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Meeting of the MAP Focal Points

Athens, Greece, 12-15 September 2017

**Agenda item 5: Specific Matters for Consideration and Action by the Meeting**

**Draft Decision: Implementation and Monitoring of the MSSD 2016-2025 and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 (MSSD 2016-2025) was adopted by the 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 19) (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016) (Decision IG.22/02) as a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) at the regional, sub-regional and national levels. The Strategy provides an integrative policy framework for securing a sustainable future for the Mediterranean region consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the biennium 2016-2017, the Secretariat, under the guidance of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and in cooperation with international and regional stakeholders, initiated the implementation of flagship initiatives and regional actions towards the delivery of these strategic policy- and action-oriented documents. The Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and its proposed MSSD indicators are necessary to ensure the monitoring of the implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025.

At its 17th Meeting held on 4-6 July in Athens, Greece, the MCSD agreed on a list of indicators for submission to the Contracting Parties at COP 20 (see Annex I of the proposed draft decision). The MCSD considered this list as a living document to be periodically assessed and updated, in synergy with the on-going work for the development of SDG indicators and implementation at national level. Giving priority to coast and sea related issues, these indicators should be populated with existing sources of information and reliable data, in partnership with relevant stakeholders for the development or refining of statistical databases.

The Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021 includes among its Indicative Key Outputs “scenarios and prospective development analysis in the long term” (1.4.1). Subsequently, the MCSD at its 17th Meeting expressed the need for a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean region at the horizon 2050 and requested the Secretariat to submit the MED2050 Roadmap (see Annex II of the proposed draft decision) for inclusion in the proposed MAP Programme of Work 2018-2019 (PoW 2018-2019).

As requested by Decision IG.22/17, the Secretariat carried out in 2016-2017 the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER). The 17th Meeting of the MCSD welcomed with deep interest the outcome of this activity and recommended to further develop this innovative tool, with a view to enhancing the interlinkages with the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) presented at the High Level Policy Forum (HLPF). A number of Contracting Parties have already expressed their interest in participating in the SIMPEER during the next biennium.

The Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP AP) was adopted by the Contracting Parties at COP 19 (Decision IG.22/5), as a forward-looking framework, to complement and work in full synergy with existing national and regional policy frameworks, and to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The SCP AP is aligned with the MSSD 2016-2025 Vision and Objectives, particularly the Objective 5 “Transition towards a Green and Blue Economy”. A list of regional Sustainable Consumption and Production to measure the progress of the implementation of the SCP AP was reviewed by the 11th Meeting of the SCP/RAC Focal Points (Barcelona, Spain, 3-4 May 2017), which concluded that an updated list needs to be brought to the attention of the MAP Focal Points (see Annex III of the proposed draft decision).

The implementation of this decision is linked to Outputs 1.3.3, 1.4.1 and 6.2.1 of the proposed Programme of Work. It has budgetary implications on MTF and external resources, reflected in the proposed budget.

**Draft Decision IG.23/4**

**Implementation and Monitoring of the MSSD 2016-2025 and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**

*The 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols*

*Having regard to* the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, and in particular Article 4 thereof on General Obligations,

*Recalling* Decisions IG.22/2, IG.22/5, and IG.22/17 of the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 19) (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016) on the MSSD 2016-2025, Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean, and Reform of the MCSD respectively,

*Recalling* the role of the MSSD 2016-2025 as a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional, subregional and national levels, and the leading role of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system in facilitating the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG-14, in the Mediterranean region and in ensuring the transition towards a green and blue economy (MSSD Objective 5),

*Recognising* that for the successful delivery of the MSSD 2016-2025 a collective effort is needed, involving all Mediterranean stakeholders and partners, in particular for the implementation of the flagship initiatives,

*Having considered* the conclusions of the Meeting of the Plan Bleu/RAC National Focal Points (Nice, France, 25-26 April 2017), the 11th Meeting of SCP/RAC National Focal Points (Barcelona, Spain, 3-4 May 2017) and the 17th Meeting of the MCSD (Athens, Greece, 4-6 July 2017),

1. *Endorses* the list of Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025, contained in Annex I to this Decision and *urges* the Secretariat to ensure full consistency and synergy with the on-going work for the development of SDG indicators including at national level;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat and Plan Bleu/RAC to use existing sources of information and reliable data to populate the selected indicators, giving priority to those addressing coast and sea related issues;

3. *Encourages* the Contracting Parties to strengthen efforts to building sustainable partnerships with relevant stakeholders (i.e. International Governmental Organizations, donor agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, industry, business organizations and academic institutions) for the development or refining of statistical databases for populating MSSD and SCP indicators;

