



UNITED
NATIONS

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/2



UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

18 September 2016
Original: English

Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring

Marseille, France, 19-21 October 2016

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and election of officers

Provisional Annotated Agenda

For environmental and economic reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2016-2017 adopted by COP 19, Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016, the Secretariat is organizing the meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring (CORMON) from 19-21 October 2016, in Villa Valmer, 271 Corniche Kennedy, 13007 Marseille, France. It is co-organised by two components of UNEP/MAP, the MED POL programme and Plan Bleu. This CORMON meeting will focus on Contaminants and Eutrophication and a second CORMON meeting will be held in February 2017 on Marine Litter.

2. Plan Bleu will coordinate a special session/workshop (Agenda item 6) during the meeting related to Science-Policy Interface (SPI) Strengthening related to Marine Pollution. This session is in continuity of the inception workshop on SPI held at Sophia Antipolis, France, on December 15-16th, 2015, in the framework of the EU funded EcAp Med II project.

3. The main objectives of the meeting are to:

- a) share and exchange information on the revision of their national monitoring programmes to be updated in light of the Integrated Monitoring and assessment programme adopted by COP 19 held in Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016;
- b) review and discuss the concept for the preparation of the 2017 Quality Status Report;
- c) review the status of the marine pollution monitoring regional data base and reporting, MED POL database gaps and related quality assurance issues, and agree on solutions to address them;
- d) review and agree as appropriate the proposal for Background Concentrations (BC)/Background Assessment Concentrations (BACs)/Environmental Assessment Concentrations (EACs) for contaminants and biomarkers; and
- e) to review and discuss the SPI strengthening related to marine pollution: Issues and priorities to bridge the scientific gaps hampering the monitoring programmes at national and regional scales

Agenda item 1. Opening of the Meeting

4. The meeting will be opened by UNEP/MAP Secretariat and Plan Bleu.

Agenda item 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Election of Officers *UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/1; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/2*

5. The Meeting will elect one (1) President, three (3) Vice Presidents and one (1) Rapporteur from among the participants.

6. The Provisional Agenda annotated in the present document will be reviewed, amended as necessary, and adopted by the Meeting. Simultaneous translation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting.

7. The participants will be invited to review and adopt the Meeting conclusions and recommendations, amended as appropriate, drafted by the Rapporteur. The report of the Meeting will be prepared and circulated for adoption after the meeting.

Agenda item 3. Implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme
UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28

8. Under this agenda item information will be provided on the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP). The concept for the preparation of first Quality Status Report (QSR2017) to be delivered in 2017 will be presented and discussed. Participants are reminded that the COP 19 Decision IG.22/7 Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria “*Urges the Contracting Parties, with the support of the Secretariat, to update their national monitoring programmes in light of the new elements of IMAP and report regularly quality assured data*”. The Secretariat will present a brief introduction to IMAP and planned activities for 2016-2017.

a) **National Monitoring Programmes**

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.5; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.6

9. A number of Contracting Parties will be invited to present the current status of the updating of their national monitoring programmes to be aligned with IMAP, with particular focus on contaminants and eutrophication.

10. Participants will discuss and share experiences and lessons learned, and gather an overview of the different stages of revision and implementation of national monitoring plans, and the challenges encountered. Best practices and possible mechanisms for follow up, exchange and support between countries will be discussed.

b) **Progress on the Preparation of the Mediterranean Quality Status Report**

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/3

11. The Secretariat will present the concept for the preparation of the QSR2017, process timeline and how the report can follow similar approaches to other Regional Seas and find an appropriate balance between quantitative and qualitative information where data gaps exist. This will be followed by a discussion with all participants.

12. Participants will review and provide inputs to the draft QSR2017 concept, timeline and table of contents and review the draft assessment template. Participants will consider and discuss the testing of the assessment template for certain indicators for inclusion as case studies to the QSR2017.

c) **Common Indicator Guidance Fact Sheets**

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/4; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.7

13. The Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance presented at COP 19 in February 2016 provides guidance on how to monitor and measure the adopted indicators. Draft indicator guidance factsheets for the seven contaminant and eutrophication indicators have been developed in order to better assist countries in the revision of their monitoring programmes. The Secretariat will present the draft indicator guidance factsheets for discussion, review and advice by the CORMON for their further development.

