



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**



UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/10
04 October 2011

ENGLISH



MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

MEDPOL

Meeting of MED POL Focal Points

Rhodes (Greece), 25-27 May 2011

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MED POL FOCAL POINTS

Table of content

Report of the meeting

Annex I: List of Participants

Annex II: Agenda of the meeting

Annex III Conclusions and recommendations

Annex IV Regional Plan for the reduction of Mercury as part of the implementation of Art. 15 of the LBS Protocol

Annex V Regional Plan for the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector as part of the implementation of Art. 15 of the LBS Protocol

Annex VI Regional Plan for the reduction of nine POPs as part of the implementation of Art. 15 of the LBS Protocol

Annex VII Criteria and standards for bathing waters quality in the Mediterranean

Annex VIII Proposed MED POL Programme of Work and Budget for 2012-2013

Acronyms and abbreviations used in this document

Barcelona Convention	Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols
BAT	Best available technology
BEP	Best environmental practice
BOD/BOD₅	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CP/RAC	Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production
Dumping Protocol	Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea
EC	European Commission
ECAP	Ecosystem Approach
ELV	Emission Limit Value
EQS	Environmental Quality Standards
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEF Strategic Partnership	GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem
GES	Good environment status
H2020	Horizon 2020 initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICZM Protocol	Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean
INFOMAP	MAP information system
INFO/RAC	Regional Activity Center for Information and Communication
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
LBS Protocol	Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MED POL	Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme
MEDU	UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MTF	Mediterranean Trust Fund

Offshore Protocol	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
OSPAR	Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PRTR	Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
RAC	Regional Activity Centre
Stockholm Convention	Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

Introduction

1. The meeting of MED POL Focal Points was held at the Amathus Beach Hotel, Rhodes, Greece, from 25 to 27 May 2011.

Participation

2. Focal Points or their representatives from the following Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention attended the meeting: Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, European Commission, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey. An observer from the Palestinian Authority also attended.

3. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations were represented: IAEA and WHO.

4. The MAP Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC) was also represented.

5. The following non-governmental organizations were also represented: Cleanup Greece, HELMEPA and the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE).

6. The full list of participants is attached as **Annex I** to the present report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

7. Mr Francesco Saverio Civili, MED POL Coordinator, opened the meeting.

8. The meeting watched a pre-recorded video presentation by Ms Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, MAP Coordinator, during which she paid tribute to the contribution made by Mr Civili to the work of MED POL over the years and wished him well for his impending retirement. Ms Silva emphasized the important role played by the MED POL Focal Points in reviewing and assessing the MED POL Programme and establishing new targets and priorities for its future activities. She recalled that, following the development of the legal system, consisting of the Barcelona Convention and its seven Protocols, and of a common monitoring system, the 16th

Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Marrakesh had introduced certain innovations, including the identification of six thematic areas for MAP action. She also reviewed the multilateral environmental principles which informed UNEP's priorities and the emerging issues that would need to be addressed over the next two years. With the entry into force of the Offshore and ICZM Protocols, the emphasis in MAP's work would now be firmly placed on the implementation of its legal instruments. Only the Dumping Protocol still needed additional ratifications to enter into force and she therefore called on the countries concerned to accelerate their procedures for the ratification of that Protocol.

9. The participants at the meeting paid tribute to the dedication demonstrated by Mr Civili over the years in developing MED POL into a good and effective programme which had played an important role in helping MAP meet its goals.

10. The Focal Point for France informed the meeting that his country had agreed to host the next ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties either later in 2011 or in 2012, but that before then it would be necessary to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to discuss budgetary issues.

Agenda item 2: Election of officers

11. The meeting unanimously elected the following officers:

Chair: Ms Alenka Malej (Slovenia)

Vice-Chair: Mr Samir Kaabi (Tunisia)

Rapporteur: Mr Rani Amir (Israel)

**Agenda item 3: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
(UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/1 and 357/2)**

12. Mr Civili indicated that CP/RAC had played a significant role in the formulation of the draft Regional Plan for the reduction of mercury. As the representative of CP/RAC would arrive later, it would be helpful to postpone discussion of that Regional Plan until later in the day. He added that brief conclusions and recommendations would be prepared for adoption by the meeting on its final day. However, in accordance with past practice, the report of the meeting would be circulated by electronic means after the meeting and finalized in the

light of any comments.

13. The view was expressed by several participants that discussion of the work plan for 2012-2013 MED POL activities (Agenda item 8) might raise a number of issues and should not be left until the last day of the meeting. It would be logical to discuss the work plan for 2012-2013 in conjunction with the review of the work carried out during 2010-2011 (Agenda item 5). It was agreed that, taking into account the progress of the meeting's work, an opportunity would be sought to discuss Agenda Item 8 during the first two days. On that understanding, the agenda contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/1, which appears as **Annex II** to the present report, was adopted.

Agenda item 4. Review and approval of draft Regional Plans containing legally binding measures and timetables in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

Draft decision on the Regional Plan for the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector as part of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/4)

14. Mr Civili recalled that when the draft Regional Plan had been reviewed by the meeting of experts in Larnaca earlier in the year the text had been welcomed, although certain modifications had been proposed to make it more realistic. While the proposed measures did not satisfy everyone, as some felt that they could be stricter, they offered a basis for compromise. There remained certain details in square brackets on which agreement still needed to be reached.

15. During the discussion, it was agreed that Article 1 should include two additional definitions: the first of the LBS Protocol, to ensure that the reference was to the amended LBS Protocol; and the second of the meaning of "population equivalent".

16. With regard to the determination of the industrial food plants that were to be covered by the measures set out in Article III, a number of speakers proposed that the suggested figure of 4000 population equivalent (pe) should be reduced to 2000 pe and that the requirements should be for 24-hour values, rather than two-hour values, which would afford greater protection to the receiving environment. However, it was also noted that it would be difficult for some countries to achieve those levels within the specified timeframe. Moreover, there was a danger that the plants concerned would merely be split up into larger numbers of smaller units to avoid problems of compliance, and that the overall loads would remain the same, or indeed increase. There was a further danger that water-saving measures might in practice have the effect of increasing the concentration of pollutants; the organic load per

tonne produced might be a better indicator. It was agreed that the values set out in the table in Article III for chemical oxygen demand (160 mg/l) and for total organic carbon (55 mg/l) would be accepted and that the higher value suggested for biochemical oxygen demand (30 mg/l) would be retained. It was further agreed that the values set out in Article III should be reviewed in 2015 in the light of the most recent BATs and BEPs in the region and developments in EQS.

17. With reference to the timetable for implementation set out in Article IV, it was generally agreed that, although a specific timeframe needed to be established, the differentiation approach should apply and that any countries experiencing difficulties in fulfilling the obligations within the specified time limit should have the option of reporting those difficulties to the Secretariat and proposing a timeframe for implementation that they would be able to follow. In that respect, account would need to be taken of national circumstances, the respective capacity to implement the required measures and the need to reduce the use of water in the industrial sectors concerned.

18. Draft amendments to the text of the Regional Plan taking into account the above points were discussed by an informal working group and were adopted by the meeting following discussion.

Draft decision on the Regional Plan for the reduction of mercury as part of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/3)

19. Mr Civili, introducing the draft Regional Plan, recalled that the draft deliberately omitted any consideration of measures on the production or export of mercury, since a global legal instrument covering those issues was being negotiated under the aegis of the Stockholm Convention.

20. The representative of CP/RAC gave a slide presentation containing a diagnosis of mercury in Mediterranean countries, prepared by the Centre. The report highlighted the trend in mercury production and the uses of mercury in the Mediterranean region. The intentional use of mercury-containing products, industrial processes and by-products or unintentional use constituted the main sources of emission and the report provided an inventory of emissions in Mediterranean countries. Data also showed that ELVs and quality standards differed in Mediterranean countries. The report concluded with a series of recommendations for the reduction of mercury use.

21. He explained that the data used to compile the report had been taken from the

replies to the questionnaires sent out by CP/RAC, but that where no replies had been received the Centre had had to seek other sources of information. The data would probably have to be updated in the light of further information provided by governments. He appealed to those Contracting Parties which had not already done so to return the questionnaires as soon as possible.

22. Attention was drawn during the subsequent discussion to the current trend for the widespread use of energy-saving light bulbs, which contained mercury, and the need to develop systems for disposing of used bulbs.

23. One speaker said that his Government had allowed industry a three-year period to implement a national clean-air decree, so that it could not begin to enforce the limits in the regional plan until September 2013. A second speaker said that there was no justification for the higher limit of 0.1 mg/m³ of mercury for waste gas emissions from hospital incinerators, compared with the proposed figure of 0.05 mg/m³ from other incineration plants: the representative of WHO noted in that regard that the WHO recommended limit for hospital incinerators was 0.55 mg/m³.

24. Several speakers indicated that the proposed ELVs were considerably more lenient than those already prevailing in their own countries. One speaker proposed that the target of 0.05 mg/l for mercury emissions in effluent (see document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/3, p.4) should be reduced to 0.005 mg/l, that he considered technically feasible. He also stressed that it appeared unreasonable to propose under a pollution reduction programme the same target value that had been adopted in 1987.

25. Other speakers indicated that their governments would need more time and information before deciding upon such a sweeping change. Mr Civili suggested that the differentiated approach might usefully be applied: ambitious long-term targets should be set, but some countries should be allowed longer to achieve them.

26. One delegation suggested to enlarge the list of industrial sectors to be monitored by including waste incinerators, power plants and cement factories

27. Following a suggestion by a number of participants, Mr Civili proposed that the recommendations in CP/RAC's report be included among the recommendations of the meeting as a possible basis for future work.

28. Regarding ELVs, the Regional Plan could present two columns showing, respectively, the state-of-the-art ELVs for those sectors where sufficient data were available and the ELVs currently presented in the document. The first column should represent the target for the year 2015, and the second column the ultimate goal to be reached by 2019.

29. The draft decision, as orally amended, was approved for submission to the meeting of MAP Focal Points.

Draft decision on the Regional Plan for the reduction of nine POPs as part of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/5)

30. Mr Civili recalled that, in order to cover those Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which were not also Contracting Parties to the Stockholm Convention, the Secretariat had been requested to prepare a Regional Plan for the reduction of nine POPs in order to focus on the regional approach to the reduction of POPs. Nothing in the draft before the meeting was inconsistent with the provisions in the Stockholm Convention, but in some instances tighter deadlines were proposed for the Mediterranean.

31. During the ensuing discussion, the importance of avoiding duplication and ensuring consistency with the Stockholm Convention was emphasized. It was also pointed out that the Fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Stockholm Convention, held in April 2011, had decided to add endosulfan to Annex A to the Convention, with specific exemptions.

32. With regard to lindane, it was recalled there had been a general consensus at the meeting held in Larnaca to review the Regional Plans that there should be no specific exemptions for lindane and it was therefore proposed that the specific exemptions in Appendix A be deleted.

33. After hearing the concerns expressed regarding the need for technical assistance and funding to implement the provisions, Mr Civili said that MED POL was always willing to provide technical assistance within the limits of its financial resources. It could perhaps act as an intermediary to help Mediterranean countries to obtain GEF or other funding for their national implementation plans.

34. The representative of CP/RAC said that the Centre was also the centre for technical assistance in connection with the Stockholm Convention. It was already in contact with other CP centres with a view to preparing joint proposals for GEF funding related to POPs issues.

35. It was suggested that any funding proposals for Mediterranean countries addressed to GEF should be transmitted to the Focal Points for comments before being submitted to GEF.

36. Mr Civili said that a plan for the elimination of endosulfan would be prepared by CP/RAC and added to the text and an amended version of the draft Regional Plan would be sent to the MED POL Focal Points for their comments. A revised draft would be on the agenda of the meeting of the MAP Focal Points with a view to its subsequent adoption by the Contracting Parties.

37. The draft decision, as orally amended, was provisionally approved for submission to the meeting of MAP Focal Points pending any further comments from the MED POL Focal Points after the current meeting.

38. The three Regional Plans, as approved by the meeting, appear in **Annexes IV, V, and VI.**

Agenda item 5: Review and approval of work carried out during 2010-2011
(UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/6)

39. Mr Civili, introducing the item, presented the progress report on the implementation of MED POL activities during 2010-2011 and invited comments. He said that details of the three draft Regional Plans on mercury, the food sector and POPs (documents UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/3, WG.357/4 and WG.357/5) would be included in the updated version of the progress report, which would be submitted to the meeting of the MAP Focal Points and later to the Contracting Parties. He also noted that MED POL had contributed to the assessment of the data available in the Mediterranean region for a proposed European Union initiative, the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS), and intended to continue its collaboration with the initiative, which would be of benefit to the development of MED POL's data management. With regard to the GEF Strategic Partnership, all the demonstration projects were progressing satisfactorily, with the exception of the phosphogypsum management project in Tunisia (see document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/6, p.3). He therefore urged the Focal Point for Tunisia to use his good offices to expedite work on the project. Finally, he indicated that, in view of recent events in the region, projects on the environmentally sound management of PCBs had been disrupted. Efforts were currently being concentrated on the projects in Albania and Egypt (see document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/6, p.4). A further project in Bosnia and Herzegovina was under discussion.

