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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

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32nd Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel

Split, Croatia, 29-30 March 2017

Report of the Meeting

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UN Environment/MAP
Athens, 2017

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I. Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

1. The 32nd Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) was held on 29-30 March 2017, hosted by PAP/RAC in Split, Croatia. 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, the UN Environment/MAP Deputy Coordinator and the UN Environment/MAP Programme Officer responsible for governance issues. The Senior Consultant for the update of the Resource Mobilization Strategy also attended the meeting. The list of participants is presented in Annex I to this report.
2. Mr. Gaetano Leone, UN Environment/MAP Coordinator opened the meeting at 10.30 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) and on preparations in view of COP 20.
4. The meeting reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda that was prepared by the Secretariat, document UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.32/1. The participants agreed to address under “Any other Matters” the issue of procurement by the Regional Activity Centers.

III. Agenda item 3: Follow-up to the 31st ECP meeting

5. The Coordinator presented a brief overview of the follow-up to the 31st ECP meeting based on the document UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.31/3. The ECP discussed progress and actions to be taken, and the RACs presented the latest updates regarding the analysis of the status of their Host Country Agreements.
6. The Coordinator referred to the recent developments since the previous ECP meeting (Tunis, Tunisia, 11-12 January 2017) in relation to resource mobilization, participation in international and regional events and bilateral meetings. The need to proceed with the baseline values for the evaluation of the MTS implementation was highlighted and it was proposed to group this task within a wider one.
7. The Coordinator reminded the ECP Members to send project fiches for the new projects (non-MTF funded) to the Coordinating Unit, in order for the latter to update the current compilation. The meeting agreed that there is no need to prepare a separate document for COP 20 on the performance review of SCP/RAC and INFO/RAC, since this issue can be addressed in an introduction to the PoW.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
1.	Send new Project Fiches to Coordinating Unit	MAP Components	Dynamic
2.	Suggest side events to take place during all MAP Governance meetings until COP 20	MAP Components	April/May 2017
3.	Revised draft of the Terms of Reference for Communication Strategy	Coordinating Unit	End of April 2017
4.	Each MAP Component to send to Coordinating Unit two paragraphs on the status, challenges and proposed way forward regarding their Host Country Agreements	MAP Components	End of April 2017

5.	Legal Officer to update on the legal analysis on guidelines	Coordinating Unit	April 2017
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IV. Agenda item 4: Implementation of the PoW 2016-2017

8. The Coordinator updated the ECP on meetings and events where the Coordinating Unit participated, and provided information about bilateral meetings and collaboration with Contracting Parties and partners, such as the Union for the Mediterranean, IMO, GFCM and WWF MedPo.

9. The meeting examined the status of implementation of the PoW 2016-2017 (Decision IG.22/20), including the needs of budget revisions for 2017.

10. The Coordinator reminded 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 of preparing a limited number of concise documents for meetings.

11. He then referred to the upcoming MAP events, namely the MAP II Assessment Meeting on 16-17 May 2017, the 17th MCSDD Meeting on 4-6 July 2017, the MAP Focal Points Meetings on 12-15 September 2017 and the 13th Compliance Committee Meeting on 26-27 September 2017. MAP Components updated the ECP on their upcoming events and committed to continue providing updates on meetings and events to the Coordinating Unit, so that these can be registered in the MAP tentative calendar.

12. The Coordinator welcomed and presented to the MAP Components the new MAP Senior Consultant on Resource Mobilization, Ms. Vera Weill-Halle. Ms. Weill-Halle presented the main concepts of the revised Resource Mobilization Strategy, while she arranged to have bilateral discussions with the ECP members at the sidelines of the ECP meeting. The meeting discussed the preparation of the updated Resource Mobilization Strategy, stressing the need to link it with the relevant policies (e.g. the MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021) and the Communication Strategy to be prepared for possible adoption as COP 20. Reference to the need to increase capacities to enable successful resource mobilization was also made by participants.

