity in specific touristic areas and to continue offering technical assistance.

D.3. Urban Development and sustainable town management

1. Issues at stake

- a. There are 253 million town-dwellers in the Mediterranean countries, and the urban population today represents 62% of the total population, as opposed to 44% in 1950.

- b. As shown by the analysis at regional level undertaken by BP/RAC using the Geopolis Database, urban growth is coming about apace: the number of towns has doubled in 45 years, and urban population growth in the southern and eastern countries is now increasing at an annual rate of between 3 and 9%. There are at present 3962 towns with more than 10,000 inhabitants, 1435 of them in the coastal regions (49 of them having more than 300,000 inhabitants). Such rates of growth create problems, which are even more serious in the southern, and eastern countries where much of the building is unplanned and towns usually only have limited primary service means available.
- c. From an environmental point of view, the first challenge is the ability to control this urban growth in order to avoid losing too much agricultural land and precious natural areas, or buildings going up in dangerous areas.
- d. The second challenge is the sustainable management of these towns, particularly in terms of good waste management, transport, and water.
- e. The creation of the Euro-Mediterranean free-trade zone could have major repercussions on urban environments in the southern and eastern countries due to spatial dimension of changing the consumption and distribution patterns. The scale of these possible changes and the ability to control them therefore represents a third major challenge.

2. Responses

- a. The countries have adopted laws and regulations on town planning, and some of them also have laws for the protection of agricultural land or against major hazards. Effectiveness in applying these laws has still to be improved.
- b. It would be interesting to make many local experiences with environmental management better known. Cities such as Tunis, Montpellier and Cairo for example, have public transport systems which use their own channels (trams in Tunis and Montpellier, metro in Cairo), which facilitate circulation and limit atmospheric pollution. The Mediterranean networks of towns have also developed some useful activities (e.g. eco-auditing, pilot operations in the energy field...) The CAMPs also provide a set of examples, some of which it would be useful to make more widely known. The prospective approach adopted in Sfax, for example, showed the use of scenario work, and the need to preempt developments by using suitable volition-based policies.
- c. The work carried out on environmental performance indicators by BP/RAC for METAP in 1998 was also a useful achievement, which meant that the main problems and indicators on waste and air and water pollution could be better identified. Moreover, current application of the Geopolis base by BP/RAC means that the scale of urban growth can be measured retrospectively using a comparable approach for the entire Mediterranean.
- d. Finally, work is beginning within the MCSD framework on better assessing situations and the challenges to be overcome, and on drawing-up worthwhile proposals at regional level. The MCSD's work is also looking at the free trade issue and its links with changes in consumption trends.
- e. MCSD Working group for urban management held a meeting (Split, April 1999) which defined the workplan and timetable of implementation of the Working group

programme adopted by the MCSD at its meeting in Rome (July 1999).

3. Gaps

- a. Not enough is known at Mediterranean level about this subject, which is as complex as it is important, and needs to be further analysed. Apart from the actual information itself, it is the exchange of experience, which needs to be increased, to the benefit of the different States and cities. In the long run it boils down largely to the question of what strategies should be promoted in order to really get a grip on developments, whether local or regional.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties:

1. To invite the Contracting Parties to contribute to the steps being taken within the MCSD framework to achieve relevant and worthwhile analysis and proposed work programme.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat:

1. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC, BP/RAC and ERS/RAC) to pursue and consolidate work begun on analyzing the problems related to urbanization and the sustainable management of Mediterranean cities, particularly within the MCSD framework.
2. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to carry out a retrospective analysis of developments and encourage the prospective approach through appropriate training and communication activities, and pilot operations.
3. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to further study the question of waste management in conjunction with the Mediterranean partners (States, towns, CEDARE, METAP, NGOs...), and to identify what strategies and actions should be encouraged in this field.

D.4 Rural development, natural areas and resources

1. Issues at stake

- a. Water and soil are two particularly precious natural resources in the Mediterranean, both because of their scarcity and also due to their essential role in society, in the correct functioning of ecosystems, and for agricultural development. These two resources are now being widely threatened or damaged by urbanization, increased demographic pressure, and in particular by the development of certain agricultural practices, which encourage water pollution, over-consumption of water and soil damage (wind and water erosion, desertification, salination, and pollution).
- b. Coastal urban water resources planning should enable sustainable use of water resources in Mediterranean coastal areas, which are particularly sensitive. Good information basis on water resources exists in majority of Mediterranean countries as well as adequate water resources management skills. However, water resources management is often scattered at various decision-making levels: regional, sub-regional, national and/or local. The major problem of water

resources management in Mediterranean is related to scarcity of water resources and high water demand.

- c. The protection of the forests and biodiversity (another major challenge, the Mediterranean Basin being the world's second "hot spot" after the tropical forests) also depends directly on the correct management of the rural areas, and therefore on the situation in the rural societies.
- d. This situation is often critical in the Mediterranean because of the weakness or breakdown of traditional links, as is shown by the scale of rural exodus (and consequently an increase in urban problems downstream) and the extent of environmental damage now being caused.
- e. The Mediterranean is therefore confronted with the issue of how to achieve a kind of agricultural and rural development process which will make an effective contribution to the social, economic and cultural development of the societies concerned, and will allow them to manage the heritage of the environment and natural resources on which they depend.
- f. The creation of an Euro-Mediterranean free-trade area could have major repercussions on rural societies and the economy, if it were to be extended to agricultural products. This question therefore also deserves serious consideration, and encouragement should be given to the type of development, which could help in solving current problems, rather than accentuating them.

2. Responses

- a. The Blue Plan and the MCSDD have carried out a considerable amount of data collection and analysis in the field of water, which has made it possible to assess the challenges to be faced and to make useful proposals at regional level, particularly by showing the need and use for better demand management (in particular the fight against wastage). These proposals gave rise to the recommendations which the Contracting Parties adopted in Tunis in 1997.
- b. The Global Water Partnership, the World Water Council and MEDTAC have entrusted the Blue Plan to prepare the Mediterranean part of the Global Water Vision.
- c. Following the recommendations made by the MCSDD at both the Frejus Workshop and the Monaco meeting, the Blue Plan secured funding to undertake two studies at national level, in Tunisia and Lebanon; these studies are underway.
- d. Decision making of Mediterranean national and local institutions related to water resources management was facilitated by preparing and disseminating the document entitled "Integrated approach to development, management and use of water resources" (in English, French and Croatian).
- e. In view of capacity building of Mediterranean national and local institutions, PAP/RAC organised in March 1998 in Tunisia the "Stage de formation à l'application des Directives concernant l'approche intégrée au développement, à la gestion et à l'utilisation des ressources en eau".

- f. PAP/RAC experts are preparing Guidelines on urban water resources demand management. The expert meeting on urban water systems to examine the first draft of the Guidelines will be held in May 1999 in Split
- g. Jointly with FAO, PAP/RAC has published and disseminated Guidelines on mapping and measurement of rainfall-induced erosion processes in Mediterranean coastal areas (in English French and Croatian), providing Contracting Parties with consolidated methodology for mapping and assessment of erosion processes.
- h. Training course on erosion mapping for improved land use in Malta (May 1998) was held with a view of implementing PAP/RAC erosion mapping methodology at national level.
- i. Under the guidance of PAP/RAC, seven national reports and a synthesis report were prepared on erosion/desertification control and management, in order to update relevant information and provide basis for exchange of the best available practices.
- j. PAP/RAC and FAO are preparing Guidelines for erosion/desertification control management, which will encompass the entire control and management process from mapping to implementation measures.
- k. The SMAP programme on the environment within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean process has also taken water and desertification as priority subjects for action, and other major sponsors as well as the States have been widely mobilized on these issues.
- l. A Mediterranean network for the exchange of know-how in the field of water (SEMIDE) has been created by the European Commission, Spain, France and Italy, and based in Sophia Antipolis.

3. Gaps

- a. In spite of the adoption of recommendations on what priority should be given to water demand management policies, it would appear that supply-based policies always dominate. The lion's share of means and energy always seems to be mobilised for major hydraulic activities (pumping and transporting water from the fossil layers, diverting water from the large basins elsewhere, constructing huge new dams), although some of these resources are either non-sustainable or limited. Increased awareness of the need for major demand management policies must therefore become more widespread.
- b. A decision support system does not exist which would ease decision-making in complex situation of scarce water resources and high water demand in Mediterranean.
- c. The soil issue deserves just as much attention as water. However, little has been done at regional level by way of analyzing the problems to be overcome and the strategies to be promoted. Information about developments in land use is also inadequate and does not allow homogeneous comparisons over time to be made for the basin.
- d. Correlation and harmonisation of applied methodologies and techniques for

soil erosion management and control are definitely insufficient. Regional network for soil erosion control is not highly developed, updated soil erosion references are not being exchanged, and national experts in some Mediterranean countries need training.

Moreover, tasks envisaged by the Convention on Desertification are not yet fully completed.

- e. Little is known about the state of land biodiversity and on-going deterioration in the southern and eastern countries, and policies on the forests and protected areas are often ill-suited to tackling the challenges which involve effectively reconciling protection and development by providing these areas with an economic role to the benefit of the local populations concerned. This is another question which merits further analysis.

4. Recommendations

(a) Recommendations addressed to the Contracting Parties.

1. To invite the Contracting Parties to give effective follow-up to the recommendations on water demand management. The Contracting Parties shall therefore adopt the principle of setting up a regional programme (within the SMAP framework) as well as national programmes in line with this objective, which shall be ambitious enough to give shape to this priority.
2. To invite the Contracting Parties to integrate their national and local decision making system regarding use of coastal water resources.
3. To invite the Contracting Parties to contribute to the regional work on gathering information and analysis on the questions of land, biodiversity and rural and agricultural development.
4. To invite the Contracting Parties to continue and intensify activities related to erosion/desertification control management as an essential element of sustainable development in the region.
5. To invite the Contracting Parties to support the hitherto successful co-operation between FAO and PAP/RAC in the field.

(b) Recommendations addressed to the Secretariat

1. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to assist the Contracting Parties in implementing the recommendations which they have adopted, regarding water demand management.
2. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to develop training and communication activities aimed at better circulating the results of MCSD work on water at the level of the Mediterranean basin.
3. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to implement the activity "Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management" which will enable transfer of knowledge in use of modern and efficient tools and techniques in coastal water resources management, and secure that decision-making be concentrated at appropriate level.

4. To invite the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to continue the activity related to erosion/desertification control and implementation of prevention and management techniques.
5. To invite the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to initiate work on collecting information and analysing the question of land, rural development and agriculture, and the free-trade/rural development relationship, in cooperation with relevant partners.

