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**Report by the Secretariat for the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee  
Athens, Greece, 16 March 2006**

**1. Introduction**

In accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) a meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2006 at the offices of the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention, 48 Vassilleos Konstantinou Avenue, Athens, Greece.

The objective of the meeting is to review the progress of work since the last meeting of the Commission and to consider the issues that should be included on the agenda for the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development that will be held on 24–26 May, 2006 in Nicosia, Cyprus at the kind invitation of the Cypriot authorities.

An exchange of views will also take place on the MCSD Programme of Work.

If appropriate, a summary of conclusions will be presented at the end of the meeting for review and adoption. A report of the meeting prepared by the Secretariat will be circulated among the Steering Committee members in the following weeks for review and comments before finalization.

The Steering Committee meeting, which will last one day, will be conducted in French and English. Interpretation facilities will be provided.

**2. Background on the MSSD**

*MSSD preparation and adoption*

At the last meeting of the MCSD (20–22 June, 2005, Athens) the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development was finalized and approved together with the Athens Charter. The development and finalization of the strategy has been the culmination of several years of work by the MCSD involving all MAP components, as well as the result of a participatory process including civil society and other stakeholders.

The MSSD was adopted by the Contracting Parties at their 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting (8–11 November, 2005, Portoroz, Slovenia) on the basis of the Portoroz Declaration (**Annex I**) that recognized, inter alia, that the MSSD is an opportunity for the Mediterranean countries to achieve progress in environmental protection, as well as in the economic, social and cultural fields in a sustainable manner.

Throughout the preparation of the strategy, emphasis was made on the need to secure political support and to develop a sense of ownership of the MSSD. The MSSD was eventually endorsed by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit held in Barcelona on 27–28 November, 2005 on the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Partnership. Leaders from the 25 EU Member States and 10 Mediterranean countries, made a commitment to implement the MSSD and to use the strategy for the implementation of the European Commission's initiative "Horizon 2020" to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020.

### *MSSD Implementation*

Following the adoption of the MSSD, the major challenge for the MCSD now is to promote the implementation of the Strategy's objectives through initiatives at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. This should require the mobilisation of concerned authorities and partners in the countries and at the regional level so as to increase the ownership of the strategy by the relevant actors, taking advantage of the MCSD as a forum for discussion and the formulation of proposals on relevant issues.

At the national level, specific measures, projects, actions and partnerships related to the MSSD's objectives and orientations should be identified and implemented within the framework of National Strategies for Sustainable Development.

The entire MAP system has a key role to play in the implementation of the seventh priority field of the MSSD (promoting the sustainable management of the sea and coastal zones) which constitutes the "*raison d'être*" of MAP and the Barcelona Convention. The challenge for MAP, including all components, is to promote ownership by regional and national actors, to support implementation and to ensure synergy between MAP and other European and international initiatives.

With regard to the other six priority fields of action (water, energy, transport, tourism, agriculture and rural development, urban development), the implementation of the strategy will have to involve actors and stakeholders other than those dealing with the environment.

The challenge is to sensitize and involve in each thematic field, key actors be they national or regional. BP/RAC being a Mediterranean Environment and Development Observatory and considering its role in successfully carrying out the technical preparation of the MSSD under the overall supervision of the Coordinating Unit, will ensure follow-up and monitoring of progress in the implementation of the strategy with the support of the other MAP components and under the supervision of the Secretariat.

### **3. Progress on MCSD related activities by MAP Components**

#### *PAP/RAC*

Major activity was the implementation of the MSSD recommendations on Integrated Coastal Area Management, notably the one referring to the adoption of the ICAM protocol:

The final draft text of the regional ICAM protocol was completed and discussed in a number of occasions. In Portoroz, the Contracting Parties adopted a recommendation to set up a government-designated group of experts to negotiate the final text of the protocol with a view to its possible adoption by the end of 2007. The adoption of the protocol is one of the major objectives of the MSSD.

PAP/RAC has been active in the implementation of other ICAM related recommendations, particularly with respect to the best use of EU/SMAP programme. Several projects, with significant financing from other sources than MAP, have started. It is expected that they will significantly improve the capacity of ICAM in the region. Notable among these projects are the Awareness Raising and Policy Framework Enabling Activity within the EU/SMAP initiative and a new GEF Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem project with a strong ICAM component.

Concerning the prevention of continuous and linear urbanization of coastal areas and in relation to urban management, the guidelines for coastal urban water resources management were completed and translated in French, while the respective training course is being prepared. This activity also contributes to implementing the MSSD orientation on improving integrated water resource and demand management. A major initiative has been launched on managing coastal erosion in the Mediterranean, with a high relevance to the management and prevention of natural risks. An expert meeting will be organized in mid-March in Cyprus to assess the possibilities for the utilization of the results of EU financed EuroSION project in the Mediterranean countries.

#### *REMPEC*

With reference to the MSSD objectives and orientations concerning the prevention of marine pollution from ships, REMPEC has made a significant contribution to the implementation of the MSSD through the finalization of the Regional Strategy for the Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships. The process which culminated in the adoption of the Regional Strategy by the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties included meetings of national experts as well as representatives of the countries and IMO.

REMPEC will continue to develop synergies with the concerned partners with the view to support the implementation of Regional Strategy for the Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships.

#### *CP/RAC*

With regard to land based pollution and more specifically in relation to the MSSD orientations and actions related to capacity building for the management and treatment of waste and effluent and the promotion of environmentally sound production processes, CP/RAC has developed different capacity building initiatives and material: a guide for the implementation of a pollution control system based on the best available techniques and the best environmental practices in the MAP countries; an Interactive Course on Pollution Prevention in the Enterprise; seminars on pollution prevention in the dairy industry and good housekeeping practices in the tanning sector of the Maghreb region.

The centre has also carried out several studies to build up the knowledge base, including: Alternatives for pollution prevention in the sectors of cement, chemical, ceramics and services; Status of Cleaner Production in the MAP countries; Inventory of industrial Hazardous Waste in the Mediterranean region and Review of industrial Hazardous Waste management practices in the MAP countries.

#### *SPA/RAC*

SPA/RAC is particularly concerned with the MSSD objectives, orientations and actions pertaining to the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity and marine resources. SPA/RAC is actively contributing to the implementation of the programme of work adopted by the CBD. Within the scope of the 2010 Biodiversity Target and in order to review the conditions and trends in marine biodiversity throughout the Mediterranean region, the applicability of indicators has been assessed under the collaboration agreement between MAP and CBD.

In 2006-2007, SPA/RAC will undertake a study on the sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean region. The terms of reference are being prepared. The study will focus on tourism, utilization of marine resources (e.g. through fishing and

aquaculture), shipping, marine and coastal protected areas, and globalisation. The final report will target a wide audience including professionals and the general public.

