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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the MAP Focal Points

Athens, Greece, 10-12 September 2013

Report of the Meeting of Experts to Review the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management, Barcelona, Spain, 17-18 May 2013



**United Nations
Environment
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UNEP (DEPI)/MED WG. 379/Inf.3
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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of MED POL Focal Points

Barcelona (Spain), 18-21 June 2013

**DRAFT REPORT OF THE MEETING TO REVIEW THE REGIONAL PLAN ON
MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT, BARCELONA, SPAIN, 17-18 MAY 2013**

Delegates are kindly requested to bring their documents to the meeting

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Introduction

The government designated expert Meeting to review the Marine Litter Management draft Regional Plan was held in Barcelona, Spain at the kind invitation of CP/RAC and the Catalan Government from 17-18 May 2013 at their premises.

The Review Meeting objectives were to review the text of the proposed draft Regional Plan and advise the Secretariat on the steps to be taken in view of the transmission of the Regional Plan to the next Meeting of MED POL Focal Points in June 2013 for approval and subsequently to the Contracting Parties Meeting in Dec. 2013 (Istanbul, Turkey) for adoption.

Participation

The meeting was attended by the following contracting parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Egypt, European Commission, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, and the following observers: Palestine, ECAT Albania, EUCC, HELMEPA, MIO-ECSDE, Waste Free Oceans, Catalan Waste Agency, CLABSA – (Sewer Network of Barcelona). The UNEP/MAP Secretariat was represented by the Coordinating Unit, MED POL Programme, CP/RAC and RAC/Blue Plan.

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

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

Agenda item 2: Scope and purpose of the meeting

Mr Habib El Habr, UNEP/MAP Deputy Coordinator and MED POL OIC opened the meeting with stressing the importance of adequate management of marine litter and the major milestones at global and regional levels with regard to marine litter, including the recent European Conference on the prevention and management of marine litter held in Berlin, Germany 10-12 April 2013. The draft of the Regional Plan prepared based on the decision of the 17th COP, Paris, France, 2012 and presented at this Expert Review Meeting is ambitious and designed to address existing challenges by taking concrete actions and measures; with efforts to improve monitoring and assessment, enhance enforcement; to promote regional cooperation and create partnerships with local authorities, private sector, and civil society. This draft is an outcome of the joint work of several MAP components (MEDPOL, CP/RAC; REMPEC and RAC/SPA) and regional partners such as EU MSFD Marine litter sub group, ACCOBAMS and others. Finally he welcomed the participants and thanked the Waste Catalan Agency for hosting the meeting.

Mr Francesco Giro, deputy director of Catalan Waste Agency, welcoming the participants, stressed the importance of addressing the problem of marine litter and its management in a sustainable manner and wished the participants a successful meeting. After emphasizing the need to take measures, he also shared with the meeting participants information on a number of prevention measures taken in Catalonia such as the reduction of disposal bags, establishment of a separate collection of bio waste and application of sustainable public procurement.

Mr Enrique Villamore Martin, director of the UNEP/MAP Cleaner Production Activity Centre (CP/RAC) expressed his views that the Mediterranean is ready for the development and implementation of adequate management of marine litter and readiness of CP/RAC to contribute to such a process.

Agenda item 3. Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

In accordance with Rules of procedures for meetings and conferences of the Contracting parties the meeting elected chair person, 1 vice-chair persons and one rapporteur as follows:

Chair: Mr Jesus Manuel Gago Pineiro, Spain
Vice-Chair: Ms. Manal Eltantawy, Egypt
Rapporteur: Ms. Nazli Yenal, Turkey

(b) Adoption of the Agenda

The Provisional agenda contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 378/1 was adopted and appears as Annex II to the present report.

(c) Organization of work

It was agreed that the meeting will be held in plenary, with the provision that if necessary small working groups for specific issues will be organised. Following the proposal by the Secretariat it was agreed that the discussion of the draft Regional Plan, in order to make such discussion efficient and time saving, follows the basic structure of the draft Regional Plan, namely five Parts and three Appendixes.

Agenda item 4. Review of draft Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management

The Secretariat presented the basic concept, the structure of the draft Regional Plan as well as the legal basis for the preparation of the Regional Plan. The meeting embarked on a general discussion agreeing on the proposed structure of the Regional Plan and asking explanations regarding the legal meaning/legally binding character of the three Appendixes questioning whether they should be integral part of the Regional Plan. The Secretariat suggested addressing this point after reviewing the content of the proposed Appendixes.

The meeting raised a number of general points such as the need a) to reflect in the introductory note the outcome of the Berlin Conference and articulate its main findings for the Mediterranean; b) to enhance the bridge between the objectives and measures; c) connect measures to operational targets and d) enhanced alignment of the proposed timetables with ecosystem approach timetables where appropriate.

Part I- General Provisions

The Secretariat introduced Part I of the Regional Plan mainly the rationale, definition of terms, objectives and principles pointing out that they were based on decisions of the parties, principles and objectives of the Barcelona Convention and Marine litter Global commitments. The meeting suggested a number of changes with the view to introduce the concept of co-responsibility, ensure that litter definition also includes micro plastics, that the whole of the water column, including surface should be covered as well as ingested litter. With regard to objectives the meeting suggested a merging of two objectives in one and a new objective related to enhanced knowledge on marine litter.

Part II- Measures

The Secretariat and CP/RAC introduced the five articles related to part II on Measures pointing out the rationale for their proposal, the need to ensure a holistic approach, link to ecosystem approach, synergy at MAP level with regards to relevant Protocols of the Barcelona Convention as well as the need to synergise and collaborate with other relevant regional partners. The proposed measures cover legal/regulatory; governance related, prevention and end of pipe measures.

The meeting reviewed Part II and the five articles one by one and suggested a structuring of measures in order to distinguish measures to address land based and measures to address sea based pollution. Some clarification was sought regarding the LBS NAPs and following explanations by the Secretariat was suggested to add a new definition on the NAP.

Article 9 on prevention measures was introduced by CP/RAC Director Mr. Enrique Villamore. This article was discussed at length taking into account the particular added value such measures may bring about in particular the use of SCP tools, recycling and economic instruments.

An issue of concern was the need for more flexibility in applying prevention measures (Article 9) and Removal of existing litter and its environmentally sound disposal (Article 10). For this purpose in some cases it was suggested two optional formulations “to the extent possible” or “apply” subject to the decision of MED POL FP.

Some concern was also raised with regard to the impact the removal of existing marine litter may have on marine biodiversity and habitats. Therefore a provision to obligate the EIA procedure was deemed appropriate and necessary.

Some of the proposed measures under article 9 and 10 at national level are under the competency of other Ministries. Some participants reported that the consultation with the other ministries on proposed measures related to fisheries and maritime transport was still in the process and hopefully to be concluded by the MED POL FP meeting. For Fishing for litter it was suggested to mention various schemes. Additional measures were proposed to address dredging that often produces marine litter

Based on the above discussions, the meeting suggested several changes in part II of the regional Plan that are reflected in the final version presented in Annex IV to this document.

A representative of plastic industry supported by some participants highlighted the need to add measures related to microplastics that find their origin in cosmetics, shampoos, soaps, etc. In their views, countries should take mandatory measures to phase out the use of microplastic in the formulations of the cosmetic industry produced and or sold in their territory not later than 31 December 2014. It was also said that the use of washing machines is identified as a source of microlitter and it is important to encourage producers of such equipments to strongly improve filter policy. Therefore the contracting parties were suggested to consider adding measures regarding filter systems to take out as much as possible microlitter out of the sewage water prior to it arriving to the river/sea.

Part III- Assessment

The Secretariat introduced Part III composed of two important Articles dealing with assessment and monitoring.

The meeting made some slight suggestions to ensure a better alignment with the assessment and monitoring timetable under ecosystem approach as well as to take into account the analysis of data gaps and needs identified at the Berlin Conference and the respective Issue paper. It was also highlighted that assessment should include more quantitative data and the need to include in the waste on the information system.

Based on the above discussions, the meeting suggested several changes in part III of the Regional Plan that are reflected in the final version presented in Annex IV to this document.

Part IV- Support to Implementation

The Secretariat introduced part four of the regional Plan pointing out the numerous tools suggested in 7 Articles to support the implementation of the Regional Plan at national and regional levels.

The meeting suggested a different way of presenting the stakeholders in order to cover the whole spectrum of the relevant actors. Due to a considerable number of guidelines required to support the implementation of the Regional Plan, the meeting also highlighted the need to use to the extent possible existing guidelines and prioritize their development and or update.

Based on the above discussions, the suggested changes in part IV of the Regional Plan were reflected in the final version presented in Annex IV to this document.

Part V- Final Provision

The Secretariat explained that this part is made up of standard provisions as it was the case in the other Regional Plans adopted by previous COP in 2009 and 2012. These provisions are based on Article 15 of the LBS Protocol.

Appendix I Work Plan and timetable for the implementation of the marine litter Regional Plan
Appendix II Potential Research topics
Appendix III Elements for National Biennial Reports

The Secretariat introduced each Appendix explaining their main content and purpose. The meeting recommended to MED POL FP to consider removing the three Appendixes from the Regional Plan and attach them to the Decision on the adoption of the Regional Plan.

Pending this decision by MEDPOL FP meeting it was agreed:

for Appendix I: a) to refer to timetable and not targets; b) all timetables should be reviewed by MEDPOL FP meeting; and c) evaluation of feasibility and costs of implementation of measures should be further analysed; with regards to cost it is important that countries provide feedback to enable a cost analysis of implementing the measures at the MAP FP and COP 18. France, Israel and Slovenia volunteered to provide some cost estimations on the basis of which the Secretariat can prepare some background information for a first discussion at MEDPOL FP meeting and further work for the MAP FP and COP 18.

For Appendix I, regarding estimation of costs of tasks listed the meeting agreed that information on the type of information available in each of the Contracting Parties will be sent to the Secretariat by the Contracting Parties by 31 May 2013. Secretariat will prepare an overview of all information received and will also collect relevant information on the cost of marine litter management and present such information to the MED POL Focal Point meeting as an Addendum to the marine litter Background document.

For Appendix II: to establish a group composed of Greece, France and Morocco representatives to elaborate a new version of Appendix II with regard to Marine Litter research topics in order to ensure that research should address knowledge gaps and support implementation of measures as well as on biodegradable materials. The new version will be submitted to MED POL Focal points for their consideration

For Appendix III: the Secretariat elaborated on the need to report on the implementation of the Regional Plan and for this purpose an indicator-based reporting could be an efficient tool and avoid unnecessary burden to the countries.

The meeting also requested the Secretariat to clarify the process for adoption of the ML Regional Plan through the line of the MED POL Focal Points meeting, MAP Focal Points meeting and the 18th Contracting Parties Conference.

When preparing revised draft of the ML Regional Plan the Secretariat took into account all discussion points and their outcome. Revised ML Regional Plan is attached as Annex IV to this report.

Agenda item 5. Any other business

No issues were suggested or addressed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 6. Conclusions and recommendations

The participants reviewed the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting prepared by the Secretariat and proposed a number of amendments. The meeting reviewed the draft Regional Plan and recommended its transmission to the MED POL FP meeting. The conclusions and recommendations and the final version of the Regional Plan were adopted as amended and are attached as Annexes III and IV to the present report.

Agenda item 7. Closure of the meeting

The Chair in his closing remarks thanked the participants for their constructive contribution to the meeting which resulted in the very good draft Regional Plan that will be presented to the MED POL Focal Points Meeting,

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 2 p.m. on Saturday 19 May 2013.

ANNEX I

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Annex II

Provisional agenda

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Annex III

Conclusions of the meeting

Meeting of Government-designated Experts to Review the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol (Barcelona, 17–18 May 2013)

1. The Meeting of Government-designated Experts to Review the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in the Framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol was held in Barcelona (17 – 18 May 2013) at the kind invitation of the Catalan Waste Agency.
2. The Meeting reviewed the draft Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol prepared by the Secretariat.
3. During the discussion of the draft Regional Plan participants made comments and suggestions which were considered and revised text was agreed as presented in Annex IV to this report for submission to and consideration by the MED POL Focal Points meeting 18-21 June 2013.
4. The following procedure was agreed upon by the participants regarding the preparation of the final draft and submission of this document to the Meeting of the MEDPOL Focal Points of the Contracting Parties (Barcelona, 18 – 21 June 2013):
 - The draft Regional Plan as presented in Annex IV to this report will be sent by the Secretariat by 25 May to the MED POL Focal Points of the Contracting Parties;
 - MED POL Focal Points of the Contracting Parties will send to the Secretariat any comments they may have on the draft Regional Plan by 5 June 2013 at the latest, in particular for those provisions which are subject to the competence of other relevant national authorities;
 - The Secretariat will consider all comments received and prepare revised draft of the Regional Plan and send it by 10 June at the latest to MED POL Focal Point for consideration at their Meeting (Barcelona, 18 – 21 June 2013);
 - The draft Regional Plan, as approved by the MED POL Focal Points Meeting will be submitted to the MAP Focal Points Meeting (Athens, Sept. 2013) for their consideration;
 - The draft Regional Plan, as approved by the MAP Focal Points Meeting will be submitted to the 18th Contracting Parties Meeting (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013) for adoption.
5. Secretariat to revise the Introductory note to the Regional Plan by adding:
 - a) References to message from Berlin of the European Conference on Prevention and Management of Marine Litter (10 -12 April 2013);
 - b) Direct reference to ecosystem approach implementation; and
 - c) Any other comment that will reach Secretariat by 5 June 2013 at the latest on the content of the introductory note.
6. The meeting reviewed the proposed targets regarding implementation of the measures and agreed that they shall be considered by the MED POL Focal Points meeting.
7. The meeting reviewed Appendix I; II; and III and recommended to remove them from the Regional plan pending final decision by the MED POL Focal Points with the view to avoid their consideration as legally binding commitments. They recommended to MEDPOL Focal Points to consider their approval as annexes to the Decision by the 18th Contacting Parties meeting for the adoption of the Marine litter regional plan.

8. The meeting established a group of experts (France, Greece and Morocco), to revise the content of Appendix II to focus on priority topics with the view to support research on information gaps, monitoring and implementation of measures. The revised list to be sent to the Secretariat by 23 May 2013, for submission to the joint session of MED POL Focal Points and ECAP Correspondence group on pollution and litter cluster meeting in June 2013.

