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Point 4 de l'ordre du jour : Progrès dans la mise en œuvre du Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée et meilleures pratiques connexes

Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée : progrès de la mise en œuvre et principaux éléments pour son évaluation

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Note du secretariat

Le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement/Plan d'action pour la méditerranée (PAM) a été le premier programme maritime régional à approuver un plan régional juridiquement contraignant sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée ([Décision IG.21/7, Istanbul, Turquie](#)) en décembre 2013, ci-après dénommé le Plan régional, qui prévoit un ensemble de programmes de mesures et de calendriers d'application pour prévenir et réduire les effets négatifs des déchets marins sur le milieu marin et côtier ainsi que des évaluations régulières, une surveillance et une promotion de la collaboration et une participation des acteurs régionaux.

Le Plan régional est entré en vigueur en 2014 et prévoit une série de mesures imposant des obligations claires concernant la hiérarchie de la gestion des déchets, la fermeture des décharges illégales, le passage à des modes de consommation et de production durables, l'élimination des déchets marins existants en utilisant des pratiques écologiquement rationnelles telles que la pêche aux déchets, les campagnes de nettoyage, les installations de réception portuaires, le contrôle, l'évaluation et l'établissement de rapports concernant la mise en œuvre des mesures ainsi que l'application de la législation nationale. La majorité des mesures prévues dans le Plan régional devraient être mises en œuvre par les Parties contractantes d'ici 2020.

L'évaluation des progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre du Plan régional donne au Secrétariat du PAM et aux Parties contractantes à la Convention de Barcelone une image claire des dispositions qui ont été mises en œuvre avec succès et de celles pour lesquelles un soutien supplémentaire est nécessaire. Les réussites découlant de la mise en œuvre du Plan régional et celles qui n'ont pas encore donné les résultats escomptés sont un autre indicateur de l'efficacité de ses dispositions. À ce jour, des progrès *satisfaisants* ont été accomplis dans la mise en œuvre de plusieurs dispositions de ses articles. Toutefois, certains de ses éléments nécessitent un soutien supplémentaire et des efforts coordonnés.

Le présent rapport présente les principaux éléments d'évaluation du Plan régional, ainsi que les principaux progrès réalisés à ce jour dans la mise en œuvre de ses principaux articles et dispositions pertinentes. Le présent rapport est présenté à la deuxième Réunion régionale sur les pratiques optimales en matière de déchets marins pour examen par les participants à la réunion. L'objectif est d'obtenir un retour d'information et des contributions afin d'améliorer et de soutenir le processus en cours de présentation de rapports par les Parties contractantes à la Convention de Barcelone en ce qui concerne la mise en œuvre du Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets en mer Méditerranée et son efficacité.

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ANNEX I : Detailed findings on the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Liste des abréviations et des acronymes

CdP	Conférence des Parties
UE	Union européenne
IMAP	Programme d'évaluation et de surveillance intégrées et des critères d'évaluation connexes
PAM	Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée
MARPOL	Convention internationale pour la prévention de la pollution par les navires
MED POL	Programme de suivi et de contrôle de la pollution marine en mer Méditerranée
ONG	Organisation non gouvernementale
PET	Polytéréphtalate d'éthylène
PdT	Programme de travail
REMPEC	Centre Régional Méditerranéen pour l'Intervention d'Urgence Contre la Pollution Marine Accidentelle
ONU	Organisation des Nations unies

1. INTRODUCTION

1. Le Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée (ci-après dénommé le Plan régional) a été adopté en 2013 et est entré en vigueur en 2014. Depuis son adoption en 2013, le Secrétariat du PAM et ses composantes ont mis en œuvre une quantité ambitieuse d'activités visant à soutenir les efforts des Parties contractantes pour sa mise en œuvre. Les mesures prévues dans le Plan régional sont de nature politique, juridique, institutionnelle, réglementaire (y compris les instruments d'incitation économique) et technique et concernent différents aspects de la prévention et de la gestion des déchets marins provenant de sources terrestres et marines. Elles imposent des obligations claires en ce qui concerne la hiérarchie de la gestion des déchets, la fermeture des décharges illégales, le passage à des modes de consommation et de production durables et à une économie circulaire, l'élimination des déchets marins existants par des pratiques respectueuses de l'environnement, l'établissement de rapports sur l'application des mesures ainsi que l'application des législations nationales.

2. Le Plan régional a joué un rôle important en tant qu'instrument de définition et d'exécution de mesures qui auront un impact significatif sur la situation des déchets marins dans la région méditerranéenne. Cet important ensemble d'activités découlant directement du Plan régional inclut les efforts déployés avec les ressources mobilisées auprès d'un certain nombre de donateurs, en particulier la Commission européenne et le gouvernement italien. Il a également été complété par les travaux plus larges entrepris par le Secrétariat du PAM dans le cadre d'autres initiatives concernant les déchets marins aux niveaux régional et mondial (par exemple, dans le cadre de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les océans, de la mise en œuvre des résolutions de l'Assemblée des Nations Unies pour l'environnement, du processus ministériel du G7 et du G20, etc.).

3. Un nombre considérable de ces mesures doivent être mises en œuvre par les Parties contractantes d'ici 2020, tandis qu'une série de mesures évolueront progressivement jusqu'en 2025. Six ans après son adoption, l'évaluation des progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre du Plan régional donne au Secrétariat du PAM et aux Parties contractantes à la Convention de Barcelone une image claire des dispositions qui ont été mises en œuvre avec succès et de celles nécessitant un soutien supplémentaire.

4. Dans cette mesure, l'évaluation et l'appréciation de tous les plans régionaux, y compris les déchets marins, ont constitué une priorité pour le Secrétariat du PAM. Cet aspect est bien reflété dans les deux décisions de la CdP (IG 21/7 de la CdP 18 et IG, 23/1 de la CdP 20). La décision IG 21/7 de la CdP 18 comprend une annexe sur l'établissement de rapports relatifs à la mise en œuvre du Plan régional qui prévoit l'établissement de rapports fondés sur des indicateurs. La décision IG 23/1 de la CdP 20 stipule le format révisé des rapports de la Convention de Barcelone du PAM, y compris une section détaillée sur la mise en œuvre du Plan régional de gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée.

2. ÉLÉMENTS D'ÉVALUATION DU PLAN RÉGIONAL

5. Le Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée est composé de 22 articles. Les articles 7 et 9 à 19 comportaient des mesures concrètes d'évaluation, conformément à l'annexe II du Plan. Il s'agit des suivantes :

- Article 7 : Intégration des mesures concernant les déchets marins dans les Plans d'action nationaux (PAN) contre la pollution d'origine terrestre ;
- Article 9 : Prévention des déchets marins ;
- Article 10 : Enlèvement et élimination écologiquement rationnels des déchets marins ;

- Article 11 : Évaluation des déchets marins en Méditerranée ;
- Article 12 : Programme méditerranéen de surveillance des déchets marins ;
- Article 13 : Thèmes de recherche et coopération scientifique ;
- Article 14 : Lignes directrices spécifiques ;
- Article 15 : Assistance technique ;
- Article 16 : Renforcement de la sensibilisation et de l'éducation du public ;
- Article 17 : Participation des grands groupes et des parties prenantes ;
- Article 18 : Coopération régionale et internationale ;
- Article 19 : Rapports.

