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## **MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Meeting of the MAP Focal Points

Athens, Greece, 10-12 September 2013

**Proposal for updating the name of the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner  
Production according to its official mandate**

**Presented by Spain**



## **Proposal for updating the name of the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production according to its official mandate**

### **Presented by Spain**

#### **Actions requested**

1. NFP are invited to consider, discuss and recognize the factual background information provided in this document on the establishment, operation and mandate of the CP/RAC.
2. NFP are invited to consider and approve the conclusions presented in the document as deemed appropriate.
3. The Secretariat is invited to take into account the factual background information provided in the document and consider the conclusions as approved by National Focal Points (NFP) in the preparations for the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

#### **1. Key elements**

1.1 Since 1995 the CP/RAC has been performing actions under the umbrella of the Mediterranean Action Plan. These tasks were firstly focused, per request of the countries, on the promotion of cleaner techniques for production processes of Mediterranean companies.

1.2 However, throughout the years, countries through the Decisions taken at the meeting of Contracting Parties have requested CP/RAC to progressively extend its scope of action to a broader approach addressing sustainable development and covering Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP). That started to become evident in the 2001, 2003 and 2005 outcomes of the Meetings of Contracting Parties.

1.3 In COP 2008, countries approved for the first time a Specific Programme of work on SCP within the MAP Programme of Work for 2008-2009. The Programme of Work, approved by Decision IG 17/18 (Programme of Work and Programme Budget for the 2008- 2009 biennium), formally requested CP/RAC to develop SCP actions.

1.4 In COP 2008 the Contracting Parties agreed to open the MAP Programme Budget for 2008-2009 to the financing of the CP/RAC through the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) with a symbolic contribution of 1€. The subsequent meetings of Contracting Parties maintained this budget-line in their Programme-Budgets

1.5 In 2009, the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Barcelona Convention (COP) held in Marrakesh (Morocco) identified SCP as one of the six thematic priorities of MAP's Five-Year Programme 2010-2014 and approved the second SCP Programme of Work for 2010-2011. Likewise the meeting approved Decision IG 19/5 on the mandates of the MAP components including the mandate of the CP/RAC mainly on SCP.

1.6 In the last few years the Centre has undertaken a fund raising activity by virtue of which, and in collaboration with the Coordination Unit, the Centre has increased its technical support to the countries through external funding.

1.7 The increase of the Centre's responsibility and action, compared with its initial work programme, has required and will require in the future an increase of resources to cover the administrative costs associated with the management of the new activities and the implementation of the projects for the benefit of MAP and its Contracting Parties

1.8 Taking into account the shift of the action of the CP/RAC from the support to the introduction of clean technologies in the Mediterranean countries to also cover the broader field of promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean, it seems to be a logical step to update the name of the Centre to become the Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC).

## 2. Background

2.1 This chapter intends to provide factual background information about the establishment, operation and mandate of the CP/RAC.

### Establishment of the centre

2.2 During the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Barcelona in 1995, the countries accepted the proposal from Spain to establish the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production. It is important to note that the acceptance materialised through an agreement under the agenda item "any other business" in the summary record of the 1995 meeting of Contracting Parties.

#### **Paragraph 110 (under agenda item Other Business of the report COP 1995):**

*The meeting accepted the request by the Government of Spain that the "centro de Iniciativas para la Producción Limpia of Barcelona" become a RAC/CP in the Mediterranean Region under the umbrella of MAP. It noted that the centre would be wholly financed by Spain, which undertook to provide detailed information concerning the Centre to the Contracting Parties for their information, and to the forthcoming meeting of the Bureau for its consideration.*

2.3 In 1996 the objectives of the Centre presented by its Director and endorsed by the Contracting Parties were to disseminate information in Mediterranean countries on the concept of cleaner production, collaborate with other institutions in the region working in the same field and facilitate the transfer of technology and the adoption of a legal framework and practical measures.

