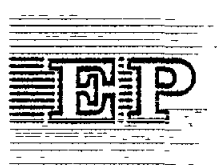




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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Joint Meeting of National Focal Points
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FIELDS AND MODALITIES OF COOPERATION
AND COORDINATION BETWEEN BP AND PAP
AND OTHER MAP COMPONENTS

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I Introduction

1. The programmes of the Blue Plan (BP) and of the Priority Actions Programme (PAP) were discussed and adopted as independent but mutually supporting activities of the integrated planning component of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) at the Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Blue Plan held in Split (UNEP/IG.5/7).

2. Following the conclusions of the 1984 Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (UNEP/IG.49/5), a joint meeting of National Focal Points for the BP and PAP was held in Athens in May 1985, where to a report on the harmonization and co-ordination of the BP and PAP activities in 1985-1987 was presented and was discussed and approved by the meeting (UNEP/WG.129/8, para. 53-54).

3. This report which has been prepared for the joint meeting of the BP and PAP National Focal Points to be convened in Athens on 22-24 April this year contains information on the co-operation of the BP and PAP in 1985 and proposals for co-operation in 1986 and 1987.

4. From the very beginning of BP and PAP activities the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention have been stressing the need for a permanent co-operation and harmonization of the two programmes. This recommendation is contained in the conclusions of all hitherto Contracting Parties meetings.

5. Submitting this report Directors of both Programmes wish to underline that they have fully respected the recommendations of the Contracting Parties and that they have seen to it that a constant flow of information be exchanged with a view to securing, with the assistance of the Co-ordinating Unit of MAP, harmonization of the BP and PAP activities and the best mutual use of the outputs and findings arrived at. The two Directors herewith confirm that along these lines the results have been satisfactory and invite the participants of the joint National Focal Points meeting to give their proposals and help with their ideas for the improvement of interaction between the two Programmes.

II Institutional Aspects of the BP-PAP Co-operation

1. Meetings, consultations at the beginning of the actions, exchange of documents, participation of experts in each other's programmes, and regular correspondence have been the institutional forms of co-operation used by the Blue Plan and PAP.

2. In the course of 1985 the BP and PAP had the following meetings and consultations:

- Co-ordination meeting in Sophie Antipolis (3-4 February);
- consultation during the joint meeting of the BP and PAP National Focal Points (Athens, 9-12 May);
- consultation during the MAP meeting on information systems (Athens, 14-15 March);
- consultation during the MAP-UNIC meeting (Athens, 23-25 April);
- meeting on the occasion of the Contracting Parties Conference (Genoa, 9-12 September);
- consultation on the occasion of the LBSP meeting (Athens, 9-13 December).

3. Discussions and consultations were also convened at the beginning of the II phase of the Blue Plan as well as in the preparatory stages of several priority actions. Suggestions and findings arrived at by PAP were taken into account in the preparation of scenarios, while the recommendations of the Blue Plan relative to major conflicts in the Mediterranean coastal areas were incorporated in the terms of reference for the preparation of PAP documents in the field of tourism, solid and liquid waste management, aquaculture and soil protection.

4. PAP consultants took part in the preparation of BP scenarios, while BP experts participated in the priority action on integrated planning and management of coastal zones.

III Results of Co-operation in 1985

Major interactions

1. The outputs and findings of the first and the second phase of the Blue Plan were incorporated in the following PAP activities:

(a) "Water Resources Management":

- global aspects of water resources management;
- significance of water re-use particularly for irrigation;
- stretching the programme to incorporate issues of interest for the entire Mediterranean;
- big Mediterranean islands;
- water resources - tourism considerations.

(b) "Integrated Planning and Management of Coastal Zones":

- orientation to a selective "processing" of knowledge in various conflicting areas and delicate domains (littoralization, urbanization, coast-hinterland discrepancies, development of areas for tourism, methods and instruments of planning).

(c) "Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Historic Settlements":

- interrelation of tourism development and the protection of historic settlements.

(d) "Soil Protection":

- gearing the action to the protection of soils from erosion, soil management, and the protection of forests.

(e) "Solid and Liquid Waste Management":

- jointly prepared questionnaire for the preparation of national reports.

(f) "Aquaculture":

- estimates of the production potentialities.

(g) "Tourism":

- jointly prepared questionnaire for national reports;
- gearing the action to the most dynamic types of tourism;
- expected trends of tourism development;
- role of tourism in development policies of individual Mediterranean countries.

(h) "Renewable Energy Sources":

- placing the accent on examining the possibilities for a wide-spread economical application of the renewable energy systems in the Mediterranean.

2. PAP was reflected on the Blue Plan through its synthesized and global application of findings arrived at through hitherto implemented PAP activities:

- awareness of the exposure of Mediterranean coastal zones to seismic risk which is an ever-present danger the development planning has to take account of;
- use of knowledge gained through "Soil Protection" priority action (although this action is in its initial stage, its further development is expected to produce findings of crucial importance);
- awareness of the importance of historic settlements which confirmed the need of keeping a socio-cultural dimension into the II-phase scenarios;
- decision to use knowledge and information relative to the action on solid and liquid waste management in the preparation of some scenarios;
- findings relative directly or indirectly to coastal management have been fully taken account of with a view to their use in the future selection of zones for the transfer of knowledge from national to local level.