D.5 Budget

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Analysis of available information, structures and expertise at National level to support the monitoring of indicators relying on remote sensing techniques.	ERS/RAC	10,000					
Technical assistance to Mediterranean Countries to monitor indicators relying on remote-sensing techniques.	ERS/RAC				10,000		30,000
Implementation of a database on existing data and information relevant to the selected indicators and their availability at national and regional level.	ERS/RAC			25,000			25,000
<u>Observation and prospective study of the environment and development:</u> Regional level assessment of progress on sustainable development in the Mediterranean	BP/RAC		20,000			40,000	
<u>Assistance to countries in assessing progress towards sustainable development and support to follow up on MCSD recommendations on indicators:</u> - calculating indicators; - assistance to national observatories (or equivalent agencies); - national analyses	BP/RAC	15,000	30,000	45,000	15,000	30,000	45,000
Analysis of the free trade-environment relationship (organisation of a workshop)	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000			
Assessment of the social costs (in terms of poverty and health) incurred by the degradation of the environment and of economic tools used for measuring this phenomenon.	BP/RAC	10,000			10,000		
Communication and training activities	BP/RAC			50,000			50,000
MEDSTAT Environment Programme	BP/RAC			400,000			400,000

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
<u>Tourism and Sustainable Development/MCSD</u> - Assisting in implementing the action plan and drafting the White Paper	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000	15,000		20,000
- Support to follow up of MCSD recommendations on tourism in the field of environmental assessment for tourism planning and coastal areas and for carrying capacity for tourism techniques and for the preparation of the best practices guide	PAP/RAC	25,000			20,000		10,000
<u>Urban management and sustainable development/MCSD</u> Support to the working group: - Urban management tools - Sustainable management of towns	PAP/RAC BP/RAC	25,000 10,000			20,000 10,000		10,000
<u>Control of urbanisation and sustainable town management:</u> Retrospective and prospective study of the problems of urbanisation in the Mediterranean and prevention of natural risks	BP/RAC		20,000	20,000	10,000		
Workshop on urban waste management to prepare for feasibility and work programme for MCSD group on "consumption patterns and urban waste management"	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000			
<u>Soil Erosion</u> Erosion and desertification control activities (assistance to countries in preparing plans for coastal areas, training and capacity building for national institutions)	PAP/RAC		25,000	30,000		25,000	30,000
<u>Water Resources</u> Regional workshop to assess the situation in the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management in the region; Preparation of guidelines for application of the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management; and Training course on application of the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management	PAP/RAC	30,000			30,000		
<u>Rural development, natural areas and resources:</u> - Communication and training activity for water demand	BP/RAC	10,000		20,000			
- Gathering information and analysing the land question with country experts	BP/RAC	10,000			10,000		
- Gathering information, analysis and proposal in the field of rural and agricultural development/natural environments and resources	BP/RAC	10,000		10,000		30,000	
Meeting of Blue Plan Focal Points	BP/RAC				30,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		215,000	95,000	660,000	180,000	125,000	620,000

III. BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000-2001

SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS

	Proposed Budget (in US \$)	
	2000	2001
I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS		
1. COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece		
- Secretariat's Personnel and Operating Costs	1,014,800	1,030,300
- MEDPOL Personnel	428,000	435,000
- Operating Costs covered by the Greek Counterpart Contribution	400,000	400,000
2. MEDPOL COOPERATING AGENCIES	269,500	273,600
3. REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)	573,000	585,000
4. BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)	482,000	492,500
5. PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)	364,000	376,000
6. SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)	291,000	295,500
7. ENVIRONMENT REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (ERS/RAC)	-	-
8. CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)	-	-
	SUB-TOTAL	3,822,300 3,887,900
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS*	444,899	453,427
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS	4,267,199	4,341,327

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

	Proposed Budget (in US \$)	
	2000	2001
II. ACTIVITIES		
A. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF (excluding the EU voluntary contribution)		
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	430,000	415,000
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	789,000	760,000
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	113,000	123,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	104,000	90,000
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	215,000	180,000
	SUB-TOTAL	1,651,000 1,568,000
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS	214,630	203,840
TOTAL ACTIVITIES FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF	1,865,630	1,771,840

	Proposed Budget (in US \$)	
	2000	2001
B. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EU VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION		
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	80,681	39,000
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	71,000	31,000
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	160,000	130,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	140,000	216,747
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	95,000	125,000
	SUB-TOTAL	546,681 541,747
TOTAL ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EU VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION	546,681	541,747

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

	Proposed Budget (in US \$)	
	2000	2001
COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	510,681	454,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	1,414,800	1,430,300
TOTAL	1,925,481	1,884,300
MEDPOL		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	655,000	625,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	697,500	708,600
TOTAL	1,352,500	1,333,600
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	160,000	161,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	573,000	585,000
TOTAL	733,000	746,000
BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	225,000	230,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	482,000	492,500
TOTAL	707,000	722,500
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	324,000	340,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	364,000	376,000
TOTAL	688,000	716,000
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	273,000	253,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	291,000	295,500
TOTAL	564,000	548,500
ENVIRONMENT REMOTE SENSING REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (ERS/RAC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	50,000	46,747
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0
TOTAL	50,000	46,747
CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	0	0
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0
TOTAL	0	0
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS	659,529	657,267
GRAND TOTAL	6,679,510	6,654,914

SOURCES OF FINANCING

A. Income	2000	2001	Biennium 2000-01
MTF Contributions	4,934,585	5,131,968	10,066,553
Greek Counterpart Contribution	400,000	400,000	800,000
UNEP Counterpart Contribution	50,000	50,000	100,000
Total Contributions	5,384,585	5,581,968	10,966,553
Unpaid Pledges for 1998/99 and prior years*	748,244	531,199	1,279,443
Adjustment of the Revolving Fund**	0	0	0
Total expected income	6,132,829	6,113,167	12,245,996
B. Commitments			
Commitments	5,473,300	5,455,900	10,929,200
Programme Support Costs	659,529	657,267	1,316,796
Total commitments	6,132,829	6,113,167	12,245,996

A. Income	2000	2001	Biennium 2000-01
Voluntary Contribution of EU	546,681	541,747	1,088,428
B. Commitments			
Activities funded through the EU Voluntary Contribution	546,681	541,747	1,088,428
Total commitments	546,681	541,747	1,088,428

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2000-2001 (IN US DOLLARS):

Contracting Parties	%	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 1999 (in US \$)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2000* (in US \$)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2001** (in US \$)
Albania	0.07	3,321	3,454	3,592
Algeria	1.05	49,821	51,814	53,886
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.3	14,235	14,804	15,397
Croatia	0.97	46,024	47,865	49,780
Cyprus	0.14	6,643	6,909	7,185
EU	2.5	118,621	123,366	128,300
Egypt	0.49	23,250	24,180	25,147
France	37.97	1,801,597	1,873,661	1,948,607
Greece	2.81	133,328	138,661	144,208
Israel	1.47	69,748	72,538	75,439
Italy	31.37	1,488,441	1,547,979	1,609,898
Lebanon	0.07	3,321	3,454	3,592
Libya	1.97	93,473	97,212	101,100
Malta	0.07	3,321	3,454	3,592
Monaco	0.07	3,321	3,454	3,592
Morocco	0.28	13,286	13,817	14,370
Slovenia	0.67	31,790	33,062	34,384
Spain	14.99	711,244	739,694	769,282
Syria	0.28	13,286	13,817	14,370
Tunisia	0.21	9,964	10,363	10,777
Turkey	2.25	106,758	111,028	115,469
Sub-total	100	4,744,793	4,934,585	5,131,968
Host Country(Greece)		400,000	400,000	400,000
UNEP Environment Fund		50,000	50,000	50,000
TOTAL		5,194,793	5,384,585	5,581,968

* The 2000 Contributions represent a 4% increase over the 1999 Ordinary Contributions to the MTF.

** The 2001 Contributions represent a 4% increase over the 2000 Ordinary Contributions to the MTF.

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		2000 (,000 US\$)	2001 (,000 US \$)
Croatia	PAP/RAC	150	150
France	BP/RAC	440	440
Italy	ERS/RAC	300	300
Malta	REMPEC	80	80
Spain	CP/RAC	119	119
Tunisia	SPA/RAC	90	90
U.N. Agencies			
WHO	MED POL	100	100
WMO	MED POL	50	50
IAEA	MED POL	300	300
UNESCO/IOC	MED POL	80	80

All figures except those from Malta are same as for previous biennium.

I. **COORDINATION**

I.A **LEGAL COMPONENT**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Legal assistance to the Secretariat	MEDU	15,000			15,000		
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	MEDU	15,000			15,000		
Training Programme on environmental law	MEDU	15,000		20,000	15,000		20,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		45,000		20,000	45,000		20,000

I.B INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Publication and dissemination of MAP Technical Reports	MEDU	15,000			10,000		
Library services (environmental awareness and educational assistance)	MEDU	5,000					
Preparation, translation, Printing and dissemination of MAP Newsletter MEDWAVES (Arabic, English and French)	MEDU	40,000			40,000		
Support to public awareness campaigns at the national level	MEDU	20,000		20,000	20,000		20,000
Preparation, editing, translation, printing and dissemination of brochures and reports, including the use of the Internet	MEDU	50,000		20,000	30,000		20,000
Preparation of an information kit for the public and for the press	MEDU	20,000		10,000	10,000		10,000
Training on Information Strategy, tools, networking	MEDU	20,000		20,000			20,000
Support to follow-up of MCSD on information and participation	MEDU		10,000	10,000		10,000	10,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		170,000	10,000	80,000	110,000	10,000	80,000

I.C COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH FUNDING INSTITUTIONS

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Training of National officials at MEDU	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		10,000			10,000		

I.D COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Support to non-governmental organisations and other major actors	MEDU	30,000	9,000	50,000	25,000	9,000	50,000
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		30,000	9,000	50,000	25,000	9,000	50,000

I.E MAJOR MEETINGS ORGANIZED WITHIN THE MAP FRAMEWORK AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
12th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to review and approve the 2002-3 programme budget	MEDU						200,000 a
Meeting of the MAP National Focal Points to consider the progress of the Action Plan and prepare the 2002-3 programme budget	MEDU				100,000		
Sixth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)	MEDU	30,000 b		50,000			
Seventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)	MEDU				20,000 c		60,000
Meetings of the Steering Committee on the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (one per year)	MEDU	20,000			10,000		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	35,000			35,000		
Meeting of the Regional Activity Centres' Directors and the Coordinating Unit for programming and coordination of MAP activities (one per year)	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Second Meeting of Mediterranean Government designated experts on Liability and Compensation	MEDU				20,000		60,000
Presentation Conferences for CAMP projects (launching, mid-term, final) participation of RACs	MEDU	30,000			20,000		
Follow-up of the recommendations of the MCSD(reporting, feasibility studies and assistance)	MEDU	20,000	11,681	30,000	10,000	20,000	30,000
Support for the preparation of the "Strategic Review for the Year 2000 "participation of RACs	MEDU	20,000	30,000	30,000			
Joint workshop with UNCSD on National Sustainable Development Strategies	MEDU	10,000	20,000	30,000			
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		175,000	61,681	140,000	225,000	20,000	360,000

- a: To be hosted by the Government of
- b: To be hosted by the Government of
- c: To be hosted by the Government of

II. **COMPONENTS**

II.A **POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL** (to cover MEDPOL, REMPEC, CP/RAC and PAP/RAC)

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Assistance from REMPEC or through REMPEC's consultants to States in developing their capacities in the fields of preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution	REMPEC	10,000			8,000		
Assistance as above to States in developing port emergency response system	REMPEC	7,000			9,000		
Assistance as above to States in preparing and developing bilateral and multilateral agreements	REMPEC	4,000			5,000		
Development of the regional information system (RIS), library, website and information dissemination	REMPEC	8,000			9,000		
Development of TROCS and of the Mediterranean Information Decision Support Integrated System	REMPEC		11,000			11,000	
Assistance to countries in case of emergency (Mediterranean Assistance Unit)	REMPEC	4,000			4,000		
Assistance to countries in the Organisation of National Training Courses	REMPEC	10,000			10,000		
Assistance to countries in CAMP activities	REMPEC	11,000			20,000		
Regional specialised training course (25 participants) 3 per biennium	REMPEC	40,000		20,000	70,000		50,000
Meeting of REMPEC's Focal Points	REMPEC	40,000					
Two years project on port reception facilities for collecting ship generated garbage, bilge waters and oily waters	REMPEC			400,000 a			240,000 a
Three years project "Risk Assessment of the ports of Marsin and Iskandarun, Turkey" with associated capacity building for the State for preparedness and response to marine pollution	REMPEC			206,000 b			206,000 b
Three years project to develop the natural system for preparedness for and response to accidental pollution in the Syrian Arab Republic	REMPEC			146,000 c			151,000 c
Support to sub-regional agreement between Cyprus, Egypt and Israel	REMPEC	15,000			15,000		
Inventory and analysis of experienced remote sensing monitoring activities to support the LBS Protocol, the MED POL Programme and sea pollution assessment and setting-up of operational plans	ERS/RAC	5,000			5,000		
National Focal Points Meeting of CP/RAC	CP/RAC						