40. In the ensuing discussion on the level of implementation of the programme during the biennium, Mr Civili said that all activities in the work programme had been implemented to a greater or lesser extent, depending on the funding available.

41. In reviewing MED POL activities for the assessment of pollution, Mr Civili drew attention to the agreements for the implementation of national monitoring programmes that had been signed and were about to be signed, as well as the lack of information reported by a number of countries. Mr Angelidis, MED POL Programme Officer, added that administrative difficulties at the national level often created barriers to the provision of funding to assist with the implementation of national monitoring programmes. Mr Civili further noted that the problems of a legal and organizational nature faced by INFO/RAC over the biennium had affected the MED POL Information System, which as a result was not fully operational. It was hoped that those difficulties would be overcome in the near future and that further capabilities would be developed, including the online reporting of monitoring data.

42. In response to requests for clarification, Mr Angelidis indicated that, in cases where administrative difficulties were encountered in particular countries preventing the acceptance of the funding earmarked for activities, the resources allocated for specific monitoring activities were used in other countries that were able to participate in and draw benefit from such support.

43. The discussion also focused on the cases of countries which were not fulfilling their reporting obligations to MED POL in relation to monitoring. It was recalled that cases of failure to comply with obligations deriving from the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols would be reported to the new Compliance Committee, and in turn to the meetings of the Contracting Parties. A number of speakers explained that the failure to report data to MED POL was often due to the heavy reporting burden placed on countries by the various treaties to which they were parties, combined with EU reporting requirements, especially for new EU Members. Another major difficulty encountered was the difference in the formats required for the reporting of data to MED POL and to EU bodies.

44. During the ensuing discussion, emphasis was placed on the vital importance of improving the operation of the MED POL website. It was to be regretted that so much effort was expended on collecting and reporting data from monitoring, which was then not easily accessible to the countries concerned or to other users. At a time when public information

and image were taking on ever greater importance, MEP POL's public profile needed to be improved through a greater focus on the sharing of information, both through its website and the preparation of information material. The Meeting of the Contracting Parties should be made aware of the problem and of the need to allocate additional funding for that purpose.

45. Finally, it was pointed out that, in view of the low level of resources available to MED POL through the MTF, and the proliferation of projects that were being funded in the region, particularly through the H2020 initiative and the GEF Strategic Partnership, many of MED POL's activities were actually undertaken using funding from other sources, which might well involve a loss of control by the Focal Points over MED POL activities. It would help if clear information were prepared on the action carried out by MED POL with funding from other sources in order to give an overall picture of MED POL activities. In response, Mr Civili emphasized that when project funding was used to supplement the resources available to MED POL, the activities undertaken were strictly in line with the priorities established for the MED POL programme by the Focal Points and the Contracting Parties. The additional funding was very welcome in view of the low level of regular budgetary resources available to MED POL.

Agenda item 6: Review and approval of criteria and standards for bathing waters
(UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/8 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/INF.6)

46. Mr Civili said that the preparation of criteria and standards for bathing waters had a long history in the Barcelona Convention system, dating back to 1985 when ad interim common criteria and standards for coastal recreational waters had been adopted. Subsequently, WHO Guidelines, and a new European Council Directive on the same subject had been adopted. The criteria and standards before the meeting were consistent with both the WHO Guidelines and the European Directive.

47. Mr George Kamizoulis, WHO/MED POL Senior Scientist, explained that the idea underlying the criteria and standards was to combine sanitary inspection with monitoring so that costs could be reduced, without compromising human health or the environment. All Mediterranean countries had compiled test beach profiles and although some problems had arisen in connection with indicators, they had since been resolved.

In response to questions raised concerning the purpose of the beach profiles, Mr Kamizoulis said that they were part of the process of the application of the criteria and standards. He added that a beach profile could not only provide a valuable indication of the quality of bathing waters, but was mandatory for any beach declared a bathing beach in

order to allow criteria and standards to be implemented. It also had financial advantages: for example, if a beach profile showed that a beach was pristine, sampling could be less frequent and costs would be lower

48. The delegate of Morocco informed the Meeting of a programme of monitoring the quality of bathing waters .that was implemented every year in her country to control the beaches' compliance..

49. With the addition of a preamble indicating the objective of the criteria and standards, which included the beach profile, to whom they were addressed and what had to be done to implement them, the criteria and standards for bathing waters attached as **Annex VII** were approved for submission to the meeting of MAP Focal Points.

Agenda item 7: Review and approval of a draft strategy for integrated management of marine litter (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/7, UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/INF.4 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/INF.5)

50. Mr Civili described the background to the preparation of the strategy, also recalling the work on marine litter done by UNEP at the global level. Prior to the preparation of the strategy, an assessment of the status of marine litter had been prepared, together with an information document highlighting the financial dimension of implementing the strategy.

51. Many Focal Points recommended that the draft strategy should be restructured to demonstrate its consistency with the MAP ecosystem approach and the European Union's MSFD. Mr Kamizoulis stated that MED POL closely followed relevant activities of other environmental bodies, including the MSFD GES technical subgroup on marine litter. Ms Hema, MEDU Programme Officer, stated that MAP had defined 10 objectives based on the ecosystem approach and 47 indicators, including one on marine litter, although they had not yet been formally approved. During the biennium 2012-2013, MAP would promote GES targets, including issues related to marine litter. Any references to the ecosystem approach in the strategy would probably need to be revised regularly as the approach evolved over time.

52. Speakers called for the setting of clear priorities within the strategy, the most urgent of which was considered to be plastic litter, including microplastics. Mr Kamizoulis noted that, according to the assessment prepared in 2009 for the Mediterranean region, the most numerous marine litter items found on beaches were cigarette butts and filters and that another priority was the development of a monitoring system and indicators, based on the UNEP/IOC Guidelines on Survey and Monitoring of Marine Litter (2009). Several speakers

recommended that the strategy should make reference to the Fishing for Litter initiative, through which the crews of fishing vessels were encouraged to collect marine litter and return it to shore for disposal. Concerning monitoring, one speaker proposed to include the collection of data on debris ingested by biota, micro-particles (mainly micro-plastics) in the first layer of the water column as indicators of the presence of litter and the damages determined by lost/abandoned fishing gears.

52.bis The delegate from Morocco informed the Meeting of the campaign “Clean Beach” launched by the Foundation Mohammed VI that included all the relevant stakeholders (public and private sectors, civil society, local authorities, etc.).

53. The representative of the non-governmental organization HELMEPA said that, pursuant to the revised Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), which was due for adoption shortly, vessels would be obliged to report fishing nets lost overboard or spotted floating in the sea. He further reported that liaison between ships and port authorities was not always good where the recycling of waste was concerned: many crews collected and sorted their own waste for recycling, only to see it mixed up again during the port’s refuse collection process and sent to landfill. The representative of MIO-ECSDE emphasized the vital role of non-governmental organizations in awareness-raising and education activities. The representative of Cleanup Greece said that her organization had been involved in the preparation of a publication entitled “Public awareness for the management of marine litter in the Mediterranean”, copies of which were available outside the meeting room.

54. The meeting recommended that an action plan be prepared by MED POL in cooperation with the MAP components concerned and other competent partners.

Agenda item 8. Review and approval of the work plan for 2012-2013 MED POL activities (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/9)

55. Introducing the document, Mr Civili explained that, in accordance with the instructions provided by the MAP Coordinator in light of the current financial difficulties faced by MAP, the indicative figures prepared for the work plan for 2012-2013 were based on a reduction of 20 per cent from the MED POL budget for 2009-2010. He also recalled that UNEP had carried out a functional review of MAP in Athens, including MED POL, and that its findings were due to be implemented at the beginning of 2012. The indicative budget set out in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 357/INF.12 took into account the reduced level of funding, the lower personnel costs and the changes in the arrangements for collaboration with the IAEA. He added that the targets indicated in the document were the relevant overall

MAP targets, whereas the indicators were those strictly relevant to the work of MED POL. The MED POL work plan, once approved by the Focal Points, would be integrated into the overall MAP work plan, which would then be submitted as a whole to the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties for approval.

56. In response to a request for clarification, Ms Hema indicated that the reduced budget level had been determined by the Bureau in December 2010 and that it took into account the income that was expected to be available through the MTF, the EU contribution and the host country contribution. Although the actual extent of the reduction in income was uncertain, the level of 20 per cent appeared to be a good estimate. Several speakers recalled however that a reduction of the budget for 2012-2013 had not been approved by any body of the Contracting Parties.

Theme I: Governance

Output 1.1: Strengthening institutional coherence, efficiency and accountability

57. With regard to Output 1.1, Mr Civili explained that, with a view to making savings, it was proposed to combine the meeting of the Focal Points and the monitoring meeting, which had traditionally been held separately. He added that MED POL Phase V, which would need to be prepared, would be completely new and would amount to a new mandate for MED POL, to be approved by the Contracting Parties. In view of the major changes envisaged in MED POL Phase V, a thorough exchange of views would also be needed on the monitoring programme which, in accordance with the application of the ecosystem approach, would now need to cover all environmental aspects, ranging from pollution to biodiversity.

58. During the discussion, the meeting fully endorsed the broader integrated monitoring programme proposed for MED POL, which should be reflected in the proposals made for MED POL Phase V. In view of its acquired expertise, the Focal Points unanimously agreed that MED POL should be responsible for coordinating the new integrated monitoring programme throughout MAP.

59. In response to comments concerning the shortage of resources, particularly for the new monitoring programme, Mr Civili recalled that preparation of the new monitoring programme would largely depend on the availability of external resources, and particularly EU support.

Output 1.2: Implementation gap filled: Contracting Parties supported in meeting the objectives of the Barcelona Convention, Protocols and adopted strategies

60. In relation to Output 1.2, Mr Civili indicated that during the coming biennium no new Regional Plans were to be prepared, but that CP/RAC would be involved in training and capacity-building activities to assist in the implementation of the six Regional Plans adopted under Article 15 of the LBS Protocol. With regard to marine litter, the activity would consist of the development of a detailed action plan. Training courses were expected to be undertaken in the context of the GEF Strategic Partnership for the improvement of inspection systems. Finally, it had been confirmed that Spain would make some funding and expertise available to assess the potential impact and required legal and technical measures for carbon sequestration in the region.

61. During the discussion, although it was generally agreed that priority needed to be given to providing assistance for the implementation of the six regional plans adopted in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol, regrets were expressed at the low level of resources allocated to other work items, such as technical assistance to countries for the implementation of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol, and potentially for the Dumping Protocol when it came into force. It was also noted that the failure to allocate any resources for travel grants for scientists (training and fellowships) sent the wrong message. However, there was agreement that it was necessary to identify priorities and avoid further fragmentation of the programme of work. Doubts were expressed concerning the activities for the preparation of an action plan for the management of electric and electronic waste, which was already covered by a global programme, as care should be taken to ensure that there was no duplication of activities between the regional and global levels. The need was also emphasized for an overall picture to be provided of the technical assistance and capacity-building activities undertaken by MED POL. Some speakers, while acknowledging the limited resources available through the MTF, believed that it would be more helpful to provide an overall picture identifying all the activities that needed to be undertaken to achieve MED POL's goals, which should be accompanied by a resource mobilization plan.

62. In response, Mr Civili emphasized that the amounts of funding proposed in the information document were only indicative and that, in most cases, they would be supplemented by external funding from various sources. He added that, for the last Meeting of the Contracting Parties, all technical assistance and training activities throughout the MAP work plan had been marked with an asterisk to help provide an overall picture of the assistance provided to countries. A very useful activity in relation to the Dumping Protocol

that had been carried out recently was a coordination meeting at the country level between the various authorities involved, including those responsible for the environment, ports and maritime affairs. If resources could be found, such activities should be continued. Finally, he noted that an environmental economist was due to begin working in MAP at the beginning of 2012. Although the role of the environmental economist was not to act directly as a fundraiser, she or he would have knowledge of funding mechanisms and would be able to help indirectly in finding donors for project activities.

Output 1.3: Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated

63. Introducing the output, Mr Civili laid stress on the importance of the component and the need to improve the production of information material.

64. Other speakers agreed that the component was highly important and underlined the need for an effective website. At a time when there was considerable competition to attract funds, it was essential to have a site on which donors could see what MED POL had achieved and what it was currently doing. Although it was noted that a MAP information system – INFOMAP – was being developed, it was critical to have an effective MED POL website in place within two years.

65. Ms Hema explained that INFOMAP was intended to be an overall system in which each component would have its place. There should be no technical problem in integrating the MED POL site into INFOMAP so it would not have to be reformulated.

66. Mr Civili said that the development of the MED POL website had been the responsibility of INFO/RAC, but that in view of INFO/RAC's current difficulties, MED POL had had to develop its own website with very limited resources, and without the necessary funds to update it. What was required at present was to appoint someone responsible for data so that Contracting Parties could both enter and retrieve up-to-date data. The limited funds available meant that it had not been possible to recruit anyone.

67. In response to a question on how much had been invested so far in the system, Ms Hema said that INFO/RAC had received €66,000 annually from the MTF, which was also intended to cover the development of the MED POL site. In addition, it had received funds from the Italian Government.

