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Report of the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Introduction

1. The 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Catania, 8-11 November 2003) accepted the kind offer of the Government of Slovenia to host the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Portoroz (Slovenia). Accordingly, the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties was convened at the Hotel Morje, Portoroz (Slovenia), from 8 to 11 November 2005.

Attendance

2. The following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention were represented at the Meeting: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, European Community, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.

3. The following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, convention secretariats, and intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Global Programme of Action (UNEP/GPA), UNEP Basel Convention Secretariat, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Maritime Organization (IMO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Centre for Science and High Technology-United Nations Industrial Development Organization - (ICS-UNIDO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank/METAP, the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), IUCN-World Conservation Union, International Ocean Institute (IOI).

4. The following, non-governmental and other organizations were represented by observers: Amici per la Vita Onlus, Amigos del Mediterraneo, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Clean Up Greece, ECAT Tirana, Fund for Integrated Rural Development of Syria (FIRDOS), International Marine Centre (IMC), LEGAMBIENTE, MAREVIVO, Mouvement Ecologique Algérien (MEA), Mediterranean Water Institute (MWI), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Organisation des Communicatrices Méditerranéennes (OCOME), Tema Foundation, Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development (UNASD), , World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF), the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and OCSASA Onlus.

5. The Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and the following MAP Regional Activity Centres were also represented: the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the Regional Activity Centre for the Blue Plan (BP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for the Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC), the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) and INFO/RAC.

6. A complete list of participants is attached as **Annex I** to this report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

7. As required by the Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties, the meeting was opened by the President elected by the 13th Ordinary Meeting, Mr. Corrado Clini (Italy), who emphasized the important developments over the past two years. These included the finalization of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), which provided a framework for progress and for identifying priorities. Implementing the MSSD would protect the environment and lead to economic growth of the region. These outcomes would be enhanced by cooperation between countries in the north and south of the region and by the expansion of the European Union. In particular, the transport of oil using pipelines instead of sea transport would reduce the risk of polluting the Mediterranean Sea. He confirmed that Italy would continue to support MAP and the implementation of the MSSD. The full text of the opening speech is reproduced in **Annex VII** to this report.

8. Mr Paul Mifsud, MAP Coordinator, expressed special thanks to Italy and Mr Clini for his dedication as President of the Bureau and the support provided for the activities of MAP.

Agenda item 2: Organizational matters

2.1 Election of officers

9. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, as amended, and observing the principles of equitable geographical distribution (Article 19 of the Convention) and continuity (Article III of the Terms of Reference of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties), the meeting elected from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties the members of the Bureau as follows:

President: H.E. Mr Janez Podobnik (Slovenia)

Vice-President: Ms Soledad Blanco (European Community)

Vice-President: Mr Mohamed S. Khalil (Egypt)

Vice-President: Mr Sedat Kedioglu (Turkey)

Vice-President: H.E. Mr Nadhir Hamada (Tunisia)

Rapporteur: Mr Jose Fernandez (Spain)

10. H.E. Mr. Janez Podobnik, Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia, the newly elected President of the Bureau, took the chair. He then made the statement reproduced in **Annex VII**.

11. The MAP Coordinator made the statement reproduced in **Annex VII**.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

12. The Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat in agreement with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and finalized during the MAP Focal Points meeting (document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/1) was adopted. The meeting adopted the proposed timetable in

the annotated agenda (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/2). The agenda is attached as **Annex II** to this report.

13. During the course of the meeting, several side events were organized by the host country, the European Community, intergovernmental organizations and MAP Partners on various subjects related to the work of MAP.

2.3 Rules of procedure

14. The Coordinator said that the Rules of Procedure adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI) would apply to the present meeting.

2.4 Credentials

15. In accordance with Rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure, the Bureau of the Contracting Parties met on 9 November 2005 under its President to examine the credentials of the representatives of the Contracting Parties attending the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties. The credentials were found to be in order and the meeting was informed accordingly. The Bureau's report was approved on 9 November 2005.

Agenda item 3: Adoption of Recommendations and Programme Budget for 2006–2007

16. Introducing the item, the Coordinator drew attention to the proposed recommendations for the 2006-2007 biennium (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/5) and recalled that most of the proposed recommendations had been endorsed by the MAP Focal Points at their meeting in Athens from 21-24 September 2005.

COORDINATION

Legal framework

Status of ratification of the Convention and the Protocols

17. Referring to the recommendations to the Contracting Parties, the Coordinator, recalled that the amended Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the Barcelona Convention) had entered into force. He added that only two acceptances were needed for the Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea (the Dumping Protocol) and three for the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (the LBS Protocol) to enter into force.

18. In discussing the recommendations, the Depositary country, Spain, undertook to do its utmost to ensure that the necessary acceptances were secured for the amended Dumping Protocol and the LBS Protocol to enter into force, and for the Contracting Parties that had not yet done so to accept the amendments to the Barcelona Convention. It was pointed out that the necessary acceptances for these Protocols had been pending for years and that additional efforts needed to be made for them to be achieved. The entry into force of the LBS Protocol was particularly important to give a strong legal foundation to the measures to be taken for the implementation of the SAP MED. The representative of Spain emphasized the

importance of the early ratification and entry into force of the Protocols, particularly the Dumping Protocol. He noted that MAP's work in relation to the Dumping Protocol was held in high esteem by the Secretariat of the London Convention and he suggested that the Contracting Parties consider the ratification of the 1996 Protocol to the 1972 London Convention as a means of ensuring the sustainability of the use of the marine environment.

19. In response to the comment by the representative of Israel concerning the absence of Israel from the table on the status of ratifications of the amended Convention, the Secretariat explained that the table would be updated when the necessary confirmation had been received by the MAP Secretariat from the Depositary Country. The table on the status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols is presented as **Annex VI** to the present report.

20. The representative of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) said that workshops would be held, together with UNEP/MAP, for civil society and local administrations to ensure the proper implementation of the legal framework of the Barcelona Convention.

21. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Developments in the legal framework

22. Introducing the item, the Coordinator stated that efforts were continuing to develop a draft protocol on ICAM with a view to submitting it to a meeting of Plenipotentiaries in 2007 for adoption.

23. It was proposed that the wording of the recommendation be changed to make it clear that those involved in developing the text of the new protocol would not be conditioned by the existing draft.

24. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Liability and compensation, reporting system, compliance mechanism under the Barcelona Convention and assistance to countries in legal matters

25. The Coordinator drew attention to the process for the development of a liability and compensation mechanism which, he recalled, was being considered according to a step-by-step approach. He added that there was no pre-conceived format for a future mechanism to deal with the issue.

26. During the discussion it was emphasized that the socio-economic actors and NGOs referred to in the recommendation in relation to the working group on liability and compensation were those already on the list of MAP Partners. It was also recalled that Article 16 of the Convention, as mentioned in the recommendation, dealt with liability and compensation for damage caused by pollution in the marine environment.

27. Regarding reporting, the Coordinator said that there had been a good response in terms of reporting on the 2002–2003 period. Twenty Parties to the Convention had reported on the legal and administrative aspects of implementation and 18 had reported on the technical aspects. He recalled that reporting was an obligation under the Convention, not only on the provisions of the Convention and Protocols, but also on the recommendations of the meeting of the Contracting Parties.

28. Turning to the subject of a compliance mechanism, the Coordinator indicated that it was recommended that such a procedure be finalized over the next biennium.

29. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Institutional framework

30. The Coordinator introduced the recommendations, which dealt with the external evaluation of MAP and the future of MAP, which would be discussed by an Extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points, to be held in 2006, and with the Environment Remote Sensing/Regional Activities Centre (ERS/RAC), which would become INFO/RAC.

31. Broad support was expressed for the new INFO/RAC. While it was pointed out that the mandate of INFO/RAC had already been outlined by its Focal Points and the meeting of MAP Focal Points and that it had already commenced activities on this basis, it was recalled that the mandate of INFO/RAC still needed to be further developed. The representative of Spain pointed out that INFO/RAC should offer horizontal services in the region for the provision of standardized information. He added that remote sensing was still essential for the elaboration and dissemination of information. The activities of INFO/RAC should not be confined to organizing workshops, but should also include the collection and dissemination of information based on remote sensing activities.

32. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

33. The Coordinator introduced the recommendations endorsing the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and adopting the MCSD's programme of work, as set out in Annex II to document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/5. Furthermore, the Secretariat had sought proposals for membership of MCSD from representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors, NGOs and intergovernmental organizations. On the basis of the responses received, and despite the shortage of proposals for local authorities and socio-economic actors, the Secretariat had prepared a list of proposed members (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/12 COR.2).

34. The Secretariat was encouraged to make greater efforts to approach local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs in general. Moreover, it was important for the work of the MCSD to be integrated into the MAP system. It was also emphasized that certain countries would need financial support to enable them to implement the MSSD through the adoption of National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSDs).

35. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Cooperation and partnership, cooperation with the European Union, cooperation with civil society and public participation

36. The Coordinator emphasized that MAP had been active in strengthening partnerships, particularly with the EC. MAP now had 76 partners of various types. Furthermore, cooperation with the EC had been strengthened by the formulation of a Joint

Programme of Work, MAP's participation in the development of the proposed European Marine Strategy and the publication of the Environment and Development Report with support from France, the European Environment Agency and the EC.

37. The representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) reminded the meeting that his Organization's past cooperation with MAP had resulted in the formulation of guidelines, environmental exercises and capacity building. He said that further cooperation was possible regarding the water resources component of MSSD, particularly through closer cooperation with the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. This could take the form of assessing not only sustainable access to water supply and sanitation, but also to the quality of service. He drew attention to WHO's contributions to MAP/MEDPOL and said that WHO hoped to build on this, paying particular attention to relevant activities in the strategic and sectoral action plans.

38. The representative of the IMO stated that his organization was working with partners globally to stop the introduction of invasive species through ships' ballast water. He urged the meeting to consider ratifying international instruments pertaining to such efforts. He informed the meeting that the IMO was launching an initiative entitled the GloBallast Partnership. He pointed out that the initiative was relevant to two other recommendations found later in the document on *Marine Pollution Prevention and Control and Implementation of the Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea*. He warned of the danger of considering these related recommendations in isolation and emphasized the need for greater harmonization of efforts and for the MAP Coordinating Unit to be aware of the need to avoid such overlap.

39. It was also pointed out that the recommendation on cooperation with the IMO should not only cover ballast water. Other areas for cooperation with the IMO should also be considered, such as the implementation of the anti-fouling systems convention and the proposed initiatives on the recycling of vessels. The representative of IMO recalled that noxious and harmful substances already fell within the mandate of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre (REMPEC), which dealt with both oil and chemical pollution. Furthermore, he concurred that, although an instrument governing ship recycling was in its early stages, the topic could be included in future discussions. The Secretariat was also called upon to cooperate more closely with the Basel Convention in this field and to increase its collaboration with the Stockholm Convention Secretariat.

40. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report

Energy issues

41. During the discussion of the proposed recommendation on energy issues, it was broadly agreed that energy policy raised crucial questions which cut across all the areas of the work of MAP in relation to pollution reduction and sustainable development. The proposed recommendation should therefore either be reinforced or appropriate references included in all the relevant areas of MAP's activities. It was accordingly proposed that the recommendation be strengthened through the inclusion of language on energy issues already agreed upon in the MSSD.

42. The meeting approved the draft recommendation, as amended, which is contained in **Annex III** to this report.

Information, public awareness and public participation

43. A MAP Partner NGO suggested that reference should be made in the recommendations to participation by the Secretariat in the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development. Some Parties considered that, while committed to promoting education for sustainable development, the Secretariat should concentrate any efforts in this field in developments in the Mediterranean context.

44. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report.

Financial issues and personnel matters

45. Outlining the reasons for the proposed changes in Professional positions in the Secretariat, the Coordinator indicated that the upgrading of the post of MED POL Coordinator to D.1 was in recognition of the higher level of responsibility required for the position, particularly in view of the activities related to the implementation of the SAP MED and the new Strategic Partnership. The proposal to create a post of Information Technology Officer at the Professional level was intended to strengthen the capacity available to the Secretariat in this increasingly important field, as recommended by a United Nations audit report. The retention of the post of Security Assistant was only a temporary measure until a lasting solution to the financing of the post could be found through the United Nations Security Office. Finally, the proposal to replace the recently vacated position of Deputy Coordinator with that of a Professional post of Sustainable Development Officer was designed to fill the need for a full-time Professional staff member devoted to servicing the MCSD and promoting the implementation of the MSSD and National Sustainable Development Strategies.

46. During the discussion, many speakers expressed confidence in the judgment of the Secretariat with regard to personnel matters. However, doubts were raised as to the need for such a high-level post in the field of information technology and it was proposed that the available funding should be devoted to MAP's other priorities. Doubts were also expressed at the wisdom of abolishing the post of Deputy Coordinator, which had originally been created to strengthen coordination throughout the MAP structure and to allow the Coordinator to focus on issues of the highest importance. It was agreed that the Extraordinary Meeting of the MAP Focal Points, which was proposed to be held in 2006 to discuss the MAP evaluation, should also examine the respective roles of the members of the Secretariat, including the Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator.

47. In view of the need to reach a decision on this issue, so that the work of the Secretariat would not be hampered, the Coordinator proposed and the meeting agreed that the position of temporary Sustainable Development Officer, which was due to expire in February 2006, would be extended until the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007, to be filled through the normal United Nations procedures and open for all eligible candidates. In the meantime, the post of Deputy Coordinator would be frozen for the 2006-07 biennium and reconsidered at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties on the basis of the recommendations of the Extraordinary Meeting of MAP Focal Points. The proposal relating to the Information Technology Officer was withdrawn on the understanding that the Secretariat would use other approaches to obtain the necessary services.

48. The Coordinator clarified that these decisions would not have any budgetary implications, but added that, should a decision be taken at a future meeting of the Contracting Parties to retain both the post of Deputy Coordinator and that of Sustainable Development Officer, an increase in funds would then be required.

49. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report.

COMPONENTS

MED POL

50. Mr. F. Saverio Civili (MED POL Coordinator) highlighted the importance of MED POL Phase IV, which was the result of wide-ranging discussions and revision. The endorsement of the National Action Plans (NAPs) to reduce land-based pollution was also fundamental in contributing to the long-term implementation of the LBS Protocol.

51. In view of the changes that had occurred over the past 15-20 years, it was suggested that the Contracting Parties should ensure that their National Focal Points were still the appropriate representatives to contribute to the new role played by MED POL in its fourth phase. The new GEF Strategic Partnership should be mentioned explicitly in a separate recommendation in view of its expected contribution to the pollution reduction process.

52. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report.

Marine pollution prevention and control

53 Mr Roberto Patruno (Director, REMPEC) described the basis on which the draft recommendations in section II.A.2 had been drawn up. He drew attention to the first and second draft recommendations to the Contracting Parties, which called for the adoption of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships and a set of principles on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean, prepared pursuant to the Catania Declaration, 2003, and the specific recommendations of the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

54 The representative of the European Commission welcomed the recommendation to adopt a set of guidelines on pollution from pleasure craft, rather than legislation, as the European Union already had carefully negotiated rules in that respect. She suggested that a phrase be added to ensure that due account was taken of the existing obligations of European Union Member States. The important role of REMPEC in monitoring the increasing traffic in the Mediterranean was emphasized.

55 The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report.

Cleaner production

56 The meeting approved the draft recommendations, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Biological diversity and specially protected areas

57. Mr Abdelrahmen Gannoun (Director, Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre - SPA/RAC), introducing the draft recommendations, explained that they focused on the need to accelerate the implementation of a series of action plans that had existed for some time and to assist in protection at the national level.

58. In the ensuing discussion, regret was expressed that the number of recommendations was not matched by corresponding budgetary allocations, particularly since several activities were in urgent need of funding. The partnership developed with the GEF could provide a partial solution, but had to be given renewed impetus. It was also proposed that the recommendation on the SAP BIO should be more forceful.

59. Several speakers noted that legal clarification was required on the criteria for designating Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs). It was requested that the criteria be revised, as had been agreed at the meeting of the MAP Focal Points.

60. Satisfaction was expressed that the issue of establishing new marine protected areas in the high seas had been addressed, as it was a particularly important question. The issue was being debated in international fora, notably the United Nations General Assembly and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Biodiversity Protocol to the Barcelona Convention, which set out a mechanism for establishing marine protected areas in the high seas, constituted a useful reference for the current debate and Parties were called upon to take an active stance at the global level.

61. It was pointed out that SPAMIs were unevenly distributed in the Mediterranean, with many more SPAMIs in the Western part of the Mediterranean. In order to restore the balance, Amigos del Mediterraneo was developing a programme, in cooperation with SPA/RAC, with a view to identifying new SPAMIs. Attention was also drawn to the need to focus more on the sustainable management aspects of biological diversity and the need to ensure that there were no inconsistencies with other international instruments or activities. It was suggested that SPA/RAC should give more attention to the economic aspects of biological diversity. It was also noted that conclusions and recommendations on issues related to sustainable development, biodiversity and the economic dimensions of biodiversity should be submitted to the next meeting of the SPA/RAC Focal Points in 2007.

62. The importance of close, coordinated contacts with other intergovernmental organizations and NGOs was emphasized. The respective roles of MAP and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS) were clear, and it was recalled that ACCOBAMS was developing criteria to identify special protected areas for the conservation of cetaceans. It was also pointed out that ACCOBAMS, with the generous support of the Italian Ministry of the Environment, organized training courses for scientists and administrators in countries that were Contracting Parties and in other countries. In this context, a campaign and a training event would be organized in Egypt in 2006.

63. Several representatives recalled that the Meeting of MAP Focal Points had decided that a number of the draft recommendations should include reference not only to national waters, but also to the high seas. That was the case in particular for MAP's programme for the conservation of biological diversity in the Mediterranean. The Barcelona Convention formed the basis for future work in that respect.

64. The Centre's Director welcomed the support expressed for SPA/RAC. Regarding the inclusion of new SPAMIs, he pointed out that they had to conform to the precise criteria spelled out in the Protocol.

65. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Sustainable management of coastal areas

66. Mr. Ivica Trumbić (Director, Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre - PAP/RAC) drew attention to the development of a number of tools for integrated coastal area management and the introduction of new topics, such as marine spatial planning, coastal erosion, coastal landscape management and beach management. Future Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP) activities would focus on Cyprus, Spain and Slovenia. Morocco and Serbia and Montenegro would be helped to prepare CAMP projects. PAP/RAC aimed to implement four or five CAMP projects each biennium. In addition to the CAMPs, PAP/RAC was active in capacity-building, with several training courses, particularly on the Internet, such as MedOpen, being organized each year, as well as the dissemination of information through its clearing-house mechanism.

67. Widespread appreciation was expressed of the work carried out by PAP/RAC and the importance of the multidisciplinary approach inherent in integrated coastal area management. Emphasis was also placed on the need to develop closer cooperation with METAP and the European Commission. The representative of Croatia, as the host country of the Centre, expressed full support for its activities, including the development of the new ICAM Protocol. The representative of World Bank/METAP confirmed that additional funding had been secured from Finland for activities related to coastal area management in the Mediterranean, to be carried out in close cooperation with PAP/RAC.

68. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Environment and Development

69. Mr. Guillaume Benoit (Director, Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre - BP/RAC) said that the Centre's major tasks during the past biennium had been to finalize the *Environment and Development Report* and the preparation of the MSSD. He indicated that the two major activities of the Blue Plan over the next biennium would be the organization of the follow-up of the MSSD and the provision of assistance to developing countries to define and produce indicators to follow up national sustainable development strategies. Another focus would be on water and energy issues, while work on tourism and on sustainable rural development would begin in 2007. The Blue Plan would also continue to undertake prospective analyses for CAMP projects to help countries formulate local sustainable development strategies.

70. The hope was expressed that the *Environment and Development Report* would be as widely disseminated as possible and that countries would take the necessary measures to ensure that the baseline scenario depicted in the *Report* would not come about and that the environment would be in a better situation in 2025. Appreciation was expressed of the *Report* and its importance in indicating how the environment should be integrated into development. It was emphasized that meetings at the national level to launch the *Report* should have clear objectives for the utilization to the maximum extent possible of its findings and recommendations and the encouragement of debate on the proposed scenarios. The representative of France indicated that his country would continue to support BP/RAC.

71. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Information and Communication

72. Mr. Sergio Illuminato, (Director, INFO/RAC), introducing the recommendations, thanked the Contracting Parties, MAP and its components for their constant support in the

transformation of the Centre into INFO/RAC. Over the coming biennium, INFO/RAC would be focusing on cooperation and partnership, information and communication technologies (ICTs) and public information and participation. The Centre would continue to establish a common information management infrastructure (MAP Info) to facilitate and support information and communication activities across MAP, including the management and upgrading of the UNEP/MAP website, the MED POL Info System and the MAP reporting system. Efforts would be aimed at identifying and implementing an information and communication strategy in relation to the MSSD; organizing the Mediterranean Environmental Award; and drafting and implementing an information and communication plan for submission to the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

73. In the ensuing discussion, it was emphasized that the newly adopted name, INFO/RAC, should be used forthwith in all documents. The plans for closer cooperation and coordination with the Contracting Parties on information and communication were welcomed. The recommendations should give greater emphasis to the information related to the monitoring of the Mediterranean Sea and coast and the specific information systems and standards to be applied.

74. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to the present report.

Programme Budget for 2006-2007

75. The Coordinator reminded the meeting that it was also called upon to consider the draft budget for 2006-2007, as contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/6. Apart from the budgetary implications of the personnel matters discussed earlier, no changes to the draft budget had been suggested. He therefore took it that the meeting had no objection to the draft budget.

76. During the discussion, calls were made for the financial savings resulting from the decisions concerning the structure of the Secretariat to be spent on the priority meetings agreed upon in the context of MED POL Phase IV and SPA/RAC activities, irrespective of any additional national contributions which might be made for these purposes.

77. The meeting approved the draft recommendations, as amended, which are contained in **Annex III** to this report.

MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

General comments

78. Dr Janez Podobnik, Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia, made a statement, which is contained in **Annex VII** to the present report.

79. Ms Veerle Vandeweerd, GPA Coordinator, speaking on behalf Dr Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP and Under Secretary-General of the United Nations, made a statement, which is contained in **Annex VII** to the present report.

80. H.E. Mr. Boro Vucinic, Minister for Environmental Protection and Physical Planning of Montenegro, said that the 30th anniversary of MAP was not only a milestone for MAP, but also for the region as a whole. Montenegro's development vision shared many elements common to other coastal and democratic countries, including mutual understanding, addressing environmental and global challenges, enhancing economic well-being and improving cooperation, which were the keys to a more prosperous and stable region. His

country's renewed membership of MAP represented an opportunity for it once again to play an active role in regional cooperation. MAP should continue to support national governments in preventing and controlling pollution through the development of national policies and capacity-building. The MAP Secretariat should focus on the final steps needed for the establishment of a compliance mechanism, the formulation of rules and procedures for a liability and compensation instrument and further improvement of the integrated reporting system. In addition, it should continue facilitating and strengthening links between global, European Union and regional initiatives on the one hand and national processes and priorities on the other so as to build synergy. Involvement of the Balkan countries in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, including the depollution initiative would help in integrating European standards into national policies. Subregional initiatives such as the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, as well as other forms of bilateral or multilateral cooperation, could make a significant contribution to the implementation of regional goals and priorities and to addressing the challenges of the European Union integration process, one of the main concerns for the Balkan countries in the Adriatic region.

81. H.E. Mr Nadhir Hamada, Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Tunisia, emphasized that MAP had been able to adapt its activities in parallel to the changes that had occurred in the global environment. The inclusion of sustainable development in MAP's remit required the inclusion of other environmental and cultural aspects in its programmes and action plans. The sustainable development dimension had been strengthened in his country by the establishment in 2004 of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, which had since defined the main orientations of a national strategy. The MSSD was a reference document for the development of this strategy, which provided the platform for the elaboration of the 11th Economic and Social Development Plan (2007-2011). Tunisia was working with the European Commission to develop a programme for environmental protection and sustainable development. He proposed the creation of a Euro-Mediterranean network of sustainable cities, to allow them to exchange experience. His country looked forward to the implementation of the SAP MED and the SAP BIO. He also indicated that it was essential that all the countries of the region work together to ensure a healthy environment.

82. Mr Nikola Ružinski, State Secretary for Environment of Croatia reviewed the origins of MAP since the Stockholm Conference in 1972, and reaffirmed that it had constituted an important forum for the exchange of information and experience in the region, had contributed significantly to placing environmental issues on the political agenda, had encouraged and supported the adoption of environmental legislation and regulations, had provided invaluable assistance for capacity building and had contributed to preventing pollution of the marine environment in the region and its subregions. Now was the time, after the first 30 years, to think about the future. Work should be oriented towards ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources, improving environmental governance through education for sustainable development and launching a legal instrument for the integrated management of coastal zones, in view of the need to manage the coast and its environment in a comprehensive and interdisciplinary manner if it was to be preserved from irreversible degradation. The Croatian representative welcomed the strengthened partnership between MAP and the European Commission and expressed the belief that MAP's work provided a basis for supporting all the countries in the region in their common efforts to "depollute" the Mediterranean.

83. Ms Soledad Blanco (European Community) announced that the European Union was, for the first time, putting in place a policy framework specifically aimed at protecting Europe's seas and oceans. She said that the proposed Marine Strategy, adopted very recently by the European Commission, was designed to combat pollution and contribute to the sustainable development of the region. She emphasized that a healthy marine environment in the Mediterranean was essential to achieve the full social and economic potential of the region. She added that the European Union Marine Strategy, which took into consideration regional

contributions and specificities and its adoption by the Commission, was the beginning of an ambitious process whose success would require the cooperation of the Member States, third countries and regional seas conventions, such as the Barcelona Convention. The Commission therefore looked forward to working with MAP in that regard. It was hoped that environmental issues would gain a higher profile in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, which was celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2005. Greater synergy should also be achieved with MAP in achieving the goal of 'depolluting' the Mediterranean Sea by 2020. With regard to MAP's future, there was agreement that the system could be improved, remedying weaknesses rather than dwelling on past successes. To that end, the Community was pleased that the external evaluation provided a critical but constructive assessment. MAP's effectiveness needed to be strengthened in order to accomplish its main task, facilitating the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, with emphasis on compliance. She reaffirmed that the European Community was ready and willing to cooperate with all the Contracting Parties under the Coordinator's leadership to shape MAP's future together.

