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Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring

Podgorica, Montenegro, 2-3 April 2019

Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2018-2019 adopted by the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Tirana, Albania, 17-21 December 2017), the Secretariat is organizing a Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring (CorMon on Pollution Monitoring).

2. The main objectives of the Meeting are to:

- (i) Review and exchange information on the status of implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) with regards to EO5 and EO9, including cross cutting issues, at regional and national levels, along with the state of play of MEDPOL marine pollution monitoring programme and regional data base;
- (ii) Discuss and provide guidance on data standards and data dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators related to pollution and to Quality Assurance and Quality Control issues;
- (iii) Discuss and provide guidance on several cross-cutting issues of regional importance for Pollution Cluster of IMAP implementation; as well as monitoring protocols and other monitoring tools/elements; and
- (iv) Exchange best practices on national implementation of IMAP and address identified challenges.

3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened at 09:30 on 2 April 2019 by the Secretariat and the representative of the host country, Montenegro.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

Working Documents: UNEP/MED WG.463/1 UNEP/MED WG.463/2 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.1

- a) *Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring*

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis to the present Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

- b) *Election of Officers*

6. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the Meeting will elect a President, three Vice Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

c) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda

7. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.463/1 and annotated in the present document will be reviewed and proposed for adoption by the Meeting including the timetable contained in the Annex to the present document.

d) Organization of Work

8. The discussions will be held in plenary sessions, subject to decision by the Meeting during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

9. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting. Documentation will be in English and French. As per practice, pre-session documentation will not be distributed on paper. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session.

10. Sessions are scheduled every day from 09:30-12:30 and 14:30-17:30.

11. It is expected that the Meeting will address all items of the Agenda during the two days. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 17:30 on 3 April 2019 after adopting its Conclusions and Recommendations.

Agenda item 3: State of Play of Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) Implementation with Regards to EO5 and EO9, MEDPOL Monitoring Programme and Way Forward

Working Documents:	UNEP/MED WG.463/3
	UNEP/MED WG.463/4
	UNEP/MED WG.463/5
	UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.3
	UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.4
	UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.5
	UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.6
	UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.10

12. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide an overview of the Pollution Cluster of IMAP implementation, including status of the MEDPOL Marine Monitoring Programme (Phase IV) and challenges related to its alignment to the requirements of the IMAP, highlighting progress, challenges and next steps. The Secretariat will present an update of the Guidance Factsheets related to IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18, 20 and 21, as well as the proposal of the Guidance Fact Sheets for IMAP Candidate Indicators 26 and 27 for the first time. Considering the findings of the 2017 MED QSR, as well the recommendations of the Regional Meeting on IMAP Implementation: Best Practices, Gaps and Common Challenges (IMAP Best Practices Meeting, Rome, Italy, 10-12 July 2018), the Secretariat will bring for review, and more in-depth, the work undertaken by MEDPOL with regards to several cross-cutting issues related to Pollution Cluster of IMAP.

13. The Meeting is expected to recommend key priority actions to be undertaken in the near future to ensure timely implementation of IMAP and contribute to the discussion on the proposed cross-cutting issues, as well as further refine specific interactions for activities contributing to pressures at Common Indicator level.

Agenda item 4: IMAP Implementation at National Level

Working Documents: UNEP/MED WG.463/4

14. Under this agenda item, CorMon participants are invited to present the different aspects of their national IMAP preparation, focusing on the Pollution Cluster update and/or implementation efforts and providing information on the status of national monitoring data reporting.

15. Following the review of implementation of the Pollution Cluster of IMAP at the national level, the Meeting is expected to discuss possible ways forward; agree on a list of priority actions necessary to strengthen the national implementation of IMAP, considering country specific needs; as well as a necessity to ensure regular reporting of good quality national monitoring data.

Agenda item 5: Marine Pollution Monitoring Regional Data Base and Related Quality Assurance Issues; Data Standards and Data Dictionaries

Working Documents: UNEP/MED WG.463/7
UNEP/MED WG.463/9
UNEP/MED WG.463/10
UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.7
UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.8
UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.9

16. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present a) the results of the 2017 and 2018 Proficiency Tests on the Determination of Trace Elements and Organic Contaminants and related Training Courses; b) the updated proposal of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17 and 21; and c) initial proposal of the schemes for the Quality Assurance and Control of Data related to eutrophication and contaminants to be considered for application on IMAP (Pilot) Info System, as well as on national monitoring programmes and related reporting.

17. The CorMon participants are expected to provide recommendations to the Secretariat for their future developments and finalization, as appropriate.

Agenda item 6: Monitoring Protocols for IMAP Common Indicators Related to Pollution

Working Documents: UNEP/MED WG.463/6
UNEP/MED WG.463/8
UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.7

18. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will bring to the attention of the participants a) the proposal of the Monitoring Protocols related to IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 20 and 21 (analytical methods; offshore and coastal sampling methods, sample preparation and processing; data analysis, determination and quantification; data processing and reporting); b) the proposal of the approaches on scales of monitoring with a focus on sampling frequency and better integration of the spatial scales as an essential consideration for integrated GES assessment.

19. The CorMon participants are expected to discuss and share experiences and lessons learned in the national, regional and sub-regional monitoring programmes realization, as well as to provide guidance to

the Secretariat for finalization and testing of the scales of monitoring and development of the scales of assessment.

Agenda item 7: Any Other Business

20. 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 agenda.

Agenda item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations

21. The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting

22. The President is expected to close the Meeting at 17:30 on Wednesday, 3 April 2019.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

Tuesday 2 April 2019		Relevant documents
09:00 – 09:30	Registration	
09:30 – 09:45	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting	
09:45 – 10:00	Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters	UNEP/MED WG.463/1 UNEP/MED WG.463/2
10:00 –12.30	Agenda Item 3: State of Play of Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) Implementation with regards to EO5 and EO9, MEDPOL Monitoring Programme and Way Forward	UNEP/MED WG.463/3 UNEP/MED WG.463/4 UNEP/MED WG.463/5 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.10
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 17:30	Agenda Item 4: IMAP Implementation at National Level	UNEP/MED WG.463/3
Wednesday 3 April 2019		Relevant documents
09:30 – 10:30	Agenda Item 4: IMAP Implementation at National Level (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.463/3
10:30 – 12:30	Agenda Item 5: Marine Pollution Monitoring Regional Data Base and Related Quality Assurance Issues; Data Standards and Data Dictionaries	UNEP/MED WG.463/7 UNEP/MED WG.463/9 UNEP/MED WG.463/10 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.7 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.8 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.9
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda Item 6: Monitoring Protocols for IMAP Common Indicators Related to Pollution	UNEP/MED WG.463/6 UNEP/MED WG.463/8 UNEP/MED WG.463/Inf.7
16:00 – 16:30	Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business	
16:30– 17:30	Agenda Item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations	
17:30	Agenda Item 9: Closure of the Meeting	