6. En l'absence d'éléments de rapport officiels dans le cadre du Système de notification de la Convention de Barcelone (BCRS), pour lequel le processus est en cours, l'évaluation des différentes dispositions du Plan régional s'est fondée sur un certain nombre de sources alternatives, à savoir :

- Les Plans d'action nationaux 2015 et 2016 et les programmes de mesures correspondants ;
- Les progrès présentés par les Parties contractantes lors de la Réunion régionale sur les pratiques optimales en matière de déchets marins (Izmir, Turquie, 9-10 octobre 2018) ;
- Le rapport de Sweep Net sur la gestion des déchets solides ;
- Les différents rapports nationaux dans le cadre de l'examen de la mise en œuvre des politiques environnementales de l'UE ; et
- La littérature disponible pour le Secrétariat du PAM provient de la mise en œuvre de divers projets et processus coordonnés par le PAM/PNUE, tels que les projets EcAp MED II financés par l'UE et les projets MED sur les déchets marins.

7. Les constatations sommaires de l'évaluation pour chaque article du Plan régional sont présentées ci-dessous et signalées comme « très satisfaisantes », « satisfaisantes » ou « insatisfaisantes ». Pour chaque constatation de l'évaluation, des éléments probants objectifs sont inclus afin d'étayer la constatation et la conclusion rapportées. Les conclusions détaillées pour chaque article et ses dispositions sont présentées à l'annexe I du présent rapport d'évaluation. Un résumé des constatations et des conclusions est présenté ci-dessous.

3. CONSTATATIONS DES ÉVALUATIONS DU PLAN RÉGIONAL

Article 7 : Intégration des mesures concernant les déchets marins dans les Plans d'action nationaux (PAN) contre la pollution d'origine terrestre

8. Les dispositions de l'article 7 comprennent la mise à jour des lignes directrices existantes du plan d'action national contre la pollution d'origine terrestre, la mise à jour des plans d'action nationaux existants pour intégrer les déchets marins, l'élaboration d'un format de rapport et la préparation de rapports nationaux sur l'application du Plan régional.

9. Les progrès accomplis dans la mise en œuvre des dispositions de l'article 7 sont jugés très satisfaisants, toutes les Parties contractantes à la Convention de Barcelone ayant préparé des plans d'action nationaux actualisés, y compris des sections consacrées aux déchets marins et aux formats de rapport correspondants. Les informations fournies dans les rapports nationaux au titre de l'article 7 ne peuvent pas encore être évaluées, car le processus est en cours.

Article 9 : Prévention des déchets marins

10. Les dispositions de l'article 9 prévoient notamment de fonder la gestion des déchets solides urbains sur la réduction à la source ; de mettre en œuvre des mesures adéquates de réduction, de réutilisation et de recyclage des déchets ; d'étudier et de mettre en œuvre des mesures de prévention liées à la responsabilisation élargie des producteurs, aux politiques d'achats durables, aux accords volontaires avec les détaillants et supermarchés, aux instruments fiscaux et économiques, aux dépôts obligatoires et au système de reprise et de restauration ; l'établissement de procédures et de méthodes de fabrication de concert avec le secteur du plastique ; la mise en place d'égouts urbains et d'usines de traitement des eaux usées ; la mise en place de systèmes de gestion des déchets pour empêcher le ruissellement et les apports fluviaux de déchets ; l'exploration et l'application de la pêche aux déchets sauvages, le marquage des engins, la réduction des captures de la pêche fantôme ; la prévention du dragage des déchets marins et la fermeture des sites existants et la mise en vigueur de mesures visant à éliminer les déchets sauvages.

11. Les progrès accomplis dans la mise en œuvre des dispositions susmentionnées de l'article 9 sont jugés *satisfaisants*, car de nombreuses Parties contractantes ont déjà mis en place une législation et des politiques nationales de recyclage (8 pays) et de réduction de l'utilisation de sacs en plastique à usage unique (17 pays) pour les principaux déchets marins présents en Méditerranée. En outre, d'importants progrès ont été réalisés en ce qui concerne l'amélioration de la gestion des déchets marins en mer, en particulier en ce qui concerne l'amélioration de la gestion des déchets marins dans les ports et les marinas, ainsi que la mise en œuvre des mesures relatives à la pêche aux déchets. Plusieurs projets pilotes pertinents sont en cours.

12. En ce qui concerne l'EPR, plusieurs projets pilotes sont en cours et leurs résultats seront disponibles plus tard en 2019. Par conséquent, son efficacité ne peut pas encore être évaluée. En vertu de l'article 9, les pays méditerranéens doivent poursuivre leurs travaux concernant l'établissement de politiques d'approvisionnement responsable et d'accords volontaires avec les détaillants et les supermarchés ; l'élaboration de politiques nationales pour d'autres déchets marins prioritaires à usage unique ; la réduction de la contribution du secteur de la pêche aux déchets marins et la mise en œuvre des directives volontaires sur le marquage des engins de pêche.

13. Les apports fluviaux sont pris en compte dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre des projets pilotes Adopt-a-beach (« Adopter une plage ») dans neuf pays méditerranéens différents, dont les résultats seront publiés plus tard en 2019. Les pays nécessitent des mécanismes d'application plus efficaces concernant la fermeture des décharges illégales et la réglementation des activités de dragage.

Article 10 : Enlèvement et élimination écologiquement rationnels des déchets marins

14. Les dispositions de l'article 10 comprennent l'enlèvement des déchets accumulés, le recensement des sites critiques d'accumulation, la réalisation de campagnes nationales de nettoyage des déchets marins, application de pratiques comme « Adopter une plage » ou similaires, la pêche aux déchets et la facturation de coûts raisonnables pour l'utilisation des installations de réception portuaires.

15. Les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 10 du Plan régional sont jugés *satisfaisants* concernant la mise en œuvre des mesures « Adopter une plage » (plus de 20 projets pilotes dans 9 pays différents) et la facturation de coûts raisonnables (ou système de redevances non spéciales) pour l'utilisation des installations de réception portuaires. Des

travaux sont en cours pour l'identification des sites critiques d'accumulation des déchets marins et concernant la participation aux campagnes internationales de nettoyage des côtes. Sur ce dernier point, les communautés publiques et les organisations non gouvernementales doivent s'approprient davantage ces initiatives.