Annex IV

Part I – General Provisions

Article 1

Rationale for the Regional Plan

Marine litter is a complex, multi-dimensional and multi-sectoral problem, with significant implications for the marine and coastal environment at a global level. These impacts are environmental, economic, health and safety and cultural, rooted in our prevailing production and consumption patterns. The problem originates mostly from land-based activities and sea-based activities, as well as lack of governmental financial resources, inadequate legal enforcement systems and general lack of understanding of the public's co-responsibility.

The rationale for the preparation of this Regional Plan is to improve the quality of the marine and coastal environment in accordance with the provisions of the LBS Protocol and to achieve the goals set by the decisions of the 17th meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2012, Decision IG.20/4: "Implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap" and Decision IG 20/10: 'Adoption of the Strategic Framework for Marine Litter management', at the considerable lower cost than with the no action scenario.

Work Plan with timetable for the implementation of relevant Articles of this Regional Plan is presented in the Appendix 1 of this Regional Plan¹.

Article 2

Geographical coverage

The area to which this Regional Plan applies is the area defined in Art. 3 of the LBS Protocol.

Article 3

Definition of terms

For the purpose of this Regional Plan:

Marine litter, regardless of the size, means any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment.

Litter monitoring means repeated surveys of beaches, sea bed, water column, surface waters and biota to determine litter types and quantities in a representative manner such that information can be compared with baseline data to follow trends. *Barcelona Convention* means the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, 1995 hereinafter referred to as the Barcelona Convention.

¹ The meeting recommended the MED POL Focal points to remove Appendix I from the Regional Plan to avoid its consideration as legally binding, and attach it instead as Annex to the draft Decision for the adoption of the Regional Plan.

LBS Protocol means the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities, 1996, hereinafter referred to as the LBS Protocol.

Secretariat means the body referred to in Article 17 of the Barcelona Convention.

LBS National Action Plan means the national action plans containing measures and timetables for their implementation developed by the Contracting Parties in accordance with Article 5 of the LBS Protocol as endorsed by the 14th meeting of the CP with the view to implement the Strategic Action Programme (SAP-MED) to combat land-based sources in the Mediterranean adopted by the Contracting Parties in 1997,

Article 4

Objectives and principles

Objectives

The main objectives of the Regional Plan are to:

- (a) Prevent and reduce to the minimum marine litter pollution in the Mediterranean and its impact on ecosystem services, habitats, species in particular the endangered species public health and safety;
- (b) Remove to the extent possible already existent marine litter;
- (c) Enhance knowledge on marine litter; and
- (d) Achieve that the management of marine litter in the Mediterranean is performed in accordance with accepted international standards and approaches as well as those of relevant regional organizations and as appropriate in harmony with programmes and measures applied in other seas.

Principles

In implementing the Regional Plan, the Contracting Parties shall be guided by the following principles:

- (a) *Integration Principle* by virtue of which marine litter management shall be an integral part of the solid waste management and other relevant strategies;
- (b) *Prevention principle* by virtue of which any marine litter management measure should aim at addressing the prevention of marine litter generation at the source;
- (c) *Precautionary principle* by virtue of which where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation;
- (d) *Polluter-pays principle* by virtue of which the costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures are to be borne by the polluter, with due regard to the public interest;
- (e) *Ecosystem-based approach* by virtue of which the cumulative effects of marine litter on marine and coastal ecosystem services, habitats and species with other contaminants and substances that are present in the marine environment should be fully taken into account;
- (f) *The principle of public participation and stakeholder involvement*; and
- (g) *Sustainable Consumption and Production principle* by virtue of which current unsustainable patterns of consumption and production must be transformed to sustainable ones that decouple human development from environmental degradation.

Article 5

Preservation of rights

The provisions of this Regional Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions respecting marine litter management measures contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes.

Part II – Measures and operational targets

Article 6

Coherence and integration of measures

The Contracting Parties shall make every effort that the measures provided for in Articles 7-10 are implemented in a coherent manner to achieve good environmental status and respective targets on marine litter. Various actors shall be involved in the development and implementation of agreed measures as provided for in the Article 17.

Article 7

Integration of marine litter measures into the LBS National Action Plans

1. The Contracting Parties in accordance with Article 5 of the LBS Protocol shall update² by 2015 the existing LBS National Action Plans to integrate marine litter measures in accordance with the provisions of this Regional Plan. To this aim, the Secretariat shall update by 2014 the existing LBS National Action Plan guidelines.
2. The LBS National Action Plan shall include:
 - (a) Development and implementation of appropriate policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements, including adequate solid waste and sewer system management plans, which shall incorporate marine litter prevention and reduction measures;
 - (b) Monitoring and assessment programmes for marine litter;
 - (c) National and local measures to prevent and reduce generation of marine litter;
 - (d) Programmes of removal and environmentally sound disposal of existing marine litter; and
 - (e) Awareness and education programmes.

Article 8

Legal and institutional aspects

1. For the purpose of implementing the Regional Plan, the Contracting Parties shall adopt the necessary appropriate legislation and/or establish adequate institutional arrangements to ensure efficient marine litter reduction and the prevention of its generation.

² Pending final decision by the MED POL Focal points in Barcelona June 2013, regarding the update of the LBS NAPs.

2. To this aim the Contracting Parties shall ensure:

- (a) Institutional coordination, where necessary, among the relevant national policy bodies and relevant regional organisations and programmes, in order to avoid sectoral approaches; and
- (b) Close coordination and collaboration between national regional and local authorities in the field of marine litter management.

3. The Contracting Parties shall give due consideration to the implementation of the relevant related provisions of the Protocols³ adopted in the framework of the Barcelona Convention affecting marine litter management to enhance efficiency, synergies and maximise the results.

Article 9

Prevention of marine litter

In conformity with the objectives and principles of the Regional Plan the Contracting Parties shall:

Land-based Sources

1. By the year 2025 at latest, to base urban solid waste management on reduction at source, separate collection, recycling, composting of the organic fraction and environmentally sound disposal (SAP-MED⁴).
2. By [2017] [2019] implement adequate waste reducing/reusing/recycling measures in order to reduce the fraction of plastic packaging waste that goes to landfill or incineration.
3. By 2017 [apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to:
 - (a) Extended Producer Responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity;

³ Specifically in the framework of the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, 2002 (Port reception facilities); Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea, 1995 (waste dumping prohibition); Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, 1995 (Regional Plans to protect endangered species; establishment of SPA and SPAMIs); 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, 1994 (prohibition of the disposal of garbage from offshore installations); and the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, 1996.

⁴ Strategic Actions Programme to reduce pollution from Land-Based Activities, MAP Technical Reports Series 119 (p.9).

- (b) Sustainable Procurement Policies contributing to the promotion of the consumption of recycled plastic-made products;
 - (c) Establishment of voluntary agreements with retailers and supermarkets to set an objective of reduction of plastic bags consumption and /or establishment of plastic bag taxes; and
 - (d) Establishment of mandatory Deposits, Return and Restoration System for expandable polystyrene boxes in the fishing sector
 - (e) Establishment of mandatory Deposits, Return and Restoration System for beverage packaging prioritizing when possible their reuse.
4. Take necessary measures to establish by year 2020 [2025] adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter.

Sea-based Sources

5. In accordance with Article 14 of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol explore and implement to the extent possible by 2017, ways and means to charge reasonable cost for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable, apply No-Special-Fee system. The Contracting Parties shall also take the necessary steps to provide ships using their ports with updated information relevant to the obligation arising from Annex V of MARPOL Convention⁵ and from their legislation applicable in the field.
6. [Explore and implement to the extent possible] [Apply as appropriate] by 2017 the “Fishing for Litter” system, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations, to facilitate clean up of the floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gears.
7. [Explore and implement to the extent possible] [Apply as appropriate] by 2017 “Gear marking to indicate ownership” concept and ‘reduced ghost catches through the use of environmental neutral upon degradation of nets, pots and traps concept’, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations in the fishing sector.
8. Apply by 2017 the necessary measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities in accordance with the relevant guidelines adopted in the framework of Dumping Protocol of the Barcelona Convention.
9. The Contracting Parties shall take the necessary measures by 2020 to close the existing illegal dump sites in the geographical area of the Regional Plan.
10. The Contracting parties shall sanction illegal dumping in accordance with national legislation including littering on the beach, illegal sewage disposal in the coastal zone and rivers in the area of the application of the Regional Plan in accordance with national legislation.

Article 10

⁵ International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships.

Removing existing marine litter and its environmentally sound disposal⁶

The Contracting Parties shall remove existent accumulated litter, subject to EIA procedure, [in a regular manner] [at least annually], in particular from specially protected areas and SPAMIs and litter impacting endangered species listed in Annexes II and III of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol. To this aim the Contracting Parties undertake to [Explore and implement to the extent possible] [Apply as appropriate] the following measures by [2017][2019]:

- (a) Identify in collaboration with relevant stakeholders accumulations/hotspots of marine litter and implement compulsory national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal;
- (b) Implement National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns on a regular basis;
- (c) Participate in International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes;
- (d) Apply as appropriate Adopt-a-Beach or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regard to marine litter management;
- (e) Apply Fishing for Litter practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen and ensure adequate collection, sorting, and environmentally sound disposal of the fished litter; and
- (f) Charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable apply No-Special-Fee system, in consultation with competent international and regional organizations, when using port reception facilities for implementing the measures provided for in Article 10.

Part III – Assessment

Article 11

Assessment of the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean

1. The Contracting Parties shall assess in the framework of ecosystem approach the state of marine litter, the impact of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment and human health as well as the socio-economic aspects of marine litter management based on common agreed methodologies, national monitoring programmes and surveys.
2. The Secretariat shall prepare the Assessment of the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean every six years using results of the national monitoring programmes and applied measures with the view to address priority issues and major information and data gaps all other available relevant regional and international data and where appropriate responses by the Contracting Parties to specific marine litter related questionnaires prepared by the Secretariat.
3. The first *Assessment of the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean* shall be submitted to the meeting of the Contracting Parties four years after entry into force of the Regional Plan.

⁶For the implementation of the measures provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article, the Contracting Parties shall [may] take into account the elements presented in the information document "*Background information for some specific measures for management and monitoring of marine litter*".

Article 12

Mediterranean Marine Litter Monitoring Programme

1. Based on ecosystem approach ecological objectives and integrated monitoring programme, and in synergy with the relevant international and regional guidelines and documents the Secretariat shall:
 - (a) Prepare by [2014] [2015] the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme, as part of the integrated regional monitoring programme;
 - (b) Establish in 2016 the Regional Data Bank on Marine Litter; and
 - (c) Establish by 2014 Expert Group on Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme, in the framework of the Ecosystem Approach implementation.
2. For the purpose of this Regional Plan and in compliance with the monitoring obligations under Article 12 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 8 of the LBS Protocol, the Contracting Parties shall design by [2015][2017] in cooperation with the Secretariat, *National Monitoring Programme on Marine Litter*. The Contracting Parties shall report biennially, in accordance with Article 13 of the LBS Protocol, on the implementation of the National Monitoring Programme.
3. The National Monitoring Programmes should take into account the need for harmonization and consistency with the integrated regional monitoring programme based on ecosystem approach and consistency with other regional seas.
4. To this aim, the Secretariat shall prepare, in collaboration with the relevant regional organisations, by 2014 the *Guidelines for the preparation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes*.
5. The Contracting Parties while implementing the measures provided for in Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan [shall][may] enhance knowledge and collect information on the state of the marine litter.

Part IV – Support to Implementation

Article 13

Research topics and scientific cooperation

The Contracting Parties agree to cooperate, with support from the Secretariat, with competent international and regional organizations and relevant scientific institutions, on marine litter issues that due to their complexity require further research. The list of potential research topics is presented in the Appendix 2 to this document⁷.

Article 14

Specific guidelines

⁷ The meeting recommended the MED POL Focal points to remove Appendix II from the Regional Plan to avoid its consideration as legally binding, and attach it instead as Annex to the draft Decision for the adoption of the Regional Plan.

The Secretariat in cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations, shall prepare specific guidelines taking into account where appropriate existing guidelines, to support and facilitate the implementation of measures provided for in articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan. Subject to availability of external funds such guidelines shall be published in different Mediterranean region languages.

Article 15

Technical assistance

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the measures and monitoring obligations as provided for in Articles 7–10 and 12 of the Regional Plan, technical assistance shall be provided, including capacity building, by the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties in need of assistance.

Article 16

Enhancement of public awareness and education

1. Due to the nature of the marine litter management issue enhancement of public awareness and education is very important component of the marine litter management.
2. To this aim the Contracting Parties shall undertake, where appropriate in partnership with civil society, public awareness and education activities, with adequate duration and follow up, with regard to marine litter management including activities related to prevention and promotion of sustainable consumption and production.

Article 17

Major groups and stakeholder participation

For the effective implementation of the Regional Plan, the Contracting Parties shall ensure appropriate involvement of various stakeholders including local authorities, civil society, private sector (producers, garbage collection and treatment companies, etc.) and other stakeholders as appropriate to implement the measures provided for in the Regional Plan and other measures as appropriate:

- (a) Regional, National and local authorities;
- (b) Maritime sector;
- (c) Tourism sector;
- (d) Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- (e) Industry; and
- (f) Civil society.

Article 18

Regional and international cooperation

1. For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the Regional Plan the Secretariat shall establish institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions and initiatives.

2. The Contracting Parties shall cooperate directly or with the assistance of the Secretariat or the competent international and regional organizations to address trans-boundary marine litter cases.

Article 19

Reporting

1. In conformity with Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 13, paragraph 2(d), of the LBS Protocol the Contracting Parties shall report on a biennial basis on the implementation of this Regional Plan, in particular the implementation of the above measures, their effectiveness and difficulties encountered. The major reporting elements are provided in Appendix 3 of the Regional Plan⁸.
2. The Contracting Parties shall review biennially the status of implementation of the Regional Plan upon its entry into force, on the basis of the regional report prepared by the Secretariat.

Part V – Final Provisions

Article 20

Implementation timetable

The Contracting Parties shall implement this Regional Plan, in particular the above measures according to the timetables indicated in the respective Articles of the Regional Plan.

Article 21

Entry into force

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

Article 22

Enforcement of measures

The Contracting Parties shall take the necessary actions to enforce the measures in accordance with their national regulations.

⁸ The meeting recommended the MED POL Focal points to remove Appendix III from the Regional Plan to avoid its consideration as legally binding, and attach it instead as Annex to the draft Decision for the adoption of the Regional Plan.