84. Mr. José Fernández (Spain), said that the Barcelona Convention has special significance for Spain as the Depository Country. The overall balance of the 30 years of its history could be considered positive. He highlighted the importance of sustainable development and of the Convention and Protocols to achieve that goal. As a consequence, Spain had strong interest in formulating a new protocol to the Convention on ICAM. He then described the various actions taken in Spain to prevent new oil spills in view of the importance of the new "regional strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships". Finally, he underlined the relevance of the next Euro-Mediterranean Partnership meeting, to be held in Barcelona, and the new initiative to "depollute" the Mediterranean by 2020. This would be a useful opportunity to improve cooperation among Mediterranean countries in environmental aspects in the Barcelona process. It would be useful to establish valuable relationships among the countries of the Mediterranean Sea and coast.

85. Mr. Nicos Georgiades (Cyprus) said that there was broad consensus around the Mediterranean that environmental degradation was affecting numerous vital economic sectors, including agriculture, tourism, fisheries and service economies, the development of which depended on the quality of the environment. He emphasized that there was now a need to deliver. It was clear what was to be done and by whom. The priority issues should include climate change, caring for the Mediterranean Sea, promoting major investments in environmental infrastructure, protecting human health and combating social exclusion. He said that the major question that arose was whether the Barcelona Convention was in a position to address broader issues relating to sustainable development, particularly those relating to complex socio-cultural and political issues. The driving forces that had emerged in the new millennium were all positive, such as changes in the values and priorities of peoples, highly pluralistic decision-making processes and grassroots initiatives.

86. Mr Ahmed A. El-Gouhary (Egypt) greeted the Meeting on behalf of H.E. Mr. Maged George, the Egyptian Minister of Environmental Affairs, who was unable to attend. The Meeting coincided with the Tenth Anniversary of the MAP, during which MAP had scored many success such as the development of the MSSD and the publication of the Environment and Development Report. In future MAP should focus on its effective performance in the Contracting Parties. The European initiative to "depollute" the Mediterranean by 2020 was a significant step towards achieving partnership with MAP, taking into consideration the economic, social and cultural differences between the North and South. While the finalization of the MSSD was a major achievement, mechanisms for its implementation at the local and regional levels had to be identified, while avoiding duplications with the European initiative. Environmental awareness and information were crucial for MAP's success but, owing to the different cultural and social interests between North and South, the methods of implementation would differ. Egypt was aware of the need to exert greater efforts to reduce industrial and urban pollution by means of the NAPs. Egypt considered that it was vital to give MAP an impetus, and therefore supported the proposal to call on foreign ministries to be

an entry point to the Convention, as had already been applied in several Contracting Parties, without interfering in the affairs of environmental bodies. The approach was a means of coordinating matters of utmost importance to international diplomacy, as on many other humanitarian and technical issues.

87. Mr. Lascaratos (Greece) recalled the tremendous progress that MAP had achieved over the past 30 years and its development since 1996 as an action-oriented cooperation programme focusing on sustainable development. In this context, he said that various important tools had been developed and implemented, including the SAP, which was of extreme importance for the whole MAP system. He also referred to the role of Greece as the host country of the Coordination Unit in acting as a bridge between the developed north and the developing south of the Mediterranean region, as Greece was itself between both of them. Greece had also given its strong support in promoting closer cooperation between MAP and the EU. Its efforts had started at the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2001 and continued with the Athens Declaration in 2002, in which the Ministers of the Environment of the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership recognized MAP as an official interlocutor for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. In terms of implementation, it should be emphasized that MAP should continue to play the role of a facilitator and could not replace the countries. Finally, he emphasized that the Coordinating Unit could count on the continuing warm and friendly support of the host country.

88. Ms Maria Dalla Costa (Italy) emphasized that a new era was dawning for MAP and that it was therefore essential to understand how MAP and its components could work more effectively in the changing international context. MAP's priorities should be those set out in the MSSD. MAP should also be fully involved in related multilateral initiatives, including those of the EC, GEF and the World Bank. Account needed to be taken of post-Kyoto scenarios, including the importance of strong technological partnerships, particularly in renewable energies, rational use of energy and the need for appropriate use of innovative financing tools, such as carbon funds. She recalled that MAP had been a pioneer in regional cooperation. It should continue this role in emerging cooperation initiatives, as well as in catalysing regional thinking on emerging global issues. The strengthening of the partnership between MAP and the EC was to be welcomed and the two institutions should join forces to promote the involvement of the private sector and Mediterranean citizens in general, based on a reinforced strategy for information and communication about the benefits to be gained from environmental improvement. In that respect, INFO/RAC had an important role to play. The MAP evaluation should be used as a basis for developing a new vision and image for MAP, so that it could be more ambitious, while at the same time responding in a realistic manner to current challenges.

89. Mr Louis Vella (Malta) said that environmental awareness in his country had been triggered by the creation of MAP and the adoption of the Barcelona Convention 30 years ago. Subsequently, MAP had provided invaluable assistance and advice, allowing his country to achieve a creditable environmental status. Now, new instruments were needed to ensure that tangible results were obtained within established timeframes and to defined quality standards. The preparation of National Action Plans was an important milestone for all Contracting Parties in their efforts to return the Mediterranean Sea to a pristine condition by 2025. MAP should follow those developments closely, from country reports and the results of monitoring for compliance. His country also welcomed the synergy established between MAP and the European Union.

90. Mr Sedat Kadioglu (Turkey) said that the Mediterranean Sea was a sea at risk, with a resident coastal population of nearly 150 million and more than 200 million tourists visiting it each year. Urbanization, disposal of industrial and domestic wastes, intensive agriculture and animal husbandry, soil degradation, desertification and forest fires all exerted pressure on the region's environment. The rapidly increasing pollution of the Mediterranean Sea had attracted the attention not only of coastal States, but also of international institutions,

governments in other regions and NGOs. Since the signature of the Barcelona Convention in 1976, MAP had kept up with international developments and adapted to new needs and emerging trends. His country had ratified most of the important protocols to the Convention and invited other countries to do likewise. In order to strengthen the existing structures, better bilateral and multilateral cooperation was needed within the region. MAP's coordination with other international organizations had resulted in positive contributions not only at the regional level but also globally.

91. During the Ministerial Segment, two memoranda of understanding were signed by MAP, one with the Basel Convention and the other with IUCN with a view to increasing their collaboration. MAP and the European Commission also signed the Joint Programme of Work. A video documentary produced by INFO/RAC on the theme "The sea deserves our voice", introduced the Ministerial segment of the meeting. .

Agenda item 4.1 Report on Environment and Development (RED)

92. The Coordinator presented the Blue Plan's *Environment & Development*. Being the second publication on environment and development produced by the Blue Plan, the report assessed risks and analyzed prospects. It traced demographic changes since 1970 and showed that economic growth was insufficient in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries, with high youth unemployment and a relatively lower standard of living. It also showed that since 1985, while the stress on the environment and natural resources had not been reversed, policies and actions to limit degradation had been developed in all countries. There had also been progress in developing environmental legislation and planning, strengthening institutions, and enhancing cooperation in the Mediterranean. However, less progress had been recorded in implementing the legislation and in integrating environment into development policies at the national and regional levels. For example, water and energy policies were still mainly supply-side oriented, 60 per cent of urban wastewater was still discharged untreated, and 40 per cent of the coasts were built up.

93. The report forecast that major challenges up to 2025 would include the North/South gap, internal disparities and the neglect of the environment, with continuing urbanization, a doubling or tripling of waste generation, the growth of tourism and transport, the loss of agricultural land and increased pressure on water resources in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries. The report called for the decoupling of environment and development, the enhancement of environment and local areas, better protection of coastal zones and strengthening financial support for pollution reduction. According to the report, changing the forecast scenario depended on action by the countries, although regional cooperation could help in supporting change. Urgent action and high-level commitment was needed to reverse the trends identified.

Agenda item 4.2 Future orientation of the Mediterranean Action Plan

94. The Coordinator gave a presentation on the outcome of the external evaluation requested by the 13th Meeting of Contracting Parties in Catania in 2003. He recalled that the evaluation comprised a broad consultation process involving questionnaires, a desk review of previous evaluations, two consultation meetings and visits to countries for one-to-one discussions. He drew attention to the main findings of the evaluation, both positive and negative. An extraordinary meeting of MAP Focal Points was proposed for 2006 to discuss its conclusions, a summary of which could be found in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/Inf.4.

95. During the ensuing discussions, it was agreed that the evaluation had been a worthwhile exercise and, although some of its conclusions were not shared by everybody, it had given rise to much food for thought. The 30th anniversary of MAP was deemed an appropriate time to evaluate past activities and look for ways to improve the effectiveness of MAP in the future.

96. MAP was considered an important forum for the exchange of ideas, information and expertise among countries of the Mediterranean region and was becoming increasingly action-oriented. Its crucial role in capacity building was also acknowledged. Furthermore, MAP had been responsible for putting the issue of pollution and protection of the marine environment on the political agenda. However, MAP had not developed its political clout sufficiently and needed to enhance its image, increase its visibility, and regain its original pioneering spirit if it was going to ensure that the subject of the marine environment was once again at the top of political agendas in the region.

97. MAP had nonetheless achieved a great deal since its inception, particularly in terms of its ambitious and advanced legal framework, but it should not be afraid of effecting bold changes in its orientation in order to maintain its relevance and make further advances. MAP should focus more fully on its overriding priorities of improving compliance with its legal framework, promoting sustainable development and strengthening governance in the region. It was also suggested that MAP should listen more to the people of the region to find out their priorities, and should not shy away if they raised sensitive issues, such as poverty or HIV/AIDs. In the future, MAP needed to cast its net wider and not restrict itself to the problem of pollution. Other priorities included climate change, transport, the management of natural resources and public health. Individual countries should also take their responsibilities for promoting MAP, along the lines of the action taken by the host country.

98. Emphasis was placed on the need to strengthen cooperation and coordination with other Conventions, and other stakeholders, both bilaterally and multilaterally. The Barcelona Convention should not be considered in isolation. For example, the cooperation between IMO and REMPEC, , had been extremely productive for MAP, IMO and the region as a whole. Cooperation with the European Commission and EU countries should also be increased with a view to raising the profile of MAP throughout the region. The European Marine Strategy was deemed a very positive step, and gave priority to implementation through regional seas Conventions, and there was overall support for the EuroMed initiative to “depollute” the Mediterranean by 2020, which was expected to be launched formally at the meeting to be held on 29 November 2005 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. It was nevertheless pointed out that it would not be possible to protect the Mediterranean without the help of the non-EU members, nor without improving coordination between the MAP regional activities centres.

99. One of the major weaknesses of MAP was deemed to be inadequate implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and, therefore, a lack of compliance. This, however, was not considered to be a criticism of MAP and the Coordination Unit, because the onus was on the Parties themselves to implement the provisions of the instruments. Nevertheless, it was necessary to improve compliance monitoring and the initiative to establish a mechanism for doing so was warmly supported. More comprehensive reporting was required to enable effective compliance.

100. Ratification of the Protocols to which countries were not yet parties was strongly advised, as was adequate follow-up. Domestic legislation to implement the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols was still needed in certain countries. Although the various countries of the Mediterranean region were united by a common aim, it was necessary to bear in mind that they were dealing with different social, economic and environmental realities. This had to be taken into account when implementing the Convention and its Protocols and the approach adopted needed to be tailored accordingly.

101. Administrative issues would also play a part in the new orientation of MAP. There was a need to improve governance and to clarify the mandate and legal status of the regional activity centres. Headquarters agreements could be a way of resolving these issues.

102. There was difference of opinion as to whether the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be made the point of entry in the countries for the Convention in order to increase political clout. Some representatives supported the idea, while others were concerned that such an initiative might become politicized and governments might lose sight of the real aim – protecting the environment.

103. Several NGOs and international organizations took the floor on this topic. One of the great strengths of MAP was the prominent role it gave to the participation of civil society in its meetings and decision-making. Such organizations could be instrumental in raising awareness of environmental issues and providing related education and training. They outlined the support that their organizations had given MAP to date, many of the activities that they were undertaking to reduce pollution in the Mediterranean and pledged to continue this fruitful cooperation. However, it was also emphasized that cooperation between all countries in the region was vital and that any administrative difficulties needed to be resolved

104. The IMO representative, in pointing out his Organization's continuing support to the Mediterranean countries, including the input channeled through REMPEC, referred to the EC-funded SAFEMED Project, to be implemented by REMPEC under the oversight of IMO and the general supervision of the EC. This project would go a long way towards achieving the aims of the newly adopted Regional Strategy for marine pollution prevention and response. He also reiterated the urgency attached to minimizing the very real harm being inflicted to the Region by the introduction of the harmful organisms in ships' ballast water. In this connection, he urged the Parties to commit their efforts to the forthcoming GloBallast Partnerships Project, where the Mediterranean Region had been identified as a priority area. Finally, he paid tribute to Admiral Patrino, Director of REMPEC, and conveyed IMO's best wishes for his impending retirement.

105. The meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a document suggesting a variety of possibilities for the future orientation of MAP as a basis for discussion at the Extraordinary Meeting of MAP Focal Points in 2006.

Agenda item 4.3 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

106. The Coordinator, introducing the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/7), described the development of the MSSD and the rationale underpinning it, and paid tribute to the work of Mr. Arab Hoballah, the former Deputy Coordinator of MAP. He stressed that the Strategy was a framework and was not binding. Its four main objectives were to enhance and build on Mediterranean assets, to reduce disparities by fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals, to ensure sustainable management of natural resources by changing consumption and production patterns, and to improve governance at the local, national and regional levels. Priority fields had been identified and follow-up action proposed in order to achieve them.

107. During the discussion, the adoption of the MSSD was welcomed as a point of reference for sustainable development in the region. Its objectives were ambitious and implied a change in approach so as to lessen disparities while at the same time preserving natural resources. It was emphasized that the Strategy was immediately applicable and that no time should be lost in its implementation, especially in view of the need for urgent action, as underlined in the Environment and Development Report. The Strategy's biggest strength was that it had been developed through a participatory approach and therefore took into

account the concerns of all parties and provided for the involvement of civil society. However, it was acknowledged that the Strategy did not give sufficient emphasis on the involvement of the economic sector. Moreover, the MAP evaluation had raised pertinent questions relating to the MSSD. Therefore, while the Strategy provided a useful framework, its implementation would depend on the determination of each country to take action within its own national framework. In particular, it was important to ensure that the private sector was involved in the implementation of the Strategy.

108. It was therefore emphasized that, having developed an overall Strategy, it was now time to prepare national and subregional strategies. The Coordinating Unit had an important role to play, not only in monitoring, but also in elaborating further measures for the Strategy's implementation. Reflection was also needed on the specific areas in which MAP could play a role in mobilizing resources, and the Secretariat should therefore present specific proposals in this respect. MAP should also focus, through INFO/RAC, on information and communication, particularly by disseminating information on successful pilot projects and best practices. Moreover, since the development of the Strategy, another important issue had emerged, namely the prevention of natural disasters and the need for an early warning system, which would need to be addressed.

109. The representative of the European Community added that the MSSD was complemented by a number of EU initiatives on sustainable development. Objectives 1, 2 and 4 of the Strategy regarding economic development, the reduction of social disparities and governance corresponded to fundamental internal goals of the EU, and were reflected in its own Strategy for Sustainable Development. Objective 3 on unsustainable production and consumption patterns corresponded closely to the aims of the Integrated Product Policy pursued in the EU and the proposed Thematic Strategy on the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources. The goals of the MSSD were very much the core aims of the policies pursued by the EU in its cooperation with Mediterranean countries through the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, including the proposed ambitious initiative for the "depollution" of the Mediterranean. Through its neighbourhood policy, the EU was working towards the same goals as the MSSD and it was developing relevant action plans with its partners, in which it recommended the implementation of the MSSD and the establishment of national Commissions for Sustainable Development at a high political level. It was to be hoped that the European Investment Bank would provide substantial funding for environmental investments in the Mediterranean.

110. The representative of France emphasized that, at the national level, the implementation of the MSSD was first and foremost the responsibility of States, which would have to develop sectoral policies. France had already started to do so in its own sustainable development strategy and in its relations with its cooperation partners. He added that MAP should focus on the implementation of those aspects of the MSSD that were in line with its own areas of competence, while seeking to involve the competent bodies in relation to other priorities.

111. The representative of Egypt expressed his support for the MSSD and its priorities but believed that increased cooperation between all stakeholders was needed to ensure its effective implementation. He also felt that each country's individual circumstances should be taken into account when implementing the Strategy. Egypt was already involved in international efforts to ensure sustainable development and pledged to continue this commitment. He drew attention to the memorandum of understanding that his country had signed with MAP and reiterated that Egypt would do everything within its power to establish an effective National Strategy for Sustainable Development.

112. The representative of Israel said that her country had already embarked upon the implementation process and all ministries had been called upon to incorporate sustainable development into their own activities. An Inter-ministerial Committee had been set up

composed of representatives of all ministries, the business community, environmental and social NGOs, local government and academia. Its second annual report showed that most ministries had already taken active steps to implement sustainable development principles. She was pleased to report that the MSSD had been presented to the Interministerial Committee, which had adopted it in principle.

113. The representative of Spain said that the sustainable management of water resources was a matter of particular concern in his country, which was making significant efforts to conserve resources and was undertaking research into alternative water sources, such as desalination. It was also concerned by energy and climate change so it was looking into the possibilities afforded by wind power and had set up a climate change agency to coordinate efforts in that sphere. Tourism was a major economic force in Spain and the dilemma was how the generation of resources from tourism could be reconciled with the protection of natural resources. Finally, he said that coastal erosion was a serious problem in Spain, which supported the focus on integrated coastal area management as the only way of implementing a truly sustainable development policy for the coast.

114. The representative of Morocco emphasized that his country attached great importance to sustainable development. He therefore welcomed the publication of the MSSD, which was giving rise to great expectations on the southern shore of the Mediterranean, where the sustainable development indicators needed to be improved. He added that Morocco called upon the MAP to take this aspect into account, particularly in view of the convergence between the development and environment perspectives outlined by the Blue Plan and the priority actions proposed in the MSSD.

115. The representative of Monaco emphasized that the MCSD must find ways of encouraging actors in the field to become involved in developing plans of action. His delegation had already spoken in favour of opening the MCSD up to ministries other than ministries of the environment, as well as to sustainable development initiatives in sectors other than the environment, such as transport and tourism. If efforts were not made to attract such actors, the MCSD's work on sustainable development would not reach its full potential.

116. The representative of MIO-ECSDE supported the MSSD and its priorities, but warned of the danger of spreading efforts too widely, rather than focusing on the core competences of MAP. Good work was already being done in the area of education for sustainable development; there was no need for MAP to replicate that work. The main challenge was to make the Strategy operational. The process for developing the strategy, with wide discussion at all levels had been exemplary and should be a model for the future.

117. The representative of the Fund for Integrated Rural Development of Syria (FIRDOS), an NGO established in 2002 focusing on sustainable development planning, called on the Contracting Parties to adopt the MSSD.

118. The Coordinator acknowledged the unquestioned support by countries for the Strategy. He wished to pay tribute to the contribution made by Blue Plan and its Director to the development of the Strategy. Although the MSSD was not perfect and would need updating, it formed a good basis on which to move forward. A review process of the Strategy was planned. Finally, he emphasized the success of the Strategy depended on implementation at the national level.

Agenda item 4.4: National Action Plans within the framework of the Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP-MED)

119. Introducing the item, the Coordinator described the extent of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea from land-based sources and activities, based on statistics from the extensive monitoring carried out under the MED POL programme and data provided by countries. All the Contracting Parties had prepared baseline budgets of pollution emissions and releases, national diagnostic analyses and National Action Plans (NAPs) based on a participatory approach that included national and local authorities, the private sector and NGOs. Initial groundwork had been done to ensure the financial sustainability of the NAPs. A number of international sources of funding were available, such as the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the new GEF Strategic Partnership, which included a regional component managed by MAP and an investment fund managed by the World Bank. The Contracting Parties were invited to endorse their respective NAPs, describe how the NAPs were integrated into national development programmes, confirm the broad participation of all stakeholders in the implementation of the NAPs and indicate how they intended to raise the necessary funds.

120. During the discussion, it was pointed out that the LBS Protocol, the NAPs, the initiative of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership to 'depollute' the Mediterranean by 2020, and the relevant programmes of the European Union Marine Strategy should be implemented in a coordinated manner. Moreover, the implementation of the NAPs could contribute to progress in other related areas, all leading towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It was also noted that the SAP MED and the process of developing NAPs had been very useful in reviewing national legislation and policy, which had already led to a substantial reduction of pollution in hot spots.

121. It was recalled that a multistakeholder meeting organized by MED POL and GEF in collaboration with MIO-ECSDE in Athens in October 2005, involving representatives of governments and civil society, had recommended the setting up of a regional open-ended platform for collaboration, including a clearing-house for information, organized and maintained by MED POL, to facilitate the participation of civil society in the implementation of the NAPs.

122. It was also pointed out that improved cooperation among United Nations agencies and with other convention secretariats would result in greater efficiency and could also help countries in their efforts to implement their NAPs. In this respect, the Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention recalled that the Secretariat of the Basel Convention had a long-standing relation with MAP, and cooperation in the area of waste management was being reinforced. Other fields of potential cooperation between the Basel Convention and MAP included integrated waste management, particularly in urban areas, the harmonization of reporting requirements and the setting up of joint inventories of wastes.

123. It was reported that the NAPs were often well integrated into national plans for development. Furthermore, the preparation of the NAPs had provided a useful platform for integration of all activities related to the environment, based on broad consultations. The process had raised awareness among all stakeholders and had been the impetus for reforms in related fields, acting as a catalyst for the development of the region. The transboundary nature of pollution led necessarily to regional cooperation in measures for its reduction. It was also pointed out that, in countries that had recently acceded to the European Union, the NAPs were based on the commitments they had made in becoming EU Member States. Not all of those commitments were the responsibility of the national government, but were devolved to other levels, such as municipalities. Nevertheless, as the NAPs were adopted at the national level, national governments were committed to implementing them.

124. It was pointed out that the availability of funds from GEF, the World Bank and other donors had contributed substantially to advancing the aims of MED POL and MAP. Considerable funds would be available from the World Bank, and the eligible countries should ensure that they availed themselves of these opportunities. The responses to land-based pollution implied heavy, costly material, technology and infrastructure, and it would be useful to centralize the necessary assistance.

125. The Executive Director of the European Environment Agency (EEA), presented the contents of the new EEA report on Mediterranean priority environmental issues, which had been prepared in collaboration with MED POL, on the basis of the national diagnostic analyses as part of the SAP MED. She said that the two organizations were cooperating broadly in reporting on environment and development issues. She emphasized that the first priority in environmental management for the region was to develop the necessary national environmental legislation and to enforce it.

Agenda item 4.5: Conservation of the Monk Seal

126. The Coordinator gave a presentation on the status of Monk Seal species in the world, the reasons for their disappearance and the possibilities for recovery of the species in the Mediterranean. It was estimated that the remaining number of individual Monk Seals in the Mediterranean was less than 350. The animals were being killed either deliberately, or by becoming entangled in static nets. Legislation governing protection of the species existed, but was poorly enforced. The habitat of the creatures was being destroyed in various ways, including by the development of tourism. SPA/RAC and many individual countries were active in efforts to save the species but, although sufficient technical knowledge existed, funding was scarce. He therefore invited the meeting to suggest ways of stopping the deliberate killing of the animals, protecting critical habitats, and promoting the conservation of this important species.

127. The meeting agreed that saving the Monk Seal from extinction was an imperative. The countries, whether or not they hosted monk seal populations, pledged to work together to fight the disappearance of the animal. Nevertheless, the subject of the protection of the Monk Seal was not lacking attention. The 13th Meeting of Contracting Parties had put the issue high on the political agenda and it had attracted a great deal of financing in the region. Unfortunately, little progress was being seen and the species was still critically endangered. Nevertheless, it was considered possible to save the seal, if MAP were able to reproduce the positive results that had been experienced by certain projects in the region, such as those in Alonissos, Greece, and Foca, Turkey.

128. In broad terms, two approaches were needed. First, the killings had to be stopped. To achieve this, awareness raising among local fishermen and local authorities was required, and favourable conditions had to be created within their communities to remove the need to kill the animals. Second, more marine protected areas needed to be created and further research was required to ascertain to which areas monk seals were migrating. INFO/RAC and SPA/RAC would be instrumental in these efforts. Several countries and NGOs, including WWF and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), outlined the steps that they were taking for the protection of this and other species from extinction, including scientific research, the creation of species inventories, training and the provision of funding for project activities. It was recalled in this respect that the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species had signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the Atlantic population of the Monk Seal and it was time for MAP to take similar action for the Mediterranean. It was also recalled that the year 2010 was a target year with respect to reducing the degradation of biodiversity worldwide. It was suggested that the Monk Seal could become the symbol of cooperation for

achieving this goal. The success or failure of efforts to save the species would be a defining moment for the future of MAP.

Agenda item 4.6: Adoption of the Portoroz Declaration

129. The Coordinator introduced the text of the draft Portoroz Declaration, recalling that it had been customary practice at all previous meetings of the Contracting Parties to adopt a declaration that conveyed the substance of the discussions held. The draft Declaration took into account the evaluation of MAP and the extensive discussions held in the lead up to the meeting. It had been drafted by the Secretariat taking into consideration the four main agenda issues at the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, namely MSSD, MAP orientations, the NAPs and the protection of the Monk Seal. Its purpose, inter alia, was to identify the process that had led to the MSSD, to assist countries with the endorsement of their NAPs and generally to signal the countries' support for implementation of all the decisions reached at the meeting. Furthermore, the preambular paragraphs outlined the background of the developments leading up to those decisions, while the operative paragraphs would help the Secretariat in its work of implementing them.

130. In the ensuing examination of the draft Declaration, a number of amendments were proposed and discussed, and those adopted were reflected in the final text. It was also agreed, during the discussions, that the Declaration was essentially a political document intended to serve as an impetus to the Contracting Parties to act upon the decisions taken at the meeting.

131. The Meeting adopted the Portoroz Declaration, as amended, which is attached to the present report as **Annex V**.

Agenda item 5: Date and place of the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007

132. The Meeting accepted the offer by Spain to host the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007, at a date to be fixed in agreement with the Bureau.

