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ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

19 April 2019
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88th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Athens, Greece, 21-22 May 2019

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

1. At the invitation of the Government of Italy and in consultation with the President and members of the Bureau, the 88th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols will be held in Rome, Italy, on 21-22 May 2019.
2. Documentation will be provided 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.
3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda have been 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 Tuesday, 21 May 2019, by Ms. Klodiana Marika, President of the Bureau.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work

Working Documents	UNEP/MED BUR.88/1 UNEP/MED BUR.88/2
Information Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.1

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this meeting.
6. The meeting will review and adopt the Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the President of the Bureau, as contained in document UNEP/MED BUR.88/1 and annotated in the present document.
7. It is expected that the Bureau will address all items of the Agenda during its two-day meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting at 18:00 on 22 May 2019 after adopting its conclusions and recommendations.
8. As per practice and in line with Article VII of the Bureau Terms of Reference, the final edited report of the meeting will be very succinct and will be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed by electronic means to the Focal Points of the Contracting Parties no later than one month after the meeting.

Agenda item 3: Progress Report for October 2018 – April 2019

Working Documents	UNEP/MED BUR.88/3 UNEP/MED BUR.88/4
Information Documents	UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.4 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.5

9. Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, will present the document “*Progress Report by the Secretariat on the Activities Carried Out for the Period October 2018 - April 2019*” (UNEP/MED BUR.88/3) and the updated “*Progress Report by the Secretariat on the Implementation of COP 20 Decisions*” (UNEP/MED BUR.88/4).
10. The “*Reports of the 37th and 38th Meetings of the Executive Coordination Panel*” and the “*Compilation of Project Fiches*” are presented in documents UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.4 and Inf.5 respectively, for the information of the Bureau.

11. Bureau members are expected to comment on and take note of the progress achieved on the implementation of the activities carried out and advise the Secretariat in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Bureau.

Agenda item 4: Report by the Secretariat on Financial and Administrative Issues

Working Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/5
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12. The Secretariat will present to the Bureau members for their comments and recommendations a financial update, as contained in the “*Report by the Secretariat on Financial and Administrative Issues*” (UNEP/MED BUR.88/5) addressing the status of contributions, personnel, administrative matters and consultancy reporting and following up to the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the 87th Meeting of the Bureau (Athens, Greece, 6-7 November 2018).

Agenda item 5: Specific Issues

Working Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/6
Information Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.6

13. The Coordinator will present the “*Report by the Secretariat on Specific Issues*” (UNEP/MED BUR.88/6).

14. The Bureau will be invited to consider the following issues:

(a) Status of Ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

15. The Coordinator will present an update on issues regarding the status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The Bureau is expected to discuss ways to further promote ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

(b) Compliance and Reporting

16. The Secretariat will provide an update on the status of implementation of Decision IG.23/1 on *Revised Reporting Format for the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols*, and of Decision IG.23/2 on *Compliance Committee: biennium 2016-2017*. The Bureau is expected to discuss the progress made and provide its guidance.

(c) Main Elements of the 2020-2021 UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and Budget

17. The Coordinator will update the Bureau on the preparations of the 2020-2021 UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and Budget and will present its main elements for the consideration of the Bureau.

18. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the proposed main elements of the 2020-2021 UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and Budget, make recommendations in accordance with its Terms of Reference and provide guidance on the way forward in view of COP 21.

(d) Roadmap for the Evaluation of the 2016-2021 Medium-Term Strategy and the Preparation of the 2022-2027 Medium-Term Strategy

19. The Coordinator will present the Roadmap for the Evaluation of the 2016-2021 Medium-Term Strategy and the Preparation of the 2022-2027 Medium-Term Strategy.

20. The Bureau members will be invited to discuss the proposed roadmap and provide guidance on the way forward.

(e) Preparations for COP 21: Theme of Ministerial Session, Draft Decisions and Main Documents, Main Elements of the Ministerial Declaration, Organization and Host Country Preparations

21. The Coordinator will introduce this agenda item, with reference to the list of COP 21 draft Decisions and the main documents to be adopted at COP 21. He will also refer to the theme of the Ministerial Session and the main elements of the Ministerial Declaration, as well as to organizational matters.