68. It was agreed that a document had to be prepared for the MAP Focal Points meeting defining MED POL's needs in relation to its website, the resources so far used and those

required to meet the needs and the funding available.

Theme IV: Pollution prevention and control

Output 4.1: Early warning of pollution (spills, dangerous/hazardous substances)

69. Mr Civili introduced the output, which constituted the core of MED POL's activities. He informed the meeting that discussions were ongoing with IAEA on changing the way in which the data quality assurance programme with IAEA was funded so that henceforward MED POL would pay for services rendered, rather than a fixed amount.

70. Mr Angelidis said that because of budgetary constraints MED POL would only be able to support monitoring by four countries over the biennium. It was therefore essential to review monitoring assistance carefully to ensure that it was as cost-effective as possible. With regard to the development of EQS based on indicators, they would be pollution-related and developed in line with the ecosystem approach. For the time being, it was proposed that thresholds be developed in relation to eutrophication, hazardous substances and litter. If further funding became available, other acceptable and non-acceptable thresholds could be developed.

71. Turning to the preparation of the integrated monitoring programme, he said that before capacity-building could be provided, national needs had to be assessed on the basis of the indicators identified, which would be done in cooperation with the relevant RACs.

72. After several speakers had mentioned the benchmarks set by other forums such as the OSPAR Commission and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), one speaker agreed that they could be helpful, but that the Mediterranean needed its own specific targets. It was suggested, however, that the Secretariat explore the possibility of collaborating with ICES.

Output 4.2 Lower levels of pollution in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment

73. Mr Civili, introducing Output 4.2, said that preparatory work on demonstration projects on pollution reduction financed by the GEF Strategic Partnership were proceeding on schedule, with the exception of the project on phosphogypsum management in Tunisia. Successful projects would be extended to further GEF-eligible countries.

74. The project on environmentally sound disposal of PCBs had started one year later than scheduled, owing to the difficulty of recruiting suitably qualified experts, but the first stage of the project was well under way. Lebanon had withdrawn from the project, and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Syrian Arab Republic had stopped their activities owing to the prevailing situation in those countries. Unfortunately, in view of MED POL's financial difficulties, it would be able to contribute only with €305,000 to the project costs: a further €200,000 for each of the years 2012 and 2013 would need to be obtained from external sources.

75. One representative said that more information was needed on the project on environmental disposal of 700 tons of PCBs before endorsing the progress of its implementation. Given for granted the importance of the safe disposal of such a contaminant, the background and the implementation plan of the project needed to be further explained in view of the large budget involved.

76. Activities related to PRTR had been very successful but, in light of MED POL's financial situation, they would need to be financed from external sources over the next biennium. The proposed programme of work of INFO/RAC included an allocation for PRTR work. It was also hoped to obtain external funding, potentially from the European Union, for work on the Shared Environmental Information System.

77. An environmental economist will be recruited to match up potential sources of funding with countries' expressed needs, and should begin work in early 2012. He hoped that the post would be maintained beyond the two-year period financed by GEF.

78. In the ensuing discussion, Focal Points reiterated their request for clear information, in the form of fact sheets, on the results achieved for each area of activity, the associated expenditure, and any targets from the previous biennium which had not been met. Ms Hema noted that all MAP components, including MED POL, had a statutory obligation to keep all Focal Points informed of activities in which the MAP components were involved, including those financed by GEF or the European Union.

79. Many Focal Points expressed concern at the proposal to recruit an environmental economist for two years, at a total annual cost of approximately €90,000, given MED POL's current financial situation. While not disputing the need for such expertise, speakers suggested that the post might be shortened in duration or made part-time rather than full-time, and asked to see a detailed job description. One speaker asked whether the specified tasks

really required the services of a professional economist. Mr Civili stressed that the figure of €90,000 represented the total cost to MED POL: the economist's take-home salary would be much lower, corresponding to approximately grade P3 (junior professional level) on the United Nations salary scale.

80. The Focal Point for Tunisia explained that work had not yet begun on the demonstration project on phosphogypsum management because of the prevailing situation in the country. However, in view of the widespread public concern about the dumping of phosphogypsum waste, he was confident that the project would go ahead soon. The Focal Point for Turkey expressed his country's interest in joining the demonstration project on the disposal of PCBs.

81. Mr Trumbic, Project Manager for the GEF Strategic Partnership, said that funding was already available through GEF for a number of high-priority activities, particularly the disposal of PCBs. The problem was that MED POL was unable to provide its share of resources, either financial or in-kind, under the co-financing arrangement. GEF would help MED POL in its efforts to mobilize external funding. He stressed the importance of the work which would be done by the new environmental economist, which would help to determine the potential for replication of demonstration projects in other countries. In the area of information, Focal Points should recently have received a factsheet on GEF activities during 2010, and a report on financial indicators would be distributed shortly.

Theme VI: Climate change

Output 6.3 Assess and provide information to reduce adverse environmental impacts of mitigation and adaptation strategies and technologies (e.g. wind farms, ocean energy, carbon capture and storage)

82. With regard to Output 6.3, Mr Civili explained that, despite the importance of the issue, no funds were available from the regular budget to assist countries in the development of environmentally sound desalination activities, and that, accordingly, external funding would need to be sought. Mr Kamizoulis said that two training courses on the re-use of waste water for irrigation would be held in the next biennium, while another course would take place in Turkey in September 2011. The Focal Point for Israel said that his country was willing to share its extensive experience of environmentally-friendly desalination technology at expert meetings in the region.

83. After reiterating the need for the Secretariat to provide more information on the project on the disposal of PCBs, the meeting approved the programme of activities, as

amended, for transmission to the MAP Focal Points (**Annex VIII**).

Agenda item 9: Any other business

84. The representative of CP/RAC provided information on the BAT4MED project, under which BATs and BEPs would be identified for selected industrial sectors in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt. He explained that the selection of the sectors would take into consideration a number of environmental aspects such as the toxicity of the emissions as well as the substances that would have an unfavorable influence on the oxygen balance such as BOD. As a result, the project was expected to contribute to the objectives of the Regional Plans adopted under Article 15 of the LBS Protocol. CP/RAC had also prepared a project proposal for funding by GEF for the reduction of unintentional emissions of POPs, greenhouse gases and heavy metals in a series of sectors in several countries.

85. The representative of Israel drew attention to the Blue Flag programme and suggested that MED POL should consider cooperation with the programme and promote it among those not already participating.

Agenda item 10: Conclusions and recommendations

86. The Focal Points reviewed the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting prepared by the Secretariat and proposed a number of amendments. The conclusions and recommendations were adopted as amended and are attached as **Annex III** to the present report.

Agenda item 11: Closure of the session

87. Mr Konstantinos Kartalis, Chair of the Special Permanent Committee on Environmental Protection of the Greek Parliament, addressed the meeting. He expressed his appreciation of the Focal Points' work, which helped to promote communication and dialogue between the States of the Mediterranean region at a time of economic and political disruption. Furthermore, he emphasized the numerous activities and the work performed by MED POL and the collaborating agencies including WHO. He also noted the resources available for protection of the environment were severely limited: States must make the best possible use of them by avoiding duplication of effort and adhering to agreed best environmental practices. The topics discussed by the Focal Points, particularly organic loads, the disposal of PCBs, marine litter and the quality of bathing waters, were of enormous relevance for the region. States must adopt a road map for action, specifying agreed priorities such as the prevention of pollution from land-based sources, bearing in mind that many of the measures adopted would be implemented by local rather than national authorities. He called upon Focal Points to use their influence with their own governments and international stakeholders to ensure that protection of the

Mediterranean environment remained a high priority. Parliamentarians such as himself, who were often able to take a broader view of the situation than the government and envisage more radical solutions, could make a valuable contribution to the process.

88. Mr Civili thanked the participants for their constructive contribution to the meeting, which demonstrated that they fully appreciated the value of MED POL's work. In general, however, MED POL did not have the high profile it deserved, at either the Mediterranean or the global level: he called upon Focal Points to defend the Programme's interests strongly at the forthcoming meetings of the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties.

89. The current meeting was the last which he would attend in his capacity as Coordinator. He felt that he was leaving MED POL with a sound scientific programme of work, albeit with a challenging financial situation. He paid tribute to the sterling work of his staff, both those within the permanent MED POL Secretariat and the freelance interpreters, translators and report-writers who had worked regularly for MED POL over the years, and to Mr George Kamizoulis, WHO/MED POL Senior Scientist, who would, like himself, be retiring soon. He hoped that his many years of service to MAP had made some small contribution to the protection of the Mediterranean environment.

90. The Chair thanked Mr Civili, wishing him a long and happy retirement, and declared the meeting closed at 6.15 p.m. on Friday 27 May 2011.

ANNEX I
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS****ALGERIA
ALGERIE****Mr Saif El Islam Bemmansour**

Directeur de l'Environnement de la wilaya d'Ain
Témouchent
Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire et de
l'Environnement (M.A.T.E)
Cabinet du wilaya d'Ain Témouchent
Ain Témouchent 46 000
Algérie

Tel : + 213 43 60 43 27

Fax : + 213 43 60 13 52

E-mail : Tourisme.oran@yahoo.fr**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
BOSNIE ET HERZÉGOVINE****Mr Ninjel Lukovac**

Hidro – Engineering Institute Sarajevo
B.Sc.Chem. Junior researcher
Stjepana Tomića 1
Sarajevo, 71 000
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Tel: +387 33 21 24 66

Fax: +387 33 21 24 67

E-mail: ninjel.lukovac@heis.com.ba**CROATIA
CROATIE****Ms Nevia Kruzic**

Head of Department
for Sea Protection
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
& Construction
Uzarska Ulica 2/1
Rijeka, Croatia

Tel: +385 51 213499

Fax: +385 51 214324

E-mail : nevia.kruzic@mzopu.hr**CYPRUS
CHYPRE****Ms Marilena Aplikioti**

Fisheries and Marine Research Officer
Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and
Environment
101 Bethlehem
1416 Nicosia
Cyprus

Tel: +357 22 807811

Fax: +357 22 775955

E-mail: maplikioti@dfmr.moa.gov.cy**EGYPT
ÉGYPTE****Mr Ahmed Abou Elseoud**

Head of the Environmental Monitoring
Programme

Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
30 Misr Helwan El-Zyrae
Cairo
Egypt

Tel: +20 2 5253123
Fax: +20 2 5241279
E-mail: aahmed_hm@yahoo.com

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION
COMMISSION EUROPEENNE**

Mr Jesus Manuel Gago Pineiro
Seconded National Expert
Marine Policy Officer
Directorate General Environment/Marine Unit
European Commission
Avenue de Beaulieu 5, office BU9 03/121
Brussels
Belgium

Tel : +32 2 2921216
Fax : +32 2 2979697
E-mail: Jesus-Manuel.GAGO-
PINEIRO@ec.europa.eu

**FRANCE
FRANCE**

M Bernard Moutou
Chargé de mission conventions maritimes
Ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement
Durable, des Transports et du Logement
20, avenue de Ségur
75302 Paris 07 SP
Direction de l'eau et de la biodiversité
Bureau des milieux marins
France

Tel: +33 1 40813382
Fax: +33 1 40817187
E-mail: Bernard.Moutou@developpement-
durable.gouv.fr

**GREECE
GRECE**

Ms Maria Kapari
Marine Expert
Wetlands, Coastal and Marine Ecosystems
National Centre for the Environment and
Sustainable Development
Villa Kazouli, 1 Lambraki & Kifissias Ave.
14561 Kifissia, Athens
Greece

Tel: +30 210 8089271 (ext. 115)
Fax: +30 210 8084707
E-mail: m.kapari@ekpaa.minenv.gr

**ISRAEL
ISRAEL**

Mr Rani Amir
Director
Marine and Coastal Environment Division
Ministry of Environmental Protection

Pal-Yam 15a
P.O. Box 811
31333 Haifa
Israel

Tel: +972 4 8633503
Fax: +972 4 8633520
E-mail: rani@sviva.gov.il

**ITALY
ITALIE**

Ms Anna Maria Cicero
Senior Scientist
ISPRA - National Institute for Research and
Environmental Protection
Via Brancati, 48,
Rome 00144
Italy

Tel +39 0039 06 50074095
Fax +39 06 61561906
E-mail: annamaria.cicero@isprambiente.it

**LEBANON
LIBAN**

Mr Hassan Hoteit
Acting Head
Department of the Protection of the Urban
Environment
Ministry of the Environment
Lazarieh Building, 7th floor - Beirut Central
District
P.O. Box 11-2727
Beirut
Lebanon

Tel: +961 1 976 555 ext. 448
Fax: +961 1 976 530
E-mail: hhoteit@moe.gov.lb

**MALTA
MALTE**

Mr Franck Lauwers
Senior Environment Protection Officer
Multilateral Affairs Team
EU and Multilateral Affairs Unit
Director's Office
Environment Protection Directorate
Malta Environment and Planning Authority
St. Francis Ravelin, Floriana
P.O. Box 200, Marsa MRS 1000,
Malta