Agenda item 6: Other business

Award of the MAP Medal to Mr Lucien Chabason

133. Mr. Lucien Chabason, former MAP Coordinator, was awarded the MAP Medal, in accordance with the decision of the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, in recognition of his service to MAP.

Mediterranean Environmental Award

134. The winners of the first edition of the Mediterranean Environmental Award were presented with their prize. The winners were: Nicolas Salis for the film *R. Mertonensis*; Christian Ostermann for the film *Der durstige Planet - Kampf ums Wasser*; and Leonardo Blanco for the film *My world*.

Personnel issues

135. With regard to the temporary post of the Sustainable Development Officer, the meeting agreed to the proposal of the Coordinator to approve the post at the L4 or L5 level. The upgrading of the current temporary post of Sustainable Development Officer from L3 was deemed appropriate as the new appointee would be responsible for work pertaining to

the MCSD and the corresponding programme of work related to the implementation of the MSSD. It was therefore necessary to attract a high-level candidate by offering a good package. The amount that would be saved by freezing the post of Deputy Coordinator after taking into account the package for the temporary Sustainable Development Officer was approximately €60,000. The meeting agreed to allocate €20,000 of this amount to the organization of the extraordinary meeting of the MED POL national coordinators and the other €40,000 to SPA/RAC for activities relating to biodiversity.

Agenda item 7: Adoption of the report

136. The representative of Cyprus commented that, at future meetings of the Contracting Parties, it should be made clear from the outset whether representatives intended to make one formal ministerial declaration on all issues or to contribute as Heads of Delegation to the discussion with interventions on each agenda item, or both. Furthermore, the mode for proposing recommendations to the CPs at focal points meetings should be clarified by the Co-ordinating Unit, so that the recommendations would give a more balanced picture of all aspects of the work of MAP, instead of the present uneven set of recommendations which certainly is not representative of the actual work done by the various MAP components

137. The report and the recommendations, as amended and the budget as contained in **Annex IV** to this report were adopted.

Agenda item 8: Closure of the meeting

138. On behalf of the meeting the President proposed words of thanks and appreciation to Mr Roberto Patrino, Director of REMPEC who will be terminating his contract and retire at the end of December 2005.

139. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties was closed at 17:00 hours on Friday 11 November 2005.

ANNEX I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****ALBANIA
ALBANIE****Ms Etleva Canaj**

Director
Institute of Environment
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration
Blloku. "Vasil Shanto"
Tirana
Albania

Tel: 355-4-223466
Tel (mobile): 355-682072317
Fax: 355-4-223466
E-mail: etlevamoe@abissnet.com.al

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE****Mr Tarik Kupusovic**

Special Advisor to the Minister of Physical Planning and
Environment
Hydro Engineering Institute
S. Tomica 1
71000 Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Tel: 387-33-207949
Fax: 387-33-207949
E-mail: mapbh@bih.net.ba

**CROATIA
CROATIE****Mr Nikola Ružinski**

State Secretary for Environment
Tel: 385-1-3782413
E-mail: nikola.ruzinski@mzopu.hr

Head of Delegation**Ms Marijana A. Mance**

Head of International Relations Department
Division for Strategic and Integration Processes in
Environmental Protection
Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and
Construction
14 Ulica Republike Austrije
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel: 385-1-3782452
Tel (mobile): 385-91-3717101
Fax: 385-1-3717149
E-mail: marijana.mance@mzopu.hr

Alternate Head of Delegation**Mr Darko Rajhenbah**

Senior Adviser
Water Management Directorate
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
Ulica Grada Vukovara 220
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel: 385-1-6307348
Tel (mobile): 385-91-5111869
Fax: 385-1-6151821
E-mail: darko.rajhenbah@voda.hr

Ms Dubravka Lulić-Krivić

Senior Environment Protection Officer
Ministry of the Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development
Prisavlje 14
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

Tel: 385-1-6169250, 385-1-6169026
E-mail: dubravka.krivic@pomorstvo.hr

Ms Nevia Kružić

Head
Department for Sea Protection and Coast
Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and
Construction
Užarska 2
51000 Rijeka
Croatia

Tel: 385-51-213499
Fax: 385-51-214324
E-mail: nevia.kruzic@mzopu.hr

<http://www.mzopu.hr>

**CYPRUS
CHYPRE**

Mr Nicos Georgiades

Director for Environment
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
1110 Nicosia
Cyprus

Tel: 357-22-303883
Tel (mobile): 357-99-479028
Fax: 357-22-774945
E-mail: ngeorgiades@environment.moa.gov.cy
<http://www.moa.gov.cy>

**EUROPEAN UNION
UNION EUROPEENNE**

Ms Soledad Blanco

Director of International Affairs
DG Environment
European Commission
Office: BU9 05/201
1049 Bruxelles
Belgique

Tel: 32-2-2995182
Fax: 32-2-2963440
E-mail: Soledad.Blanco@cec.eu.int

Head of Delegation

Ms Anne Burrill

Deputy Head of Unit
DG Environment - Unit E-3
Enlargement and Neighbouring Countries
European Commission
Office: BU9 05/151
1049 Bruxelles
Belgique

Tel: 32-2-2954388
Fax: 32-2-2994123
E-mail: Anne.Burrill@cec.eu.int

Alternate Head of Delegation

Mr Carlos Berrozpe Garcia

Administrator, DG Environment
International Agreements (DG ENV-E-2)
Office: BU9 5/34
Tel : 32-2-2968471
Fax: 32-2-2969558
E-mail: Carlos.berrozpe-garcia@cec.eu.int

Alternate Head of Delegation

Mr George Strongylis

Principal Administrator, DG Environment-Enlargement and
Neighbouring Countries (DG ENV-E-3)
Office: BU9 05/153
Tel : 32-2-2968745
Fax: 32-2-2994123
E-mail: George.Strongylis @cec.eu.int

Mr Jose Rizo Martin

Principal Administrator, DG Environment – Water and Marine
Office: BU9 03/103
Commission Européenne
Tel : 32-2-2950106
E-mail: Jose.rizo-martin@cec.eu.int

Ms Jacqueline McGlade

Executive Director
European Environment Agency
Kongens Nytorv 6
1055 Copenhagen K
Denmark

Tel : 45-33-367125
E-mail : jacqueline.mcglade@eea.eu.int

**EGYPT
EGYPTE**

Mr Ahmed A. El-gouhary

Political Advisor to the Minister
Cabinet of Ministers
State Ministry for Environmental Affairs
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
30 Misr-Helwan El-Zyraie Road
P.O. Box 11728 Maadi
Cairo
Egypt

Tel : 20-2-5256452 ext.:8814
Tel (Mobile): 20-0101446699
Fax: 20-2-5249862
E-mail: agohary_@hotmail.com

Head of Delegation

Mr Mohamed Abdel Azim Eltantawy
Acting MAP Coordinator
Senior Foreign Affairs Officer
Cabinet of Ministers
State Ministry for Environmental Affairs
30 Misr-Helwan El-Zyrae Road
P.O. Box 955 Maadi
Cairo
Egypt

Tel: 20-10-6666178
E-mail: mohamedtantawy75@hotmail.com

Mr Omar Ali Abou Eich
Counsellor
Head of Environment & Sustainable Development Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Cornish El Nil
Maspero
Cairo
Egypt

Tel: 20-2-5747847
Tel (mobile): 20-12-1021644
Fax : 20-2-5747847
E-mail: oeich@hotmail.com

**FRANCE
FRANCE**

M. Denys Gauer
Ambassadeur délégué à l'Environnement
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
20, Rue Monsieur
bureau 110 D
75007 Paris
France

Tel: 33-06-15-306467
E-mail: denys.gauer@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Chef de la Délégation

Mme Odile Roussel
Sous-Directrice de l'environnement
Direction des Affaires économiques et financières
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
37 Quai d'Orsay
75007 Paris
France

Tel : 33-1-43174432
Fax: 33-1-43175745
E-mail: odile.roussel@diplomatie.gouv.fr

M. Stéphane Louhaur

Chargé de mission pour la protection des milieux marins
Sous-direction de l'environnement
Direction des Affaires économiques et financières
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
37 Quai d'Orsay
75007 Paris
France

Tel: 33-1-43174425

Fax: 33-1-43175745

E-mail: stephane.louhaur@diplomatie.gouv.fr

M. Henri-Luc Thibault

Chef du Service des Affaires Internationales
+Ministère de l'Ecologie et de Développement durable
20 avenue de Ségur
75302 Paris 07SP
France

Tel: 33-1-42191720

Tel Mobile : 33-620-526519

Fax: 33-1-42191719

E-mail: chef.sai@ecologie.gouv.fr

Mme Caroline Demartini

Direction de l'eau
Ministère de l'Ecologie et de Développement durable
20 avenue de Ségur
75302 Paris 07SP
France

Tel: 33-1-42191266

Fax: 33-1-42191333

E-mail: caroline.demartini@ecologie.gouv.fr

**GREECE
GRECE****Mr Alexander Lascaratos**

MAP Focal Point
Department of Applied Physics - Laboratory of Meteorology and
Oceanography
University of Athens
Building Phys-V
Panepistimioupolis
157 84 Athens
Greece

Tel: 30-210-7276839

Fax: 30-210-7295282

E-mail: alasc@oc.phys.uoa.gr

**ISRAEL
ISRAEL****Ms Miriam Haran**

Director General
Ministry of the Environment
P.O. Box 34033
5 Kanfei Nesharim Street
95464 Jerusalem
Israel

Tel : 972-2-6553720/2

Fax: 972-2-6535939

E-mail: miriamh@sviva.gov.il

Head of Delegation

ITALY
ITALIE

Ms Valerie Brachya

Deputy Director General for Policy and Planning
Ministry of the Environment
P.O. Box 34033
5 Kanfei Nesharim Street
95464 Jerusalem
Israel

Tel: 972-2-6553850/1
Fax: 972-2-6553853
E-mail: valerie@sviva.gov.il

Mr Corrado Clini

Director General
Department for Environmental Research and Development
Ministry for the Environment and Territory

Tel: 39-06-57228101/02
Fax : 39-06-57228175
E-mail:
Clini.corrado@minambiente.it or Pie-sdg@minambiente.it

Head of Delegation

Ms Annalidia Pansini

Advisor
Department for Environmental Research and Development
Tel: 39-06-57228116
Fax: 39-06-57228178
E-mail: pansini.annalidia@minambiente.it

Ms Angelica Carnelos

Expert
Department for Environmental Research and Development
Tel: 39-06-57228183
Tel (Mobile) : 39-335-8141657
Fax : 39-06-57228178
E-mail: Carnelos.angelica@minambiente.it

Ms Fiamma Valentino

Expert
Department for Environmental Research and Development
Tel: 39-06-57228164
Fax: 39-06-57228177
E-mail: valentino.fiamma@minambiente.it

Ms Federica Sprovieri

Expert
Department for Environmental Research and Development
Tel: 39-06-57228111
Fax: 39-06-57228178
E-mail: sprovieri.federica@minambiente.it

Ministry for the Environment and Territory
Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44
00147 Rome
Italy

Ms Maria Dalla Costa

Head
International Relations Service
Environment Protection Agency (APAT)
Advisor to the Italian Ministry of the Environment
Tel: 39-06-44442201
Fax: 39-06-44442276
E-mail: dallacosta@apat.it

Mr Giuseppe Incardona

Director General
Italian Councilllorship for Industry
Via Ugo la Malfa, 152
90147 Palermo
Sicilian Region
Italy

Tel: 39-0917070650
Fax : 39-091-707800
E-mail : dipartimento.industria@regione.sicilia.it
<http://www.regione.sicilia.it>

**MALTA
MALTE**

Mr Louis Vella

Assistant Director
Pollution Prevention and Control Unit
Malta Environment & Planning Authority
Floriana
Malta

Tel: 356-2290-3519
Fax: 356-2166-0108
E-mail: louis.vella@mepa.org.mt
<http://www.mepa.org.mt>

**MONACO
MONACO**

M. Patrick Van Klaveren

Délégué à l'Environnement International et Méditerranéen
Département des Relations extérieures
Ministère d'Etat
Monaco-Ville
Monaco

Tel: 377-93-158148
Fax: 377-93-509591
E-mail: pvanklaveren@gouv.mc

Head of Delegation

M. Bruno Blanchy

Chef Division
Direction Environnement de l'Urbanisme et Construction
Division Patrimoine et Milieux
23 Boulevard Prince Héréditaire Albert
MC 98000
Monaco

Tel : 377-93-154655
Tel (Mobile) : 377-0618544234
Fax : 377-93-93 158802
E-mail : bblanchy@libello.com / bblanchy@gouv.mc

**MOROCCO
MAROC**

M. Brahim Zyani

Directeur de la Réglementation et du Contrôle
Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire, de l'Eau et de
l'Environnement
Département de l'environnement
Angle Oum Rabie/Rue Okba
Agdal, Rabat
Maroc

Tel: +212-37-680498
Mobile/Portable: +212-66438577
Fax: +212-37-682573
E-mail: bzyani2002@yahoo.fr
<http://www.minenv.gov.ma>

**SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
SERBIE ET MONTENEGRO**

H.E. Mr Boro Vučinić

Minister of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning of
the Republic of Montenegro
Rimski TRG b.b.
PC Vektra
81000 Podgorica
Serbia and Montenegro

Tel: 381-81-482121
Fax: 381-81-234131
E-mail: ministar.ur.pr.@cg.yu

Head of Delegation

Ms Jelena Knežević

Advisor
Department for Environmental Protection
Ministry for the Protection of the Environment and Physical
Planning
Rimski TRG b.b.
PC Vektra
81000 Podgorica
Serbia and Montenegro

Tel: 381-81-482313
Tel (mobile) : 381-67-255604
Fax: 381-81-234131
E-mail: jelenak@mn.yu or jelenaeko@yahoo.com
<http://www.mepp.cg.yu>

Alternate Head of Delegation

Mr Luka Mitrović

Director
Hydrometeorological Institute of the Republic of Montenegro
IV Proleterska 19 Podgorica
81400 Podgorica
Serbia and Montenegro

Tel: 381-81-247973
Tel (Mobile): 381-069-324906
Fax: 381-81-247974
E-mail: luka.mitrovic@meteo.cg.yu
<http://www.meteo.cg.yu>

Mr Dragoljub Marković

Deputy Director of Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone
Management

ul. Popa Jola Zeca bb
85310 Budva

Serbia and Montenegro

Tel (Mobile): 381-67324417

E-mail: drhlm@yahoo.com

Ms Aleksandra Ivanovic

Head

Sustainable Development Department

Public Enterprise for Coastal Zone Management Montenegro

ul. Popa Jola Zeca BB

81350 Budva

Serbia and Montenegro

Tel: 381-86-452705

Tel (Mobile) : 381-67652007

Fax: 381-86-452685

E-mail: jpmcdg@cg.yu

**SLOVENIA
SLOVENIE**

H.E. Mr Janez Podobnik

Minister for the Environment and Spatial Planning

48 Dunajska

1000 Ljubljana

Slovenia

Tel: 386-1-4787300

Fax: 386-1-4787420

E-mail: janez.podobnik@gov.si

Head of Delegation

Mr Marjan Vezjak

General Director for EU Affairs and Investments

Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning

Tel: 386-1-4787340

Fax: 386-1-4787422

E-mail: marjan.vezjak@gov.si

Mr Mitja Bricelj

Undersecretary

Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning

Tel: 386-1-4787384

Tel (mobile): 386-31-367101

Fax: 386-1-4787422

E-mail: mitja.bricelj@gov.si

Mr Emil Ferjančič

Undersecretary

Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning

Tel: 386-1-4787332

Tel (Mobile): 386-41-695040

Fax: 386-1-4787419

E-mail: emil.ferjancic@gov.si

Ms Stefanija Novak

Undersecretary
Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning

Tel: 386-1-4787315
Fax: 386-1-4787425
E-mail: stefanija.novak@gov.si

Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning
48 Dunajska
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia

<http://www.gov.si/mop>

Mr Branko Dervodel

Deputy Director General
Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster
Ministry for Defence

Kardeljeva ploščad 21
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Tel: 386-1-4713302, 386-1-4713322
Tel (Mobile): 386-41-699812
Fax: 386-1-4713320
E-mail: branko.dervodel@urszr.si

Ms Nataša Brejc

Undersecretary
The Slovenian Maritime Directorate
Ministry of Transport
Ukmarjev trg 2
6000 Koper
Slovenia

Tel: 386-5-6632120
Fax: 386-5-6632102
E-mail: natasa.brejc@gov.si

**SPAIN
ESPAGNE**

Mr Jose Fernandez

Director General
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Tel: 34-91-59756041
Fax: 34-91-5975907
E-mail: jfperez@mma.es

Head of Delegation

Mr Javier Cachon

DG Costas
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Tel: 34-91-5975689
Fax: 34-91-5976902
E-mail: jcachon@mma.es

Mr Victor Escobar

Jefe Area Coordinacion Institucional
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Tel: 34-91-4535355
Fax: 34-91-5976902
E-mail: vaescobar@mma.es

Plaza de San Juan de la Cruz s/n
28071 Madrid
Spain

<http://www.mma.es>

Mr Javier Pantoja

Head of the Marine Environment Protection Service
Directorate General for Biodiversity
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Gran Vía de San Francisco, 4
E-28005 Madrid
Spain

Tel: 34-91-5964611
Fax: 34-91-5964809
E-mail: jpantoja@mma.es
<http://www.mma.es>

Mr Antonio Arozarena

Assistant Manager
Ministry of Public Works
Instituto Grafico Nacional
General Ibanez de Ibero, 3
28003 Madrid
Spain

Tel: 34-91-5979575
Fax: 34-91-5979770
E-mail: aarozarena@mfom.es
<http://www.ign.es>

Mr Jordi Galofré

Head of Tarragova Coastal Service
Coastal Directorate
Ministry of Environment
Pl. Imperial Tarrago 4Fl.
43005 Tarragona
Spain

Tel: 34-977-216613
Fax: 34-977-230563
E-mail: jgalofre@mma.es

Mr Javier Dago

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
Embassy of Spain to Slovenia
Trnovski Pristan 24
1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia
Tel : 386-1-4202330
Fax : 386-1-4202333
E-mail : j.dago@siol.net

**TUNISIA
TUNISIE**

S.E M. Nadhir Hamada

Ministre de l'Environnement et du Développement durable
Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement durable
Centre Urbain Nord
Immeuble ICF
Tunis 1080
Tunisie

Tel : 216-71-704000

Chef de la Délégation

M. Habib Ben Moussa

Directeur
Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement (ANPE)
Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable
Rue du Cameroun no.12
B.P. 85
1002 Belvédère - Tunis
Tunisie

Tel: 216-71-840221

Tel (Mobile) : 216-97030669

Fax: 216-71-890032

E-mail: h.bmoussa@apal.nat.tn

<http://www.anpe.nat.tn>

**TURKEY
TURQUIE**

Mr Sedat Kadioglu

Head
Department of Foreign Relations and EU
Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Istanbul Cad. No 98
Iskitler
Ankara
Turkey

Tel: 90-312-3846722

Tel (mobile): 90-5053002122

Fax: 90-312-3846083

E-mail: sedatkad@yahoo.com

**UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND SECRETARIAT UNITS
SECRETARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES**

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMME
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

Ms Veerle Vandeweerd
Deputy Director DPA & Coordinator GPA
Global Programme of Action Office (GPA)
UNEP, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
P. O. Box 16227
2500 BE The Hague
The Netherlands

Tel: +31-70-3114460

Fax: 31-70-3456648

E-mail: gpa@unep.nl

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMME
COORDINATING UNIT FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
UNITE DE COORDINATION DU PLAN
D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE**

Mr Paul Mifsud
MAP Coordinator
Tel: 30-210-7273101
E-mail: paul.mifsud@unepmap.gr

Mr Francesco Saverio Civili
MED POL Coordinator
Tel: 30-210-7273106
E-mail: fscivili@unepmap.gr

Ms Tatjana Hema
MEDU Programme Officer
Tel: 30-210-7273115
E-mail: thema@unepmap.gr

Mr Khaled Ben Salah
Fund/Administrative Officer
Tel: 30-210-7273104
E-mail: bensalah@unepmap.gr

Mr Fouad Abousamra
MED POL Programme Officer
Tel: 30-210-7273116
E-mail: fouad@unepmap.gr

Ms Colpan Polat-Beken
MED POL Programme Officer
Tel: 30-210-7273132
E-mail: scpb@unepmap.gr

Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan
P. O. Box 18019
48, Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue
116 10 Athens
Greece

Tel switchboard: 30-210-7273100

Fax: 30-210-7253196-7

<http://www.unepmap.gr>

Consultants to MAP

Mr Baher Kamal

Information Consultant
Tel: 30-210-7273103
E-mail: baher@unepmap.gr

Mr Delmar Blasco

MAP Consultant
Director
C&N - Community and Nature
c/Escoles 4
17761 Cabanes
Spain

Tel. +34-972-508589
Mobile: +34-669-811965
E-mail: dablasco@wanadoo.es

Mr Evangelos Raftopoulos

MAP Legal Adviser
Professor of International Law
Panteion University of Athens
136 Syngrou Avenue
Athens 17671
Greece

Tel: 30-210-9201841
Fax: 30-210-9610591
E-mail: eraft@hol.gr

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN
CENTRES D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES DU PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA
MEDITERRANEE**

**REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION
EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)
CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANEEN POUR
L'INTERVENTION D'URGENCE CONTRE LA
POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE**

Mr Roberto Patruno
Director
Regional Marine Pollution Emergency
Response Centre for the Mediterranean
(REMPEC)
Manoel Island GZR 03
Malta

Tel: 356-21-337296-8
Fax: 356-21-339951
E-mail: rempec@rempec.org
<http://www.rempec.org>

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR THE
BLUE PLAN (BP/RAC)
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES DU
PLAN BLEU (CAR/PB)**

M. Guillaume Benoit
Directeur
Plan Bleu, Centre d'Activité Régional
(PB/CAR)
15 rue Ludwig van Beethoven
Sophia Antipolis
F-06560 Valbonne
France

Tel: 33-4-92387130/33
Tel (Mobile): 33682238545
Fax: 33-4-92387131
E-mail: gbenoit@planbleu.org

M. Lucien Chabason
Chairman
Plan Bleu, Centre d'Activité Régional
(PB/CAR)
15 rue Ludwig van Beethoven
Sophia Antipolis
F-06560 Valbonne
France

Tel: 33-1-42653338
Tel (Mobile): 33-682238545
Fax: 33-4-92387131
E-mail: lucienchabason@wanadoo.fr

M. Stephane Quefelec
Economiste CAR/PB
Plan Bleu, Centre d'Activité Régional (PB/CAR)
15 rue Ludwig van Beethoven
Sophia Antipolis
F-06560 Valbonne
France

Tel: 33-4-92387143
Fax: 33-4-92387131
E-mail: squefelec@planbleu.org

<http://www.planbleu.org>

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR THE
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME (PAP/RAC)
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES DU
PROGRAMME D' ACTIONS PRIORITAIRES
(CAR/PAP)**

Mr Ivica Trumbic
Director
PAP/RAC
E-mail: ivica.trumbic@ppa.htnet.hr

Mr Marko Prem
Deputy Director
PAP/RAC
E-mail: marko.prem@ppa.htnet.hr

Priority Actions Programme
11 Kraj Sv. Ivana
21000 Split
Croatia

Tel: 385-21-340470
Fax: 385-21-340490

<http://www.pap-thecoastcentre.org>

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS (SPA/RAC)
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES POUR
LES AIRES SPECIALEMENT PROTEGEES
(CAR/ASP)**

M. Abderrahmen Gannoun
Directeur
RAC/SPA
Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre
Boulevard du Leader Yasser Arafat
B.P. 337
1080 Tunis Cedex
Tunisia

Tel: 216-71-206649, 206485, 206851
Fax: 216-71-206490
E-mail: gannoun.abderrahmen@rac-spa.org

<http://www.rac-spa.org>

INFO/RAC

Mr Sergio Illuminato
Director General

Tel: 39-06-85305147
Tel (Mobile) : 39-335-1806311
Fax: 39-06-8542475
E-mail : director@inforac.org

Ms Federica De Micheli
Ms Teresa Borelli
Ms Assia Rosati
Ms Maria Tveritina
Mr Enrico Foti

INFO/RAC
Via Cagliari 40
00198 Rome
Italy

Tel: 39-06-85305147
Fax: 39-06-8542475

<http://www.inforac.org>

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR CLEANER
PRODUCTION (CP/RAC)
CENTRE D'ACTIVITES REGIONALES POUR
LA PRODUCTION PROPRE (CAR/PP)**

Mr Armand Vilaplana

Director
CP/RAC
Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre
184, Paris Street
3rd floor
08036 Barcelona
Spain

Tel: 34-93-4151112

Fax: 34-93-2370286

E-mail: cleanpro@cema-sa.org

Ms Mar Santacana

Environmental Expert
CP/RAC
Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre
184, Paris Street
3rd floor
08036 Barcelona
Spain

Tel: 34-93-4151112

Fax: 34-93-2370286

E-mail: msantacana@cema-sa.org

<http://www.cema-sa.org>

**REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
REPRESENTANTS DES INSTITUTIONS SPECIALISEES DES NATIONS UNIES ET
AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES**

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr Roger Aertgeerts

Unit Head
WHO ECEH Rome Office
European Centre for Environment and Health
WHO
World Health Organisation
Via Francesco Crispi 10
00187 Rome
Italy

Tel: 39-06-487751
Fax: 39-06-4877599
E-mail: watsan@eu.euro.who.int

Mr George Kamizoulis

WHO/MEDPOL Senior Scientist
Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan
48 Vass. Konstantinou Ave
P.O. Box 18019
116 35 Athens
Greece

Tel: 30-210-7273105
Fax: 30-210-7253196
E-mail: whomed@hol.gr

**GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
(GFCM)
COMMISSION GENERALES DES
PECHES POUR LA
MEDITERRANEE (CGPM)**

Mr Abdellah Srour

Secrétaire Exécutif Adjoint
Commission Générale des Pêches pour la Méditerranée
(CGPM)
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome
Italy

Tel: 39-06-57055730
Fax: 39-06-57056500
E-mail: abdellah.srou@fao.org
<http://faocgpm.org>

**INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY
AGENCY**

Mr Stephen de Mora

Head
Marine Environmental Studies Laboratory
Marine Environment Laboratory (MEL)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
B.P. No 800
4, Quai Antoine 1er
98000 Monaco-Ville
Monaco