22. The Bureau member from Italy, host country of COP 21, will be invited to provide information on the organization of the event and the preparations by the host country.

23. The Bureau members will be invited to discuss the list of COP 21 draft Decisions and the theme and structure of the Ministerial Session, and to provide guidance on the way forward for the preparation of COP 21.

(f) Preparations for Upcoming MAP Meetings: Meeting of Thematic Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas/Biodiversity, 18th MCSD Meeting

24. The Coordinator will update the Bureau on the preparations for upcoming MAP meetings, and especially the Meeting of Thematic Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas/Biodiversity and the 18th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

25. The Bureau members are expected to discuss and provide further guidance on the main themes, focus and expected outcomes of these meetings.

(g) Development of Host Country Agreements for RACs

26. The Coordinator will present the draft minimum common provisions to be included in the Host Country Agreements for Regional Activity Centres (RACs) to ensure their effective operation, in accordance with Decision IG.23/3 on *Governance*, and will update the Bureau on the consultations with the Host Countries of RACs.

27. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the draft minimum common provisions and provide guidance on the way forward.

(h) Cooperation and Partners: MoUs/Agreements, MAP Partners, Joint Cooperation Strategy

28. The Secretariat will update the Bureau on the efforts to contribute to regional governance and cooperation and to create and strengthen partnerships, in order to enhance the impact of the MAP-Barcelona Convention system. Reference will be made, *inter alia*, to the progress in the preparation of an MoU with UNESCO/Man and Biosphere, and to the progress in the consultations for the preparation of the Joint Cooperation Strategy.

29. With reference to Decision IG.19/6 on *MAP/Civil society cooperation and partnership*, the Coordinator will update the Bureau members (a) on the evaluation of the applications received by civil society organizations for accreditation as MAP Partners, and (b) on the applications received for renewal of accreditation by existing MAP Partners, for the Bureau's review and endorsement.

(i) Outreach, Information and Communication

30. The Coordinator will present a brief update on the information and communication activities and on the plans for the last part of the biennium in this area.

31. The Bureau will be invited to provide its views and considerations on this matter and to advise on how to further enhance the outreach, visibility and impact of the MAP – Barcelona Convention system.

Agenda item 6: Calendar of Meetings and Events, including Date and Venue of the 89th Meeting of the Bureau

Information Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.3
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32. The Bureau will be invited to decide on the date and the venue of its 89th Meeting.

33. The “*Tentative Calendar of UNEP/MAP Meetings and Major International Events*” has been updated and presented in document UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.3.

Agenda item 7: Any Other Matters

34. The Bureau will consider other issues that may be raised by its members.

Agenda item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations

Working Document	UNEP/MED BUR.88/7
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35. The Secretariat will submit for adoption a set of conclusions and recommendations prepared in accordance with Article VII of the Terms of Reference of the Bureau.

Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting

36. The meeting is expected to be closed by the President of the Bureau at 18:00 on Wednesday, 22 May 2019.

TIMETABLE

Tuesday, 21 May 2019			
Time	Agenda item		Documents
09:30 – 09:45	1. Opening of the Meeting 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work	President of the Bureau	UNEP/MED BUR.88/1 UNEP/MED BUR.88/2 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.1
09:45 – 10:30	3. Progress Report for October 2018 – April 2019	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/3 UNEP/MED BUR.88/4 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.4 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.5
10:30 – 11:45	4. Report by the Secretariat on Financial and Administrative Issues	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/5
11:45 – 12:30	5. Specific Issues	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/6 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.6
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
14:00 – 17:00	5. Specific Issues (cont'd)	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/6 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.6
Wednesday, 22 May 2019			
09:30 – 12:00	5. Specific Issues (cont'd)	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/6 UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.6
12:00 – 12:30	6. Calendar of Meetings and Events, including Date and Venue of the 89 th Meeting of the Bureau 7. Any other Matters	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/Inf.3
12:30 – 15:00	<i>Extended Lunch break (preparation of the draft list of conclusions and recommendations for adoption)</i>		
15:00 – 17:30	8. Conclusions and Recommendations	Secretariat	UNEP/MED BUR.88/7
17:30 – 18:00	9. Closure of the Meeting	President of the Bureau	