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Thirteenth Meeting of Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas

Alexandria, Egypt, 9-12 May 2017

Agenda item 2: Organizational matters**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

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Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

1. At their Nineteenth Ordinary Meeting (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, and its Protocols, invited the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) to hold in 2017 the Thirteenth Meeting of Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas (SPAs) (Decision IG.22/20). This meeting will be convened at the kind invitation of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt, at the Four Seasons San Stefano Hotel (399, El Geish Road), Alexandria, Egypt, from 9 to 12 May 2017.
2. The following annotations to the provisional agenda have been prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting with its deliberations.

Agenda item 1 **Opening of the meeting**

3. The meeting will be opened on Tuesday, 9 May 2017 at 9 a.m. by the representatives of the host country, the Coordinating Unit of the UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and SPA/RAC.
4. All the SPA/RAC Focal Points have been invited to attend the meeting or to designate their representatives.
5. The relevant intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations have also been invited to designate their representatives to the meeting as observers.

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
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UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.1	<i>Provisional List of Participants</i>
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Agenda item 2 **Organizational matters**

2.1. Rules of procedure

6. The internal rules adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Appendix XI) will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this meeting.

2.2. Election of officers

7. While observing the principle of equitable geographical distribution, the meeting will elect from amongst the representatives of the Contracting Parties, a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur.

2.3. Adoption of the agenda

8. The *Provisional Agenda* proposed by the Secretariat and issued as document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/1 Rev.1 and annotated in this document, will be proposed for adoption by the meeting. The meeting will be also invited to review and adopt the timetable proposed at the end of this document.

2.4. Organization of work

9. It is proposed that the meeting be held in daily sessions from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., subject to adjustments as necessary.
10. It is expected that the meeting addresses all items of the agenda within the allotted sessions.
11. The morning of the third day (11 May 2017) will be allocated for a cultural visit offered by the Egyptian authorities.
12. It is proposed that no session will be held on the afternoon of the third day (11 May 2017) and the morning of the fourth day (12 May 2017). This time will be allocated for the preparation of the meeting report and its related annexes, and for having bilateral meetings with country representatives.
13. On 12 May 2017, an afternoon session will take place from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is envisaged to close the meeting at 5 p.m. after adopting its report, including the annexes.
14. The working languages of the meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be available for all the plenary sessions.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/1 Rev.1	<i>Provisional Agenda</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/2 Rev.2	<i>Provisional Annotated Agenda</i>
Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.2 Rev.2	<i>Provisional List of Documents</i>

Agenda item 3 Status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean

15. Making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/3, the Secretariat will present a summary of the reports submitted by the Contracting Parties, through the online Reporting System of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The reporting period covered by these reports is the 2014-2015 biennium.
16. The Contracting Parties representatives will be invited to provide their comments about the provided overview and complement it, where necessary.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/3	<i>Synthetic Note on the status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol)</i>

Agenda item 4 Progress report on activities carried out by SPA/RAC since the twelfth meeting of Focal Points for SPAs

17. Referring mainly to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/4, the Director of SPA/RAC will present the progress report on the activities carried out by SPA/RAC since the Twelfth meeting of Focal Points for SPAs (Athens, Greece, 25-29 May 2015), highlighting the main achievements and challenges met during the implementation of SPA/RAC programme of work.
18. The meeting is expected to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the programme of work and provide its comments, where necessary.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/4	<i>Progress Report of the activities of the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC)</i>
Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.3	<i>Information note on the Mediterranean Platform on Marine Biodiversity</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.4	<i>Guidelines for the long term Monitoring programmes for marine turtles nesting beaches and standardized monitoring methods for nesting beaches, feeding and wintering areas</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.5	<i>Guidelines to standardize methodologies to estimate demographic parameters for marine turtles populations in the Mediterranean</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.6	<i>Communication Strategy of SPA/RAC</i>

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.7	<i>Enhancing UNEP/MAP Cooperation on Spatial-based Protection and Management Measures for Marine Biodiversity with regional partners through SPA/RAC</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.8	<i>Marine Spatial Planning and the protection of biodiversity Beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) in the Mediterranean Sea</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.9	<i>Note on the legal framework for the protection of marine biological diversity in Mediterranean Sea areas beyond national jurisdictions (BBNJ) or for which the limits of sovereignty or jurisdiction have not yet been defined</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.10	<i>Best practices and case studies related to the management of large marine transboundary areas: Options for the preparation of joint proposals for inclusion in the SPAMI List in accordance with Article 9 of the SPA/BD Protocol</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.11	<i>Identification and Streamlining of Climate Change Impact Indicators in Three Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI)</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.12	<i>Guidelines for Inventorying and Monitoring of Dark Habitats</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.14	<i>Guidance on developing invasive alien species national and sub-regional lists</i>