Tel: 377-97-977272
Tel (Mobile): 377-607-932974
Fax: 377-97-977275
E-mail: S.de-Mora@iaea.org
<http://www.iaea.org/monaco>

**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME
ORGANIZATION (IMO)**

Mr Miguel Palomares
Senior Deputy Director
Marine Environment Division

Tel: 44-20-75873218
Fax: 44-20-75873210
E-mail: mpalomares@imo.org
<http://www.imo.org>

Mr Jose Matheickal
Technical Advisor
Marine Environment Division

International Maritime Organization (IMO)
4 Albert Embankment
London SE 1 7SR
United Kingdom

Tel: 44-20-75873279
Fax: 44-20-75873261
E-mail: jmatheic@imo.org
<http://www.imo.org>
<http://www.globallast.imo.org>

Mr Alan Fox
IMO Consultant
Managing Director
Transboundary Consulting
85 John St. PHI
New York, NY
10038 New York
USA

Tel: 1-646-4144902
Tel (Mobile): 1-917-3928080
Fax: 1-212-3749519
E-mail: alan.fox@transboundaryconsulting.com
<http://www.transboundaryconsulting.org>

Mr Adnan Awad
IMO Consultant
C/o SANBI
Kirstenbosch Gardens
Private bag X7
7735 Cape Town
South Africa

Tel: 27-82-7859678, 27-21-7998815
Tel (Mobile): 27-82-7859678
Fax: 27-21-7991561
E-mail: awad@sanbi.org

**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(UNIDO)
ORGANIZATION DES NATIONS
UNIES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT
INDUSTRIEL (ONUDI)**

Mr Pablo Huidobro
Chief, Water Management Unit
Energy and Cleaner Production Branch
Programme Development and Technical Cooperation
Division
UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 300
A-1400 Vienna
Austria

Tel: 43-1-26026-3068
Fax: 43-1-26026-6819
E-mail: phuidobro@unido.org
<http://www.unido.org>

ICS-UNIDO

Mr Gennaro Longo
Chief
Earth, Environment and Marine Sciences and Technologies
Special Advisor on Technology Development
ICS-UNIDO
AREA Science Park, Padriciano 99
34012 Trieste
Italy

Tel: 39-040-9228104
Fax: 39-040-9228136
E-mail: gennaro.longo@ics.trieste.it

**UNEP BASEL CONVENTION
SECRETARIAT**

Ms Sachiko Kuwabara-Yamamoto
Executive Secretary
UNEP Basel Convention Secretariat
15 Chemin des Anemones
Case postale 356
Chatelaine
1219 Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: 41-22-9178218
Fax: 41-22-7973454
E-mail: sachiko.kuwabara@unep.ch

**IUCN
THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION**

Mr Jamie Skinner
Director
Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation
IUCN
The World Conservation Union
Parque Tecnológico de Andalucía
C/Marie Curie 35
29590 Campanillas
Malaga
Spain

Tel: 34-952-028430
Fax: 34-952-028145
E-mail: jamie.skinner@iucn.org
<http://www.iucnmed.org>

**THE WORLD BANK
BANQUE MONDIALE**

Mr Anders Alm

Senior Environmental Specialist
Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance
Programme (METAP)
The World Bank
1818 H Street NW
20433 Washington D.C.
USA

Tel: 1-202-4580171
Fax: 1-202-4771609
E-mail: aalm@worldbank.org
<http://www.metap.org>

**AGREEMENT ON THE
CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS OF
THE BLACK SEA, MEDITERRANEAN
SEA AND CONTIGUOUS ATLANTIC
AREA (ACCOBAMS)**

Mme Marie-Christine Van Klaveren

Executive Secretary
ACCOBAMS
2, Terrasses de Fontvielle
MC 98000
Monaco

Tel: 377-93-152078, 158010
Fax: 377-93-154208
E-mail: mcvanklaveren@accobams.net
<http://www.accobams.org>

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE

Mr Vlado Malačić

International Ocean Institute – Headquarters
P.O. Box 3
Gzira GZR01
Malta

Tel: 356-21-346528
Fax: 356-21-346502
<http://www.ioinst.org>

**NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS NON-GOUVERNEMENTALES**

AMICI PER LA VITA ONLUS

Mr Andrea Marchese
Amici per la Vita Onlus
Via Reggio Emilia, 47
00198 Rome
Italy

Tel (Mobile): 39-348-7081376

AMIGOS DEL MEDITERRANEO

Ms Maria Jesus Romero
Secretary General
Legal Environmental Consultant

Tel (Mobile): 34-670724434
E-mail: maria_romero_olid@yahoo.es or
mediterraneo@ecodesarrollo.org

Mr Humberto Da Cruz
Director
Institut for Research and Cooperation in the Mediterranean
Region

Amigos del Mediterraneo
c/Luchana 4, 3ªA
28029 Madrid
Spain

Tel: 34-91-4458018
Fax: 34-91-4458018
E-mail: hdacruz@ecodesarrollo.org
<http://www.ecodesarrollo.org>

**ARAB NETWORK FOR
ENVIRONMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT (RAED)**

Mr Emad Adly
General Coordinator
Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
P.O. Box 2
Majles El-Shaab
Cairo
Egypt

Tel: 20-2-5161519
Tel (Mobile): 20-12-2130678
Fax: 20-2-5162961
E-mail: aoye@link.net
<http://www.aoye.org>

**CLEAN UP GREECE - ELLADA
KATHARI**

Ms Carla Baer Manolopoulou
President
Clean Up Greece - Ellada Kathari
30 Troias Str
112 57 Athens
Greece

Tel: 30-210-8812440
Fax: 30-210-8213525
E-mail: desk@cleanupgreece.org.gr
<http://www.cleanupgreece.org.gr>

ECAT TIRANA

Ms Marieta Mima

Director
ECAT Tirana
Q2, Abolyt Frasheri
Pallati 16
Shkalla 6, Ap.53
Tirana
Albania

Tel : 355-4-223930
Tel (Mobile) : 355-682024054
Fax : 355-4-223930
E-mail : ecat@ecat-tirana.org
<http://www.ecat-tirana.org>

**FUND FOR INTEGRATED RURAL
DEVELOPMENT OF SYRIA
(FIRDOS)**

Ms Mokhlesa Al-Zaeim

NSSD National Coordinator
Fund for Integrated Rural Development of Syria (FIRDOS)
P.O. Box 2783
Damascus
Syria

Tel: 963-11-6125026
Tel(Mobile): 963-94-319563
Fax: 963-11-6125030
E-mail: mokhlesa@scs-net.org
<http://www.firdos.org.sy>

**INTERNATIONAL MARINE
CENTRE
(FONDAZIONE IMC-ONLUS)**

Mr Renato Covacci

Director
E-mail: r.covacci@imc-it.org

Mr Paolo Magni

Senior Researcher
Biodiversity Unit
E-mail: p.magni@imc-it.org

International Marine Centre (Fondazione IMC-Onlus)
Località sa Mardini
09072 Torregrande
Oristano
Italy

Tel: 39-0783-22027
Fax: 39-0783-22002
<http://www.imc-it.org>

LEGAMBIENTE

Ms Romina Bicocchi

Project Officer
International Department
LEGAMBIENTE
Loc. Enaoli
58010 Rispeccia-Grosseto
Italy

Tel: 39-0564-48771
Tel (Mobile): 39-335-7882192
Fax: 39-0564-487740
E-mail: mediterraneo3@festambiente.it
<http://www.legambiente.com>

MAREVIVO

Mr Giovanni Guerrieri
Marevivo
Associazione Ambientalista
100 Lungotevere A. Da Brescia
00196 Rome
Italy

Tel: 39-06-3222565 or 39-06-3202949
Tel (Mobile): 39-339-2907600
Fax: 39-06-3222564
E-mail: marevivo@marevivo.it
<http://www.marevivo.it>

**MEA
MOUVEMENT ECOLOGIQUE
ALGÉRIEN**

Mr Mohamed Hichem Kara
MEA
Mouvement Ecologique Algérien
17 Rue Shakespeare
16000 Alger
Algérie

Tel: 213-38-515861
Tel (Mobile) : 213-70-312458
Fax: 213-38-868510
E-mail: kara_hichem@yahoo.fr

**MEDITERRANEAN WATER
INSTITUTE
INSTITUT MEDITERRANEEN DE
L'EAU (I.M.E.)**

Mr Mohamed Ennabli
President
Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau
Les Docks
10, Place de la Joliette
13002 Marseille
France

Tel: 33-491-598777
Fax: 33-491-598778
E-mail: info@ime-eau.org

**MIO - ECSDE
MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION
OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENT,
CULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

Mr Michael Scoulios
President
Ms Anastasia Roniotes
Programme Officer

MIO - ECSDE
Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and
Sustainable Development
12, Kyrristou Str
105 56 Athens
Greece

Tel: 30-210-3247267, 3247490
Fax: 30-210-3317127
E-mail: mio-ee-env@ath.forthnet.gr
<http://www.mio-ecsde.org>
<http://www.gwpmmed.org>

**ORGANISATION DES
COMMUNICATRICES
MÉDITERRANÉENES**

Mme Néfissa Berrejeb

Presidente
OCOME
Organisation des Communicatrices Méditerranéenes
18 avenue Habib Bourguiba
2025 Salammbou
Tunisie

Tel: 216-98-356851
Fax: 216-71-784768
E-mail: berrejeb@yahoo.fr
or ocome@ocomo.org

TEMA FOUNDATION

Ms Ayse Yesim Erkan

Director
International Relations
TEMA Foundation
Cayir cimen sok
Emlak Kredi Bloklari
A2 D.11 Levent
Istanbul
Turkey

Tel: 90-212-2848006
Tel (Mobile): 90-535-3994643
Fax: 90-212-2811132
E-mail: yesime@tema.org.tr
<http://www.tema.org.tr>

**UNASD
UNION OF NORTHERN
ASSOCIATIONS FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Mr Mazen Abboud

President
UNASD
Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development
PO Box Jounieh 63
Haret Sakher (Old Harissa Street) Ghanani Building
Jounieh
Lebanon

Tel: 961-96-36373
Tel (Mobile): 961-31-283642
Fax: 961-96-36373
E-mail: unasd@cyberia.net.lb
<http://www.unadep.org>

**WWF
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND FOR
NATURE**

Mr Paolo Guglielmi

Head of Marine Unit
WWF
Mediterranean Programme Office
Tel: 39-06-84497358
Fax: 39-06-8413866
E-mail: pguglielmi@wwfmedpo.org
www.panda.org/mediterranean

Mr Paolo Lombardi

Director
WWF Mediterranean Programme Office
Tel: 39-06-84497381
Tel (Mobile): 39-335-5954838
Fax: 39-06-8413866

E-mail: plombardi@wwfmedpo.org
www.panda.org/mediterranean

WWF Med PO
Via Po 25/c
00198 Rome
Italy

**OBSERVERS
OBSERVATEURS**

**INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
ANIMAL WELFARE (IFAW)**

Mr Hemmo Muntingh
Senior Policy Advisor
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
13 Rue Boduognat
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium

Tel : 32-2-2309717
Tel (Mobile) : 31-629 576938
Fax : 32-2-3210402
E-mail : hmuntingh@ifaw.org
<http://www.ifaw.org>

OCSASA ONLUS

Mr Steward Cenci
Director
OCSASA Onlus
Via Cagliari, 40
00198 Rome
Italy

Tel (Mobile) : 39-380-3032646

ANNEX II

**AGENDA FOR THE
14th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES
PORTOROZ, SLOVENIA, 8-11 NOVEMBER 2005**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Election of officers
 - 2.2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
 - 2.3 Rules of procedure
 - 2.4 Credentials
3. Adoption of recommendations and the programme budget for 2006-2007
4. Topics for ministerial discussions:
 - 4.1 Report on Environment and Development
 - 4.2 Future orientation of MAP
 - 4.3 Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
 - 4.4 National Action Plans within the framework of the Strategic Action Programme to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP-MED)
 - 4.5 Conservation of the monk seal
 - 4.6 Portoroz Declaration
5. Date and place of the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007
6. Other business
7. Adoption of the report
8. Closure of the meeting

ANNEX III

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2006-2007

I.A COORDINATION

I.A.1 Legal framework

I.A.1.1 Status of ratification of the Convention and the Protocols

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. In view of the particular threat to the marine and coastal environment by dumping and land-based sources and activities, to accept urgently the amendments to the:
 - a. Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (the Barcelona Convention);
 - b. Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (the Dumping Protocol);
 - c. Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (the LBS Protocol).
2. To ratify, accept, approve or accede as soon as possible to other Protocols, and in particular 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) and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol), which are in force.
3. To request the depositary country (Spain), together with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, to take a more active role for the Parties to speed up the process of the acceptance of amendments and ratification.
4. To ensure the implementation of the recommendations made by the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, held in Catania, in order to assist the Contracting Parties, especially the most vulnerable among them, to build their technical and logistical capacity within the framework of the Convention and, in particular, the Protocols on combating pollution, and to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Request the Secretariat:

To undertake the necessary actions to assist the Contracting Parties, at their request, in their efforts to accept the amendments to the revised instruments and/or ratify, accept, and adhere to the new MAP legal instruments.

I.A.1.2 Developments in the legal framework

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To affirm the urgent need to halt and reverse the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management.
 2. To take note of the draft text of the Protocol on ICAM prepared by the Secretariat.
 3. To establish a working group of experts designated by the Contracting Parties to develop a draft text of the Protocol on ICAM with a view to its consideration and possible approval by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007 and to convene a diplomatic conference for its adoption to be held immediately following the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties. International governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, the activities of which are related to the Convention, will be invited to participate in the process as observers.
-

I.A.1.3 Liability and compensation

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. In view of the legal complexity of implementing a liability and compensation mechanism, to establish an open-ended working group of legal and technical experts to propose appropriate rules and procedures pursuant to Article 16 (*Liability and compensation for damage resulting from pollution of the marine environment*) of the amended Barcelona Convention. The working group should be composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and one representative from MAP NGO Partners.
2. To take note of document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.4 as being of relevance to defining institutional responsibility and liability in a wide range of MAP activities

Request the Secretariat:

To invite all interested socio-economic actors and NGOs, including those which are members of the MCSD, to take part in the meetings of the working group at their own expense.

I.A.1.4 Reporting system

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To take note of the main findings, conclusions and recommendations of the report "Regional assessment of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention for the biennium 2002-2003" (doc. UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/6), "Report of the Fifth Meeting on Reporting under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols" (doc. UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf .6) and "Comparative Analysis between MAP and other reporting systems" (doc. UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.7).

2. To start preparing national reports on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for the 2004-2005 biennium on the basis of the updated reporting format, as indicated in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/9, with a view to their submission to the Secretariat by January 2007 at the latest. At their discretion, to include also any additional elements covered by the proposed new formats, as indicated in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.6.
3. To complete, where appropriate, national reports submitted on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for the 2002-2003 biennium by providing any information missing from the reports already submitted.
4. To start reporting on a voluntary basis on the implementation of the SAP MED in line with the results of the reporting format currently being tested by Croatia, Greece, Israel and Turkey.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To develop a new reporting format in the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in close cooperation and consultation with the Contracting Parties and relevant organizations for consideration and adoption at the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007 based on the following criteria:
 - (a) an integrated reporting system covering all MAP legal instruments;
 - (b) coherence in the timing of the reporting for all MAP legal instruments;
 - (c) the use of an indicator-based approach;
 - (d) harmonization with other reporting systems relevant to MAP in relation to timing and content; and
 - (e) inclusion of the decisions on which the Contracting Parties have to report within the framework of the legal instruments of MAP.
 2. To develop a list of indicators relevant to the practical implementation measures for consideration by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
 3. To establish an electronic database with the information provided by the Contracting Parties and introduce a system of electronic on-line reporting to be implemented by INFO/RAC.
 4. To provide assistance to the Contracting Parties, at their request, for the preparation of national implementation reports for the 2004-2005 biennium and strengthen their reporting capacities and systems.
 5. To prepare a regional report on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the 2004-2005 biennium for submission to the Meeting of MAP Focal Points and of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
-

I.A.1.5 Compliance mechanism under the Barcelona Convention

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To extend the mandate of the working group on implementation and compliance and its membership to include all Contracting Parties with a view to developing a full compliance mechanism for adoption by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007. The working group should develop the compliance mechanism on the basis of the principles, findings, recommendations and deliberations set out in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/7.

2. To encourage action by all bilateral and multilateral donors at the regional level for assisting the Contracting Parties, particularly the most vulnerable among them, in the implementation of the Convention, through programmes of technical and financial assistance
-

I.A.1.6 Assistance to countries in legal matters

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To ensure the incorporation of the provisions of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols into national law taking into account the analysis provided in the regional assessment of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for the 2002-2003 biennium.

Request the Secretariat:

To strengthen the support provided to countries on legal matters related to the protection of the marine and coastal zones of the Mediterranean with a view to implementing the provisions of Article 14, paragraph 2, of the amended Barcelona Convention.

I.A.2 Institutional framework

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To take note of the the report UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/8 on the external evaluation of MAP.
2. To approve the convening by the Secretariat of an extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points to discuss the evaluation report (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/8) and a draft Vision and Strategic Statement incorporating the mandates of the RACs prepared by the MAP Secretariat for future MAP orientation for consideration by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
3. To approve the participation of representatives of MAP Partners in the above-mentioned extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points.
4. To take note of the reports on the MED POL evaluation (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.10), on the CP/RAC evaluation (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.11), and on the ERS/RAC evaluation (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.12) .
5. To agree that ERS/RAC should be transformed into INFO/RAC.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To convene an extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points to consider the conclusions and recommendations of the external evaluation of MAP and to discuss a draft Vision and Strategic Statement, prepared by the MAP Secretariat, and to make recommendations to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.

2. To invite a representative of the MAP Partners to participate in the extraordinary meeting of the MAP Focal Points to consider the evaluation report.
 3. To take the necessary steps for INFO/RAC to be fully integrated into the activities of MAP under the mission statement agreed upon at the last MAP Focal Points Meeting.
 4. To modify the existing host country agreement in respect of INFO/RAC in cooperation with the concerned Italian authorities, so as to define the Centre's regional and international role in the field of information and communication.
 5. To prepare a document to be submitted for approval to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007 formalizing:
 - a) The mission statement of CP/RAC and its rules of operation.
 - b) The role and ordinary tasks of the CP/RAC National Focal Points.
-

I.A.3 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To adopt the MSSD as finalized at the June 2005 meeting of the MCSD held in Athens, on the basis of the Declaration of the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties .
2. To provide the necessary support for the implementation and follow-up of the MSSD at the regional, subregional and national levels.
3. To integrate, as appropriate, the objectives, orientations and actions set out in the MSSD in National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD) that are being prepared or have been prepared.
4. To identify specific commitments and projects as a contribution to the implementation of the MSSD.
5. To define and launch partnership initiatives for the implementation of the MSSD and strengthen existing Mediterranean Type II Initiatives.
6. To carry out information and communication campaigns on the MSSD and specific NSSDs.
7. To adopt the MCSD programme of work and provide technical and financial support for the implementation of the MCSD's activities at the regional and national levels.
8. To approve the following representatives of civil society as members of the MCSD:
 - 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):

- d) 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).

Request the Secretariat:

1. To monitor the implementation of the MSSD at the regional and national levels.
 2. To define, launch and strengthen pilot actions as a contribution to the implementation of the MSSD.
 3. To promote and, as appropriate, provide support for the preparation of NSSDs.
 4. To encourage Contracting Parties and Partners to carry out and, as appropriate, provide support for information and communication campaigns on the MSSD and NSSDs.
 5. To launch and coordinate the implementation of the programme of work and activities of the MCSD, in close coordination with other MAP activities.
 6. To issue information regularly, through the web and direct communications, on progress in the implementation of the MSSD and NSSDs, MCSD activities and Mediterranean Partnership Initiatives; to improve the visibility of the MCSD at the national, regional and international levels.
-

I.A.4 Energy Issues

Request the Secretariat:

To encourage the MAP Regional Activity Centres and components to cover energy issues in the framework designed by MSSD, mostly by facilitating the implementation of its energy orientations and actions at the national level.

I.A.5 Cooperation and partnership

I.A.5.1 Cooperation with United Nations Agencies, IGOs, NGOs and other partners

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To support the development and strengthening of cooperation between MAP and international organizations, United Nations agencies, other conventions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

2. To strengthen national coordination mechanisms among the focal points of the various conventions and organizations relevant to the objectives of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To participate in the GEF/IMO project to assist developing countries in addressing the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms in ships' ballast water, and in any other initiative of common interest.
 2. To strengthen cooperation with the Secretariats of environmental conventions, other regional seas programmes, relevant United Nations agencies, United Nations Regional Economic Commission offices, regional processes and ministerial conferences such as those related to "Environment for Europe" and REREP, and other intergovernmental organizations which are directly relevant to the Barcelona Convention, with a view to ensuring synergy on issues of common interest.
 3. To further develop cooperation in the Arab region, in particular through the Arab Region Cooperation Programme, the League of Arab States, the United Nations Economic Commission for West Asia, UNEP/ROWA and CEDARE, through the implementation of joint activities, preferably in the context of a memorandum of understanding.
 4. To strengthen cooperation between MAP and regional environmental centres such as the Regional Environment Centre for East and Central Europe (REC), with respect for the agreed mandates and strategies of these centres.
 5. To promote cooperation with the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative, the Trilateral Commission of Croatia, Italy and Slovenia and other regional initiatives.
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I.A.5.2 Cooperation with the European Union

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To take note of and support the implementation of the Joint Work Programme between MAP and the European Commission to:
 - a. Strengthen cooperation at the institutional level by facilitating meetings between the two sides at the highest level possible to achieve synergy on strategic matters of common interest;
 - b. Increase cooperation between the European Commission and the MAP Coordinating Unit, the Regional Activity Centres (RACs) and MED POL so that the experience and expertise of the RACs and MED POL can support EC activities in the implementation of environmental policy in the region;
 - c. Strengthen the environmental dimension of public policy and the promotion of sustainable development policies in the countries bordering the Mediterranean.
2. To continue cooperation with the European Commission to further develop the proposed European marine strategy.
3. To approve the participation of MAP in the initiative that is being launched by the European Commission to develop a maritime policy.
4. To support the involvement of MAP in the proposed Euro-Mediterranean Partnership initiative to "depollute" the Mediterranean by 2020 in view of the important role that MAP

already plays through its components in eliminating pollution in the Mediterranean from land- and sea-based activities.

5. To promote the Barcelona Convention and MAP as a privileged regional mechanism for the implementation of EC activities in the region at the forthcoming Barcelona Summit to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.
6. To take note of the contribution of the SMAP Programme and of the Mediterranean component to the EU Water Initiative for the improvement of the environment in the Mediterranean.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To implement the Joint Work Programme with the EC on the basis of the activities outlined in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/Inf.8.
2. To submit an assessment of the implementation of the Joint Work Programme to the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
3. To take an active part in the implementation of the European marine strategy and the consultation process launched by the EC for the development of the EU maritime policy in order to ensure that Mediterranean specificities and needs are duly taken into account in further developments in respect of these initiatives so that the environmental policies of MAP and of the European Community are implemented in a mutually supportive way.
4. To become a major actor in the Euro-Med initiative to “depollute” the Mediterranean by 2020 by contributing the experience and expertise acquired by MAP over the years and thus avoiding any duplication of activities or the wasteful use of resources.
5. To work closely with the European Commission on the issue of adequate financing for implementation of those MAP activities in the Mediterranean that are also of relevance to the EC.
6. To strengthen cooperation between MAP and the European Environment Agency (EEA) by establishing a joint work programme in line with the proposed MAP/European Commission joint work programme.
7. To encourage the involvement in the 2020 Depollution Initiative of Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) of those Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention that are not members of this Partnership.

I.A.5.3 Cooperation with civil society and public participation

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To promote public participation in all MAP-related activities carried out at the national level and to encourage and strengthen cooperation with MAP Partners representing civil society.
2. To approve the updated list of MAP Partners contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.15.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To further strengthen cooperation and assistance to Mediterranean NGOs included in the list of MAP Partners, giving priority to those active in the East and South of the Mediterranean.

2. To further consolidate MAP activities in the field of public participation and awareness-raising focusing on environmental issues in general and MAP activities in particular, by providing assistance to countries for such activities.
 3. To involve NGOs in MAP activities, and at the same time support their initiatives in favour of Mediterranean environmental issues, and encourage other NGOs to become MAP Partners.
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I.A.6 Information, public awareness and public participation

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To help give a higher profile and visibility at the national level to the Barcelona Convention, the activities of MAP and the Regional Activity Centres.
2. To approve the redesign of *MedWaves* and its publication as a quarterly magazine featuring reports about the various activities of MAP and its components.
3. To promote access to information on environment and sustainable development issues in general, and on MAP activities in particular.
4. To promote involvement in the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To embark on a publicity and public relations exercise to enhance the profile of the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Action Plan through the publication of press releases and feature articles on a more regular basis on Mediterranean environmental issues in general and MAP activities in particular.
 2. To update the MAP Information Strategy in order to introduce a more innovative approach to the dissemination of information and the organization of public awareness campaigns about the Barcelona Convention, MAP and its components, through the use of the latest information and communication tools.
 3. To establish and maintain close contacts with journalists from Mediterranean print and broadcast media and to provide them with a regular flow of information.
 4. To assist countries in organizing events to promote public participation in environmental issues and disseminate information about MAP in order to increase public awareness.
 5. To participate in activities related to environmental education and sustainable development in the framework of the regional implementation of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.
 6. To ensure close coordination between MEDU and INFO/RAC, once it is refocused towards information and communication activities, for the implementation of the above activities.
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I.A.7 Financial issues and personnel matters

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To adopt the 2006-2007 budget version in euro currency.
2. To take note of the 2006-2007 budget version in US dollar currency.
3. To call on those Contracting Parties which are in arrears in their contributions to make every effort to settle their pledges so that the MAP Secretariat would be in a position to finance its activities, especially in the next biennium, when no increases in voluntary contributions are envisaged.
4. To approve the upgrading of the post of MED POL Coordinator to D 1.
5. To freeze the post of Deputy Coordinator until the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
6. To extend the post of Sustainable Development Officer at MEDU until the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
7. To approve the retention of the post of Security Assistant on a temporary basis for one year (2006) until all administrative issues are resolved with DSS and UNEP and, in addition to the funds being made available by UNHCR, to use the MTF revolving fund to make up the balance

Request the Secretariat:

1. To make every effort to collect the arrears in ordinary contributions.
 2. To continue to provide details in the budget of cash and in-kind contributions.
 3. To seek ways and means to resolve the issue of pending payments of the former Yugoslavia.
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II. COMPONENTS

II.A POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

II.A.1 Pollution from land-based sources (MED POL)

II.A.1.1 Policy and coordination

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To approve the vision, principles, objectives, content and modalities of implementation of the MED POL Phase IV Programme (2006-2013) as contained in Annex III to document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/5, and to ask the Secretariat to prepare, in cooperation with the Contracting Parties, the operational details of the Programme during 2006-2007, taking into account the results of the evaluation of MED POL Phase III and developments in related international and regional programmes and initiatives.
2. To welcome the initiative by the European Union to prepare and implement a marine thematic strategy that will share the principles and objectives of MAP and its components and to recommend that MEDPOL continues to be a major partner within MAP to assure that common objectives for preventing and abating pollution are achieved.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To follow the initiative of the European Commission relating to the project to be implemented by MED POL to review the implications of applying the ecosystem approach to the management of human activities in the Mediterranean region; the project should be implemented in cooperation with all Regional Activity Centres, with a view to the possible application of the ecosystem approach by the whole MAP system.
2. To work in cooperation with INFO/RAC and in consultation with the MED POL National Coordinators on the preparation of an information system and on the international and European initiatives covering data on pollution sources, levels and effects, based on existing national and international information systems as a platform for the establishment in future of a wider system for all MAP data and information
3. To organize a meeting of *ad hoc* MED POL National Coordinators specifically devoted to the examination of the operational aspects of MED POL Phase IV, the preparation of an information system and the draft elements which could form the basis for the legally binding text containing the measures and timetables for implementation required under Article 15 of the LBS Protocol.