Article 11 : Évaluation des déchets marins en Méditerranée

16. Les dispositions de l'article 11 incluent l'évaluation des déchets marins. Les progrès accomplis dans la mise en œuvre de cet article du Plan régional sont jugés *très satisfaisants*, car deux produits d'évaluation sont déjà disponibles : l'évaluation régionale de 2015 sur les déchets marins et le Rapport 2017 sur la qualité de la Méditerranée, qui comprend deux chapitres consacrés aux déchets marins. Le prochain défi que les Parties contractantes devraient relever est de préparer une évaluation régionale des déchets marins entièrement fondée sur des données nationales dérivées.

Article 12 : Programme méditerranéen de surveillance des déchets marins

17. Les dispositions de l'article 12 comprennent la création d'un groupe d'experts sur la surveillance régionale des déchets marins ; l'élaboration de lignes directrices sur les programmes nationaux de surveillance des déchets marins ; et l'intégration de la surveillance des déchets marins dans le cadre de l'IMAP ; la conception de programmes de surveillance des déchets marins ; l'établissement de rapports sur l'exécution de ces programmes ; la création d'une banque de données régionale sur les déchets marins.

18. Les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 12 du Plan régional sont jugés *satisfaisants*, étant donné que le Programme de surveillance et d'évaluation intégrées de la mer et des côtes méditerranéennes et les critères d'évaluation pertinents (IMAP) est en place depuis 2016, avec deux indicateurs communs et un seul indicateur candidat pour les déchets marins. Des groupes d'experts ont été créés, des directives et des modèles de rapports ont été élaborés et deux réunions du Groupe de coordination de l'approche écosystémique sur la surveillance de la pollution (CORMON) ont été organisées depuis 2016. Les pays doivent redoubler d'efforts afin de préparer et mettre au point les programmes nationaux de surveillance qui devraient être finalisés en 2019 et être suivis d'une bonne circulation des données pour les indicateurs des déchets marins IMAP.

Article 13 : Thèmes de recherche et coopération scientifique

19. Les dispositions de cet article prévoient notamment une aide à la coopération scientifique. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de cet article du Plan régional sont *satisfaisants*. Le Plan régional comprend une section sur les priorités en matière de recherche sur les déchets marins qui constitue la base de l'établissement d'une coopération. Plusieurs conférences scientifiques ont été organisées à l'appui de cet aspect, et la Plate-forme de coopération régionale sur les déchets marins en Méditerranée offre la possibilité de coopérer sur le plan scientifique. Les pays doivent poursuivre leurs travaux en vue de faire progresser l'interface science-politique (SPI) de l'approche écosystémique (EcAp) pour les déchets marins.

Article 14 : Lignes directrices spécifiques

20. Les dispositions de l'article comprennent la préparation de lignes directrices spécifiques stipulées dans les articles 9 et 10 du Plan régional. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de cet article du Plan régional sont *très satisfaisants*. Cinq lignes directrices régionales pour la mise en œuvre des mesures relatives aux déchets marins (conformément aux articles 9 et 10) ont été élaborées et soumises pour adoption avant la fin de l'année 2019.

Article 15 : Assistance technique

21. Les dispositions de cet article prévoient notamment la fourniture d'une assistance technique et le renforcement des capacités. Les progrès accomplis dans la mise en œuvre de cet article du Plan régional sont jugés *satisfaisants*, car le Secrétariat du PAM et ses composantes (Centres d'activités régionales) continuent de fournir une assistance technique aux Parties contractantes de la Convention de Barcelone. Cela comprend le soutien par la mise en place de plusieurs processus et initiatives, et l'organisation de plusieurs ateliers de renforcement des capacités, de formations et de réunions régionales. Il est toutefois nécessaire d'aider davantage les pays méditerranéens au cours des exercices biennaux 2019 et 2020 à mettre en œuvre des mesures clés de réduction et de prévention des déchets marins ainsi qu'à établir des programmes nationaux de surveillance des déchets marins.

Article 16 : Renforcement de la sensibilisation et de l'éducation du public

22. Les dispositions de cet article prévoient notamment d'entreprendre en synergie avec les initiatives existantes dans le domaine de l'éducation au développement durable et en partenariat avec la société civile, des activités de sensibilisation et d'éducation du public en matière de gestion des déchets marins.

23. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 16 du Plan régional sont *satisfaisants*. Et même si le développement du réseau méditerranéen sur les déchets marins, qui soutiendra et améliorera de manière significative la sensibilisation du public et l'accès aux matériels éducatifs, est toujours en cours, deux éditions du cours en ligne ouvert à tous sur les déchets marins (MOOC) ont été partagées entre les Parties contractantes de la Convention de Barcelone en 2016 et 2017.

Article 17 : Participation des grands groupes et des parties prenantes

24. Les dispositions de cet article visent notamment à encourager la participation appropriée des diverses parties prenantes (autorités locales, société civile, secteur privé, etc.) à la mise en œuvre des mesures prévues dans le Plan régional et d'autres mesures.

25. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 17 du Plan régional sont *satisfaisants*. La Plate-forme de coopération régionale sur les déchets marins en Méditerranée a été créée en 2016 dans le but de soutenir les grands groupes et la participation des Parties prenantes. L'appropriation de plusieurs initiatives par les parties prenantes devrait néanmoins être encore renforcée, le cas échéant.

Article 18 : Coopération régionale et internationale

26. Les dispositions de cet article incluent l'instauration d'une coopération institutionnelle avec différentes organisations et initiatives régionales et internationales ainsi qu'une collaboration directe des Parties contractantes pour traiter les cas de déchets marins transfrontaliers.

27. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 18 sont *très satisfaisants*. La mer Méditerranée a été présentée dans divers forums comme l'un des meilleurs exemples au monde en matière de gestion efficace des déchets marins. Le Secrétariat du PAM/MED POL a joué un rôle de premier plan dans la coordination et la facilitation de ces processus aux niveaux régional et international. En outre, le Secrétariat du PAM suit les réunions de coordination des mers régionales européennes au cours desquelles

l'évaluation du Plan d'action régional sur les déchets marins est en cours, la coopération et les synergies sont renforcées et les enseignements tirés et les pratiques optimales sont partagés. Des liens étroits ont également été noués entre le secrétariat du PAM et la Commission de la protection de la mer Noire contre la pollution, le PAM soutenant activement la Commission dans l'élaboration du Plan d'action régional sur les déchets marins dans la région de la mer Noire, qui est adopté depuis octobre 2018.

Article 19 : Rapports

28. Les dispositions de l'article 19 comprennent les rapports semestriels sur la mise en œuvre du Plan régional ; les rapports régionaux et l'examen de l'état final du Plan régional.

29. Le Bureau estime que les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de l'article 19 sont *satisfaisants*. L'établissement des rapports nationaux semestriels sur le Plan régional est en cours. Le rapport d'évaluation est présenté ici et le rapport final est attendu en 2021.