#### **Paragraphs 45 and 46 (Under the agenda item of the report COP 1996: Proposed recommendations and programme budget for 1997 and contributions by the Contracting Parties to the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) for 1997):**

*45. Mr V. Macià, Director of the Cleaner Production/Regional Activity Centre (CP/RAC), introduced the relevant section of document Recommendations and Programme Budget for 1997 UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.8/4. The objectives of the Centre were to disseminate information in Mediterranean countries on the concept of cleaner production, collaborate with other institutions in the region working in the same field, facilitate the transfer of technology and the adoption of a legal framework and practical measures. A vital component of the Centre's work was the promotion of a network of national focal points on cleaner production. A first meeting would be held for National Focal Points in 1996 and a second was being planned in 1997. Collaboration with other national and regional centres and focal points was essential for the effective dissemination of information and transfer of technology.*

*46. The Coordinator of MAP added that the proposal by Spain to establish the Centre had been approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Barcelona in 1995, and the Centre had been authorized to present a programme of activities for 1997.*

### Operation of the Centre

2.4 Once the Centre was established, its actions firstly focused, per request of the countries, on the promotion of cleaner techniques for production processes of Mediterranean companies. In this context the Contracting Parties agreed on a set of activities as part of the Work Programme of the CP/RAC in 1996, 1997 and 1999.

2.5 However, throughout the years, countries have requested the CP/RAC to progressively extend its scope of action from the promotion of cleaner techniques in production processes to a broader approach addressing sustainable development and covering SCP tools. That started to become evident in the Decisions of COP 2001, 2003 and 2005, where countries agreed that MAP should play an active role at the regional level in the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI), SCP being one of its crosscutting objectives. This was declared by the Contracting Parties through the Mediterranean Declaration for the Johannesburg Summit, the Catania and the Portoroz Declarations.

2.6 For easy reference Annex 1 includes the Recommendations agreed by the Contracting Parties relevant to the CP/RAC Work Programme during the mentioned years (1996-2007).

2.7 In COP 2008, countries approved for the first time a specific Programme of Work on SCP for the period 2008-2009. The MAP Programme of Work and Budget approved by Decision IG 17/18 formally requested CP/RAC to develop SCP actions.

2.8 In that COP (2008), the Contracting Parties agreed to open the MAP Programme Budget for 2008-2009 to the financing of the CP/RAC through the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) with a symbolic contribution of 1€ per year. The subsequent meetings of Contracting Parties maintained this budget-line in the MAP Programme-Budgets.

2.9 In the last few years the Centre has undertaken a fund raising activity by virtue of which, and in collaboration with the Coordination Unit, the Centre has increased its technical support to the countries through external funding. This has required the Centre to extend its expertise and resources. The recent launching of the SWITCH-Med Project amongst other projects will provide CP/RAC with the necessary resources for activities that enable the Centre, within the framework of its mandate, to continue increasing the support and technical assistance to the countries.

2.10 However, the increase of the Centre's responsibility and action, compared with its initial work programme, has required and will require in the future an increase of resources to cover the administrative costs associated with the management of the new activities and the implementation of the projects for the benefit of MAP and its Contracting Parties.

## Mandate

2.11 The mandate of CP/RAC in the framework of MAP was formally endorsed by the COP 2009, where countries approved the mandates of the MAP components (*Mandates of the components of the Mediterranean Action Plan*, Decision IG.19/5):

### *Objective and mission:*

*The objective of CP/RAC is to contribute to pollution prevention and sustainable and efficient management of services, products and resources based on the SPC integrated approach adopted by UNEP. In this context, CP/RAC provides assistance to the Contracting Parties in implementing Article 4 of the Barcelona Convention, 1995, Article 5 of the LBS Protocol, 1996 and Article 5.2 of the Hazardous Waste Protocol, 1996 and Article 8 of the Offshore Protocol, 1994, in which sustainable production and consumption plays a crucial role, as well as the other Protocols in which the shift to sustainable production and consumption is key to attain their objectives. CP/RAC also provides assistance to the Contracting Parties in promoting and using mechanisms leading to sustainable patterns of consumption and production.*