Agenda item 5 Updating of the Action Plan concerning Marine and Coastal Birds listed in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol and proposals for amendment to Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol

5.1. Updating of the Action Plan concerning Marine and Coastal Birds listed in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol

19. The Secretariat will introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/5 containing the *Draft updated Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Bird Species listed in Annex II of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean.*
20. The meeting will be invited to review the proposed amendments to the Action Plan and agree to their submission as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for adoption.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/5	<i>Draft updated Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Bird Species listed in Annex II of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean</i>

5.2. Proposals for amendment to Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol

21. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/13 Rev.1 *Proposals for Amendment to Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol*. The floor will also be given to the Contracting Party having made such proposals for amending Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol.
22. The meeting will be invited to consider the proposals and make recommendations on the subject.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/13 Rev.1	<i>Proposals for Amendment to Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol</i>
Reference document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP-MAP-RAC/SPA, 2008	<i>Common Criteria for amending Annexes II and III of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean</i>

Agenda item 6 Updating of the Reference List of Marine Habitat Types for the Selection of Sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest in the Mediterranean

23. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/6 *Draft Updated Reference List of Marine Habitat Types for the Selection of Sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest in the Mediterranean*.
24. The meeting will be invited to review the proposed updated Reference List and agree to its submission as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for adoption.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/6	<i>Draft Updated Reference List of Marine Habitat Types for the Selection of Sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest in the Mediterranean</i>
Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.17	<i>Draft Classification of benthic marine habitat types for the Mediterranean region</i>

Agenda item 7 Implementation of the ‘Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea’ supported by the ‘Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean’

25. Making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/7, the Secretariat will present the draft report on the evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Working Programme for Coastal and Marine Protected Areas supported by the Roadmap to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean.
26. The participants will be invited to provide their opinion on the implementation of the Regional Working Programme and where necessary additional information about activities undertaken by their countries/organizations.
27. It is expected that the final report integrating the comments and amendments provided by the Focal Points before and during the present meeting will be submitted as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for information.
28. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will also present the *Draft Terms of reference for the Ad hoc advisory group of experts for MPAs in the Mediterranean* submitted to the meeting as document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 431/8. The setting-up of such ad hoc group of experts is provided for by the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for 2016-2017 (Key Output 3.1.1) as adopted by COP 19.
29. The meeting will be invited to review the proposed Terms of reference and agree to their submission as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for adoption.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/7	<i>Draft Report on the evaluation of the implementation of the ‘Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea’ supported by the ‘Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean’</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/8	<i>Draft Terms of reference for the Ad hoc advisory group of experts for MPAs in the Mediterranean</i>
Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.15	<i>The Tangier Declaration of the 2016 Forum of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean</i>

Agenda item 8 List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)

8.1. Ordinary Periodic Review of SPAMIs

30. The Secretariat will introduce the report on the ordinary periodic review of SPAMIs undertaken in 2017 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/10). This review concerned the three following SPAMIs:
- Banc des Kabyles Nature Reserve (Algeria);
 - Habibas Islands (Algeria); and
 - Portofino Marine Protected Area (Italy).
31. The meeting is expected to consider the Ordinary review reports and provide recommendations as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/10	<i>Report on the Ordinary Periodic Review of the areas included in the SPAMI List</i>

8.2. Inclusion of areas in the SPAMI List

32. While referring to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/9 Rev.1, the Secretariat will inform the meeting about the proposals received for inclusion of areas in the SPAMI List.
33. The presentation report for each candidate SPAMI will be presented by the delegation of the concerned country.
34. The meeting will be invited to examine the conformity of the proposed areas with the guidelines and common criteria of the SPA/BD Protocol, and to provide recommendations as appropriate to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/9 Rev.1	<i>Draft Proposals of areas for inclusion in the List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)</i>

8.3. Updating of the Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs

35. The Secretariat will present the *Draft updated Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs* presented in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/11.
36. The meeting will be invited to review the proposed updated Format and agree to its submission to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for adoption as appropriate.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/11	<i>Draft updated Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs</i>

Agenda item 9 Assistance in the implementation of the first phase of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) on biodiversity and non-indigenous species in the framework of the EcAp roadmap