#### *INFO/RAC*

The promotion of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) requires the sustained involvement of political leaders, the private and business sectors, as well as NGOs and the general public. At the same time, information and communication activities aimed at the wider audience are needed to achieve the targets set out by the MSSD. One of the challenges for INFO/RAC during 2006-2007 is to draft an innovative vision to promote the Strategy and its goals, strengthen various communication capacities, involve key actors and so better mobilize resources towards promoting a high profile and significance of the MSSD.

During the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Slovenia, member states approved a recommendation entrusting INFO/RAC with the development of a specific Information and Communication strategy to be submitted to the Parties in November 2007. A strategic information and communication plan, along with the "MSSD IC Strategy Vision", will be submitted for approval by all MAP components during the 11th MCSD Meeting in Cyprus. Following the endorsement of the Vision, a wider consultation process will be held among all stakeholders (institutions, firms, NGOs, journalists and opinion leaders) using an IC on-line Forum, the on-line magazine Campus Ecomedia and several MSSD IC Forum Meetings. A draft paper on the MSSD IC Strategy will be prepared during 2007 onents.

#### *MEDPOL*

Follow up on the MSSD orientations and objectives to implement without delay the National Action Plans (NAPs) for combating pollution from land-based sources, significant achievements have taken place both at the technical and policy levels. The preparatory process for the finalization of NAPs has been completed. It involved different steps: all countries prepared National Diagnostic Analyses (NDAs), indicating priority issues on a sector basis, and National Baseline Budgets (NBBs) of all emissions and releases. The NDAs and the NBBs are providing a clear and reliable picture of the type and amounts of pollutants being released as well as the priority issues. The NBBs data are being merged into the existing database on levels of pollution continuously nurtured by the monitoring programme. NDAs and NBBs have been the basis used by the countries for the preparation of National Action Plans.

All countries have prepared their NAPs through a participatory bottom-up approach involving inter-ministerial Committees, national and local authorities, the private sector and NGOs. NAPs describe the specific action that each country will take during the next 5 to 10 years to reduce municipal and industrial pollution in line with the SAP requirements, including an investment portfolio. The NAPs were officially endorsed by the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Slovenia in November 2006 with a recommendation to integrate them in the existing national development plans.

Efforts are now being made to ensure sustainable implementation of NAPs in all countries. Through a new GEF Strategic Partnership being launched, the ground is being prepared for the implementation of a capacity building programme covering the institutional, technical, legal and policy aspects that is expected to assist country in the achievement of the pollution reduction measures. Concerning sustainable financing, the Partnership includes an Investment Fund managed by the World Bank aimed to support the necessary investments. In parallel, the Horizon 2020 initiative launched in December 2005 by the European Commission, that aims at pollution reduction targets in the region

equivalent to those of the SAP, is seen as an excellent opportunity for the Contracting Parties to join forces and achieve the expected pollution reduction objectives, thus contributing to the MSSD implementation.

#### **4. National Strategies for Sustainable Development**

*Assisting countries to prepare and/or update their national strategies*

The MSSD provides the countries with a useful framework for the preparation and/or updating of their respective NSSD in line with the objectives, orientations and actions outlined in the strategy. MAP has an important role to play in assisting the countries in the development of NSSDs by providing them with technical and financial support within the limited resources available to the Secretariat.

Since the last meeting of the MCSD in Greece (20–22 June, 2005) the Secretariat continued to provide assistance to Egypt, Morocco, Serbia and Montenegro and the Syrian Arab Republic to develop their NSSD. All four countries have signed an MoU with MAP and are currently receiving technical support through the financial assistance of MEDU, Italy and Monaco.

These NSSDs are in different phases of development.

- Work on the NSSD by Serbia and Montenegro is proceeding at a very encouraging pace and the process is almost concluded. Serbia and Montenegro has mobilized other sources of funding including from UNDP. It has also finalized the Vision and Orientations in preparation of the first draft of the NSSD that has now been submitted to the Secretariat for evaluation.
- Syria is also making progress with additional financial support from UNDP. A national workshop is planned for the coming months with the Vision and Orientations on the Agenda.
- Morocco has completed the first part of the exercise, including the preparation of the Vision and Orientations. Other partners are involved in the process, including France and the UNDP.
- In Egypt a very important step towards the development of the NSSD was taken with the setting up of an inter-ministerial Committee on Sustainable Development which was established by the country's Prime Minister and is presided by the Egyptian Minister for the Environment.

Additional funds to support four other countries to develop their NSSD and to hold a regional workshop on National Strategies have been pledged by Spain, through the Azahar Programme. The Secretariat, together with the Spanish authorities, have identified Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Tunisia and Lebanon as the countries that will benefit from these funds for the development of their NSSD. A project document has already been signed between MAP and the Spanish authorities and the funds are expected to reach the Secretariat soon. These funds will be supplemented by additional resources from MAP. The terms of reference for these activities have been prepared and a draft submitted to the countries.

### *Regional Review and Assessment Report*

The Regional Review and Assessment report about sustainable development initiatives in the Mediterranean was finalized and sent to MAP and MCSD Focal Points. It was published in the series of MAP Technical Reports in English and French. This report, based on the preparation of country profiles, was compiled in response to the request to the Secretariat by a number of Contracting Parties and MCSD members to assess the status of activities in relation to sustainable development in the region, including the establishment of National Commissions for Sustainable Development.

Action is already being taken by the Secretariat to update the country profiles. Feedback received will be analyzed and integrated in the overall updated regional report which is expected to be made available at the MCSD meeting in Cyprus.

## **5. Programme of Work of the MCSD**

The programme of work of the MCSD was approved by the members of the Commission at their last meeting in Athens in June, 2005 and adopted by the Contracting Parties during their 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Portoroz, Slovenia, in November, 2005. It is intended to address the objectives and the proposals related to the seven priority fields of action identified in the MSSD with the involvement of all MAP components. The MCSD Programme of Work is at **Annex II**.

### *Monitoring of MSSD implementation*

Progress on achieving the objectives of sustainable development will be followed through regular monitoring of progress made on MSSD implementation. This monitoring will make it possible:

- To evaluate the region's evolution in relation to the MSSD objectives;
- To identify the obstacles for policies to evolve and for the Strategy to be implemented;
- To identify the tools and leverages that facilitate progress or that could accelerate policy implementation;
- To make proposals for fostering the implementation of policies on a Mediterranean-wide scale and in the countries.