### *Scope of action and key issues*

*The scope of action and key issues of CP/RAC are the following:*

- 1. contributing to creating knowledge for decision makers on the links between the patterns of consumption and production and the environmental degradation of the Mediterranean region;*
- 2. providing technical assistance to the public and private sector of Mediterranean countries for reducing land-based pollution, particularly harmful substances and hazardous waste, through the application of Best Available Techniques (BAT), Best Environmental Practices (BEP), Cleaner Production (CP), the IPPC principles and sound chemical management;*
- 3. boosting green competitiveness as a tool through which managers and industrialists drive Mediterranean small and medium enterprises to succeed in the global market;*
- 4. fostering mechanisms through which sustainable criteria are progressively introduced within the whole consumption-production system of organizations and enterprises: eco-labelling, sustainable procurement, sustainable management of industrial areas, corporate social responsibility, etc.; and*
- 5. promoting sustainable lifestyles that really fit the specific cultural, natural, economic and social heritage of Mediterranean societies and contributing to create information and education for sustainable consumption.*

2.12 In addition the 2009 Decision IG.19/5 approving the Mandates of the components of the Mediterranean Action Plan decided to note the present (in 2009) sources of financing of the Centres, not closing the door for future developments. In particular, the text of the Decision says explicitly:

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**“Decides to:**

**approve** the common introduction and the Mandates of the MAP components as contained in the Annex to this Decision and its appendices;

**take note** of MAP components' present sources of funding, synergy and partner organization tables as presented in appendices I, II and III to the Annex to this decision;”

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**APPENDIX I MAP COMPONENTS SOURCE OF FUNDING**

Source of Funding/ RAC Programme	CP/RAC
Principle source of funding for activities and staffing	Government of Spain through the Ministry of Environment, Marine and Rural Affairs and the Catalan Department of Environment and Housing
Additional source of funding	Global Environment Facility (GEF), MTF, spontaneous proposals from sponsors, including volunteer countries and partnership with the private sector.

2.13 As referred in the Centre's mandate, CP/RAC provides assistance to the Contracting Parties in implementing Article 4 of the Barcelona Convention, 1995, Article 5 of the LBS Protocol, 1996 and Article 5.2 of the Hazardous Waste Protocol, 1996 and Article 8 of the Offshore Protocol, 1994.

2.14 In addition, the ICZM and Biodiversity Protocols aim at objectives in which the implementation of SCP tools is key to achieve their objectives.

2.15 Art. 9 of the ICZM Protocol identifies the key economic sectors to be considered and requires the countries to implement measures for their sustainable development. The development of such measures would include that the Contracting Parties' planning and management of coastal areas integrates the implementation of a range of technical, regulatory, economic and market based measures through which the models of consumption and production shift to more sustainable patterns.

2.16 According to Article 3.4 of the Biodiversity Protocol, the countries shall adopt strategies, plans and programmes for the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of marine and coastal biological resources and shall integrate them into their relevant sectoral and intersectoral policies. Acknowledging that the current unsustainable patterns of consumption and production produce a direct impact on the biological diversity, the integration of SCP measures in the development of the measures is an asset for the proper implementation of the Protocol.

2.17 Furthermore, as explained in the Report “Addressing the drivers of the Mediterranean ecosystem degradation: the SCP approach in the application of the Ecosystem Approach to the management of human activities in the Mediterranean”, SCP actions are needed to achieve the ecological objectives established by UNEP/MAP in the framework of ECAP. Indeed, the state of the marine and coastal Mediterranean ecosystems depends on the impact caused by the human activities, and therefore, linked to the models of production and consumption on which those activities are based.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. Since its establishment in 1995 the activities of the CP/RAC have shifted from the promotion of cleaner techniques for production processes to Sustainable Consumption and Production. This was neither envisaged by the Contracting Parties nor by Spain when the Centre was firstly established.
2. The Centre, as referred to in its official mandate, has an explicit role in supporting the Contracting Parties to implement the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.
3. The recent launching of the SWITCH-Med Project amongst other projects has enabled and will enable the Centre to increase its support and technical assistance to the countries.
4. The increase of the centre's responsibility and actions has required since 2001 and will require in the future an increase of the administrative resources to manage new activities and the implementation of the projects.
5. In order to adjust the name of the Centre to its official mandate, operation and tasks it is proposed to the National Focal Points and if so wished to the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Contracting Parties to support the updating of the Centre's name to become "Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)"





