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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Workshop of managers of  
Mediterranean Protected Areas  
for the realization of a Mediterranean  
Protected Areas Managers Network

Monaco, 5-6 October 1990

**REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP OF MANAGERS OF  
MEDITERRANEAN PROTECTED AREAS FOR THE  
REALIZATION OF A MEDITERRANEAN  
PROTECTED AREAS MANAGERS NETWORK**

THIS WORKSHOP WAS ORGANIZED IN COOPERATION WITH

WORLD CONSERVATION UNION  
(IUCN)

PORT CROS NATIONAL PARK  
(FRANCE)

AND

WORLD BANK

THIS WORKSHOP WAS HOSTED BY

CENTRE SCIENTIFIQUE DE MONACO

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## INTRODUCTION

### OBJECTIVES:

1. The main problems of the existing marine and coastal protected areas in the Mediterranean are management problems. Actually, only about 50% are really managed as defined in the Guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of marine and coastal protected areas in the Mediterranean adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution.

These guidelines recommend for the management the following points:

- prepare and establish a management plan,
- implement the management plan,
- use zoning and buffer zones,
- establish educational and information programmes,
- monitor the effectiveness of protection,
- conduct research,
- restore damage,
- promote the rational use of natural resources.

2. The creation of a network of managers of protected areas is the best way to ameliorate the management of existing protected areas. The creation of such a network and the improvement of the management is one of the objectives of the Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas of the Barcelona Convention (article 12, 13, 14 and 15) and also of the Nicosia Chart (Point 6.C).

3. The main items to be covered by such a network could be the following:

- exchanges of field experiences,
- identification of training needs in response to major issues identified,
- information-public awareness.

4. Aware of the necessity of such a network, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through its Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (MEDU) in Athens and more particularly the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas Programme (SPA), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the Parc Cros National Park (supported by the French Ministry of Environment) and the World Bank, have decided to join their efforts in order to create such a network.

5. So, a workshop of managers of Mediterranean Protected Areas has been set up by all these parties. It was held during 5-6 October 1990 in Monaco, hosted by the Centre Scientifique de Monaco.

## PARTICIPATION

6. The following countries were represented by a manager of protected areas or by a representative designated by the Mediterranean Action Plan National Focal Point for Specially Protected Areas: Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Italy, Israel, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

7. In addition to the organizers (UNEP-MEDU, IUCN, Port Cros National Park and World Bank) and to the hosting organization (Monaco Scientific Centre), the following organizations were represented: Blue Plan, European Environment Bureau (EEB), Friends of the Earth (FOE), Greenpeace, Italian Parks and Reserves Federation and World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF).

8. The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

## OPENING OF THE MEETING

9. Mr. Alain Jeudy de Grissac, on behalf Mr Aldo Maijls, the Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP) and on behalf Mr Martin Holdgate, Director of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) declared the meeting open. He thanked all the participants for their presence in this meeting and made a short statement on the previous events that have conducted.

10. Mr Patrick Van Klaveren, Director of the Centre Scientifique de Monaco, welcomed the participants. He emphasized on the actuality and the necessity of a network which would set up the working methods, in order to ameliorate exchanges of informations for the benefit of all. He pointed out that the marine and coastal Mediterranean specificity of the protected areas represented in this meeting and that the network has to join the efforts in order to find solutions to the common problems.

11. Mr Pierre Bougeant, Director of Port Cros National Park, presented the experience of the National Park, which has faced numerous legal and practical difficulties since its creation, 25 years ago.

This creation was done in a climate of conflict between administration, local people, fishermen and tourists. The real beginning was related to the provision of a budget for infrastructure, personal, and equipment. These means are very important, and very often underestimated, for the management of the area.

One of the first realizations was to define the limits of the activities. In fact, a national park is an open place, and if there is a social, political and collective agreement, the only thing to do is to manage the day to day problems, keeping in mind that some evolution in the use of the area and in the habits of the tourists can occur very quickly which necessit adaptation of the management plan.