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Assessment of Pollution: Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of trend monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	80,000			80,000		
Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of biological effects monitoring	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000		20,000	20,000	
Technical Review Meeting on the progress of implementation of the trend and biological effects monitoring	MEDPOL				30,000		20,000
Training and Fellowships and Data Quality Assurance Programmes	MEDPOL	70,000			70,000		
Identification of, and research on, pollution emerging issues	MEDPOL	40,000			40,000		
Review of data and information on pollution Hot Spots and Sensitive Areas (WHO)	MEDPOL			59,000 d			
Consultation Meeting to identify prioritization criteria for pollution Hot Spots and Sensitive Areas (WHO)	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 d			
Consultation with countries for pre-investment studies	MEDPOL				10,000		50,000 d
Pre-investment studies for pollution abatement in selected hot spots	MEDPOL						2,000,000 e
Consultation Meeting to select pollution Hot Spots for pre-investment studies	MEDPOL	10,000		50,000 d	10,000		
Assessment of health related aspects of the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (WHO)	MEDPOL			15,000 f			15,000 f
Enforcement and Control: Assistance to countries for the formulation and implementation of compliance monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	30,000			30,000		
Assistance to countries for compliance and enforcement of legislation and systems of inspections (WHO)	MEDPOL				40,000		
Consultation Meeting of the informal Network on compliance and enforcement	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000	20,000			
Training courses related to systems of inspection (WHO)	MEDPOL	20,000	20,000	90,000 g			30,000 g
Consultation Meeting on criteria and standards for health-related monitoring of coastal recreational and shellfish waters (WHO)	MEDPOL				30,000		30,000 f
Intercalibration exercise on determination of microbiological pollution (WHO)	MEDPOL				40,000		10,000 f
LBS Protocol/Strategic Action Programme (SAP)/GEF Project: Finalization of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)	MEDPOL			106,000 d			
Preparation of Regional Guidelines for pollution abatement as part of GEF Project	MEDPOL	50,000		104,000 d			36,000 d

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Preparation of Regional Plans for pollution abatement as part of the GEF Project	MEDPOL	100,000		105,000 d			
Preparation of National Action Plans to address pollution from land-based activities	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		480,000 d
Assistance to countries for the preparation of National Action Plans	MEDPOL				40,000		75,000 d
Expert assistance to the inter-ministerial national committees	MEDPOL			180,000 d			
Meetings at national level for the preparation and presentation of National Action Plans	MEDPOL				20,000		80,000 d
Consultation Meeting on reporting methodology for LBS Protocol	MEDPOL				50,000		
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to river pollution monitoring	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 g			60,000 g
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to waste water treatment plant operation and management (WHO)	MEDPOL	30,000		60,000 g			60,000 g
Regional and National Training Courses as part of the GEF Project related to cleaner production techniques	MEDPOL	25,000		140,000 d	5,000		10,000 g
Assistance to countries for the preparation of PRTRs	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
Economic Instruments Implementation of the SAP MED project (support to the national authorities in the implementation of economic instruments in ICAM and mitigation of pollution from land-based activities)	PAP/RAC	40,000		140,000			100,000
Dumping Protocol: Preparation of regional Guidelines according to Art. 4 and 6 of the Protocol	MEDPOL	20,000					
Meeting of Government Experts to approve Guidelines	MEDPOL						70,000 h
Hazardous Wastes Protocol: Assistance for the implementation of the Protocol	MEDPOL				5,000		
Coordination: Meeting of MED POL National Coordinators	MEDPOL				20,000		50,000 h
GEF Project Coordination Meetings	MEDPOL				45,000		139,000 d
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		789,000	71,000	1,961,000	760,000	31,000	3,962,000

- a: Funds secured through the EU/DGVII-1/EuroMediterranean Partnership (MEDA)
- b: Money allocated to Turkey within the framework of the three years LIFE project, of which REMPEC is technical manager.
- c: Funds secured through the EU/DGXI/LIFE Programme.
- d: Fund secured from GEF
- e: \$ 1,000,000 from GEF and \$1,000,000 from FFEM.
- f: Funds partly secured through WHO
- g: Funds secured through FFEM.
- h: Funds expected from host countries

II.B PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (to cover SPA/RAC)

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	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		50,000	50,000		25,000	35,000
Expert meeting on coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitats	SPA/RAC				30,000		20,000
<u>Legal measures</u> Assistance to countries in the setting up and enforcement of their national legislation in the field of sites and species conservation	SPA/RAC	10,000			10,000		
<u>Planning and Management</u> Implementation of the Action Plan for threatened species (monk seal, marine turtles, cetaceans and marine vegetation) adopted within MAP	SPA/RAC		50,000			50,000	
Mediterranean Symposium on marine vegetation	SPA/RAC	20,000					
Assistance for the implementation of CAMPs	SPA/RAC	25,000		25,000	25,000		25,000
Assistance to countries for the establishment and management of SPAs	SPA/RAC		25,000	25,000		20,000	30,000
Setting up of strategies and plans in the field of biodiversity conservation	SPA/RAC		35,000			5,000	
<u>Public information</u> Elaboration and diffusion of data and information relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	SPA/RAC	18,000			18,000		
<u>Exchange of experience and strengthening of national capabilities</u> Training sessions on the scientific and technical aspects of the conservation of the natural common heritage	SPA/RAC	40,000		10,000		30,000	20,000
SPA National Focal Points Meeting	SPA/RAC				40,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		113,000	160,000	110,000	123,000	130,000	130,000

II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES (to cover PAP, ERS and BP RACs)

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
MAP CAMPs Co-ordinating role; implementation of ICAM activities, natural resources, capacity building, preparation of programmes and plans; integration of results and activities; and preparation of bankable projects as a follow-up of CAMP programmes	PAP/RAC	45,000	85,000			130,000	
MCSD Support to follow up MCSD recommendations on ICAM (implementation of ICAM instruments, tools and techniques)	PAP/RAC	9,000			15,000		
ICAM 'Development of ICAM methodology; development and elaboration of tools & techniques for SEA, CCA for tourism, coastal information systems, land and sea use planning systems; and capacity building and institutional strengthening (national and regional workshops and training courses)	PAP/RAC	20,000	20,000		20,000	50,000	
National Focal Points Meeting of PAP/RAC	PAP/RAC				30,000		
Contribution to on-going and planned CAMPs as to remote sensing applications (preliminary studies, capacity building, assistance).	ERS/RAC	10,000			10,000		
Meetings and workshops to introduce, to national planners and decision-makers from Mediterranean Countries, remote-sensing-based activities and their support to the sustainable development process.	ERS/RAC	5,000	10,000			10,000	20,000
Improvement and maintenance of the STEPINMED database in the Internet.	ERS/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Assistance to Mediterranean Countries for the setting-up of proposals to be submitted for outside funds.	ERS/RAC		5,000			6,747	
National Focal Points Meeting of ERS/RAC	ERS/RAC						30,000 a
Consolidation of prospective approaches and related information systems	BP/RAC	10,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	10,000
Preparation for and implementation of MEDA Programme (participation of most RACs)	MEDU						
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		104,000	140,000	10,000	90,000	216,747	60,000

a. External funds to be provided by the Sicilian local administration

II.D INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (to cover MCSD and all MAP structure)

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
Analysis of available information, structures and expertise at National level to support the monitoring of indicators relying on remote sensing techniques.	ERS/RAC	10,000					
Technical assistance to Mediterranean Countries to monitor indicators relying on remote-sensing techniques.	ERS/RAC				10,000		30,000
Implementation of a database on existing data and information relevant to the selected indicators and their availability at national and regional level.	ERS/RAC			25,000			25,000
<u>Observation and prospective study of the environment and development:</u> Regional level assessment of progress on sustainable development in the Mediterranean	BP/RAC		20,000			40,000	
<u>Assistance to countries in assessing progress towards sustainable development and support to follow up on MCSD recommendations on indicators:</u> - calculating indicators; - assistance to national observatories (or equivalent agencies); - national analyses	BP/RAC	15,000	30,000	45,000	15,000	30,000	45,000
Analysis of the free trade-environment relationship (organisation of a workshop)	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000			
Assessment of the social costs (in terms of poverty and health) incurred by the degradation of the environment and of economic tools used for measuring this phenomenon.	BP/RAC	10,000			10,000		
Communication and training activities	BP/RAC			50,000			50,000
MEDSTAT Environment Programme	BP/RAC			400,000			400,000
<u>Tourism and Sustainable Development/MCSD</u> - Assisting in implementing the action plan and drafting the White Paper	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000	15,000		20,000
- Support to follow up of MCSD recommendations on tourism in the field of environmental assessment for tourism planning and coastal areas and for carrying capacity for tourism techniques and for the preparation of the best practices guide	PAP/RAC	25,000			20,000		10,000
<u>Urban management and sustainable development/MCSD</u> Support to the working group: - Urban management tools - Sustainable management of towns	PAP/RAC BP/RAC	25,000 10,000			20,000 10,000		10,000

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Proposed Budget (in US \$)					
		2000			2001		
		MTF	EU	EXT	MTF	EU	EXT
<u>Control of urbanisation and sustainable town management:</u> Retrospective and prospective study of the problems of urbanisation in the Mediterranean and prevention of natural risks	BP/RAC		20,000	20,000	10,000		
Workshop on urban waste management to prepare for feasibility and work programme for MCSD group on "consumption patterns and urban waste management"	BP/RAC	20,000		20,000			
<u>Soil Erosion</u> Erosion and desertification control activities (assistance to countries in preparing plans for coastal areas, training and capacity building for national institutions)	PAP/RAC		25,000	30,000		25,000	30,000
<u>Water Resources</u> Regional workshop to assess the situation in the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management in the region; Preparation of guidelines for application of the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management; and Training course on application of the Decision Support System for Coastal Water Resources Management	PAP/RAC	30,000			30,000		
<u>Rural development, natural areas and resources:</u> - Communication and training activity for water demand - Gathering information and analysing the land question with country experts - Gathering information, analysis and proposal in the field of rural and agricultural development/natural environments and resources	BP/RAC	10,000		20,000			
	BP/RAC	10,000			10,000		
	BP/RAC	10,000		10,000		30,000	
Meeting of Blue Plan Focal Points	BP/RAC				30,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		215,000	95,000	660,000	180,000	125,000	620,000

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS
1. COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece

	Approved Budget			Proposed Budget			
		1999		2000		2001	
		MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP
Professional Staff	m/m						
Coordinator - D.2	12	128,000		131,000		133,000	
Deputy Coordinator - D.1	12	122,000		124,500		127,000	
Senior Programme Officer/ Economist - P.4/P.5	12	121,000		123,500		126,000	
Fund Management/Admin. Officer - P.4	12	*		*		*	
MEDPOL Coordinator - P.5	12	116,000		123,500		126,000	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.4	12	121,000		118,500		121,000	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.3	12	94,000		96,000		98,000	
Computer Operations Officer - P.3	12	92,000		-		-	
Information Officer - P.3/P.4 (a)				96,000		98,000	
Total Professional Staff		794,000		813,000	0	829,000	0
Administrative Support (b)							
Information Assistant - G.6/G.7	12	36,000		37,500		37,500	
Administrative Assistant - G.6/G.7	12	*		*		*	
Senior Secretary - G.5	12	30,000		31,500		31,500	
Administrative Clerk - G.4	12	*		*		*	
Computer Info./System Assistant - G.5	12	*		*		*	
Budget Assistant - G.5(c)	12	30,000		31,500		31,500	
Admin Assistant - G.5/G.6	12	*		*		*	
Library Assistant - G.5 (d)	12	-		31,500		31,500	
Secretary - G.4	12	29,000		30,000		30,000	
Secretary - G.4	12	29,000		30,000		30,000	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	29,000		30,000		30,000	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	29,000		30,000		30,000	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	29,000		30,000		30,000	
Telecommunication Clerk - G.3/G.4	12	27,000		28,000		28,000	
Clerk/Driver - G.3	12	26,000		27,000		27,000	
Office Clerk/Typist - G.3	12	25,000		26,000		26,000	
Clerk/Messenger - /G.2	12	20,000		20,800		20,800	
Temporary Assistance		10,000		10,000		10,000	
Overtime		15,000		15,000		15,000	
Hospitality		12,000		10,000		12,000 **	
Total Administrative support		376,000		418,800	0	420,800	0
Travel on Official Business		111,000		122,000		124,500	
Office Costs							
Rental***			137,000		139,000		141,000
Other Office costs (including sundry) ****		80,900	263,000	89,000	261,000	91,000	259,000
Total Office costs		80,900	400,000	89,000	400,000	91,000	400,000
TOTAL ADMIN. COSTS		1,361,900	400,000	1,442,800	400,000	1,465,300	400,000

* Paid under Programme Support Costs.