## ANNEX I

### Recommendations agreed by the Contracting Parties, relevant to the CP/RAC work programme 1996-2007

#### **Annex IV of the Report of the COP 1996: Approved Recommendations and Programme Budget for 1997**

The Contracting Parties agree :

(...) (c) Cleaner Production in the Mediterranean - Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre (CP/RAC)

- To nominate without delay National Focal Points related to cleaner Production to enable cooperation with CP/RAC.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to organize in 1997, as a follow-up to the First Surface Treatment and Coating Sector Expert Meeting in 1996, a Second Expert Meeting coinciding with the Second NFP Meeting which will discuss and analyse the sector proposed in the First NFP Meeting.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to publish a leaflet about cleaner production success stories within the Mediterranean region to show real examples of pollution prevention and cleaner production achieved by different companies, most especially small and medium-sized ones.

#### **Annex IV of the Report of the COP 1997, Recommendations and Programme Budget for 1998 – 1999**

- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to call for the Second Experts Meeting on Surface Treatment and Coating Sector in 1998.
- To request the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to continue publishing and disseminating cleaner production success stories on the new collection called MedClean, to show real examples of pollution prevention and cleaner production achieved by different companies from MAP countries, mainly on the priority sectors (metal plating and leather)
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to give its support to small and medium-sized enterprises by encouraging the dissemination of practical tools intended to make more widely known appropriate procedures for encouraging the enterprises to improve their production systems

#### **Annex IV of the Report of the COP 1999, Recommendations and Programme Budget for 2000 – 2001**

- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to organise the Third CP/RAC NFP meeting by 2001, and four training workshops, two about general methodology and another two about textile and agro industry sectors during the biennium 2000- 2001. The conclusions of these workshops will be published in a manual or guide.
- To request the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to continue publishing and disseminating the MedClean case studies and the CPNews bulletin, as well as to launch an annual technical publication about waste minimisation experiences and studies.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to compile a database of free voluntary experts interested in collaborating and providing technical support to cleaner production initiatives.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to help Mediterranean companies to prioritise demonstration projects and to promote bilateral projects of co-operation.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to launch a Cleaner Production Congress within 2 or 3 years to share experiences and present initiatives taken by Mediterranean countries regarding pollution prevention and waste minimisation, and notably in the olive branch.
- To invite the Secretariat (CP/RAC) to create a Mediterranean Cleaner Production award to honour those pollution prevention initiatives carried out by Mediterranean companies or individuals.

**Annex IV of the Report of the COP 2001, Recommendations (Part One)**

To request the Secretariat

- To promote the incorporation of an environmental dimension in the public procurement processes)
- To encourage stronger links with European level initiatives such as IPPC, EMAS, IPP (Integrated Product Policy) and Ecolabel (...)
- To enlarge the scope of activities to cover, as well as processes, products and services, to focus its activities on Small and Medium Enterprises and micro industries (...)

**Annex IV of the Report of the COP 2001, Recommendations (Part Two)**

The Contracting Parties agree on the following:

- To promote an integrated approach to sustainable development through the use of existing and new environment management tools, such as: (...) integrated pollution prevention and control, integrated product policy and life-cycle analysis.
- To apply environmental criteria and standards, taking into account the specific conditions of each country: to marketed products, including imported products; to market-liberalisation processes; in codes of practice relating to national and foreign investment; in public procurement procedures.
- To integrate principles of cleaner production and sustainable development into processes, products and services;
- To integrate principles of cleaner production and sustainable development into all aspects of training and education.

To request the Secretariat

(...) To create mechanisms (through training, twinning, technical information, business incubators, public participation, etc.) to enhance capacity-building: (...) for SMEs and SMLs

**Annex III of the Report of the COP 2003, Recommendations for 2004-2005**

-To readapt the role of the CP/RAC as a tool for the achievement of sustainable development by Mediterranean industry

**Annex III of the Report of the COP 2005, Recommendations for 2006-2007**

Request the Secretariat (CP/RAC):

- To broaden the current scope of the activities of CP/RAC to include other areas in relation to cleaner production.
- To catalyse and facilitate the mobilization of funds to support specific cleaner production activities based on partnerships with countries.
- To strengthen cooperation between NGOs (...)