37. The Secretariat will present the *Draft factsheets for the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) related to the Ecological Objectives 1 (EO1, Biodiversity) and 2 (EO2, Non-Indigenous Species (NIS)) under the Ecosystem Approach process (EcAp) of the Barcelona Convention* presented in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/12 Rev.1.
38. The meeting will be invited to review and comment the document and agree to its submission as appropriate to the EcAp Coordination Group meeting, MAP Focal Points meeting and eventually COP 20.
39. The Secretariat will also brief the meeting about the 2017 Quality Status Report (QSR2017) process and timeline.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/12 Rev.1	<i>Draft factsheets for the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) related to the Ecological Objectives 1 (EO1, Biodiversity) and 2 (EO2, Non-Indigenous Species (NIS)) under the Ecosystem Approach process (EcAp) of the Barcelona Convention</i>
Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.13 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/6	<i>Report of the meeting of the Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), biodiversity and fisheries</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.16	<i>Information note on the 2017 Quality Status Report (QSR2017) Elaboration process</i>
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/Inf.18	<i>Concept Note of the Sub-Regional Pilot Monitoring Study for the Eastern Mediterranean on Non-Indigenous Species in relation to Fisheries</i>

Agenda item 10 Draft Programme of work of SPA/RAC for the biennium 2018-2019

40. The Secretariat will present the *Draft Programme of work of SPA/RAC for the biennium 2018- 2019* (document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/14).
41. Based on the comments and recommendations of the meeting, the Secretariat will elaborate a new version of the document that will serve as basis for the SPA/RAC activities to be integrated in the MAP and Components Programme of Work that will be submitted to the meeting of MAP Focal Points and COP 20 for adoption as appropriate.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.431/14	<i>Draft Programme of work of SPA/RAC for the biennium 2018- 2019</i>

Agenda item 11 Any other matters

42. Under this agenda item, the meeting will be invited to raise and discuss other matters that may require attention, as agreed during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

Agenda item 12 Adoption of the report

43. The meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft report prepared by the Secretariat and submitted by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 13 Closure of the meeting

44. The meeting is expected to be closed on Friday 12 May 2017, at 5 p.m.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

DAY 1: Tuesday 9 May 2017

8.30 – 9.00	<i>Welcoming of the participants and registration</i>
9.00 – 11.00	Agenda item 1 Opening of the meeting Agenda item 2 Organizational matters Agenda item 3 Status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.30 – 13.00	Agenda item 4 Progress report on activities carried out by SPA/RAC since the twelfth meeting of Focal Points for SPAs Agenda item 5.1 Updating of the Action Plan concerning Marine and Coastal Birds listed in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol
13.00 – 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30 – 16.00	Agenda item 6 Updating of the Reference List of Marine Habitat Types for the Selection of Sites to be included in the National Inventories of Natural Sites of Conservation Interest in the Mediterranean Agenda item 7 Implementation of the ‘Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea’ supported by the ‘Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean’
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.30 – 18.00	Agenda item 7 Implementation of the ‘Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea’ supported by the ‘Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean’ <i>(continued)</i>
18.00 – 18.30	Side event: <i>Efforts towards the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean coast of Egypt</i>

DAY 2: Wednesday 10 May 2017

9.00 – 11.00	Agenda item 8.1 Ordinary Periodic Review of SPAMIs Agenda item 8.2 Inclusion of areas in the SPAMI List Agenda item 5.2 Proposals for amendment to Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol
11.00 – 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.30 – 13.00	Agenda item 8.3 Updating of the Format for the periodic review of SPAMIs Agenda item 9 Assistance in the implementation of the first phase of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) on biodiversity and non-indigenous species in the framework of the EcAp roadmap
13.00 – 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30 – 16.00	Agenda item 10 Draft Programme of work of SPA/RAC for the biennium 2018-2019
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>

16.30 – 18.00	Agenda item 10 Draft Programme of work of SPA/RAC for the biennium 2018-2019 <i>(continued)</i> Agenda item 11 Any other matters
18.00 – 18.30	Side event: <i>Towards an effective implementation of the Marine Protected Areas Strategy in Lebanon</i>

DAY 3: Thursday 11 May 2017

Morning	Cultural visit offered by the Egyptian authorities
13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
Afternoon	<i>Free (Preparation by the Secretariat of the Draft Report of the meeting)</i>

DAY 4: Friday 12 May 2017

Morning	<i>Free (Preparation by the Secretariat of the Draft Report of the meeting)</i>
13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30 – 17.00	Agenda item 12 Adoption of the report Agenda item 13 Closure of the meeting