Appendix 1⁹

Work Plan with timetable for the implementation of relevant Articles of the Marine Litter Regional Plan

	Article	Task	Timetable	Lead Authority	Verification indicator	Cost ¹⁰	Financial source
PART II - MEASURES AND OPERATIONAL TARGETS							
1.	Art. 7 - Integration of marine litter measures into the LBS National Action Plans	Update the existing LBS National Action Plan guidelines	2014	MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Guidelines sent to Contracting Parties		Secretariat
2.		Update the existing LBS National Action Plans to integrate marine litter measures in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Plan	2015	Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL	Updated LBS National Action Plan sent to the Secretariat		Contracting Party
3.		Development of reporting format	2014	MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Reporting format sent to countries		Secretariat
4.		National reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan	Biennially, together with the report for the implementation of the LBS protocol	Contracting Party	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
5.		Art. 9 – Prevention of	To base urban solid waste management on reduction at source, separate	2025	Contracting Party, in cooperation with the	Report sent to Secretariat	

⁹ Pending decision by the MEDPOL FP meeting in June 2013.

¹⁰ Costs will be estimated at the later stage of the development of the Regional Plan since for number of activities inputs are needed from Contracting Parties.

	marine litter	collection, recycling, composting of the organic fraction and environmentally sound disposal (SAP-MED)		CP/RAC and MED POL			
6.		Implement adequate waste reducing/reusing/ recycling measures in order to reduce the fraction of plastic packaging waste that goes to landfill or incineration	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
7.		[Apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to Extended Producer Responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
8.		[Apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to Sustainable Procurement Policies contributing to the promotion of the consumption of recycled plastic-made products	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
9.		[Apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to establishment of voluntary agreements with retailers and supermarkets to set an objective of reduction of plastic bags consumption and/or establishment of plastic bag taxes	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party

10.	[Apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to establishment of mandatory Deposits, Return and Restoration System for expandable polystyrene boxes in the fishing sector	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
11.	[Apply as appropriate] [explore and implement to the extent possible] prevention measures related to establishment of mandatory Deposits, Return and Restoration System for beverage packaging prioritizing when possible their reuse	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with CP/RAC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
12.	Take necessary measures to establish adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter	2020 [2025]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
13.	In accordance with Article 14 of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol explore and implement to the extent possible ways and means to charge reasonable cost for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable, apply No-Special-Fee system and take the necessary steps to provide ships using their ports with updated information relevant to the obligation arising from Annex V of MARPOL Convention and from their legislation applicable in the field	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with REMPEC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
14.	[Explore and implement to the extent possible] [Apply as appropriate] the "Fishing for Litter" system, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations, to facilitate clean	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party

		up of the floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gears					
15.		[Explore and implement to the extent possible] [Apply as appropriate] "Gear marking to indicate ownership" concept and "reduced ghost catches through the use of environmentally neutral upon degradation of nets, pots and traps concept", in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations in the fishing sector	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
16.		Apply necessary measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities in accordance with the relevant guidelines adopted in the framework of Dumping Protocol of the Barcelona Convention	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
17.		Take the necessary measures to close the existing illegal dump sites in the geographical area of the Regional Plan	2020	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
18.		Sanction illegal dumping in accordance with national legislation including littering on the beach, illegal sewage disposal in the coastal zone and rivers in the area of the application of the Regional Plan in accordance with national legislation	2017	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
19.	Art. 10 – Removing existing marine litter and its environmentally sound disposal	Identify in collaboration with relevant stakeholders accumulations / hotspots of marine litter and implement compulsory national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
20.		Implement National Marine Litter Cleanup	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in	Report sent to		Contracting

		Campaigns on regular basis		cooperation with MEDPOL	Secretariat		Party
21.		Participate in International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
22.		Apply as appropriate Adopt-a-Beach or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regards to marine litter management	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
23.		Apply Fishing for Litter practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen and ensure adequate collection, sorting and environmentally sound disposal of the fished litter	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
24.		Charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable apply No-Special-Fee system, in consultation with competent international and regional organizations when using port reception facilities for implementing the measures provided for in Article 10.	2017 [2019]	Contracting Party, in cooperation with REMPEC	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
PART III - ASSESSMENT							
25.	Art. 11 – Assessment of the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean	Assessment of the state of marine litter in the Mediterranean	Every six years, first report 4 years after entry into force of the Regional Plan	MEDPOL	Report issued		Secretariat
26.	Art. 12 – Mediterranean Marine Litter	Establishment of an Expert Group on Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme	2014	MEDPOL	Expert Group established		Secretariat

27.	Monitoring Programme	Guidelines for the preparation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes, in collaboration with the relevant regional organizations	2014	MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Guidelines prepared		Secretariat
28.		Preparation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme, as part of the integrated regional monitoring programme	2014 [2015]	MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme prepared		Secretariat
29.		For the purpose of the Regional Plan and in compliance with the monitoring obligations under Article 12 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 8 of the LBS Protocol design in cooperation with the Secretariat National Monitoring Programme on Marine Litter	2015 [2017]	Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL	Implementation started		Contracting Party
30.		Report, in accordance with Article 13 of the LBS Protocol, on the implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme	Biennially	Contracting Party	Report sent to the Secretariat		Contracting Party
31.		Establishment of the Regional Data Bank on Marine Litter	2016	MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Data Bank established		Secretariat
32.		While implementing measures provided for in Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan enhance knowledge and collect information on the state of the marine litter		Contracting Parties	Report sent to the Secretariat		Contracting Party
PART IV - SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTATION							
33.	Art. 13 – Research	Assistance for scientific cooperation	As appropriate	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC,	Assistance provided		Secretariat

	topics and scientific cooperation			in consultation with regional and international organizations			
34.	Art. 14 – Specific guidelines	Preparation of specific guidelines for measures listed in Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan	2015 – 2017	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Guidelines published		Secretariat
35.	Art. 15 - Technical assistance	Technical assistance, including capacity building provided	As appropriate	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Report sent to Secretariat		Secretariat
36.	Art. 16 – Enhancement of public awareness and education	Undertaking, where appropriate in partnership with civil society, public awareness and education activities with adequate duration and follow up, with regard to marine litter management including activities related to prevention and promotion of sustainable consumption and production	As appropriate	Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
37.	Art. 17 – Major groups and stakeholder participation	Ensure appropriate involvement of various stakeholders including local authorities, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders as appropriate to implement the measures provided for in the Regional Plan and other measures as appropriate	As appropriate	Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Party
38.	Art. 18 – Regional and international cooperation	Establishment of institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions and initiatives	As appropriate	MEDPOL in cooperation with , CP/RAC, REMPEC AND SPA/RAC	Report on the implementation of the Regional Plan		Secretariat

39.		Direct cooperation of Contracting Parties, with assistance of the MEDPOL or competent international and regional organizations, to address trans-boundary marine litter cases	As appropriate	Contracting Parties with assistance of the MEDPOL	Report sent to Secretariat		Contracting Parties
40.	Art. 19 – Reporting	National biennial reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan	Biennially	Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL	Report issued		Contracting Party
41.		Regional report on the implementation of the Regional Plan	Biennially	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Report issued		Secretariat
42.		Review the status of the implementation of the Regional Plan	Biennially	MEDPOL, CP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations	Report issued		Secretariat

Appendix 2¹¹

Potential research topics¹²

Development and implementation of assessment and monitoring, as well as implementation of measures in the framework of this Regional Plan shall require scientific cooperation among parties involved. The Secretariat shall organize and support such scientific cooperation. Due to complexity of marine litter management there are quite a number of topics that require further research. In the list below are presented some of the potential research topics:

COSTS

- Evaluation of direct costs and loss of income to tourism, fishery, transport, industry, governments, and local authorities due to loss of ecosystems goods and services.
- Evaluation of the potential loss of income due to beach litter in relation to tourism.
- Evaluation of costs due to clogging of water inlets of coastal power plant cooling systems.
- Evaluation of the potential loss of fish stocks due to abandoned and lost fishing gear.
- Effectiveness of market based instruments related to marine litter.
- Evaluation of the potential by-catch of threatened and protected species.
- Evaluation of the quantity and localization of lost fishing gear.

DEGRADATION

- Evaluation of rates of degradation of different types of litter (plastics, degradable materials, bio plastics, etc.) and related leachability of pollutants.

EDUCATION

- Evaluate the effectiveness of educational programs on beach cleanliness.

IMPACTS/EFFECTS

- Quantification of the impact of marine litter on marine organisms at a population and community level, in particular threatened and protected species.
- Effects (lethal or sublethal) under different environmental conditions of ingestion and entanglement at the population level, in particular threatened and protected species.
- Understanding how litter may affect habitats.
- Identification of research gaps required to link quantities of litter and associated harm.
- Quantification of the population level effect of ghost fishing.
- Understanding how litter ingested by marine organisms, in particular threatened and protected species, affects their physiological condition and chemical burdens, reduce survival and reproductive performance and ultimately affect their populations or communities.
- Establishment of the impact of marine litter on human health.
- Study of factors affecting the fate of litter.

¹¹ Pending decision by the MEDPOL FP meeting in June 2013.

¹² Some of the topics were taken from the document: MSFD GES Technical Subgroup on Marine Litter. Technical Recommendations for the Implementation of MSFD Requirements. EUR 25009 EN – 2011.

- Development of impact indicators (aesthetic impact, effects on human health, and harm to environment).
- Evaluation of fate and effects of litter related chemicals in marine organisms and establishment of environmental consequences.

INVASIVE SPECIES

- Evaluation of the risk for transportation of invasive species.

MEASURES

- Assessment of the effectiveness of measures intended to reduce the amount of marine litter.
- Assessment of the effectiveness of measures intended to reward vessels that retrieve floating debris and ghost nets for disposal on shore.

MECHANISMS

- Understanding of mechanisms and processes associated with marine litter.
- Understanding links between hydrodynamic factors and other forcing variables.
- Investigation of the transport dynamics and accumulation zones.
- Investigation how, why and by whom litter is disposed of from shipping and the types of ships involved.
- Investigation on the ranking of the ports to be equipped in priority with port reception facilities taking into consideration the Mediterranean maritime traffic.
- Identification of accumulation areas of importance (closed bays, gyres, canyons, and specific deep sea zones where litter accumulates).

MICROLITTER

- Identification of sources for direct inputs of industrial and personal hygiene products related microlitter particles.
- Defining of environmental consequences of microlitter to establish potential physical and chemical impacts on wildlife, marine living resources and the food chain.
- Assessing the potential health hazards involved in human consumption of chemically impacted organisms.

MODELLING

- Development and improvement of modeling tools for the evaluation and identification of sources and fate of litter in the marine environment.
- Development of comprehensive models that would predict the destination of marine litter by incorporating source, oceanographic data (currents, etc.), and estimated residence times.

MONITORING

- Rationalisation of monitoring (standards/baselines; data management/quality insurance).
- Harmonisation and coordination of common and comparable monitoring approaches.
- Setting up of data management system and further development of data analysis.

- Intercalibration, intercomparison and quality assurance of observations and measurements in the framework of monitoring.
- Harmonization of monitoring protocols for Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and NE Atlantic.

SOCIAL

- Development of common methodologies to collect social and economic data.
- Assessment of socially acceptable levels of marine litter to the public and industry.
- Development of an indicator for the aesthetic impact of litter.

SOURCES

- Identification and evaluation of sources of litter, including maritime transport, industrial, agricultural and urban activities, rivers and diffuse inputs.

Appendix 3¹³

Elements for National Biennial Reports

The Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean is requesting Contracting Parties to report biennially on:

- Implementation of the measures; and
- Implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme.

Report on the Implementation of the measures

The Secretariat shall prepare by the end of 2014 Guidelines on the structure, content and reporting of the National Action Plan on Marine Litter, as well as a set of indicators. Main elements of national reports shall be:

- Policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements including the National Action Plan;
- National and local measures to prevent and reduce generation of marine litter;
- Programmes of removal and disposal of existing marine litter;
- National marine litter monitoring programmes (summary report);
- Enhancement of public awareness and education;
- Stakeholder participation;
- Assessment of the effectiveness of the implementation of the measures; and
- Difficulties in the implementation of measures encountered.

Report on the Implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme

The Secretariat shall prepare by the end of 2014 Guidelines for the preparation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme. Main elements of national reports shall be:

- Structure and content of the monitoring programme;
- Survey and monitoring locations, stations, parameters, indicators, frequency, etc.;
- Responsible institution and participating institutions;
- Beach litter assessment results;
- Benthic litter assessment results;
- Floating litter assessment results;
- Effectiveness in the implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme; and
- Difficulties in the implementation of the National Monitoring Programme.

¹³ Pending decision by the MEDPOL FP meeting in June 2013.



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

EP



UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 378/Inf.3
19 April 2013

ENGLISH



MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of Government-designated Experts to review
the Regional Plan on the Marine Litter Management
in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol

Barcelona (Spain), 17-18 May 2013

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE REGIONAL PLAN
ON MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE REGIONAL PLAN ON MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT

Background information relevant to the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean is presented below for the following issues:

- Marine litter management shall be an integral part of the Solid waste management;
- Proposed measures by the Regional Activity Centre on Cleaner Production in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management;
- Enhancement of the Port reception facilities around the Mediterranean;
- Marine litter in relation with the Biodiversity Protocol and SAPBIO;
- Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS);
- Participation of countries in the International Coastal Cleanup events;
- Development and implementation of the Fishing for Litter system;
- Application of the No-special-fee system to ship-generated wastes and marine litter caught in fishing nets;
- Adopt a Beach system and Beachwatch;
- Blue Flag;
- Clean up the Med - Legambiente - Seas at Risk; and
- Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes in the Mediterranean

MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT SHALL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Integrated Solid Waste Management

1. Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) takes an overall approach to creating sustainable systems that are economically affordable, socially acceptable and environmentally effective. An effective ISWM system considers how to prevent, recycle, and manage solid waste in ways that most effectively protect human health and the environment. The marine litter management should be an integral part of the solid waste management system.
2. An integrated solid waste management system involves the use of a range of different treatment methods, and key to the functioning of such a system is the collection and

sorting of the waste. It is important to note that no one single treatment method can manage all the waste materials in an environmentally effective way. Thus all of the available treatment and disposal options must be evaluated equally and the best combination of the available options suited to the particular community chosen. Effective management schemes therefore need to operate in ways which best meet current social, economic, and environmental conditions of the municipality.