** Contracting Parties Meeting.

*** In the case of a change in the location of premises, the adjustment of the budget, due to the change of the cost, to be Proposed by the Bureau.

**** Computers/ office automation/ communications.

(a) In conformity with the discussions of the Bureau of the CP and in line with MAP Information Strategy, it is expected/proposed to convert the post of "Computer Operations Officer" into an "Information Officer" corresponding more to the actual needs of MEDU/MAP. Computer issues would be handled by a G. Staff (post already exists) with local technical support as necessary.

(b) Increase based on the estimated result of the salary survey for 1999.

(c) Position previously paid by the MTF to be covered by Programme Support Costs.

(d) Regularization.

2. MED POL COOPERATING AGENCIES

		Approved Budget (in US\$)	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
		1999	2000	2001
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff				
WHO Programme Officer/Senior Scientist, MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) P.5	m/m 12	115,000	118,000	120,000
IAEA DQA Consultant (Monaco)	4		20,000	20,000
Total Professional Staff		115,000	138,000	140,000
Administrative Support				
WHO Secretary MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) G.5	12	30,000	30,500	31,500
IAEA Laboratory Assistant MEL (Monaco) G.6	12	58,000	55,000	56,100
WMO Temporary Assistance - WMO/HQ (Geneva)		14,000	5,000	5,000
IOC Temporary Assistance - IOC/HQ (Paris)		14,000	5,000	5,000
Total Administrative Support		116,000	95,500	97,600
Travel on Official Business				
WHO (Athens)		15,000	15,000	15,000
WMO (Geneva)		5,000	3,000	3,000
IAEA (Monaco)		15,000	15,000 *	15,000 *
IOC of UNESCO (Paris)		5,000	3,000	3,000
Total Travel		40,000	36,000	36,000
Office costs		**	**	**
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		271,000	269,500	273,600

* 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 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 US\$)	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
		1999	2000	2001
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Director - D.1	12	134,000	128,000	131,500
Technical Expert - P.4	12	115,000	118,000	120,500
Chemist - P.4	12	105,000	108,000	110,000
Junior Professional (CSN) - P.2	12	-	-	-
Total Professional Staff		354,000	354,000	362,000
Administrative Support				
Information Assistant - G.6	12	21,000	22,000	22,500
Administrative Assistant - G.6/G.7*	12	-	12,000	12,500
Senior Secretary/Admin. Assistant G.6	12	21,000	21,000	21,500
Clerk Secretary - G.4	12	17,000	18,000	18,500
Clerk/Secretary - G.4	12	17,000	18,000	18,500
Caretaker/Docs Reproducer - G.3	12	16,000	17,000	17,500
Total Administrative Support		92,000	108,000	111,000
Travel on Official Business		35,000	37,000	38,000
Office costs		76,500	74,000	74,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		557,500	573,000	585,000

* New position to be financed equally by IMO and MAP

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

		Approved Budget (in US\$)	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
		1999	2000	2001
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Chairman	12			
Director	12	*	*	*
Environmental Economist	12	108,000	95,000	100,000
Scientific Director	12	*	*	*
Systemic and Prospective Officer	12	77,000	82,000	83,500
Computer and Data Base Officer	12	46,000 **	54,000 **	55,000 **
Environment Officer	12	***	***	***
Institutional Studies Officer	12	***	***	***
GIS Officer	12	***	***	***
Environment Officer	12	*	*	*
Administrative and Financial Officer	12	52,000 **	56,000 **	57,000 **
Total Professional Staff		283,000	287,000	295,500
Administrative Support				
Data Collection Assistant/Senior Secretary	12	47,000	50,000	51,000
Bilingual Secretary	12	47,000	50,000	51,000
Secretary	12	****	****	****
Documentation Assistant	12	****	****	****
Temporary Assistance		20,000	15,000	15,000
Total Administrative Support		114,000	115,000	117,000
Travel on Official Business		30,000	35,000	35,000
Office and Operating costs		45,000	45,000	45,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		472,000	482,000	492,500

* Seconded by the French Government

** Supplemented by the French Government and other projects.

*** Covered by other projects for 2000 and 2001.

**** Covered by the operating budget of BP/RAC.

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

		Approved Budget (in US\$)	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
		1999	2000	2001
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Director	12	47,000	49,000	51,000
Deputy Director	12	35,000	36,000	38,000
Total Professional Staff		82,000	85,000	89,000
Administrative Support				
Senior Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	25,000	26,000	27,000
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	24,000	25,000	26,000
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	24,000	25,000	26,000
Assistant to Projects/Translator	12	24,000	25,000	26,000
Administrative Assistant	12	24,000	25,000	26,000
Financial Assistant	12	24,000	25,000	26,000
Temporary Assistance		14,000	14,000	14,000
Total Administrative Support		159,000	165,000	171,000
Travel on Official Business		30,000	31,000	32,000
Office costs		81,000	83,000	84,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		352,000	364,000	376,000

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

		Approved Budget	Proposed Budget	
		(in US\$)	(in US\$)	
		1999	2000	2001
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Director	12	33,000 *	33,750 *	34,500 *
Expert	12	16,500 *	17,000 *	17,500 *
Expert	12	62,500	63,750	65,000
Data Researcher	12	44,000	45,000	46,000
Total Professional Staff		156,000	159,500	163,000
Administrative Support				
Administrative Assistant	12	14,000	14,250	14,500
Bilingual Secretary	12	12,000	12,250	12,500
Bilingual Secretary	12	*	12,250	12,500
Driver	12	6,500	6,750	7,000
Finance Officer	12	**	2,000 *	2,000 *
Cleaner	12	**	**	**
Caretaker	12	**	**	**
Temporary Assistance		9,500	5,000	5,000
Total Administrative Support		42,000	52,500	53,500
Travel on Official Business		25,000	25,000	25,000
Office costs		54,000	54,000	54,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		277,000	291,000	295,500

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

** Paid by the Host Country.

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

	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
	2000	2001
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS	*	*

* Personnel/Administrative and Operating Costs are fully covered by the Government of Italy.

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

	Proposed Budget (in US\$)	
	2000	2001
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS	*	*

* Personnel/Administrative and Operating Costs are fully covered by the Government of Spain.

ANNEX I

Draft Recommendations on MAP/NGO Cooperation

Introduction

1. During their last meeting, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its protocols (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997), decided to “undertake a methodological reflection in relation to NGOs participation in MAP” and for this purpose, decided to “establish a Working Group composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties” to review this subject and propose the necessary recommendations.
2. At its last meeting (Tunis, 28 March 1998), the Bureau of the Contracting Parties reviewed the subject, made various comments and requested the Secretariat to convene the meeting of the Working Group and report to the next Bureau meeting, the results of the deliberation of the Working Group.
3. In conformity with those decisions, the meeting of the Working Group was convened at the MAP premises, in Athens, on 9 October 1998.
4. The meeting thoroughly reviewed a secretariat report including draft recommendations on the subject and made various amendments and modifications thereon.
5. The following draft recommendations have been suggested by the Working Group on MAP/NGO Cooperation for the consideration of the Bureau:

Proposed Recommendations

The main objectives of MAP/NGO cooperation are:

- to advance the general purposes of MAP and to promote the policies, strategies and programmes derived from the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and the decision of the meetings of the Contracting Parties;
- to secure expert information, opinion and advice and technical cooperation and assistance from international, regional and national NGOs;
- to enable NGOs which represent important sections of public opinion in the Mediterranean to express the views of their members on environmental issues, raise public awareness and influence public opinion and behaviour for the benefit of the environment.

With a view to attain these objectives, the following specific recommendations are suggested for the consideration of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties:

A. At the Contracting Parties level

1. At the regional level, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to create the appropriate working conditions for NGOs and to facilitate their involvement and active participation in tasks for which they are specialized, or have expertise, through a capacity building programme involving financial assistance, legal

assistance (such as bringing cases to courts), preparation of environmental projects and techniques of raising public awareness.

2. At the national level, encourage partnership between Contracting Parties, the private sector and relevant NGOs, which could produce positive results in dealing with specific environmental and sustainable development issues.

At the national level, encourage NGOs role in organizing and supporting “public hearings” towards particular environmental issues.

B. At the NGOs level

1. NGOs shall fully cooperate with the Mediterranean countries and MAP Secretariat for the furtherance of the objectives of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.
2. NGOs shall provide the MAP Secretariat regularly with information on their activities and changes in their structures.
3. NGOs shall build and strengthen national and regional networks, with wider representation of Mediterranean NGOs in the Networks.
4. NGOs shall cooperate individually or collectively (Networks) in the implementation of MAP programmes and shall prepare qualitative inputs to policy and research projects of MAP.
5. The sharing of experience and lessons, communication and exchange of information within the various NGOs shall be strengthened
6. Encourage Networks of NGOs to be present in MAP meetings by relevant experts.
7. NGO Networks shall guarantee that they would act as focal points of the various NGOs they represent.
8. NGOs shall disseminate information on MAP activities through their Newsletter, Internet web pages and through other channels in order to make MAP’s efforts and importance in the Mediterranean more known to the public at large.
9. NGOs shall be encouraged to invite MAP representative to participate in their Ordinary meetings.