Tel: +356 2290 7201
Fax: +356 2290 2295
E-mail: medpol-malta@mepa.org.mt

**MONACO
MONACO**

M. Philippe Antognelli
Chef de Section
Direction de l'Environnement
3, avenue de Fontvieille

98000
Monaco

Tel: +377 98 98 46 80
Fax: +377 92 05 28 91
E-mail: pantognelli@gouv.mc

**MONTENEGRO
MONTENEGRO**

Mr Pavle Djuraskovic

Head
Department for Environmental Protection
Hydrometeorological Institute
Proleterska 19
81000 Podgorica
Montenegro

Tel: +382 20 655365
Fax: +382 20 655197
E-mail: pavle.djuraskovic@meteo.co.me

Ms Milena Bataković

Adviser in the Department for monitoring,
analyses and reporting
Montenegro (Environmental Protection Agency
of Montenegro)
IV Proleterske no. 19
Podgorica 81000
Montenegro

Tel: +382 20 446520
Fax: +382 20 446587
E-mail: milena.batakovic@epa.org.me

**MOROCCO
MAROC**

Mme Farah Bouqartacha

Chef de la Division Prévention et Stratégies
d'Intervention
Direction de la Surveillance et de la Prévention
des Risques
Département de l'Environnement
Secrétariat d'Etat chargé de l'Eau et de
l'Environnement

Tel : + 212 5 37 57 05 94
Fax : +212 5 37 57 05 88
Email : bouqartacha@environnement.gov.ma
fbouqartacha@gmail.com

**SLOVENIA
SLOVENIE**

Ms Alenka Malej

Marine Biological Station Piran - Institute of
Biology
University of Ljubljana
Fornace 41
P.O. Box 22
Piran
Slovenia

Tel: +386 5 6712903
Fax: +386 5 6712905
E-mail: malej@mbss.org

**SPAIN
ESPAGNE**

Mr Victor Escobar
Technical Adviser
Division for the Protection of the Sea
Ministry of the Environment and Rural and
Marine Affairs
Plaza de San Juan de la Cruz s/n
28071 Madrid
Spain

Tel: +34 915976038
E-mail: vaescobar@marm.es

Ms Ana Garcia Gonzalez
Head of Institutional Coordination Unit
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Medio Rural y
Marino
SG Calidad del Aire y Medio Ambiente Industrial
c/ Agustín de Betancourt 25, 1º
Madrid 28071

Tel: +34 91 4535363
E-mail: aggonzalez@marm.es

**TUNISIA
TUNISIE**

M Samir Kaabi
Chef de département Contrôle et suivi de la
pollution
Agence Nationale de Protection de
l'Environnement
Centre Urbain Nord
15 rue 7051 cité
Essalem 2080 Tunis
Tunisie

Tel: +216 71 750822
Fax: +216 71 753991
E-mail: dt.ctl@anpe.nat.tn

**TURKEY
TURQUIE**

Mr Omer Ozturk
Expert
Ministry of Environment and Forestry
General Directorate of Environmental
Management
Department of Marine and Coastal
Management
Sogutozu Cad. No: 14E 06560
Bestepe Ankara
Turkey

Tel: +90 312 207 52 65
Fax: +90 312 207 66 95
E-Mail: omer@cob.gov.tr

**OBSERVER
OBSERVER**

**PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY
AUTORITE PALESTINIENNE**

Mr Aaeid Ayoub

Head of Coastal and Marine Pollution Department
Environment Quality Authority,
West Bank
Ramallah
Palestinian Authority

Tel: +970 599 254786

Fax: +972 8 2471660

E-mail: ayed_ayoub@yahoo.com

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

**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 Francesco Saverio Civili
MED POL Coordinator
Tel: +30 210 72 73 106
E-mail: fscivili@unepmap.gr

Mr Michael Angelidis
MED POL Programme Officer
Tel: +30210 72 73 132
E-mail: angelidis@unepmap.g

Ms Tatiana Hema
MEDU Programme Officer
Tel: +30210 72 73 115
E-mail: thema@unepmap.gr

Mr Ivica Trumbic
Project Manager
GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean LME
Tel: +30 210 7273 102
E-mail: ivica.trumbic@unepmap.gr

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

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR CLEANER
PRODUCTION
CENTRE D'ACTIVITÉS RÉGIONALES POUR
UNE PRODUCTION PROPRE**

Mr Enrique de Villamore Martín

Director

Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production
Mediterranean Action Plan
United Nations Environment Programme
C/ Milanesat 25-27
08017 Barcelona
Spain

Tel:+34 93 553 8792

Fax:+34 93 553 8795

Email: evillamore@cprac.org

Ms Virginia Vidal

Technical Assistance

Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production
Mediterranean Action Plan
United Nations Environment Programme
C/ Milanesat 25-27
08017 Barcelona
Spain

Tel:+34 93 553 8785

Fax:+34 93 553 8795

E-mail: vvidal.tecnic@cprac.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 (WHO)
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ**

Mr George Kamizoulis
WHO/MED POL Senior Scientist
P.O. Box 18019
48 Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue
116 35 Athens
Greece

Tel: +30 210 72 73 105
Fax: +30 210 7253196/7
E-mail: whomed@hol.gr

**INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY
AGENCY
AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENERGIE
ATOMIQUE**

Ms Emiliya Vasileva Veleva
Research Scientist
Marine Environmental Studies Laboratory
IAEA-Marine Environment Laboratory
Department of Nuclear Sciences Applications
4 Quai Antoine 1er MC 98000
Principality of Monaco

Tel: + 377 97 97 72 37
Fax: + 377 97 97 72 76
E-mail: e.vasileva-veleva@iaea.org

**NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES**

**MIO-ECSDE
MIO-ECSDE**

Ms Thomais Vlachogianni

Programme Officer
Mediterranean Information Office for Environment,
Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)
12, Kyrristou str
10556, Athens
Greece

Tel: +30 2103247490, -3247267

Fax: +30 210 3317127

E-mail: vlachogianni@mio-ecsde.org, info@mio-ecsde.org

**HELMEPA
HELMEPA**

Mr Costas Triantafillou

Assistant Executive Coordinator
Maritime Training Center
HELMEPA
5 Pergamou Street
17121 N. Smyrni, Athens – Greece

Tel: +30 210 9343088

Fax: +30 210 9353847

E-mail: costatriantafillou@gmail.com

CLEAN UP GREECE

Ms Carla Manolopoulou

President "Clean up Greece"
Clean up Greece
Environmental Organisation
Troias 30
112 57 Athens
Greece

Tel: +30 210 8812440

Fax: +30 210 8213525

E-mail: desk@cleanupgreece.org.gr

ANNEX II

AGENDA

Provisional Agenda

- Agenda item 1.** Opening of the Meeting
- Agenda item 2.** Election of Officers
- Agenda item 3.** Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work
- Agenda item 4.** Review and approval of draft Regional Plans containing legally binding measures and timetables in the framework of Art.15 of the LBS Protocol
- Agenda item 5.** Review and approval of work carried out during 2010-2011
- Agenda item 6.** Review and approval of criteria and standards for bathing waters
- Agenda item 7.** Review and approval of a draft Strategy for an integrated management of marine litter
- Agenda item 8.** Review and approval of work plan for 2012-2013 MED POL activities
- Agenda item 9.** Other business
- Agenda item 10.** Conclusions and recommendations
- Agenda item 11.** Closure of the Meeting

ANNEX III
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regional Plans

- The Focal Points endorsed the content of the three draft Regional Plans on mercury, BOD₅ in the food sector and the nine POPs, and recommended their transmission to the MAP Focal Points for approval with the following amendments:
- In the Regional Plan on mercury, in Article 3, the measures related to the non-chlor alkali industry should present the recommended ELVs in two columns, the first one reporting the ELVs currently indicated in the draft plan as a target for 2015 and the second one with the available state-of-the-art ELVs as targets for 2019. In addition, other processes in chemical industries which use mercury catalysts should be identified and listed. The Focal Points endorsed the recommendations contained in the diagnosis of mercury in Mediterranean countries prepared by CP/RAC as a basis for future work.
- In the Regional Plan for the reduction of BOD₅ in the food sector, the text should be modified as amended by the meeting.
- In the Regional Plan for the nine POPs, endosulfan should be added and the exemptions related to lindane should be deleted.

Progress Report 2010-2011

- The Focal Points endorsed the activities carried out during the 2010-2011 biennium and requested MED POL to include in future a description and analysis of the activities carried out in fact sheets to be prepared for the proposed activities.
- The Focal Points expressed deep concern at the gaps in monitoring data resulting from the lack of reporting by a number of countries and urged all Mediterranean countries to comply with the legal obligation under the Barcelona Convention and the LBS Protocol to transmit marine monitoring data regularly to MED POL. The Focal Points requested the MAP Focal Points to address this issue.

Criteria and standards for bathing waters

- The Focal Points approved the criteria and standards proposed by MED POL and recommended their transmission to the MAP Focal Points for consideration and adoption, with the addition of a detailed chapter giving the background for the integration of beach profiles into the process of applying the criteria and standards.

Marine litter

- The Focal Points warmly welcomed the preparation of a draft strategy for the management of marine litter. In this respect, they asked the MED POL Secretariat to prepare a short policy document taking fully into account the activities envisaged for the implementation of the ECAP road map to ensure convergence and avoid overlapping and to transmit it to the MAP Focal Points for approval. The current draft strategy should be amended to highlight links with the ECAP and should be used as appropriate for the preparation of the policy document and for the future formulation of an action plan. The action plan should be prepared by MED POL in cooperation with the MAP components concerned and other competent partners. The Focal Points recommended that consideration be given to cooperation with the Blue Flag programme.

2012-2013 MED POL work programme and budget

- The Focal Points expressed strong concern at the proposed 20 per cent cut in the MED POL budget and recalled that it had not been approved by the Contracting Parties.
- The Focal Points approved the programme of activities, as amended, and reiterated the request to the Secretariat to prepare in future fact sheets for each activity. For the purposes of transparency, the Focal Points requested that MED POL formulate the budget in such a way as to indicate the full cost of the implementation of the activities, showing both the resources actually available and those that would have to be sought.
- The Focal Points requested MED POL to coordinate the process of preparing the new MAP integrated monitoring programme, in line with the ecosystem approach and in cooperation with relevant MAP components and other relevant organizations, as appropriate.
- The Focal Points expressed deep concern at the fact that the MED POL information system and the website were not yet operational in spite of the work done and the data collected by MED POL. They also decided that the issue should be brought to the attention of the MAP Coordinator and discussed at the next MAP Focal Points meeting, together with all information systems under development for all MAP components within the framework of the preparation of INFOMAP.
- The Focal Points requested MED POL to prepare a report on all MED POL technical assistance and capacity-building activities with a view to a holistic discussion.
- The Focal Points requested MED POL to keep them fully informed of and involved in the implementation of any related project in which MED POL was implementing activities.
- The Focal Points expressed full support for the activity financed by the GEF Strategic Partnership aimed at the disposal of PCBs, agreed on the proposed MTF allocation for this activity, pending the immediate submission of a detailed programme of work, and requested that the necessary additional funding be secured from external sources.

ANNEX IV

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR THE REDUCTION OF MERCURY AS PART OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ART. 15 OF THE LBS PROTOCOL**

A- Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of Mercury in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

1. Rationale

1.1 The LBS Protocol

The LBS Protocol stipulates that countries shall take the appropriate measures to prevent, abate, combat and eliminate to the fullest possible extent pollution of the Mediterranean sea Area caused by discharges from rivers, coastal establishments or outfalls, or emanating from any other land-based sources and activities within their territories, giving priorities to the phasing out of inputs of substances that are toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate. Annex 1 of the Protocol describes the sectors (Annex 1a) on which the provisions are applied and Annex 1c lists the priority categories of substances where mercury is included (see Annex 1c, 5) among heavy metals and their compounds". In addition, the meeting of MED POL Focal Points held in Kalamata in 2009 (Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 334/8), decided to include Mercury in the action list of substances to be addressed as priority in the framework of Art 15 of the LBS Protocol.

1.2 Outcomes of the Stockholm Convention Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee (INC-1) on Mercury

As a result of the decision GC5/25 III of the Governing Council of UNEP, the first round of negotiations on the development of global legal instrument on Mercury was launched in July 2009 in Stockholm, Sweden.

The most relevant conclusions of INC-1 are summarized as follows:

- There was a general consensus that a robust and comprehensive legally binding instrument on mercury was needed, and many representatives said that their countries would fully support the negotiating process.
- The instrument should have strategic and realistic goals, with substantial reduction targets, with some adding that it should be developed and ratified as a package, that countries should not be allowed to pick and choose among its provisions and that it should have specific time frames for the reduction targets.
- There was considerable support among representatives of developing countries for the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and for the provision of funding, technology transfer and capacity-building to enable developing countries to fulfill their obligations under the instrument without compromising poverty reduction in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Many representatives expressed support for a ban on new and expanded mercury mining and the phase-out of existing mining operations.
- Many representatives advocated the development of a timeline for the progressive reduction of the mercury supply, with some saying that the pace and extent of reductions should take into account specific national circumstances and that exemptions should be allowed for specific, essential and acceptable uses, similarly to the exemptions available under the Stockholm Convention. The timeline should also feature a procedure for granting extensions for mercury use and should be linked to technical and financial assistance and capacity-building. One representative said that provisions to prohibit mercury use and trade should complement provisions to restrict the mercury supply.