Marine litter and solid waste

3. Marine litter is an environmental, economic, health and aesthetic problem affecting all regions around the world. Marine litter includes any anthropogenic, manufactured, or processed solid material (regardless of size) discarded, disposed of, or abandoned that ends up in the marine environment. It includes, but is not limited to, plastics, metals, glass, concrete and other construction materials, paper and cardboard, polystyrene, rubber, rope, fishing nets, traps and pots, textiles, timber and hazardous materials, such as munitions, asbestos and medical waste. Marine litter may result from activities on land or at sea. Marine litter is a complex cultural and multi-sectoral problem that exacts tremendous ecological, economic, and social costs around the globe.
4. A good part of the marine litter from land-based sources results from unsustainable production, consumption, and poor waste management. Increased development, urbanization, and consumerism lead to increases in the use of disposable and non-degradable products and packaging, which results in increased generation of solid waste. Poor management or mishandling of waste materials creates the foundation for land-based sources of marine litter. Both legal and illegal waste handling practices contribute to marine litter. Marine litter is therefore part of a broader problem of solid waste management, which affects all coastal and upland communities including inland waterways and is closely linked to the protection and conservation of the marine and coastal environment and sustainable development. A lack of capacity and funding to effectively manage solid wastes is common, particularly in developing countries, and contributes to the problem of marine litter. Marine litter is often the result of poorly managed waste from human activities. Almost everything we do leaves behind some kind of waste, from everyday household trash to industrial and manufacturing waste. This waste can find its way into the oceans, where it becomes marine litter.

PROPOSED MEASURES BY THE REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE ON CLEANER PRODUCTION IN THE REGIONAL PLAN ON MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT

Measures related to article 9.1

5. The separated collection of the organic fraction of municipal waste is of utmost importance to minimize the amount of waste that shall go to landfill or incineration, as it is the biggest fraction in weight of household wastes. If we have a relatively "clean" organic fraction, we can obtain good quality compost that can be used safely in agriculture, where the demand for organic fertilizers or amendments to improve its fertility and porosity is very high in the Mediterranean area, due to the poor organic content of the soils. Otherwise, if we have the organic fraction mixed with other urban waste, we will obtain a product (grey compost) that cannot be applied in agriculture due to its contents in heavy metals, toxic chemicals, etc and that can only be applied in very restricted and controlled situations or must be landfilled or incinerated. It is

worth mentioning that the use of compost as fertilizer is also a sink of CO₂, as much of the organic fractions remains mineralized in the soil, and minimizes the consumption of energy-intensive chemicals fertilizers.

6. Furthermore, if we do not separate at source the organic and the packaging fraction, we discourage the plastic waste minimization objective in line with SCP measures, which should be the basis for a marine litter minimization.
7. That's why we stress that at least in the horizon 2025 the waste management programmes should have in place separate household waste collection schemes including the organic fraction.

Measures related to article 9.3 (a)

8. Promote Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programmes. Under an EPR scheme, legal responsibility for collection, recycling and end-of life management of products and packaging is given to producers, manufacturers, brand owners and first importers.
9. EPR programs can cover costs through fees applied per unit and fees are differentiated based on the cost to recycle or dispose of in an environmentally sound manner of the materials. In this way, the most interested in improving for waste reduction, reuse and recyclability (eco-design) of its products and packaging are the same producers.

Measures related to article 9.3 (b)

10. The Green Public Procurement (GPP) is a fundamental political instrument to promote sustainable development and to move towards a green economy that encourages the development of products and services that maximize social and environmental benefits, given the big percentage of the GDP that represents the public sector in most countries. The GPP has the potential to transform markets, increase the competitiveness of industries, save money, conserve natural resources and promote job creation. In this way, to introduce objectives of recycled plastic composition in the products purchased by the public administrations is crucial to facilitate the creation of markets in the country for the recovered plastic, which in turn boost the interest to recover plastic packaging, the main component of marine litter.

Measures related to article 9.3 (c)

This is also related to article 9.3 (a).

11. By a Deposit, return and restoration system (DRRS), the packager or the seller establishes a system to physically recover their packaging. To guarantee this recovery, the packager or the seller collects an amount by way of deposit from the customer, and this amount is returned when the packaging is effectively returned. This system has demonstrated high rates of recovery. It is very suitable for example to fast food chains and take-away restaurants, services that tend to generate problems of littering when located near the beach. As this system is not always easily applicable, it is recommended to be established on a voluntary basis with the sectors involved.
12. The other waste management system to prevent waste generation is the Integrated Management System (IMS). In this case the packing company pays an amount for the quantity in weight of the packaging placed in the market to the managing

company of the IMS. This money serves to finance the selective waste collection, and the transport and the selection of the different materials. This system is normally established on a mandatory basis for all the plastic packaging products producers.

Measures related to article 9.3 (d)

13. This point is of special interest because plastic carrier bags are one of the major wastes at sea. The measure was introduced on a voluntary basis with retailers by the Catalan Waste Agency 4 years ago and has accomplished a reduction of 45% in plastic carrier bags consumption, although some initial public opposition.

Measures related to article 9.3 (e)

14. This is a very specific measure addressed to the fishing sector in order to solve the problem of the EPS boxes. Due to its volume and light weight, Life cycle analysis of EPS shows that the cost of collection, cleaning, and recycling post-consumer EPS is greater than the value of the recycled product. EPS is of environmental concern in the marine medium, as Polystyrene is very brittle and it quickly breaks into small pieces. The introduction of a mandatory SDDR scheme in the sector would minimize the single-use culture of this big consume item.

Measures related to article 9.3 (f)

15. Heavy-rain spells that wash-up litter coming from the sewage system are very usual in the Mediterranean area. This washed-up litter could be prevented by including technical measures in the sewage system ranging from mechanical elements like grills to buffer storm tanks.

Measures related to article 17

16. It is important to have cooperation from the beginning of the private sector like tourism and fisheries. This was a remark made by NOWPAP expert, Mr. Tkalin, based on many years of experience in marine litter management.

ENHANCEMENT OF THE PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN¹

17. At international level, with a view to assisting the States in the implementation of the provisions of the MARPOL Convention under national law, and to enforce the requirements of its technical annexes, IMO produced a manual entitled *MARPOL: How to do it*. Moreover, the *Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities*, published by the IMO, provides guidance on the provision of port reception facilities for ship-generated waste.

18. At regional level, in order to encourage further ratification and proper implementation and enforcement of the MARPOL Convention by the Mediterranean coastal States, a specific provision was included in the 2002 *Prevention and Emergency Protocol*. The Article 14 of the Protocol provides that reception facilities, including facilities for pleasure craft, meeting the needs of ships, shall be available in the ports and terminals of the Parties. The provision does not introduce regulations concerning the discharge of ship-generated waste. These regulations are already addressed in detail

¹ Extracts from the document: *A Summary of REMPEC's Activities in the Mediterranean Region (2005)*.

by the technical annexes of the MARPOL Convention. The aim of the Protocol is to facilitate the effective implementation and enforcement of these regulations in the Mediterranean region. Article 14 aims at facilitating the implementation by the Mediterranean coastal States of the provisions of MARPOL Convention related to port reception facilities.

19. The EC/MEDA technical assistance project, implemented from 2002 to 2004 in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, on *Port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily wastes* included the following ten beneficiary countries which are also Parties to the 1976/1995 Barcelona Convention, i.e. Algeria; Cyprus; Egypt; Israel; Lebanon; Malta; Morocco; Tunisia; Turkey; and Syria. The Project also involved four Mediterranean EU Member States (France, Greece, Italy and Spain) as EU Partners from whom full support to the Project was assumed in view of their experience in the field. The overall objective of the Project was to facilitate the implementation in the Mediterranean region of the MARPOL Convention, with respect to the provision of adequate port reception facilities. In order to address the issue of port reception facilities in the beneficiary countries, REMPEC primarily identified the existing situation and needs regarding port reception facilities in the relevant ports and oil terminals of the countries covered by the Project. This was attained through an assessment carried out in each relevant port/terminal of the beneficiary countries. In total, fifty-six ports/oil terminals were visited. With respect to garbage, adequate facilities are provided in all ports, with the exception of three ports where no facilities at all are provided. Project identified the need for each relevant port by the full evaluation of ship traffic movements and the estimated quantities of oil and garbage to be discharged, with reference to the MARPOL. It should be noted that the standard designs for port reception facilities are applicable to all ports/terminals of the Mediterranean. The drawings were conceived to cover a range of nine different types of facilities (three modules combined with three different capacities). Analogous complimentary activities were also carried out by the Centre in other Mediterranean coastal States which were not covered by the project namely, Albania, Croatia, Libya, Slovenia and Montenegro.
20. Results of the EC/MEDA Project were presented at the Regional Seminar at which participants adopted a Resolution endorsing the results of the Project and REMPEC's complementary activities and outlining further actions for their implementation at the national, bilateral, multilateral and regional level. One of the main concerns expressed by some Mediterranean countries which participated in the EC/MEDA Project, as well as in the complementary activities carried out by REMPEC in the field of port reception facilities was related to the public sector investment required for the establishment of reception facilities in their respective ports and terminals. In this regard, it should be noted that the MARPOL Convention states that the government of the State *undertake to ensure the provision of the facilities*. The requirement related to ensuring the provision of port reception facilities is addressed to the State, and is therefore an obligation that remains with the State, but this does not imply that the building and operation of the facilities shall be a duty of the public sector. The actual provision of port reception facilities can be undertaken by either the public and/or the private sector. An overview of the advantages and the disadvantages of public/private options can be found in Chapter 3 of the *Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities* published by IMO.
21. The role of a contracting Party to the MARPOL Convention is: (i) to implement MARPOL provisions, which implies the integration of these provisions into national law; and (ii) to ensure compliance with MARPOL provisions, which implies that (i) legal; (ii) administrative; and (iii) technical conditions enabling enforcement are being met by the different administrations of the State involved. As far as the availability of

- port reception facilities is concerned, the State shall undertake to transpose the MARPOL relative requirements into its national law, i.e. that ports and terminals provide adequate port reception facilities to meet the needs of the ships. Moreover, the maritime administration shall ensure that the facilities are available in ports and terminals, and should follow up by reporting, inspecting and prosecuting in cases of non-compliance.
22. Possible measures and/or activities which could be undertaken in the future with regard to issues included in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter:
 23. Update of the assessment study of port reception facilities in the Mediterranean carried out under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Project on port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily wastes in the Mediterranean implemented by REMPEC between 2002 and 2004;
 24. Ranking of Mediterranean ports to be equipped in priority with port reception facilities established;
 25. Mediterranean Port Reception Facilities Regional Forum to facilitate exchanges between shipowners, port authorities and other interested parties with a view to addressing the issue of lack or inadequate port reception facilities in a practical manner established;
 26. Capacity building and awareness raising activities related to the new Annex V (Garbage) of MARPOL;
 27. Knowledge of Contracting Parties on port reception facilities best practices enhanced through a Regional Workshop on Port Reception Facilities in co-operation with European ports; and
 28. Take into consideration the Regional Plan on Marine Litter when reviewing the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships.

MARINE LITTER IN RELATION WITH THE BIODIVERSITY PROTOCOL AND SAPBIO

29. Pollution of marine and coastal areas is a recurrently cited problem threatening biodiversity. The SPA/DB Protocol provides provisions to address the issue of pollution in various articles such the 6.a. where “the Parties shall prohibit the dumping or discharge of wastes and other substances likely directly or indirectly to impair the integrity of the specially protected area”.
30. The pollution in general is also identified as threat to several threatened species like marine turtles, monk seal, cetaceans and birds.
31. Most of the effects of pollution for Mediterranean biodiversity are treated in the “Strategic Action Plan to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities (SAP MED)”, implemented by UNEP MAP/MEDPOL2. The TDA MED and SAP MED identified 103 hot spots and 51 sensitive areas of regional importance in the Mediterranean basin.
32. Pollution of the coastal zone and its wetlands by solid and liquid domestic and industrial wastes by-products is reported, in the SAPBIO national reports, as a major problem by many Mediterranean countries, as the lack of appropriate treatment facilities is very common. In particular, chemical and petrochemical industries

concentrated around major coastal cities are a major source of pollution⁴. To this is now added agricultural pollution from runoff containing high concentrations of fertilisers, pesticides and other agrochemicals. Their combined impact on the health of habitats and on particular species is often quite high. It should be noted, however, that this is not an irreversible effect, and that after the removal of the sources of pollution biodiversity can be re-established to a considerable degree.

33. Floating plastic objects and debris, considered as new important source of pollution, is cited as threats to marine species and communities affecting mainly affecting sea turtles, birds and marine mammals. Mucilaginous aggregates can sporadically appear in coastal waters. The appearance of these benthic aggregates shows a seasonal pattern, becoming noticeable in the field as small, yellowish tufts in early spring that go on, until the end of summer forming, under favourable environmental conditions, extensive patches at the seabed, causing local episodes of anoxia and hindering the feeding mechanism of filtering species. Depending on the topographical features of the rocky bottom and local hydrodynamic conditions, benthic mucilaginous aggregates may develop in a wide depth range growing on various algal communities, *Posidonia oceanica* meadows, gorgonians and other benthic organisms. The relationship between the appearance of these aggregates and episodes of eutrophication or organic pollution remains unclear.
34. The SAPBIO defined seven priorities among which the Assessing and mitigating the impact of threats on biodiversity. As far as the marine litter is concerned, SAPBIO identified under activity 19 concerning the assessment and elaboration of strategies to prevent the environment impact of sources of pollution to control the proliferation of floating plastic objects and debris. It is an long-term activity that concern the whole Mediterranean region and each participating country. It was considered as low-level activity because the logistic/economic/institutional conditions are not met. To this end, the following specific actions were identified:
 - a. Establish a regional programme to plastic proliferation in the organisations;
 - b. Geographical identification of priority areas likely to be affected by the proliferation of plastic debris in the sea;
 - c. Support international agreements about the dumping of plastics in the sea;
 - d. Enhance recuperation and recycling of plastics;
 - e. Promote the research and application of technology to produce photo- and bio-degradable plastics;
 - f. Promote and support beach-cleaning initiatives; and
 - g. Establish awareness campaigns (oriented to users and the general public) about the use and waste of plastic debris in the sea.
 - h. This action should be implemented by regional organisations, national authorities and research institutes.
 - i. The provisions of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management developed by the MEDPOL will be taken into account in the ongoing updating of the SAP BIO and the regional action plan for the conservation of threatened species adopted within the framework of SPA/DB Protocol.