II.A.1.2 Implementation of the LBS Protocol and the SAP MED

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To endorse, support and mobilize the necessary resources for the implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs) to address pollution from land-based activities and to ensure their integration into existing national strategies and pollution control plans.

2. To take note of the paper prepared by the Secretariat on the transfer of technology and knowledge within the framework of the SAP MED and the NAPs and to consider it as a guide for future initiatives in the region.
3. To approve and facilitate the creation by the Secretariat of a regional task force for the development of regional arrangements to facilitate cooperation for the transfer of technology related to pollution reduction within the framework of the SAP MED and the NAPs; CP/RAC will assist the Secretariat in this task.

Request the Secretariat:

To catalyse and facilitate the mobilization of external funds to assist Mediterranean countries in the implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs).

Municipal sewage

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To take note of the proposed Guidelines for municipal water re-use in Mediterranean countries which were prepared following a thorough analysis of Mediterranean conditions, and are intended to assist countries in achieving the targets of the SAP MED and the NAPs related to the appropriate management of municipal sewage.

Air pollution

Request the Secretariat:

In accordance with section I.A.4, to include energy-related activities in the MED POL work programme for 2006-2007, depending on the availability of funds, and to start work on the impact of the energy sector on the Mediterranean marine environment; Life Cycle Assessment of fossil fuels in the Mediterranean basin; and a mechanism for the development of energy efficiency (EE), renewable energy (RE) and cleaner or less polluting energy in the Mediterranean basin in its respective sphere of competence.

Industrial pollution

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To provide the Secretariat with all available data and information related to inputs of nutrients and mercury from industrial installations and on national management systems for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), obsolete chemicals, lubricating oil, used batteries and hazardous substances, so as to allow the preparation of up-to-date regional plans for pollution reduction within the framework of the SAP MED.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To prepare regional plans for the reduction of nutrients and mercury from industrial installations, for the management and disposal of stockpiles of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (avoiding duplication with the work undertaken by the Stockholm Convention) and obsolete chemicals, used lubricating oils, used batteries and hazardous substances. The plans should be prepared on the basis of the recent data and information gathered through the preparation of Baseline Budgets (BBs),

National Diagnostic Analyses (NDAs), Sectoral Plans (SPs) and National Action Plans (NAPs), and should contain realistic targets and deadlines based on those indicated in the Strategic Action Programme (SAP MED), taking into account relevant international developments.

2. To start working on the formulation of elements which would in future be included in the legally-binding measures and timetables referred to in Article 15 of the amended LBS Protocol, on the basis of the present SAP MED and taking into account any relevant international developments.
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Monitoring

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To formulate and implement marine pollution monitoring programmes pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 of the LBS Protocol as indispensable tools for the proper implementation of the SAP MED, particularly for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the pollution reduction measures adopted.
2. To facilitate the planning and organization of subregional surveys to improve the knowledge of the contamination level of the Mediterranean coastal waters.
3. To initiate the process of revision of ongoing monitoring activities in the framework of the LBS Protocol and MED POL Phase IV and ensure the provision of the monitoring data and information missing from MED POL Phase III.

Request the Secretariat:

To plan and launch subregional surveys and initiate the process of revising the monitoring programme, including the assessment of the quality of the marine and coastal environment, in the framework of the LBS Protocol and MED POL Phase IV.

Public participation

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To support, encourage and facilitate the involvement of all stakeholders in the process of the implementation and monitoring of NAPs in the framework of the Strategic Action Programme, *inter alia* through the organization of relevant workshops.

Reporting

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To consider the PRTR system, or other appropriate systems, such as EPER and marine pollution indicators, as important tools for the preparation of national and regional environmental assessment.

Environmental inspections

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To strengthen the capabilities of national inspection systems to facilitate the implementation of compliance monitoring and the NAPs in the framework of the Strategic Action Programme.

Cooperation with GEF

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

1. To welcome and endorse the initiative of GEF and the World Bank to launch a Mediterranean Strategic Partnership which will substantially contribute to the long-term process of pollution reduction and preservation of biodiversity.
 2. Those Contracting Parties which are GEF Members should undertake to ensure that their efforts and support, within the GEF Council, are further harmonized and coordinated in order to increase the Fund's interest in, and funding for, the Mediterranean region and MAP.
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II.A.1.3 Implementation of the Dumping Protocol

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To adopt the guidelines prepared by the Secretariat in close cooperation with national authorities and experts on the placement at sea of matter for purposes other than mere disposal (construction of artificial reefs) (doc. UNEP(DEC)MED IG.16/8).
2. To adopt the guidelines prepared by the Secretariat in close cooperation with national authorities and experts on dumping of inert uncontaminated geological materials (doc. UNEP(DEC)MED IG.16/9).
3. To facilitate the collection by the Secretariat of data and information for the preparation of a review/assessment of historical dumping sites of ordnance in the Mediterranean.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To assess country needs (legal, technical and institutional aspects) and prepare and implement a programme of assistance for the proper application of the Dumping Protocol and its guidelines, and to provide assistance as appropriate.
 2. To strengthen cooperation with the London Convention Secretariat, continue to exchange data and information and ensure the harmonization of the respective reporting systems.
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II.A.2 Marine pollution prevention and control (REMPEC)

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To adopt the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships as endorsed by the 7th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (Malta, 25-28 April 2005), to implement the Strategy, to provide information to the Secretariat on the actions being taken at the national level for its implementation and to consider, at the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, the possibility of strengthening the human resources of the Centre starting from the biennium 2008-2009.
2. To adopt the set of Principles agreed upon during the Meeting of National Experts on the Feasibility of a Legal Regional Instrument on Prevention of Pollution from Pleasure Craft Activities in the Mediterranean (Monaco, 8-10 December 2004) and endorsed by the 7th Meeting of Focal Points of REMPEC (Malta, 25-28 April 2005).
3. To support the implementation by REMPEC of the project on Euro-Med cooperation on maritime safety and prevention of pollution from ships (SAFEMED) financed by the European Community (EC) under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership MEDA financial mechanism, and involving ten Mediterranean partners.
4. To support REMPEC's efforts for the development of monitoring activities in the Mediterranean to detect, prevent and combat operational pollution in conformity with the relevant international conventions, as defined in the three components of the CLEANMED project developed by REMPEC.
5. To provide REMPEC with the additional human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, either by seconding professional officers to the Centre or by sponsoring their recruitment.

Request the Secretariat:

1. To support Mediterranean coastal States in their efforts to implement the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships.
 2. To prepare guidelines on pollution from pleasure craft activities, taking into consideration the Principles for the development and respect of the marine environment by pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea, and to present them to the next Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points for endorsement, prior to their submission for adoption to the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties. In developing these guidelines, to take due account of the requirements imposed on European Union Member States by Directive 94/25/EC, as amended, regulating the environmental performance of recreational crafts.
 3. To extend, as far as possible, the activities included in the SAFEMED project to the other Mediterranean coastal States not covered by this project.
 4. To request, as necessary, the collaboration of other MAP components when addressing scientific aspects of regional issues related to Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs), sensitivity mapping and ballast water management; in this regard Contracting Parties that are member States of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro and Slovenia) should seek assistance with the preparation of pilot projects concerning those issues mentioned above for the Adriatic Sea as a particularly sensitive sea area.
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II.A.3 Cleaner production

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To submit information on:
 - a) The specific needs of countries to improve the application of cleaner production and complementary approaches (Life Cycle Assessment, eco-efficiency, eco-labelling, EMAS, etc.) in their industries and other sectors (agriculture, services).
 - b) The activities carried out to promote and implement cleaner production in the country, including the materials prepared by the Secretariat (CP/RAC).
 - c) The links existing between centres, institutes, universities and industry.
2. To promote the inclusion of environmental awareness programmes at all educational levels related in particular to cleaner production.
3. To promote research and development in cleaner production among universities in the region.
4. To include in environmental legislation mechanisms which allow industry to comply with the legislation through the implementation of cleaner production principles.
5. To encourage technical and financial support and, in particular, soft loans with low interest rates for companies and institutions wishing to introduce BATs and BEPs.

Request the Secretariat (CP/RAC):

1. To continue holding seminars and preparing studies, guidelines and databases on issues of interest to the Mediterranean region regarding pollution prevention in economic activities.
2. To broaden the current scope of the activities of CP/RAC to include other areas in relation to cleaner production.
3. To involve academics and industrialists in CP/RAC activities wherever appropriate.
4. To provide information on success stories and good practices in the field of cleaner production for dissemination to a wide range of stakeholders in Mediterranean countries and to assist countries in capacity building and the dissemination of success stories to the public and private sectors relating to the introduction of BATs and BEPs.
5. To catalyse and facilitate the mobilization of funds to support specific cleaner production activities based on partnerships with countries.
6. To facilitate communication between companies which have already experienced the benefits of cleaner production and those which have not.
7. To promote more expertise on cleaner production in Mediterranean countries.
8. To strengthen cooperation between NGOs, through the CP/RAC Focal Points and the Secretariat, for the dissemination of information on BATs and BEPs.
9. To strengthen links and partnership with regional and, particularly, national centres and institutions.
10. To work with the European Commission to strengthen cooperation, particularly with the countries of the South, in order to support them in their environmental upgrading strategies, especially in the industrial and tourist sectors.

II.B BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS

II.B.1 Implementation of the action plans

II.B.1.1 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To address the problem of the deliberate killing of monk seals combined with habitat loss existing in areas of major importance for the species, targeting fishermen and other stakeholders, taking into account the most serious threat to the survival of this species, as noted in the assessment of the implementation of the action plan (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.146/5, Arta 1998).
2. To make the best possible use of the positive experiences in Alonissos (Greece) and Foça (Turkey) to extend protection and conservation actions to all the other known Mediterranean areas with critical habitats of monk seals.
3. To ensure that management plans for protected areas containing critical monk seal habitats, as well as legislative measures relevant to the conservation of monk seals, are developed and implemented.
4. To identify existing or potential critical habitats of monk seals.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To assist countries in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal through management plans, operational tools and capacity building; to this end, to make use of the report UNEP(DEC)/MED WG 232/Inf.6 of the group of experts convened by SPA/RAC in 2002, as already recommended by the Contracting Parties in 2003.
 2. To support countries in the identification of existing or potential critical habitats of monk seals.
 3. To assist countries in organizing awareness campaigns for target groups, with a view to ensuring their participation in efforts to reduce hostility and increase consensus for the implementation of conservation actions.
 4. To strengthen collaboration with relevant bodies, in particular FAO/GFCM, in order to address effectively the problem of the interaction of fisheries with monk seals.
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II.B.1.2 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To fulfil their obligations in relation to the implementation of the Action Plan, and particularly the recommended actions at national level for each country.
2. To ensure legal protection measures for known nesting sites (including adjacent waters) and other aggregation areas.
3. To encourage pilot studies on tested methods to reduce turtle by-catch and mortality in fisheries.
4. To take note of the conclusions and recommendations of the Second Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles.
5. To take note of the results of the Workshop on the Standardization of Tagging and Centralization of Information, and to promote tagging programmes that comply with the general recommendations and the principal guidelines of this Workshop.
6. To support participation in the 26th International Sea Turtle Symposium to be held on 3-8 April 2006 in Greece.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To assist countries in fulfilling obligations pertaining to the implementation of the Action Plan, by supporting and/or coordinating actions where necessary.
 2. To support initiatives to improve knowledge of the distribution of populations of marine turtles at sea.
 3. To strengthen collaboration with FAO/GFCM to address the problem of the interaction of fisheries with marine turtles.
 4. To take into consideration the results of the Regional IUCN Red List Assessment of *Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas* and *Dermochelys coriacea* which is being prepared by IUCN's Marine Turtle Specialist Group (MTSG), and all relevant inputs in order to propose, as appropriate, an update of the Action Plan at the 8th Meeting of SPA/RAC National Focal Points.
 5. To support the organization of the 26th International Sea Turtle Symposium in Greece and the 3rd Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles, to be held in Tunisia.
 6. To promote awareness measures and education for various target stakeholders (including fishermen, tourists and decision-makers).
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II.B.1.3 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To join the ACCOBAMS Agreement, if they have not already done so, and to take note and implement as far as possible the pertinent resolutions and recommendations of the Meetings of its Contracting Parties.
2. To recognize that common obligations relating to cetaceans under the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol are fulfilled by the implementation of ACCOBAMS.
3. To promote the creation and extension of protected marine and coastal areas specifically for cetaceans.
4. To establish close cooperation at the national level between the SPA/RAC National Focal Points and the ACCOBAMS focal points.
5. To invite the Permanent Secretariat of ACCOBAMS to inform the Meeting of the SPA/RAC National Focal Points of the implementation of measures relevant to the conservation of cetaceans, in particular through the ACCOBAMS national reporting system, and to present the decisions of the Meetings of its Contracting Parties.
6. To support the implementation of the ban on driftnets proclaimed by ICCAT (2003) and GFCM (2005) by developing and executing specific reconversion plans.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To implement the Memorandum of Cooperation between SPA/RAC and ACCOBAMS.
 2. To seek synergies with the Permanent Secretariat of ACCOBAMS in relation to any relevant activities to be implemented in countries that are not parties to ACCOBAMS.
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II.B.1.4 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To adopt the updated activity programme for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea.
2. To take the necessary steps to complete, within the prescribed time, the activities provided for by the updated activity programme for the implementation of the Action Plan.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To assist countries in complying with their commitments under the updated programme for the implementation of the Action Plan.
2. To provide countries with the necessary support to make inventories and carry out mapping of marine meadows and marine vegetation formations and, in particular barrier reefs of Posidonia and organogenic surface formations, terraces (platforms with vermitids covered by soft algae) and certain Cystoseira belts.

3. To help countries that have already started activities in the framework of the Action Plan to set up monitoring networks.
 4. To strengthen collaboration with FAO/GFCM to address the problem of the interaction of fisheries with marine vegetation.
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II.B.1.5 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To contribute to the implementation of an international system of inspection and control that is consistent with the specific nature and needs of Mediterranean fisheries, within the framework of the relevant regional fisheries management organizations.
2. To take the necessary measures to complete the activities included in the Action Plan within the agreed time period.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To ensure the implementation of the actions under its responsibility set out in the Action Plan in accordance with the timetable adopted in collaboration with FAO/GFCM.
 2. To pursue collaboration to assist countries increase their national expertise on cartilaginous fish
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II.B.1.6 Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Bird Species Listed in Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To take the necessary steps to complete, within the prescribed time frames, the activities provided for in the Action Plan, and particularly to:
 - a) Guarantee procedures for the legal protection of species;
 - b) Set up research programmes to fill gaps in knowledge on threatened species;
 - c) Establish national action plans and implement existing plans;
 - d) Identify, map and protect areas at sea that are important for birds.
2. Join AEWA and subscribe to *ad hoc* Memoranda of Understanding if this has not been done already.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To collaborate closely with BirdLife International and other competent international organizations, such as the MedWet Initiative of the Ramsar Convention, for the implementation of the Action Plan on the Conservation of Bird Species Listed in Annex II to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.
 2. To prepare a report on the progress made so far in the implementation of the Action Plan for submission to the Meeting of the SPA/RAC National Focal Points in 2007
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II.B.1.7 Implementation of the Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To take the necessary steps to complete the actions provided for at national level by the Action Plan in accordance with its implementation timetable.
2. To work at the regional level to assess impacts of invasive species on local marine biodiversity and different marine habitats.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To cooperate with competent institutions in this field at the Mediterranean level.
 2. To carry out the actions provided for by the Action Plan in accordance with its implementation timetable and in collaboration with the relevant organizations.
 3. To prepare an evaluation report of the implementation of the Action Plan, to be submitted to the Eighth Meeting of SPA/RAC National Focal Points.
 4. To provide assistance to countries to carry out the actions provided for in the Action Plan at the national level.
 5. To encourage regional cooperation to assess the impact of invasive species on local marine biodiversity and different marine habitats, in coordination with IMO and REMPEC.
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II.B.2 Selecting, establishing and managing specially protected areas

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To include in the SPAMI list the sites fulfilling the criteria for inclusion:
 - *the Banc des Kabyles Marine Reserve*
 - *the Habibas Islands*
 - *the Portofino Marine Protected Area.*
2. To support the extension and continuation of the MedMPA project at the national level, where appropriate.
3. To consider the establishment of new marine protected areas (MPAs) both in coastal waters and in particular on the high seas, where appropriate, on the basis of existing scientific knowledge, in accordance with the commitments adopted at the Seventh

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other applicable international regulations.

4. To assess and identify those SPAMIs which are exposed to environmental risks by international shipping activities and could be proposed for designation as PSSAs by the IMO.
5. To revise the criteria for the establishment of SPAMIs

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To establish a programme of work for the development of protected areas based on the positive experience of the MedMPA project, with the aim of helping countries of the region to develop before 2012 a representative network of marine protected areas, in accordance with the recommendations of the SAP BIO and in close cooperation with WWF.
 2. To pursue its assessment of the procedure for the evaluation of SPAMIs and to proceed with a test to evaluate two voluntary SPAMIs using this procedure in collaboration with IUCN.
 3. To collaborate with ACCOBAMS, and in particular with its scientific committee, for the establishment of specially protected areas for the conservation of cetaceans.
 4. To assist countries, in close cooperation with REMPEC, to conduct the assessment of those SPAMIs that could be proposed for designation as PSSAs by IMO.
-

II.B.3 Activities linked to processing and managing biodiversity-related data

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To further inventory natural sites of conservation interest, using the Standard Data-entry Form (SDF) and other technical tools adopted by the Contracting Parties.
2. To develop national clearing-house mechanisms on marine and coastal biodiversity;
3. To use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as tools for the management and exchange of data on marine and coastal biodiversity.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To assist countries in inventorying natural sites of conservation interest.
 2. To harmonize the inventory system using the Standard Date-entry Form with the Natura 2000, Emerald and MedWet systems.
 3. To develop the use of Geographic Information Systems for managing and disseminating data on marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean.
 4. To improve SPA/RAC's directories and databases and integrate them into a regional information system.
 5. To help countries to attain a good qualitative and quantitative level of information on marine and coastal biodiversity in their national clearing-house mechanisms (CHMs).
 6. To take account of the effects of climate change and the adjustment measures necessary to protect biodiversity in the region.
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II.B.4 Strategic action programme for the conservation of biological diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP BIO)

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To consider the SAP BIO as an essential tool for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity and for the implementation of the SPA Protocol and to ensure the involvement and coordination of competent national and regional institutions for its implementation.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To further integrate the SAP BIO into its programme of activities.
 2. To prepare project proposals and seek funding for the implementation of the SAP BIO, also exploring possibilities with external donors.
 3. To seek financial support from GEF for the same purpose.
 4. To continue to cooperate with all relevant organizations, agencies and institutions for the implementation of SAP BIO
 5. To strengthen cooperation among the various Regional Activity Centres, particularly PAP/RAC, SPA/RAC and REMPEC, in order to carry out integrated projects for the protection of ecosystems against pollution and to promote marine biodiversity.
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II.B.5 Common criteria for the choice of species that could be included in or excluded from Annexes II and III to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To approve the principle of modifying the lists of species included in Annexes II and III to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol on the basis of criteria to be established.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To prepare guidelines for future amendments to Annexes II and III to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol based on the contributions of all Parties, including the scientific, legal and procedural aspects.
 2. To take into consideration the results of the Regional IUCN Red List Assessment in order to update the Action Plans, and to propose criteria for the amendment of Annex II and III to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.
 3. To make a first set of proposals to test the validity of the procedure for submission to the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007.
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II.B.6 Mediterranean initiative on taxonomy

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To recognize the shortage of taxonomists and to encourage postgraduate specialization in taxonomy and national and/or bilateral cooperation to address this problem.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To cooperate more closely with other competent organizations to evaluate the taxonomic guides available for Mediterranean marine flora and fauna and to update them if necessary with the aim of providing tools for the Contracting Parties.
 2. To organize a Mediterranean workshop on reference collections of marine species in the Mediterranean in collaboration with the relevant institutions and experts.
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II.B.7 Capacity building

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To promote training courses in order to strengthen national capacities in the field of the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

1. To convene a training course on the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for biodiversity conservation purposes.
 2. To convene a training course on mapping marine biotopes.
 3. To convene training courses and provide technical assistance on management tools and action plans for priority species and areas to be protected.
-

II.B.8 Other priority Mediterranean habitats

Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:

To promote training courses to strengthen national capacities in the field of the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity with particular reference to coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions.

Request the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):

To formulate a programme of work on protecting the coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions in the Mediterranean and to submit it for adoption by the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties, after consulting the SPA/RAC National Focal Points.

II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AREAS

II.C.1 Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM)

II.C.2 CAMP projects

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To continue efforts to implement the MCSDD recommendations on the sustainable management of coastal areas as well as the components of the MSSD related to coastal management.
2. To adopt the Operational Action Plan for ICAM in the Mediterranean and support PAP/RAC in its implementation.
3. To continue efforts to create new institutional interministerial arrangements for ICAM and to adopt new and/or improve the implementation of existing national legislation for sustainable coastal management.
4. To invite countries where there have not yet been any CAMP projects to propose new projects. To invite countries that have already implemented CAMP projects to ensure appropriate follow-up based on the outcome of the CAMPs and to consider new projects in the light of the recommendations of the proposed Operational Action Plan for ICAM, and particularly new types of CAMP projects.
5. To support the implementation of activities related to the development and application of landscape management methodologies and tools.
6. To support the implementation of the EU/SMAP programme of activities related to Integrated Coastal Zone Management, to improve beach management and information sharing through the clearing-house mechanism.

Request the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):

1. To assist countries in the implementation of the Operational Action Plan for ICAM, including efforts to develop new types of CAMP projects.
2. To pursue the development and implementation of ICAM tools and instruments, with particular reference to marine spatial planning, coastal information systems, environmental impact assessments and SEA in coastal environments, coastal erosion and risk management, economic instruments for coastal management, the assessment of carrying capacities for tourism, landscape management, beach management and integrated coastal area and river basin management (ICARM).
3. To support and assist the Contracting Parties in preparing their national and local ICAM strategies and programmes, in implementing ICAM tools, techniques and methodologies and in developing subregional ICAM initiatives.
4. To assist Albania, Algeria, Croatia and Egypt to prepare their national reports on integrated coastal management.
5. To coordinate MAP activities in relation to CAMP projects, under the overall coordinating responsibility of MEDU.
6. To prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, to implement ongoing and planned MAP CAMP projects

7. To propose to countries where CAMP projects have been completed to introduce new and/or adapt existing instruments for environmental management and to assist those countries in preparing viable projects, which would enable the follow-up of CAMPs.
 8. To continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of national and local institutions by means of traditional and internet-based training courses (MedOpen), the exchange of information on ICAM through the clearing-house mechanism, the maintenance of the informative website, the publication and dissemination of guidelines, thematic papers, programme results and other achievements.
 9. To strengthen existing and seek new partnerships in the region and mobilize existing resources at the international level for the implementation of ICAM and sustainable development in coastal regions.
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Request the Secretariat (BP/RAC):

To help countries carry out prospective analyses in coastal areas and contribute to the implementation of CAMPs.

II.D ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

II.D.1 Integrating environment and development

PAP/RAC

Recommendations to Contracting Parties:

1. To support activities on local management and sustainable development in the framework of the MCSD.
2. To urge municipal authorities to apply the recommendations of the MCSD on urban management and sustainable development.
3. To support efforts to introduce better practices for the management of water resources, and particularly the implementation of the Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean.
4. To encourage the relevant national and local authorities and concerned stakeholders to undertake carrying capacity assessment for tourism activities, taking into account their potential impact as a common tool for the sustainable development of this industry, nationally and locally.
5. To support activities and mobilize the pertinent means for combating land degradation and to support the partnership of PAP/RAC with relevant international organizations and institutions.

Request the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):

1. To support the MCSD working group on local management and sustainable development.

2. To assist the Contracting Parties in their endeavours to implement the MCSD's recommendations on urban management and sustainable development through the development of appropriate urban management tools and instruments, further developing the methodology for urban regeneration.
 3. To promote the use of carrying capacity assessment as a tool for the sustainable development of tourism, through the enhancement of the capacity of Mediterranean national and local institutions, and to continue providing technical assistance.
 4. To provide support to local authorities for the implementation of guidelines for the sustainable management of urban water resources (Guidelines for Integrated Urban Water System Management in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean).
 5. To continue activities related to land degradation management and to establish new partnerships with international and regional organizations and institutions in this field.
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BP/RAC

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To support the dissemination and promotion of the *Environment and Development Report's* findings in countries and at the Euro-Mediterranean level.
2. To facilitate the implementation of the common PAP/BP/METAP project in support of the SMAP beneficiaries within the SMAP III programme so as to strengthen the integration of the environment into development strategies and policies.
3. To support Blue Plan's efforts to develop follow-up activities (sustainable development indicators, thematic follow-up) for the MSSD.
4. To support Blue Plan's efforts to conduct priority thematic activities by mobilizing qualified experts and other relevant ministries or agencies and by hosting and funding regional, subregional and national events (workshops).