IV Co-operation in 1986-1987

Continuing the co-operation proposed in 1985 the following forms of co-operation have been envisaged in the 1986-1987 period:

1. Participation of BP experts in PAP seminars. The BP participants will be expected to inform the seminars on and to focus their attention to outstanding global Mediterranean issues.
2. Following the questions to be raised and specified by the Blue Plan PAP will produce summaries of findings, knowledge and recommendations obtained through priority actions which are applicable in the process of the preparation of BP scenarios.

3. In the second half of 1986 ad hoc BP/PAP meetings will be organized to review and include the findings of PAP in BP sectorial scenarios.
4. The Blue Plan is doing a study on the methodology of transfer of scenarios from national to local level (how to make by geoprocessing a presentation of local scenarios). PAP will include the results of this work in the priority action on integrated planning of coastal zones.
5. Findings arrived at through BP scenarios will be analyzed by PAP and used in its 1987 programmes as well as in the preparation of the programme proposal for 1988-1989.

Conclusions

6. Concluding this report, it may be stated that in the hitherto activities of the Blue Plan and the Priority Actions Programme: (a) the two programmes managed to develop an intensive co-operation; (b) there have been no overlapping or duplication of actions, and (c) harmonization of activities and use of outputs have been practiced in both programmes.

V Co-operation with other MAP components

1. The long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean Sea (MED POL - PHASE II) was adopted for a ten years period (1981-1990) at the Second Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Cannes, 2-7 March, 1981). Its basic components are monitoring, research and environmental quality criteria.
2. In addition to the basic programme, MED POL is in charge of the scientific and technical implementation of the Land-Based Sources Protocol and Dumping Protocol.
3. The following are the MED POL activities which are of particular interest for BP and PAP.
4. National Monitoring Programmes:
By the end of February 1986 Co-ordinating Unit has signed agreements on national Monitoring Programmes with seven countries (Algeria, Cyprus, Israel, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Yugoslavia). It is expected that by the end of April 1986 agreements will be signed with five other countries (Egypt, Greece, Libya, Tunisia, Turkey). Through the ongoing monitoring programmes certain amount of information is gathered on the sources of pollution which is of interest for both BP and PAP.
5. Monitoring of Selected Submarine Outlets:
In this joint PAP/RAC - WHO/EURO - MEDU action, monitoring of the quality of receiving environment of one selected submarine outlet in each of seven countries (Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Tunisia and Yugoslavia) is being organized for a period of one year starting in April 1986. Draft guidelines for monitoring were prepared and the meeting of principal investigators will be held in Split, 26-28 March 1986.
6. Monitoring of Selected Aquaculture Sites:
Monitoring of one aquaculture site in several countries is being organized jointly by PAP/RAC and MEDU and it will become a part of respective monitoring programmes.
7. Assessment of Pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by Substances Listed in the LBS Protocol:
In order to propose adequate measures (which include whenever appropriate Environmental Quality Criteria) for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from substances listed in Annexes I and II of the Land-Based Sources Protocol, the assessment of the state of pollution for each group of substances will be prepared. Such assessments would include, inter alia, information on sources of pollution, which will take into account, whenever necessary and possible, quantitative information on production as well as utilization. This information will be of interest for both BP and PAP. The calendar (1986-1995) for the preparation of assessments for each group of substances was agreed upon at the Meeting of Experts of the Technical Implementation of the LBS Protocol (Athens, 9-13 December 1985).

8. Survey of Land-Based Sources and Amounts of Pollutants Reaching the Mediterranean Sea:

Such survey is an updating and improving of the 1977 survey and it will collect information on the sources and amounts of pollutants reaching the Mediterranean Sea from land-based sources. The information collected during the second half of 1986, which will be processed by the end of 1986, will be of interest for both BP and PAP, particularly for the preparation of various scenarios within the framework of the BP.

9. Evaluation of the Benefits and Limitation of Submarine Pipelines:

This particular action, within the framework of the LBS implementation, will provide data of interest for both BP and PAP. For the preparation of the evaluation, which will be ready by the end of 1986, full use will be made of the results of PAP action on solid and liquid waste management, collection and disposal.

10. Environmental Impact Assessment:

This PAP action is of particular importance for the implementation of the LBS Protocol.

11. The recently established Specially Protected Areas Center in Tunisia has an initial task of setting up a computerized data-base containing information on existing, proposed and potential marine coastal protected areas within the Mediterranean basin. A directory of existing Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas will be published later in the year 1986. The information to be gathered will be of particular interest for BP, PAP (Project on Aquaculture) and MED POL.

12. Information gathered by MED POL is being used by ROCC Center in Malta in the process of assisting Contracting Parties to prepare national contingency plans to combat oil pollution.