4. *Encourages* the Contracting Parties to participate in future editions of the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER), taking into account the lessons learned from the 2016-2017 exercise and with a view to enhancing the interlinkages with the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) presented at the High Level Policy Forum (HLPF);

5. *Encourages* the Contracting Parties and partners to strengthen their efforts and leadership for the implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025 and its flagship initiatives;

6. *Endorses the* MED2050 Roadmap, contained in Annex II to this Decision and *requests* the Secretariat and Plan Bleu/RAC to undertake a participatory process for the elaboration of a foresight study on the environment and development in the Mediterranean region at the horizon 2050;

7. *Takes note* of the list of Indicators for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean, contained in Annex III to this Decision and *requests* its further elaboration in synergy with the relevant work undertaken for the relevant SDG and MSSD indicators;

8. *Confirms* the current composition of the MCSD for the biennium 2018-2019 as it appears in Decision IG.22/17 of COP 19 and *calls upon* the MCSD members, the Secretariat and the UNEP/MAP partners for mobilising expressions of interest in the membership to the MCSD for the biennium 2020-2021.

**Annex I**

**Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025**

**Annex I: Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025**

| No. | MSSD 2016-2025 Objective | Name of indicator |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Global | Ecological footprint |
| 2 | Global | Human Development Index |
| 3 | Global | Gross Domestic Product |
| 4 | Global | Youth literacy rate |
| 5 | Global | Girl/Boy primary and secondary school registration ratio |
| 6 | 1 | Number of ratifications and level of compliance as reported by BC Contracting Parties |
| 7 | 1 | Percentage of protected coastal and marine areas [under national jurisdiction] |
| 8 | 2 | Water efficiency index |
| 9 | 2 | Number of protected areas participating in the Green list initiative |
| 10 | 2 | Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems |
| 11 | 2 | Global Food Security Index |
| 12 | 2 | Water demand, total and by sector, compared to GDP |
| 13 | 2 | Share of population with access to an improved water source (total, urban, rural) |
| 14 | 2 | Share of population with access to an improved sanitation system (total, urban, rural) |
| 15 | 2 | Proportion of agriculture quality products and Share of the agricultural land area used by organic farming |
| 16 | 2 | Number of Mediterranean threatened species included in legal documents |
| 17 | 3 | Proportion of urban population with access to a decent dwelling |
| 18 | 3 | Status of UNESCO world heritage sites or population trends in historic urban areas |
| 19 | 3 | Waste generated and treated by type of waste and treatment type |
| 20 | 4 | Green House Gas emissions (related to GDP) |
| 21 | 4 | Energy consumption (related to GDP) |
| 22 | 5 | Material intensity of the economy |
| 23 | 6 | Number of National Strategies for Sustainable Development adopted or updated [and number of updates since first edition] |
| 24 | 6 | Proportion of bank credit allocated to the private sector – Existence of alternative financing systems using bank credit |
| 25 | 6 | Public and private expenses for research and development in percentage of GDP |
| 26 | 6 | Existing mechanisms to ensure public participation and access to environmental publication |

**Annex II**

**MED2050 Roadmap towards a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean**

**Annex II: MED2050 Roadmap towards a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean**

## I. Introduction

1. MAP Phase II, adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols (Barcelona, 9-10 June 1995), as Annex I of the Barcelona Resolution on the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Basin, noted that "*Public information and public participation are a dimension essential to the policy of sustainable development and environmental protection*".

2. Under the objectives of the information and participation component it included, *inter alia*:

- "*to provide to the general public the information available on the state of the development and environment of the Mediterranean and its evolution, and the measures taken to improve it*";
- "*to publish the Report on the State and Evolution of the Mediterranean Environment at regular intervals*".

3. Furthermore, the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 (Decision IG.22/1) set out seven Objectives in order to achieve the expected accomplishments under the Overarching Theme "Governance", one of them being "*To deliver knowledge-based assessments of the Mediterranean environment and scenario development for informed decision-making and stakeholder work*".

4. To this end, Strategic Outcome 1.4 of the MTS reads "*Knowledge and understanding of the state of the Mediterranean Sea and coast enhanced through mandated assessments for informed policy-making*", and Indicative Key Output 1.4.1 reads "*Periodic assessments based on DPSIR approach and published addressing inter alia status quality of marine and coastal environment, interaction between environment and development as well as scenarios and prospective development analysis in the long run. These assessments include climate change-related vulnerabilities and risks on the marine and coastal zone in their analysis, as well as knowledge gaps on marine pollution, ecosystem services, coastal degradation, cumulative impacts and impacts of consumption and production*".

