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Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the
Coastal States of the Mediterranean Region for
the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against
Pollution from Land-Based Sources

1913

Athens, 12-17 May 1980

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

GE.80-1185



1. Opening of the Conference

1.1 The formal opening session of the Conference will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 12 May 1980, at the Zappion Building in Athens. The Conference will begin with a brief opening ceremony which will include addresses by a representative of the Government of Greece, the President of the Contracting Parties for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols, and the representative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

1.2 The opening session of the Conference will be preceded by informal consultations among heads of delegation beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the morning of 12 May. It is suggested that participants use these consultations to prepare for the Conference by identifying the issues which need to be resolved, by discussing the manner with which substantive matters could best be dealt, as well as by agreeing on procedural and organizational matters.

2. Rules of Procedure

2.1 The Rules of Procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols shall apply as provided for in Rule 1 of those rules. (UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex VII).

3. Adoption of the agenda

3.1 The provisional agenda suggested by the secretariat has been circulated under the symbol UNEP/IG.19/1.

4. Appointment of the Drafting Committee

4.1 As provided in rule 24 of the rules of procedure, the Conference may establish such committees and other working groups as may be required for the transaction of its business. It is proposed that in the light of the task of the Conference, a Drafting Committee consisting of not more than five members be appointed.

5. Organization of the work of the Conference

5.1 A proposed timetable for the work of the Conference is set forth as an annex to this document.

5.2 It is proposed that the first review of the preliminary draft protocol be carried out in a Committee of the whole in which all participating States may be represented. It may prove necessary to establish a second committee or a working group (in addition to the Drafting Committee referred to in item 4 above) to facilitate the consideration of certain issues, such as the technical annexes. The secretariat has made provision for the convening of a second committee or working group.

5.3 In accordance with rule 24, unless otherwise decided, the meeting or the conference shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman for each such committee or working group.

5.4 It is further proposed that as a committee or a working group completes discussions on any part of the subject matter which it is considering, it should request the Drafting Committee to prepare final texts of the articles and/or decisions for submission to the plenary for final adoption.

6. Examination of the preliminary draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources

6.1 The present text of the preliminary draft protocol is based upon consultations and negotiations carried out during the following meetings:

- (i) Intergovernmental Consultation concerning a draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources (Athens, 7-11 February 1977);
- (ii) Meeting of experts on pollutants from land-based sources (Geneva, 19-24 September 1977);
- (iii) Second Intergovernmental Consultation concerning a draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources (Venice, 17-21 October 1977);
- (iv) Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Mediterranean Action Plan (Monaco, 9-14 January 1978);
- (v) Meeting of Legal Experts on the preliminary draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources (Geneva, 25-29 June 1979);
- (vi) Meeting of Technical Experts on the preliminary draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources (Geneva, 25-29 June 1979).

6.2 In reviewing future steps to be taken towards the final adoption of the protocol, the meeting of legal experts referred to in paragraph 6.1 (v) above "... concluded that it had fulfilled its mandate and considered that the questions still pending with regard to the text of the preliminary draft protocol were outside its competence as an expert body" and recommended that "... the present draft of the protocol should ... be verified from the linguistic point of view ...". (UNEP/WG.17/6, page 4, paragraphs 16-17).

6.3 Acting upon the recommendation of the meeting of experts, a small drafting group met in Geneva from 30 January to 1 February 1980.

6.4 The linguistically harmonized and recast texts of the draft protocol prepared by the drafting group have been circulated under the symbol UNEP/IG.19/3.

6.5 It is the objective of the Conference to review, revise, and adopt a final text of the protocol and to open it for signature.

7. Consideration of the report of the Bureau on credentials

7.1 Under this item, and in accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Conference should consider the report of the Bureau on Credentials and adopt a decision thereon.

8. Adoption of the Final Act of the Conference

8.1 The draft Final Act of the Conference, which will include a report on its proceedings, decisions and the final text of the protocol, will be submitted to participants for adoption.

