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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the MAP Focal Points

Athens, Greece, 7-10 July 2009

**REPORT OF THE 7TH MEETING OF CP/RAC NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
(Dubrovnik, Croatia, 17-19 June 2009)**

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1ST DAY MEETING, WEDNESDAY JUNE 17TH

The 7th CP/RAC National Focal Points Meeting started at 15:05 p.m. on June 17th with the presence of all the participants.

Chairman: Goran Romac, Croatia
Vice-chairman: Sanda Midjic, Bosnia & Herzegovina
Rapporteur: Yaaser Asker, Egypt

The session was opened by Virginia Alzina, CP/RAC Director. The agenda and the election of the president, chairman and vice-chairman were approved by the participants.

15:20 – The NFP introduced briefly themselves and their current work in their countries. The other participants (MEDPOL, PAPRAC and HORIZON 2020) did so also.

The CP/RAC staff introduced also themselves with a short explanation of their role in the Centre.

16:30 - VIRGINIA ALZINA, CP/RAC Director, explained the activities carried out during 2008 and the first six months of 2009. She highlighted the fact that the Centre has recently been endorsed as Regional Centre under the Stockholm Convention, and also the CP/RAC inclusion of 1€ in the Mediterranean Trustfund, among other interesting activities.

The following NFP, who explained briefly some of the activities carried out during the last year and a half:

JANEZ PETEK, Slovenia: presented the GRECO INITIATIVE: objectives, activities done and next steps.

Janez Petek requested to know the activities done in the Balcans and suggested this region to be included into the GRECO Initiative Work Plan for the following years.

AHMET RIFAT, Turkey: explained the IPPC Meeting, held in June 2008 in Sevilla.

GORAN ROMAC, Croatia: presented the First Mediterranean Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production, held in November 2008.

VICTOR ESCOBAR, Spain: presented the Regional Workshop on Successful Experiences implementing the Stockholm Convention and its Synergies with Basel and Rotterdam, held in April 2009 in Barcelona.

HIAM ABOUD, Syria: Presented the workshop "Promoting eco-labelling for the textile industry in Syria, held in November 2008.

YAASER ASKR, Egypt: explained the first E-Course for Pollution Prevention at Sources in Enterprises for Universities, held in May 2009 in Egypt.

ANTON PIZZUTO, Malta: presented the Workshop on Used Oils, held in November 2008, in Barcelona.

After these presentations, participants contributed to the session with their questions.

Victor Escobar and Fouad Abousamra brought to the discussion the need of establishing the role of MEDPOL and CP/RAC concerning the LBS Protocol, in particular when addressing the following key issues: mercury, BOD, food sector and the nine new substances included in the Stockholm Convention during the last IV COP, held in Geneva in May 2009.

18:00: ENRIQUE DE VILLAMORE, CP/RAC member, introduced some issues of special interest for the National Focal Points, such as the NFP role, approved in the last meeting in Almeria.

Mr. Villamore highlighted the Compliance Group and the Reporting System on Barcelona Convention.

Regarding the mentioned above, the floor requested a useful and user-friendly Reporting System and should allow adding additional relevant information.

The closing of the first day meeting was the 17th of June at 18:20.

2nd DAY MEETING, THURSDAY JUNE 18TH

09:05 – Alfred Vara, from CP/RAC, presented the study “State of the Art on SCP in the Mediterranean”. This study is still under work and will be available in few months in CP/RAC’s webpage, once the centre has reached all the NFP’s inputs. Mr. Vara requested to the NFP the barriers and the needs on their countries about SCP. Inter alia, the following inputs were compiled:

- More awareness for stakeholders and consumers
- More workshops were requested as well as case studies.
- Help in the organization of SCP workshop
- Assistance from CP/RAC to encourage the stakeholders moving towards SCP aims.
- Some consumption patterns in some countries are not sustainable.
- Need of further enforcement of existing legal framework.

9:45 – Virginia Alzina, CP/RAC Director, presented the CP/RAC New mandate, that includes the mission: *“To promote mechanisms leading to sustainable patterns of Consumption and Production and Sound Chemical Management”*

Following the Mandate presentation, a discussion was opened to the floor. Some of the principal inputs were:

- The CP/RAC role had to be more accurate in order to avoid overlapping with MEDPOL (regarding the LBS protocol)
- Clarification about the MEDPOL role: legally binding proposing measures.
- The Mandate has to ensure the visibility and overall impact of the MAP.
- CP/RAC implication in the LBS protocol should be more explicit.
- The RACs mandates have to be aligned with the MAP Mandate
- CP/RAC should assist countries in developing national strategies on SCP
- Transfer to Mediterranean Countries CP/RAC expertise
- There are some common elements among all RACs, such as financing, visibility...
- Include in work program the cooperation between all RACs in order to joint efforts and avoid concurrence.

11:30 – MEDPOL (Fouad Abousamra) and CP/RAC (Frederic Gallo) presented both activities and fields of cooperation under these strategies to be included in the next biennium.