On the one hand this means documenting the 34 priority monitoring indicators on a regular basis, and on the other, systematically going into greater depth in analysing complementary indicators, good practices, obstacles and policy tools for each of the 7 priority topics (water, energy/climate, tourism, agriculture and rural development, urban development, transport, and sea and coastal management).

Monitoring offers an opportunity for sharing experience on a regional basis. To this end, regional workshops are envisaged to be held on the seven priority action fields. The outcomes of these workshops would be submitted to the MCSD to induce debate on the priority fields and to generate ideas for accelerating the implementation of policies in countries and on the regional level.

Associating other qualified regional institutions and networks with these activities will make it possible to promote MCSD concerns and proposals at meetings other than those of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

At the Portoroz meeting, the Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat (BP/RAC) to carry out monitoring under the Secretariat's leadership and with support from other MAP components and partners. The Contracting Parties have also requested that during the 2006-2007 work should start on documenting the 34 MSSD priority indicators. The selection process of coastal and marine indicators as well as on water and energy/climate topics will be carried out in 2006, and on tourism and rural development topics in 2007. Monitoring of progress on other MSSD topics will be done over the coming years so as to draw up a first detailed progress report in 2010-2011.

#### *Activities on indicators*

Starting in March 2006, countries will be invited to designate experts in charge of indicator activities. BP/RAC will prepare detailed files for each indicator and will compile available data. Selecting indicators for national sustainable development strategies will be discussed during support missions in countries that are planned to take place in 2006/2007.

Complementary thematic indicators will be selected and documented for each priority topic. In this regard, a set of basic coastal and marine indicators need to be identified. This activity will be carried out by all MAP components under the direction of the Secretariat and with the methodological support from BP/RAC.

#### *Thematic activities*

Expert meetings have already been organised on the issues of water and energy in order to initiate the activities in the coming months. Meetings are planned very soon on tourism and on rural development. Concerning tourism, the main objective will be to assess the implementation of the recommendations adopted in 1999. In addition, it would be opportune to consider the setting up of a proper mechanism for regional cooperation in this field, which would justify deeper discussion within MCSD.

So far, the main regional partners affiliated with these activities are the following:

- IME, GWP-Med, CIHEAM, MIO-ECSDE and Medwet for water;
- OME, MEDENER, Medrep programme, PAP/RAC and UMET for energy;
- CIHEAM and SilvaMediterranea for rural development.

Regional workshops on energy and water are planned for January and March, 2007, and for tourism and rural development in early 2008. Those partners and experts that would have contributed to the activities in the countries would be invited to participate together with other actors (MCSD members, local authorities, NGOs and donors) and MAP centres. The countries/cities to host the water and energy workshops in 2007 have still to be determined.

#### *Support missions in countries*

Support missions will be organised in countries for the activities related to the development of NSSDs including the indicators and priority topics. These missions will last for 1 to 3 days depending on the country and will take place between June and November 2006. During these missions BP/RAC will consult with the countries about the activities to be carried out or already in progress on the priority indicators and topics. Contacts will also be made with other ministries and departments concerned. Repeat

missions are planned for the end of 2007 to discuss the initial results of the priority indicators and on the thematic activities.

## **6. Working/Expert Groups**

At the 10th meeting of the MCSD in Athens in June, 2005, consideration was given to the setting up of working groups, on an "ad hoc" basis, for the thematic activities. MCSD members have already been requested to inform the Secretariat about the thematic issues they would like to be involved in once it is decided to set up the relative working groups. On the basis of the replies received, a schedule showing the interest shown by the members has been compiled and can be found in the **Annex III**.

It should be noted that the representatives of certain countries have shown interest in all the groups but most countries have not responded. Moreover several countries have questioned the necessity of setting up these groups together with the groups of experts that the Contracting Parties have requested the BP/RAC to organise on the different priority fields.

The setting up of working groups was justified at the beginning of MCSD in order to harmonise visions, define orientations for action and prepare the Strategy. Now that the MSSD has been adopted, the stakes are different. The MCSD should retain its role as a regional forum for discussion and to formulate proposals. Between Commission meetings, the members can play an important role by mobilising and involving the various authorities concerned, in identifying the experts/leaders to be involved in the topics, in supporting the implementation of tasks given to the Secretariat (MEDU and RACs) and in informing and encouraging debate on the results of the activities carried out.

## **7. Information and Communication Strategy on the MSSD**

Now that the MSSD has been adopted by the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat will embark on an exercise to promote the strategy at the international, regional and local levels through an information and communication strategy. The overall goal of the exercise is to make the MSSD better understood, more widely disseminated and increase its political and public support for its effective implementation.

At the national level, the Secretariat will induce the countries and partners to undertake information campaigns to give a higher profile to the strategy with a view to ensuring greater ownership of the MSSD by the concerned parties and stronger political support. The Secretariat may also provide financial support to some of the countries to carry out these national information campaigns.

In line with the decisions of the Contracting parties in Porotoroz for INFO/RAC to provide support to MAP and its components in addressing priority information and communication requirements, the centre will develop a draft "Vision" for an Information and Communication Strategy for the MSSD to be discussed during the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD and then to be approved by the MCSD meeting in Cyprus.

## 8. Study on the Euro-Med Free Trade Area

It is proposed to include on the MCSD's agenda for discussion European initiative for a Free Trade Area between the EU and the Southern Mediterranean countries because of its importance for the future of the Mediterranean.

The possible environmental impacts of the Free Trade Area were dealt with by the MCSD in 2000-2001. The results were published in the series of MAP Technical Reports. Moreover, Phase 2 of the independent Sustainability Impact Assessment Study of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area commissioned by the European Commission is nearly completed. The reports of Phase 2 prepared by the SIA-EMFTA consortium led by the Institute for Development Policy and Management of Manchester University, are now available for consultation. The MCSD should consider discussing this important issue for the Mediterranean. The report will be sent to the MCSD members in preparation for the next meeting in Cyprus.

## 9. MCSD New Members

MCSD members representing the Civil Society (non-CP members) are renewed every two years. A questionnaire was sent to all MAP Partners and to potential interested candidates with the view of joining the MCSD. The following are the members and alternate members of the MCSD representing civil society as approved by the Contracting Parties in Portoroz:

### MCSD members representing the Civil Society:

- a) Local Authorities: the Network of Medcities, the Region of Sicily (Italy) and the Association of Italian Local Agenda 21 (Italy);
- b) Socio-economic Actors: UMCE – Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises; Chamber of Commerce of Herzegovina-Neretva Canton;
- c) NGOs/IGOs: Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (CIHEAM), Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Environnement Développement et Action au Maghreb (ENDA/Maghreb), Friends of the Earth - Europe/Mediterranean (FoE/Mednet), GREENPEACE, League for the environment (LEGAMBIENTE), Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Program (METAP), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Sustainable Business Associates (SBA)

Alternate Members: L'Association Internationale Forêts Méditerranéennes (AIFM), Association pour la Protection de la Nature et de l'Environnement de Kairouan (APNEK), Euro Arab Management School (EAMS), Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association (HELMEPA), International Marine Centre (IMC), Institut Méditerranée de l'eau (IME), International Ocean Institute (IOI), Le Mouvement Ecologique Algérien (MEA), Research and conservation of island & coastal ecosystems in the Mediterranean (MEDMARAVIS), Observatoire Méditerranéen de l'Energie (OME), Tour de Valat, Sustainability Challenge Foundation (SCF), Union of Northern Association for Development, Environment, Patrimony (UNADEP) and the University of the Aegean (UoA).