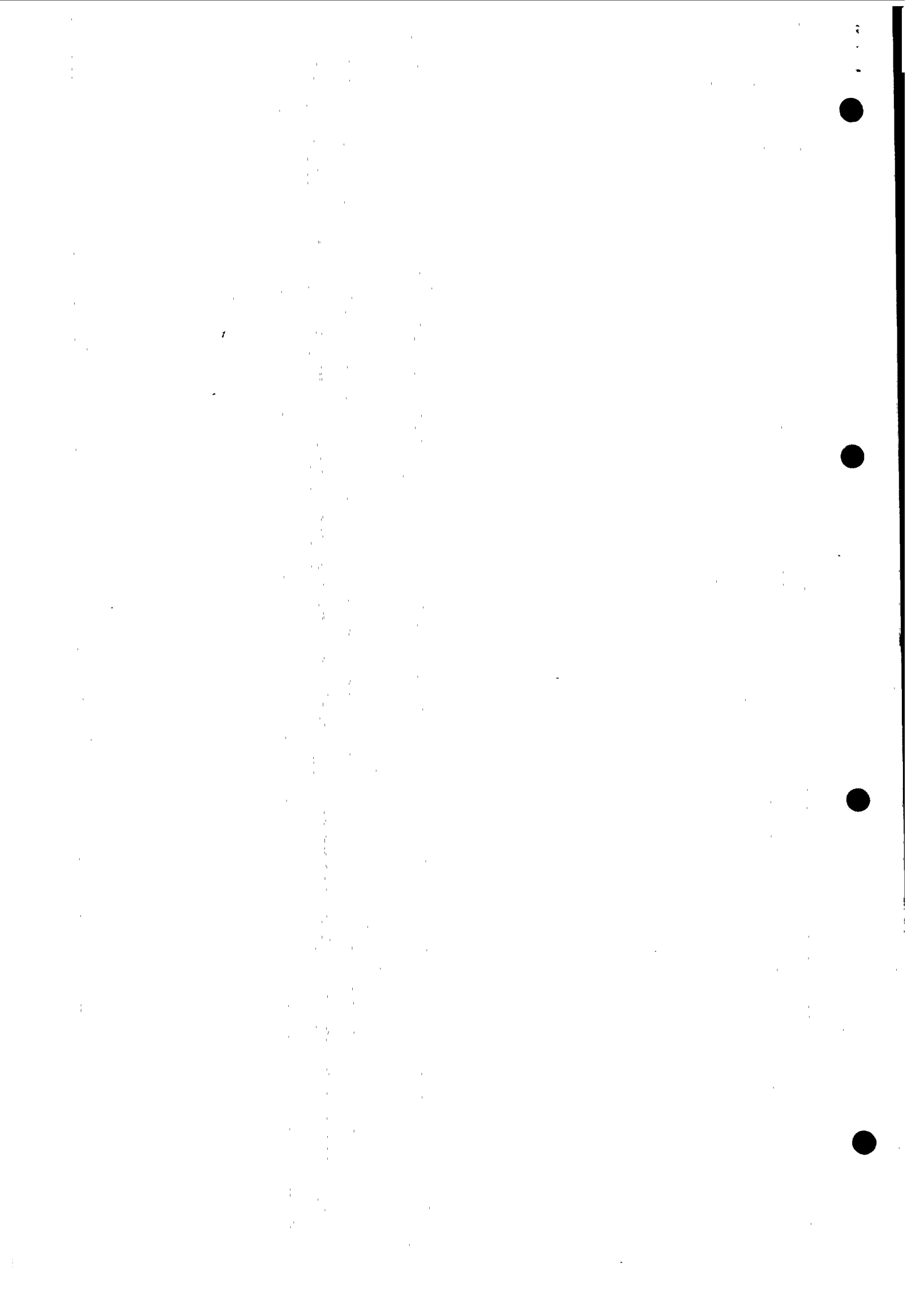
8.2 As proposed under item 5 on the organization of work of the conference, the decisions of the committees or working groups on the text of the protocol, as put in final form by the Drafting Committee, will be submitted to plenary for final adoption. There will be a separate vote on each of the articles of the Protocol before adopting the Protocol as a whole.

9. Signature of the Final Act of the Conference

9.1 Detailed arrangements for the signature of the Final Act will be made final by the Bureau in consultation with representatives of the host Government.

10. Signature of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources

10.1 Detailed arrangements for the signature of the Protocol will be made final by the Bureau in consultation with representatives of the host Government.



ANNEX

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

| | MORNING SESSION | | AFTERNOON SESSION | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|---|
| | TIME | AGENDA ITEM | TIME | AGENDA ITEM |
| MONDAY, 12 MAY 1980 | 10.00 a.m. 1.00 p.m. | Informal Consultations | 4 p.m. 7 p.m. | 1. Opening 2. Rules of procedure 3. Adoption of agenda 4. Appointment of Drafting Committee 5. Organization of work 6. Examination of draft Protocol (Committee I and, if necessary, Committee II) |
| TUESDAY, 13 MAY 1980 | 9.30 a.m. 12.30 p.m. | 6. Examination of draft Protocol (Committee I and, if necessary, Committee II) | 4 p.m. 7 p.m. | 6. Examination of draft Protocol (Committee I and, if necessary, Committee II) |
| WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY 1980 | 9.30 a.m. 12.30 p.m. | 6. Examination of draft Protocol (Committee I and, if necessary, Committee II) | 4 p.m. 7 p.m. | 6. Examination of draft Protocol (Committee I and, if necessary, Committee II) |
| THURSDAY, 15 MAY 1980 | DRAFTING COMMITTEE | | | |
| FRIDAY, 16 MAY 1980 | 10.30 a.m. 1.30 p.m. | 7. Report on credentials 8. Adoption of Final Act | | |
| SATURDAY, 17 MAY 1980 | | | 4 p.m. 5 p.m. 5.15 p.m. 6.15 p.m. | 9. Signature of the Final Act. 10. Signature of Protocol |

