



UNITED
NATIONS

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.31/3



UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

6 February 2017
Original: English

31st Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel

Tunis, Tunisia, 11-12 January 2017

Report of the Meeting

For environmental and cost-saving reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

UN Environment/MAP
Athens, 2017

Table of contents

	Pages
Report	1-5
Annexes	
Annex I	List of Participants
Annex II	Agenda

I. Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

1. The 31st Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) was held on 11-12 January 2017, hosted by SPA/RAC in Tunis, Tunisia. The meeting was chaired by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) Coordinator and attended by the Heads of MAP Components (with the exception of INFO/RAC, undergoing a restructuring exercise), the UN Environment/MAP Deputy Coordinator and the UN Environment/MAP Programme Officer responsible for governance issues. The list of participants is presented in Annex I to this report.
2. Mr. Gaetano Leone, UN Environment/MAP Coordinator opened the meeting at 09.30 and introduced the provisional agenda.

II. Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work

3. The Coordinator welcomed the ECP members and noted that the meeting will mainly focus on the preparation of a more advanced draft of the Programme of Work and Budget for the biennium 2018-2019 (PoW 2018-2019).
4. The meeting reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda that was prepared by the Secretariat, document UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.31/1. SCP/RAC recommended to include in the agenda a very brief discussion on the performance review of SCP/RAC and INFO/RAC to be prepared for COP 20, REMPEC a discussion on the reporting template between MAP Components and the UN Environment/MAP Coordinator a short agenda point on the evaluation of procurement practices. The participants agreed to discuss these issues under Any Other Matters, if time allowed.

III. Agenda item 3: Follow-up to the 30th ECP meeting

5. The Coordinator referred to the recent developments since the previous ECP meeting (5-6 October 2016, Valetta, Malta) in relation to resource mobilization, participation in international and regional events and reach-out activities. He also referred to a recent restructuring in ISPRA that lead to changes in INFO/RAC.
6. In relation to the possible involvement of UN Environment/MAP in the Volvo Ocean Race related events, SCP/RAC Director noted the Centre's collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, while PAP/RAC Director noted that international sailor Didac Costa was elected "Ambassador for the Coast" during the 2017 Coast Day celebrations.
7. The Coordinator reminded the ECP Members to send project fiches for the new projects (non-MTF funded).
8. He then gave them the floor for possible updates on the progress regarding the status of Host Country Agreements. Following a brief discussion, he stressed that an analysis is needed of what exists and what is missing, of the legal situation and of the requirements for a new template. Each MAP Component will do this analysis and the overall outcome will then be discussed with the Bureau.
9. The Plan Bleu/RAC Director also informed the meeting of a change in the Centre's structure.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
1.	Send new Project Fiches to Coordinating Unit	MAP Components	Dynamic
2.	Analysis of Host Country Agreement status for each MAP Component	MAP Components	End of March 2017

IV. Agenda item 4: Implementation of the PoW 2016-2017

10. The Deputy Coordinator informed the meeting that the updated planning and priorities table will be sent to MAP Components and will show the process and deliverables for 2016. The MAP Components are to provide feedback on needs of changes for 2017 (proposals for budget revision for 2017). It was noted that revisions of more than 20% need UN Environment Nairobi HQ approval.

11. The Coordinator noted that efforts should be made to send meeting documents in all languages within the deadline and that meeting documents should follow UN Guidelines. He also emphasized the advantages on preparing a limited number of concise documents for meetings.

12. MAP Components updated the meeting regarding their upcoming events and especially the venue and dates of their Focal Points Meetings. Based on this information it was decided that an updated calendar of events will be prepared by the Coordinating Unit and will be distributed to MAP Focal Points. MAP Components will continue providing updates on meetings and events.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
3.	Updated Planning and Priorities Table for 2016 to be shared with MAP Components	Coordinating Unit	January 2017
4.	Needs of budget revisions for 2017	MAP Components	Early February 2017
5.	Updated calendar of events to be prepared and sent to MAP Focal Points	Coordinating Unit	January 2017
6.	Update Coordinating Unit on upcoming events	MAP Components	Dynamic

V. Agenda item 5: Preparation of the 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work and budget

13. The Deputy Coordinator referred to the document entitled “Draft guiding elements for the preparation of 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) and budget”, that was sent to the ECP Members before the meeting. The meeting welcomed the document and the early involvement of all MAP Components in the process and discussed the “Roadmap and consultation process”, which was presented in section IV of the document. Following the discussion the process was fine-tuned, as follows:

- Overall agreement on key deliverables for the 2018-19 (to take place during the meeting).
- Deputy Coordinator to send updated version with comments / simplified to each MAP Component in Excel (by the end of next week).
- Each MAP Component to finalize the first draft, without budget (by the end of January). The format of the table will contain: Key outputs, main activities, key deliverables, and remarks.
- Coordinator to send a letter to MAP Focal Points informing them on the process (end of January).
- Informal consultation of MAP Component FPs, with copy to MAP FPs (beginning of February with a 2 week consultation period).
- Revised version to be prepared by the Coordinating Unit (end of February).
- Work on budget by all MAP Components and aggregation by Coordinating Unit (March).
- Revised version and budget to be discussed and finalized in next ECP meeting (29-30 March).
- Then the process will follow the steps presented under section IV(4) of document “Draft guiding elements for the preparation of 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work (PoW) and budget”, starting with the discussions at the MAP Components’ Focal Points meetings.