## **10. Miscellaneous**

### *Departure of Deputy Coordinator and Appointment of Sustainable Development Officer*

In September, 2005 Mr. Arab Hoballah, Deputy Coordinator, who was responsible for the organization of the work of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, took up another appointment with UNEP in Paris. Since then, his responsibilities were assumed by the Coordinator until a Sustainable Development Officer is appointed on a permanent basis to be assigned the role of Programme Officer for the MCSD. The recruitment process has been launched and the call for applications will soon be published on the 'Galaxy', UNEP's on-line vacancy announcement system.

It should be recalled that a proposal by the Secretariat to replace the vacant position of Deputy Coordinator with that of a Professional post of Sustainable Development Officer devoted to servicing the MCSD and to promoting the implementation of the MSSD was discussed at the meeting of the Contracting Parties in Portoroz, Slovenia and it was agreed that the position of temporary Sustainable Development Officer, which was due to expire at the end of February 2006, would be extended until the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007 to be filled following an open call for applications. The Contracting Parties agreed also that, until the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007, the post of Deputy Coordinator would be frozen for the 2006-2007 biennium and reconsidered at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties on the basis of the recommendations of the Extraordinary Meeting on MAP evaluation.

In the meantime, the Sustainable Development Officer, who was appointed on a temporary basis on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2005 at the equivalent of P3 level for an initial period of 11 months, terminated his appointment with effect from 31 December, 2005.

## ANNEX I

### PORTOROZ DECLARATION

The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), meeting in Portoroz, Slovenia, from 8 to 11 November 2005, in the framework of the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP),

*Recalling* that the Mediterranean Action Plan was approved in 1975 by the Governments of the Mediterranean States and the European Community to assist Mediterranean Governments to assess and control marine pollution, to formulate their national environment policies, to improve the ability of governments to identify better options for alternative patterns of development and to make better and rational use of resources;

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution that the Barcelona Convention and its related Protocols have made to improving the quality of the marine environment and promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean;

*Recognizing* that over the last three decades MAP has been a significant instrument for change and progress concerning environmental matters in the Mediterranean;

*Recalling* the entry into force in 2004 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the amended Barcelona Convention) and the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (the Prevention and Emergency Protocol);

*Recalling* that there should be a synergy between the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and other MAP components, on the one hand, and the forthcoming European Strategy for the Conservation and Protection of the Marine Environment and the European Union Maritime Policy, on the other hand;

*Moreover, recognizing* the valuable work undertaken by the MAP Secretariat, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and the MAP components, in particular the Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (BP/RAC), and recognizing the contributions from NGOs and civil society throughout the preparatory process of the MSSD;

*Taking note* of the outcomes and proposals of the Tenth Meeting of the MCSD (Athens, June 2005), in particular the finalized text of the MSSD and the Athens Charter;

*Reaffirming* the necessity for achieving sustainable development at regional, national and local levels in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Mediterranean Declaration for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) and the Catania Declaration;

*Noting with satisfaction* the recognition by the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, through the Second Conference of Ministers of the Environment (Athens, July 2002) and the Seventh Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs (Luxembourg, May 2005) of the importance of the MCSD and the MSSD for mainstreaming sustainable development throughout the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership;

*Convinced* that promoting sustainable development is a vital necessity to meet development challenges in the Mediterranean region;

*Convinced* also that the elaboration and implementation of sustainable development strategies are necessary steps for promoting equity, shared prosperity and stability by enhancing the value of Mediterranean assets, reducing disparities, changing unsustainable production and consumption patterns, ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources and improving governance at all levels;

**With regard to the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), agree that,**

1. The MSSD constitutes an opportunity for Mediterranean countries to achieve progress in environmental protection, as well as social, economic and cultural advancement in a sustainable manner, thus contributing to peace, stability and shared prosperity in the region, as well as to the fulfilment of the commitments made by the Contracting Parties at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 and the MDGs,
2. The MSSD is a framework strategy which defines key challenges, principles, steps and actions to guide the promotion and implementation of sustainable development at the regional, subregional and national levels, as well as to rationalize regional and international cooperation and promote dynamic partnerships for the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region,
3. The MSSD does not concern only MAP and the Contracting Parties, but also all other actors and stakeholders from the private sector, civil society and other major groups, as well as relevant regional and international institutions; it provides an excellent opportunity to undertake coordinated efforts and achieve joint progress,
4. The MSSD is a flexible framework allowing for adaptation to major developments and the integration of determinant emerging issues,
5. The implementation of sustainable development strategies requires serious policy and institutional reforms together with the promotion of a dynamic culture of change, in particular concerning unsustainable production and consumption patterns,
6. The MSSD constitutes an essential contribution to a proactive win-win-win scenario based on synergies, efficient management and cultural diversity for a codeveloped ecoregion and a shared destiny,

7. The implementation of sustainable development strategies requires the application of various principles, including the satisfaction of the basic needs of all citizens, in line with the commitments of the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the MDGs, the promotion of education for sustainable development, access to information, a multistakeholder participatory approach, the precautionary and polluter/user-pays principles, as well as common, shared but differentiated responsibility,

**The Contracting Parties decide,**

1. To adopt the MSSD and make the commitment to do their utmost to implement its objectives, orientations and proposed actions as appropriate,
2. To prepare and/or update the respective National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSDs), giving due consideration to the MSSD,
3. To integrate sustainable development principles in their development and other relevant policies and legislation, in particular through the adequate revision of legal frameworks and relevant policy reforms,
4. To mobilize and provide relevant adequate human, technical and financial means for the implementation of the MSSD and NSSDs,
5. To demonstrate their commitment to the implementation of the MSSD by promoting education for sustainable development in their education programmes.
6. To demonstrate clearly their commitment to implementing the MSSD through the identification and implementation of specific and relevant projects at the regional, subregional, national and local levels,
7. To renew their commitment to the implementation of the WSSD Mediterranean Type II Partnership Initiative and to propose or actively participate in the elaboration and implementation of partnership initiatives that correspond to the objectives, orientations and proposed actions of the MSSD and the respective NSSDs,
8. To promote consultation mechanisms and awareness-raising campaigns to ensure broader ownership and stronger support from the concerned actors, in particular the private sector and NGOs, in their implementation,
9. To evaluate progress in the implementation of the MSSD at the regional and national levels, using an adequate set of indicators, to revise the MSSD as appropriate, if necessary in two years, and to undertake an overall assessment and review of the MSSD after five years,
10. To request the partners, concerned actors and funding agencies at the regional, subregional and national levels to give due consideration to the MSSD's objectives, orientations and proposed actions in their cooperation programmes and to contribute actively to the implementation of the MSSD and NSSDs, and the elaboration of the latter, where necessary.