- Many representatives supported a ban on the introduction of new types of products and processes containing or using mercury. Many also expressed broad support for phasing out, limiting or otherwise controlling existing products and processes containing mercury. A number of approaches were suggested for future consideration, including phase-out of all products and processes containing or using mercury, phase-out with time-limited exemptions for certain processes or in certain locations where economically feasible and cost-effective alternatives did not yet exist, banning specific products or processes, requiring the use of best available technologies and best environmental practices, employing public-private partnerships and voluntary approaches within particular sectors, and labeling products to assist consumers and regulators in making informed choices.
- There was consensus that there was an urgent need to provide for appropriate disposal of mercury wastes to protect human health and the environment and that waste issues were closely linked to issues of supply, demand and trade.
- There was a general consensus that environmentally safe storage of mercury was a complex cross-cutting issue and of particular importance for achieving the objectives of the instrument.
- Many representatives said that atmospheric emissions of mercury were a priority issue to be tackled under the mercury instrument because of the potential for long-range transport and because they were the largest source of global mercury pollution. Many said that the instrument should also pertain to emissions that occurred directly into soil or water, the national and international impact of various types of mercury emissions and the myriad sources of atmospheric emissions, including coal-fired power generation, cement production, metals processing and other industrial sources. Many representatives outlined efforts under way in their countries and regions to reduce such emissions, to gather relevant information and to support research.
- A number of representatives said that emissions from chlor-alkali manufacture or mining should be discussed separately from emissions from other sources.
- UNEP foresees 5 intergovernmental negotiations meeting before reaching a final agreement in 2013.

2. Proposed Regional Plan

The Secretariat proposal here below is based on the findings and recommendations of the Diagnosis of Mercury in the Mediterranean countries' undertaken by UNEP/MAP-CP/RAC in 2010-2011 and takes into full consideration the status of the global negotiations, the provisions of the LBS Protocol, the EU Water Frame Directive (WFD) and the EU Marine Strategy Directive, the common measures adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 1985, the national regulations on Mercury of Mediterranean Countries (see Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 352/Inf. 3) and follows the provisions of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol.

The proposed text is providing hard measures to the reduction of pollution from Chlor Alkaline industry, other industrial sectors, releases to air from incineration and soft measures to new Chlor alkaline plants and use of mercury in agriculture, electronic equipment, dentistry, laboratories, decontamination and research, in addition to wastes containing Mercury and mining of Mercury.

The secretariat, taking into consideration the global negotiations on Mercury, did not consider the inclusion of any measures related to production, export and import, appropriate at this stage.

Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of Mercury in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

For the purpose of this Action Plan:

- (a) "Emission Limit Values (ELVs)" means the maximum allowable concentration measured as a "composite" sample, of a pollutant in an effluent discharged to the environment.
- (b) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes, of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste (reference to Annex IV of the LBS Protocol).
- (c) "Secretariat" means the body referred to in article 17 of the Barcelona Convention, as amended in 1995.
- (d) LBS Protocol refers to the amended version of 1996 of the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE II

Scope and Objective:

- 1. The area to which this Regional Plan applies is the area defined in accordance with Art. 3 of the LBS Protocol. This is intended for all the anthropogenic releases in accordance with the requirements of article 4 of the LBS Protocol.
- 2. The objective of this Regional Plan is to protect the coastal and marine environment and human health from the adverse effects of Mercury

ARTICLE III

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the levels of mercury contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE IV

Measures

A Chlor alkali industry

- 1- The parties shall prohibit the installation of new Chlor alkali plants using mercury cells with immediate effect.
- 2- The parties shall prohibit the installation of vinyl chloride monomer production plants using mercury as a catalyst with immediate effect.
- 3- The parties shall ensure that the releases of mercury from Chlor alkali plants shall cease by 2020 at the latest and
 - i) that the environmentally sound management of metallic mercury from the decommissioned plants is achieved, including the prohibition of its re-entry into the market.
 - ii) that the total releases of mercury (to the air, the water and to the products) from existing Chlor alkali plants are progressively reduced until their final cessation, so as not to exceed

1.0g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant. In doing so, the air emissions should not exceed 0.9g per metric tonne of installed chlorine production capacity in each plant.

B Non Chlor alkali industry

1. The Parties shall adopt by 2015 and 2019 National ELVs for Mercury emissions from other than Chlor Alkali industry as follows:

A. Chemical industries using Mercury catalysts:

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
a) Use of mercury catalysts in the manufacture of polyurethane elastomers	50	5	µg/l effluent
b) Acetaldehyde production with mercury-sulphate (HgSO ₄) as catalyst	50	5	µg/l effluent
c) Vinyl acetate production with Hg catalysts	50	5	µg/l effluent
d) Production of the cube (1-amino anthrachion) colours/pigments with Hg catalyst	50	5	µg/l effluent
e) Use of mercury intermediates for production of other mercury compounds	50	5	µg/l effluent
f) Use of mercury intermediates in the pharmaceutical / chemical industry	50	5	µg/l effluent
g) Manufacture of mercury catalysts	50	5	µg/l effluent
h) Manufacture of organic and non-organic mercury compounds	50	5	µg/l effluent

B. Batteries industry

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
Manufacture of batteries containing mercury	50	5	µg/l effluent

C. Non-ferrous metal industry

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
a-Mercury recovery plants	50	5	µg/l effluent
b-Extraction and refining of non-ferrous metals	50	5	µg/l effluent

D. Waste Treatment

	ELV 2015	ELV 2019	Unit of Measurement
Plants for the treatment of wastes	50	5	µg/l effluent

2. The Parties shall adopt National ELVs for Mercury emissions from incineration plants as follows:

Waste gas	0.05	mg/m ³
-----------	------	-------------------

3. **The Parties shall take the necessary measures to reduce the inputs of Mercury emissions from other sectors and use alternatives as appropriate.**
4. Mercury containing wastes

The Parties shall take the necessary measures to isolate and contain the mercury containing wastes to avoid potential contamination of air, soil or water.
5. Decontamination

The Parties shall identify and take the necessary measures to decontaminate the existing sites which have been historically contaminated with mercury in particular old mines and decommissioned Chlor alkali plants. To this end,

 - i. the Parties shall carry out an inventory of the sites and report to the Secretariat by January 2013,
 - ii. the Secretariat shall prepare guidelines on BEPs for discussion and approval by the parties in 2013
 - iii. the Parties shall report in 2015 on the measures envisaged for the decontamination of the sites by making use of the approved guidelines on BEPs.
6. The Parties shall neither open new mines nor re-open old mercury mining sites.
7. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor releases of Mercury into water and air to verify compliance with the requirements of the above table taking into account the guidelines included in Appendix I.
8. **The Parties shall take the necessary steps to enforce the above measures.**

ARTICLE V

Timetable for Implementation

The Parties shall implement the above measures according to the timetables indicated in the respective Articles. A national programme of action, including the adopted deadlines, shall be prepared and communicated to the Secretariat within 180 days after the adoption of the regional plan by the Contracting Parties. The Secretariat shall inform the Parties accordingly.

ARTICLE VI

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures, on their effectiveness and difficulties encountered. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in 2015.

ARTICLE VII

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building, including transfer of know-how and technology, shall be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority shall be given upon request to Parties to the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The present regional Action Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180 day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the LBS Protocol.

ANNEX V

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR THE REDUCTION OF BOD₅ IN THE FOOD SECTOR AS PART OF
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ART. 15 OF THE LBS PROTOCOL**

A- Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of organic load (BOD) from food sector in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

1. Rationale

1.1 The LBS Protocol

According to the provisions of the LBS Protocol, countries shall take the appropriate measures to prevent, abate, combat and eliminate to the fullest possible extent pollution of the Mediterranean sea Area caused by discharges from rivers, coastal establishments or outfalls, or emanating from any other land-based sources and activities within their territories, giving priorities to the phasing out of inputs of substances that are toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate. Annex 1(a) of the Protocol outlines the sectors on which the provisions of the Protocol should apply and specifically the food sectors (1a, 21); Annex 1c lists the priority categories of substances which might be released from food sectors as follows:

Annex 1c, 13: compounds of nitrogen and phosphorus and other substances which may cause eutrophication;

Annex 1c, 17: non-toxic substances that have adverse effect on the oxygen content of the marine environment; and

Annex 1c, 19: non-toxic substances that may have adverse effects on the physical or chemical characteristics of sea water.

In addition, the meeting of MED POL Focal Points held in Kalamata in 2009 (Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 334/8), decided to include substances releases from food sectors in the action list of substances to be addressed as priority in the framework of Art 15 of the LBS Protocol.

2. Proposed Regional Plan

The Secretariat proposal related to the reduction of nutrients and BOD₅ from the food sectors here below takes into full account the LBS Protocol, the EU WFD and Waste Water and the Marine Strategy Directives, the national regulations on food sectors of the Mediterranean Countries (see Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 352/Inf.4) and follows the provisions of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol.

The proposed text includes ELVs for the reduction of BOD₅, making use of up-to-date BAT and BEP. The proposal is addressing only industries which are releasing more that 25 m³/d of waste water.

* For the purpose of this Regional Plan, "the LBS Protocol" means the 1996 amended Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities

Regional Plan on the reduction of inputs of BOD₅ from selected food sectors in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

For the purpose of this Action Plan:

- (a) "Emission Limit Values (ELVs)" means the maximum allowable concentration measured as a "composite" sample, of a pollutant in an effluent discharged to the environment.
- (b) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste. (Annex IV, A of LBS Protocol).
- (c) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies. (Annex IV, B of LBS Protocol).
- (d) "Secretariat" means the body referred to in article 17 of the Barcelona Convention, as amended in 1995.
- (e) LBS Protocol refers to the amended version of 1996 of the LBS Protocol.
- (f) 1 p.e. (population equivalent) means the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅) of 60 g of oxygen per day;

ARTICLE II

Scope and Objective:

- 1. The area to which this Regional Plan applies is the area defined in accordance with Art. 3 of the LBS Protocol. This is intended for all the food sector industries listed in Appendix I within the hydrological basin discharging directly or indirectly into the Mediterranean Sea.
- 2. The objective of this Regional Plan is to prevent pollution and to protect the coastal and marine environment from the adverse effects of discharges of organic load (BOD₅) from food sectors.

ARTICLE III

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the levels of organic load (BOD₅) from food sectors contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE IV

Measures

- 1. Reduction of pollution load by application of BEP and BAT

Industrial Food Plants outlined in Appendix I which discharge more than 4 000 pe into water bodies shall meet the following requirements (24-hour values)

Parameter	Value
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	160 mg/l
or	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	55 mg/l
Biochemical Oxygen Demand BOD ₅ or (BOD ₇)	30 mg/l

In case the food sector installation discharges into the sewerage system, the competent authorities shall establish ELV and an authorization compatible with the operation and the emission discharge values of the urban waste water treatment plant.

Appendix II and document UNEP/MAP MTS 142, entitled "Guidelines for the application of BATs and BEPs in industrial sources of BOD, Nutrients and Suspended Solids for the Mediterranean Region", could be used as relevant references for the implementation of the above measures.

2. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies shall monitor related discharges into water to verify compliance with the requirements of the above table taking into account the guidelines included in Appendix I.
3. The Parties shall take the necessary steps to enforce these measures in accordance with their national regulations.
4. The values referred in this article will be reviewed in 2015 by the Parties on the basis of reports prepared on the implementation of the measures and on possible difficulties encountered, taking into account new developments on BAT and BEP and on EQ standards in the region.

ARTICLE V

Timetable for Implementation

The Parties shall implement by 2014 the ELVs indicated in the table of article IV above on the same sectors outlined in Appendix I, taking into account their national circumstances the respective capacity to implement the required measures and the need to reduce the use of water in the industrial sectors of Appendix II using BAT and BEP

ARTICLE VI

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures, their effectiveness and difficulties encountered.

ARTICLE VII

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building, including transfer of know-how and technology will be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority will be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The present regional Action Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180 day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the LBS Protocol.

REFERENCE METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

Internationally accepted standardized sampling, analyzing and quality assurance methods (e.g. CEN-standards, ISO-standards and OECD-Guidelines) should be used whenever available.

APPENDIX I

BRANCHES OF FOOD INDUSTRIES

- 1) Dairy industry
- 2) Fruit and vegetable processing
- 3) Breweries
- 4) Winery and Distilleries
- 5) Fish processing industry
- 6) Sugar manufacturing
- 7) Vegetable oil processing
- 8) Canning and preserving
- 9) Meat processing and slaughtering

APPENDIX II
GUIDELINES FOR THE REDUCTION OF WASTE WATER VOLUME AND POLLUTION
LOAD BY THE FOLLOWING

- automatic control of processes;
- installation of cooling circuits instead of run-through-cooling;
- use of vapor condensates for cleaning operations;
- recycling of preheated water from heat exchangers for cleaning operations;
- recycling of low polluted waste waters for cleaning operations;
- multiple use of cleaning waters;
- use of biodegradable cleaning agents;
- decentralized cleaning stations in order to shorten the pipes for cleaning agents;
- push away of liquid products in pipes with compressed air and vacuum instead of water;
- use of nitric acid for cleaning operations instead of other acids;
- control of product losses by continuous waste water sampling and analyses;
- improving the basic technology for reducing raw material losses;
- installation of safety mechanisms to prevent overfilling;
- use of peroxyacids instead of chlorine-containing cleaning agents and disinfectants to avoid generation of hazardous chlorinated substances;
- mechanical cleaning before cleaning with liquids and disinfection to minimize the use of cleaning agents and disinfectants;
- controlled discharge of waters containing disinfectants in order to protect subsequent biological treatment;
- collection of product residues for further use, e.g. as feed for animals and fertilizers;
- separate collection and disposal of disinfectant rests and used concentrates;
- separate collection and treatment of fat, blood and nutrients;
- transportation of processed fish and sea products in a plant preferably without water;
- equipment of floor drains with fixed sink strainers.