14. Participants will provide suggestions and comments in order to revise and finalize the fact-sheets for consideration by the MEDPOL Focal Points meeting in 2017.

d) **Good Practices for Developing Monitoring Assessment Scales in the Mediterranean**

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.10

15. Under this agenda item the European Environment Agency (EEA) will present a compilation of good practices for the definition of monitoring assessments units based on EU MSFD.

16. Participants will exchange and identify the most appropriate methodologies for the definition of monitoring assessments units for the implementation of IMAP with regards to contaminants and eutrophication.

Agenda item 4. Marine Pollution Monitoring Regional Data Base and Reporting, MED POL Database Gaps and Related Quality Assurance Issues
*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/5; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/6;
 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.4; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.10;
 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.11*

17. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the current status of the MED POL Marine Monitoring Programme; the results of the 2015 quality assurance exercises; the MED POL and the future IMAP Information System, with emphasis on issues to be addressed, gaps and recommendations for the future.

18. Participants will discuss potential recommendations and actions to address the key gaps and issues regarding the MED POL data base and quality assurance.

19. This will be followed by a presentation from REMPEC on the current work towards the development of a quality assurance programme for oil and hazardous and noxious substances (HNS) pollution from ships and offshore data reporting and collection based on relevant IMAP indicators.

20. Participants will discuss, provide inputs and guidance to the development of a quality assurance programme for oil and HNS pollution from ships and offshore data reporting and collection in line with the IMAP.

****End of Day 1 Additional Session on Classification of Waters***
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.4; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.5

21. On completion of Agenda item 4 at the end of Day 1 of the meeting, participants are kindly requested to remain for an additional session to discuss the classification of waters on eutrophication, according to the IMAP decision.

Agenda item 5. Review of Proposed Background Concentrations (BC)/Background Assessment Concentrations (BACs)/Environmental Assessment Criteria (EACs) for Contaminants and Biomarkers at Mediterranean and Sub Regional Scales
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/7; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.3

22. The Secretariat will present the draft proposal of Assessment Criteria for Hazardous Substances and Biological Markers in the Mediterranean Sea Basin and its Regional Scales.

23. Participants will review the proposed assessment criteria, BACs and EACs with comments to be included in a revised version, as appropriate, to be presented to the MED POL Focal Point meeting in 2017.

Agenda item 6. Science-Policy Interface (SPI) Strengthening Related To Marine Pollution: Issues and Priorities to Bridge the Scientific Gaps Hampering the Monitoring Programmes at National and Regional Scales
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/8

24. This session/workshop is a follow up to the Inception Workshop on SPI held at Sophia Antipolis, France, on December 15-16th, 2015, in the framework of the UNEP/MAP EcAp MED II project. The methodology will build on the results of this Inception Workshop, to go further on the IMAP scientific gap analysis and related scientific needs, in order to elaborate practical actions to

address these needs, with a focus on IMAP Ecological Objectives 5 (Eutrophication) and 9 (Contaminants).

a) The EcAp MED II Project Output 3, Stronger Ecosystem Approach Related Science-Policy Interface in the Mediterranean

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.8; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.9

25. Plan Bleu will present the objectives, main activities and expected outcomes of the “Strengthening Science Policy Interface” action under the UNEP/MAP EcAp MED II project (2015-2018), as well as the main results of the inception workshop held in the framework of this action.

26. Participants will embark on a discussion related to the main findings of the inception SPI workshop. They will express their expectations in terms of strengthening the science policy interface.

b) Presentation of the Analysis of the Scientific Gaps Impeding the Full Implementation of IMAP and Related Scientific Needs, Focusing on Pollution Issues

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/7; UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.7

27. Plan Bleu will present how the scientific gaps for the future implementation of IMAP for contaminants and eutrophication have been identified, and how relevant research needs to address them have been formulated, with a focus on EO5 (Eutrophication) and EO9 (Contaminants). Scientific gaps and research need have been issued by a critical analysis of the IMAP reference documents.

28. Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/7 will be reviewed in-depth during the work in groups, in order to validate, document and prioritize actions to address the scientific needs, in terms of methodologies, guidelines, environmental data, information on sources or pressures and models or tools to support IMAP implementation for pollution at regional and national levels.

c) Presentation of SPI Good Practices

29. Under this agenda item, some selected cases of SPI good practices will be presented. These cases could relate to national SPI practices regarding marine monitoring in some Mediterranean countries and SPI practices set up by marine research marine scientific organization and/or projects.

30. Participants will embark on a discussion regarding SPI good practices adapted to their case. Good practices could include harnessing IMAP relevant scientific knowledges at regional or national levels, getting sound scientific and technical advises, sourcing experts for the IMAP science advisory process and development of relevant SPI mechanism and infrastructures.

d) Review of the Scientific Needs to Support Full Implementation of IMAP, Focusing on Pollution Issues

31. Under this agenda item, work will be organized in sub-groups to facilitate exchanges and informal discussions between participants. Sub-groups could deal with three different thematic such as eutrophication, contaminants in the ecosystem and contaminants in fish and other seafood for human consumption. Each sub-group will have to review the scientific gaps and the associated scientific needs identified in the IMAP reference document, reformulate and characterize them and add new ones if relevant. Each subgroup will designate a rapporteur who will be in charge to synthesize in plenary session the outputs of the sub-groups.

32. This will be followed by a roundtable discussion held in plenary and conclusions with all participants on concrete actions to be taken at national level and the regional support needed to implement the recommendations addressed during the meeting.

33. Participants will engage in a discussion and agree on a number of general conclusions on follow up to strengthen SPI to support IMAP implementation for pollution and eutrophication.

Agenda item 7. Conclusions and Recommendations

34. Under this Agenda item, the meeting will review, amend and adopt draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the meeting discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 8. Any Other Business

35. Under this Agenda item, the participants and the Secretariat will be able to raise any other business related to the subject of the Meeting agreed during the adoption of the agenda.

Agenda item 9. Closure of the Meeting

36. The President will close the Meeting at 14:30 hours on 21 October 2016.

TIMETABLE
19-21 October 2016

| Wednesday, 19 October 2016 | | Relevant documents |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 09:00 – 09:30 | <i>Registration</i> | |
| 09:30 – 09:45 | Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting | |
| 09:45 – 10:00 | Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and election of officers | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/1 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/2 |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | Agenda item 3 a): National Monitoring Programmes | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.5 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.6 |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | Agenda item 3 b): Progress on preparation of the Mediterranean Quality Status Report | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/3 |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | <i>Lunch break</i> | |
| 14:00 – 15:00 | Agenda item 3 c): Common Indicator Guidance Templates Agenda item 3 d): Good practices for developing Monitoring Assessment Scales in the Mediterranean. | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/4 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.10 |
| 15:00 – 17:30 | Agenda item 4: Marine pollution monitoring regional data base and reporting, MED POL Database Gaps and related quality assurance issues | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/5 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/6 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.4 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.10 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.11 |
| Thursday 20 October 2016 | | |
| 09:30 – 12:30 | Agenda item 5: Review of proposed Background Concentrations (BC)/Background Assessment Concentrations (BACs)/Environmental Assessment Concentrations (EACs) for contaminants and biomarkers at Mediterranean and sub regional scales | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/7 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.3 |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | <i>Lunch break</i> | |
| 14:00 – 18:00 | Agenda item 6: Science-policy interface (SPI) strengthening related to Marine Pollution a) The EcAp MED II Project output 3, Stronger Ecosystem approach related science-policy interface in the Mediterranean b) Presentation of the analysis of the scientific gaps impeding the full implementation of IMAP and related scientific needs, focusing on pollution issues c) Presentation of SPI good practices | UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/8 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.7 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.8 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.427/Inf.9 UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28 |
| Friday, 21 October 2016 | | |
| 09:00 – 12:30 | Agenda item 6: Science-policy interface (SPI) strengthening related to Marine Pollution (continued) d) Review of the scientific needs to | As above |

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| | support full implementation of IMAP, focusing on pollution issues | |
| 12.30 – 13:30 | Agenda item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations | |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | Agenda item 8: Any other business | |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Agenda item 9: Closure of the meeting | |