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

A.

35. Cetaceans are known to be affected by marine litter through ingestion and entanglement; the phenomenon is well-known in the ACCOBAMS area, and substantive information exists from the monitoring of strandings in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas.

36. Also, the Agreement text, in particular its Annex 2 concerning the ACCOBAMS Conservation plan adopted by all Parties to the Agreement is requesting Parties to:

Paragraph 1 (Adoption and enforcement of national legislation):

37. .../ b) *introduce or amend regulations with a view to preventing fishing gear from being discarded or left adrift at sea, and to require the immediate release of cetaceans caught incidentally in fishing gear in conditions that assure their survival;*

38. d) *regulate the discharge at sea of, and adopt within the framework of other appropriate legal instruments stricter standards for, pollutants believed to have adverse effects on cetaceans /...*

Paragraph 2 (Assessment and management of human-cetacean interactions):

39. *Parties shall, in co-operation with relevant international organizations, collect and analyse data on direct and indirect interactions between humans and cetaceans in relation to inter alia fishing, industrial and touristic activities, and land-based and maritime pollution. When necessary, Parties shall take appropriate remedial measures and shall develop guidelines and/or codes of conduct to regulate or manage such activities.*

40. Projects were supported by ACCOBAMS regarding Marine Litter and Marine Mammals Conservation, in particular the "Involvement of Black Sea artisanal fisheries in anti-bycatch and anti-marine litter activities (implemented by Black Sea Council for Marine Mammals and Brema Laboratory, Ukraine; supported by Black Sea Commission, ACCOBAMS and UNEP/RSP)". A similar project was undertaken in Turkey: Project of cetacean bycatch and stranding related to turbot fishery and marine litter pollution in the western Turkish Black Sea coast (implemented by TUDAV, Turkey; supported by Black Sea Commission and UNEP/RSP).

41. Guidelines for fishermen on the prevention and mitigation of marine litter pollution and ghost fishing in the Black Sea region have been prepared in 2008². These guidelines were translated in Ukrainian and Russian. They have been prepared for the purpose of raising awareness of Black Sea fishermen and reminding them about their professional duties in respect of prevention and abatement of Marine Litter pollution including Ghost fishing. The guidelines are intended upmost to provide guidance to those segments of the commercial fishing industry that are involved in demersal and pelagic fisheries using a filtering-type fishing gear like bottom-set gillnets, trammel nets, purse seines, pelagic trawls, etc.

² The guidelines were drafted in November 2008 by Alexei Birkun, Jr. (Black Sea Council for Marine Mammals) in frame of the Joint Programme of the BSC PS and ACCOBAMS PS on Marine Litter and Marine Mammals Conservation in the Black Sea. They are available in the ACCOBAMS web site (www.accobams.net)

42. In addition, the Parties adopted in 2010 a Resolution on the contribution of ACCOBAMS to the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). In this process the descriptor 10 on Marine Litter was identified of high relevance for cetaceans. The phenomenon is well known in the ACCOBAMS area and it is suggested to facilitate the flow of information between ACCOBAMS and the MSFD effort through the collection of data in monitoring cetacean strandings.
43. Finally the Scientific Committee noted the importance of continued research in the ACCOBAMS area in relation to chemical pollution and Marine Litter and stressed the importance to develop projects to evaluate potential threats caused by microplastics and ghost fishing.
44. *In this context and according to an advice made by the Chair of the Scientific Committee, the ACCOBAMS Secretariat is proposing to develop collaboration with the MEDPOL program to envisage the preparation of a region-wide project on marine litter to:*
45. *Address the impact of marine litter (including ghost fishing nets, plastics, etc.) on marine mammals in the ACCOBAMS area; and*
46. *Produce guidelines on how to monitor and mitigate the problem. This project could be prepared and implemented in cooperation with IWC, ASCOBANS, MEDPOL, GFCM and BSC.*

PARTICIPATION OF COUNTRIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP EVENTS

47. The annual International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) campaign, which is coordinated globally by Ocean Conservancy (a US-based ocean conservation NGO) and its many global partners has been operating since 1986 in the US and globally since 1989. The ICC has engaged 132 countries and territories in its 26 years, involving hundreds of NGOs, government agencies, various private sector and other civil society groups and organizations at the regional, national and local level. The ICC is unique in that its activities of collecting data on the composition and abundance of marine litter provides the only global database of this information worldwide. Starting in 1989, the ICC started to expand into countries on the African continent, the Americas, Asia, Europe, Mediterranean, Middle East, Pacific Rim and Wider Caribbean. The Cleanup now includes activities along the banks of rivers, lakes and streams, as well as underwater sites along the coast and inland water bodies. Eleven Mediterranean countries participated so far in the ICC event (annually, every September).
48. ICC has involved hundreds of thousands of volunteers and organizers who annually survey beaches and underwater sites around the globe for marine debris. Supported by government agencies, corporate partners and conservation and civic groups, these volunteers and supporters remove debris and record valuable information on the types and sources of this global pollution problem.
49. One of the primary goals of the International Coastal Cleanup is to help trace pollution to its source and work to help prevent it from occurring. To this end, volunteers record debris information using a standardized data card first developed in 1986 by Ocean Conservancy. The ICC data card includes 43 debris items and groupings targeting recognized debris-producing activities and sources. The result has been the creation of a unique, global database of information collected at beach and underwater cleanups around the world.

50. The data collected and analyzed has been used locally, nationally and internationally to help influence policy decisions. The ICC data provides the basic framework for action at numerous levels of the government and within the private sector to help reduce marine debris and to educate civil society about litter and pollution prevention.

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FISHING FOR LITTER SYSTEM

51. Fishing for Litter is one of the most innovative and successful concepts to tackle marine litter at sea. This imaginative yet simple initiative aims to reduce marine litter by involving one of the key stakeholders, the fishing industry. The initiative not only involves the direct removal of litter from the sea, but also raises awareness of the problem inside the industry as a whole. The North Sea Directorate of the Dutch Government in co-operation with the Dutch Fisheries Association originally started the Fishing for Litter initiative in March 2000 before it expanded by KIMO (Kommunenenes Internasjonale Miljøorganisasjon, Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation) to Denmark, UK, Netherlands, Isle of Man and Sweden in 2004.
52. The initiative clears litter from the seabed by providing vessels with large (1 m³) hardwearing bags to collect marine litter that accumulates in their nets as part of their normal fishing activity. Operational or galley waste generated on board, and hence the responsibility of the vessel, continues to go through the established harbour waste management system. Full bags are deposited on the quayside where the participating harbours monitor the waste before moving the bag to a dedicated skip for disposal. This reduces the volume of debris washing up on our beaches and also reduces the amount of time fishermen spend untangling their nets. The project provides the bags and covered the waste costs and the fishermen and harbours volunteer their time. KIMO believes that Fishing for Litter is one of the best practical measures that can be implemented, not only to reduce to the input of litter to the marine environment from the fishing industry, but also to remove existing litter from the marine environment.
53. The concept has been endorsed by European Environment Ministers at the Ministerial Meeting of the OSPAR Commission in the Bremen Statement 2003 and the Göteborg Declaration 2006. *(Para 22. Ministers request competent authorities to investigate methods through EU Directive 2000/59/EC, or if this proves not to be possible, through fishing for litter initiatives, to enable the fishing industry to contribute more positively to reducing the amount of litter in the sea, especially litter which is hauled up with their nets. If this approach proves not to be feasible, Ministers request the competent authorities to develop financially supported fishing for litter initiatives for the landing of non-operational waste.)*
54. KIMO has also shown the cost to the fishing industry of marine litter, which can be up to £30,000 per boat each year through contamination of catches, broken gear and fouled propellers. It is therefore essential that urgent action be taken to reduce what is currently a significant marine pollution problem.
55. South Korea is implementing a Buyback Programme which is very efficient and which is basically a Fishing for Litter programme but fishermen when they deliver the bag with derelict fishing gear they get a small financial compensation for it.

APPLICATION OF THE NO-SPECIAL-FEE SYSTEM TO SHIP-GENERATED WASTES AND MARINE LITTER CAUGHT IN FISHING NETS

56. "No-special-fee" system is defined as a charging system where the cost of reception, handling and disposal of ship-generated wastes, originating from the normal operation of the ship, as well as of marine litter caught in fishing nets, is included in the harbour fee or otherwise charged to the ship irrespective of whether wastes are delivered or not. The "no-special-fee" system is not restricted to any specific type of ship-generated waste.
57. "No-special-fee" system constitutes a system with the dual purpose of encouraging ships to deliver waste ashore and to avoid undesirable waste streams between ports, thereby encouraging a sound sharing of the waste burden.
58. Every sea-going ship's obligation to pay for reception, handling and disposal of oil residues, sewage and garbage is deemed to arise with the arrival of a ship in any port of the participating countries, irrespective of whether or not that particular ship will actually make use of the reception facilities, which are available there. The fee covers the waste collecting, handling and processing including infrastructure and shall be distributed among ships and collected as part of or in addition to the port dues.
59. No-special-fee system constitutes one of the prerequisites for a substantial decrease in the number of operational and illegal discharges and thus for the prevention of pollution of the marine environment from ships,

ADOPT- A - BEACH AND BEACHWATCH

60. Adopt-a-Beach is a concept when a school, or local community, or an NGO, or a group of volunteers "adopt" (not in a legal sense) a beach and takes care of that beach by regular cleanup events. In a way they are "guardians" of that beach.
61. Marine Conservation Society (MCS), UK, co-ordinates a range of projects that encourage public participation in marine conservation, including Adopt-a-Beach and Beachwatch, the biggest beach clean and litter survey projects in Europe. MCS has been collecting data on marine litter through Beachwatch since 1993 and Adopt-a-Beach since 1999 and has thus amassed a large bank of data detailing both type and source of litter to be found in the UK. The protocols and methodology used are compatible with other systems on a European and worldwide basis. Beachwatch provides data for the International Coastal Cleanup on litter surveys and beach cleans over the same weekend in September, providing information on the global extent of marine litter. Adopt-a-Beach data is fed into the OSPAR project on Marine Litter. The methodology used by OSPAR is based on the Adopt-a-Beach surveys.
62. According to MCS Beachwatch litter surveys, UK beach litter levels have increased over the past 16 years. In fact, average beach litter levels following Beachwatch 2008 were 90% above 1994 levels. Plastic litter levels have increased by 146% since 1994.
63. Each year, thousands of volunteers demonstrate their concern for the state of the marine environment and the problems caused by marine litter by participating in MCS's Adopt-a Beach project and the annual Beachwatch litter survey and clean-up. In Beachwatch 2008, a total of 374 beaches, covering over 170 km of coastline in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands were cleaned and surveyed by over 5,000 volunteers, indicating that litter is still an issue of great public concern. The data is analysed by MCS to identify the quantities, types and sources of litter affecting the UK coastline and the impacts of litter on marine life,

human health and local economies, providing evidence that can be used to target specific polluters and pollutants at local, national and international levels. The results of the surveys carried out during Beachwatch are published every Spring and are the only annual statistics on beach litter produced in the UK.

64. Public participation in the MCS projects and other community initiatives plays an important role in increasing general understanding of the litter issue. Such schemes enable people to become actively involved in practical measures to reduce marine litter and raise awareness of the need to prevent coastal pollution. Through the Adopt-a-Beach project, local people volunteer to undertake quarterly beach cleans and litter surveys of their chosen beach. As well as traditional beach clean-ups, MCS works alongside Project AWARE and PADI (Professional Association of Dive Instructors) dive centres to organise underwater beach cleans. These underwater clean-ups are invaluable as they remove plastic, netting, cans, old buoys and general rubbish that has already made it into the marine ecosystem.

BLUE FLAG

65. The Blue Flag is a certification by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) that a beach or marina meets its stringent standards. The Blue Flag is a trademark owned by FEE which is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation consisting of 65 organisations in 60 member countries in Europe, Africa, Oceania, Asia, North America and South America. FEE's Blue Flag criteria include standards for water quality, safety, environmental education and information, the provision of services and general environmental management criteria. The Blue Flag is sought for beaches and marinas as an indication of their high environmental and quality standards. Certificates, which FEE refers to as awards, are issued on an annual basis to beaches and marinas of FEE member countries. The awards are announced yearly on 5 June for Europe, Canada, Morocco, Tunisia and other countries in a similar geographic location, and on 1 November for the Caribbean, New Zealand, South Africa and other countries in the southern hemisphere. In the European Union, the water quality standards are incorporated in the EC Water Framework Directive. The Blue Flag was created in France in 1985 as a pilot scheme where French coastal municipalities were awarded the Blue Flag on the basis of criteria covering sewage treatment and bathing water quality.

66. 1987 was the "European Year of the Environment" and the European Commission was responsible for developing the European Community activities of that year. The Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe (FEEE) presented the concept of the Blue Flag to the Commission, and it was agreed to launch the Blue Flag Programme as one of several "European Year of the Environment" activities in the Community. The French concept of the Blue Flag was developed on European level to include other areas of environmental management, such as waste management and coastal planning and protection. Besides beaches marinas also became eligible for the Blue Flag. There have been increases in the numbers of Blue Flags awarded each year. The criteria have during these years been changed to more strict criteria. As an example, in 1992 the Programme started using the restrictive guideline values in the EEC Bathing Water Directive as imperative criteria, and this was also the year where all Blue Flag criteria became the same in all participating countries. In 2010 over 3450 beaches and marinas globally were awarded the Blue Flag. 12 Mediterranean countries are currently participating in the Blue Flag Programme.

CLEAN UP THE MED – LEGAMBIENTE – SEAS AT RISK

67. The annual Mediterranean beach clean-up, as organised by Seas At Risk member Legambiente, takes place every May.
68. The event has been running since 1995, when the campaign 'Clean Up the Med' was born. In 2009, over 100,000 volunteers took part in over 1,500 locations.
69. Over 400 organisations, spread across almost every country that borders the Mediterranean Sea, have been involved in the past as volunteers and commit themselves to removing as much litter as possible from both popular seaside places and sensitive marine reserves.
70. *With the assistance of the Secretariat, the Contracting Parties shall encourage and support the Clean Up the Med events. These activities may become where appropriate an integral part of the National Action Plan on Marine Litter.*

MARINE LITTER MONITORING PROGRAMMES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN³

71. Herewith are presented, in chronological order, surveys of marine litter that have taken place in the Mediterranean.

Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes in the Mediterranean



Deep sea monitoring in 4 major gulfs along the western coast of Greece

72. A study of the University of Patras conducted a deep water marine litter monitoring programme in collaboration with volunteer fishermen in four major gulfs along the western coast of Greece and collected 3,318 items of marine litter in an overall area of 20 Km² and reaching depths of 300 m. The results showed that the major sources of the collected litter were from land-based activities while the predominant items were plastics (56%). The most burdened area was that of the Gulf of Patras (major

³ Extracted from UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.357/Inf.4

urban center as well as fishing hub and commercial port) with a recorded number of items ranging between 188-437 per Km².