C. At the Secretariat level

1. The MAP Secretariat shall strengthen and upgrade its support to NGOs from the Southern and Eastern parts of the Mediterranean region, which aims at upgrading their capabilities and encouraging their active participation in MAP activities.
2. The MAP Secretariat is to play a facilitating and enabling role to help NGOs build on and strengthen existing mechanisms of collaboration and networking.
3. The Secretariat shall prepare a Capacity Building Programme for Mediterranean individual NGOs and Networks of NGOs accredited to MAP which would encompass, inter alia, the following:

- a. ways and means for promoting the policies, strategies and programmes derived from the Barcelona Convention and its protocols, and the decisions of the Contracting Parties;
 - b. access to information and techniques for raising public awareness towards environmental and sustainable development issues;
 - c. training programmes and workshops;
 - d. financial assistance to NGOs which are responsive to local and national needs and to Networks for regional projects of benefit to a wider community, through a reasonable increase in the MAP budget line for assistance to NGOs, in conformity with UNEP/MAP financial regulations;
 - e. legal assistance to NGOs;
 - f. establishment of new networks and strengthen the existing ones;
 - g. entrust NGOs to act as executing agencies of relevant MAP projects, in particular, in the field of management of biodiversity conservation projects.
4. Establish a small Advisory Group composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties, the NGOs incorporated in the MAP list and of the Secretariat, to meet annually with the objective of addressing and supervising MAP/NGOs cooperation.
 5. Review and update on a regular basis, the MAP/NGOs profile database.
 6. Devote one-page in MAP Bulletin "Medwaves", to NGOs activities.
 7. Explore the possibility of a multi-patriate collaboration of NGOs, international and regional financial institutions, the MAP Secretariat and the Contracting Parties, in the form of joint projects.
 8. The MAP Secretariat is to designate a MAP official with overall responsibility towards NGOs.
 9. The MAP Secretariat is to provide information to NGOs on projects being financed through the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) or through joint projects of MAP and regional and international financial institutions.
 10. Encourage a broad participation of NGOs in MAP activities, not just a selected few.
 11. A selection of NGOs to be incorporated in the MAP/NGO List of Partners shall be based on the real profile (competence in the thematic field) of the organization which will be illustrated in a Dossier to be submitted by the NGO in question containing information on:
 - main objectives and field of competence of the organization;
 - NGO constitution, terms of reference, or articles of association;
 - activity and financial reports;

- bulletins and media articles published by the organization.
12. The selection of organizations to be incorporated in the MAP/NGO list of partners is to follow the same criteria used in the selection of the members of the MCSD, namely selection of organizations representing three categories: Local Authorities, Socio-economic Actors and Environmental NGOs.
 13. The selection process shall start with an official request of the organization, a proposal by the MAP Secretariat to be reviewed by the meeting of the MAP National Focal Points for subsequent approval by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

ANNEX II

**Calendar of Meetings organized in the framework of MAP
during 1998-1999 as of 30 June 1999**

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
	<u>1999</u>			
XVII Meeting of MEDU/RAC on MAP Programme	11-12 Jan. Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason A. Hoballah I. Dharat	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.151/2
Expert Meeting for Environment/ Development Report	15-16 January Sophia Antipolis	BP/RAC with EEA	G. Benoit A. Comeau	Issued by BP/RAC
Expert Meeting on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	27-29 January Split	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic A. Baric	Issued by PAP/RAC
Expert Group on Free Trade and Environment	3 February Geneva	BP/RAC with TASK MANAGER	G. Benoit*	Issued by BP/RAC
Meeting of Experts on Priority Actions for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles	18-20 February Tunis	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	A. Hentati M. Barbieri	Issued by SPA/RAC
National Training Course on Coastal GIS	22-26 February Izmir	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic* T. Radelja*	Issued by PAP/RAC
Coordination Meeting on the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity in the Mediterranean	1 March Tunis	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	A. Hentati	No report expected
Consultation Meeting on Carrying Capacity Assessment	4 March Malta	PAP/RAC	I. Trumbic*	Issued by PAP/RAC
Consultation Meeting on CAMP Malla	5-6 March Malta	PAP/RAC	I. Trumbic* A. Pavasovic*	Issued by PAP/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Meeting of the Steering Committee of MCSD	8-9 March Tunis	UNEP-MEDU (TUNISIA)	L. Chabason* A. Hoballah*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG. 155/3
Subregional Steering Committee Meeting (Israel, Egypt, Cyprus)	8-10 March Israel	REMPEC (LIFE PROJECT)	R. Patruno* D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Meeting on MEDPOL Compliance and Control	16-18 March Athens	UNEP-MEDU (WHO)	G. Kamizoulis F.S. Civili	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.160/1
National Training Course on the Application of Environmentally Sound Approach to planning and Development of Tourism Activities using the Guidelines for Carrying Capacity for Tourism	20-25 March Libya	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	N. Stipica*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Consultation Meeting on CAMP Lebanon	22-24 March Beyrouth	UNEP-MEDU/ PAP/RAC	A. Hoballah* I. Trumbic*	Issued by PAP/RAC
Meeting on MAP Information Strategy	1-2 April Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason A. Hoballah	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.158/2
National Training Course for Waste Water Treatment Plant Operators	2-5 April Alexandria	WHO/ UNEP-MEDU	G. Kamizoulis*	to be issued by WHO
Meeting of Experts for the Elaboration of an Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation	9-10 April Tunis	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	A. Hentati C. Rais	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.153/4
Meeting of National Focal Points for SPA/RAC	12-14 April Tunis	SPA/RAC	A. Hentati I. Dharat*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.154/7

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Regional Training Course of Trainers for Wastewater Treatment Plant Managers	19-22 April Sophia Antipolis	WHO/ UNEP-MEDU	G. Kamizoulis*	to be issued by WHO
Expert Group on Mediterranean Urban Development (MCSD)	26-27 April Split	PAP/RAC and BP/RAC with TASK MANAGERS	I. Trumbic G. Benoit E. Coudert	to be issued by BP/RAC and PAP/RAC
Subregional System (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel) Workshop on Dispersants	26-28 April Israel	REMPEC (LIFE PROJECT)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties	29-30 April Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason I. Dharat	UNEP/BUR/54/5
Working Group on Tourism and Sustainable Development (MCSD)	6-7 May Split	BP/RAC with TASK MANAGER PAP/RAC	G. Benoit E. Coudert A. Hoballah	to be issued by BP/RAC and PAP/RAC
Workshop on Sustainable Development Indicators MCSD	10-11 May Sophia Antipolis	BP/RAC with TASK MANAGER (UNEP-MEDU)	A. Comeau J.P. Giraud and L. Chabason	to be issued by BP/RAC
Expert Meeting for Preparation of Guidelines for Urban Water Resources Management in Mediterranean	13-14 May Split	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Working Group on Industry and Sustainable Development (MCSD)	16-17 May Masa Carrara	UNEP-MEDU (ITALY)	F.S. Civili*	to be issued by MEDPOL and ITALY
Second Meeting of CP/RAC National Focal Points	17-18 May Barcelona	CP/RAC UNEP-MEDU (SPAIN)	V. Màcia G. Kamizoulis*	to be issued by CP/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Working Group on Information, Awareness and Participation (MCSD)	24-25 May Athens	UNEP-MEDU MIO-ECSDE	M. Scoullos A. Hoballah	to be issued by MIO-ECSDE
FAO-PAP/RAC Consultation Meeting on Joint Soil Erosion in Coastal Areas Project	25 May Rome	PAP/RAC	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
National Training Course-Libya Meeting with National Authorities	May (tentative) Libya	REMPEC	R. Patruno* D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Working Group on Free Trade and Environment (MCSD)	4-5 June Barcelona	BP/RAC/ TASK MANAGERS/ UNEP-MEDU	G. Benoit A. Hoballah*	to be issued by BP/RAC
Final Presentation Conference on the Fuka-Matrouh CAMP	8-9 June Cairo	UNEP-MEDU PAP/RAC (EGYPT)	L. Chabason* I. Dharat* I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Bilateral Training Course (Slovenia and Croatia)	9-11 June (Croatia)	REMPEC	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REM PEC
Subregional System Training Course on Crisis Management	14-18 June Cyprus	REMPEC (LIFE PROJECT)	R. Patruno* D. Domovic*	To be issued by REMPEC
Meeting of MEDPOL Coordinators/ LBS-SAP Experts	20-23 June Reggio Calabria	UNEP-MEDU (ITALY)	F.S. Civili*	to be issued by MEDU
National Training Course-Libya Meeting with National Authorities	21-24 June Libya	REMPEC	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Consultation Meeting on CAMP Israel	June Jerusalem	PAP/RAC PB/RAC	I. Trumbic D. Valleé	to be issued by BP/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Subregional Training Course on Oil Spill Modeling	June Egypt (tentative)	REMPEC	R. Patruno* D. Domovic* S. Micallef*	to be issued by REMPEC
Oil Spill Exercise	June (tentative) Tunis	REMPEC (MOIG)	Y. Charles	to be issued by REMPEC
Bilateral Training Course (Slovenia and Croatia)	June (tentative) Croatia	REMPEC	R. Patruno D. Domovic S. Micallef	to be issued by REMPEC
Forum in Malta	2 July Malta	ERS/RAC-IcoD (UNEP/MAP)	S. Carnemolla	to be issued by ERS/RAC
Fifth Meeting of MCSD	1-3 July Rome	UNEP-MEDU (ITALY)	I. Chabason* A. Hoballah*	to be issued by MEDU
Oil Spill Exercise	6-8 July Tunis	REMPEC/ MOIG	R. Patruno* Y. Charles*	
Subregional System Training Course on the use of Oil Spill Model	end of July Egypt	REMPEC (LIFE PROJECT)	D. Domovic* Y. Charles*	to be issued by REMPEC
MAP National Focal Points Meeting	6-9 Sept. Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason A. Hoballah	to be issued by MEDU
Second Meeting of Experts to amend the Emergency Protocol	16-18 Sept. Catania Sicily (tentative)	UNEP-MEDU (ITALY)	F.S. Civili* R. Patruno* D. Domovic* S. Micallef* C. Galea*	to be issued by MEDU
Subregional System Joint Oil Spill Exercise	27-30 Sept. (tentative) Israel	REMPEC (LIFE PROJECT)	D. Domovic Y. Charles	to be issued by REMPEC
Regional Training Course MEDEXPOL 98	10-16 Oct. Tunisia	REMPEC	R. Patruno* D. Domovic* S. Micallef* Y. Charles*	to be issued by REMPEC
11th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties	27-30 Oct. Malta	UNEP-MEDU (MALTA)	L. Chabason* A. Hoballah*	to be issued by MEDU
Forum in Lebanon	October Lebanon	ERS/RAC- CNRSL (UNEP-MEDU)	S. Carnemolla	to be issued by ERS/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Subregional System Joint Oil Spill Exercise	9-14 Nov. Israel	REMPEC/LIFE PROJECT	D. Domovic* S. Micallef* Y. Charles*	to be issued by REMPEC
Workshop on CAMP Malta	29 Nov.-1 Dec. Malta (tentative)	PAP/RAC	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
PAP/RAC-MEDCOAST-University of Split Workshop on Economic Instruments in ICAM during MEDCOAST/EMEC S Conference	2nd week of November Antalya	PAP/RAC MEDCOAST UNIVERSITY OF SPLIT	I. Trumbic	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Workshop on National Observatories for Environment and Development	November Tunisia (tentative)	BP/RAC (TUNISIA)	A. Comeau* S. Laria* A. Hoballah*	to be issued by BP/RAC
Regional Workshop on Urban Water System Planning	2 December Malta (tentative)	PAP/RAC	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Subregional System-Training Course on Oil Spill Modeling	December (tentative) Cyprus	REMPEC/LIFE PROJECT	D. Domovic* Y. Charles*	to be issued by REMPEC
Workshop on National Sustainable Development Strategies in the Mediterranean UN-CSD and MCSD	end 99/ early 2000	UNEP-MEDU/ UNCSO	A. Hoballah	to be issued by MEDU

Annex III MAP Information Strategy

Introduction

During their Tenth Ordinary Meeting (Tunis, 18-21 November 1997) the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention requested of the Secretariat to present to the Bureau a concrete action programme in the area of information within the MAP system. A report presenting such a programme was submitted by the Secretariat to the Bureau Meeting (Tripoli, 16-17 November, 1998) for its consideration. Following the review of the document presented, the Bureau requested of the Secretariat to convene a Working Group meeting on MAP Information Strategy.

This document represents the initial document presented, amended mainly as to its recommendations to reflect the conclusions of the Working Group Meeting on MAP Information Strategy, Athens, 1-2 April 1999.

1. MAP's mandate

In June 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) brought together in Rio de Janeiro, the greatest number of Heads of State and Government ever assembled in one place to discuss environment and sustainable development.

The "Rio Declaration" adopted, includes an important statement on the right of the general public to be considered in matters related to the environment. Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states:

"At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes"

Recognizing the important role which public information and public awareness may play in the success of any MAP strategy in the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the sustainable development of the region, provisions were made in MAP Phase II, and various amendments have been introduced to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as well as three new protocols approved during the period 1994-1997.

These legal instruments should constitute the legal basis for a MAP Information and Public Awareness Strategy.

2. The role of MAP

The role which MAP is called to play on information is to coordinate action and act as a catalyst in the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the region.