4. DÉFIS

30. Suite à l'évaluation des articles susmentionnés, les défis suivants ont été identifiés dans la mise en œuvre du Plan régional :

- Les pays méditerranéens doivent poursuivre leurs travaux concernant l'établissement de politiques d'approvisionnement responsable et d'accords volontaires avec les détaillants et les supermarchés ; l'élaboration de politiques nationales pour d'autres déchets marins prioritaires à usage unique ; la réduction de la contribution du secteur de la pêche aux déchets marins et la mise en œuvre des directives volontaires sur le marquage des engins de pêche.
- Les pays nécessitent des mécanismes d'application plus efficaces concernant la fermeture des décharges illégales et la réglementation des activités de dragage.
- Les sources marines doivent faire l'objet d'un examen plus approfondi et les travaux de gestion efficace des déchets marins dans les ports et les marinas doivent être poursuivis avant la finalisation des projets pilotes d'ici 2019.
- D'autres directives portant sur des mesures supplémentaires de réduction et de prévention doivent être élaborées et les directives existantes doivent être mises à jour, le cas échéant.
- Les pays doivent redoubler d'efforts afin de préparer et mettre au point les programmes nationaux de surveillance qui doivent être finalisés en 2019 et être suivis d'une bonne circulation des données pour les indicateurs des déchets marins IMAP.
- Les pays doivent poursuivre leurs travaux en vue de faire progresser l'interface science-politique (SPI) de l'approche écosystémique (EcAp) pour les déchets marins.
- Les communautés publiques et les organisations non gouvernementales doivent s'approprier davantage les initiatives visant à réduire les déchets marins.

5. CONCLUSIONS ET RECOMMANDATIONS

31. Suite aux conclusions de l'évaluation du Plan régional sur la gestion des déchets marins en Méditerranée, il est décidé que quatre articles sont mis en œuvre à un niveau *très satisfaisant*, tandis que huit articles sont mis en œuvre de manière *satisfaisante*. Cela implique des progrès satisfaisants dans la mise en œuvre du plan.

32. Les recommandations suivantes sont suggérées afin d'améliorer l'efficacité de la mise en œuvre du Plan régional :

- Élargir et conclure des projets pilotes sur les principales mesures de prévention ou de réduction des déchets marins dans toute la Méditerranée ;
- Conclure l'analyse socioéconomique des meilleures pratiques en matière de déchets marins afin de prévenir ou réduire l'usage unique des sacs et bouteilles en plastique, y compris une analyse globale pour l'ensemble du bassin méditerranéen, en mettant l'accent sur les zones pilotes.
- Poursuivre l'appui aux Parties contractantes pour la mise en place de programmes nationaux de surveillance des déchets marins en vue de les rendre opérationnels au niveau national ;
- Conclure les travaux sur les indicateurs des déchets marins (processus/réponse liés au H2020/PAN) pour compléter les indicateurs d'état et d'impact ;
- Poursuivre les travaux de mise à jour des données de base sur les déchets marins au niveau sous-régional ;
- Conclure les travaux sur les directives relatives à : i) la mise en œuvre des mesures « Adopter une plage » au niveau régional et aux pratiques optimales connexes ; ii) la réduction des sacs en plastique à usage unique ; et iii) la mise en place d'installations de réception dans les ports et la livraison des déchets produits par les navires ;
- Renforcer les capacités et partager les pratiques optimales (ateliers sous-régionaux et régionaux) ;
- Poursuivre la coordination en cours avec les mers régionales européennes et assurer le suivi avec le Secrétariat commun des Conventions de Bâle, Rotterdam et Stockholm et leurs centres régionaux afin de maximiser les synergies ;
- Renforcer la collaboration avec le PAM et le Partenariat mondial sur les déchets marins du PNUE, en mettant l'accent sur les campagnes #CleanSeas (« #MersPropres ») et #BeatPlasticPollution (« #CombattreLaPollutionPlastique ») ;
- Contribuer, selon que de besoin, aux plans d'action du G7 et du G20 pour lutter contre la pollution marine ;
- Améliorer les connaissances et la gestion efficace des microplastiques dans la région ; et
- Renforcer les partenariats avec le secteur privé.

ANNEX I
DETAILED FINDINGS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL PLAN ON
MARINE LITTER MANAGEMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Article 7: Integration of marine litter measures into the LBS National Action Plans (LBS NAPs)

Update the existing LBS National Action Plan guidelines:

1. The process for the update of existing National Action Plans (NAPs) in the framework of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol), has been completed since 2016. The guidelines for the update of the NAPs in the framework of the LBS were updated and reviewed by the MED POL Focal Points Meeting in Malta, in 16-19 June 2015. The Guidelines have been made available to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and the NAPs were updated accordingly.

Update the existing LBS National Action Plans to integrate marine litter in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Plan National Stakeholder Workshop and consultancy:

2. All updated NAPs of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention are well-addressing marine litter management, taking into account the relevant guidelines as presented during the 2015 MED POL Focal Points Meeting. In particular, nineteen (19) Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, in the framework of the LBS Protocol, have prepared and submitted to MAP Secretariat their updated NAPs and Programmes of Measures (PoMs), with dedicated sections on marine litter, all addressing marine litter management in accordance with the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean. The updated NAPs were endorsed by the 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Decision IG 22/8 – Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016).

Development of reporting format:

3. The development of the reporting format has been concluded in two consecutive steps in 2013 and 2017. In 2013, during the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013), an annex about reporting on the implementation of the Regional Plan by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, providing for indicator-based reporting, was approved (Decision IG 21/7 – COP 18). Furthermore, the revised reporting formats were developed by MAP Secretariat, including detailed section on the implementation of the Marine Litter Regional Plan, and were subsequently approved by the 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Decision IG 23/1 – Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017). The revised reporting formats have been shared with the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and based them, the Mediterranean Countries are expected to report to MAP Secretariat within 2019 on the progress in the implementation of the Regional Plan.

National reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan:

4. The process is still ongoing and all national reports from the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, are expected to be submitted to MAP Secretariat during the first quarter of 2019. For the time being, only one report has been received.

Article 9: Prevention of marine litter

To base urban solid waste management on reduction at source, applying the following waste hierarchy as a priority order in waste prevention and management legislation and policy: prevention, preparing for re-use, recycling, other recovery, e.g. energy recovery and environmentally sound disposal:

5. UN Environment/MAP, through its MED POL Programme and the Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC), is implementing several projects to support Contracting Parties in enhancing their capacities related to prevention and recycling of marine litter. Significant progress can be reported at regional level with 8 countries having included relevant provisions in their national laws and policies (i.e. SwitchMed beneficiaries: national SCP plans, including waste management).