14. Following the agreement on the roadmap/timetable a detailed discussion was conducted on the activities proposed by each MAP Component in order to reach an overall agreement on the key deliverables. It was clarified that while thematic activities needing relevant expertise will be included under the three Core and the three Cross-cutting themes, the Overarching theme (Governance) will include a streamlining of what will be delivered in an integrated manner.

15. For activity 1.5.1 on the InfoMAP platform, SPA/RAC Director noted that the Centre could facilitate the process until INFO/RAC can take the lead following its recent restructuring. This process will also need the involvement of all MAP Components and was therefore decided to establish a new Task Force on Data Management. It was noted that this Task Force can also examine the issue of a common reporting template of MAP Components, which takes into consideration the existing reporting processes of the MAP system and enables and facilitates data processing for reporting.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
7.	Actions for the preparation of the PoW 2018-9 as described in the roadmap presented in paragraph 14	Coordinating Unit and all MAP Components	As described in the roadmap presented in paragraph 14
8.	Information on updated list of MAP and Components' Focal Points from Libya	UN ENVIRONMENT/MAP Coordinator	January 2017
9.	Establishment of Task Force on Data Management	SPA/RAC and then INFO RAC	February - March 2017

VI. Agenda item 6: Baseline values for evaluation of the MTS implementation

16. The meeting discussed the issue of defining baseline values for evaluation of the MTS implementation. On the way forward, they suggested to hire a consultant to assist the Secretariat to derive baseline values, subject to the availability of resources.

17. The participants decided to consider at this point only the indicators presented under the PoW 2016-7 (1st page, under the Governance theme). The consultant would then suggest if any further indicators should be included due to the longer time frame/context of the Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021 in relation to the PoW 2016-2017. It was also suggested to examine the possibility to consider also the list of indicators presented to the MAP Focal Points before COP 19, which were finally rejected as premature. Finally, the meeting decided to take as a basis the 1st of January 2016 in order to derive the baseline values.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
10.	Initiate process to hire a consultant for the baseline values for evaluation of the MTS implementation	Coordinating Unit	February 2017

VII. Agenda item 7: Preparations for COP 20

18. ECP members elaborated on the main theme of COP 20, based on the suggestion of the Bureau at its 83rd Meeting (25-26 October 2016, Tirana, Albania). It was agreed that the focus should be on the implementation of SDG14 in the Mediterranean looking at one specific sector, e.g. tourism. A possible further refinement of the theme could be to focus on the promotion of sustainable solutions for tourism to protect the environment and to implement SDG14.

19. It was agreed to inform the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) to take this in consideration when discussing the theme of the next MCSD meeting (planned for June 2017). The meeting suggested that, if the focus of COP 20 is on tourism, it may be advisable to invite the World Tourism Organization as well as Ministers of Tourism.

20. The preliminary list of possible decisions to be adopted at COP 19 was discussed. The meeting decided to focus on a concise list of aggregated decisions and to further refine the list and cluster possible decisions based on the PoW 2018-2019, which is under preparation.

21. The Coordinator asked the ECP Members to suggest side events for the COP, the MAP National Focal Points (NFP) Meeting and the MCSD. Suggestions should be sent to the Coordinating Unit before the end of March 2017, accompanied by a text of half to one page on the subject/organization of the side event.

22. The meeting also decided that the MAP NFP Meeting should be held in the week 11-15 September 2017.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
11.	Legal analysis on the need of COP decisions to adopt Guidelines	Coordinating Unit (Legal Officer)	By Mid-March 2017
12.	Proposals for possible side events at MCSD meeting, MAP NFP meeting and COP (half to one page text on the subject/organization)	MAP Components (to send to Coordinating Unit)	Before end of March 2017

VIII. Agenda item 8: Preparation of the 18th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development - Involvement of all MAP Components

23. The meeting discussed preparations for the 18th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, to take place in June 2017. The participants stressed that the responsibility of the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) lies with the Contracting Parties, the partners and stakeholders, as well as with UN Environment/MAP.

24. The ECP members discussed the document “MAP Components & Partners – Follow-up of the MSSD 2016-2025 implementation – Progress done towards achievement of Targets and Flagship initiatives” that was prepared by Plan Bleu/RAC and was sent to ECP members before the meeting. They suggested that it was probably not the most efficient way for MAP Components to report, taking also into account the proliferation of reporting exercises, but that it could be further refined in the future as a useful tool for the reporting of partners on the implementation of the MSSD (and possibly linked to the MSSD indicators, when these are finalized).