Specifically:

- 2.1 provide relevant information to decision makers in order to assist them in the promotion and the implementation of sustainable development and the protection of the environment;
- 2.2 provide information to the public in connection with the state of the environment of the Mediterranean region and the measures adopted for improvement in order that environmental awareness in the Mediterranean region be enhanced;
- 2.3 encourage public access and participation to information activities for the protection of the environment in the Mediterranean region;
- 2.4 mobilize participation and involvement of major actors concerned.

3. MAP's strategy on information and public awareness

In order to enable MAP to fulfill its role, a detailed MAP Information and Public Awareness Strategy should be formed. This strategy should describe the kind of information and the message(s) to be communicated to the MAP partners and the public at large as well as the most effective Environmental Communication procedure. Information may be defined as follows:

- 3.1 **Information for decision-making:** A critical component of environmental policy making. In fact, communication and development are inseparable. Policy makers, business and industry leaders and government officers soon came to realize that public sentiment had become an important consideration in matters related to the environment, and that policy decisions should be based on sound information.
- 3.2 **Public Information, general awareness raising:** The process of conveying information related to the public or sometimes to special target groups (e.g. schoolchildren, tourists, industrialists etc) with a view to enlisting their support for particular MAP objectives and to promoting general MAP aims. Participation is not a solitary thing, rather it refers to a combination of activities and outcomes.
- 3.3 **Public access and participation:** Publicizing the issues addressed, objectives pursued and breakthroughs made under MAP, to as large and mixed a public as possible through various means of communication, providing access to information and encouraging the public to participate and engage in dialogue.

In order to form a fundamental strategy with explicit public information and awareness objectives, and timetables for achieving them, the entire process must be sensitive to cultural, social, political and economic concerns of the region and adapt accordingly. Therefore different and strategic roles need to be assigned to the various categories of Focal Points of the Contracting Parties and to the Regional Activity Centres (RACs).

MAP Information and Awareness Strategy should be based on a well defined plan with clear objectives: WHAT, TO WHOM, HOW.

Recommendations

- **Create a full time Information Officer post at MEDU;**
- **invite the Contracting Parties to appoint Focal Points on information. The Focal Points should be staffed by appropriate, qualified professionals;**
- **design and use a common MAP template (MAP brand identification) in all MAP (MEDU, RACs) publications including a MAP logo.**

4. The Product: What is to be communicated

The Barcelona Convention, its mandate and MAPs profile and work. The activities, products and MAP's 20 years of experience in the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the region together with other selected and useful information in order to support decision making and enhance environmental awareness.

Recommendation

- **The Contracting Parties should define the kind of information to be communicated.**

5. The Target: Whom the Product is to be communicated to

The term Target, in this context, is referred to the public at which MAP information and awareness outputs are aimed. This public should be the beneficiary of MAP's information strategy and are grouped as follows:

- 5.1 - Decision-makers (eg. Contracting Parties, Governments agencies, MAP Focal Points);
 - IGOs (UNEP, UNDP, IOC, IMO, FAO, WHO, European Commission, Convention Secretariats etc.).
- 5.2 - Economic and social sectors;
 - business community/private sector;
 - Universities, libraries, scientific community;
 - NGOs.
- 5.3 - Children and youth ;
 - the mass media;

- tourist population.

In order to reach all target groups the key element is "nationalization". The Regional Activity Centres and the Contracting Parties must be supported in information capacity building, and be urged to assist both in the preparation and dissemination of MAP information. It is unlikely that MAP and its human resources, however efficient, could be effective in reaching regional, national and local audiences without the assistance of competent authorities on a regional and national level.

However until the necessary assistance to the present staff is actually funded (to be defined in relation with the scope of adopted MAP information strategy), improvements could indeed be implemented by the existing MAP human resources.

Recommendations

- **the target groups should be broadened and updated periodically according to the needs;**
- **the MEDU, the RACs and the prospective Information Focal Points should play an active role in the dissemination of MEDU and MAP information on the international, regional, national and local levels;**
- **the MEDU, the RACs and the prospective Information Focal Points should ensure that the MAP mailing list is properly reviewed and routinely updated and that cooperation between MEDU and RACs, regarding the mailing list and the dissemination of information in general, is enhanced;**
- **RACs should ensure the timely deposit of all publications and reports with the MEDU library;**
- **whenever the relevant bodies within the Contracting Parties issue publications on the environment, these publications should refer to MAP and MAP activities when related.**

6. The Means: Ways and resources to be used

The following should be taken into consideration:

Conditions for the wide dissemination of MAP information vary greatly from country to country within the region. Apart from cultural, economic geopolitical and language differences, there are very distinct differences in the technology for the accession, management and dissemination of information among the MAP countries.

The Contracting Parties differ in their receptivity to information about MAP. For example, political and public sensitivity to environmental issues is much keener in some countries than in others, and some have much longer-established tradition, institutions and means for the dissemination of information.

Public Information varies greatly in different parts of the region. Certain issues which are of great public concern in some Contracting Parties, may have little or no relevance in others.

The processes in reaching the public vary from country to country, and certain media are more developed than others in different countries and situations.

Presently, the Target groups are reached through a mailing list containing approximately 1714 entries and compiled by the Athens MEDU and by the RACs. The following means are being used or have been used:

6.1 Publications

- a. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS
 - MAP Technical Report Series (MTS)
 - Convention and Protocols
 - MAP and RACs Reports of Meetings
 - RACs publications

- b. GENERAL INFORMATION MATERIAL
 - MedWaves
 - Brochures and Leaflets
 - Posters and Stickers

- a. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

- MAP Technical Report Series (MTS)

- The series contains selected reports resulting from the various activities performed within the framework of the components of MAP. So far 124 volumes have been published which have been disseminated as per the MEDU mailing list, and on request.

Recommendations

- **Upgrade the presentation of MTS; immediate action to be taken on the presentation of the MTS. In the medium term the MTS should be systematically proofread and edited by a qualified editor, preferably with a scientific background, prior to publication;**
- **encourage RACs to publish in the MTS;**
- **urge National Focal Points to assist MEDU in the enhancement of the MTS mailing list by supplying a list of national NGOs and libraries.**

Convention and Protocols

- *Mediterranean Action Plan and the Final Act of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Coastal States of the Mediterranean Region for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea, 52 pages. United Nations, New York 1980. Languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic.*

- *Mediterranean Action Plan Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Coastal States of the Mediterranean Region for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-Based Sources. Final Act and Protocol, 18 pages.*

Published by the United Nations, New York 1980.

- *Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas*, 32 pages. MEDU, Athens, 1986. Languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic (in one volume).
- *Mediterranean Action Plan and Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols*, 61 pages. MEDU, Athens, 1992. Languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic.
- *Mediterranean Action Plan and Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols*, Informal Document. MEDU, Athens, 1997.

These have been distributed to a selected group of the MAP family (Focal Points, Government experts, IGOs, NGOs, libraries) and, upon request, to institutions and the media.

Recommendations

- **Improve the presentation (easy-to read, easy-to-access, easy reference); the medium term goal should be a common design template and potential MAP logo;**
- **publications should be available in English and French, special efforts should be made to have them also in Arabic, moreover, publications should be distributed at an information stand during meetings.**

MAP and RACs Reports of Meetings

All MAP Meeting reports and documents, 1975 to present, are deposited with the MEDU library, and constitute the MEDDOC database. *A MAP List of Meetings and Documents* is published and distributed biennially.

Reports of MAP meetings are distributed to a selected group of the MAP and RAC family (focal points, Government experts, IGOs, NGOs) and upon request, to Institutions, academics, researchers, students as well as the mass media.

RACs Publications

Recommendations

- **Encourage RACs to upgrade their publications as they produce and distribute their own;**
- **RACs publications to conform to the common design template (MAP brand identification) and include MAP logo in the long term.**

b. GENERAL INFORMATION MATERIAL

Recommendation

- **MAP Information material should be also published in the Arabic language.**

MedWaves (MW)

The first issue of MedWaves was published in July 1985 in English and French. Since 1990, following the decision of the Contracting Parties, MedWaves has been published in English, French and Arabic. The first issue of MedWaves in Arabic is no 19, January 1990. MedWaves magazine is issued three to four times annually and mailed by MEDU to nearly 2000 recipients in multiple copies worldwide. It is distributed to Focal Points, Government experts, libraries, scientists, NGOs, IGOs, journalists and others upon request.

Recommendations

- **Place electronic version of MedWaves on the MAP Web Site;**
- **improve the design and layout of MedWaves, though progress has already been made. Restructure contents (analytical part, per major theme and per issue, activities, achievements, RAC/NGO information, list of meetings etc.);**
- **ensure the timely delivery of reports to the MW Editor by the Focal Points and other sources;**
- **allocate a one or a one-half page for each RAC and one page for NGO- MAP Partners, and make these contributors responsible for providing the text for the updating of the page;**
- **send MW to RACs, Focal Points and NGOs, and urge them to distribute MW to National/local NGOs and libraries, institutions, scientists and the media;**
- **appraise the feasibility of increasing the frequency of MW publication (6 issues per year) in conjunction with reducing the number of pages.**

Brochures and leaflets

- The first MAP brochure, the *Mediterranean Action Plan*, 28 pages, was prepared and published in 1985 by MEDU in all Mediterranean languages. It has been distributed by MEDU to international recipients and by the Focal Points on a national level.
- *Genoa Declaration on the Second Mediterranean Decade*, prepared and published by MEDU in 1988. Languages: All Mediterranean languages (in one volume).
- *High and Dry brochure*, 48 pages, designed and published by MEDU and OCA/PAC (Nairobi), in 1991. Languages: English, French, Arabic.
- MAP brochure, the *Mediterranean Action Plan*, 40 pages, prepared for the Rio Summit, compiled and published by MEDU in 1991. Languages: English and French.

- MAP brochure on MCSD, *Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development: A Regional Channel for Agenda 21*, prepared and published by MEDU in 1997. Languages: English and French (in one volume).
- MAP brochure, the *Mediterranean Action Plan: A Contribution to Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Basin*, 36 pages, prepared and published by MEDU in 1996. Languages: English, French.
- MAP leaflet, four-fold prepared and published by MEDU in 1997. Languages: English, French.
- Various Blue Plan and SPA/RAC brochures.

Recommendations

- **Update the institutional MAP brochure as necessary; possibly with the addition of a back page pocket for inserting updated information. Languages: English, French, Arabic;**
- **create**
 - a) **promotional, analytical eye-catching, easy-to-read, easy-to-absorb brochure**
 - b) **leaflet with focus on the Mediterranean environment.****Languages: English, French, Arabic; all Mediterranean languages in the long term.**
- **create a special brochure for children and youth (seek the assistance of a country with proven experience in such types of brochures), possibly as part of a comprehensive educational pack. Languages: All Mediterranean languages.**

Posters and Stickers

- *Turtle poster*
Printed in Athens in 1986 by MEDU. Photograph A. Demetropoulos. 5000 copies;
- *Monk Seal poster*
Printed by Water Branch, UNEP, Nairobi in 1998. Design by J. Lamb. 10000 copies were sent to MEDU;
- *Dolphin poster*
Printed in Athens in 1985 by MEDU. 1000 copies;
- *MEDUNIT poster (Art)*
Printed in Athens in 1986 by MEDU. 1000 copies.

Stickers mentioned hereunder were financed by Water Branch, UNEP, Nairobi. It must be noted that none of these stickers were originally designed to serve MAP purposes.

- *SOS Message in a bottle*: Designed and printed in two sizes by MEDU, in 1984, 100000 copies. Reprinted in 1985, 1986 and 1993.

It must be noted that this sticker is being used by UNEP for the "Year of the Ocean 1998" and appears in the UNEP letterheads;

- *Dolphin*: Designed and printed by MEDU in 1984. 150000 copies. Reprinted in 1985, 1987, 1991, 1993;
- *Pink Whale*: Designed and printed by MEDU in 1985. 50000 copies. Reprinted in 1985 and 1993;
- *Keep our Seas Alive*: Designed and printed by MEDU in 1985. 150.000 copies. Reprinted in 1987 and 1993;
- *Help Stop Global Warming and Sea-level Rise*: Designed by the Water Branch, Nairobi. Printed in Athens by MEDU in 1988. 100000 copies. Reprinted in 1991.