Implement adequate waste reducing/reusing/ recycling measures in order to reduce the fraction of plastic packaging waste that goes to landfill or incineration without energy recovery:

6. A number of activities related to the enhancement of the regulatory framework on the non-single use of plastic bags and the promotion of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), have been assigned to the UN Environment/MAP Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC). The national regulatory framework related to non-single use of plastic bags has been assessed in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon and Algeria, in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, also aiming to promote Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for other single-use products. Following the assessment results, technical assistance is provided to the countries with the aim to minimize the use of single use items (i.e. plastic packaging in Morocco and Algeria, and single-use plastic bags in Tunisia, Egypt and Lebanon).

7. In close consultation with several Contracting Parties, and further to interviews carried out with experts supported by extensive desk work, SCP/RAC prepared, in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, a "Reference document" outlining the state of the art of the legal framework regulating the production/consumption of single use plastic bags in each of the countries as well as case studies of voluntary and regulatory measures to reduce the use and production of single-use plastic bags.

8. In the framework of the Cooperation Agreement between the UN Environment/MAP and the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) support is currently provided to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro with regard to the enhancement of the regulatory framework to promote non-single use plastics (single-use plastic bags and PET bottles); improve the collection and recycling of plastic PET bottles; as well as enhance local and national capacities and raise awareness of stakeholders.

9. Within the IMELS Cooperation Agreement, a number of activities have been assigned to SCP/RAC with the objective of improving the policy framework and engaging with the food and beverage industry in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro for tackling plastics packaging value chains in a circular economy. This set of activities aims at contributing to the identification and prioritization of preventive measures that tackle plastic packaging in the food and beverage industry, by improving the relevant policy framework and strengthening the engagement of businesses and business support organizations.

10. Furthermore, in February 2016 (COP 19), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted a Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Action Plan for the Mediterranean, which constitutes a forward-looking framework to move towards a circular economy in the region. Within the EU-funded SwitchMed project, national SCP Action Plans have been elaborated in the participating countries. Furthermore, the project has contributed through different components to support industry towards more sustainable patterns (including plastic value chain industry), as well as to support green entrepreneurs in the region through capacity building, access to finance and markets. An important amount of these green businesses deals with plastic waste.

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 with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity:

11. Pilot actions are implemented in Morocco and Algeria in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS. Several other projects (e.g. H2020, Act 4 Litter and Plastic Busters MPAs) are also contributing to this objective. The results from these pilots will be made available in late 2019.

12. Within the EU-funded SwitchMed project, a study was conducted in Morocco to find out about collection and recycling routes in the country, as well as related socioeconomic aspects. This is an important basis to explore EPR schemes in the country and could be applied in the region.

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:

13. An evaluation of prevention measures related to Sustainable Procurement Policies contributing to the promotion of the consumption of recycled plastic-made products, will be undertaken in the framework of the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS in three Adriatic countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Montenegro).

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 as well as selling dry food or cleaning products in bulk and refill special and reusable containers:

14. The final version of the regional guidelines on single-use plastic bags clearly addressed this type of voluntary agreement and provide clear steps on how to implement it. Within the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, this type of agreement shall be sought in Egypt and Lebanon. Within the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS, voluntary agreements will be sought across the food and beverage sector to reduce plastic packaging in Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Montenegro. In order to prepare this and focus the target, the policy gap and material flow analysis implemented in the countries support the identification of priority areas of intervention.

Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to fiscal and economic instruments to promote the reduction of plastic bag consumption:

15. The final version of the regional guidelines on single-use plastic bags clearly addressed this type of voluntary agreement and provide clear steps on how to implement it. Within the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, this type of instrument shall be sought in Egypt and Lebanon. In addition, within the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS, technical assistance and recommendations have been formulated to the authorities in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina in charge of plastic bags economic instruments, where they are already in place.

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:

16. No specific pilots are currently implemented to this regard. Specific pilots need to be designed and the GEF-7 project proposal may contribute towards this direction.

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 recycling:

17. Pilots are currently implemented in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project and the Cooperation Agreement between UN Environment/MAP and IMELS. In Morocco, this system will be explored as part of the study for the adoption of EPR at the national level. In Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro this option will be explored, and technical assistance provided to the countries if so is decided.

Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of procedures and manufacturing methodologies together with plastic industry, in order to minimize the decomposition characteristics of plastic, to reduce micro plastics:

18. During the current biennium (2018- 2019) up to 3 pilot projects are planned related to marine litter prevention, particularly focused on plastics and micro plastics in cosmetics and the food and beverage plastic packaging sector in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro within the Cooperation Agreement between UN Environment/MAP and IMELS.

Take necessary measures to establish as appropriate adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter:

19. No evaluation undertaken to date for the implementation of these measures

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.

20. Activities related to the better management of sea-based litter in ports and marinas are assigned to the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC). These activities, implemented in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter-MED project and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS, focus on measures related to the better management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, more specifically the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of No-Special-Fee system; and the provision of port reception facilities as well as the delivery of ship-generated wastes.

21. Pilots in 7 Mediterranean countries (expected to be finalised in 2019) are currently implemented and coordinated by REMPEC in selected major ports and marinas within the framework of the EU-funded “Marine Litter-MED” project (Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia) and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Slovenia). Pilots in 5 other Mediterranean countries are still to be confirmed (Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Libya). A study (No-Special-Fee system) was presented during the Regional Meeting on Marine Litter Best Practices (9-10 Oct. 2018, Izmir, Turkey) and the final versions of a guidance document (No-Special-Fee system) as well as operational guidelines (waste handling) will be presented during the Second Regional Meeting on Marine Litter Best Practices (8-10 April 2019, Seville, Spain).

22. REMPEC has ensured the necessary inter-linkage and synergy when implementing the respective pilots and national meetings within the framework of the EU-funded “Marine Litter-MED” project, which will be facilitated in southern Mediterranean countries, in coordination with similar activities supported by IMELS and undertaken in five Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention of the Adriatic region (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Slovenia).

Explore and implement to the extent possible the “Fishing for Litter” environmentally sound practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations, to facilitate cleanup 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

23. Fishing-for-litter pilot projects have been designed with MEDPOL’s support in five countries (i.e. Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project. Pilot projects are ongoing, expected to be finalized by Sept. 2019.

Explore and implement to the extent possible “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:

24. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is in charge for the preparation and development of the guidelines for the marking of fishing gear. A technical consultation meeting on the marking of fishing gear was organized in Rome, Italy, 5–9 February 2018, during which the draft guidelines on the marking of fishing gear were discussed. The next step is to design pilot project to test the guidelines. The new GEF-7 project proposal includes relevant provisions for the implementation of pilots to test the FAO the voluntary guidelines.

Apply the cost-effective measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities taking into account the relevant guidelines adopted in the framework of Dumping Protocol of the Barcelona Convention:

25. “Updated Guidelines in the framework of Dumping Protocol of the Barcelona Convention, adopted by COP 20; Prevention of marine littering from dredging activities fully considered.