Request the Secretariat (BP/RAC):

1. To increase its presence in individual countries to reach a wider public and contribute to the strengthening of environmental ministries' capacities to better integrate environmental concerns into sectoral policies.
2. To make the main findings of the *Environment and Development Report* available to countries and other users in an appropriate format (policy briefs, PowerPoint presentations, websites, participation in national and regional discussions).
3. To help the Contracting Parties to build up information that facilitates the follow-up and implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development as well as national strategies for sustainable development.
4. To document indicators, expand analyses and identify good practices with volunteer countries, EU bodies and partners and regional initiatives involved in the following fields: water demand management, energy and climate change, sustainable tourism and sustainable rural development.
5. To focus thematic activities in areas where MAP can offer added value: sustainable development indicators and trend analysis, inventory of best practices and of policy tools for demand management and integrated development, sharing of Mediterranean experience.

6. To produce and disseminate a set of indicators to followup the MSSD and help countries develop indicators for their national strategies.
 7. To strengthen technical partnerships with other MAP components and institutions.
 8. To develop, in particular with INFO/RAC and concerned Contracting Parties, the translation of the Environment and Development Report into Arabic and other languages and its dissemination.
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II.E INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION - INFO/RAC

Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:

1. To approve and support the Centre which should provide support to MAP and its components in addressing priority information and communication requirements in the implementation of their programme of work.
2. To support the Centre in the establishment of links with national authorities and organizations in the field of information and communication to enable the Centre to develop a MAP information system.
3. To support the dissemination of the video produced for the 30th anniversary of the Barcelona Convention on national television in Mediterranean countries.

Request the Secretariat (INFO/RAC):

1. To develop a process for the establishment of a common information management infrastructure (MAP Info) that facilitates and supports IC activities across MAP, including the management and periodic upgrading of the UNEP/MAP website, the MED POL Info System and the MAP reporting system.
 2. To establish bilateral partnerships with non-governmental organizations and other actors concerned with promoting public participation and raising awareness of the objectives and activities of MAP and the Barcelona Convention.
 3. To organize the Mediterranean Environmental Award as an annual event, ensuring maximum positive media/public exposure for the Award, MAP and the priority environmental concerns of the Mediterranean basin.
 4. To facilitate workshops and related activities for the preparation of a strategic information and communication strategy including existing information and earth observation data in accordance with Group on Earth Observations (GEO) recommendations, in the context of MSSD, ensuring convergence with the MAP Info design process and related recommendations.
 5. To provide technical assistance in the drafting and implementation of an information and communication plan to the country selected to host the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to ensure the most effective use of available IC tools, information resources etc, including the implementation, management and promotion of an official Contracting Parties website.
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ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2006-2007

SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005	2006	2007
I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS				
1. COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece				
- Secretariat's Personnel and Operating Costs	683,351	651,616	609,448	609,449
- MEDPOL Personnel	374,496	381,657	396,349	398,993
- Operating Costs covered by the Greek Counterpart Contribution	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000
2. MEDPOL COOPERATING AGENCIES	244,418	245,872	244,023	246,268
3. REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)	650,148	640,227	727,631	688,050
4. BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)	551,100	557,700	551,235	585,635
5. PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)	422,400	433,400	452,800	467,600
6. SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)	360,000	360,000	373,825	388,481
7. INFO/RAC	0	0	0	0
8. CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)	0	0	0	0
SUB-TOTAL	3,725,912	3,710,472	3,795,311	3,824,475
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS*	427,169	425,161	436,190	439,982
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS	4,153,081	4,135,633	4,231,501	4,264,456

* The Programme Support Costs of 13% is not charged to the Greek Counterpart Contribution.

ACTIVITIES:

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005	2006	2007
II. ACTIVITIES				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	731,540	647,277	732,686	678,460
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	1,155,903	1,130,903	1,074,720	1,054,780
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	372,903	309,403	397,278	320,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	422,396	423,696	349,496	326,596
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	306,902	277,901	319,870	338,262
SUB-TOTAL	2,989,644	2,789,180	2,874,050	2,718,098
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (13%)	337,106	311,046	323,509	303,235
TOTAL ACTIVITIES FUNDED	3,326,750	3,100,226	3,197,559	3,021,333

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005	2006	2007
A. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF (excluding the EC voluntary contribution)				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	659,540	554,277	661,186	584,960
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	1,121,903	1,063,903	1,007,500	1,021,000
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	222,903	199,403	227,278	190,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	189,103	190,903	173,703	122,803
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	223,402	207,901	231,590	226,542
SUB-TOTAL	2,416,851	2,216,387	2,301,257	2,145,305
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (13%)	311,331	285,270	297,733	277,460
TOTAL ACTIVITIES FUNDED THROUGH THE MTF	2,728,182	2,501,657	2,598,990	2,422,765

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005	2006	2007
B. ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EC VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION				
1. PROGRAMME COORDINATION	72,000	93,000	71,500	93,500
2. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL	34,000	67,000	67,220	33,780
3. PROTECTION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	150,000	110,000	170,000	130,000
4. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES	233,293	232,793	175,793	203,793
5. INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	83,500	70,000	88,280	111,720
SUB-TOTAL	572,793	572,793	572,793	572,793
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS (4.5%)	25,776	25,776	25,776	25,776
TOTAL ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE EC VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION	598,569	598,569	598,569	598,569

**AGGREGATE BUDGET COVERING ACTIVITIES , ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS
FOR THE COORDINATING UNIT AND THE CENTRES (in Euro):**

	Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
	2004	2005	2006	2007
COORDINATING UNIT, Athens, Greece				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	731,540	647,277	732,686	678,460
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	1,497,846	1,473,273	1,445,797	1,448,441
TOTAL	2,229,386	2,120,550	2,178,483	2,126,901
MEDPOL				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	815,000	820,000	861,220	783,780
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS MEDPOL COOPERATING AGENCIES	244,418	245,872	244,023	246,268
TOTAL	1,059,418	1,065,872	1,105,243	1,030,048
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	320,903	290,903	213,500	271,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	650,148	640,227	727,631	688,050
TOTAL	971,051	931,130	941,131	959,050
BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	283,402	245,901	253,870	245,362
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	551,100	557,700	551,235	585,635
TOTAL	834,502	803,601	805,105	830,997
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	379,896	389,696	349,496	353,496
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	422,400	433,400	452,800	467,600
TOTAL	802,296	823,096	802,296	821,096
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	392,903	329,403	397,278	320,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	360,000	360,000	373,825	388,481
TOTAL	752,903	689,403	771,103	708,481
INFO/RAC				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000
CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)				
TOTAL ACTIVITIES	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0
PROGRAMME SUPPORT COSTS	764,275	736,207	759,699	743,217
GRAND TOTAL	7,479,831	7,235,859	7,429,060	7,285,790

SOURCES OF FINANCING (in Euro):

	2006	2007
A. Income		
MTF Contributions	5,557,277	5,557,277
Greek Counterpart Contribution	440,000	440,000
UNEP Counterpart Contribution	16,580	16,580
Total Contributions	6,013,857	6,013,857
Unpaid Pledges for 2004/05 and prior years (average estimate)	1,100,000	
Bank Interest 2005-2006 (estimate)	390,000	
Total expected income	13,517,713	
B. Commitments		
Commitments	6,096,568	5,969,780
Programme Support Costs	733,924	717,441
Total commitments	13,517,713	

	2006	2007
A. Income		
Voluntary Contribution of EC	598,568	598,568
B. Commitments		
Activities funded through the EC Voluntary Contribution	572,793	572,793
Programme Support Costs (4.5 %)	25,776	25,776
Total commitments	598,569	598,569

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2006-2007:

Contracting Parties	%	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2005 (in €)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2006 (in €)	Ordinary Contributions to MTF for 2007 (in €)
Albania	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Algeria	1.05	58,163	58,163	58,163
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.30	16,619	16,619	16,619
Croatia	0.97	53,730	53,730	53,730
Cyprus	0.14	7,755	7,755	7,755
EC	2.49	138,483	138,483	138,483
Egypt	0.49	27,143	27,143	27,143
France	37.85	2,103,262	2,103,262	2,103,262
Greece	2.80	155,653	155,653	155,653
Israel	1.47	81,427	81,427	81,427
Italy	31.27	1,737,670	1,737,670	1,737,670
Lebanon	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Libya	1.96	109,124	109,124	109,124
Malta	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Monaco	0.07	3,877	3,877	3,877
Morocco	0.28	15,511	15,511	15,511
Serbia and Montenegro	0.32	18,000	18,000	18,000
Slovenia	0.67	37,113	37,113	37,113
Spain	14.94	830,337	830,337	830,337
Syria	0.28	15,511	15,511	15,511
Tunisia	0.21	11,632	11,632	11,632
Turkey	2.24	124,634	124,634	124,634
Sub-total	100.00	5,557,277	5,557,277	5,557,277
Host Country(Greece)		440,000	440,000	440,000
UNEP Environment Fund		22,000	16,580	16,580
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		6,019,277	6,013,857	6,013,857

Estimated Counterpart Contributions in Cash/Kind of Contracting Parties hosting Regional Activity Centres and of the U.N. Agencies participating in the MEDPOL Programme. The amounts have been provided to UNEP by the respective Centres and Agencies.

Countries		2006 (,000 €)	2007 (,000 €)
Croatia	PAP/RAC	160	145
France	BP/RAC	718	718
Italy	INFO/RAC	1,000	1,000
Malta	REMPEC	70	70
Spain	CP/RAC	650 *	650 *
Tunisia	SPA/RAC	90	90
U.N. Agencies			
WHO	MED POL	90	90
IAEA	MED POL	200	200

* Tentative figures, subjected to the approval of the Spanish Government that supports directly CP/RAC activities.

I. COORDINATION**I.A.1 LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2006				2007			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
Legal Assistance to the Secretariat	MEDU	12,000				12,000			
Assistance to countries to develop their national legislation and national enforcement of control mechanisms in line with the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and the adopted protection measures, and reporting	MEDU	20,000				20,000			
Implementation and Compliance Working Group/Working document	MEDU		11,000				11,000		
Liability and Compensation/Working document	MEDU	8,000				8,000			
Assistance to countries to develop their reporting system	MEDU	40,000		20,000		10,000			
Reporting System Working document and Database	MEDU	10,000				10,000			
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		90,000	11,000	20,000	0	60,000	11,000	0	0

I.A.2 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Evaluation of MAP and follow-up	MEDU	20,000		*	20,000		*
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0

* External funding to be sought.

I.A.3 MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development: follow up, pilot actions and support to countries and partners	MEDU	20,000	30,000	100,000 *	20,000	30,000	40,000
Implementation of the MCSD "thematic" programme of work: follow up of recommendations and support to countries and partners	MEDU	19,965	10,500	30,000	19,965	10,500	30,000
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		39,965	40,500	130,000	39,965	40,500	70,000

* Financial support expected from Spain/Azahar Cooperation Programme for the preparation of NSSD in four Mediterranean countries.

I.A.4 COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Support to non-governmental organisations and other major actors	MEDU	50,000	11,000		33,000	33,000	
Promotion of regional cooperation	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		60,000	11,000	0	43,000	33,000	0

I.A.5 MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED WITHIN THE MAP FRAMEWORK

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Regional Workshop and working sessions on the preparation and implementation of the NSSDs and follow up of MSSD implementation	MEDU	30,000		50,000 *		20,000	40,000
Meetings of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)-one per year	MEDU	40,000		60,000 **	45,000		50,000 **
Meetings of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (one per year)	MEDU	20,000		10,000	20,000		10,000
Meetings of the Bureau (two per year) to review the progress of the Action Plan, advise the Secretariat on matters arisen since the meeting of Contracting Parties, and decide on programme/ budget adjustments	MEDU	50,000			30,000		
Meeting of the MAP National Focal Points to consider the progress of the Action Plan and the 2008-9 programme budget followed by the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to review and approve the 2008-9 programme budget	MEDU				100,000		***
Meeting of the Regional Activity Centres' Directors and the Coordinating Unit for programming and coordination of MAP activities (two per year)	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Consultation meetings of experts on Liability and Compensation	MEDU	20,000			30,000		
Meetings of the working group on implementation and compliance	MEDU	20,000			20,000		
Meeting on reporting system	MEDU	30,000			30,000		
Presentation Conferences for CAMP projects (participation of RACs)	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Provision for unforeseen costs related to the organisation of Meetings	MEDU	10,000			10,000		
Extraordinary Meeting of the MAP Focal Points	MEDU			100,000			
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES	MEDU	240,000	0	220,000	305,000	20,000	100,000

* Financial support expected from Spain/Azahar Cooperation Programme for a Regional Workshop on NSSDs.

** Financial support expected from Host Country (at least two-thirds of MCSD meeting cost from EU countries and one-third from other countries).

*** The host country of the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties is expected to provide the overall cost.

I.A.6 INFORMATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Preparation, editing, translation, printing and dissemination of MAP reports, including the upgrading of the MAP website	MEDU	55,000			55,000		
Preparation and printing of information material for the public and the press	MEDU	23,221			15,000		
Preparation, translation, printing and dissemination of the MAP magazine MedWaves (Arabic, English and French)	MEDU	35,000			25,000		
Workshops for Mediterranean Communication Professionals on MAP fields of activity	MEDU	30,000					
Events and material to promote MAP visibility and to commemorate the 30 year Anniversary of the adoption of the Barcelona Convention	MEDU	10,000					
Support to Information and Communication Activities and Public Awareness through the Media	MEDU	30,000					
Assistance to countries for the promotion of Public Participation (implementation of Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention)	MEDU	5,000			2,995		
Preparation and printing of MAP Technical Reports Series (MTS)	MEDU	7,000			3,000		
Library Services	MEDU	5,000			5,000		
SUB-TOTAL ACTIVITIES		200,211	0	0	105,995	0	0

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)							
		2006				2007			
		MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT	MTF	UNEP	EC	EXT
TOTAL ACTIVITIES COORDINATION		650,186	11,000	71,500	350,000	573,960	11,000	93,500	170,000

II. COMPONENTS

II.A POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
A. LAND BASED POLLUTION: <u>Implementation of SAP/LBS Protocol</u>							
Assistance to countries for the implementation of NAPs including capacity building	MEDPOL	35,000	33,220	10,000 (a)		21,780	10,000 (a)
Assistance to countries to facilitate transfer of technology for the implementation of NAPs	MEDPOL	20,000		5,000 (a)	20,000		
Feasibility study of the application of the principle of burden sharing in pollution reduction	MEDPOL	10,000		5,000 (a)	10,000		20,000 (a)
Preparation and implementation of mechanisms for the financial sustainability of SAP	MEDPOL	10,000		20,000 (a)			
Preparation of Regional Plans for pollution reduction	MEDPOL	40,000			10,000		
Preparation of documents/guides for the appropriate management of municipal waste water (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	30,000		8,000 (b)	30,000		
Assistance to countries for the environmentally sound management of municipal sewage (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	14,000			20,000		
Assistance to countries for the implementation of marine litter management Guidelines	MEDPOL	10,000		10,000 (a)	10,000		10,000 (a)
Pilot projects on energy efficiency and renewable energy in the framework of SAP	MEDPOL	10,000		20,000 (c)	10,000		
Review and assessment of the monitoring programme as tool for the SAP implementation	MEDPOL	10,000		5,000 (a)			
Assistance to countries for the formulation/implementation of national monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	130,000			130,000		
Assistance to countries for formulation and implementation of Eutrophication monitoring programmes	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Preparation of updated assessment of eutrophication	MEDPOL	10,000					
Launch of baseline surveys at the sub-regional scale	MEDPOL	25,000		40,000 (c)	25,000		40,000 (c)
Data Quality Assurance (chemical parameters) (IAEA/MEL)	MEDPOL	110,000			110,000		
Data Quality Assurance (Bio-monitoring)	MEDPOL	15,000			15,000		
Assistance to countries for the preparation of beach profiles and other activities related to bathing water criteria (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	20,000		10,000 (b)	30,000		10,000 (b)
Preparation of updated assessment of shellfish growing waters (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	12,000					

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Assessment of health-related risks associated to tourist establishments (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	12,000			20,000		7,000 (b)
Maintenance of MED POL database and preparation of Information System	MEDPOL	15,000		30,000 (d)	10,000		20,000 (d)
Studies and research on emerging issues related to marine pollution	MEDPOL	30,000			20,000		
Assistance to countries for environmental inspection systems (WHO/MED POL)	MEDPOL	25,000		10,000 (a)	15,000		
Finalization of SAP Reporting System	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
Assistance to countries for the launch of PRTRs	MEDPOL	20,000			10,000		
Training and Fellowships	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Development of marine pollution indicators	MEDPOL	18,000	22,000				
Dumping Protocol Preparation of assessment of dumping of ordonance	MEDPOL	10,000					
Assistance to countries for the implementation of Dumping Protocol & its guidelines	MEDPOL	25,000			7,000		
Hazardous Wastes Protocol Launching of pilot projects for the management of hazardous wastes	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Coordination and policy MED POL National Coordinators Meeting	MEDPOL				40,000		10,000 (c)
Preparation of operational details of MED POL Phase IV	MEDPOL	20,000			20,000		
Ad hoc Meeting of MEDPOL National Coordinators to discuss MED POL Phase IV operational aspects, information system and elements for future legally-binding text on measures and timetables	MEDPOL				20,000		40,000
Project on the application of the ecosystem approach	MEDPOL	10,000		60,000 (e)	10,000		20,000 (e)
Preparation of elements for the future legally binding SAP	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		
Government-designated Meeting of Experts to review implementation of monitoring activities	MEDPOL				40,000		10,000 (c)
Meeting of Network on compliance & enforcement (WHO/MEDPOL)	MEDPOL				40,000		10,000 (c)
Regional Workshop on marine litter management	MEDPOL	10,000		40,000 (f)			
Regional Workshop on financial sustainability of SAP	MEDPOL	10,000		40,000 (f)			
Assistance to countries to facilitate ratification of LBS, Dumping and Hazardous Waste Protocols	MEDPOL	10,000			10,000		

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
B. SEA BASED POLLUTION <u>Pollution Prevention/Control</u> Preparation by consultants of a study concerning the level of enforcement in the Mediterranean region of international regulations concerning prevention and control of operational pollution (Complementing SAFEMED)	REMPEC	16,000					
Development of comprehensive guidelines for the application of principles underlying the sustainable development and respect for the environment by pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea	REMPEC	14,000					
Assistance to individual countries on specific issues (Ballast water, AFS, PSSAs, etc.), upon their request	REMPEC	10,000			10,000		
Preparation by consultants or consultancy firms of national legal acts, contingency plans, equipment lists, proposals for national spill response centres, training programmes, and other related technical or legal documents	REMPEC	23,000			20,000		
Provision by consultants or consultancy firms of requested advisory services to individual countries or groups of countries, aimed at development, improving and maintaining their local, national and sub-regional systems and operational agreements for prevention of, preparedness for and response to marine pollution incidents	REMPEC	20,000			13,000	12,000	
Development and upgrading of technical and decision support tools, in particular sensitivity maps, spill forecasting models and databases	REMPEC	3,000	12,000				
Maintaining the level of preparedness of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU), for assisting the CPs in case of emergency	REMPEC	1,000					
Development of REMPEC information system (website, interactive databases)	REMPEC	13,500			12,000		
Organization and delivery of a regional workshop on places of refuge for ships in distress (Complementing SAFEMED)	REMPEC	40,000					
Organization and delivery of a regional training activity on 2001 Bunker Convention (Complementing SAFEMED)	REMPEC	40,000					
Organization and delivery of a regional training course / exercise (MEDIPOL/MEDEXPOL)	REMPEC				75,000		

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Organization and delivery of a regional workshop on regional partnership for enforcement of maritime regulations on operational pollution (Complementing CLEANMED)	REMPEC				30,000		
Support to the organization and delivery of a national training courses on oil spill response	REMPEC	8,000			7,000		
Support to the organization and delivery of national training courses on prevention of pollution from ships	REMPEC	8,000			7,000		
Participation in a full scale exercise involving deployment of equipment	REMPEC			*			*
Support to the organisation and delivery of a seminar for presentation of the results of the project on Arial and Satellite Surveillance of operational pollution in the Adriatic Sea (ASEOP)	REMPEC			*			
8th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points	REMPEC				80,000		
Meeting on guidelines for pleasure craft activities	REMPEC			*			
Meeting of Contracting Parties' representatives and potential donors to identify possible external sources of financing for the implementation of the Regional Strategy	REMPEC						*
Supporting the organization of joint activities aimed at revision, completion or updating of sub-regional operational agreements in the Mediterranean (Meeting of National Operational Authorities)	REMPEC	5,000			5,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		1,007,500	67,220	313,000	1,021,000	33,780	207,000

Note: (a) = GEF; (b) = WHO; (c) = Host country; (d) = INFO/RAC; (e) = EC;
(f) = GEF and host country

* External sources/ additional donors to be identified

II.B BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY-PROTECTED AREAS

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
<u>Implementation of Action Plans</u> Monk seal, Marine Turtles, Cetaceans, Marine vegetation, Cartilaginous fishes, Birds, Invasive species	SPA/RAC	60,000	105,000		10,000	95,000	
<u>Marine Protected Areas</u> Support to the countries for strengthening existing MPAs and creation of new MPAs Preparation of an "evaluation procedure" of the SPAMIs and evaluation test on two voluntary SPAMIs	SPA/RAC	53,000			35,000		
<u>Biodiversity Data Management:</u> Data collection : inventory of sites of conservation interest using the FSD and GIS Data management : improvement and development of RAC/SPA's directories and databases Data circulation : (i) Development of MedGIS for the management and exchange of data, and as a link in between the RACs of MAP (ii) Implement the regional Clearing House Mechanism and assist countries to develop their national CHM	SPA/RAC	40,000			35,000		
<u>SAP BIO</u> Implementation of the SAP BIO in the frame of PDF B Support countries to start the implementation of NAPs	SPA/RAC	44,278			40,000		
<u>Amendment of the Annex II and III of SPA Protocol</u> Finalize the criteria for adoption by the Contracting Parties and prepare an annotated format for proposal of amendments <u>Taxonomy:</u> (i) Support the preparation of new guides and/or update of existing guides (ii) Support the training in taxonomy (iii) Organize a Mediterranean workshop <u>Capacity Building:</u> Support training courses on the scientific and technical aspects of conservation of the natural heritage <u>Protection of coralligenous, other calcareous bio-concretions and corals:</u> (i) Identify the priorities with a group of experts (ii) Elaborate a work programme with concrete actions to be submitted to the next NFP meeting	SPA/RAC	30,000	65,000		10,000	35,000	
Meeting of SPAs National Focal Points	SPA/RAC				60,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		227,278	170,000	0	190,000	130,000	0

II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Systemic and prospective analysis of the coastal regions and the connected information systems. Contribution to the CAP of the MAP	BP/RAC		30,000			30,000	
<u>MAP CAMPs:</u> Co-ordinating role; implementation of ICAM activities in Cyprus, Slovenia and Spain; natural resources management; participatory programmes; data management; capacity building; environmental assessment; sustainable urban management; CCA for tourism; preparation of ICAM strategies, programmes and plans; implementation of economic instruments for coastal zone management as a follow-up to SAP MED; integration of activities; preparation of final integrated reports; preparation of bankable projects as a follow-up of CAMP activities; preparatory activities for CAMP projects in Morocco, and Serbia and Montenegro	PAP/RAC	14,207	115,793	600,000	6,207	123,793	600,000
Capacity building of stakeholders in CAMPs	PAP/RAC		20,000			20,000	
<u>ICAM:</u> Improvement and implementation of the internet-based open training course on ICAM (MedOpen); training documents, case studies, selection of candidates, helpdesk, discussion groups, basic and advanced courses, examinations; implementation of the Educom@Med master's degree course on integrated coastal area management	PAP/RAC	3,000			3,000		
Regional workshop to discuss and adopt the good practices guidelines on beach management in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC				23,000		
Regional workshop to propose measures to improve spatial planning in Mediterranean coastal areas	PAP/RAC				25,596		
Implementation of the Strategy on integrated coastal management and CAMPs in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC		10,000		10,000		
Preparation of the final text of the Protocol for ICAM through a series of expert meetings and stakeholder forums	PAP/RAC	40,000		60,000		30,000	70,000
Assistance to Mediterranean countries in application of ICAM and ICARM methodologies: application/development of tools and instruments for ICAM - marine spatial planning, SEA, coastal hazard assessment and risk management, coastal information systems, land and sea use planning systems, vulnerability studies	PAP/RAC	20,000		30,000	20,000		30,000
Preparation of the good practices guidelines for beach management in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC	10,000					

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Preparation of the analysis of the spatial planning systems in Mediterranean coastal regions	PAP/RAC	15,000					
Assistance to Mediterranean countries in preparing their national reports on coastal management (Albania, Croatia, Egypt)	PAP/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Implementation of SMAP (EU project on ICZM); raising awareness, enabling implementation of activities*	PAP/RAC	25,300	*	300,000			
Implementation of thematic studies with a view to development and application of landscape management methodologies and tools in Mediterranean coastal areas	PAP/RAC	15,000					
Update and improvement of the Regional clearing house mechanism for documentation, information dissemination and awareness on coastal area management initiatives in the Mediterranean countries	PAP/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Regional training to introduce methodologies and tools for landscape management; landscape planning, vulnerability studies, landscape typology	PAP/RAC	21,196		15,000			
National Focal Points Meeting of PAP/RAC (jointly with INFO/RAC and BP/RAC)	PAP/RAC				25,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		173,703	175,793	1,005,000	122,803	203,793	700,000

* Pending decision EU.