ANNEX VI

**REGIONAL PLAN FOR THE REDUCTION OF NINE POPS AS PART OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ART. 15 OF THE LBS PROTOCOL**

A- Regional Plans on the reduction of inputs of nine Chemicals in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

1. Rationale

1.1 The LBS Protocol

According to the provisions of the LBS Protocol, countries shall take the appropriate measures to prevent, abate, combat and eliminate to the fullest possible extent pollution of the Mediterranean sea Area caused by discharges from rivers, coastal establishments or outfalls, or emanating from any other land-based sources and activities within their territories, giving priorities to the phasing out of inputs of substances that are toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate. Annex 1 of the Protocol outlines the sectors (Annex 1a) on which the provisions of the Protocol should apply. Annex 1c lists the priority categories of substances which might be released, as follows:

Annex 1c,1: Organohalogenes compounds and substances which may form such compounds in the marine environment;

Annex 1c,4: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons;

Annex 1c,8: Biocides and their derivatives.

1.2 The Stockholm Convention

The Contracting Parties to the Stockholm Convention at their fourth meeting held in Geneva in 2009 amended the Annex A and Annex B of the Convention to include nine new chemicals classified under Chlorinated Pesticides, Flame retardant and Chlorinated substances as follows:

- I- Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane;
- II- Beta hexachlorocyclohexane;
- III- Hexabromobiphenyl;
- IV- Chlordecone;
- V- Pentachlorobenzene;
- VI- Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and Pentabromodiphenyl ether;
- VII- Hexabromodiphenyl ether and Heptabromodiphenyl ether;
Lindane;
- VII- Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride;

The amendments have been proposed by the Convention review committee as a result of exhaustive negotiations between the Parties to the Convention.

2. Proposed Regional Plans

The proposed Regional Plans take into full account the LBS Protocol, the amendments to the Stockholm Convention of 2009, the EU Water Framework, Hazardous Substances and the Marine Strategy Directives, the national regulations on POPs in force in Mediterranean Countries (see Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 352/Inf. 5) and follows the provisions of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol.

The present Regional Plans indeed constitute a step forward for the Mediterranean region. In fact, not all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention are Parties to the Stockholm Convention and therefore the provisions of these plans would be applicable to all Mediterranean Countries including those that are manufacturing some of the targeted

substances. In addition, in some cases the Plans present stricter measures (deadline for implementation and /or exemptions) than the Stockholm Convention, in line with the approach adopted by the Regional Plan on chlorinated pesticides adopted by the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in November 2009 (Decisions 19/8 and 19/9).

A-1 *Regional Plan on the phasing out of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) "HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER has a CAS No: 68631-49-2 ,207122-15-4

It is used as flame retardant in thermoplastic acrinotril-butadiene-styrene (ABS) for the construction, electric appliance and electrical products industries as well as in polyurethane foam for auto upholstery.

- (b) "HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER" has a CAS No;446255-22-7,207122-16-5

It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and flexible polyurethane (PUR) without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.

- (c) TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER "has a CAS No: 40088-47-9, and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER" has a CAS No: 32534-81-9

It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and PUR without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.

- (d) "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)" are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.

- (e) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.(e)"Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.

- (f) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.

- (g) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and its waste in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that these chemicals as active substances or as wastes are imported or exported only:
 - (a) for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal according to the provisions of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal;
 - (b) for a use or purpose which is permitted for that Party under Appendix A.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER*. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.

5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.
6. A Party may allow recycling of articles that contain or may contain tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether, and the use and final disposal of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain or may contain tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether, provided that:
 - (a) The recycling and final disposal is carried out in an environmentally sound manner and does not lead to recovery of tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether for the purpose of their reuse;
 - (b) The Party does not allow this exemption to lead to the export of articles containing levels/concentrations of tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether that exceed those permitted to be sold within the territory of the Party; and the Party has notified the Secretariat of its intention to make use of this exemption;

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures to eliminate HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in [2013] and the chemical waste and stock piles by [2015] at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in [2013].

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority would be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and *PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER* and they should report to the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention before [2013].

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

List of Accepted Purposes and Specific Exemptions for HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER.

^a Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS ^{a b}
HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER	Production	None
	use	<p>1. A Party may allow recycling of articles that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, and the use and final disposal of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, provided that:</p> <p>(a) The recycling and final disposal is carried out in an environmentally sound manner and does not lead to recovery of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether for the purpose of their reuse</p> <p>(b) The Party takes steps to prevent exports of such articles that contain levels/concentration of heptabromodiphenyl ether exceeding those permitted for the sale, use, import or manufacture of those articles within territory of the Party; and</p> <p>(c) The Party has notified the Secretariat of its intention to make use of this exemption.</p> <p>2. At its every second ordinary meeting thereafter the Conference of the Parties shall evaluate the progress that Parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether contained in articles and review the continued need for this specific exemption. This specific exemption shall in any case expire at the latest in [2020].</p>

standard.

^b Except quantities of the chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Appendix

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS ^{a b}
<i>TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER AND PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER</i>	Production	None
	use	Articles in accordance with the provisions of part 6 of the Art II

^a. Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

^b. Except quantities of the chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Appendix.

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER Wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - i. Stockpiles consisting of or containing HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* and its derivatives;

- ii. Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER*;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 - i. label information where HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
 - ii. or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
 3. Waste holders of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER*, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.
 4. HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
 5. Mixing or bulking of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.
 6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
 7. Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
 8. HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER* waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.
- B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with HEXABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, HEPTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER, *TETRABROMODIPHENYL ETHER and PENTABROMODIPHENIL ETHER*.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned.

A-2 *Regional Plan on the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) "LINDANE" has a CAS No: 58-89-9. It is used as high-spectrum insecticide for seed and soil treatment, foliar applications, tree and wood treatment and also for antiparasitic applications to humans and animals.
- (b) "ENDOSULFAN" is technical endosulfan CAS 115-29-7 with its isomers CAS 959-98-8, and 33213-65-9; and Endosulfan sulphate CAS 1031-07-8. It is used to effectively control several pests on a very range of crops.
- (b) "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)" are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.
- (c) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.
- (d) "Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.
- (e) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.
- (f) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:

(a) the production and use of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and

- (b) the import and export of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its waste in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN as an active substance or as a waste is imported or exported only:
- (a) for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal according to the provisions of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal,
- (b) for a use or purpose which is permitted for that Party under Appendix A.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
- (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
- (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
- (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
- (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of Lindane and Endosulfan. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures to eliminate LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in [2013] and the chemical waste and stock piles by [2013] at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in [2013].

ARTICLE VI

Technical Assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority would be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII

Identification of Stock Piles

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and they should report to the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention before [2013].

ARTICLE VIII

Entry into Force

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

List of Accepted Purposes and Specific Exemptions for LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS ^{a b}
LINDANE	Production	None
	Use	Human health pharmaceutical for control of head lice and scabies a second line treatment

^a Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

^b Except quantities of the chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Annex.

Chemical	Activity	Specific exemption
Technical endosulfan* (CAS No: 115-29-7) and its related isomers* (CAS No: 959-98-8 and CAS No: 33213-65-9)	Production	None
	Use	Crop-pest complexes as listed below

Crop	Pest
Cotton	Cotton bollworms, pink bollworm, aphids, jassids, whiteflies, thrips, leafroller
Jute	Bihar hairy caterpillar, yellow mite
Coffee	Berry borer, stem borer
Tea	Aphids, caterpillars, tea mosquito bugs, mealybugs, scale insects, thrips, flushworm, smaller green leaf hopper, tea geometrid
Tobacco	Oriental tobacco bud worm, aphids
Cow peas, beans, tomato	Whiteflies, aphids, leaf miner
Okra, tomato, eggplant	Fruit and shoot borer, diamondback moth, aphids, jassids
Onion, potato, chillies	Aphids, jassids
Apple	Yellow aphids
Mango	Hopper, fruit fly
Gram, arhar	Aphids, caterpillar, pod borer, pea semilooper
Maize	Aphids, stem borer, pink borer
Paddy/rice	White jassids, stem borer, gall midge, rice hispa
Wheat	Aphids, termites, pink borer
Groundnuts	Aphids
Mustard	Aphids, gall midge

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - i Stockpiles consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its derivatives;
 - ii Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of LINDANE waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 - i label information where LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
 - ii or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
 3. Waste pesticide holders, including farmers and householders, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.

4. LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
5. Mixing or bulking of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.
6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
7. Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
8. LINDANE and ENDOSULFAN waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.

B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 Plan for the Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with LINDANE and or ENDOSULFAN.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned.

A-3 *Regional Plan on the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

- (a) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE “has a CAS No: CAS No:1763-23-1 and its Salts CAS No:307-35-7 It is used almost exclusively for the manufacture of flexible polyurethane (PUR) foam for furniture and upholstery in homes and vehicles, packaging and PUR without foam for electronic equipment. It is also sometimes used in specialized applications in textiles and industry.
- (b) “Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)” are organic compounds from natural or anthropogenic origin that possess toxic properties, resist physical, chemical and biological degradation, bioaccumulate in high concentrations through the food web and are transported through air, water and migratory species, reaching regions where they have never been produced or used; their high persistence pose a risk of causing adverse effects to the environment and human health.
- (c) “Wastes” means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.
- (d) “Environmentally sound management of pesticides wastes” means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.
- (e) “Best Available Techniques (BAT)” means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.
- (f) “Best Environmental Practices (BEP)” means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE contained in other existing or future, national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

- 1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, ITS SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, ITS SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its waste in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article
- 2. The Parties shall ensure that this chemical as an active substance or as a waste is imported or exported only:

- (a) for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal according to the provisions of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal,
 - (b) for a use or purpose which is permitted for that Party under Appendix A.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that such PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
- (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BEPs for environmentally sound management of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies monitor the implementation of the measures.
6. Also decides that:
- (a) The production and use of Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and Perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) shall be eliminated by all Parties except as provided in Appendix A for Parties that have notified the Secretariat of their intention to produce and/or use them for acceptable purposes. A Register of Acceptable Purposes is hereby established and shall be available to the public. The Secretariat shall maintain the Register of Acceptable Purposes. In the event that a Party not listed in the Register determines that it requires the use of PFOS, its salts or PFOSF for the acceptable purposes listed in Appendix A it shall notify the Secretariat as soon as possible in order to have its name added forthwith to the Register;
 - (b) Parties that produce and/or use these chemicals shall take into account, as appropriate, guidance such as that given in the relevant parts of the general guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices given in Appendix B of the Convention;
 - (c) Every two years each Party that uses and/or produces these chemicals shall report on progress made to eliminate PFOS, its salts and PFOSF and submit information on such progress to the Conference of the Parties pursuant to and in the process of reporting under Article 26 of Barcelona Convention and Art.13 of the LBS Protocol;

- (d) With the goal of reducing and ultimately eliminating the production and/or use of these chemicals, the Conference of the Parties shall encourage:
- (i) Each Party using these chemicals to take action to phase out uses when suitable alternative substances or methods are available;
 - (ii) The Parties, within their capabilities, to promote research on and development of safe alternative chemical and non-chemical products and processes, methods and strategies for Parties using these chemicals, relevant to the conditions of those Parties. Factors to be promoted when considering alternatives or combinations of alternatives shall include the human health risks and environmental implications of such alternatives;
- (e) The Conference of the Parties shall evaluate the continued need for these chemicals for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions on the basis of available scientific, technical, environmental and economic information, including:
- (i) Information provided in their national reports;
 - (ii) Information on the production and use of these chemicals;
 - (iii) Information on the availability, suitability and implementation of alternatives to these chemicals;
 - (iv) Information on progress in building the capacity of countries to transfer safely to reliance on such alternatives;
- (f) The evaluation referred to in the preceding paragraph shall take place not later than in [2013], in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- (g) Due to the complexity of the use and the many sectors of society involved in the use of these chemicals, there might be other uses of these chemicals of which countries are not presently aware. Parties which become aware of other uses are encouraged to inform the Secretariat as soon as possible;
7. A Party may, at any time, withdraw its name from the Register of acceptable purposes upon written notification to the Secretariat. The withdrawal shall take effect on the date specified in the notification.

ARTICLE IV

Timetables for Implementation

Each Party shall implement the measures to eliminate PERFLUOROCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in [2013] and the chemical waste and stock piles by [2013] at the latest.