Take the necessary measures to close to the extent possible the existing illegal dump sites on land in the area of the application of the Regional Plan:

26. The need to close to the extent possible the existing illegal dump sites on land has been prioritized in NAPs. H2020 Indicators also consider these measures.

Take enforcement measures to combat 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:

27. Enforcement of measures to combat illegal dumping of litter on beaches and sewage disposal in the coastal zone has been identified as a priority of the NAPs. This will be further addressed in the framework of the ongoing process for development of 6 new regional plans.

Article 10: Removing existing marine litter and its environmentally sound disposal

Where it is environmentally sound and cost effective, remove existing accumulated litter, subject to EIA procedure, in particular from specially protected areas and Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) and litter impacting endangered species listed in Annexes II and III of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol:

28. Activities are planned for 2018-2019 in the framework of the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS.

Explore and implement to the extent possible the identification in collaboration with relevant stakeholders’ accumulations / hotspots of marine litter and implementation of national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal

29. In the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, MAP Secretariat and its MED POL programme have established a cooperation with HELCOM Secretariat and the EU-funded MARELITT project, in order to apply the methodology developed for the Baltic region in the Mediterranean needs. Certain adaptation should be required for its use in the Mediterranean, and the corresponding elements are under review by MAP Secretariat. The methodological tool is expected to be developed by Sept 2019.

Explore and implement to the extent possible the implementation of the National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns on a regular basis:

30. Approximately 20 Adopt-a-beach pilots, in 9 different Mediterranean countries (i.e. Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia) are currently implemented in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS. The pilots include a clean-up component. In addition, a relevant activity is envisaged in the 2018-2019 joint work plan of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean.

Explore and implement to the extent possible the participation in International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes:

31. The Secretariat is promoting the participation of the Mediterranean Countries and MAP Partners in all regional and/or international clean-up events. A relevant activity is envisaged in the 2018-2019 joint workplan of the Regional Cooperation Platform under the leadership of several members of the platform.

Explore and implement to the extent possible the application as appropriate Adopt-a-Beach or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regard to marine litter management:

32. Approximately 20 Adopt-a-beach pilots, in 9 different Mediterranean countries (i.e. Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia) are currently implemented in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS, aiming to enhance public participation through the involvement of numerous NGO's around the Mediterranean. Preliminary results are already available and national capacity building workshops have been organized for 6 countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco) to support and facilitate the implementation of the AaB pilots.

Explore and implement to the extent possible the application of the Fishing for Litter practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen and ensure adequate collection, sorting and/or environmentally sound disposal of the fished litter:

33. Fishing-for-litter pilot projects have been designed with MEDPOL's support in five countries (i.e. Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), in the framework of the EU-funded Marine Litter MED project. Pilot projects are ongoing, expected to be finalized by Sept. 2019. In four countries (i.e. Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia) FfL pilots are ongoing and national capacity building workshops for three countries (Egypt, Libya, Morocco) have been organized to support and facilitate the implementation of the FfL pilots. Pilots are expected to be finalized by Sept. 2019.

Explore and implement to the extent possible charging reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable application of 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:

34. Pilots in 7 Mediterranean countries (expected to be finalised by Sept. 2019) are currently implemented and coordinated by REMPEC in selected major ports and marinas within the framework of the EU-funded "Marine Litter-MED" project (Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia) and the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Slovenia). Pilots in 5 other Mediterranean countries are still to be confirmed (Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Libya). A study (No-Special-Fee system) was presented during the Regional Meeting on Marine Litter Best Practices (9-10 Oct. 2018, Izmir, Turkey) and the final versions of a guidance document (No-Special-Fee system) as well as operational guidelines (waste handling) will be presented during the Second Regional Meeting on Marine Litter Best Practices (8-10 April 2019, Seville, Spain).

Article 11: Assessment of marine litter in the Mediterranean

Assessment of marine litter in the Mediterranean:

35. The 2015 UN Environment/MAP Marine Litter Assessment in the Mediterranean provides data on waste and plastic inputs to the sea for each Mediterranean country. It specifies the most important sources of litter; changes in their composition; and transport

patterns presenting updated results of modelling; and includes a comprehensive review of existing data for the four compartments of the marine environment (beaches, surface, seabed, and ingested litter). It provides updated data and information on microplastics, on derelict fishing gear and their impact. The assessment presents general reduction measures focusing on those which are especially important for the Mediterranean Sea.

36. In 2015, the UN Environment/MAP also published a Regional Survey on Abandoned, Lost or Discarded Fishing Gear and Ghost Nets.

37. The latest assessment product of the UN Environment/MAP is the 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2017 MED QSR). The 2017 MED QSR includes two dedicated chapters on marine litter (EO 10) under the Land and Sea-based Pollution core theme. The marine litter-related chapter is dedicated to IMAP Common Indicator 22 (i.e. Beach marine litter) and to IMAP Common Indicator 23 (i.e. Seafloor and floating marine litter including microplastics). In addition, a number of national case studies on marine litter from around the Mediterranean are supplementing the main marine litter chapters in order to provide a more comprehensive insight about the status of marine litter in the Mediterranean.

Article 12: Mediterranean Marine Litter Monitoring Programme

Establishment of an Expert Group on Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme:

38. The Informal Online Working Group on Marine Litter was established in 2014. Two reports have been prepared addressing marine litter monitoring elements. Since then, four CORMON Marine Litter meetings have been held addressing marine litter monitoring elements.

Guidelines for the preparation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations:

39. IMAP Indicator Factsheets for the three Common and Candidate Indicators were developed to facilitate a coherent monitoring, and concrete guidance and references to the Contracting Parties to design and support the implementation of their revised national monitoring programmes towards the overall goal of implementing the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) in the Mediterranean Sea and achieving the Good Environmental Status (GES) of marine litter in the Mediterranean. Furthermore, metadata reporting templates were prepared for beach and seafloor marine litter and related Data Standards and Data Dictionaries have been also prepared for beach, seafloor and floating marine litter. Within the ongoing process for development of IMAP Pilot Info System the Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for Marine Litter were submitted for review to the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON) Marine Litter (4 April 2019, Podgorica, Montenegro) with the view of their finalization and integration into IMAP Pilot Info System.

Preparation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme, as part of the integrated regional monitoring programme

40. Decision IG.22/7 on IMAP contains a well-developed section on marine litter through three common indicators as follows:

- Common Indicator 22: Trends in the amount of litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines (EO10);
- Common Indicator 23: Trends in the amount of litter in the water column including microplastics and on the seafloor (EO10);

- Candidate Indicator 24: Trends in the amount of litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms focusing on selected mammals, marine birds, and marine turtles (EO10)

41. The 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP 19) also agreed on a set of marine litter baseline values (contained in Annex II of the Decision IG 21/7) against which the implementation of Regional Plan programmes of measures should be assessed for indicative purposes. Such values will be subject to periodic adjustment based on additional new data originating from implementation of the National Marine Litter monitoring programmes, as well as their specification where appropriate at sub regional and/or national levels.