***With regard to the National Action Plans (NAPs)***

*Concerned* with the significant impact of land based pollution on the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment and its ecosystems;

*Aware* of the important contribution of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) adopted in 1997, the related National Action Plans (NAPs) and the process of the reduction of industrial pollution by Mediterranean countries to the implementation of the MSSD;

*Reaffirming* the compatibility and concurrence of the SAP's targets with those of the EU Marine Strategy, the related EU directives and international Conventions;

*Recognizing* the necessity to involve all concerned stakeholders, including civil society and NGOs, in the implementation of the SAP and the related NAPs;

*Considering* that the process of the implementation of the NAPs, which will require adequate financial resources, will enhance economic, technological and social development at the local level, and also that the proposed GEF Partnership for the Mediterranean large marine ecosystem will contribute to their implementation;

*Keeping in mind* that, with the entry into force of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (the LBS Protocol), a legally-binding regional plan containing measures and a timetable for the gradual reduction of pollution, based on the SAP and other relevant international developments, will have to be formulated and adopted;

*Considering* that SAP and the NAPs provide useful tools already in place to contribute to the achievement of the proposed strategic goal for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership to depollute the Mediterranean by 2020.

**The Contracting Parties decide,**

1. To endorse the NAPs and integrate them into their national development plans, national strategies and pollution control plans, including prevention and reduction measures, as appropriate,
2. To encourage the involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the NAPs,
3. To mobilize all necessary resources for the full implementation of the NAPs through national regular budgets and innovative financial instruments, as well as from international institutions,
4. To contribute to the implementation of the proposed Euro-Mediterranean Partnership initiative, once it has been endorsed, to depollute the Mediterranean by 2020, based on MAP's ongoing and future work, in particular on the SAP and the NAPs.

***With regard to the conservation of the Monk Seal***

*Considering* that the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol) entered into force in 1999, and *aware* of the urgent need to implement the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP-BIO), adopted in 2003 as a response to safeguard Mediterranean biodiversity and achieve the WSSD's targets;

*Concerned* at the high risk of extinction of the Mediterranean Monk Seal, mostly due to human activities, deliberate killings and habitat losses;

*Aware* that the recovery of this species is a major challenge for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity;

*Noting with satisfaction* the success stories of the integration of the conservation of this species into local development processes;

*Recognizing* the necessity of having an appropriate legal framework and participatory mechanisms for the protection and conservation of this species and its habitats;

*Acknowledging* the need to have adequate operational tools, together with appropriate human and financial resources for targeted conservation and efficient management;

**The Contracting Parties decide,**

1. To take as quickly as possible all necessary measures for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Mediterranean Monk Seal (*Monachus Monachus*) and to strengthen their cooperation to reverse the decline of the species,
2. To seriously address the problem of deliberate Monk Seal killing, combined with habitat loss, through action tailored to local communities and involving fishermen and other stakeholders,
3. To promote information on relevant success stories regarding the protection of the Monk Seal and exchange experience with all concerned parties and partners,
4. To further develop, implement and enforce legislative measures relevant to the conservation of the Monk seal, including incentive and regulatory measures, together with adequate operational management plans for targeted human activities,
5. To contribute to the implementation of relevant activities by concerned countries, the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) and its partners through bilateral cooperation and voluntary contributions.

***With regard to the future orientation of MAP***

*Acknowledging* the need to review, after 10 years, the role and mandate of MAP, taking into account the developments that have taken place in social, economic and environmental fields at the international and regional level;

*Convinced* that a Strategic Vision for MAP can further contribute to sustainable development in the Mediterranean region;

*Considering* that the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the external evaluation of MAP may constitute a good basis for launching the process to introduce any necessary reforms to strengthen MAP's future role in the Mediterranean;

**The Contracting Parties decide,**

1. To request the MAP Secretariat to draft a vision statement for MAP, taking note of the MAP evaluation report,
2. To convene an extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points as soon as possible to discuss the new vision for MAP and to submit recommendations for MAP's future orientation to the meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.

## **ANNEX II**

### **MCS D programme of work**

*as adopted by the Contracting Parties (8-11 November 2005, Portoroz, Slovenia)*

During the last 10 years, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCS D) covered the following priority issues built on activities corresponding to some of the priority needs of the Mediterranean region:

- Sustainable management of coastal zones
- Management of water demand
- Sustainable development indicators
- Sustainable tourism
- Information, public awareness, environmental education and public participation
- Free trade and the environment in the Euro-Mediterranean Context
- Industry and sustainable development
- Management of urban development

For each one of these priorities issues, Working Groups were established with mostly the support of MAP Components, respective sets of recommendations and proposals for action were prepared and submitted to the Contracting Parties meetings that generally adopted them with minor amendments in some cases.

Then, considering the importance of the issue, it was agreed to work on "Financing and cooperation for sustainable development" for which a Working Group was established, resulting in an in-depth analysis with a series of proposals.

Moreover, while following the implementation of some of the recommendations by concerned MAP components, such as "water", "coastal management", "industry" and "indicators", the MCS D members agreed that, until a new programme of work is defined, the following issues could be considered without necessarily establishing at this stage specific Working Groups; These concern:

- Local management and governance
- Agriculture and rural development
- Waste management
- Management and prevention of natural risks

Actually, some progress was made with regard to the first two issues, respectively by PAP/RAC and BP/RAC. These would need to be considered in the framework of the new MCS D programme of work.

Following the proposals of the MCS D and in conformity with the decision of the Contracting Parties, a Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD) has been prepared. The strategy outlines the main needs and challenges in the region and identifies four major objectives and sets of actions to be carried out in seven priority fields of action as follows:

- Better management of water resources and demand
- Better management of energy demand and the mitigation of the effects of climate change
- Sustainable mobility through appropriate transport management
- Sustainable tourism as a leading economic sector
- High quality agriculture and sustainable rural development
- Sustainable urban development
- Sustainable management of the sea, coastal areas and marine resources.