The creation of a network of managers could help the managers to avoid repeating the same mistakes done in some of the protected areas and to join their experiences for the benefit of all.

12. Mr Josue Tanaka, representative of the World Bank, declared that the creation of a network of managers was really needed to achieve the existing programmes, such as of the Mediterranean Action Plan. World Bank, European Investment Bank, UNEP and EEC constitute a financial tool that could take three forms of assistance:

- direct assitance for projects, parks or reserves;
- general study of a problems shared by several areas;
- assistance to the network.

13. Mr. Serge Antoine, representative of the French Ministry of the Environment, reminded the meeting of international agreement between Mediterranean States, as the Barcelona Convention, with Regional Centres acting for the developments of programmes and of other international network that could support this activity.

### PRESENTATION OF THE MANAGERS

14. Each participant presented his protected area, and in particular the main problems encountered, the main needs and the solutions found for the management.

15. The representative of Algeria, Mr. Baba Ahmed, Director of El Kala National Park, defined the essential difficulties for the management:

- incompatibility between the traditional socio-economic activities inside the limits of the park and the real protection of sensitive areas;
- the weakness of the available means, and,
- the inadequacy of the existing national regulations to a local application.

16. The representative of Cyprus, Miss Myroula Hadjichristophorou, in charge of the Lara Reserve, presented the particular experience of the management of a nesting marine turtles beach with the following problems:

- over-frequentation due to the attraction of tourists after the creation of the protected area, and in particular the use of umbrellas and other equipments which destroy the nests;
- circulation in the rear side of the beach;
- the lack of infrastructure in order to inform the public;
- weakness of the technical and financial means;
- recent evolution of the touristic activities, and in particular the transport of tourists by private companies inside the protected area.

17. The representative of Egypt, Mr Tharwat Tawfik, from the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, presented the main difficulties faced by the Egyptian managers:

- lack of management programme and of scientific monitoring;
- lack of budget, infrastructure, equipment and qualified staff;
- lack of means for information and awareness of the public and traditional socio-economic users of the protected areas and
- technical and financial impossibility to restore the degraded areas.

18. The representative of Spain, Mr Alfonso Ramos, Director of the Tabarca Marine Reserve, explained that the Reserve does not face important management problems but that some could occur in the future due to:

- the increase of the frequentation (3,000 people per day);
- the lack of protection for the terrestrial part (free camping);
- the weak control and the low fines for violations;
- the lack of a permanent direction;
- the weakness of the means of information and of the budget.

Nevertheless, this area can be considered as an exemple for marine protected areas.

19. The representative from France, Mr. Leenhardt, Director in particular of the Corsican marine reserves, presented this well structured network of reserves with a consequent amount of means. The actual problems are:

- the necessity to foresee and to anticipate the possible evolutions of the frequentation by boats, during the night and of fishing pressure;
- the amelioration of the implementation of the regulations and of the recovering of fines for violation;
- the management of the biodiversity through controled intervention.

20. Another representative from France, Mr Murraciale, in charge of the Seashore Conservatory for Corsica presented the functions and objectives of the Conservatory, which are different of the other managements. Their role is to buy the areas in order to avoid building and development. The areas are provided with a management plan. The remaining problems are as follow:

- the rights are the same that for another owner;
- there is no possibility to intervene on the maritime area and
- the budget in order to ensure a real management is insufficient.

21. The representative from Israel, Mr Safriel Uriel, from the Nature Reserves Authority, presented the problems of the management of the israelian seashore. They are partly connected to the decrease of income of sediment due to the regulation of the Nile and to the arrival of exotic species through the Suez Channel. National or local problems are the restoration of degraded or mined areas, chemical or biological pollution, different kinds of touristic frequentation and lack of control.

22. The representative from Italy, Mr Franco Zuppa, of the Miramare Marine Reserve, presented this area which is managed by an association with volunteers. The most serious problems are the pollution of the Trieste gulf, the lack of budget, of public information and the weakness of the controls, in particular during the night.