5. Finally, the Programme of Work and Budget 2015-2016 (Decision IG.22/20), includes a specific Main Activity 1.4.1.3 "*Develop a roadmap for the preparation of Med2050 report*".

6. Following the above, this document presents the Roadmap for a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (MED2050). Such and exercise will provide valuable information on future developments based on science-based scenarios and on anticipating actions to promote sustainable development in the Mediterranean region for the coming decades.

## II. Timing for a Foresight Study on the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean at the horizon 2050 (MED 2050)

7. There are five major reasons for undertaking MED2050:

i. The first reason is that the last MAP foresight exercise was performed in 2005-2006, over ten years ago, and the context has completely changed so far; e.g. oil glut, global and regional geopolitical changes, Arab Spring, European economic crisis, acceleration of climate change, etc. These changes may realistically be further accentuated by 2050 in all areas – technology, demographics, geopolitics, economics, ecology, etc. It is essential to include this perspective of rapid transformation in MAP policies, especially because the Mediterranean is and will be particularly affected.

ii. The second reason is that most existing foresight work on the Mediterranean, including that of 2005, now has a too short time-frame and is not able to take into account more long-term issues, such as climate change or possible ecosystem disruption, nor, in particular, consider transitions (e.g. economic, energy transitions) which will only have an effect in the long term.

iii. The third reason is that neither the 2005 exercise nor those performed outside of the MAP take into account impacts on the sea, or even on the marine economy, which does not reflect the concerns of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention.

iv. Another very significant reason – which could in itself justify a new exercise – is that past work has only focused on one possible aspect of foresight: forecasting, while other aspects, which are equally interesting and perhaps more useful for action, have been neglected.

The aim of foresight is not only to extrapolate current statistics to reveal trends in certain identified and well-understood variables or problems. It also has three other functions which are as important but have not been adequately explored so far. It should alert to new risks or poorly-understood opportunities, identify possible disruptions and anticipate the consequences of improbable events – and therefore assess uncertainties and not just probable trends. It should also compare and discuss various visions of the future, in order to contribute to jointly building consensus on what is collectively desirable or at least not unacceptable. Finally, it has a fundamentally strategic purpose and should help policy-makers to construct and assess the paths and strategies needed to achieve shared goals in a context of uncertainty.

Undertaking a new exercise would finally provide the opportunity to use these foresight capacities not only to predict but also to alert policy-makers to possible disruptions, to promote comparison of visions and discussion, and finally, to jointly build and compare long-term strategies suitable for the diversity of Mediterranean countries.

v. Finally, a fifth and final reason should not be neglected: communication. Experience has shown that major foresight exercises, when performed seriously and shared, can be very useful tools for communication and funding, including for the general public and media – which is not always the case for more specialist work. Undertaking MED2050 would put the MAP system back in the heart of public debate on the environment in the Mediterranean.

## III. Proposed Roadmap for MED2050

| Period | Action | Deliverable |
|---|---|---|
| **2016-2017** | Benchmarking of existing relevant Mediterranean foresight studies in preparation of MED2050 | Benchmarking Report |
| **Quarter II and III 2017** | Draft Roadmap for MED2050 discussed by the 17th Meeting of the MCSD and then submitted at COP 20 | COP 20 Draft Decision |
| **Quarter I - II 2018** | Mobilization of MED2050 governance structure<br>Development of the detailed table of contents of MED2050 | Detailed MED2050 table of contents |
| **Quarter III - IV 2018** | Development of a business-as-usual scenario serving as basis for development of other scenarios, considering preliminary results from Assessment reports (QSR, SoED, etc.) | Outline of MED2050 scenarios |
| **Q IV 2018 – Q IV 2019** | Co-construction of alternative/thematic scenarios, following a wide participatory approach (consultations) | |
| **Q III 2019 – Q II 2020** | Co-construction of recommendations for decision-makers | Draft MED2050 Report and updates |
| **Q II 2020 – Q IV 2020** | Editing of MED2050 | |
| **Quarter I 2021** | Draft MED2050 report submitted for consultation | |
| **COP 22** | MED2050 submitted to COP 22 | |
| **End 2021** | MED2050 published and disseminated | Final MED2050 Report |

