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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Fifth Meeting of the Working Group
for Scientific and Technical Co-operation
for MED POL

Athens, 6-10 April 1987

Provisional annotated agenda

UNEP

Athens, 1987

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, by adopting the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean Sea (MED POL - PHASE II) at their Second Meeting in Cannes, 2-7 March 1981, agreed that:

" A standing Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation will be established by the Contracting Parties to assist them in their review of the Progress of the programme and the evaluation of the results. It will advise UNEP on technical and policy matters related to the programme and prepare recommendations for submission through UNEP, as the secretariat of the Convention, to the meetings of the Contracting Parties. The Group will consist of National MED POL Co-ordinators designated by the relevant national authorities and will meet at least once a year." (UNEP/IG.23/11, annex V, paragraph 51).

As a result to the above deliberation, four meetings of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation were held respectively in 1981 (UNEP/WG.62/7), 1983 (UNEP/WG.91/12), 1985 (UNEP/WG.118/9) and 1986 (UNEP/WG.144/13).

The present Fifth Meeting of the Working Group is convened by the secretariat to review and evaluate the activities carried out in 1986-1987, as a follow-up to the recommendations of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Genoa, 9-13 September 1985 (UNEP/IG.56/9), and to agree on a set of recommendations for 1988-1989 MED POL - PHASE II activities and their related budget to be submitted for adoption at the fourthcoming Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, 7-11 September 1987).

The following annotations to the proposed agenda for the meeting were prepared by the secretariat to assist the Working Group in the deliberations.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting will be opened at 10.00 hours on Monday, 6 April 1987 in the conference room of the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, Athens, by the representative of the Executive Director of UNEP. All National Co-ordinators for MED POL have been invited to attend the Meeting as members of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation. Representatives of ECE, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IMO, UNIDO, IOC, and IAEA, have also been invited to attend the Meeting.

Agenda item 2. Rules of procedure

The rules of procedure adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols will apply for the Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, annex XI).

Agenda item 3. Election of officers

The Meeting will be invited to elect a Chairman, two vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

Agenda item 4. Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda, as proposed in document UNEP/WG.160/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting.

Agenda item 5. Organization of work

In view of the work expected to be accomplished, it is proposed that the Working Group works only in plenary sessions. Ad hoc discussion groups or drafting committees may be formed by the Bureau of the Meeting, in consultation with the secretariat. Simultaneous English - French interpretation will be available for all plenary sessions.

Agenda item 6. Progress report on the implementation of MED POL during 1986-1987 and proposed activities and budgetary requirements for the biennium 1988-1989

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/3 prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies. In section I, the document contains information on the activities implemented or being implemented in 1986-1987. It also covers those activities relevant to the implementation of the Land-based Sources Protocol which are co-ordinated by the secretariat and the Co-operating Agencies. Section II contains a set of proposed recommendations relevant to the implementation of MED POL and the Land-based Sources Protocol during the biennium 1988-1989, including their budgetary requirements. The Group's task is on the one hand to take note of the information contained in section I and on the other hand to analyse and revise, as appropriate, the recommendations and the budget described in section II in view of their transmission to the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption. Documents UNEP/WG.160/5 and UNEP/WG.160/Inf.3, prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with WHO, will be also considered in the course of the discussion on the implementation of the Land-based Sources Protocol.

Agenda item 7. Progress in the implementation of the Land-based Sources Protocol

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/4 prepared by the secretariat in co-operation with WHO. The document, and the discussion accordingly, will cover the progress made by the Contracting Parties in the adoption and implementation of the Land-based Sources Protocol, including the problems related to the application at national levels of environmental quality criteria.

Agenda item 8. Progress in the implementation of the Dumping and Emergency Protocols

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/6. The document summarizes the progress made by the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Dumping Protocol. Under this agenda item a brief discussion will be held on the procedure to be used in order to follow the progress made by the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Emergency Protocol.

Agenda item 9. Assessment of the state of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by used lubricating oils and proposed measures

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/7 prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with UNIDO. The first part of this document, based on existing material including the responses of individual countries to a questionnaire, covers the nature, the origin, the fate and the effects of used lubricating oils and is presented to the Group for information. The second part contains information on legal provisions presently existing in Mediterranean countries and proposed measures to prevent pollution. The Group is asked to review the latter part and to agree on a set of recommendations to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting.

Agenda item 10. Assessment of the state of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by mercury and mercury compounds and proposed measures

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/8 prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with FAO and WHO. The first part of this document covers the origin, levels, fate and effects of mercury and mercury compounds and is presented to the Group for information. The second part contains information on legal provisions presently existing in Mediterranean countries and proposed measures to prevent pollution. The Group is asked to review the latter part and to agree on a set of recommendations to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting.

Agenda item 11. Assessment of the state of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by cadmium and cadmium compounds and proposed measures

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/9 prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with FAO and WHO. The first part of this document covers the origin, levels, fate and effects of cadmium and cadmium compounds and is presented to the Group for information. The second part contains information on legal provisions presently existing in Mediterranean countries and proposed measures to prevent pollution. The Group is asked to review the latter part and to agree on a set of recommendations to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting.

Agenda item 12. Assessment of the state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed measures for shellfish and shellfish-growing waters

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/10 prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with WHO. The first part of this document describes the microbial pollution of shellfish and shellfish-growing waters in the Mediterranean and is presented to the Group for information. The second part contains information on legal provisions presently existing in Mediterranean countries and proposed measures to prevent pollution. The Group is asked to review the latter part and to agree on a set of recommendations to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting.

Agenda item 13. Assessment of the state of pollution by petroleum hydrocarbons in the Mediterranean Sea

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/11 prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with IOC and IMO. The first part of this document covers the nature, the origin, the fate and the effects of petroleum hydrocarbons. The second part describes the legal, administrative and technical arrangements for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea from petroleum hydrocarbon pollution. The document is presented to the Working Group as a follow-up to the request of the Fourth Working Group Meeting to review and revise the assessment document which had been then prepared (UNEP/WG.144/9).

Agenda item 14. Assessment of organosilicons as marine pollutants, with particular reference to their status in the Mediterranean Dumping and Land-based Sources Protocols

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.160/12. The document constitutes a scientific review carried out by the secretariat in conformity with the principle of updating the annexes to existing protocols, at the request of one Contracting Party, on the status of organosilicon compounds as marine pollutants. It also includes, on the basis of such review proposed measures to be taken by the Contracting Parties with regard to the status of these substances in the annexes of existing protocols. The Group is asked to review the proposed measures and agree on a set of recommendations to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties at their next meeting.

Agenda item 15. Other business

Other subjects relevant to MED POL which might be brought to the attention of the Meeting by its participants or by the secretariat will be discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 16. Adoption of Report

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

Agenda item 17. Closure of the Meeting

The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairman of the Meeting and by the representative of the Executive Director at 18.00 hours on Friday, 10 April 1987.

Suggested timetable

day	session	agenda item
Monday, 6 April	morning afternoon	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 6 (cont'd)
Tuesday, 7 April	morning afternoon	6 (cont'd), 7 8, 9
Wednesday, 8 April	morning afternoon	10, 11 12
Thursday, 9 April	morning	13, 14, 15
Friday, 10 April	morning afternoon	16 16 (cont'd), 17