The multi-year programme of work for the MCSD gives due consideration to the objectives/orientations and actions for the seven interdependent priority areas of action of the MSSD, the Millennium Development Goals, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the UNCSD Programme of work, and their adaptation to the Mediterranean context.

The UNCSD's multi-year programme of work is as follows:

<i>Cycle</i>	<i>Thematic cluster</i>
2004/2005	Water; Sanitation; Human Settlements
2006/2007	Energy; Industrial Development; Climate change
2008/2009	Agriculture; Rural Development; Desertification
2010/2011	Transport; Waste Management; Consumption and Production
2012/2013	Biodiversity; Biotechnology; Tourism; Mountains
2014/2015	Marine Resources
2016/2017	Overall appraisal of implementation

The new thematic programme of work for the MCSD will cover the next 6 years, organized on the basis of two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on selected thematic clusters of issues from the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, as set out in the table below.

In each cycle, the thematic clusters of issues will be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account multiple challenges, including those related to environment and culture, but also demographic, economic and social concerns and finally globalization, regional cooperation and governance.

As for the UNCSD programme of work, the MCSD will function on the basis of two-year "Implementation Cycles", including Review and Policy Years. The "Review" year of the cycle will evaluate progress made in implementing sustainable development goals and identifying constraints, obstacles and barriers. The second year, the "Policy" one, will define policy measures to speed up implementation and mobilize necessary means for action to overcome these constraints, obstacles and barriers.

However, for issues for which MAP and its partners have already cumulated enough analytical knowledge, such as for water, marine pollution and coastal management, the first year of the cycle could be devoted immediately to Policy issues and the second year would concentrate on pilot actions.

The purpose is to consider each issue in the overall framework of the MSSD and in an integrated manner, fully addressing cross-cutting issues as well. These cross-cutting issues, as presented in the last column of the tables, concern mainly governance, implementation mechanisms and means, as well as information, communications, education and participatory processes.

It is proposed to have about 4 thematic issues per biennium (up to 6 in 2006/2007 so as to allow for the preparation of the overall review in 2010/11) that could be dealt with in the following manner. Concerned MAP Components would be leading centres, with interested members of the MCSD partner groups (national governments, local authorities, NGOs and socio-economic actors) and other regional programmes/centres. Ad hoc working groups could be set up, where necessary, with clear mandates and limited time frames, upon consultation with the MCSD Steering Committee. ERS/RAC will be fully involved in the cross-cutting issues related to information and communication, in line with the new tasks to be approved by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Finally, it is important to note that the work of the MCSD does not only consist in its thematic programme. Actually, besides coordinating and providing support to the activities of the thematic

working groups and respective Support Centers, the Secretariat has induced the countries and NGOs to prepare brochures in various languages on sustainable development policies and institutions, through a participatory approach, providing to that end guidance, technical and financial support.

A strategic Review for sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region was undertaken in 1999-2000, ending up with the Mediterranean Declaration for the WSSD. Soon after the World Summit, the Secretariat has launched the preparatory process for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development; this process has included several working sessions and workshops that resulted in the preparation of the "Vision", the "Framework Orientations", the Strategic Thematic Notes for sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region and finally the report of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. Throughout this process, the Secretariat has been encouraging and, as appropriate, providing support for multi-stakeholders national consultations as well as for the NGOs. Moreover, a regional Review of National Strategies was undertaken and technical and financial assistance were extended to several countries for the preparation of National Strategies for Sustainable Development.

Therefore, the Secretariat will keep on undertaking a series of specific tasks besides those of the Secretariat and the coordination of the thematic programme of work. These would encompass:

- ✓ Organizing and servicing the meetings of the MCSD and its Steering Committee, as well as major regional workshops;
- ✓ Communicating about MCSD activities and outputs, at global, regional and national levels;
- ✓ Informing about Partnership initiatives relevant to MSSD and the Mediterranean;
- ✓ Undertaking regional reviews and assessments on sustainable development progress and achievements;
- ✓ Following the implementation of MCSD recommendations and proposals for action;
- ✓ Inducing and providing technical and financial support to countries and major groups for, as appropriate, awareness raising, consultations between stakeholders, publications and preparation of NSSDs;
- ✓ Mobilization of additional funds for MCSD activities.