The Gulf of Thessalonica and Piraeus /Greece

73. The program for collection and estimation of floating litter in the Gulf of Thessalonica started in 2007 by the Company "North Aegean Slops" (Member of Clean up Greece) on behalf of the Ministry of Macedonia & Thrace, supported by the department for sustainable development and protection of the coastal areas and sea of the Gulf of Thermaikos (Ministry of Macedonia & Thrace, 2008). The collection of Marine Litter was effected with a special technical equipped boat and an additional rubber boat for unreachable coastal areas.
74. HELMEPA member company, Environmental Protection Engineering S.A. provided data on the volume of marine litter recovered from the sea surface of the port of Piraeus for a two-year period (2006-2007), which was processed and analyzed by HELMEPA. The daily collection of floating debris from the port sea area (including the passenger and container port) was carried out by specialized skimmer vessels and/or manually from auxiliary boats.
75. The volume of marine litter fluctuated from 1.47 m³ per day to 3.46 m³ per day, while the average volume was estimated to be 1.89 m³ per day. During the summer season when the operation of the passenger port is extremely high (*it should be noted that Piraeus is the largest port in Europe and the third largest in the world in terms of passenger transportation, servicing 19,000,000 passengers annually*) the volume of marine litter is significantly higher reaching an average of 2.96 m³ per day. Although quantitative information in respect of the origin of the debris does not exist, it appears that domestic garbage from passengers and litter ending up to sea via urban sewers are the prevailing categories.

The coastline of Israel ("Clean Coast" Program)

76. One hundred and eighty five km of Israeli coastline suffers from accumulation of marine litter. Located in the easterly part of the Mediterranean, current and wind regimes are responsible for the deposition of significant quantities of waste from the eastern Mediterranean basin on the Israeli coast, especially during winter and summer storms. Approximately 130 km, from the total coastline length are non-declared bathing beaches, which are open to the public for leisure activities.
77. In June 2005, the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection (MoEP) launched the "Clean Coast" program, applying the "Environmental Problem Solving" concept. The program that was devised included four modules: Continuous cleaning; Education activities; Enforcement actions; Advertising and Public Relations. Based on a quantifiable index (CCI index), the results showed a significant improvement of the coastal cleanliness. While at the starting date, June 2005, only 27% of the beaches were defined as "clean" or "very clean," in December 2006, 80% of the coastal length was "clean" and above. This was achieved in cooperation with inspectors of the Marine and Coastal Environment Division, wide-scale media coverage and long-term educational plans and cooperation with organizations such as EcoOcean, Clean up Israel, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and Associations of Towns and municipal units for the environment.
78. The main objective of the "Clean Coast" program was achieved (Alkalay *et al.*, 2007). As the program shows, the litter problem can only be solved by introduction of a

holistic mechanism, backed up by a measurement index, applied over the long-term. Some argue that a country should not embark on a solution to the marine litter problem until the sources of the litter have been analyzed and identified. However the "Clean Coast" program shows that "Action First" by countries, may be the key. A strategy pursued for a long enough time, will create a self - perpetuating mechanism that will generate success, not only for the residents of a country but for neighbouring countries as well. A combined international action of such kind may be the beginning of a turnover in reducing marine and coastal litter.

Balearic Islands/Spain (Martinez-Ribes et al., 2007)

79. The abundance, nature and possible sources of litter on 32 beaches on the Balearic Islands (Mediterranean Sea) were investigated in 2005. Mean summer abundance in the Balearics reached approximately 36 items per m⁻¹, with a corresponding weight of 32±25 g per m⁻¹, which is comparable to the results of other studies in the Mediterranean. Multivariate analyses (principal component analysis and redundancy analysis) confirmed strong similarities between islands and a statistically significant seasonal evolution of litter composition and abundance. In summer (the high tourist season), debris contamination expressed as item abundance was double that in the low season and showed a heterogeneous nature associated with beach use. Cigarette butts were the most abundant item, accounting for up to 46% of the objects observed in the high tourist season. In contrast, plastics related to personal hygiene/medical items were predominant in wintertime (67%) and natural wood was the most important debris by weight (75%). In both seasons, litter characteristics suggested a strong relationship with local land-based origins. While beach users were the main source of summer debris, low tourist season litter was primarily attributed to drainage and outfall systems.

Island of Sardinia/Italy

80. Removal of beach-cast *Posidonia oceanica* seagrass litter, called "banquettes," is a common practice on Mediterranean shores to allow the recreational use of beaches. Ongoing removal practices of *P. oceanica* banquettes were analyzed on the island of Sardinia in 2004 to quantify this phenomenon on a broad scale and to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of banquette removal and dumping on the coastal zone (De Falco et al., 2007).

81. Wastes from beaches are considered solid urban wastes by Italian law (DL n. 22, 5 February 1997, art. 7). Regional governments authorize the "cleaning" of the beaches to local agencies, coastal municipalities, and private companies.

82. Those authorizations generally do not distinguish between waste and *P. oceanica* banquettes. Consequently, the banquettes are normally removed. 46% of the removed material is deposited behind dunes, 34% in unauthorized plants and only 20% in authorized plants. No separation of common litter and *P. oceanica* has been made.

Coasts of El-Mina and Tripoli/Lebanon

83. The project aimed at validating a methodology to identify the quality and quantity of solid waste accidentally caught in the nets of fishermen. Ten fishermen were selected to collect all marine litter caught in their nets on a daily basis, store them in plastic bags and record date, name of the fishing vessel and the location of fishing activities. Marine litter was divided in six categories: 1) Cloth; 2) Fishing material; 3) Glass; 4)

Metal; 5) Paper; and 6) Plastic, volume estimated, data entered and processed in a specially designed Geographical Information System, percentages calculated and maps identifying the location of marine litter generated. All six categories were present in the waters of El-Mina/Tripoli in the following percentages: 1) Cloth: 1.74%; 2) Fishing material: 1.74%; 3) Glass: 1.16%; 4) Metal: 16.81%; 5) Paper: 0.87%; and 6) Plastic: 77.68%. Litter was mostly found in areas of high anthropological stress, mainly at the mouth of the Abou Ali River, the fishing and commercial ports, the conglomeration of rocks off the El-Mina headland and around the Palm Island Reserve. The results revealed the influence of human activities and river inputs. Temporal trends indicated the presence of plastic and metal over the whole period of collection, while all other categories were collected sporadically. This passive method for monitoring marine litter at minimal costs has been validated and can be applied to other areas around the Mediterranean.

84. Analysis of the data also revealed that the occurrence of the different litter categories occurred at different frequencies according to the month of sampling. Plastic and metal were present over the five month period while the other litter categories occurred in some months and not others. The lowest percentages were recorded in the month of October, coinciding with the end of the tourism season and dry weather. August and September experience high tourism activities, while the first rains start at the end of October and intensify in November and December. This might explain the difference in percent waste collected during the five month period.

Ligurian Sea/Italy (Aliani et al., 2003)

85. Results from visual sightings of large floating debris are presented, taken in the Ligurian Sea, a sub-basin of the north-western Mediterranean Sea, which belongs to the recently stated "Cetacean Sanctuary". Data have been collected during three oceanographic cruises, during the summer of 1997 and 2000. Results for the 1997 data suggest a debris density of the order of 15–25 objects km², while for the 2000 data, a lower density of the order of 3–1.5 objects km² is found. The West Corsica Current (WCC) runs along the western side of Corsica while the warm and salty Tyrrhenian current (TC) goes through the Corsica Channel. The two waters merge to the north of Corsica and they flow together along the Ligurian coast toward the Gulf of Lions.

Deep sea floor off the French Mediterranean Coast

86. The distribution and abundance of large marine debris were investigated on the continental slope and bathyal plain of the northwestern Mediterranean Sea during 3 oceanographic cruises undertaken in June 1994, July 1995 and April 1996 (Galgani *et al.*, 1996). Different types of debris were enumerated, particularly pieces of plastic, plastic and glass bottles, metallic objects, glass and diverse materials including fishing gear. The results showed considerable geographical variation, with concentrations ranging from 0 to 78 pieces of debris/ha. In most stations sampled, plastic bags accounted for a very high percentage (more than 70%) of total debris. In the Gulf of Lions, only small amounts of debris were collected on the continental shelf. Most of the debris was found in canyons descending from the continental slope and in the bathyal plain, with high amounts occurring to a depth of more than 500 m.
87. The Contracting Parties may consider as appropriate that all monitoring programmes presented above shall become an integral part of the Mediterranean Marine Litter Monitoring Programme.

Glossary of terms

“Reduction at source” means any waste prevention activity designed to reduce the amount of waste and/or the toxicity of waste generated by a product or service, including the design and manufacture of products with minimum damaging effects to the environment and human health, lower weight of virgin material, longer reusability and recyclability and/or a longer useful life.

“Dump site” means any not regulated or illegal area of solid waste disposal.

“Landfill” means any temporary or permanent solid waste disposal onto or into land regardless of the source of the waste or the final destination of the waste, and which accomplishes a series of requirements in accordance with the respective national laws with regard to the characteristics of the site, admission of waste and management of the landfill in order to prevent and abate environmental damage.

“Organic fraction” of the municipal waste means food waste and plant waste, which can be collected selectively and is likely to be composted..

“Incineration” means thermal destruction of the waste including thermal processes with energy recovery.

“Extended Producer Responsibility” (EPR) means the assumption of the responsibility of the product by the manufacturer or first importer of the entire life-cycle of the product including the take-back, recycling and final disposal. EPR measures can include waste management strategies like **Integrated Management Systems (IMS)** and **Deposit, Return and Restoration Systems (DRRS)**

Integrated Management Systems (IMS) means a system by which the producer, first importer or seller pays an amount for the quantity in weight placed on the market to the managing company of the IMS, in order to finance the costs of the selective waste collection, the transport and the recycling or disposal of the products, especially for packaging waste.

“Deposit, Return and Restoration System” means a system for the physical recovery by the seller of a waste by means of the return to the customer of a fee. This system is especially intended for packaging waste.

“Expanded Polystyrene” (EPS) means a type of foamed styrene plastic.

“Fishing for litter” means any kind of voluntary agreement with the fishing sector in order to engage fishermen in the collection of marine debris to contribute to healthy marine ecosystems. This is also encouraged by adequate facilities in ports to receive litter operating on a “No special fee” principle

“No-special fee system” means that the waste reception facilities at ports and marinas are free of charge for the user at least for the solid waste.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE REGIONAL PLAN ON MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT

ADDENDUM

ESTIMATION OF COSTS OF THE MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT

The Meeting to review the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (Barcelona 17-18 May 2013) agreed that information on the type of information available in each of the Contracting Parties will be sent to the Secretariat by the Contracting Parties by 31 May 2013.

The Secretariat agreed to prepare an overview of all information received and will also collect relevant information from various sources on the cost of marine litter management and present such information to the MED POL Focal Point meeting (Barcelona, June 2013) as a chapter in the marine litter Background document.

As of 7 June 2013 information from the Contracting Parties was received from France and Israel and is presented below.

As requested the Secretariat collected relevant information from the following sources:

- Economic Impacts of Marine Litter – KIMO - John Mouat, Rebeca Lopez Lozano, and Hannah Bateson (2010)
- Marine litter in Sweden - A study for the Economic and Social Analysis of the Initial Assessment of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2012)
- Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear - Graeme Macfadyen, Tim Huntington and Rod Cappell (2009)
- McIlgorm, A., Campbell H. F. and Rule M. J. - Understanding the economic benefits and costs of controlling marine debris in the APEC region (2008)
- NOAA - Marine Debris Information: Economic Impacts - Costs of Marine Debris Impacts (2013)
- EPA - Summary: Preliminary Study - West Coast Communities' Cost of Managing Marine Debris (2013)

All the information presented in this Addendum to the Background document should serve participants of the MED POL FP meeting during the discussion of the estimation of costs for the marine litter management in the Mediterranean. The Secretariat is ready, if requested, to prepare an analysis of the estimation of costs and to propose recommendations regarding this issue.

France - Operations of cleaning of marine beaches/banks/sea bottoms: example of « Ocean Initiatives »

Note: Information communicated to the Minister of Ecology of France by the Surfrider Foundation Europe

Measures of awareness of the problem of marine litter coupled to a cleaning operation that is implemented at the community level (60% of transactions take place in France).

The 19th campaign in 2013 with an emphasis on the fight against plastic (omnipresent in the marine environment) and single use plastic

Tools to carry out the measurement (Kit "guide organizer" educational banner, trash bags, stickers, T-shirts and facilitators of learning tools such as "The booklet schroumpfrider" and the DVD "Ocean report") provided for free "key in hand".

The organizer would register online and download informative documents and receive the kit by mail.

Volunteers organize locally their cleaning operation and the seat of Surfrider Europe coordinates the operations, providing logistical support and communicates about the event at European, national, regional and local levels.

Organizer categories: citizens, associations, sports organizations (kayaking federation, triathlon, surfing, snorkelling and diving bottles, sports club ...), educational facilities (leisure centres, schools, ...) and network of volunteers of SFE (present in European branches).

The operation is annual, one can organize all Ocean Initiatives throughout the year.

A highlight with operations throughout France traditionally held the first weekend of spring (last weekend of March).

Estimated average cost of one year: € 250,000: Expenses 50/50 Human Resources and Production / logistics.

Production of teaching tools in 8 languages (1300 streamers, 20 €/unit), other tools in 3 languages (50,000 postcards lobby, 1300 T-shirt) and garbage bags single model (15,000 bags).

Each kit is personalized depending on the country (language), the number of participants and profile of the organizer (complementary educational tools sent if teachers are present).

Source of Funding: 50/50 public funds (Ministry of Ecology, local authorities, ...) and private funds (Bouygues Telecom Foundation, Lyonnaise des Eaux, ...)

The cleaning programs are listed on the site Ocean Initiatives:
<http://www.initiativesoceanes.org/>.