11:50 – Virginia Vidal, from the CP/RAC, presented the Proposal Decisions on Sound Chemical Management. They were 5 decisions and its background paper:

The decisions were passed one by one and participants made their considerations to be included by the CP/RAC.

12:05 – Alfred Vara, from the CP/RAC, made the introduction of the SCP Decisions Proposal.

The decisions would be presented the following day (and last day of the meeting) amended and including all the suggestions from the National Focal Points.

12:20 Magali Outters, from the CP/RAC, presented the CP/RAC contribution to Horizon 2020, and made also a brief explanation about the Horizon 2020 itself.

12:30 Vanessa Rodriguez, from the CP/RAC, presented the CP/RAC contribution to Union for the Mediterranean.

12:40 Virgínia Alzina, CP/RAC Director, Presented the proposal for the CP/RAC programme of activities for biennium 2010 – 2011. The activities were divided in 3 new objectives:

- Identify, take action and educate on priorities and areas of production and consumption having the greatest impacts on the Mediterranean environment and posing a major environmental and health risks due to chemical pollution.
- Greening the Mediterranean market and getting rid of chemicals.
- Creating partnerships and synergies.

15:05 – Enrique de Villamore, from the CP/RAC, presented the CP/RAC contribution to the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

15:30 – Open discussion on the CP/RAC program of work 2010 – 2011. During the discussion, some important details were introduced:

- The work program will be discussed together with the other RACs work programmes in the MAP Focal Points Meeting
- There is a wide spare of activities.
- Need of clustering and prioritizing of activities
- Marrakech Process should be mentioned
- MEDPOL should be also responsible on some activities of the chemical program
- In the work programme of CP/RAC other RACs could be included
- Some activities seem to overlap and they should be more focused, where they could add value
- Some countries expressed their interest in some activities of the work programme: Egypt 1.1, 1.5, 2.7, Turkey 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, Croatia 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, Slovenia 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, Albania 1.1, 2.1, 2.4, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Israel will submit their expression of interest .
- France proposed to share instruments and methodologies concerning eco-labelling and chemicals.
- Morocco proposed the dissemination of the Sustainable Management of Industrial Areas Project of Tunisia and 30 MedCleans from Moroccan SME's.
- Spain proposed a fact sheet for each activity as requested to all other RACs for the next biennium.
- Italy suggested to enhance the collaboration with the Task Force on education for Sustainable Consumption of the Marrakech Process.
- The CP/RAC will amend the introduction of the work plan according to the discussion and the table of the working plan adopted

After all these contributions, the Chairman and all the participants agreed to review a new version on Friday morning but leave 10 days time for countries to do their formal proposals. They will approve the final Work Program at MAP Focal Points Meeting (to be held the following week).

16:50 Closing of the second day meeting.

3RD DAY MEETING, FRIDAY JUNE 19TH

The 3rd day meeting started at 8:30. The Chairman invited the participants to make comments on the different documents distributed in that point of the morning: the amended Work Plan 2010 – 11, the CP/RAC Mandate, The Decisions on SCP and SCM and, finally, the report of the first two days meeting,

The first document submitted was the Work Plan 2010 – 11. The following inputs were stated:

Greece: Asked about the activity 1.3.2. He suggested to change the exact expression as is reflected in the new work plan.

Finally, he suggested to include Horizon 2020 and MEDPOL in the activity 3.2.1

Regarding that there were no more comments, the amended Work Plan for 2010 – 11 was approved by unanimity of all the participants.

The Decision Proposals were read by all participants. After, the floor was opened.

Greece: suggested to eliminate “Climate Change” from decision 2.2, as it was not a convention. By mutual agreement, Climate Change was deleted from the text.
He proposed to have joint decisions by CP/RAC and MEDPOL on Sound Chemical Management.

Spain: Decision 2.1 should cover everything, so he proposed to include mercury and BOD in food sector in addition to the new chemicals. In this way, two new decisions has been added on SCM.

MEDPOL: Suggested to add a reference of the new decisions in the preamble.

Italy: Said 1.2 decision is too wide, so it was decided to be more specific.

Turkey: In the decision 1.2 suggested to write the word support instead of assist.

Bosnia: Suggested that in the decision 2.5 in annex 2, replace National Centres of Cleaner Production for Centres working in the field of Cleaner Production.

Greece: In 1.2, Greece suggested to specify CP/RAC and MAP system’s role to help Southern Countries.

Spain: Suggested to merge Decisions 1.2 and 1.3.

Greece: Suggested to add MEDPOL in the two new paragraphs proposed on BOD and mercury

Spain: The following decisions should be a joint proposal with MEDPOL:

- On cooperation and coordination
- On consistency on policies

Those suggestions were adopted by unanimity of all the participants.

The CP/RAC Mandate was commented and the following amendments were adopted:

- To add the concept benchmarks of methodologies.
- To remove any footnote.

The closing of the meeting was at 10:30