II.D INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
<u>Integrating Environment and Development. Indicators and Policies</u> Training courses and support mission / Training in the countries	BP/RAC	62,000			20,000		
<u>National evaluations (indicators and policies)</u> In the priority themes (Water, Energy, Rural Development) and Regional expertise	BP/RAC	36,000	36,000	36,242	30,000	30,000	
Experts meeting on the priority themes	BP/RAC	36,000				36,000	
<u>Regional Workshop</u> on water demand management	BP/RAC				5,700	25,720	60,000
SilvaMediterranea programme for the FAO	BP/RAC			45,000			45,000
<u>Indicators and Statistics</u> Coastal zones indicators selection and research. Coastal zones indicators selection and research in connection with the other components of the MAP. Experts meeting.	BP/RAC		18,000		18,000		
Euro-Mediterranean project MEDSTAT Environment	BP/RAC			125,000			*
Feasibility study of a Maritime Transport Statistics Observatory in collaboration with REMPEC.	BP/RAC	5,000					
Contribution to the Safe Med project head by REMPEC	BP/RAC			*			*
<u>Communication, translation and valorisation of the by-products</u> Conception, translation and publishing of communication supports (policy briefs, dossier, web sites) and dissemination	BP/RAC	16,590	14,280	20,000	14,942		
BP/RAC Focal Points Meeting	BP/RAC				35,000		
Implementation of the recommendations of the MCSD Working Group on Urban Management and SD: awareness raising, regional exchange of experience	PAP/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Assistance to countries in implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)	PAP/RAC	5,000			5,000		
Assistance to countries in development and preparation of strategies and management plans to combat land degradation (e.g. soil erosion/desertification control)	PAP/RAC		20,000			20,000	
Regional TC on application of guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management in French	PAP/RAC				13,900		5,000

ACTIVITY	OFFICE	Approved Budget (in €)					
		2006			2007		
		MTF	EC	EXT	MTF	EC	EXT
Regional TC to implement the Guidelines for Carrying Capacity Assessment for Sustainable Tourism in the Mediterranean	PAP/RAC				13,000		5,000
Workshop and activities for the identification of Mediterranean Community user-segments and needs and information retrieval from the "MAP Info System". Identification of a management system for the integration of environmental data collected through advanced GIS and remote sensing techniques	INFO/RAC	10,000		70,000 **	10,000		60,000 **
Execute a system design process to establish a common information management infrastructure (MAP Info) to facilitate and supports IC activities across MAP	INFO/RAC	10,000		80,000 **	10,000		40,000 **
Enhance and strengthen partnerships for promoting public participation and raising awareness of the objectives and activities of MAP and the Barcelona Convention	INFO/RAC	16,000		50,000 **	16,000		30,000 **
Execute and promote the Mediterranean Environmental Award as an annual event and ensure maximum and positive media/public exposure for the Award, MAP and the priority environmental concerns of the Mediterranean basin	INFO/RAC	20,000		250,000 **	20,000		250,000 **
Workshop and activities for the preparation of a strategic information and communication strategy for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development-MSSD. To support Blu Plan's effort for the dissemination of RED (translations, audiovisual products...)	INFO/RAC	10,000		50,000 **	10,000		20,000 **
Organise the National Focal Points Meeting of INFORAC (Italy) ***	INFO/RAC						50,000 **
Provide assistance to the Secretariat and to the country selected to host the COPs in the drafting and implementation of an information and communication plan; including the implementation, the management and promotion of the official Contracting Parties website	INFO/RAC						50,000 **
TOTAL ACTIVITIES		231,590	88,280	726,242	226,542	111,720	615,000

* Pending financing decision.

** Funds to be provided by the Italian Government.

*** The Joint FP meeting, to be cost-shared by the 3 RACs, is expected to be organized in Italy by INFO/RAC on behalf of the three RACs; however, the organization of such meeting depends on the relevant decision of the MAP FP.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS**1. COORDINATING UNIT (including MED POL), Athens, Greece**

	Approved Budget (in €)			Approved Budget (in €)			
	2005			2006		2007	
		MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP	MTF	GREEK CP
Professional Staff	m/m						
Coordinator - D.2	12	135,052		135,052		135,052	
Deputy Coordinator - D.1	12	136,007		-		-	
Programme Officer - P.4	12	96,528		96,528		96,528	
Admin/Fund Management Officer - P.4	12	*		*		*	
MEDPOL Coordinator - D1	12	120,921		129,405		129,405	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.4	12	98,652		98,652		98,652	
MEDPOL Programme Officer - P.4	12	90,156		90,156		90,156	
Information Officer - P.3	12	92,279		83,000		83,000	
Sustainable Development Officer - L.4/L.5	12	-		106,368		106,368	
Total Professional Staff		769,594		739,161		739,161	
Administrative Support (b)							
Meeting Services Assistant - G.7	12			*	*	*	
Senior Secretary - G.5	12		28,952		29,743		30,821
Administrative Clerk - G.5/G.6	12	*		*		*	
Computer Operations Assistant - G.6	12	*		*		*	
Budget Assistant - G.6 /G.7	12	*		*		*	
Administrative Assistant - G.6	12	*		*		*	
Library Assistant - G.6	12		32,556		37,046		37,557
Administrative Assistant - G.6	12		32,001	**		**	
Programme Assistant- G.5	12		26,521		31,539		32,617
Secretary - G.4/G.5	12		23,556		27,587		28,665
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.5	12	28,926		33,335		34,054	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	23,556		24,125		25,087	
Secretary (MEDPOL) - G.4	12	19,447		20,676		21,639	
Administrative Clerk - G.4/ G.5	12	*		*		*	
Administrative Clerk - G.4	12	*		*		*	
Information Assistant - G.5	12		24,116		27,138		28,216
Administrative Clerk - G.5	12	*		*		*	
Temporary Assistance***		10,000		10,000		10,000	
Training of MEDU Staff		10,500		10,000		10,000	
Overtime		8,750		8,000		8,000	
Hospitality		12,500		10,500		10,500	
Total Administrative support		113,679	167,702	116,636	153,053	119,280	157,876
Travel on Official Business		150,000		150,000		150,000	
Office Costs							
Rental			155,100		155,000		155,000
Other Office costs (including sundry)			117,198		131,947		127,124
Total Office costs		0	272,298	0	286,947	0	282,124
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		1,033,273	440,000	1,005,797	440,000	1,008,441	440,000

* Paid under Programme Support Costs.

** To be paid from Programme Support Costs.

*** For 2006, the post of Security Assistant will be funded with Euro 27,700 from the MTF revolving fund. UNHCR will contribute to the cost.

2. MED POL COOPERATING AGENCIES

		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2005		2006	2007
		MTF		MTF	MTF
Professional Staff		m/m			
WHO Programme Officer/Senior Scientist, MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) P.5	12	120,921	120,921	120,921	
Total Professional Staff			120,921	120,921	120,921
Administrative Support					
WHO Secretary MAP Coordinating Unit (Athens) G.5	12	28,926	33,760	34,389	
IAEA Laboratory Assistant MEL (Monaco) G.6	12	57,225	59,342	60,958	
IOC Temporary Assistance - IOC/HQ (Paris)		5,500			
Total Administrative Support			91,651	93,102	95,347
Travel on Official Business					
WHO (Athens)		15,000	15,000	15,000	
IAEA (Monaco)		15,000	15,000	15,000	
IOC of UNESCO (Paris)		3,300			
Total Travel			33,300	30,000	30,000
Office costs			*	*	*
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS			245,872	244,023	246,268

* Office costs incurred by WHO staff stationed in the Coordinating Unit in Athens are covered by the MED Unit office costs. Office costs incurred by all agencies at their own Headquarters or Regional Offices are covered by the respective agencies as part of their counterpart contributions.

3. **REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (REMPEC) Valletta, Malta**
Cooperating Agency IMO

		Approved Budget (in €)			
		Approved Budget (in €)		Approved Budget (in €)	
		2005	2006	2007	
		MTF	MTF	MTF	
Professional Staff	m/m				
Director - D.1	12	133,420	143,625	125,678	
Programme Officer (OPRC) – P5	12	120,921	124,669	105,169	
Programme Officer (MEP) - P4	12	88,031	87,051	88,887	
Programme Officer (PREV) - P4	12	85,998	92,894	94,730	
Programme Officer - P3 (1)	12	-	23,500	25,000	
Administrative Officer (P.1) (2)	12	22,166	-	-	
Programme Officer - L4 (3)	12	-	-	-	
Programme Officer - L3 (3)	12	-	-	-	
Administrator - L3 (3)	12	-	-	-	
Total Professional Staff		450,536	471,739	439,464	
Administrative Support (4)					
Administrative Assistant - G.7	*	-	9,283	9,750	
Information Assistant - G.7	12	19,834	23,193	23,193	
Assistant to the Director - G.7	12	16,320	19,467	19,937	
Clerk/Secretary - G.4	12	16,186	16,338	16,702	
Secretary - G.5	12	14,858	19,304	19,697	
Technical Assistant/Logistics - G.4	12	16,186	15,972	16,338	
Administrative Assistant - G.6 (3)	12	-	-	-	
Total Administrative Support		83,384	103,557	105,617	
Travel on Official Business		40,000	60,000	50,000	
Office costs		66,307	92,335	92,969	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		640,227	727,631	688,050	

- (1) Position financed by the Italian Ministry of the Environment, from its voluntary contribution to MTF for REMPEC (Euro 60,000/ year for three (3) years (2006-2008) with a possibility of extension on the condition that it would be utilised for the recruitment of a Programme Officer of Italian nationality. The difference which is required to cover the balance on salary for a P3 Officer is financed by MTF.
- (2) Although the post of Administrator will be financed from SAFEMED project in the years 2006-2008, the post of Administrative Officer (P1) as adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties will be retained "per memory" and the amount which was provided by MTF in 2004-2005 is utilized to cover the balance on salary for the P3 level post.
- (3) Post totally covered by the EC-SAFEMED project (2006-2008)
- (4) At the time the proposed budget was prepared a "salary survey" carried out by IMO and HR-UN NY was in progress. The outcome is expected to be presented to REMPEC in the third quarter of 2005. However, it is envisaged that the outcome might effect the general service staff salaries by +7% +8%.

**4. BLUE PLAN REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (BP/RAC)
Sophia Antipolis, France**

		Approved Budget (in €)		
		Approved Budget (in €)		
		2005	2006	2007
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff	m/m			
Director (a)	12	-		
Deputy Director (a)	12	-		
Environmental Economist	12	114,400	96,000	98,400
Territorial Analysis and Prospective Expert	12	93,500	77,100	79,000
Statistics and Indicators Expert (b)	12	61,600	66,700	91,100
Institutions and Environment Expert (b)	12	5,500	25,400	26,000
GIS, Data Base and Computing Expert (c)	12	-	-	-
Environment, Transport and Energy Expert (a)	12	-	-	-
Administrative and Finance Officer (b)	12	66,000	69,000	70,800
Cartography and computing Expert (c)	12	-	-	-
Water Expert (d)	12	-	-	-
Statistician, Project Manager (c)	12	-	-	-
Statistician, Deputy Project Manager (c)	12	-	-	-
Senior Expert, Project Manager for "Mediterranean Forests and Sustainable Development" project (a)	12	-	-	-
FAO Expert for "Mediterranean Forests and Sustainable Development" project (e)	12	-	-	-
Total Professional Staff		341,000	334,200	365,300
Administrative Support				
Data Collection Assistant/Senior Secretary	12	56,100	42,500	43,600
Bilingual Secretary/ Assistant to Head of office	12	56,100	49,000	50,100
Bilingual Secretary	12	-	39,300	40,400
Project Secretary (b)	12	-	-	-
Documentation Officer (a)	12	-	-	-
Temporary Assistance		17,600	4,000	4,000
Total Administrative Support		129,800	134,800	138,100
Travel on Official Business		37,400	31,486	31,485
Office and Operating costs		49,500	50,750	50,750
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		557,700	551,236	585,635

(a) Seconded or financed by the French Government

(b) Covered by other projects and funds

(c) Covered by other projects for 2006-2007

(d) Seconded by the Kingdom of Morocco

(e) Seconded by the FAO

5. PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)

Split, Croatia

		Approved Budget (in €)	Approved Budget (in €)		
		2005	2006	2007	
		MTF	MTF	MTF	
Professional Staff					
Director	m/m	12	60,500	63,500	66,500
Deputy Director		12	45,100	47,300	49,600
Total Professional Staff			105,600	110,800	116,100
Administrative Support					
Senior Assistant to Projects/Translator		12	31,900	33,500	35,000
Assistant to Projects/Translator		12	30,800	32,300	33,900
Assistant to Projects/Translator		12	30,800	32,300	33,900
Assistant to Projects/Translator		12	30,800	32,300	33,900
Administrative Assistant		12	30,800	32,300	33,900
Financial Assistant		12	30,800	32,300	33,900
Temporary Assistance			16,500	17,000	17,000
Total Administrative Support			202,400	212,000	221,500
Travel on Official Business			44,400	50,000	50,000
Office costs			81,000	80,000	80,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS			433,400	452,800	467,600

6. SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (SPA/RAC)
Tunis, Tunisia

		Approved Budget (in €)		
		Approved Budget (in €)		
		2005	2006	2007
		MTF	MTF	MTF
Professional Staff		m/m		
Director	12	37,950	39,847	41,839
Scientific Director	12	50,600	53,130	55,787
Expert	12	19,250	20,213	21,223
Expert	12	71,500	68,000	71,400
Expert	12		15,000	15,750
Expert	12		14,000	14,700
Administrative Officer	12	27,000	28,350	29,768
Total Professional Staff		206,300	238,540	250,467
Administrative Support				
Administrative Assistant	12	-	12,000	12,600
Bilingual Secretary	12	13,750	12,600	13,230
Bilingual Secretary	12	13,750	12,600	13,230
Driver	12	7,700	8,085	8,489
Finance Officer	12	2,200	3,000	3,000
Cleaner	12			
Caretaker	12			
Temporary Assistance		25,000	10,000	10,000
Total Administrative Support		62,400	58,285	60,549
Travel on Official Business		31,900	36,000	36,000
Office costs		59,400	41,000	41,465
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		360,000	373,825	388,481

7. INFO/RAC - Rome, Italy

	Approved Budget (in €)			
	2006		2007	
	MTF	ITALY	MTF	ITALY
Director General		90,000		90,000
Employees and Consultants		280,000		280,000
Legal and Administrative costs		40,000		40,000
Office costs		40,000		40,000
Travel on Official Business		50,000		50,000
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS		500,000		500,000

* Personnel and Operating Costs are fully funded under the counterpart contribution of Italy.

8. **CLEANER PRODUCTION REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (CP/RAC)**
Barcelona, Spain

	Approved Budget (in €)	
	2006	2007
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OPERATING COSTS	*	*

* Personnel and Operating Costs are fully funded by the Spanish Government.

ANNEX V

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 VI

**Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention
for the Protection of the Marine Environment and
the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean
and its Protocols
as at the end of July 2005**

Contracting Parties	Barcelona Convention 1/			Dumping Protocol 2/			Emergency Protocol 3/		New Emergency Protocol 4/	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	-	-
Algeria	-	16.02.81/AC	09.06-04	-	16.03.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	25.01.02	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-
Croatia	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	25.01.02	01.10.03
Cyprus	16.02.76	19.11.79	15.10.01	16.02.76	19.11.79	18.0703	16.02.76	19.11.79	25.01.02	-
European Commission	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	12.08.81/AP	25.01.02	25.06.04
Egypt	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AC	-	-
France	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	25.01.02	02.07.03
Greece	16.02.76	03.01.79	10.03.03	11.02.77	03.01.79	-	16.02.76	03.01.79	25.01.02	-
Israel	16.02.76	03.03.78	-	16.02.76	01.03.84	-	16.02.76	03.03.78	22.01.03	-
Italy	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	25.01.02	-
Lebanon	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	-
Libya	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	25.01.02	-
Malta	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	25.01.02	18.02.03
Monaco	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	25.01.02	03.04.02
Morocco	16.02.76	15.01.80	07.12.2004	16.02.76	15.01.80	05.12.97	16.02.76	15.01.80	25.01.02	-
Serbia & Montenegro*	-	16.07.2002	-	-	16.07.2002	-	-	16.07.2002	-	-
Slovenia	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	25.01.02	16.02.04
Spain	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	25.01.02	-
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	10.10.03	-	26.12.78/AC	-	-	26.12.78/AC	25.01.02	-
Tunisia	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	25.01.02	-
Turkey	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	-	04.06.03

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

* F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganized State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention.

Contracting Parties	Land-Based Sources Protocol 5/			Specially Protected Areas Protocol 6/		SPA & Biodiversity Protocol 7/		Offshore Protocol 8/		Hazardous Wastes Protocol 9/	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	10.06.95	26.07.01	-	26.07.01	-	26.07.01
Algeria	-	02.05.83/AC	-	-	16.05.85/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	12.06.92/SUC	-	-	12.06.92/SUC	10.06.95	12.04.02	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	17.05.80	28.06.88	12.10.01	-	28.06.88/AC	10.06.95	15.10.01	14.10.94	15.10.01	-	-
European Commission	17.05.80	07.10.83/AP	12.11.99	30.03.83	30.06.84/AP	10.06.95	12.11.99	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	18.05.83/AC	-	16.02.83	08.07.83	10.06.95	11.02.00	-	-	01.10.96	-
France	17.05.80	13.07.82/AP	16.04.01	03.04.82	02.09.86/AP	10.06.95	16.04.01	-	-	-	-
Greece	17.05.80	26.01.87	10.03.03	03.04.82	26.01.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Israel	17.05.80	21.02.91	-	03.04.82	28.10.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
Italy	17.05.80	04.07.85	07.09.99	03.04.82	04.07.85	10.06.95	07.09.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Lebanon	17.05.80	27.12.94	-	-	27.12.94/AC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	17.05.80	06.06.89/AP	-	-	06.06.89/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Malta	17.05.80	02.03.89	28.10.99	03.04.82	11.01.88	10.06.95	28.10.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	28.10.99
Monaco	17.05.80	12.01.83	26.11.96	03.04.82	29.05.89	10.06.95	03.06.97	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Morocco	17.05.80	09.02.87	02.10.96	02.04.83	22.06.90	10.06.95	-	-	01.07.99	20.03.97	01.07.99
Serbia & Montenegro*	-	16.07.2002	-	-	16.07.2002	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slovenia	-	16.09.93/AC	08.01.03	-	16.09.93/AC	-	08.01.03	10.10.95	-	-	-
Spain	17.05.80	06.06.84	17.02.99	03.04.82	22.12.87	10.06.95	23.12.98	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Syria	-	01.12.93/AC	-	-	11.09.92/AC	-	10.10.03	20.09.95	-	-	-
Tunisia	17.05.80	29.10.81	01.06.98	03.04.82	26.05.83	10.06.95	01.06.98	14.10.94	01.06.98	01.10.96	01.06.98
Turkey	-	21.02.83/AC	18.05.02	-	06.11.86/AC	10.06.95	18.09.02	-	-	01.10.96	03.04.04

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

* F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganized State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention.

1/ Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

The 1995 Amendments (Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean)

Adoption (Barcelona) 10 June 1995
Entry into force 9 July 2004
Status: Parties to the Amendments: 16

2/ The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

The 1995 Amendments (The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea)

Adoption (Barcelona) 10 June 1995
Not Yet in Force
Status: Parties to the Amendments: 14

3/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978
Status: Signatories: 15, Parties: 22

4/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Prevention and Emergency Protocol)

Adoption (Malta): 25 January 2002
Entry into force*: 17 March 2004, replacing the 1976 Emergency Protocol in accordance with Article 25(2)
Status: Signatories: 16, Parties: 7

5/ The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources (LBS Protocol)

Adoption (Athens): 17 May 1980
Entry into force*: 17 June 1983
Status: Signatories: 22, Parties: 22

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The 1996 Amendments (The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol))

Adoption (Syracuse): 7 March 1996

Not Yet in Force

Status: Parties to the Amendments: 13

6/ The Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)

Adoption (Geneva): 3 April 1982

Entry into force*: 23 March 1986

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 22

7/ The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)

Adoption (Barcelona): 10 June 1995

Entry into force*: 12 December 1999, replacing the 1980 SPA Protocol in accordance with Article 32

Status: Signatories: 17, Parties: 14

8/ Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol)

Adoption (Madrid): 14 October 1994

Not Yet in Force

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 4

9/ Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol)

Adoption (Izmir): 1 October 1996

Not Yet in Force

Status: Signatories: 11, Parties: 5

ANNEX VII
Statements

**STATEMENT BY DR CORRADO CLINI,
DIRECTOR GENERAL
Ministry for the Environment and Territory, Italy
Portoroz, 8 November 2005**

Minister Podobnik, Paul, Distinguished Delegates,

I am honoured and pleased to attend this important Conference hosted by the Government of Slovenia

First of all I wish every success to the new President of the Bureau. We have no doubt that Minister Podobnik will chair the Bureau of the Barcelona Convention in addressing the growing challenges facing the Mediterranean Sea and in particular in its very important task of implementing a concrete and effective Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

We are now witnessing a special moment. The concern for environmental issues is becoming more and more relevant. The integration between environmental protection measures and traditional social and economic policies, both at the national and international level, is valued as an essential tool for achieving the goal of a cleaner environment.

The Johannesburg Summit identified the objectives and programs for integrating the environmental dimension into development strategies, recognizing the positive and necessary role of the business community, to better link the economic development with the protection of the environment. It has forever ended the theory and practice of the conflict between environment and development.

Within this framework of international awareness, and thanks to its strategic position, Italy has taken the lead in bridging the European Union with the Mediterranean.

The biennium of Italian Presidency of the Barcelona Convention has been crucial in raising awareness among the Contracting Parties on the need of strengthening technological innovation and international environmental cooperation, by involving the business community, local communities, multilateral financial institutions and civil society, aiming at "sustainable" economic growth in Southern-Mediterranean Countries.

Tangible examples of the work carried out during these years, together with MAP Secretariat, are the coordination effort among the 21 Contracting Parties of the Convention for the design and approval of the "*Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development*" the launch, together with the World Bank and GEF of the "*Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea large Marine Ecosystem*", the financial support provided to MAP for the *external evaluation*, the entry into force of the *Emergency Protocol* and the *finalization of NAPs*.

Last but not least, the *refocusing of ERS/RAC* based in Palermo is extremely significant.

This year we are celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Mediterranean Action Plan; a new "era" for MAP and for the Mediterranean area is coming on. Therefore it become essential to understand how the MAP and its components can work more effectively in the changing international context .

We believe that the future MAP priority should be the "implementation" of the objectives indicated in the "Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development"(MSSD), such as improving water resources and sustainable use of energy. We can't consider the endorsement of the Strategy as an ending point but as a starting one. From here we have to move toward an hardest mission: the concrete implementation of the Strategy.

If not supported by concrete actions, the Strategy alone cannot fully guarantee the sustainable economic growth of Mediterranean countries. The Strategy itself in fact calls Countries, international institutions, private sectors and European Commission for *actions and practical projects to pursue sustainable development goals in each of the seven priority fields of actions identified.*

Italy has ready to contribute to the implementation of the “Energy” objective, that we consider a priority, trough the MEDREP Type II Initiative and invite the other countries, that are not yet parties of the Initiative, to join and collaborate with us.

In fact the energy consumption of Med Countries, which are highly dependent on fossil fuels, has more than doubled over the past 30 years.

In the past few years, Southern and Eastern countries in the Mediterranean region have registered a high demographic growth with a related increase in the energy demand. According to OME’s data, population in this region will increase to 323 million people by 2020. Urban population will go from 150 million in 2000 to 250 million by 2020.

In the MEDREP partnership we have already start to work in this direction: with OME and MEDREC Centre we have elaborated the “Outlook 2020” that provides an analysis of the RE in North African countries up to 2020. In addition to proposing a potential portfolio of RE projects, the Outlook highlights the most important issues these countries and the region need to confront in order to evolve on a sustainable development path and achieve the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) goals on the energy issues.

Of course, apart the Strategy, there are other important issue that we need to face in the coming years, such as the implementation of NAPs.

In order to give a new impetus to the Convention and to the MAP system in general we believe that it would be more focused on the implementation of concrete actions devoted to the promotion of technological innovation and international environmental cooperation, by involving the business community, local communities, multilateral financial institutions and civil society, aiming at “sustainable” economic growth in Southern-Mediterranean Countries.

We need to be flexible and capable of adapting the MAP to a multilateral context which is always in evolution: from the new initiative proposed by the EC on the de-pollution of the Mediterranean by 2020, to the GEF initiative Strategic partnership opportunities. There is consequently the necessity of MAP to join forces and establish partnership with other key institutions in the region such as the GEF, World Bank and EC.

The Italian Government has already begun working in this way trying to promote, both in the multilateral *fora* and bilaterally, the concept of partnership between national and international public institutions and private businesses.

Furthermore, the Italian Government has promoted many environmental cooperation initiatives - with Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro and Libya. They represent an important building block for the dialogue among diverse cultures in the framework of the common goal of sustainable development.

In spite of cultural differences, the effectiveness of our cooperation has been remarkable. All the initiatives we have launched and supported have been jointly designed with our partners, believing in the idea that we share common responsibility for the protection of our planet.

We have faced the challenge being conscious that Italy, as a G8 member Country, has major and more burdensome duties than the Southern-Mediterranean Countries. And we have chosen the principle of responsible solidarity as our guideline. This requires concrete actions to be put in place for the transfer of knowledge and for the strengthening of local governance capacity in the management of natural resources and the environment. In other words, we have committed ourselves to jointly create projects for long-term development.

In conclusion I hope these days will allow further and tangible progress in achieving sustainable development in the Region

**ANNEX VII
(continued)**

**OPENING SPEECH OF THE
MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA,
H.E. MR JANEZ PODOBNIK
Portoroz, 8 November 2005**

Distinguished Heads of Delegation and Delegates, representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organisations, dear Mr Mifsud and other representatives of UNEP/MAP, distinguished guests and lastly dear representatives of the press,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you here in the northernmost part of the Mediterranean, at the junction of the Alps and the Dinaride mountains, in the ecoregion of the Adriatic.

Due to the increasing pressures and influences on the marine environment, the life in the sea is becoming more and more endangered and as a consequence, the quality of life in its coastal regions is decreasing. We are aware that it is us, who have the responsibility for stopping the negative trends, and that is why we are searching for partners and forming alliances.

The Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP) has 30 years of experience in integrating nations and cultures for achieving a common goal along our common sea, and that goal is preserving good, that is healthy ecological state.

14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention has a very special mission: by adopting the Mediterranean Strategy of the Sustainable Development we are opening a new chapter for an enhanced regional cooperation: how we write it, depends on us, who are here present. And of course the way how to implement it.