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 National Monitoring Programme on Marine Litter:

42. The initial phase of IMAP implementation up to date (2016-2018) showcases a high level of progress by all Contracting Parties. In line with the UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work for 2018-2019, as well as with the support of the EU-funded EcAp-MED II and Marine Litter MED Projects, and most recently the GEF Adriatic Project, the development of respective national integrated monitoring and assessment programmes (national IMAPs) for marine is currently progressing in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, Montenegro, Libya, and Morocco. A new national IMAP based monitoring programme has been successfully prepared for Israel, whilst completion of activities in Egypt, Libya and Morocco, within implementation of respective SSFAs, is expected by June 2019. Detailed information about the state of play of IMAP implementation related to marine litter (EO10) and its further developments can be found under WG.466/Inf.4 of this Meeting.

43. In addition, a set of H2020/NAP indicators with methodological specifications on solid waste including marine litter was developed for marine litter and waste management interfaces

Report, in accordance with Article 13 of the LBS Protocol, on the implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme

44. As indicated in the previous section, work is ongoing by several Contracting Parties to implement or to develop marine litter monitoring programmes. The first set of monitoring data is extended in 2019.

Establishment of the Regional Data Bank on Marine Litter

45. Info MAP system and the corresponding MED POL Data Bank are under development, expected to be finalized in 2019. Metadata templates for Beach and Seafloor Marine Litter have been approved in 2017. Data Dictionaries and Data Standards for beach and seafloor marine litter, as well as for floating microplastics have been developed in 2019, to support the ongoing process for development of IMAP Pilot Info System, with the view of their finalization and integration into IMAP Pilot Info System” by 2019.

Article 13: Research topics and scientific cooperation

Assistance for scientific cooperation:

46. Assistance for scientific cooperation is provided. The marine litter research priority list is adopted in COP 18 as an annex to Decision IG 21/7 and may require further

prioritization. In addition, Chapter 6 of the 2015 Mediterranean Assessment on Marine Litter elaborates elements related to “Synergies and collaboration with several scientific projects addressing marine litter”. Scientific Cooperation and participation are also enhanced through the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean with the participation of several research institutes around the Mediterranean. The Science-Policy Interface (SPI) of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) should be further advanced for marine litter. Moreover, MAP Secretariat and MAP Components have participated in several scientific conference for marine litter (e.g. International Conference on Microplastic Pollution in the Mediterranean Sea” (μ MED), Capri, Italy, 26-29 Sept. 2017; PolyTalk 2018 – Zero Plastics to The Oceans, St Julian’s, Malta, 26-27 April 2018; 28th SETAC Europe Annual Meeting, Rome, Italy, 13-17 May 2018).

Article 14: Specific guidelines

Preparation of specific guidelines for measures listed in Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan:

47. Guidelines for the implementation of Fishing-for-Litter measures were adopted in 2016 (COP 19). A list of existing marine litter management guidelines, and potential guidelines to be developed, were identified in 2016 and 2017.

48. In this respect, MAP Secretariat is currently working to develop the final versions of the following four regional guidelines:

- i. Guidelines for the implementation of the Adopt a beach measures in the Mediterranean;
- ii. Guidelines to phase out single-use plastic bags in the Mediterranean;
- iii. Guidance document to determine the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the No-Special-Fee system in the Mediterranean; and
- iv. Operational guidelines on the provision of reception facilities in ports and the delivery of ship-generated wastes in the Mediterranean.

49. The final versions of the regional guidelines will be presented during the Second Regional Meeting on Marine Litter Best Practices (8-10 April 2019, Seville, Spain).

50. During the current 2018-2019 biennium, a socioeconomic analysis is under development by UN Environment/MAP Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre with the scope to further support the implementation of selected number of marine litter measures and the implementation of the corresponding guidelines.

Article 15: Technical assistance

Technical assistance, including capacity building provided:

51. With the support of the EU-funded EcAp MED II and Marine Litter MED projects, and in the framework of the Cooperation agreement with the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS), technical assistance and support are being provided to several Contracting Parties in the form of pilot projects to implement selected measures provided under Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan i.e. “Prevention of Marine Litter” and “Removing Existing Marine Litter and its Environmentally Sound Disposal”.

52. Capacity building workshops to support national implementation of IMAP and related criteria for marine litter, in cooperation with the IMAP Cluster of Pollution, as well as to facilitate the implementation of the “Adopt-a-Beach” and “Fishing-for-Litter” measures, were organized in Egypt (Alexandria, 26 – 28 February 2018), Morocco (Rabat, 19-20 February 2018) and Libya (Tunis, Tunisia, 12-15 March 2018). The workshops addressed the methodological and practical aspects related to monitoring and assessment of marine environment with regards to marine litter IMAP Common Indicators 22 and 23. The IMAP monitoring protocols and assessment methods, sample processing, metadata, reporting templates, as well as the examples of existing national monitoring schemes and capacities compared to IMAP requirements and the guidance factsheets have been presented and extensively discussed.

53. A training workshop on IMAP EO10 Marine Litter was organized in Podgorica, Montenegro, on 22 November 2018, in the framework of the GEF Adriatic Project, for national experts from Albania and Montenegro dealing with marine litter monitoring.

54. In the framework of the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS, training workshops focusing on the implementation of the AaB pilots at national level, with the scope to support the development of the national monitoring programmes on marine litter, and in particular on beach marine litter, were organized in Budva, Montenegro (23 November 2018), in Tirana, Albania (17-18 December 2018), and in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (6 February 2019).

55. Important exchange between the Contracting Parties took place in the Regional Meeting on IMAP Implementation: Best Practices, Gaps and Common Challenges (Rome, Italy, 10-12 July 2018).

56. The EU-funded Marine Litter MED project also focuses its work on reducing the impact of marine litter and microliter in the biota with a particular focus on the endangered species. The project objective is to improve the knowledge related to IMAP and its Candidate Indicator 24. This task has been assigned to the UN Environment/MAP Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC).

57. Two special training sessions on sea turtles litter ingestion were organized during the 2017-2018 biennium, in cooperation and in synergy with the EU-funded INDICIT project. The first, English-speaking, training session for sharing technical skills on marine litter ingested by or entangled by sea turtles was successfully organized in Portici, Naples on 6 July 2017, with the participation of experts in sea turtle from Tunisia, Lebanon, Egypt, and Israel. A second, sub-regional, French-speaking, training session was organized in the rescue centre of Monastir, Tunisia, in 1-2 November 2018, with the participation of 10 experts in sea turtle, veterinarians and scientists from Algeria, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia. Both training sessions addressed a number of issues such as the observation of necropsy and dissection of a digestive tract for the collection of debris ingested by a loggerhead turtle, as well as different steps of collecting the marine litter from the oesophagus, stomach and intestines. The trainings also included practical sessions to perform some operations on intestines and samples, and to classify and identify all the types of marine litter in accordance with the most recent monitoring protocol(s). Both training sessions aimed at providing tools for technicians who will carry out the monitoring of marine litter ingested by sea turtles in the Mediterranean.