ARTICLE V

Reporting

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol, the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in [2013]

ARTICLE VI**Technical Assistance**

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology would be provided by the Parties and the Secretariat. Priority would be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII**Identification of Stock Piles**

The Parties should identify to the extent practicable stock piles consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and they should report to the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention before [2013].

ARTICLE VIII**Entry into Force**

The regional plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

List of Accepted Purposes and Specific Exemptions for PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE.

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS ^{a b}
PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID,ITS SALTS ANDPERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE	Production	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with part III of this Annex, production of other chemicals to be used solely for the uses below. Production for uses listed below. Specific exemption: As allowed for Parties listed in the Register.
	use	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with part III of this Annex for the following acceptable purposes, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following acceptable purposes: Photo-imaging Photo-resist and anti-reflective coatings for semi-conductors Etching agent for compound semi-conductors and ceramic filters Aviation hydraulic fluids Metal plating (hard metal plating) only in closed-loop systems Certain medical devices (such as ethylene tetrafluoroethylene copolymer (ETFE) layers and radio-opaque ETFE production, in-vitro diagnostic medical devices, and CCD colour filters) Fire-fighting foam Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants from <i>Atta</i> spp. and <i>Acromyrmex</i> spp. Specific exemption: For the following specific uses, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following specific uses: Photo masks in the semiconductor and liquid crystal display (LCD) industries Metal plating (hard metal plating) Metal plating (decorative plating) Electric and electronic parts for some colour printers and colour copy machines Insecticides for control of red imported fire ants and termites Chemically driven oil production Carpets Leather and apparel Textiles and upholstery Paper and packaging Coatings and coating additives Rubber and plastics

^a Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

^b Except quantities of the chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Annex.

APPENDIX B

Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for Environmentally Sound Management of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE Wastes

- A. Several BEPs for the phasing out of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - i. Stockpiles consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its derivatives;
 - ii. Products in use and wastes consisting of or containing PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 3. label information where PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
- (a) Waste holders, shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession.
 - (b) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection programme.
 - (c) Mixing or bulking of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques.
 - (d) Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority.
 - (e) Endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to identify sites contaminated by PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE and its derivatives. Remediation should be undertaken in an environmentally sound manner.
 - (f) PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country.
- B. The BEP list above mentioned is not exhaustive; more extensive and detailed information is described in the MAP Technical Report n° 155 "Plan for the

Management of PCB Waste and Nine Pesticides for the Mediterranean Region”, in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Convention (Annex B Part II), and in the Basel Convention Technical guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Management of Wastes Consisting of, Containing or Contaminated with PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID, its SALTS and PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONYL FLUORIDE.

The Parties shall add to, and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned.

A-4 *Regional Plan on the elimination of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol*

ARTICLE I

Definitions of Terms

(a) *Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane* has a CAS No: 319-84-6. It is an unintentional derivate for discarding. It is a by-product of the production of the insecticide lindane.

Beta hexachlorocyclohexane has a CAS No: 319-85-7. It is an unintentional derivate for discarding. It is a by-product of the production of the insecticide lindane

Chlordecane has a CAS No: 143-50-0. Pesticide previously used to treat root disease of banana, mildew, potato moth, rust, other insects, and in traps.

Hexabromobiphenil has a CAS No: 36355-01-8. It has been used as a flame retardant in thermoplastic acrinotril-butadiene-styrene (ABS) for the construction, electric appliance and electrical products industry as well as in polyurethane foam for auto upholstery.

Pentachlorobenze has a CAS No: 608-93-5. There are currently no intentional uses, although it has been discovered in the following uses: PCBs, packages of dyes, flame retardants and pesticides (quintozene, endosulfan, chlorpyrifos methyl, atrazine and clopirilida). It is also used as an intermediate in the manufacture of the fungicide pentachloronitrobenzene.

(b) "Wastes" means substances or objects which are disposed of or are intended to be disposed of or are required to be disposed of by the provisions of national law.

(c) "Environmentally Sound Management" of pesticides wastes" means taking all practical steps to ensure that wastes are collected, transported, and disposed of (including after-care of disposal sites) in a manner which will protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes.

(d) "Best Available Techniques (BAT)" means the latest stage of development (state of the art) of processes of facilities, or of methods of operation which indicate the practical suitability of a particular measure for limiting discharges, emissions and waste.

(e) "Best Environmental Practices (BEP)" means the application of the most appropriate combination of environmental control measures and strategies.

ARTICLE II

Preservation of Rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting the elimination of:

- *Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane*
- *Beta hexachlorocyclohexane*
- *Chlordecane*
- *Hexabromobiphenil*
- *Pentachlorobenzen*

contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

ARTICLE III

Measures

1. The Parties shall prohibit and/or take legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate:
 - (a) the production and use of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen, subject to the provisions of Appendix A; and
 - (b) the import and export of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen and their wastes, in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article.
2. The Parties shall ensure that Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen as active substances and/or as waste are imported or exported only:
 - (a) for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal according to the provisions of the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures so that such wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, are:
 - (a) handled, collected, transported and stored in an environmentally sound manner;
 - (b) disposed of in such a way that the persistent organic pollutant content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed so that they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants or otherwise disposed of in an environmentally sound manner when destruction or irreversible transformation does not represent the environmentally preferable option or the persistent organic pollutant content is low, taking into account international rules, standards, and guidelines, and relevant global and regional regimes governing the management of hazardous wastes and the Basel Convention;
 - (c) not permitted to be subjected to disposal operations that may lead to recovery, recycling, reclamation, direct reuse or alternative uses of persistent organic pollutants; and
 - (d) not transported across international boundaries without taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines.
4. The Contracting Parties shall endeavor to apply BAT and BEPs for environmentally sound management of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen. In doing so, the information provided in Appendix B shall, among others, be used.
5. Each Party shall at a minimum take measures to reduce the total releases derived from anthropogenic releases of Pentachlorobenzen, with the goal of their continuing minimization and, where feasible, ultimate elimination in accordance with the obligations under article 5 of the Stockholm Convention taking into consideration the Guidelines on BAT and BEP and new progresses on this issue developed within the framework of the mentioned Convention.
6. The Parties shall ensure that their competent authorities or appropriate bodies shall monitor the implementation of the measures.

ARTICLE IV**Timetables for implementation**

Each Party shall implement the measures to eliminate the chemicals listed in Appendix A by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in [2013] and their chemical wastes and stock piles by [2013] at the latest.

ARTICLE V**Reporting**

In conformity with Article 26 of the Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), the Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of the above measures and on their effectiveness. In doing so, the Contracting Parties agree that the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention shall be adjusted to be, as much as possible, in line with the reporting requirements – both in terms of content and timing – of the Stockholm Convention and with other Parties' reporting obligations on chemicals, as appropriate. The Contracting Parties should review the status of implementation of these measures in [2013].

ARTICLE VI**Technical Assistance**

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures, capacity building including transfer of know-how and technology will be provided by the countries and the Secretariat. Priority will be given to those Parties who have ratified the LBS Protocol.

ARTICLE VII**Identification of Stock Piles**

The Parties should identify, to the extent practicable, stock piles consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Appendix A, and they should report to the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention before [2013].

ARTICLE VIII**Entry into Force**

The Regional Plan shall enter into force and become binding on the 180th day following the day of notification by the Secretariat in accordance with Article 15, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the LBS Protocol.

APPENDIX A

Part I – List of Chemicals Subject to Elimination, and Specific Exemptions.

CHEMICAL	ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC EXEMPTIONS^{a b}
<i>Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane has a CAS No:319-84-6</i>	Production	None
	Use	None
<i>Beta hexachlorocyclohexane has a CASNo:319-85-7</i>	Production	None
	Use	None
<i>Chlordecane has a CAS No:143-50-0</i>	Production	None
	Use	None
<i>Hexabromobiphenil has a CASNo:36355-01-8</i>	Production	None
	Use	None
<i>Pentachlorobenze has a CAS No:608-93-5</i>	Production	None

	Use	None
--	-----	------

^a Exemption can be granted for quantities to be used for laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard.

^b Except quantities of a chemical occurring as unintentional trace contaminants in products and articles shall not be considered to be listed in this Appendix

APPENDIX B

BAT and BEP for Environmentally Sound Management of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen

- A. Several BAT and BEP for the phasing out of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen are hereby described:
1. Develop appropriate strategies to identify:
 - a) Stockpiles consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Annex A;
 - b) Products and articles in use and wastes consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Annex A;
 2. Minimize cross-contamination which may affect the choice of available destruction options. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall ensure segregation of the waste by trained personnel on the basis of:
 - a) label information where pesticides waste is in its original container with a definitive label;
 - b) or indicative analytical tests, where label information is not available.
 3. Waste holders shall be responsible for the sound management of that waste which is in their possession;
 4. Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen waste must be segregated from other categories of waste that may be collected in any collection program;
 5. Mixing or bulking of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen waste shall not occur unless the waste has been positively identified by individual or composite sampling and analysis techniques;
 6. Managers of collection points and consolidation stores shall adopt and employ emergency containment and clean-up procedures for the accidental release of Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen waste into the environment, as approved by the national authority;
 7. Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, Beta hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecane, Hexabromobiphenil, Pentachlorobenzen waste in consolidation stores shall be consigned, within one year of the starting date, for destruction by a licensed destruction facility, unless the national authority determines that viable destruction facilities are not available in the country;
- B. The BAT and BEP list mentioned above is not exhaustive; more extensive information is described in the Stockholm Convention technical guidelines
- The Parties shall add to and exchange information on, other strategies and/or practices helpful to the phase out of the pesticides concerned.

ANNEX VII

**CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR BATHING WATERS
QUALITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN**

Introduction

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted in 1985 an interim common criteria and standards for coastal recreational waters, with a view to update them when more evidence would be provided. A new proposal was prepared ten years later but, as at the same time a proposal of a European Council Directive was tabled on the same subject, it was decided to postpone any decision and wait until the new Directive would be operational to avoid any duplication of efforts regarding microbiological analyses and elaboration of data. In the meantime, WHO developed the "Guidelines for Safe Recreational-water Environments" launched in 2003 and the EU abandoned their old proposal and started a new one linked to the WHO Guidelines. Finally, a new EC Directive was adopted by the European Parliament in 2006, and the Mediterranean countries have proposed criteria and standards that comply with both the WHO guidelines and the EC Directive.

The Mediterranean guidelines for bathing waters were formulated in 2007 based on the WHO guidelines for "Safe Recreational Water Environments" and on the EC Directive for "Bathing Waters". The proposal was made in an effort to provide updated criteria and standards that can be used in the Mediterranean countries and to harmonize their legislation in order to provide homogenous data. In addition, in 2009, the guidelines were coupled with the instructions for the preparation of water quality profiles that were used by several countries. As a result, national water quality profiles were presented during the "Consultation meeting for the finalization and approval of criteria and standards for bathing waters along with beach profiles", held in Athens from 8-9 November 2010. The meeting recommended to approve the criteria and standards as well as the methodology used and to present them at the MED POL Focal Points meeting in 2011 with the view at their transmission for approval and adoption at the meetings of the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. It is to be noted that all countries in the Mediterranean undertook pilot studies for the preparation of bathing waters quality profiles, with the assistance of WHO/MED POL.

The main objective of the revised criteria and standards for bathing waters in Mediterranean countries, is to reduce gastroenteritis and other waterborne health risks. They are based on scientific knowledge related to the protection of human health and the environment as well as environmental management experience. They also provide better and earlier information to citizens about the quality of their bathing waters and they range from simple sampling and monitoring of bathing waters to bathing quality management.

The revised criteria and standards require monitoring, assessment and classification of bathing water quality status that is referred to as "excellent", "good", "sufficient" and "poor quality", with each qualification linked to clear numerical quality standards of bacteriological quality. In addition to monitoring, the preparation of beach profiles or bathing water profiles is also required as the most important element introduced in the revised criteria and standards. Their aim is to provide swimmers, as well as authorities, with information about physical, geographical and hydrological characteristics of a bathing water, as well as possible sources of pollution impacting on bathing water quality. Following the adoption of the revised criteria and standards, bathing water profiles have to be established for each bathing water within a period of four years.

A bathing water profile is primarily intended to improve the understanding of the faecal sources and routes of pollution, and focuses on intestinal enterococci, the indicator for faecal pollution. The new parameter is in fact more representative for faecal pollution than the old one.

Information on the route by which and the extent to which the bathing water quality is negatively influenced should be available. In fact, the manager of the bathing water location will have to give an estimate of which sources of emission negatively influence the bathing water quality and through which dispersion routes. Important is the type of emission (continuous/non-recurrent, specific source/diffuse sources). Moreover, the location-specific characteristics of the bathing water (flowing or isolated) play a decisive role. All the above aspects make the bathing water profile the basis on which the manager can better understand the risks of contamination and propose appropriate measures.

The bathing water profile can therefore be used to better substantiate the management measures taken and to make a better use of funds for the remedial measures.. At the same time, the bathing water profile can be used to inform the society/citizens of the quality of the bathing water and the management measures taken.

In this context, compliance will refer to appropriate management measures and quality assurance, not merely to measuring and calculations.