23. The representative from Malta, Mr Alfred Baldacchino, from the Environment Division in charge of the Maltese protected areas, made a general presentation of the existing protected areas and presented the two mains problems, the increase of the touristic frequentation, and the lack of trained staff.

24. The representative of Morocco, Mr Moulay Lahsen El Kabiri, from the Ministry of Agriculture, explained that Morocco has no protected areas on the Mediterranean shore of the country, due to the fact that there is no specific law for the creation of protected areas. The main problems are connected to the high demographic pressure and to the necessity of using the natural resources. Urgent protection is needed for areas or for species, such as the last specimens of the North African Panthera.

25. The representative of Monaco, Mr Eugene Debernardi, Director of the Association Monégasque de Protection de la Nature, in charge of the management of the two existing protected areas, presented these areas and defined the most important problems, related to fishermen and to illegal fishing in the reserves.

26. The representative of Turkey, Mr Savas Nizam, from the Department of National Parks, and previously manager of a National Park, presented the protected areas created on the basis of the Law of 1956. These areas are very width and the main problems are due to forest fires, the lack of trained staff, and more recently the high pressure for building residences and hotels.

27. The representatives of Yugoslavia, Mr Eugen Draganovic, in charge of Specially Protected Areas Programmes, Mr Kuzela, Director of Kornati National Park and Mr Kurkov, Director of KRK National Park, presented the national protected areas in Yugoslavia. The managers have the following problems:

- lack of trained staff;
- lack of control and illegal hunting;
- pollution (in particular of rivers);
- pressure from the economic users like fishermen, hunters and farmers, and,
- pressure from developers for building residences and hotels.

### PRESENTATION FROM THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS

28. Other participants to the meeting have been asked to present their comments, remarks, recommendations on the realization of a network and the possible implication of their organization.

29. The representative of Friends of the Earth (FOE), Mr Humberto da Cruz, noted the great differences between the protected areas, according to the countries, the areas, the official status, the means and the objectives, and also when the management is realized by Governments or by Non-Governmental Organizations. Moreover, he stressed the lack of real management for numerous of these areas. As objectives for the future, he suggested to:

- Identify priority areas and subjects on which efforts should be concentrated;
- take into account important development that occurs around the protected areas, and in particular buildings buildings.

30. The representative of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), Mr Michael Scoulios, stated that EEB was directly interested by the realization of such a network, able to increase the exchanges with Non-Governmental Organizations. He indicated that the major problem in his country (Greece) was that the protected areas were created in areas already endangered and threatened by touristic frequentation and activities.

31. The representative of World Wild Fund for nature (WWF), Mr Luigi Guarrera, pointed out that WWF was ready to support any action that could help the countries to protect their environmental heritage.

32. The representative of the Italian Federation of Parks and Reserves, Miss Flavia Caruso, has indicated that Italy has not yet an adopted Law for the creation of National Parks. The existing protected areas were created and managed by associations and non-governmental organizations. Due to this, the actual major problems are:

- insufficient budget;
- risks of deviation of the law under preparation due to the important implication of the private sector in the project;
- lack of satisfactory social concern.

33. The representatives of the Blue Plan, Mr Bernard Glass and Mr Bernard Courtin, indicated that the network would have to work in cooperation with the various components of the Mediterranean Action Plan. One of the objectives of the network would be the realization of scientific evaluation of each case and the preparation of practical solutions for specific geographic sectors or subjects.

### GENERAL DISCUSSION

34. After these presentations, a general discussion took place and the main following points were pointed out:

- there is some common management problems and solutions for the most common problems;
- it is important to create working groups on specific topics and in particular on the species that have no geographical boundaries (migratory birds, marine turtles);
- it is necessary to precise the working method of the network;
- the network would have to be open in order to allow the entrance of new partners.

35. A list of the common management problems was issued. It includes:

- Staff training;
- Information and awareness of the publics;
- Management of the frequentation or of the over-frequentation
- Preparation of management plan;
- Management of natural resources within the protected areas;
- Financial assistance;
- Common guidelines for scientific research;
- Need for expertise and technical assistance ;
- Evaluation of the future threats (prospective);
- Technics for the protection of sensitive areas (dunes, seagrasses meadows, etc.); .
- Management of the landscapes.