Recommendations

- **A well designed series of posters and stickers is an excellent way to reach the general public. The impact should be mainly visual and include the MAP logo. Where textual message exists this should be in the local language.**

6.2 *The MEDU Library*

The MEDU library, established in May 1986, houses a small special collection of monographs, scientific periodicals, technical reports and reference publications on marine pollution, sustainable development, environmental policy and law, climate change and other related topics. It serves as a depository for RACs publications and reports as well as for UNEP and other UN Agencies scientific and technical publications, and maintains a complete official documents collection and data base of meetings organized and convened by MAP from 1975 to present. Designated for the use of the MEDU staff, the library, despite its limited resources, has continued to offer assistance and to provide reference services and training to the Mediterranean scientific, professional and student community.

Recommendations

- **Define the policy and set guidelines regarding the MEDU library status, services, as well as its potential in the framework of MAP and MAP policy on information;**
- **organize the library's collection in electronic form in order to facilitate collection management and development and enhance library services;**
- **design and compile a MAP library database of MEDU and RACs library holdings (documents, publications). Make the database accessible and searchable via conventional means and via the Internet;**
- **create a MAP library information network with the MEDU library serving as the Focal Point and the active participation of RACs for effective information exchange and dissemination;**
- **enhance the MEDU library's presence on the MAP Web Site;**

- **support the library and the library's role in order that its growing responsibilities as a Centre for the deposit/acquisition, management and dissemination of environmental information in the region, be met. To that end, full time library staffing and a librarian's post should be established.**

6.3 MAP Web Site

The MAP Web Site was designed by Data Processing and the Library and was uploaded to UNEP server in August 1997, upon approval by the professional staff meeting. It consists of, Information on MAP; History and Milestones; Legal Framework of MAP; Institutional Structure; Partnerships; Programme of Activities; Publications; and up-to-date news as well as glossary of terms. Moreover, it provides downloading option for copies of selected MAP meeting reports, the Barcelona Convention and Protocols, copies of 73 MAP Technical Reports and various other documents and publications.

The Web Site may be accessed at: <http://www.unepmap.org> and is updated approximately, every three weeks.

Recommendations

- **Assign responsibility for the contents and updating of the MAP Web Site to the prospective MEDU Information Officer;**
- **recruit professional services for enhancing the Web Site design;**
- **make contents of Web Site bilingual, English and French.**

6.4 Mass media

The press is contacted through, press releases, interviews, direct contact with individual journalists, press conferences on the occasion of the Contracting Parties meetings.

It must be taken into consideration that the Mass Media (Newspapers, magazines, written publications, radio, television) is a very special target group, as they have the potential of reaching a great number of people.

The print medium, most often available to a mass audience, is the newspaper. However, it must be noted that:

- Environmental journalists are often presented with technical and sometimes conflicting information and are required, under deadlines, to make sense of material referring to complex issues and make it readable and comprehensible. This leads to a confusing picture for the public and, at times, undermines the credibility of journalists on environmental issues;
- there is too much press release journalism, crisis-oriented, inconsistent, lacking in follow-up and not enough analysis of the issue;
- MEDU has to manage the press for maximum efficiency in promoting the goals and activities of MAP.

Recommendations

- **Improve liaison with mass media through the prospective Information Officer at MEDU;**
- **prepare a press kit with basic information on MAP goals and activities for distribution at press conferences, during Mediterranean Environment Week etc.;**
- **issue periodic MAP press releases and feature stories in English, French and Arabic;**
- **utilize prospective MAP Information Focal Points for the dissemination of MAP information to the local media.**

6.5 *Other means*

- Exhibitions
- TV/Video Film outputs
- special events

Exhibitions

MAP has organized the following exhibitions:

- *The 1983 Exhibition panels:*
In 1983 T. Farcas, consultant, Water Branch, Geneva, created an exhibition consisting of 12 light-weight panels, which was shown in 1983 during the meeting of the Contracting Parties in Dubrovnik.
- *The 1985 Exhibition panels:*
In 1985, a new MAP exhibition was created by Mr. N. Gabrielli, architect and consultant of the Municipality of Genoa. The exhibition consisted of 35 plastic-coated aluminum panels, each weighing 5 kilos. This exhibition was shown at the 1985 meeting of the Contracting Parties in Genoa; in Athens, December 1985 as part of the celebrations for the 10th anniversary of MAP; in Algiers, March 1986; in Tunis, November 1986; in Nairobi (French Cultural Week), March 1987; in Malta, July 1988; and in Tripoli (Libya), February 1989.

In March 1990 MAP discontinued the used of this exhibition since the data shown had become obsolete.

- *The 1992 Exhibition panels:*
In 1992, a new MAP exhibition was created by M. Caparis, consultant, and the Senior Information/Conference Assistant. The exhibition consisted of 18 light-weight, easy to transport panels, 43 pictures with photographs and texts. It was shown at the Thessaloniki International Fair, September 1992; in Piraeus at the Music, Vision, Media Exhibition in November 1992; in Athens at the Multimedia Exhibition in December 1992; and at the HELECO Exhibition in April 1993; in Nicosia, in September 1993; at the Thessaloniki International Fair in September 1993; in Antalya, in October 1993; at the Thessaloniki International Fair in September 1994. In January 1995, MAP discontinued the use of this exhibition since the data shown had become obsolete.
- *Computer slide show on MAP:*
Prepared by Data Processing and shown to the delegates in Barcelona, at the Contracting Parties Meeting, in Barcelona, in 1995.
- *UNEP Photo Exhibition:*
On loan by UNEP Nairobi, 60 photographs, no text. Shown at the Cultural Centre of the Municipality of Athens, in September 1994. Inaugurated by the Coordinator and the Deputy Mayor of Athens.

It should be taken into consideration that these exhibitions intended as a portable display for frequent use around the region, are in fact, only barely mobile and costly to transport.

Recommendations

- **Develop a good set of transparencies and/or slides for the use of professional staff and RACs;**
- **discontinue such type of exhibitions which are costly to transport;**
- **encourage and support exhibitions organized on a national and local level, especially exhibitions for children.**

TV/video Film output

- MAP produced a video in 1995, 15 minutes long, which follows closely along the thematic lines of the MAP first booklet.
This video lacks creative and local appeal and is outdated.
- Television Trust for the Environment (TVE) produced in 1990, a 52 min. video: "*Mucking up the MED*". The video, a great success, is now outdated.

Recommendations

- **Secure funds (external) for an updated video and TV spots on the Mediterranean environment and the Mediterranean Action Plan, promoting MAP and its activities;**

Special Events

World Environment Day

The material regarding the World Environment Day is prepared, produced and disseminated directly by UNEP Headquarters. It must be noted that this material reaches the Contracting Parties and RACs late in May.

Mediterranean Environment Week (Genoa Declaration 1985)

Until today, the Mediterranean Environment Week has been occasionally observed. However, it could become the highest expression of Contracting Parties solidarity. Mediterranean Environment Week is a unique opportunity to bring MAP alive for its public.

In order to achieve results, careful planning as well as production of relevant material, timely dissemination and careful planning of events should be organized by MEDU in close cooperation with the Contracting Parties and RACs.

Recommendations

- **Engage schools with a painting competition, the awards to be given during the Mediterranean Environment Week;**
- **consider instituting special awards, e.g. “Most Environment-Conscious Business Enterprise”.**

Appendix I

Introduction

These recommendations were finalized and approved at the conclusion of the meeting of the Working Group on MAP Information Strategy (Athens, 1-2 April 1999). They are arranged in short, medium and long term action and are referred in the main body of the document by Topic.

Recommendations

Short Term (0-12 months)

- Create a full time Information Officer post at MEDU;
- create a full time Librarian post at MEDU;
- invite the Contracting Parties to appoint Focal Points on Information. The Focal Points should be staffed by appropriate, qualified professionals;
- upgrade the presentation and the printing quality of MTS;
- recruit professional services for enhancing the MAP Web Site design;
- place electronic version of MedWaves on the MAP Web Site;
- assign responsibility for the contents and updating of the Web Site to the prospective MEDU Information Officer;
- each RAC to assign responsibility on information to a designated staff member;
- in cooperation with the prospective Information Focal Points and the RACs, ensure the proper review and the regular updating of the MAP mailing list for more efficient use;
- ensure the timely deposit of all RACs reports and publications with the MEDU library;
- develop a good set of transparencies and/or slides for the use of professional staff and the RACs.

Medium Term (12-24 months)

- Design and use a common MAP template (MAP brand identification) in all MAP (MEDU, RACs) publications including a MAP logo;
- improve the design/layout of MedWaves. Appraise the feasibility of increasing the frequency of publication (6 issues per year) in conjunction with reducing the number of pages;
- allocate a one or one-half page for each RAC and one page for NGO-MAP Partners, and make these contributors responsible for the updating of the page;
- update the institutional MAP brochure as necessary, Languages: English, French, Arabic;
- create: a) a promotional, analytical, eye-catching, easy-to-read, easy-to-absorb brochure, b) a leaflet with focus on the Mediterranean environment. Languages: English, French, Arabic; all Mediterranean languages in the long term;
- organize the MEDU library's collection in electronic form in order to facilitate collection

- management and development, and enhance library services;
- enhance the MEDU library's presence on the MAP Web Site;
- make contents of the Web Site bilingual, English and French;
- improve liaison with mass media through the prospective Information Officer at MEDU;
- issue periodic MAP press releases and feature stories in English, French and Arabic;
- utilize prospective MAP Information Focal Points for the dissemination of MAP Information to the local media;
- prepare a press kit with basic information on MAP goals and activities for distribution at press conferences, during Mediterranean Environment Week etc;
- engage schools with a painting competition, the awards to be given during Mediterranean Environment Week;
- have MTS proofread and edited by a qualified editor, preferably with a scientific background, prior to publication.

**Long Term
(24-36 months)**

- Make MAP publications available in English and French and, special efforts should be made to have them also in Arabic and distribute them at an information stand during meetings;
- create a special brochure for children and youth, possibly as part of a comprehensive educational pack;
- design a series of posters and stickers, as an excellent way to reach the general public, with the impact being mainly visual, and include the MAP logo. Where textual message exists, this should be in the local language;
- create a MAP library information network with the MEDU library serving as the Focal Point and the active participation of RACs for effective information sharing and dissemination;
- organize training programmes on information management and public awareness for nationals of developing Mediterranean countries;
- secure funds (external) for an updated video and for TV spots on the Mediterranean environment and the Mediterranean Action Plan, promoting MAP and its activities;
- consider instituting special awards, e.g. "Most Environment-Conscious Business Enterprise".