Criteria and standards

CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR BATHING WATERS IN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

Microbial Water Quality Assessment Category
(based on Intestinal enterococci (cfu/100 mL)

Category	A	B	C	D
Limit values	<100*	101-200*	185**	>185**(1)
Water quality	Excellent quality	Good quality	Sufficient	Poor quality/ Immediate Action

Minimum sampling frequency: at least one per month and not less than four in a bathing period including an initial one prior to the start of the bathing period.

* 95th percentile intestinal enterococci/100 mL (applying the formula 95th Percentile = antilog ($\mu + 1,65 \sigma$))

** 90th percentile intestinal enterococci/100 mL (90th Percentile=antilog ($\mu + 1,282 \sigma$), μ =calculated arithmetic mean of the log10 values; σ = calculated standard deviation of the log10 values.

(1) For single sample appropriate action is recommended to be carried out once the count for IE exceeds 500 cfu/100 mL

- For classification purposes at least 12 sample results are needed spread over 3-4 bathing seasons
- Reference method of analysis: ISO 7899-2 based on membrane filtration technique or any other approved technique
- Transitional period 4 years (starting by 1st January 2012)

In combination with the above criteria and standards, a profile should be prepared for each of the bathing water assessed, as follows:

PREPARATION OF BEACH PROFILES (BATHING WATER PROFILES)

Beach profiles should be prepared following a standardized format similar to that provided here below, a copy of which should be displayed for public information on the beach.

In addition, a map has to be included with the sampling points, sources of pollution, facilities and any other relevant information. The classification of the beach as described in the table above should also be included.

Standardized format: General bathing water profile

General Information

Name of beach and bathing area:.....

Location:.....Location on the map (grid reference):.....

Latitude:..... Longitude:.....

Length.....m wide..m depth...m gradient.....cm

Type of bathing area:

open confined natural lake estuarine marine

Type of bathing area: sand rocky pebble grass other.....

Public facilities: No. of: Toilets..... Showers..... Litter bins.....

Is there in place any information system indicating water quality? Yes No

Are methods in place to warn the people of danger? No

Yes: Flags megaphones Digital panels other.....

Accessibility: Road Path No access. Is there an adequate parking area? Yes No

Beach usage: swimming sailing motor sports other.....

Number of bathers at peak usage (e.g. Sunday).....

Are dogs or other animals present at the beach? Yes Type..... Number..... No

Water colour: Transparent Not transparent brown green reddish

Are there any algae present? Yes Type..... Amount..... No

Does the beach look clean? Yes No Specify type of dirt.....

Characteristics of surrounding area: (more than one category can be used)

urban residential industrial agricultural dunes

river mouth **hills & mountains** **grassland** **other.....**

Potential sources of contamination to be specified

Wastewater discharges River or stream discharge Other discharges

Other sources

Average water temperature: (during season) max/min.....

Prevailing wind (N/S/E/W):.....

Prevailing current (N/S/E/W):.....

Distance between mean high and low water:.....

Beach manager or contact in case of pollution incident:

Phone: Mobile phone: Fax:

e-mail:

Address:.....

Organisation:.....

Management team at the bathing area

.....
.....
.....
.....

ANNEX VIII
PROPOSED MED POL PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR 2012-2013

Theme I: Governance																	
Output 1.1 Strengthening Institutional Coherence, efficiency and accountability																	
Targets (MAP)							Indicators (MED POL)										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Satisfaction rate of decision making bodies and partners (quality, timeliness and relevance of MAP's secretariat and components work) surveyed - Planning systems and internal performance evaluation system established - Resources mobilized to implement the five year plan - Number of decisions and policies prepared in consultation with partners - % increase of civil society organizations and private sector partnering with MA 							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adoption of MED POL Phase V - Approval of MAP Integrated monitoring system for ECAP 										
No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources										
							2012 (Euro, 000)					2013 (Euro, 000)					
							MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2	MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1
1	Meeting of MED POL Focal Point and Meeting to review monitoring activities (joint)	Review of implementation of the activities, review of programme for next biennium, discussion on monitoring activities	Two joint meetings (4/5 days)	MED POL		70.00						70					
2	Preparation of MED POL Phase V	Programme prepared and submitted for adoption to the CPs	Consultants and a meeting of experts	MED POL		81.00	13				15	13				40	
3	Preparation of MAP integrated monitoring programme	Monitoring programme including all environmental components and in line with the ecosystem approach objectives	Consultants and Meetings	MED POL and all RACs	ECAP	330.00					250					80	
TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES						481	13	0	0	0	0	265	83	0	0	0	120

Theme I: Governance

Output 1.2
Implementation gap filled: Contracting Parties supported in meeting the objectives of BC, protocols and adopted strategies

Targets (MAP)

- No of regional policies guidelines and plans adopted, implemented and funded
- Regional strategy on ships ballast water management adopted by 2011
- Number of environmental inspectors per number of facilities
- Database and guidelines on illegal hazardous waste movements prepared by 2012
- MSSD indicators populated and reported against
- Performance and accessibility of the on-line reporting system (reports on-line and accessible on time)

Indicators (MED POL)

- 4 Countries assisted in the implementation of Regional Plans
- 4 countries assisted in the implementation of the marine litter strategy
- 3 Countries assisted for the improvement of the inspection systems
- 1/2 pilot projects on marine litter management implemented

No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources											
							2012 (Euro, 000)					2013 (Euro, 000)						
							MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2	MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2
1	Assistance to countries for the implementation of the adopted Regional Plans in the framework of Art 15 of LBS Protocol; updating, as needed, of adopted Regional Plns	Technical and legal assistance provided to countries including BAT nad BEP in relation to the adopted measures	Programme to be prepared jointly with CP/RAC, according to their respective mandates	CP/RAC /MED POL		150	20			30	30	10				30	30	
2	Preparation of a detailed startegy including costs, targets and deadlines based on the policy document adopted by the Contrating Parties	Detailed startegy prepared and adopted	Consultants, experts, consultations with CPs by electronic means	MED POL	Global litter activities	114	10	14			30							60
3	Provision of technical assistance to countries for the implementation of Hazardous Waste and Dumping Protocols	Expert provided advice	Consultants, experts,	MED POL	Stockholm Convention, Basel Convention, London Convention and Protocol	70	5				30	5						30
4	Assistance to countries for the improvement of inspection systems	Improved systems national	Training	MED POL/GEF	WHO	62	7		20			15						20

5	Training and fellowships	Scientists participation at related scientific conferences facilitated	Travel grants	MED POL	6	3												3
6	Carbon sequestration	Potential impact on the Mediterranean and needed legal and technical actions identified	Consultant	MED and Government of Spain	POL the Government of Spain	IMO Convention/Protocol, OSPAR	20				20							
TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES					422	45	1	20	0	50	90	33	0	20	0	30	120	

Theme I: Governance																		
Output 1.3 Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated																		
Targets (MAP)							Indicators (MED POL)											
- Information and communications strategy developed and adopted and implemented - State of the environment report published biannually and State of the environment and development report published every 4 years - Marine and coastal data made accessible to contracting parties - No of policies, reports and publications submitted to stakeholders and public at large and at least 1 symposium per year - Functioning InfoMap system							- MED POL Info System is operational and used by countries											
No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources											
							2012 (Euro, 000)			2013 (Euro, 000)								
							MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2	MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2
1	MED POL Data bases management, development of GIS, maintenance of Info System	Pollution data properly stored and used for assessments and statistics	Expert assistance to the Secretariat	MED POL/ INFO/RAC	SEIS	110	5				50	5						50
2	Maintenance and development of MED POL website	Effective and up-to-date website	Expert assistance to the Secretariat	MED POL		70	5				30	5						30
3	Preparation of information material on MED POL	Publication prepared	Experts, Secretariat	MED POL		75	5				30	10						30
	TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES					255	15	0	0	0	0	110	20	0	0	0	0	110

Theme IV: Pollution Prevention and Control																
Output 4.1																
Early warning of pollution (spills, dangerous/hazardous substances)																
Targets (MAP)						Indicators (MED POL)										
- No of national contingency plans adopted/no of Contracting Parties						- Assessment of pollution status and trend prepared										
- Trends of pollution levels reported every two years						- Adoption of EACs for key pollutants										
- Updated national monitoring programmes prepared and implemented in all contracting partners by 2014						- Quality assured data received from at least 15 countries										
- Updated national monitoring programmes prepared and implemented in all contracting partners by 2014						- Riverine inputs of nutrients assessed										
No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources									
							2012 (Euro, 000)				2013 (Euro, 000)					
							MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2	MTF	EC	MedP	OTH
1	Preparation of assessment of the order of magnitude of nutrients from diffuse sources	Demonstration seminars, policy reforms	Consultant, seminars	MED POL	GEF SP	35	35									
2	Assistance to countries for the implementation of national monitoring programmes, including : a) Data Quality Assurance b) Meeting to review monitoring programme	assistance provided to four countries a) Good data quality in the MED POL data base b) Technical and operational details of monitoring discussed	provision of equipment and material, expert assistance, training a) Intercalibration exercises, expert assistance, training courses b) Meeting to be held jointly with Meeting of Focal Points (see output 1.1)	MED POL a) MED POL /IAEA/ QUASIMEME /DISAV b) MED POL	EU WFD, EU MSD b) Meeting of MED POL Focal Points	530	160				100	170				100
3	Data quality assurance for bathing water analyses	Intercalibration exercise	Consultant and meetings	MED POL	WHO	20	10				10					

4	Assessment of national needs for capacity building for the implementation of integrated monitoring programmes of ECAP	Preparation of needs assessment	Consultants and Meetings	MED POL and all RACs	H2020, ECAP	110						20						90
5	Development of environmental targets based on indicators for marine pollution	establishment of environmental thresholds (EACs) for GES in relation to marine pollution	experts, meetings	MED POL	ECAP	150						80						70
TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES						845	205	0	0	0	0	210	170	0	0	0	0	260

Theme IV: Pollution Prevention and Control																	
Output 4.2 Lower levels of pollution in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environments																	
Targets (MAP) - Volume of investments in the framework of MeHSIP GEF, SP, bilateral cooperation and national expenditure in hotspot areas - Satisfaction questionnaire for managers of personnel trained in waste water treatment						Indicators (MED POL) - 20 compliance reports sent - 2 PRTR prepared - 40 experts trained in operation and management of waste water treatment plants											
No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources										
							2012 (Euro, 000)					2013 (Euro, 000)					MTF
1	Pollution reduction demonstration projects related to tanneries, phosphogypsum, lube oils and lead batteries	pollution reduction policy adopted	expert assistance, national meetings, technical and policy advice provided	MED POL/GEF		90	20		50					20			
2	Disposal of PCBs	Disposal of PCBs in 3/4 countries	expert assistance, national meetings, purchase of equipment, technical and policy advice provided	MED POL/GEF		765	150		230			155		230			
3	Management and maintenance of Waste water treatment plants,	experts in two countries trained, preparation of sustainability report	training in two countries preparation of sustainability report	MED POL	WHO	60	20					10	20				10

4	PRTR activities	PRTR prepared in two additional countries	training, provision of small equipment, set up of data bases	MED POL, INFO/RAC, ICS-UNIDO	EU PRTR, SEIS	80						40						40
5	Preparation of beach profiles	Preparation of technical guidelines	meeting and consultant	MED POL	WHO	65						55						10
6	Implementation of Guidelines for environmental health risks in tourist establishments	Implementation of pilot projects	Consultant and meetings	MED POL	WHO	15	5					10						
7	Assistance to countries for the identification and use of opportunities for pollution reduction related loans and grants	Opportunities for grants and loans identified and used	Environmental economist recruited	MED POL/GEF		185.00	27		65.5				27		65.50			
8	Preparation of scenarios for EQS in relation with ELVs	Training of national experts on modeling	Consultant training	MED POL/GEF	ECAP	50	10						10		30			
9	Contacts kept with international donors and financial institutions to ensure financing of NAPs	NAPs implementation kept as priority by major donors and financial institutions	Participation at meetings, continuous contacts	MED POL	H2020, WB, GEF, FFEM, EIB, EC	0												
TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES						1310	232	0	345.50	0	0	60	267	0	345.50	0	0	60

Theme VI: Climate change																
Output 6.3 Assess and provide information to reduce adverse environmental impacts of mitigation and adaptation strategies & technologies (eg. Wind farms, ocean energy, carbon capture and storage)																
Targets (MAP)							Indicators (MED POL)									
- Integration of environmentally sound desalination and waste water re-use in national policies							- Assistance provided to 4 countries for waste water re-use									
- Guidelines provided on how to assess environmental impact for at least 3 technologies																
- Report on risks of CO2 sequestration activities																
No	Specific Activities	Expected results of activities	Means of implementation	Lead/engaged component and other partners	Links to other actions related activities	Total Budgets (Euro 000)	Resources									
							2012 (Euro, 000)					2013 (Euro, 000)				
							MTF	EC	MedP	OTH	EXT1	EXT2	MTF	EC	MedP	OTH
1	Assistance to countries for the proper management of desalination activities	new desalination plants properly managed	expert assistance	MED POL		0										
2	Assistance to countries on water re-use	water re-use more diffused in the region	preparation of guidelines and training	MED POL	WHO, H2020	30	15					15				
	TOTAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES					30	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0