Intergovernmental Meeting on Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas

Athens, 13-17 October 1980

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
Introduction

1. Recommendation 25 of the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols (Geneva, 5-10 February 1979) reads:

"25. In the light of the significance of protected areas from the socio-economic, scientific and conservation points of view, Governments should support the protection and rational management of existing marine parks, wetlands and other protected areas. They should also promote the creation of new protected areas in the region. In particular:

(i) Governments should support the continued efforts of UNEP to create an Association of Specially Protected Mediterranean Areas;

(ii) UNEP should, in co-operation with UNESCO, FAO and IUCN, convene an intergovernmental meeting to consider, with a view to adoption, guidelines and technical principles for the selection, establishment and management of Mediterranean specially protected areas and other related matters. The meeting should also consider the development of a protocol concerning Mediterranean protected areas; and

(iii) a Directory of Mediterranean protected areas should be prepared by UNEP in co-operation with IUCN." 1/

2. The present meeting is being convened by the Executive Director of UNEP in response to subparagraph (ii) of recommendation 25.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting

3. The formal opening session of the meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 13 October 1980 at the Apollon Palace Hotel, Kavouri, Athens. The meeting will begin with a brief opening ceremony which will include addresses by the representative of the Government of Greece, the President of the Contracting Parties to the Convention 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/ UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex V, page 6, paragraph 25
Agenda item 2. Rules of procedure

4. 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 49 of those rules 2/.

Agenda item 3. Adoption of the agenda

5. The provisional agenda suggested by the secretariat has been circulated under the symbol UNEP/IG.20/1.

Agenda item 4. Organization of work

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

7. It is suggested that the meeting establish two working committees: one to consider agenda item 5, and one to consider agenda item 6. As provided in rule 24 of the rules of procedure, unless otherwise decided, the meeting should elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for each committee.

8. It is proposed that all other agenda items be considered in plenary.

Agenda item 5. Review of the principles, criteria and guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of Mediterranean marine and coastal protected areas

9. The present meeting has two objectives as defined by recommendation 25 of the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. The first is "to consider, with a view to adoption, guidelines and technical principles for the selection, establishment and management of Mediterranean specially protected areas and other related matters". 1/

10. In order to assist Governments in their consideration, the IUCN, in co-operation with FAO and UNESCO, has prepared a set of principles, criteria and guidelines which are contained in document UNEP/IG.20/3.

11. The committee concerned with agenda item 5 is invited to review document UNEP/IG.20/3, taking into consideration the supporting information and explanatory material presented in the information documents before the meeting, and to prepare a revised text of the principles, criteria and guidelines for presentation to plenary with a view towards its adoption.

12. In proposing a revised text for consideration by the plenary, the committee is also invited to prepare draft recommendations concerning future activities related to Mediterranean specially protected areas, such as: the status to be assigned to the principles, criteria and guidelines; steps to be undertaken to facilitate their application; the establishment of an Association of Specially Protected Mediterranean Areas (recommendation 25, subparagraph (i)); the development of a directory of Mediterranean protected areas (recommendation 25, subparagraph (iii)); and national and regional institutional arrangements that may effectively support future activities in this field.

Agenda item 6. Consideration of guidelines proposed for a protocol concerning Mediterranean marine and coastal protected areas

13. The second objective of the meeting is to "consider the development of a protocol concerning Mediterranean protected areas" 17. FAO, in co-operation with UNESCO and IUCN, has prepared a set of guidelines proposed for a protocol concerning Mediterranean marine and coastal protected areas which has been circulated as document UNEP/IG.20/4. A survey of national legislation relevant to marine and coastal protected areas has also been prepared and circulated as document UNEP/IG.20/INF.3.

14. The committee concerned with agenda item 6 is invited to review the guidelines for a protocol and to formulate recommendations addressed to plenary as to the desirability of their inclusion in a draft protocol. Such recommendations may usefully be accompanied by a revised text of the guidelines or, if possible, a preliminary draft protocol. It is envisaged that the guidelines as revised by the meeting will form the basis for future negotiations on a draft protocol by governmental experts. The committee is also requested to put forth recommendations concerning the nature and timing of subsequent meetings to be convened for the purpose of negotiating the final text of the protocol.

Agenda item 7. Recommendations for future activities

15. The meeting is requested to formulate and adopt recommendations for future activities concerning Mediterranean specially protected areas. These recommendations will be submitted to the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Cannes, March 1981) for approval and inclusion in the future work programme and budget.

Agenda item 8. Other business

16. Participants are invited to raise other items relevant to the meeting under this agenda item.

Agenda item 9. Adoption of the report

17. A draft report of the meeting will be submitted to participants for adoption.

Agenda item 10. Closure of the meeting
### Suggested Time-Table

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