To all of you I therefore wish a successful and productive work for the most effective action in the future, which will be to the benefit of all of us.

**ANNEX VII
(continued)**

**STATEMENT BY THE MAP COORDINATOR, MR PAUL MIFSUD,
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
14TH MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION
Portoroz, 8 November 2005**

Excellency Minister Podobnik
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

I would like first of all to congratulate you Minister Podobnik, for your election as Chairman of this meeting and as President of the Bureau. We at the Secretariat look forward to working with you together with the new members of the Bureau in the next biennium to implement the decisions that will be taken by this meeting.

I would also like to thank the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the local authorities in Portoroz, who are hosting us, for the excellent arrangements which have been made for our meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to us all. We are looking forward not only to four days of interesting discussions but also to an enjoyable stay in this beautiful country.

Speaking on a personal basis, it is indeed a great pleasure for me to address for the first time the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in my capacity as MAP Coordinator. It was a great honour for me to be appointed to the post. I hope that I will live up to your expectations and to fulfil the challenge that has been entrusted to me by the Executive Director of UNEP.

At the last Contracting Parties meeting in Catania the Secretariat and the different components of MAP were given a number of challenging tasks to carry out on the basis of recommendations which were approved at that meeting. Therefore I think it is appropriate to give a brief account of the most important results that have been achieved during the last two years.

The amended Barcelona Convention and the New Prevention and Emergency Protocol have entered into force in 2004. A Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development has been prepared. MAP and the European Commission have agreed on the text of a Joint Work Programme. The GEF Project for the determination of priority actions for the further elaboration and implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Mediterranean has been successfully completed and the new GEF Strategic Partnership has been approved. National Action Plans to address land-based sources of pollution have been prepared by all Mediterranean countries. The Strategy for the implementation of the New Prevention and Emergency Protocol has been finalized. The Report on Environment and Development has been published. Progress continued to be made in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for Biodiversity. A draft text of an ICAM Protocol has been prepared. The evaluations of MAP, ERS/RAC and CP/RAC have been carried out and a Mediterranean Environment Award has been organized.

Progress was also made with respect to the development of mechanisms for the implementation of other provisions of the Barcelona Convention including those dealing with liability and compensation, compliance and reporting.

At the same time partnerships continued to be developed and strengthened in particular with the European Commission as well as with other regional and global programmes and organizations including other UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs.

During today's session we shall discuss the programme of work for the next biennium on the basis of the recommendations you have before you and which have already been endorsed by the meeting of MAP Focal Points last September. These recommendations now need to be formally approved by this meeting.

As is customary during the Contracting Parties meeting, tomorrow we will have the Ministerial segment during which we will be discussing four important topics which were approved by the Bureau.

The first is the future orientation of MAP. Following the conclusion of the exercise for the external evaluation of MAP, which was carried out on the specific recommendation of the Catania meeting, it was felt that in preparation for the extraordinary meeting of MAP focal points which is being proposed for next year, the Contracting Parties should have the opportunity to express themselves on the future direction of MAP. The views expressed during the discussion will be basis of the terms of reference for the extraordinary meeting which should lead to the development of a new Vision and Strategic Direction for the next decade in order for MAP to be in a position to respond to the challenge of sustainable development in the Mediterranean taking into account recent developments at the international sub-regional and regional levels especially those within the EU. I have in mind in particular the Marine Strategy and the new EC initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean by 2020.

Following the development of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development which is being presented to this meeting for endorsement, the major challenge in the coming years will be its implementation in particular at the national level. Even it is a framework and non-binding strategy, this meeting should give its strong political support towards the implementation of the strategy's objectives, orientations and proposed actions.

Likewise you are being invited to endorse the National Action Plans to address pollution from land-based sources. The preparation of the NAPs was the ultimate objective of the Strategic Action Programme within the context of the implementation of the LBS Protocol. All countries have developed their National Action Plan. This is very important especially in view of the new Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Eco-system which has been approved by the GEF Secretariat.

The last item on the agenda of the Ministerial segment deals with a biodiversity issue. On the basis of the Action Plan for the Management of the Monk Seal you are also being invited to propose coordinated initiatives to safeguard the Mediterranean monk seal a rare species which is on the verge of extinction.

The work of these four days of discussion should be crowned with the adoption of the Portoroz Declaration which provides strategic objectives for the adoption of the MSSD, implementation of the NAPs, the future orientation of MAP and the conservation of the monk seal.

Mr. Chairman,

This Contracting Parties meeting comes at a particular moment in time. This year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Mediterranean Action Plan which was launched in Barcelona by sixteen coastal states that agreed to cooperate on a regional level to deal with common problems of marine pollution. Today, thirty years later, twenty one countries of the Mediterranean basin are Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention together with the European Community. The fact that after three decades this process is still going strong is an achievement in itself. MAP has shown that the countries in the region can work together for the benefit of the region and that the environment can serve as a unifying factor to take concerted action on common concerns. Every effort should be made to sustain this process, to enhance MAP's political clout, to make it more effective and relevant for the countries in the region and to strengthen the sense of friendship and cooperation that have always characterized the relationships within MAP.

I thank you for your attention and wish you a successful meeting.

Thank you.

**ANNEX VII
(continued)**

**SPEECH OF THE
MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA,
H.E. MR JANEZ PODOBNIK,
AT THE MINISTERIAL SEGMENT OF THE MEETING
Portoroz, 9 November 2005**

Dear Excellencies, Heads of Delegations and Delegates, Representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organizations, Dear Mr Mifsud and other UNEP/MAP representatives, Distinguished Guests and Journalists,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you here in the northernmost part of the Mediterranean Gulf, in the Adriatic ecoregion where the Alps and the Dinarides meet. This region represents a cross-roads of cultures, economies and states, as the renown Fernand Braudel once wrote:

“The Mediterranean is a thousand things together. Not a landscape but many landscapes. Not one sea but many seas. Not a civilization, but a series of civilizations one after the other. The Mediterranean is an ancient cross-road, for thousands of years everything has met into its waters, confusing but also enriching its history.”

The visionary initiative to establish the Mediterranean Action Plan and its thirty-year tradition no doubt represent a bright and important segment of the history we share. All the coastal states of the Mediterranean have united in the concern to preserve the healthy marine sources which are the foundation of regional economy and bear significant cultural implications (in the material, social and intellectual sense).

Regrettably, the maritime and coastal regions are more and more exposed to extensive changes due to increasing pressures and influences of the sector-oriented development. The quality of life is decreasing to the detriment of all who live there.

The above trends lead to the conclusion that the actual role which the Mediterranean Action Plan plays in the implementation of the Mediterranean states development policy is weak and definitely be stronger. Nevertheless, without the Mediterranean Action Plan the state of marine environment and the coastal regions would surely be poor, if not much degraded.

The fact is that the role of MAP is actually determined by the action of its members, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. It is us, gathered here at the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Portoroz, who are responsible for improving the previous approaches and practices.

Slovenia believes that consultation, co-operation and harmonization of development plans are the only way to achieve sustainable development paying attention to the use of common marine resources. Co-operation and comprehensive development plans at the sub-regional level are of key importance for the general development and progress of the region.

During its biennial presidency, Slovenia will therefore strive to strengthen co-operation at all levels in order to achieve sustainable development in the Mediterranean. We see great

opportunities in looking for the synergies in the field of comprehensive marine resource management. The quality of work done so far and the materials drafted in the framework of the UNEP/MAP process as well as the European Union programmes enable us to achieve those goals. Therefore, I believe that the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention taking place upon the 30th anniversary of UNEP/MAP and the EU summit coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership which is taking place at the end of November in Barcelona could be more than a mere coincidence. It is us, gathered here in Portoroz, who are responsible for the development breakthrough which will improve the quality of life at the Mediterranean coasts for us and for the future generations. I hope that the Portoroz Declaration will reflect the spirit for the necessary action.

I wish you successful work.

Thank you.

**ANNEX VII
(continued)**

**SPEECH OF DR VEERLE VANDEWEERD,
HEAD UNEP REGIONAL SEAS PROGRAMME AND UNEP/GPA COORDINATOR
ON BEHALF OF DR KLAUS TOEPFER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP
Portoroz, 9 November 2005**

Your Excellency, Minister Podobnik,
Your Excellencies, Distinguished Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Colleagues,
Good morning.

On behalf of Dr Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP and Under Secretary General of the United Nations, it is my pleasure and honour to address the 14th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. Dr Klaus Toepfer has asked me to convey to you his greetings and best wishes for a successful meeting. It was his great desire to be here with you on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Mediterranean Action Plan, which he considers as a beacon and agenda-setter for the other Regional Seas, but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, he cannot be present. He asked me to convey to you his sincere apologies.

May I, first of all, congratulate you, Minister Podobnik, on your election as the President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and to thank you, and through you the Slovenian Government, for hosting this important meeting, I am sure that under your guidance, and that of the other Bureau members, the MAP Secretariat will succeed in making the next biennium a biennium to be remembered in the history of MAP. Indeed after 30 years, MAP is at a cross road: the next 2 years will be crucial in determining the future of MAP.

I will come back to this challenge later, but allow me first to express UNEP's, and my personal, sincere thanks and appreciation to the outgoing President, Dr Corrado Clini for his strong support to MAP during Italy's Presidency. I don't think that Dr Clini's engagement and leadership needs any explanation – it is well recognised, regionally and internationally. Dr Clini is a strong supporter and great friend of UNEP, a recognised and authoritative voice in the international environmental community and a relentless promoter of action, instead of words. Dr Clini, thank you.

Speaking in my capacity as Head of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme it is indeed a great pleasure for me to personally commemorate with you the 30 years of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Stefan Keskes was a teacher and a source of inspiration when I joined UNEP for the first time some 20 years ago. I am proud to be in his shoes now, 20 years later, and to have the opportunity and challenge to lead the global Regional Seas Programme to new horizons. There is no better place to start this than here in the Mediterranean where the Regional Seas Programme began. From the inception of the MAP in 1975 the Regional Seas have continued to grow. Now 140 countries are covered by 17 Regional Seas, the latest addition being the Caspian Sea. Indeed the Regional Seas can be proud of many achievements in the last 30 years, with the Mediterranean Region being a shining example.

But, there are challenges indeed. For quite some time the Regional Seas Programme was the pearl on the crown of UNEP. It was one of the first programmes of UNEP after its inception. Time has moved on. In 1972, at the Stockholm Conference, the challenge was to put environment on the agenda. In Rio, environment was on the agenda. The challenge was to make the crucial link between environment and development. In Johannesburg, nobody doubted any longer that environment is a prerequisite for sustainable development, and the challenge was – and still is – how to mainstream environment into all economic, social and development processes. In UNEP terms how to ensure: Environment for development.

Let us be honest. Regional Seas, though having spearheaded the early stages of UNEP's development, have not always been at the cutting edge of UNEP's growth: environment for development. That is the cross road we are at now: how to bring the Regional Seas into the 21st century, move it beyond the strictly environmental field into the sustainable development arena, without aiming at being all encompassing, and, by the very nature of being all encompassing, be so dispersed and diluted that no real impacts are achieved.

MAP has started the process some years ago. And hopefully the ministerial discussions at this meeting, based on the documentation available, will give a major push forward to – what we call “bringing the Regional Seas into the 21st century”.

Charting a new course is never an easy task. Environment is not synonymous with sustainable development, but sustainable development without environment is impossible. So how do the Regional Seas adopt to this new reality without overstressing their limited capacities? Where does the environment end? Where do the tasks of other ministries, such as those dealing with transport, tourism and energy start? You have in front of you a set of good documents that indicate a way forward, including the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development, which you might wish to adopt in the course of this meeting. The question before us is: How do we define the MAP contribution to the implementation of this region wide strategy? How do we define the limits and possibilities of what we are going to do in the next 10 years?

Another example of a strategic document in front of you is the evaluation of MAP, which contains valuable suggestions for its strengthening. MAP needs a new, realistic and enticing vision for its future development, taking into consideration that since its establishment many actors have joined the environmental field – often powerful actors with much more resources available to them than MAP. How does MAP interact with these other actors? How does it make maximum use of its comparative strength to guide in a coordinated fashion environmental activities for the whole of the Mediterranean basin? How does it ensure the maximum impact of the limited resources it has at its disposal? These are some of the questions you might wish to consider at this meeting. The Environment and Development report launched last week in Paris and produced by the Blue Plan certainly contains further food for thought, and started paving the way towards constructing such a realistic vision. It could be a starting point for your deliberations.

Putting these more conceptual reflections aside for a moment, there are many immediate issues to address. Despite the achievement of MAP and the other actors in the region, despite the great strides in environmental management made in all countries bordering the Sea, pollution levels are still high and coastal degradation continues. To address this, the EU launched a laudable initiative with the goal to de-pollute the Mediterranean by 2020. A great and most needed initiative, costly without doubts. MAP and its Secretariat could and should contribute to this initiative in a proactive and effective manner. One of the ways forward seems to be obvious. Building on the achievement of MED POL. Discussions are

ongoing in the GEF to start a new Strategic Partnership with a major focus on investments for pollution abatement – partnership with an Investment fund of over 75 million US \$, with the potential to leverage over 225 million in concrete investments. The new GEF project is about rehabilitating the Med Ecosystem, harnessing the strength of all partners to do so. The MAP Secretariat will need to play an active role in this project development and implementation, including the brokering of regional partnerships. MAP, just as all Regional Seas, has, in their cooperation with the GEF, to move beyond transboundary diagnostic analysis and Strategic action planning to being a real partner in investment and action.

From a global Regional Seas perspective we hope that MAP in this next GEF phase will take the lead and show the direction of the other Regional Seas. I trust that this paradigm shift in mode of operation will receive your support and endorsement and that you will have the time to discuss this next phase of this major GEF project in greater detail.

De-pollution has to stretch all the way from the hilltops to the oceans and starts on land. End of pipe solutions will no longer bring the required effect. Applying ecosystem approaches to management of human activities is one of the pillars of the EU Marine strategy, a strategy to which the MAP Secretariat contributed. Translating this strategy into action is the challenge ahead, taking into consideration the EUWFD, the EU programme on ICZM and the emerging EU maritime strategy. But also taking into consideration that a number of Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention are not EU member states and that without their participation and action, implementing the EU marine strategy will not have the hoped for impact and de-pollution will not be achieved. MAP as an established forum for regional cooperation could play a major brokering role.

In summary, Honourable ministers, MAP is not a crossroad. The global Regional Seas Programme is looking to this region for leadership, for moving the global Regional Seas Programme into the next phase. We realize that there are many challenges but also many opportunities. If this region does not succeed, which region can succeed?

We need a clear vision, shared by all actors in the region. We need to define our limits and boundaries and focus on targeted interventions. We need to use and develop the strength of the MAP, including as a policy forum, to come to joint action.

In October 2006, in Beijing, at the invitation of the Vice Premier of China, UNEP will convene the second intergovernmental meeting of the GPA – translated in Mediterranean terms, a global meeting related to the LBA Protocol. May I invite you all to take this occasion and to continue the discussion you started here in Portoroz to take stock of progress and communicate lessons learned with other regions. Indeed moving the GPA to the next level of implementation requires addressing many of the same questions I have put before you during these short introductory remarks.

MAP 30 years ago was the flagship programme of UNEP, I invite you to become the flagship programme again.

Thank you.

ANNEX VIII

List of Accredited Journalists

ALBANIA

Ms. Valbona KURTI

TV Arberia (Albanian National TV)

Address: Pallati i Madh i Kultures, Tirana , Albania

Tel.: [355] 682072091

Fax: [355] 4253972

E-mail: kurti_75@yahoo.com, valbonakurti@yahoo.com

ALGERIA

Ms. Olivia MARSAUD

El Watan

Address: 1, rue Bachir Attar, Algiers, Algeria

Tel.: [213] 21 661667

Fax: [213] 21 682187

E-mail: olivia@afrik.com

Website: www.elwatan.com

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Mr. Alen JAZIC

RTV Visoko

Address: Hazima Dedic 33, Visoko 71300, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Tel.: [387] 32 738644

Fax: [387] 32 738644

E-mail: jazicus@yahoo.com

Website: www.rtv-visoko.ba

Ms. Maja RENER

Nezavisne Novine

Address: Zagrebacka 20, Sarajevo 71000, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Tel.: [387] 33 716830

Fax: [387] 33 716860

E-mail: majki_r@yahoo.com; dnnipcsa@bih.net.ba

Website: www.nezavisne.com

CROATIA

Ms. Marina SERIC

Vecernji List newspaper

Address: Slavonska avenija 4, Zagreb 10000, Croatia

Tel.: [385] 1 6300438

Fax: [385] 1 6300676

E-mail: marina.seric@vecernji.net; marinaseric@inet.hr

Website: www.vecernji-list.hr

EGYPT

Ms. Mervat FAHD-SHAFEK-TADROUS

Al Ahram Al Arabi

Address: Al Ahram new building (4th floor), Galaa street, Cairo, Egypt

Tel.: [20] 2 5797869

Fax: [20] 2 5797867

E-mail: Mfahd20@hotmail.com

Ms. Shahira MOHAMED-AHMED-AMIN

Nile TV International

Address: 12 el nahda street, Maadi, Cairo , Egypt

Tel.: [20] 2 3592828

Fax: [20] 2 5794827

E-mail: shahira_amin@yahoo.com

Ms. Somaya SAAD-EL-DINE-EL-WALILY

Al Akhbar newspaper

Address: 5 Ali El Gindy St., Nasr City, Cairo , Egypt

Tel.: [20] 2 5807336/26

Fax: [20] 2 5782510/20

E-mail: somaya.saadeldin@gmail.com

FRANCE

Ms. Anne BAUER

Les Echos

Address: 46 rue de la Boétie, Paris 75008, France

Tel.: [33] 1 49536573

Fax: [33] 1 49536807

E-mail: abauer@lesechos.fr

Website: www.lesechos.fr

Mr. Bojan KAVCIC

Agence France Presse (AFP)

Tel.: [386] 1 2696300

Fax: [386] 1 2696300-20

E-mail: marsiboj@siol.net, bojan.kavcic@afp.com

GREECE

Mr. Harry VAN VERSENDAAL

Kathimerini English Edition

Address: Ethnarhou Makariou & 2 Falireos, Athens 18547, Greece

Tel.: 210 4808459

Fax: 210 4808460

E-mail: versendaal@ekathimerini.com

Website: www.ekathimerini.com

ISRAEL

Mr. Asaf SELINGER

Maariv

Address: 14 Hilel St., Jerusalem , Israel

Tel.: [972] 2 6251151

Fax: [972] 2 6249652

E-mail: selinger@maariv.co.il

Mr. Zafrir RINAT

Haaretz daily newspaper

Address: Shocken Str. 21, Tel Aviv 61001, Israel

Tel.: [972] 3 5283859

Fax: [972] 3 6810012

E-mail: zafrirr@haaretz.co.il

Website: www.haaretz.com

LEBANON

Mr. Khalil HARB

Assafir

Address: Hamra st., Assafir Building, Beirut , Lebanon

Tel.: [961] 1350005

Fax: [961] 1743602

E-mail: kharb@assafir.com

Website: www.assafir.com

Ms Mayssam ZAAROURA

Daily Star

Address: Marine Towers - 6th floor, Rue St. Famille, Gemmayze, Beirut , Lebanon

Tel.: [961] 1 587277

Fax: [961] 1 561333

E-mail: mayssam.zaaroura@dailystar.com.lb

Website: www.dailystar.com.lb

MALTA

Ms. Daphne CASSAR

Public Broadcasting Services Ltd

Address: 75, St. Luke's Road, G'Mangia MSD 06, Malta

Tel.: [356] 22913523

Fax: [356] 21246691

E-mail: daphyc@gmail.com

Mr. Kurt FARRUGIA

Union Press - it-TORCA

Address: A41, Industrial Estate, Marsa , Malta

Tel.: [356] 21 242996

Fax: [356] 21 242996

E-mail: kurt.farrugia@journalist.com

Website: www.it-torca.com

Ms Vanya WALKER-LEIGH
Sunday Times Malta

Address: Allied Newspapers Ltd., Strickland House, St. Paul's Street, Valletta, Malta
Tel.: [356] 21241464
E-mail: vanyaluc@waldonet.net.mt; vanyawalkerleigh@gmail.com
Website: www.timesofmalta.com

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Ms. Andrijana VUKOTIC
Radio and Television of Montenegro

Address: Cetinjski put bb., Podgorica 81000, Serbia and Montenegro
Tel.: [381] 81 225137
Fax: [381] 81 225175
E-mail: andrijanapv@hotmail.com
Website: www.rtcg.org

SLOVENIA

Mr. Lado BANDELJ
Radio Koper

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5400
Fax: [386] 5 668 5409
E-mail: lado.bandelj@rtvslo.si
Website: www.rtvsl.si

Ms. Elen BATISTA-STADER
TV Koper

Address: Ulica 15. maja 10b, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 05 6680500
Fax: [386] 05 6685373
E-mail: elen.batista@rtvslo.si

Loris BRAICO
Regionalni TV Koper-Capodistria

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5335
Fax: [386] 5 668 5373
E-mail: Loris.braico@rtvslo.si
Website: www.rtvsl.si

Primoz CEPAR
Radio Koper

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5400
Fax: [386] 5 668 5409
E-mail: primoz.cepar@rtvslo.si
Website: www.rtvsl.si

Mr. Tomaz GERDEN

Radio Slovenija

Address: Tavčarjeva 17, Ljubljana 1550, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 475 2313
Fax: [386] 475 2399
E-mail: tomaz.gerden@rtvslo.si
Website: www.rtvlo.si

Ms. Katja GLESCIC

Primorske novice

Address: Ulica OF 12, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Fax: [386] 5 664 8110
E-mail: katja.glescic@prim-nov.si
Website: www.prim-nov.si

Ms. Barbara HREN

Slovenska Tiskovna Agencija (STA)

Address: Tivolska 50, Ljubljana 1000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 1 24 10 100
Fax: [386] 1 43 42 970
E-mail: Barbara.hren@sta.si; gospodarstvo@sta.si
Website: www.sta.si

Mr. Andrej KLEMENCIC

Slovenska Tiskovna Agencija (STA)

Address: Tivolska 50, Ljubljana 1000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 1 24 10 100
Fax: [386] 1 43 42 970
E-mail: Andrej.klemencic@sta.si
Website: www.sta.si

Mr. Franc KRANJC

Primorski utrip

Address: Obala 115, Portoroz 6320, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 6777 140
Fax: [386] 5 6777 139
E-mail: informa.portoroz@siol.net

Zlata KRASOVEC

Kmečki glas

Address: Zelezna c. 14, Ljubljana 1000, Slovenia
E-mail: zlata.krasovec@czd-kmeckiglas.si
Website: www.kmeckiglas.com

Ms. Alenka PENJAK

Primorske novice

Address: Ulica OF 12, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 664 8101
Fax: [386] 5 664 8101
E-mail: Alenka.penjak@prim-nov.si
Website: www.prim-nov.si

Mr. Marko RIHTER

Regionalni TV Koper-Capodistria

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5335
Fax: [386] 5 668 5373
Website: www.rtv slo.si

Mr. Edvard RIHTER

Regionalni TV Koper-Capodistria

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5335
Fax: [386] 5 668 5373
Website: www.rtv slo.si

Mr. Boris SULIGOJ

Delo - dopisništvo Koper

Address: Pristaniška 12, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 05 6112012
Fax: [386] 05 611 2020
E-mail: boris.suligoj@delo.si

Ms. Tatjana TANACKOVIC

Dnevnik - dopisništvo Koper

Address: Gortanov trg 14 a, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 05 6262626
Fax: [386] 05 6262605
E-mail: tatjana.tanackovic@dnevnik.si

Ms. Marica URSIC-ZUPAN

Primorske Novice

Address: Ulica OF 12, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 664 8101
Fax: [386] 5 664 8110
E-mail: marica.ursic-zupan@prim-nov.si
Website: www.prim-nov.si

Mr. Vlado ZAGORAC

Vecernji list

Address: Slavonska avenija 4, Zagreb 10000, Croatia
Tel.: [386] 1 63 00 444
E-mail: vzagorac@gmail.com
Website: www.vecernji-list.hr

Neva ZAJC

Radio Koper

Address: Ulica OF 15, Koper 6000, Slovenia
Tel.: [386] 5 668 5413
Fax: [386] 5 668 5413
E-mail: Neva.zajc@rtvslo.si
Website: www.rtv slo.si

SPAIN

Mr. Luis-Higinio LIDÓN-LEHNHOFF

Agencia EFE

Address: Laimgrubengasse, 10, Vienna 1060, Austria

Tel.: [34] 13684174

Fax: [34] 1368417474

E-mail: llidon@efe.com

Website: www.efe.es

TUNISIA

Ms. Najiba Bent Moncef BEN-DHAOU-KRIMI

Tunis Afrique Presse (TAP)

Address: 21, rue des violettes, Cité Ezzouhour, Tunis 2052, Tunisia

Tel.: [216] 71 597186

Fax: [216] 71 883261

E-mail: achrefasma@yahoo.fr

Assabah newspaper

Ms. Saida BOUHELAL

Address: Bd 7 Novembre, El Menzah, Tunis , Tunisia

Tel.: [216] 71 717222

Fax: [216] 71 717749

E-mail: bsaida73@yahoo.fr; redaction@assabah.com.tn

Website: www.assabah.com.tn

TURKEY

Mr. Ibrahim GÜNEL

Radikal Gazetesi

Address: Dogan Medya Center, Bagcilar, Istanbul 34204, Turkey

Tel.: [90] 212 5056584

Fax: [90] 212 5056583

E-mail: igunel@radikal.com.tr

Website: www.radikal.com.tr

Ms. Basak Emine SENGUL

CNN TÜRK

Address: Dogan TV Center, Haber Merkezi Kat:3, Bagcilar, Istanbul , Turkey

Tel.: [90] 212 4235702

Fax: [90] 212 4135850-1

E-mail: basaks@cnnturk.com.tr; eminebs@gmail.com

Website: www.cnnturk.com.tr

Ms. Nevin SUNGUR

NTV

Address: Eski Büyükdere Cad., Cad. No.61 - USO Center, Maslak, Istanbul 34398, Turkey

Tel.: [90] 212 2437541

Fax: [90] 212 3300035-6

E-mail: nevin.sungur@ntv.com.tr

Website: www.ntv.com.tr