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK – GENERAL/COORDINATION					
Cycle	Secretariat Activities	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Components & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2005/ 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> <li>• Information and Communication</li> <li>• Regional reviews and assessments</li> <li>• Support to Countries and partners</li> <li>• Follow-up of MCS D recommendations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize and service MCS D meetings and workshops</li> <li>• Regional reviews and assessments of NSSDs</li> <li>• Induce and provide support to countries and partners</li> <li>• Follow support to and implementation of MSSD</li> <li>• Improve visibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize and service 11<sup>th</sup> MCS D meeting and meeting of Steering Committee</li> <li>• Finalize and publish Regional Review</li> <li>• Provide technical and financial assistance for preparation of NSSDs to at least 2 countries</li> <li>• Organize regional workshop on NSSDs</li> <li>• Follow and induce consultation process for MSSD support and commitments by Parties and Partners</li> <li>• Undertake cost/benefit analysis of selected policies</li> <li>• Publish MSSD report and off-prints</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretariat (MEDU)</li> <li>• Concerned MAP Components</li> <li>• Metap</li> <li>• Other Partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2006/ 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> <li>• Information and Communication</li> <li>• Support to Countries and partners</li> <li>• Follow-up of MCS D recommendations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize and service MCS D meetings and workshops</li> <li>• Induce and provide support to countries and partners</li> <li>• Follow support to and implementation of MSSD</li> <li>• Improve visibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize and service 12<sup>th</sup> MCS D meeting and meeting of Steering Committee</li> <li>• Provide technical and financial assistance for preparation of NSSDs to at least 2 countries</li> <li>• Follow implementation of MSSD at regional and national levels</li> <li>• Undertake cost/benefit analysis of selected policies</li> <li>• Organize information and awareness-raising campaigns on MCS D activities in general and implementation/follow-up of MSSD in particular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretariat (MEDU)</li> <li>• Concerned MAP Components</li> <li>• Metap</li> <li>• Other Partners</li> </ul>	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Components & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2005/ 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Water Resources</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stabilize water demand management</li> <li>• Integrated water resources management</li> <li>• Access to water and sanitation</li> <li>• Promote water management governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Implement water saving techniques in irrigation and involving industry &amp; tourism</li> <li>• Establish appropriate fiscal/pricing systems</li> <li>• Reduce unnecessary losses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• MEDPOL</li> <li>• IME</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Energy &amp; Climate Change</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies</li> <li>• Access to electricity</li> <li>• Support Kyoto Protocol implementation</li> <li>• Adapt to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish overall and sectoral objectives for the promotion of rational energy use and the development of renewable energies in NSSD</li> <li>• Mainstream the concept of adaptation to climate change in national policies</li> <li>• Develop plans to anticipate risks and adapt the Mediterranean areas to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• MEDREP</li> <li>• OME</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marine Pollution from ships</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and combat marine pollution from ships</li> <li>• Eliminate operational pollution from ships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the relevant specific objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from ships, according to the related agreed timetable.</li> <li>• Increase of EU aid and support for its implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REMPEC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integrated Coastal Area Management</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the balanced and integrated management &amp; development of coastal zones</li> <li>• Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone</li> <li>• Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage</li> <li>• Avoid linear and continuous urbanization</li> <li>• Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Strengthen systems and capacities for their implementation</li> <li>• Promote laws, mechanisms and tools for ICZM in countries which do not yet have them</li> <li>• Assess the vulnerability of coastal zones to natural and technological risks, prohibit construction in high-risk areas and integrate risk prevention into urban development plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Components & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2006/ 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Water Resources</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stabilize water demand management</li> <li>• Integrated water resources management</li> <li>• Access to water and sanitation</li> <li>• Promote water management governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Implement water saving techniques in irrigation and involving industry &amp; tourism</li> <li>• Establish appropriate fiscal/pricing systems</li> <li>• Reduce unnecessary losses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• IME</li> <li>• MEDPOL</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> </ul> Other Partners to be identified?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Energy &amp; Climate Change</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies</li> <li>• Access to electricity</li> <li>• Support Kyoto Protocol implementation</li> <li>• Adapt to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish overall and sectoral objectives for the promotion of rational energy use and the development of renewable energies in NSSD</li> <li>• Mainstream the concept of adaptation to climate change in national policies</li> <li>• Develop plans to anticipate risks and adapt the Mediterranean areas to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDREP</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• OME</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marine Pollution from ships</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and combat marine pollution from ships</li> <li>• Eliminate operational pollution from ships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the relevant specific objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from ships, according to the related agreed timetable.</li> <li>• Request an increase of EU aid and support for its implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REMPEC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integrated Coastal Area Management</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the balanced and integrated management &amp; development of coastal zones</li> <li>• Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone</li> <li>• Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage</li> <li>• Avoid linear and continuous urbanization</li> <li>• Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Strengthen systems and capacities for their implementation</li> <li>• Promote laws, mechanisms and tools for ICZM in countries which do not yet have them</li> <li>• Assess the vulnerability of coastal zones to natural and technological risks, prohibit construction in high-risk areas and integrate risk prevention into urban development plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

2006/ 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quality Agriculture &amp; Sustainable Rural Development</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlled liberalization and the promotion of high quality Mediterranean products</li> <li>• Promote productive and rational agriculture</li> <li>• Improve rural development and local governance</li> <li>• Promote sustainable management of rural areas &amp; the Mediterranean natural environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a regional policy to enhance recognition of the quality of traditional Mediterranean agricultural products</li> <li>• Implement agricultural policies in developing countries aimed at rationalizing agricultural structures</li> <li>• Strengthen the negotiation and governance capacities of local communities and local actors</li> <li>• Reduce the impacts of desertification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• CIHEAM</li> <li>• FAO</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Tourism</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the adverse territorial and environmental effects of tourism</li> <li>• Promote the supply of sustainable tourist facilities and increase the added value of tourism for local communities</li> <li>• Improve governance for sustainable tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations</li> <li>• Promote a more balanced distribution of tourists between destinations and throughout the year</li> <li>• Develop "tourism pay-back" formula</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of implementing taxation systems based on transport (sea and air)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES

Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Components & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2007/ 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quality Agriculture &amp; Sustainable Rural Development</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlled liberalization and the promotion of high quality Mediterranean products</li> <li>• Promote productive and rational agriculture</li> <li>• Improve rural development and local governance</li> <li>• Promote sustainable management of rural areas &amp; the Mediterranean natural environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a regional policy to enhance recognition of the quality of traditional Mediterranean agricultural products</li> <li>• Implement agricultural policies in developing countries aimed at rationalizing agricultural structures</li> <li>• Strengthen the negotiation and governance capacities of local communities and local actors</li> <li>• Reduce the impacts of desertification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• CIHEAM</li> <li>• FAO</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b></li> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> <li>• <b>Means:</b></li> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b></li> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Tourism</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the adverse territorial and environmental effects of tourism</li> <li>• Promote the supply of sustainable tourist facilities and increase the added value of tourism for local communities</li> <li>• Improve governance for sustainable tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Promote a more balanced distribution of tourists between destinations and throughout the year</li> <li>• Develop "tourism pay-back" formula</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of implementing taxation systems based on transport (sea and air)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Marine Pollution : LBS Protocol</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and reduce land-based pollution by achieving the goals set out in the Strategic Action Programme to address Land-based Sources of Pollution, adopted in 1997</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the National Action Plans for combating pollution from land-based sources</li> <li>• Reduce pollutants from industrial sources</li> <li>• Equip all coastal cities with systems for the environmental management of solid waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MEDPOL</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Biodiversity</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean region</li> <li>• Bring Mediterranean fisheries under a comprehensive ecosystem-based management system</li> <li>• Restore depleted Mediterranean fish stocks</li> <li>• Regulate the development of aquaculture so as to minimize its impacts on the environment and marine and coastal biological diversity and conflicts with other uses of coastal areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and complete the network of protected maritime and coastal areas</li> <li>• Promote the creation of new generations of protected areas</li> <li>• Establish at least 30 SPAMI at the end of 2012</li> <li>• Ensure the coordination and synergy of activities carried out by international organizations and networks</li> <li>• Encourage fishery and aquaculture good practices respectful of conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• IUCN</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES

Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Compon-ents & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2008/ 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Urban Development</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anticipate and plan expected urban growth</li> <li>• Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities</li> <li>• Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities</li> <li>• Improve urban governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies</li> <li>• Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally</li> <li>• Promote sustainable urban transport</li> <li>• Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• MEDCITIES</li> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Transports</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems</li> <li>• Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport</li> <li>• Decoupling transport growth &amp; GDP growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework</li> <li>• Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems</li> <li>• Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• REMPEC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Marine Pollution : LBS Protocol</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and reduce land-based pollution by achieving the goals set out in the Strategic Action Programme to address Land-based Sources of Pollution, adopted in 1997</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the National Action Plans for combating pollution from land-based sources</li> <li>• Reduce pollutants from industrial sources</li> <li>• Equip all coastal cities with systems for the environmental management of solid waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MEDPOL</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Biodiversity</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean region</li> <li>• Bring Mediterranean fisheries under a comprehensive ecosystem-based management system</li> <li>• Restore depleted Mediterranean fish stocks</li> <li>• Regulate the development of aquaculture so as to minimize its impacts on the environment and marine and coastal biological diversity and conflicts with other uses of coastal areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and complete the network of protected maritime and coastal areas</li> <li>• Promote the creation of new generations of protected areas</li> <li>• Establish at least 30 SPAMI at the end of 2012</li> <li>• Ensure the coordination and synergy of activities carried out by international organizations and networks</li> <li>• Encourage fishery and aquaculture good practices respectful of conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• IUCN</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES

Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	MAP Compon-ents & potential support centres	Cross-Cutting Issues
2009/ 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Urban Development</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anticipate and plan expected urban growth</li> <li>• Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities</li> <li>• Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities</li> <li>• Improve urban governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review implementation of previous MCS D recommendations</li> <li>• Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies</li> <li>• Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally</li> <li>• Promote sustainable urban transport</li> <li>• Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• MEDCITIES</li> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Approach and Partnership:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated Approach</li> <li>- Participatory Approach</li> <li>- Governance</li> <li>- Civil society, NGOs &amp; Private Sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Means:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Public Vs Private Resources</li> <li>- International Cooperation</li> <li>- Tax Related Resources</li> <li>- Debt Reconversion</li> <li>- Innovative Financial Means</li> <li>- Technological Transfer &amp; Acquisition</li> <li>- Research &amp; Development</li> <li>- Training &amp; Capacity Building</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Implementation and Follow-up:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicators</li> <li>- Information, Communication and Awareness raising</li> <li>- Pilot Actions</li> <li>- Partnership projects and Actions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainable Transports</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems</li> <li>• Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport</li> <li>• Decoupling transport growth &amp; GDP growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework</li> <li>• Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems</li> <li>• Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• REMPEC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Energy &amp; Climate Change</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies</li> <li>• Access to electricity</li> <li>• Support Kyoto Protocol implementation</li> <li>• Adapt to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage economic actors and domestic consumers to adopt sustainable energy-saving habits and approaches</li> <li>• Encourage economic mechanisms/regulations designed to promote renewable energies</li> <li>• Support investment to improve access to electricity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MEDREP</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• OME</li> <li>• BP/RAC</li> <li>• CP/RAC</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integrated Coastal Area Management</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the balanced and integrated management &amp; development of coastal zones</li> <li>• Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone</li> <li>• Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage</li> <li>• Avoid linear and continuous urbanization</li> <li>• Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote integrated management approaches &amp; projects for coastal zones &amp; catchments areas</li> <li>• Implement specific plans for the sustainable management and development of islands</li> <li>• Prevent continuous and linear urbanization of coastal areas</li> <li>• Enhance the heritage of coastal areas, including traditional productive activities which form part of its identity, maintain agricultural and wooded green belts and establish ecological corridors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAP/RAC</li> <li>• MEDU</li> <li>• ERS/RAC</li> <li>• Other Partners to be identified</li> </ul>	

<b>MCS D PROGRAMME OF WORK- THEMATIC ISSUES</b>					
<b>Cycle</b>	<b>Thematic Cluster</b>	<b>Objectives/Orientations</b>	<b>Proposed Actions</b>	<b>MAP Components &amp; potential support centres</b>	<b>Cross-Cutting Issues</b>
2010/2011					

**OVERALL REVIEW OF MSSD**

## ANNEX III

## WORKING EXPERT GROUPS

	Water Resources	Energy & Climate Change	Marine Pollution from ships	Integrated Coastal Area Management	Quality Agric. & Sust. Rural Dev.	Sust. Tourism
<b>Task Managers</b>						
<b>Support Centres</b>	<b>BP/RAC</b>	<b>BP/RAC</b>	<b>REMPEC</b>	<b>PAP/RAC</b>	<b>BP/RAC</b>	<b>BP/RAC</b>
<b>Group Members</b>						
	CEDARE	ITALY/MEDREP	MEDMARAVIS	MEDMARAVIS	MONTENEGRO	MEDMARA VIS
	HELMEPA	CEDARE	LEGAMBIENTE	CEDARE	ALGERIA	ALGERIA
	ALGERIA	OME	MONTENEGRO	HELMEPA	AIFM	
	LEGAMBIENTE	AIFM	MEA	ALGERIA	LEGAMBIENTE	LEGAMBIE NTE
	EC	LEGAMBIENTE	MIO-ECSE	LEGAMBIENTE	B i H	MIO-ECSDE
	METAP	CROATIA	CROATIA	CROATIA	MOROCCO	CROATIA
	UNAEP	UNAEP		UNAEP	FoE/Mednet	MOROCCO
	B i H	B i H		B i H	Italian Local Ag21	B i H
	MONTENEGRO	MONTENEGRO		MONTENEGRO	ENDA	MONTENEGRO
	MEDCITIES	METAP		IMC		Italian Local Ag21
	MIO-ECSDE	MOROCCO		MEA		
	MOROCCO	Italian Local Ag21		METAP		
	FoE/Mednet	CYPRUS		MEDCITIES		
	Italian Local Ag21	ENDA		MIO-ECSE		
	CYPRUS	UMCE		Italian Local Ag21		
		MALTA		CYPRUS		
				ENDA		

**ANNEX IV****PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE 11<sup>TH</sup> MCSD MEETING  
Nicosia, Cyprus, 24-26 May 2006**

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda and organization of the meeting
3. National Strategies for Sustainable Development
  - Update of the review of NSSDs
  - Progress in the implementation of NSSD by the countries
  - Launching of new NSSDs
  - Launching of Pilot Actions
4. Implementation of Priority Action 2.7 of the MSSD (Promoting sustainable management of the sea and coastal zones)
  - Strengthening regional cooperation
  - Draft protocol for the integrated management of coastal areas (PAP/RAC)
  - Prevention and reduction of land-based pollution – implementation of SAP and NAPs (MEDPOL) and synergy with the Horizon 2020 EC Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean
  - Implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (REMPEC)
  - Protection of Marine and coastal biodiversity
5. Follow-up and assessment of progress in implementing the MSSD
  - Indicators and thematic activities (water, energy, tourism and rural development)
  - Mechanism of cooperation on tourism
  - Participation by Commission members in thematic activities
6. Evaluation of impact of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Zone  
Presentation on the initial results of the Impact Assessment
7. Information and Communications
  - Environment and Development Report (BP/RAC)
  - MSSD Information and Communication Strategy (INFO/RAC)
8. Conclusion and Closure of the meeting