ANNEX IV

STATUS OF SIGNATURES AND RATIFICATIONS OF THE CONVENTION FOR
THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS

Status as of 31 May 1999

Contracting Party	Barcelona Convention ¹			Dumping Protocol ²			Emergency Protocol ³	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.5.90/AC		-	30.5.90/AC		-	30.5.90/AC
Algeria	-	16.2.81/AC		-	16.3.81/AC		-	16.3.81/AC
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	1.3.92/SUC		-	1.3.92/SUC		-	1.3.92/SUC
Croatia	-	8.10.91/SUC	12.3.99	-	8.10.91/SUC	12.3.99	-	8.10.91/SUC
Cyprus	16.2.76	19.11.79		16.2.76	19.11.79		16.2.76	19.11.79
European Community	13.9.76	16.3.78/AP		13.9.76	16.3.78/AP		13.9.76	12.8.81/AP
Egypt	16.2.76	24.8.78/AP		16.2.76	24.8.78/AP		16.2.76	24.8.78/AC
France	16.2.76	11.3.78/AP		16.2.76	11.3.78/AP		16.2.76	11.3.78/AP
Greece	16.2.76	3.1.79		11.2.77	3.1.79		16.2.76	3.1.79
Israel	16.2.76	3.3.78		16.2.76	1.3.84		16.2.76	3.3.78
Italy	16.2.76	3.2.79		16.2.76	3.2.79		16.2.76	3.2.79
Lebanon	16.2.76	8.11.77/AC		16.2.76	8.11.77/AC		16.2.76	8.11.77/AC
Libya	31.1.77	31.1.79		31.1.77	31.1.79		31.1.77	31.1.79
Malta	16.2.76	30.12.77		16.2.76	30.12.77		16.2.76	30.12.77
Monaco	16.2.76	20.9.77	11.4.97	16.2.76	20.9.77	11.4.97	16.2.76	20.9.77
Morocco	16.2.76	15.1.80		16.2.76	15.1.80		16.2.76	15.1.80
Slovenia	-	15.3.94/AC		-	15.3.94/AC		-	15.3.94/AC
Spain	16.2.76	17.12.76		16.2.76	17.12.76		16.2.76	17.12.76
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC		-	26.12.78/AC		-	26.12.78/AC
Tunisia	25.5.76	30.7.77	27.2.98	25.5.76	30.7.77	27.2.98	25.5.76	30.7.77
Turkey	16.2.76	6.4.81		16.2.76	6.4.81		16.2.76	6.4.81

Accession: AC

Approval: AP

Succession: SUC

Contracting Parties	Land-Based Sources Protocol ^{ff}			Specially Protected Areas Protocol ^{ff}		SPA & Biodiversity Protocol ^{ff}		Offshore Protocol ^{ff}		Hazardous Wastes Protocol ^{ff}	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.5.90/AC		-	30.5.90/AC	10.6.95	-	-	-	-	-
Algeria	-	2.5.83/AC		-	16.5.85/AC	10.6.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	22.10.94/SUC		-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	12.6.92/SUC		-	12.6.92/SUC	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	17.5.80	28.6.88		-	28.6.88/AC	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
European Community	17.5.80	7.10.83/AP		30.3.83	30.6.84/AP	10.6.95	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	18.5.83/AC		16.2.83	8.7.83	10.6.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
France	17.5.80	13.7.82/AP		3.4.82	2.9.86/AP	10.6.95	-	-	-	-	-
Greece	17.5.80	26.1.87		3.4.82	26.1.87	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Israel	17.5.80	21.2.91		3.4.82	28.10.87	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
Italy	17.5.80	4.7.85		3.4.82	4.7.85	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Lebanon	17.5.80	27.12.94		-	27.12.94/AC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	17.5.80	6.6.89/AP		-	6.6.89/AC	10.6.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Malta	17.5.80	2.3.89		3.4.82	11.1.88	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Monaco	17.5.80	12.1.83	26.11.96	3.4.82	29.5.89	10.6.95	3.6.97	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Morocco	17.5.80	9.2.87		2.4.83	22.6.90	10.6.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Slovenia	-	16.9.93/AC		-	16.9.93/AC	-	-	10.10.95	-	-	-
Spain	17.5.80	6.6.84		3.4.82	22.12.87	10.6.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Syria	-	1.12.93/AC		-	11.9.92/AC	-	-	20.09.95	-	-	-
Tunisia	17.5.80	29.10.81	27.2.98	3.4.82	26.5.83	10.6.95	27.2.98	14.10.94	27.2.98	01.10.96	27.2.98
Turkey	-	21.2.83/AC		-	6.11.86/AC	10.6.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-

- 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 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
- 5/ The Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)
Adopted (Geneva): 3 April 1982
Entry into force : 23 March 1986
- 6/ The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 10 June 1995
Entry into force: -
- 7/ 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): 14 October 1994
Entry into force: -
- 8/ Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Tranboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol)
Adopted (Izmir): 1 October 1996
Entry into force: -

ANNEXE V

REGIONAL TRUST FUND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION (ME)

Status of contributions as at 30 June 1999
(Expressed in US Dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid pledges as at 31 Dec 1998	Adjustments	Pledges for 1999	Collections during 1999 for 1999 and fut. years	Collections during 1999 for prior years	Unpaid pledges for 1999 & prior years
Albania	3,256	0	3,321	0	0	6,577
Algeria	63,405	0	49,821	0	0	113,226
Bosnia Herzegovina	65,576	0	14,235	0	0	79,811
Croatia	172,808	0	46,024	0	0	218,832
Cyprus	0	0	6,643	0	0	6,643
E.C	0	0	118,621	0	0	118,621
Egypt	23,550	0	23,250	0	0	46,800
France	0	0	1,801,597	0	0	1,801,597
Greece	-91,795	1/	133,328	0	0	41,533
Israel	0	0	69,748	69,748	0	0
Italy	274,389	0	1,488,441	1,069,753	274,389	418,688
Lebanon	6,556	0	3,321	0	0	9,877
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	298,506	0	93,473	0	0	391,979
Malta	0	0	3,321	0	0	3,321
Monaco	12	0	3,321	0	0	3,333
Morocco	0	0	13,286	0	0	13,286
Slovenia	62,756	0	31,790	0	0	94,546
Spain	0	0	711,244	0	0	711,244
Syrian Arab Rep.	24,203	0	13,286	0	0	37,489
Tunisia	0	0	9,964	0	0	9,964
Turkey	0	0	106,758	0	0	106,758
Yugoslavia	469,976	0	0	0	0	469,976
Total	1,373,198	0	4,744,793	1,139,501	274,389	4,704,101

Additional Contributions						
E.E.C	-2,923	0	551,426	0	0	548,503
Host Country *	0	0	400,000	400,000	2/	0
UNEP Env. Fund	0	0	50,000	0	0	50,000
Total	1,370,274	0	5,746,219	1,539,501	274,389	5,302,603

N.B. Amounts in brackets mean credit to the Government

1/ On the 20th of March 1996, the Government of Greece deposited an amount of US\$456,000 to the Mediterranean Trust Fund covering Greece's pledges for 1996, and advance payments for 1997, 1998 and part of 1999

2/ DRAX 119,473,600

Recommendations

on topics to be addressed as a matter of priority in the further implementation of the Action Plan for the Management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal

as elaborated by the Meeting of Experts on the implementation of the Action Plans for marine mammals (monk seal and cetaceans) adopted within MAP, (Arta, Greece, 29-31 October 1998) and reviewed and approved by the Fourth Meeting of National Focal Points for SPA (Tunis, 12-14 April 1999)

Items 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12: Reduction in adult mortality

An integrated approach combining awareness campaigns for fishermen and enforcement of appropriate legislation and regulations, on the model of what has been done in the National Marine Park of Alonissos-Northern Sporades (Greece) should be applied in areas where monk seals interact negatively with fishing activity.

The economic impact of seal damage to coastal fisheries and fish farms, and the ways to prevent or mitigate such impact, should be assessed.

Item 10: Development of systems to avoid entanglement in nets

- Pilot research studies to assess the effectiveness and consequences of systems to avoid entanglement of seals in nets which are to be carried out in appropriate locations and/or seasons are considered useful.

Items 13-16: Establishment of a network of marine reserves

Already identified sites important for the conservation of the species should be urgently protected and appropriately managed.

Protected sites should be extended to include all valuable habitats for monk seals, aiming at the creation of a network of protected areas.

Items: 17-19: Monitoring, collection of data and exchange of information

E-mail regional networks should be established to facilitate ready exchange of information. RAC/SPA should encourage further contacts between conservation projects for monk seals.

Whenever appropriate, the range of seal movements should be studied as a matter of priority, using suitable techniques (e.g. telemetry). Relevant protocols should be elaborated according to the available experience.

RAC/SPA is invited to hold workshops and to promote expertise to synthesize available information on the biology, ecology and behaviour of Mediterranean monk seals that is critical for conservation. The output of these workshops should be published and be made the subject of a symposium.

Item 20: Rehabilitation of seals

A workshop to develop agreed technical measures for the rehabilitation of Mediterranean monk seals should be urgently undertaken and appropriate guidelines put in place.

Items 21-22: Other conservation measures

An Emergency Plan should be developed to coordinate all action if a mass mortality or other emergency event occurs. This emergency plan, which applies to the distribution area of the species, should, *inter alia*, include an exchange of information between countries and the secretariat, as well as the concerned international organization.

Items 23-26: Information programmes

Awareness programmes for the public should be developed and should be carefully designed in order to avoid dissemination of information that might adversely affect the conservation of the monk seals (e.g. the location of seal caves).

Special attention should be paid to increasing awareness of decision makers.

Item 27: Training programmes

Emphasis should be placed on the organization of training courses, specific workshops and training grants to address practical aspects which are relevant to the research, conservation and management of monk seals.

**RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

as elaborated by the Meeting of Experts on the implementation of the action plan for the conservation of marine mammals (monk seal and cetaceans) adopted within MAP (Arta, 29-31 October 1998) and reviewed and approved by the 4th Meeting of National Focal Points for SPA (Tunis, 12-14 April 1999)

1. To elaborate guidelines for improving national legislation and where necessary, making them conform to the provisions of the relevant international Agreements in the field of cetacean conservation.
2. To invite the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to ratify, if they have not done so, the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area.
3. Noting that the government of France, Italy and Monaco have relaunched the procedure for signing an agreement for the purpose of establishing a sanctuary in the Sardinia-Corsica-Liguria-Provence Basin, the Meeting recommends that the Contracting Parties undertake all necessary action to support the conclusion of the said international agreement as soon as possible.
4. The experts recommend that countries and organizations take into account and develop the work related to the effects of chemical pollution on health and reproductive cycles of marine mammals and of the species on which they feed.
5. To define and implement co-ordinated survey programmes aiming at identifying the status and distribution of cetaceans in the Mediterranean. This work should include organization of a workshop on the most appropriate methodologies to be applied in the common interest, taking into account the need for information about the eastern and southern part of the basin.
6. To promote the establishment of national plans and networks for the study of cetacean strandings, using standardized methods for the collection of data. It is necessary to collect data validated by the Parties on cetacean strandings in the Mediterranean in a common file including basic data on the reported strandings. The keeping of this common file shall be entrusted to a body belonging to one of Mediterranean intergovernmental organizations. The file must be continuously updated.
7. Co-ordination at the Mediterranean level in the field of study of cetacean strandings should be established on the basis of existing national networks and, where they are absent, on the institutions and researchers carrying out monitoring of cetacean strandings. Bilateral Cooperation should be encouraged in order to facilitate the exchange of experience between countries having experience in the study of cetacean strandings and those countries willing to develop this activity.
8. To entrust the Secretariat with the elaboration of a feasibility study (including a financial evaluation) on a Mediterranean network for the study of cetacean strandings. This feasibility study will be submitted to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
9. To organize a Mediterranean workshop on methods and techniques related to the monitoring and study of cetacean strandings.

10. Interactions between fisheries and cetaceans should be investigated by designing and implementing appropriate research and awareness initiatives. The experts invite the countries, not members of the European Union, to consider the banning of driftnet use.
11. To elaborate a code of conduct for whale-watching in the Mediterranean, to be included in the conditions to be respected by every boat that practises whale-watching for either commercial or non-commercial ends; and to investigate the possibilities of the integration of the code of conduct in the national legislation.
12. The use of powerful noise sources - such as low-frequency active sonar - should be avoided in those areas known to be highly frequented by cetaceans.
13. Elaborate a Directory of organizations (NGOs, laboratories, etc.) active in the field of study and conservation of cetaceans in the Mediterranean.
14. To develop, in co-ordination with the relevant intergovernmental organizations and interested NGOs, informative and educational tools on Mediterranean cetaceans, to be used in all the Mediterranean countries to support awareness and public participation.