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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

14th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission
on Sustainable Development
Budva, Montenegro, 30 May to 1 June 2011

A MEDITERRANEAN CONTRIBUTION TO RIO+20 COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2012

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The Mediterranean Region benefits from a long established cooperation on the protection of the marine and coastal environment under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. Evolutions in the global environmental agenda towards sustainable development led the Contracting Parties at their Meeting in Athens (1996) to strengthen their cooperation by the establishment of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) with the participation of representatives from the civil society. Cooperation in this context led the Contracting Parties Meeting in Portoroz (2005) to develop and adopt the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), an innovation in regional environmental cooperation.

The MSSD as a framework strategy has the purpose to adapt international commitments to regional conditions, guide national sustainable development strategies and support a dynamic partnership between countries at different levels of development. Towards these ends the MCSD provides guidance and assistance to a number of Contracting Parties to develop their NSSD and seeks priority actions on key thematic issues relating to sustainable development such as water demand management, energy, sustainable management of coastal areas, tourism and sustainable development, agriculture and rural development, urban development, transport and urban mobility and climate change, among others.

Actions for consideration

1. Prepare and organize a special communication contribution to Rio+20 in order to highlight the Mediterranean context in terms of:
 - activities undertaken and envisaged towards green economy and institutional arrangements in sustainable development
 - particularities of the Region in sustainable development issues

If resources are available a contribution would be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Steering Committee of the MCSD with the following indicative contents.

1. Introduction: the Region and UNEP/MAP
 2. The global context: new challenges for sustainable development
 3. The Mediterranean context: activities undertaken
 - MAP: the approach
 - MSSD
 - NSSD progress
 4. Green economy towards sustainable development in the Region
 - SCP
 - Climate change adaptation
 5. Institutional framework
 - Multiplicity of activities, initiatives, etc.
 - Strengthening the environmental pillar
2. A side event in CSD 2012 can offer a good option to strengthen the Regional image in sustainable development manners.

MCSD members are invited to discuss on the content and formatting of the proposed activities in the context of CSD 2012 to be suggested to the 17th COP meeting