**Annex III**

**Indicators for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**

**Annex III: Indicators for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean**

| Thematic Area covered and indicator nº | Indicators Identified | Is the indicator currently available? | Is it a SDG? | | Is it an MSSD Indicator? | Is it included in the SEEA? | Indicator Type (I/R) Thematic issue: I Response: R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **LAND USE** | | | | | | | |
| **1a-*Futur*** | **Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture** | No | Yes | 2.4.1 | No | TBC | I |
| **1b-*Temporary*** | **Agricultural area organic, total** | High | No | 2,4 | Yes | TBC | I |
| **2** | **Global food loss index** | No | Yes | 12.3.1 | No | No | I |
| **3a- *futur*** | **Index of sustainable forest management** | No | Yes | 15.2.1 | No | TBC | R |
| **3b- *temporary*** | **Area of Certified forest** | Low | No | 15,2 | No | TBC | R |
| **WATER (EFFICIENCY)** | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **Freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources (also known as water withdrawal intensity)** | Low | Yes | 6.4.2 | No | No | I |
| **2** | **Water Productivity** | High | No | 6,4 | Yes | Yes | I |
| **3** | **Degree of integrated water resources management (IWRM) implementation (0-100)** | No - Only aggregates | Yes | 6.5.1 | No | No | R |
| **ENERGY (EFFICIENCY)** | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption** | High | Yes | 7.2.1 | Yes | Possibly | I |
| **2** | **Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP** | High | Yes | 7.3.1 | Yes | Yes | I |
| **3** | **Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels** | No | Yes | 12.c.1 | Yes | Possibly | R |
| **POLLUTION** | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **CO2 emission per unit of value added** | High | Yes | 9.4.1 | No | Yes | I |

| Thematic Area covered and indicator nº | Indicators Identified | Is the indicator currently available? | Is it a SDG? | | Is it an MSSD Indicator? | Is it included in the SEEA? | Indicator Type (I/R) Thematic issue: I Response: R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2** | **Signatory of 1 to 3 international multilateral environmental agreements (Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions) on hazardous waste, and other chemicals** | High | Yes | 12.4.1 | No | No | R |
| **3** | **Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)** | High | Yes | 11.6.2 | No | Possibly | I |
| **RESOURCE (EFFICIENCY)** | | | | | | | |
| **1a- *futur*** | **Material footprint (MF) per GDP** | High | Yes | 12.2.1; 8.4.1 | Yes | Yes | I |
| **1b- *temporary*** | **Domestic material consumption (DMC) per GDP** | High | Yes | 12.2.2; 8.4.2 | No | Yes | I |
| **2a- *futur*** | **Material footprint (MF) per capita** | High | Yes | 12.2.1; 8.4.1 | No | Yes | I |
| **2b- *temporary*** | **Domestic material consumption (DMC) per capita** | High | Yes | 12.2.2; 8.4.2 | No | Yes | I |
| **3a- *futur*** | **Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels** | No - only global result available | Yes | 14.4.1 | Yes | No | I |
| **3b- *temporary*** | **Marine Trophic Index (also called Mean Trophic Level (TL) of fisheries landings)** | Not freely available | No | 14,4 | No | No | I |
| **BEHAVIOR (PRODUCERS & CONSUMERS)** | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or target into national policies** | No | Yes | 12.1.1 | No | No | R |
| **2** | **SPP/GPP as a percentage of total public procurement (in terms of monetary value)** | No International database | No | 12,7 | Yes | TBC | R |

| Thematic Area covered and indicator nº | Indicators Identified | Is the indicator currently available? | Is it a SDG? | | Is it an MSSD Indicator? | Is it included in the SEEA? | Indicator Type (I/R) Thematic issue: I Response: R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3** | **Green Patents (also called Patents of Importance to Green Growth and Development of environment-related technologies, % all technologies)** | High | No | 12,7 | No | TBC | R |
| **4** | **Generation of waste** | Low | No | 11.6; 12.4 | Yes* | Yes | I |
| **5** | **Organic agriculture (retail sales, all million euro) (also available as euro per person)** | Low | No | 12 | No | TBC | I |
| **6** | **Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density** | No | Yes | 14.1.1 | No | TBC | I |
| **7** | **Prevalence of overweight and obesity** | High | No | 2,2 | No | No | I |
| **THEMATIC MACRO-INDICATORS** | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **Carbon Footprint** | Low | No | 9,4 | No | Yes | I |
| **2** | **Water Footprint** | Yes | No | 6,4 | No | Yes | I |
| **3** | **Ecological Footprint** | Yes | No | 12.2; 8.4 | Yes | Yes | I |