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13th Meeting of the Compliance Committee of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

Athens, Greece, 26-27 September 2017

Agenda item 3: Follow-up of the implementation of Decisions IG.22/15 and IG.22/16 of the 19th Meeting of Contracting Parties (COP19)

Follow-up of the Implementation of Decisions IG. 22/15 and IG. 22/16 of the 19th Meeting of Contracting Parties (COP 19)

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2017

Note by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. At its 19th Meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision IG.22/15 on Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures, Membership and Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2016-2017 and Decision IG. 22/16 on Reporting on the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, and Operational Section of the Reporting Format for the Protocol on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean.

2. This document updates the Compliance Committee of the current status of implementation of the two COP 19 Decisions, as regards: (1) reporting on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, including the ICZM Protocol and (2) progress made in taken forward work under the Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for 2016-2017, including proposal of practical arrangements to ensure timelines of delivery.

National implementation reports

3. The table below provides data indicating the extent to which Contracting Parties have fulfilled their reporting requirements under Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention and related Articles of its Protocols for the reporting periods 2012-2013 and 2014-2015, as at 17 August 2017.

4. As indicated below, for the reporting period 2012-2013 sixteen Contracting Parties submitted their national implementation reports and fourteen did so for the reporting period 2014-2015. As to the submission of national implementation reports of the ICZM Protocol, a total of ten countries submitted their reports, four of them not Contracting Parties to the ICZM Protocol.

5. This follows close follow-up from Secretariat side of the three letters sent by the Coordinator to MAP Focal Points to encourage reporting as well as bilateral contact with Contracting Parties to provide support.

BCRS and ICZM Reporting <i>(As of 17 August 2017)</i>			
Contracting Party	BCRS Status Reporting Period 2012-2013	BCRS Status Reporting Period 2014-2015	ICZM Status
Albania	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP No submission
Algeria	Submitted to the Secretariat	Submitted to the Secretariat	No Protocol CP No submission
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP Submission
Croatia	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP Submission
Cyprus	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Egypt	Working Draft	No submission	No Protocol CP No submission
France	Official Submission	Working Draft	Protocol CP Submission
Greece	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP Submission
Israel	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP No submission

Italy	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Lebanon	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Libya	No submission	No submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Malta	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP Submission
Monaco	No submission	No submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Montenegro	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP Submission
Morocco	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP Submission
Slovenia	Official Submission	No submission	Protocol CP Submission
Spain	Working Draft	No submission	Protocol CP Submission
Syria	No submission	No submission	Protocol CP No Submission
Tunisia	Working Draft	No submission	No Protocol CP No submission
Turkey	Official Submission	Official Submission	No Protocol CP Submission
European Union- European Commission	Official Submission	Official Submission	Protocol CP No submission

Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for 2016-2017

6. The table below summarizes progress in implementing the working programme of the Compliance Committee for 2016-2017 adopted by COP 19.

Main Activities	Remarks/Status
Examination of any referrals by the Contracting Parties in accordance with paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance	Neither self-Party trigger nor Party to Party trigger procedures initiated
Examination of any referrals by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 23 of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance.	No Secretariat trigger referral procedure initiated
Analysis, in accordance with paragraphs 17 (b) and (c) of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance, of general issues of non-compliance arising out of the reports submitted by the Contracting Parties for the periods 2012-2013 and 2014-2015	Issue taken forward under Agenda item 4
Consideration at the Committee's initiative, of any difficulties encountered by a Contracting Party in applying the Convention and its Protocols in accordance with paragraph 23 bis of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance	No Compliance Committee's own initiative procedure initiated

Analysis of broader issues requested by the meeting of the Contracting Parties in accordance with paragraph 17 (c) of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance, including a detailed examination of the issues raised by MAP Components on the application of the Protocols	No request for legal advice on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols
Continuation of the examination of the proposals aimed at strengthening the Committee under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.	Issue taken forward under Agenda item 3
Follow up of determination of criteria of admissibility of relevant information sources	Issue taken forward under Agenda item 5
Elaboration of an explanatory note for the revised reporting format of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols	Work to take forward subject to adoption of the revised format by COP 20.
Analysis of the effectiveness of the application of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance with the Barcelona Convention, taking into account the feedback from the Parties on the conditions under which the supporting role of the Committee could be improved	Issue taken forward under Agenda item 3
Examination, in close coordination with the MAP Components, of possible difficulties in the interpretation of the provisions of the Protocols, for consideration at the Meeting of the Contracting Parties.	No input received from MAP Components
Provision of opinion on the assessment to be carried out by the Secretariat with the help of appropriate legal expertise, on the extent of the legally binding nature for the Contracting Parties of programmes of measures and their implementation timetables as adopted in the framework of the Protocols of the Barcelona Convention	Issue taken forward under Agenda item 3