36. The following step sorted out the main themes to be covered according to the problems cited. The group reached an agreement on the following:

- Frequentation, over-frequentation;
- Staff training;
- Public information and public awareness;
- Management plan, zoning plan;
- Evaluation of the resource;
- Economic benefits generated by a protected area.

37. The different methodologies that could be used to cover the proposed themes were defined as follow:

- Inventory and identification;
- Training;
- Expertises and field studies;
- Exchange of informations;
- Working groups.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE NETWORK

38. The participants discussed the means and methods for the organization of the network. First, it is necessary to define a common language for the requests to be addressed to the network. So, each of the managers will have to fill an evaluation sheet which will cover the main themes and problems. A standard sheet will be established and distributed.

39. Exchange of information will be done through a bulletin, regularly edited, with a section reserved for the questions of the managers to the network or for the presentation of solutions to management problems. If there is a need for expertise or specific studies on the major problems, this could be done by the members of the network or by external experts.

40. For the training, depending on the needs and the level of qualification requested, training courses, technical meetings or expert training missions could be organized. A direct financial assistance could be given by the members of the network or by external partners supporting the network.

41. A proposal was made by Mr Leenhardt, to organize a meeting in Corsica in 1991 on "The economic benefits of the creation of protected areas". This proposal was agreed by all the participants.

42. Port Cros National Park was proposed to be designated as the secretariat of the network. The participants agreed to this proposal.



ADOPTION OF A COMMON DECLARATION

43. At the end of the meeting, all participants agreed on a common declaration for the creation of a Mediterranean Protected Areas Managers Network. This declaration appears as Annex II to this report.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

44. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was closed on Saturday 6 October 1990, at 1 P.M.

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DECLARATION  
FOR THE CREATION OF A  
MEDITERRANEAN PROTECTED AREAS MANAGERS NETWORK

MONACO, 5-6 OCTOBER 1990

The Mediterranean protected areas managers meeting in Monaco on 5 and 6 October 1990, on the invitation of the United Nations Environment Programme - Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP-MAP), World Conservation Union (IUCN), World Bank and Port-Cros National Park (France),

Aware of the existing objectives and activities developed by numerous organizations in the Mediterranean region and particularly of the following actions and programmes:

- the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention) and the Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas,
- the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP),
- the Genoa Declaration on the second decade of the Mediterranean (1985),
- the Charter of the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation concerning the Environment in the Mediterranean Basin (Nicosia, 1989),
- the Environmental Programme for the Mediterranean (EPM, World Bank, European Investment Bank),
- the programmes developed by UNESCO (MAB) and United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP),
- the programmes developed by European Commission and Council of Europe,
- the programmes of non-governmental organizations,

Aware that each manager is facing difficulties in the management of his protected area and that his communication between them, all around the Mediterranean, is insufficient, they have decided, through experience exchanges, to improve their involvement for nature conservation.

Strictly interdependent, the Mediterranean protected areas have to undertake joint actions to demonstrate their solidarity for the benefit of their common heritage.

They decide to create a network opened to all Mediterranean protected areas within the marine and coastal zone to develop common activities for evaluation, training, information exchanges and any other types of cooperation.

As a first step, they intend to develop the following activities:

- analysis, evaluation and forecast of trends in the status of the resource,
- increasing public awareness,
- managing tourism,
- developing homogenous monitoring methodology and exchange of monitoring data between all the Mediterranean protected areas,
- evaluation of the economic impact due attributable to the creation of protected areas,
- training of nature protection staff.



As far as possible, the participants to this meeting will endeavour:

- to facilitate the set up of this network, at the regional and national level,
- to develop information transfer, and,
- to provide a technical and practical support to the promotion of this network.

The international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations involved have indicated their intention:

- to technically and/or financially support the development of this network,
- to stimulate the public awareness, and,
- to develop contacts with other organizations in order to promote this effort further.