58. The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Horizon 2020 Initiative, recognizes the importance of solid waste including marine litter as one of the three priority areas causing major pollution in the Mediterranean Sea. Reduction of marine litter at source requires effective solid waste management in land which will subsequently minimize the input of litter

ending up in the marine and coastal environments. Sound information about the waste generated in land will assist the Mediterranean countries to set realistic quantifiable reduction targets.

59. Technical assistance is also provided, within Marine Litter Med project, on single-use plastic bags (Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon) and EPR (Morocco, Algeria). Furthermore, three technical workshop have been organized on H2020/NAP indicators and their methodological specifications on solid waste including marine litter within 2017-2018.

60. Two progress reports for the progress achieved in the implementation of the Regional Plan prepared (Oct. 2018 and Apr. 2019).

Article 16: Enhancement of public awareness and education

Undertaking, where appropriate in synergy with existing initiatives in the field of education for sustainable development and 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:

61. Further support is required with more targeted actions towards this direction. Two marine litter side events were organized at COP 19 and COP 20, and a side on marine litter for the Mediterranean was organized during UNEA 2.

62. The two editions of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Marine Litter were shared among the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2016 and 2017.

63. The under-development Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter (exp. to be finalized in first half of 2019) is expected to further assist the effectiveness in the implementation of Article 16, as will further include educational material and relevant information.

Article 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

64. Broad participation of stakeholders including NGOs and civil society, private sector etc. in the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter. The MAP Environment Friendly City Award includes strong criteria on marine litter management.

Article 18: Regional and international cooperation

Establishment of institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions and initiatives

65. At the initiative of UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat, a Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter was established in the Mediterranean in 2016. The Platform is an open-ended group established on a voluntary basis, composed of over 20 regional and international organisations. Three meetings of the Cooperation Platform have been organized in 2016, 2017 and 2018. A joint 2017 work plan has been agreed and reviewed. Furthermore action-oriented activities have been agreed for 2018-2019 and are currently implemented.

66. Cooperation among the European Regional Sea Conventions on marine litter has been a priority for MAP Secretariat. The fifth Coordination Meeting to review the progress in the Implementation of the Regional/Action Plans on Marine Litter was organized and hosted by UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat (Vrachati, Greece, 4-5 July 2018).

67. UN Environment/MAP established in the past few years a very strong cooperation link with the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC). An agreement was also established with the BSC to support the implementation of a number of activities regarding the development of a Monitoring Programme and an Action Plan on Marine Litter for the Black Sea Region, as well as to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two Secretariats. The Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter for the Black Sea Region was adopted in October 2018, by the Black Sea countries. The next step will be the endorsement of the corresponding monitoring programme for marine litter for the Black Sea region (exp. within 2019).

68. The Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), in the framework of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), is establishing Regional Nodes on Marine Litter to coordinate, assist, and facilitate the establishment of cooperation mechanisms at regional level. In that respect, GPA/GPML is financially supporting UN Environment/MAP to establish a Regional/Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter which aims to support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean. The Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter will be hosted by the GPML Platform and its child-site will be presented during UNEA 4 (11-15 March 2019, Nairobi, Kenya).

69. Furthermore, in the framework of the Cooperation Agreement with IMELS the enhancement of coordination at Regional Seas level is supported with the view to further contributing to the G7 agenda on marine litter, including:

- i. Mapping of processes, initiatives, and mandates to set common goals and ensure better coordination of the collective responses to marine litter;
- ii. Harmonization and standardization of methodologies in particular for monitoring and assessment and reporting; and
- iii. Communication of activities to enhance awareness raising and involvement of stakeholders, and to promote partnerships, including with the private sector;

70. UN Environment/MAP works in close cooperation with the UN Environment Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), benefiting and contributing to the Manila Declaration, the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), and also supporting the #CleanSeas and #BeatPlasticPollution Campaigns and related marine litter initiatives.

71. The Secretariat brought to the attention of the G7 and G20 the important progress and related work that has been undertaken on marine litter in the Mediterranean under the coordination of the UN Environment/MAP.

72. Within the framework of the 2017 Italian G7 Presidency, a Workshop on Marine Litter was organized in April 2017 in Rome by the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS), in collaboration with UN Environment/ MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat. The aim of the Workshop was to review the relevance of the work of the Regional Seas Programmes and their contribution to the implementation of the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter. For the first time, the G7 countries' representatives; the Regional Sea Programmes where G7 countries were present; some of the Regional Fisheries Management

Organizations; numerous partners including research and academia; and government and private sectors reviewed together the state of implementation of the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter; the relevance of the regional activities with regards to the progress of their implementation; lessons learned and shared priorities.

73. The main considerations and conclusions of the G7 Workshop on Marine Litter are included in the document entitled “*The way forward – the relevance of the regional dimension in the implementation of the G7 Action Plan on Marine Litter*”. These conclusions were further brought to the attention of the 2017 G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, held in Bologna on 11-12 June, and contributed to the preparation of the Marine Litter Chapter of the G7 Communiqué. The 2017 Bologna Communiqué acknowledges, among others, the role of the Regional Seas Programmes in establishing and implementing coherent and coordinated regional basin-wide approaches to combat marine litter. In addition, the 2018 Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities includes a specific reference, under the Ocean Plastics Charter, highlighting the role of the Regional Seas Programmes in accelerating the implementation of the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.

74. During the G20 High Level Conference on Marine Litter, the outcome of which was the G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter, the Secretariat stressed the need for translating the Action Plan into real practical measures; defining targets and monitoring mechanisms; leveraging political will and resources; and developing projects and joint messages in international fora. In addition, it was highlighted that much work is already implemented on marine litter and that it is crucial to build on the added value of the G20 in terms of political and financial mobilization, cooperation and technical assistance, dissemination of knowledge and partnership-building.

Direct cooperation of Contracting Parties, with assistance of the MED POL or competent international and regional organizations, to address trans-boundary marine litter cases:

75. Progress is expected within 2019: Reports are expected to be sent to MAP Secretariat during first quarter of 2019, as part of biannual annual implementation reports.

Article 19: Reporting

National biennial reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan:

76. BCRS reporting in progress.

Regional report on the implementation of the Regional Plan:

77. This evaluation document addresses this requirement.

Review the status of the implementation of the Regional Plan:

78. Final report is expected in 2021.