Israel - Costs Estimation of Coastal Clean-Up of Marine Litter

Following the recommendations of the Meeting to review the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management (Barcelona, Spain, 17-18 May 2013), we have managed to gather up some important information as regards clean up measures costs, in the framework of "Clean Coast Program", run June 2005 until June 2012, in Israel.

Unfortunately due to a cluster of reasons, the program entered into a certain halt in 2013. We intend to make to most however, in order to have it back on its tracks by the beginning of work year 2014.

As promised, here are some figures that might assist in the estimation of any future effort aimed at a holistic approach to consistently clean beaches around the Mediterranean.

Needless to say that these figures, although based on facts and actions, are true for the state of Israel, on average, and may vary greatly based on the local and national situation. Also, the figures given do not indicate in any way that this is the maximal nor the optimal level of investment needed in order to reach the target set forth.

Also it should be noted that the following does not include clean-up activities with schools, youth movements and military arranged as an educational events, and in a special clean-up days such as Ocean's day and so forth.

Total length of coastline (as part of the program in Israel, taking out infrastructure facilities): 145 km*. * The program doesn't include the maintenance of bathing beaches: 22 Km.

1. Average annual cleanup operations (by municipalities): 675,000 EU
2. Average annual measurement efforts of the CCI*: 100,000 EU *Clean Coast Index – independent weekly measurement of the cleanliness of the beach.
3. Annual dedicated coastal advertisement and PR efforts: 135,000 EU
4. Annual average cost of pedagogic efforts done in elementary schools: 155,000 EU*
*Based on a written program, run by out sourced trainers.
5. Coordination and administration (out sourced): 90,000 EU
6. Enforcement activities are inherent in the overall activity of the unit in charge. In terms of total man-days invested, the figure is 45 man-days of dedicated on-site inspection and enforcement actions.

Total annual cost, as per the figures above, under the considerations: 1,155,000 EU
Total annual cost per 1 km coastline: 7,965 EU/km

Economic Impacts of Marine Litter - KIMO (2010)

John Mouat, Rebeca Lopez Lozano, and Hannah Bateson

UK municipalities spend approximately €18 million each year removing beach litter, which represents a 37% increase in cost over the past 10 years.

Removing beach litter costs municipalities in the Netherlands and Belgium approximately €10.4 million per year.

In the UK each volunteer contributes the equivalent of €16.23 of their time each year on average to removing marine litter. Volunteer involvement in 2 of the largest clean up schemes in the UK, MCS Beachwatch and KSB National Spring Clean, is therefore worth approximately €131,287.47, which suggests that the total cost of voluntary action to remove marine litter could be considerable.

With coastal tourism worth between €7 billion (Tourism Alliance 2007) and €11 billion (Deloitte 2008) annually in the UK, this could have a significant negative impact, particularly as tourism tends to make a disproportionately large contribution to coastal economies.

Marine litter costs the Scottish fishing fleet between €11.7 million and €13 million on average each year, which is the equivalent of 5% of the total revenue of affected fisheries.

Marine litter presents fewer problems for aquaculture producers and therefore the total cost to the aquaculture industry was comparatively low at approximately €155,548.66 per year.

Marine litter costs harbours in the UK a total of €2.4 million each year with an average cost of €8,034.37 per harbour, although these costs are considerably higher for larger facilities and busy fishing ports. While Spanish harbours experienced similar issues to the UK, the economic cost of marine litter was almost 7 times higher than in the UK.

In 2008 there were 286 rescues to vessels with fouled propellers in UK waters at a cost of between €830,000 and €2,189,000.

Marine litter cost each croft an average of €841.10 per year and the vast majority of these costs are incurred during the removal of marine litter, although harm to livestock and damage to machinery can result in high costs when these incidents occur.

Case Study: Shetland Islands, UK

Marine litter costs the Shetland economy between €1 million and €1.1 million each year. The fishing industry shoulders the highest burden of costs and losses due to marine litter with the industry losing between €637,110 and €709,105 as a result of marine litter each year.

Marine litter costs the agricultural industry in Shetland approximately €252,331 per year.

In 2009, Da Voar Redd Up cost approximately €53,819 to run based on the value of volunteers' time and a small donation from BP towards operational costs.

Marine litter costs the Shetland economy between €1 million and €1.1 million on average each year, based on the increased costs and losses affecting key industries that rely on the marine environment.

UK municipalities spend approximately €18 million each year removing beach litter, which represents an increase of 37.4% over the past 10 years. Similarly, removing beach litter costs municipalities in the Netherlands and Belgium approximately €10.4 million per year.

Marine litter costs the Scottish fishing industry between €11.7 million and €13 million on average each year, which is the equivalent of 5% of the total revenue of affected fisheries.

In 2008 there were 286 rescues to vessels with fouled propellers in UK waters at a cost of between €330,000 and €2,189,000.

Overall, marine litter costs the Shetland economy between €1 million and €1.1 million on average each year.

Economic Impacts of Marine Litter

In the UK, for instance, the marine environment contributed an estimated £38.9 billion to Gross Domestic Product in 2000, which accounts for almost 5% of GDP that year (Pugh and Skinner 2002).

Litter cleansing costs

Research in 2000 found that 56 UK local authorities spent a total of £2,197,138 a year on beach cleansing, taking into account the cost of collection, transport, disposal charges, workforce, equipment and administration (Hall 2000). More recent estimates suggest that the total cost of marine litter removal to all UK local authorities is approximately £14 million per year (Environment Agency 2004 cited in OSPAR 2009).

Cleansing of the Swedish Skagerrak coast in 2006 was estimated to cost 15 million SEK (about €1.5 million) and took approximately 100 people 4 months to complete (OSPAR 2009).

Research in Poland found that the cost of removing marine litter from the shoreline of 5 municipalities and 2 ports amounted to €570,000 (Naturvårdsverket 2009).

Losses to tourism

Research from Sweden suggests that marine litter inhibits tourism there by between 1-5% resulting in a loss of £15million in revenue and 150 person-years of work (Ten Brink et al 2009).

Marine litter can also lead to the closure of beaches, as was the case in New Jersey and New York in 1988. This was estimated to cost the regional economy between \$379million and \$3.6billion in lost tourist and other revenue (Committee on the Effectiveness of International and National Measures to Prevent and Reduce Marine Debris and Its Impacts et al 2008).

Losses to fisheries

Research focusing on the Shetland fishing fleet found that marine litter could cost a vessel up to £30,000 a year (Hall 2000).

Losses of up to \$21,000 in lost fishing gear and \$38,000 in lost fishing time were experienced by a single trap fisher in 2002 (Watson and Bryson 2003 cited in Macfadyen et al 2009).

Ghost fishing in the tangle and gillnet fisheries is equivalent to less than 5% of EU commercial landings (Committee on the Effectiveness of International and National Measures to Prevent and Reduce Marine Debris and Its Impacts et al 2008).

In the USA, an estimated \$250million worth of marketable lobster is lost to ghost fishing annually (Allsopp et al 2006).

Losses to aquaculture

A study in 2000 found that on average one hour per month was spent removing debris and disentangling fouled propellers could cost up to £1,200 per incident (Hall 2000).

Costs to shipping

For harbours in the UK, the removal of debris could cost up to £15,000 a year with manual clearance of the harbour required up to four times per week.

Some marinas had to be manually cleaned on a daily basis at a cost of up to £10,000 a year (Hall 2000).

Research in 1998 found that 230 rescues were undertaken to vessels with fouled propellers in UK waters at a cost of £2,200 to £5,800 per incident, depending on the type of lifeboat required. This amounted to an overall cost of between £506,000 and £1,334,000 for that year (Hall 2000).

In 2005, the US Coastguard made 269 rescues to incidents involving marine litter resulting in 15 deaths, 116 injuries and \$3 million in property damage (Moore 2008).

Control and eradication of invasive non-native species

The introduction of the American comb jellyfish into the Black Sea during the 1990s, for instance, is widely accepted to have caused the collapse of the anchovy fisheries with economic losses of €240million (Naturvårdsverket 2009).

The means by which the carpet sea squirt reached Holyhead Harbour are unknown but an eradication and monitoring program over the next 10 years is expected to cost approximately £525,000. The costs of inaction, however, could amount to up to £6,875,625 over the same period for the nearby mussel fisheries alone and could be significantly higher were the carpet sea squirt to become established elsewhere in UK waters (Holt 2009).

Costs to coastal agriculture

A project in 2000 focusing on agriculture in Shetland found that 96% of responding farmers had 21 experienced problems with debris blowing onto their land and this could cost them up to £400 a year (Hall 2000).

Costs to power stations

Anecdotal evidence suggests that marine litter can cost companies up to £50,000 to remove with additional costs for pump maintenance (Hall 2000).

Marine litter in Sweden (2012)

A study for the Economic and Social Analysis of the Initial Assessment of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

One municipality presented the avoided costs for beach cleaning as a value (0.8 MSEK per year).

In the year 1997 the beach cleaning costs were estimated to be at least 1.2 MEUR 2007 for the province of Bohuslän.

The total cost for fouled propellers, blocked intake pipes, damaged nets and destroyed catch following from marine litter was estimated to 0.74 MEUR 2007 per year along the Swedish west coast.

Franzén et al. refers to Väst kuststiftelsen (2005) who estimated the costs for cleaning beaches in Bohuslän from debris in 2004 to 1.2 MEUR 2007

A total cost estimate for marine debris can be estimated to 1.94 MEUR 2007

The municipality of Göteborg on the coast of the North Sea stated that cleaning of beaches entails an annual cost of 0.6 MSEK.

Sotenäs municipality, also on coast of the North Sea stated 0.8 MSEK as the annual cost for cleaning of beaches.

The County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland stated that cleaning beaches in the north of the province of Bohuslän would cost 5 MSEK per year.

Costs for cleaning the beaches of the whole province have been estimated to 10 MSEK per year or 5000 days of work by the foundation Väst kuststiftelsen.

The County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland estimates costs for cleaning the coast of the whole county to 8 MSEK yearly.

The County Administrative Board of Halland estimates the costs for damages on equipment to 10000 SEK per year and cleaning of beaches to 40000 SEK per year.

The Laboratory of Sea Fishing states that costs depends on e.g. the size and extent of damages on the trawl, a new trawl costs about 150000 SEK.

For most of the province of Bohuslän the costs for cleaning beaches estimate to about 7 MSEK in 2010.

Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (2009)

By Graeme Macfadyen, Tim Huntington and Rod Cappell, FAO Consultants
UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies 185; FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper 523

COSTS OF ALDFG

Quantification of costs

For example, losses of up to US\$21000 in lost fishing gear and an estimated US\$38000 worth of lost fishing time for 2002 was reported by one trap fisher (Watson and Bryson, 2003).

At-sea retrieval programme costs

However, gear retrieval programmes are varied in their scope and duration, and comparative costs across different retrieval programmes (for example, based on costs per tonne or length of net retrieved) are often difficult. Wiig (2005) attempted such a comparison and found a range of between US\$65/tonne and US\$25000/tonne, but the extent to which such a huge range really demonstrates differing cost effectiveness is far from clear.

Information collected over the past four years (2004–2007) during the Northwest Straits Initiative's ALD fishing gear survey and removal programme in Puget Sound, Washington, suggested that the costs of ALD net survey and removal totaled US\$4960 per acre of net removed. Costs of survey and removal of ALD pots/traps totaled US\$193 per pot/trap (Natural Resources Consultants, Inc., 2007).

Annual Swedish costs associated with a retrieval programme in the Baltic Sea are estimated at US\$70000, while Norway's annual costs are thought to be in the order of US\$260000. A pilot retrieval programme for the deepwater fishery in the Northeast Atlantic was estimated at around US\$185000 (Brown et al., 2005).

A breakdown of these cost estimates is provided in Appendix D. It is reported that in an expedition in 2004 to retrieve lost gear along the south coast of Sweden, it cost a stern trawler made for pelagic trawling US\$800 to retrieve each kilometre of lost net (Tschernij and Larsson, 2003).

A 2003 expedition in north Hawaii retrieved 120 tonnes of net; the major expense was the cost of two chartered boats for US\$10000 per day (Wiig, 2005).

Woolaway's "Points for Pounds" programme encouraged fishers to bring debris into the Kaneohe Bay pier. The effort yielded 3 tonnes at a cost of US\$7400, for an average of US\$2467 per tonne (Wiig, 2005).

The Northwest Straits Commission, acting on information provided by fishers, cleared 3 to 4 tonnes of floating net from a 12-acre sanctuary at a cost of US\$35000, for an average of US\$10000 per tonne (Wiig, 2005).

In the Republic of Korea, (Captain Dong-Oh Cho, APEC, 2004) a subsidy is paid to local government for coastal clean-up, while the Korean central government's programme pays fishers US\$3.50 per 40-litre bag of marine debris, and the Incheon Municipal Government pays fishers US\$5.23 per bag (Wiig, 2005). The Incheon Municipal Government previously did the marine clean-up itself at a cost of between US\$1685 and US\$3075 per tonne.

The Sea Fisheries Institute in Poland carried out a net retrieval programme in 2004 (Anon, 2004). The project was conducted for ten days at an estimated cost of US\$19000.

A report in 1995 (Bech, 1995, as reported in Brown et al.,2005) undertaken by the Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University for the Department estimated the cost of lost gear retrieval as follows: design and testing of practical retrieval equipment US\$305000 (€198250); ghost gillnet retrieval (Atlantic-wide programme) US\$800000/year (€520000/year).

Costs related to marine litter

In England and Wales, local authorities, industry and coastal communities spend approximately US\$30 million a year to clean up coastal marine litter (Environment Agency, 2004). Harbour authorities also have to pay for the costs of keeping navigational channels clear of litter, with United Kingdom harbour authorities spending up to €55000 per year in some ports, to clear fouled propellers and remove debris from the water (Hall, 2001).

In Alaska, there are reports of beach-clearance of heavy nets on St Paul Island in the Pribilofs, at a cost of about US\$1000 per tonne, held down mainly to the presence of "free" heavy machinery and some volunteer labour (Wiig, 2005).

In Taiwan Province of China, Dr Don-Chung Liu (APEC, 2004) reported a budget for the Environmental Protection Administration of TW\$100million/US\$2.9 million in 2002 for beach clean-up activities.

Along with six other partners, Kommunenes Internasjonale Miljorganisasjon (KIMO)/Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation have undertaken a project called "Save the North Sea" to reduce marine litter. The total project is worth €5.7 million and KIMO's contribution is €1.2 million.

In 1988, it was estimated that New Jersey in the United States of America lost between US\$379 million and US\$3.6 billion in tourism and other revenue as a result of debris washing ashore (NRC, 2008).