IX. Agenda item 9: Date and Venue of the 32nd ECP meeting

25. The ECP decided its 32nd Meeting to take place on 29-30 March 2017. PAP/RAC offered to host the meeting in Split, Croatia.

X. Agenda item 10: Any Other Matters

26. The Meeting considered other issues, as follows:

- (a) Main elements of the Regional Framework on ICZM and the Conceptual Framework for MSP

27. The PAP/RAC Director informed participants on the more refined document with two annexes that was sent before the meeting. After a brief discussion, it was decided that PAP/RAC will send a more detailed version by the end of January for comments by all MAP Components.

- (b) Sustainable Tourism

28. The meeting recalled the discussion on this issue under Agenda Item 7.

- (c) Update on the preparation of the UN Environment/MAP communication strategy

29. ECP members elaborated on the process of updating the strategy, in order to guide the relevant work of the Information Task Force. They suggested that the Communication Task Force should make an assessment on what has been implemented from the previous communication strategy of UN Environment/MAP. To this end, the ECP Members would send possible comments within January. Depending on availability of resources, a meeting of the Task Force or the hiring of a consultant could be also anticipated. The Coordinator stressed the lack of communication capacity/trained personnel in the Coordinating Unit, while the SPA/RAC Director noted that the Centre has already done some relevant work in this field, which he would share with participants.

- (d) Update on the preparation of the 2017 Quality Status Report

30. A short update on the process was provided by the Coordinating Unit, noting that the more detailed timeline will be discussed at the CORMON meetings planned for the end of February-beginning of March (Madrid, Spain).

- (e) Gender policy

31. The UN Environment/MAP Programme Officer made a presentation on the Gender Policy of UN Environment and on how it can be reflected within the work of UN Environment/MAP. He suggested that for further information, ECP Members could contact the Gender Focal Point for UN Environment/MAP, Ms. Gyorgyi Gurban.

32. The meeting did not discuss the performance review of SCP/RAC and INFO/RAC to be prepared for COP 20 that will be looked into at the next available opportunity.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
13.	Refined document on ICZM and MSP frameworks	PAP/RAC	31 January 2017
14.	Assessment on what has been implemented from the previous communication strategy of UN Environment/MAP	Communication Task Force	February-March 2017
15.	Comments on process for the update of the communication strategy	SPA/RAC and all MAP Components	January 2017

XI. Agenda item 11: Closure of the Meeting

33. The 31st ECP meeting was closed at 18.00 on Thursday 12 January 2017.

Annex I

List of participants

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATION PANEL

MED POL

Ms. Tatjana Hema

UN Environment/MAP Deputy Coordinator

Tel: +30 210 727 3115

Email: tatjana.hema@unep.org

**PLAN BLEU REGIONAL
ACTIVITY CENTRE (PB/RAC)**

Ms. Anne France Didier

Director

Tel: +33 04 9238 7138

Email: afdidier@planbleu.org

**PRIORITY ACTIONS
PROGRAMME REGIONAL
ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)**

Ms. Zeljka Skaricic

Director

Tel: +385 2134 0471

Email: zeljka.skaricic@paprac.org

**REGIONAL MARINE
POLLUTION EMERGENCY
RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
(REMPEC)**

Mr. Gabino Gonzalez

Head of Office

Tel: +356 2258 3113

Email: ggonzalez@rempec.org

**SPECIALLY PROTECTED
AREAS REGIONAL ACTIVITY
CENTRE (SPA/RAC)**

Mr. Khalil Attia

Director

Tel: +216 7120 6649; +216 7120 6851

Email: director@rac-spa.org

**SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION REGIONAL
ACTIVITY CENTRE (SCP/RAC)**

Mr. Enrique de Villamore Martin

Director

Tel: +34 9 3553 8792

Email: evillamore@scprac.org

**SECRETARIAT TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION - COORDINATING UNIT OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Mr. Gaetano Leone

Coordinator

Tel: +30 210 727 3101

Email: gaetano.leone@unep.org

Ms. Tatjana Hema

Deputy Coordinator

Tel: +30 210 727 3115

Email: tatjana.hema@unep.org

Mr. Ilias Mavroeidis

Programme Management Officer

Tel: +30 210 727 3132

Email: ilias.mavroeidis@unep.org

Annex II
Agenda

Provisional Agenda

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Agenda item 1 | Opening of the Meeting |
| Agenda item 2 | Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work |
| Agenda item 3 | Follow up to the 30 th ECP meeting |
| Agenda item 4 | Implementation of the PoW 2016-2017 |
| Agenda item 5 | Preparation of the 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work and budget |
| Agenda item 6 | Baseline values for evaluation of MTS implementation |
| Agenda item 7 | Preparations for COP 20 |
| Agenda item 8 | Preparation of the 18 th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development - Involvement of all MAP Components |
| Agenda item 9 | Date and Venue of the 32 nd ECP meeting |
| Agenda item 10 | Any Other Matters |
| Agenda item 11 | Closure of the Meeting |