Johnson (2000) reported that in 1992 Japan's maritime safety agency estimated that its fishing industry spent JP¥4.1 billion in vessel repairs following damage caused by marine debris.

The costs of marine litter to fishers are not at all well reported, but KIMO suggests that marine litter could cost each vessel studied in Shetland up to US\$60000 per year in lost time, damage to nets, fouled propellers and contaminated catches.

KIMO suggests a breakdown of costs per year to fishers of marine litter as: time mending nets (US\$20000), cost of net repairers (US\$20000), time clearing nets (US\$14000), time cleaning equipment (US\$2000), fouled propellers (US\$1400) and gearbox inspections (US\$100).

McIlgorm, A., Campbell H. F. and Rule M. J. Understanding the economic benefits and costs of controlling marine debris in the APEC region (2008)

In 2008, marine debris was estimated to have directly cost the 21 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies approximately US\$ 1.265 billion.

The total APEC GDP in December 2008 was US\$29,329 billion at current prices (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) 2008). Of this total for all economies, the value of the marine economy across APEC economies is approximately 3% of total GDP (McIlgorm 2004)—a sum of US\$879 billion at 2008 price levels. Within this, the total APEC GDP for the fishing, shipping and marine tourism sectors is estimated at 48% of the marine economy or US\$421.9 billion (McIlgorm 2004). It is this US\$421.9 billion of GDP generated by marine industries that is vulnerable to being impacted by poor control of marine debris in the APEC region.

Takehama (1990) estimates that damage from marine debris in Japan is 0.3% of the annual gross value of the fishing industry catch. If we apply this observed percentage to the value of different sectors in the marine economy, we can estimate that damage from marine debris across the APEC region for the fishing, shipping and tourism industries is US\$1.265 billion annually. The next section uses different data to compare with this estimate.

Fishing industry

Takehama (1990) estimated the cost of damage to fishing vessels caused by marine debris, based on insurance statistics available through the Japanese fishing insurance system. Such damage includes accidents, collisions with debris, entanglement of floating objects with propeller blades and clogging of water intakes for engine cooling systems. Losses in 1985 across all fishing vessels less than 1,000 gross tonnage (GT) were ¥6.6 billion. Takehama estimates that the annual vessel damage of ¥6.6 billion is 0.3% of total national fishery revenue in Japan.

Takehama (1990) noted that fishing vessels damage is 0.3% of the value of the Japanese fish catch. Table 4 presents the value of the fish catch for 21 APEC economies for 2006. From this we use the 0.3% value of fish catch to impute the value of fishing boat damage in the APEC region. It is found that for a total catch value of US\$89.4 billion by APEC economies in 2006 the imputed cost of damage to vessels is US\$268.2 million across the APEC region.

The value of damage to the APEC fish sector of US\$268.2 million is less than the estimate in Table 2 of US\$364 million.

Transportation industry

The value of debris damage to shipping is reported in Table 2 and is US\$279 million per annum.

Tourism industry

Studies in the APEC region have shown the value of the marine economy and the marine tourism sector in particular (NOEP 2005; McIlgorm 2004). Table 2 shows that 23.6% of the value of the marine economy (US\$207.3 billion) is the GDP attributable to the marine tourism industry in the APEC region. It is estimated that damage by marine debris to the tourism sector in APEC is US\$622 million (see Table 2).

Damage to leisure craft

The damage by marine debris to the leisure boat industry is some unknown fraction of the US\$622 million of damage estimated earlier in the tourism sector.

Summary of industry impacts

From data on the marine economy, the damage from marine debris on the fishing, shipping and marine tourism sectors has a damage value of US\$1.265 billion per annum in the APEC region. The marine debris damage is estimated as US\$364 million to the fishing industry, US\$279 million to shipping and US\$622 million to marine tourism. Using APEC fishing catch values data, an estimate of damage of US\$268.2 million was made for the fishing industry.

As a scoping figure estimated on best available information, the total direct damage from marine debris to industries in the APEC region is US\$1.265 billion per annum in the APEC region.

Conclusions and recommendations

The total APEC GDP in December 2008 was US\$29 329 billion at current prices (DFAT 2008). The value of the APEC marine economy, as reported in a previous APEC Marine Resource Conservation (MRC) study, is approximately 3% of total GDP, a sum of US\$879 billion at 2008 price levels. Within this, the total APEC GDP for the fishing, shipping and marine tourism sectors is estimated at 48% of the marine economy, US\$421.9 billion. It is this US\$421.9 billion of GDP generated by marine industries that is vulnerable to being impacted by poor control of marine debris in the APEC region.

From data on the marine economy and debris damage estimates from Japan, the damage from marine debris on the fishing, shipping, and marine tourism sectors is estimated to have a damage value of US\$1.265 billion in the APEC region. The marine debris damage is estimated as US\$364 million to the fishing industry, US\$279 million to shipping and US\$622 million to marine tourism.

Using a different data set of fishing catch values in the APEC region, an estimate of damage of US\$268.2 million was made for the fishing industry. This supports the previous estimates made from aggregate marine economy data.

Economic costs and benefits and the control of marine debris

Clean up cost data estimates in the APEC region range from \$100/tonne under volunteer labour (Hwang and Ko 2007) to \$25,000/tonne for derelict fishing gear (Raaymakers 2007).

Cho (2005) and (Hwang and Ko 2007) report an average clean-up cost of US\$1,300 per tonne over a six-year period. These values are confirmed by data from outside the APEC region.

Outside of the APEC region, Kalaydjian *et al.* (2006) report 11 sites along the French coast as having between 400 kg and 4.0 tonnes of debris per kilometre of shoreline, the highest density being in the Mediterranean. The cost of mechanical cleaning up was estimated at €4000 per kilometre or €1000–10,000 per tonne in 2003 (US\$1,140–\$11,400). Manual collection is twice the cost of mechanical clean up (Kalaydjian *et al.* 2006).

From available cost information, the average cost of clean up in the APEC region for typical shoreline clean up is approximately US\$1,500 per tonne in 2007 terms. This is likely an

under-estimate for urbanised areas in developed countries and an over-estimate for less developed countries.

Conclusions and recommendations

The contribution of NGOs is clearly seen in each of the APEC economies. This can be valued on the basis of the imputed value of a volunteer day multiplied by a shadow price for a day's volunteer's labour. For example, for the 314 207 persons volunteering one day this has a value of US\$15.71 million @ US\$50 per day, a value of US\$31.42million @ US\$100 per day, and a value of US\$47.13 million @ US\$150 per day as reported in Table 9b. Given there was 2284 tonnes of debris collected, this had an average clean-up value per tonne of between US\$6879 and US\$20 636 per tonne, depending on assumptions.

Conclusions and recommendations

Korea (MRCWG contact responded but provided no economic data)

Sung (2005) suggests that the cost of processing marine debris may be as high as ¥50,000a tonne, and that nation-wide, processing costs may be as high as ¥5–10 billion. Furthermore, Chun (2005) reported the Korean government had spent approximately US\$0.3m between 1999–2005 on data collection. Overall, the Korean government invested US\$51 million won in their marine debris project between 1995 and 2005.

From 2000, the Korean government implemented a marine debris management strategy for which they committed an estimated US\$20m. This strategy included surveys of debris loads, the collection and treatment of debris and the construction of a vessel for collecting debris at sea. As part of this program, the Korean government instigated a 'buy back' program in which the government purchased marine debris returned by fishermen. The government paid fishermen US\$6/60L of debris returned (Nam and Jung 2005). In 2005, the Korean government purchased a total of 3076 tons of debris from fishermen at a cost of US\$1 842 million won. In addition, they spent a further US\$7,965 million won collecting 5352 tons of debris from the ocean floor.

Since 2000, a further US\$28 million has been committed to implement a three-phase management system which includes the construction of base and practical technologies such as containment booms, recovery vessels, and re-cycling and incineration facilities.

The United States (economic data provided by MRCWG contact)

In the most significant debris-related incident, beaches along the Jersey shore were affected by a serious pollution event in 1998. This event was estimated to have cost the New York economy US\$1 billion (Ofiara and Brown 1999).

The economic impact of derelict fishing gear is high in the United States. It has been estimated that US\$250 million of marketable lobsters are lost each year from the United States (Raaymakers 2007). The cost of retrieving derelict fishing gear in Puget Sound has been estimated from data collected over a number of years by Natural Resource Consultants (2007). These authors estimated the cost of retrieving nets at \$4,960 per acre of net removed.

Furthermore, the cost of retrieving fishing traps and pots was \$193 per trap. Moreover, these authors estimated the economic benefits of retrieving derelict fishing gear, and calculated that the value of catch saved from derelict fishing gear was \$248 per year for traps, and \$6,285 per net, and thus the cost-benefit ratio was positive (ie, the benefit was more than the cost).

The cost of retrieving derelict fishing gear from the North-West Hawaiian Islands has been estimated at US\$25,000 per ton (Raaymakers 2007). Between 2001 and 2005, the multiagency removal program had funding between US\$2-3 million. After this, the debris collection program was changed to a maintenance program and the allocation was reduced in 2006 to US\$500,000 per year.

Case study six: The economic impact of marine debris on beaches and marine tourism in the US

The capitalised value of consumer surplus for the average property and household income level was \$20 100 (1980 US dollars), corresponding to an annual value of \$1643 per household or \$469 per person.

The economic impact of marine debris on beaches

Depending on the degree of improvement indicated by the two photographs, willingness to pay varied from \$72.18 to \$21.38 (1993 US dollars) per respondent.

Benefits and costs

Beach users incur costs of between \$0.5 and \$1.5 billion per annum as a consequence of a single spill event.

NOAA - Marine Debris Information: ECONOMIC IMPACTS (2013)

Costs of Marine Debris Impacts

Puget Sound, Washington

- Total annual loss of Dungeness crab due to derelict pots/traps has been estimated at 372,000 crabs with an ex-vessel value of \$1.2 million, representing 30% - 40% of the annual commercial catch (NWSF 2007).
- Derelict gill nets removed from Puget Sound between 2004 and 2007 with support from the NOAA Marine Debris Program are estimated to have killed commercial and recreational species valued at approximately \$1.06 million (NWSF 2007).

Chesapeake Bay, Maryland and Virginia

- Over 30,000 derelict pots have been removed from the Chesapeake with support from the NOAA Marine Debris Program, allowing as many as \$1.5 million market sized crab, worth approximately \$500,000 at the dock, to remain in the system (Slacum 2009, Havens et al., in press).

New Jersey

- Marine debris wash-up events on New Jersey beaches during two summer seasons caused between \$728 million and \$3.07 billion (2010 USD) in losses to the tourism sector (Ofiara and Brown 1999).

South Africa

A survey of visitors to the Cape Peninsula suggested that a drop in standards of beach cleanliness could result in the loss of up to of 52% of tourism revenue (Balance et al. 2000).

Costs of Marine Debris Efforts

- Washington DC spent an average of \$319,000 per year (2006-2009) to operate and maintain two skimmer boats that remove floating debris from its waterways.
- Los Angeles County's 31 miles of beaches cost \$4.2 million to clean in 1994.
- Survey respondents from New Jersey and North Carolina were willing to pay between \$21 and \$72 (1993 USD) annually to improve beach quality by reducing the amount of debris (Smith et al. 1997).

EPA (2013)

Summary: Preliminary Study West Coast Communities' Cost of Managing Marine Debris

The quantified amounts for 90 cities in California, Oregon, and Washington watersheds for spending to clean up litter and prevent trash from entering our oceans show that West Coast communities are spending an estimated \$520 million each year to control litter and avoid marine debris.

On average, cities spend an estimated \$13 per person to control litter. Nearly fifty million people live in California, Oregon and Washington. If 85 percent of this population lives in coastal watersheds, Kier estimated that West Coast communities are spending more than \$520,000,000 each year to combat litter and curtail marine debris.

Overall Costs

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs	Average Annual Cost
Largest	250,000 or more	\$2,877,400 - \$20,672,266	\$10,054,805
Larger	75,000 – 249,999	\$342,000 - \$2,057,500	\$1,211,522
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$37,500 - \$2,330,000	\$557,597
Smaller	0-14,999	\$0 - \$890,000	\$95,345

Beach And Waterway Cleanups

West Coast cities spend on average \$56,688 a year on beach and waterway cleanups.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$0 - \$1,837,398	\$422,185	\$0.83
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$0 - \$17,500	\$3,329	\$0.03
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$0 - \$112,459	\$12,746	\$0.28
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$114,005	\$6,418	\$1.28

Street Sweeping

West Coast cities spend on average \$664,580 a year sweeping their streets.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$245,000 - \$8,104,857	\$4,084,492	\$5.36
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$180,000-\$1,224,210	\$641,298	\$5.58
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$25,685-\$1,300,000	\$272,715	\$7.06
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$160,301	\$36,314	\$5.48

Purchasing Stormwater Capture Devices

West Coast cities spend on average \$165,811 a year purchasing stormwater capture devices.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$0 - \$2,508,000	\$630,755	\$1.32
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$0 - \$640,000	\$223,105	\$2.04
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$0 - \$1,100,000	\$164,499	\$4.12
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$560,000	\$27,382	\$2.21

Cleaning And Maintenance Of Storm Drains

West Coast cities spend on average \$294,935 annually on storm drain cleaning and maintenance.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$0 - \$6,400,000	\$1,943,260	\$1.85
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$0 - \$1,098,000	\$261,449	\$1.73
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$0 - \$538,778	\$47,320	\$1.07
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$85,000	\$10,533	\$2.32

Manual Litter Cleanup

West Coast cities spend on average \$304,545 annually on manual litter cleanup.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$48,000 - \$7,000,000	\$2,371,903	\$2.58
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$0 - \$150,000	\$50,141	\$0.48
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$0 - 200,000	\$46,188	\$1.09
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$81,000	\$11,166	\$2.11

Public Education On Litter And Waste Disposal

West Coast cities spend on average \$80,927 annually on public education relating to litter and waste disposal.

City Size	Population Range	Range of Annual Costs Reported	Average Annual Cost	Average Per Capita Cost
Largest	Over 250,000	\$0 - \$1,945,531	\$602,208	\$0.59
Larger	75,000-249,999	\$5,000 - \$72,000	\$32,200	\$0.29
Mid-Sized	15,000-74,999	\$0 - \$80,000	\$14,127	\$0.35
Smaller	Under 15,000	\$0 - \$25,000	\$3,532	\$0.46