13. In conclusion, the Coordinator stressed the importance of all ECP members joining hands for the preparation of project proposals, participation at global and regional events, especially considering the increased interest in the Mediterranean region. In this respect, he referred to upcoming events of global dimension as great opportunities in terms of visibility and for delivering a strong message on behalf of the MAP system.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
6.	Update of Planning and Priorities Table	MAP Components and Coordinating Unit	April/May 2017
7.	Organize a meeting with UfM	Coordinating Unit	Spring/early summer 2017
8.	(a) INFO/RAC Focal Points Nomination Process initialized, (b) Discussion with MAP Components on their information-related needs, and (c) INFO/RAC to lead the work of the Task Force on Information Management	INFO/RAC	May 2017

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

14. The preparation of the 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work and Budget was the core agenda item of the meeting. Participants discussed the revised version of the 2018-2019 UN Environment/MAP Programme of Work, including the first draft of the Budget, and elaborated on the next steps.

15. The Deputy Coordinator informed ECP members of the process, thanking them for the commitment that all MAP Components had shown and for their teamwork. The first draft received from each MAP Component was discussed in detail. In this respect, the meeting tasks were fully accomplished and it was agreed that the Deputy Coordinator would provide further comments to MAP Components in order for them to develop a revised detailed table of the POW, within the framework of the 2016-2021 Mid-Term Strategy, to share with their respective Focal Points. The main principles of the budget distribution were also discussed. The process of coordinated preparation of the POW was agreed to continue as agreed, in the planning and timetable paper prepared for this purpose.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
9.	CU to send comment to each RAC on its proposed PoW	Coordinating Unit	First week of April 2017
10.	CU to send consolidated version of Governance part of the PoW to MAP Focal Points	Coordinating Unit	May 2017
11.	MAP Components (a) to send their part of the PoW as working documents for their respective FP Meetings, and (b) to encourage their Focal Points to communicate with the MAP Focal Points on the PoW	MAP Components	April/May 2017

VI. Agenda item 6: Regional Framework on ICZM and Conceptual Framework for MSP

16. The members of the ECP expressed their opinions and comments on the draft document of the Regional Framework for ICZM and the Conceptual Framework for MSP, which was provided by PAP/RAC before the meeting, in view also of the technical meeting to take place on this issue on 5-6 April 2017, in Athens, Greece.

17. The PAP/RAC Director mentioned that this document was based on several consultations and on written comments received, while trying to be as concise as possible. The Coordinator expressed the view that this was a good first draft and stressed that he is looking forward to next week's meeting, and that collaboration on this matter does not end here, but will continue until COP 20.

VII. Preparations for the upcoming MAP/Barcelona Convention bodies' meetings

18. The members of the ECP discussed upcoming meetings of the MAP-Barcelona Convention system, including the 84th Bureau meeting (Athens, Greece, 19-20 June 2017), the 17th MCSDD meeting (Athens, Greece, 4-6 July 2017) and COP 20 (Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017). *Inter alia*, they discussed the focus, main documents and expected deliverables of the meetings as well as possible side events.

19. The Coordinator encouraged MAP Components to produce as few and as short as possible documents, in line with the UN Editing Guidelines. He also pointed out that due to financial constraints, RACs should arrange, where possible, their own translation arrangements for the Working

Documents they are responsible for. He noted that the progress reports for these meetings should be more representative of MAP's impact (e.g. input to UNEA-3) and need to consider issues of visibility and dissemination. He also expressed his appreciation of the RACs substantial contribution to this collective effort. The meeting agreed that a "Note from The Secretariat" should be prepared to accompany each draft Decision.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
12.	Inputs to documents in view of the 84 th Bureau Meeting	All MAP Components	End of April 2017
13.	Proposals on speakers/resource persons, format and discussions for the 17 th MCSD Meeting	All MAP Components	April 2017
14.	Suggestions on the List of Decisions and potential theme for COP 20	All MAP Components	Mid-May 2017

VIII. Agenda item 8: Date and Venue of the 33rd ECP meeting

20. The ECP decided on the date and the venue of its 33rd meeting which is currently set to take place on 10 September 2017, in Athens, Greece.

IX. Agenda item 9: Any Other Matters

21. The meeting considered other issues raised by its members. In this respect, the following issues were discussed:

22. The Coordinator updated participants on rules and procedures for meetings organized by the Coordinating Unit and MAP Components. In this respect, reference was made to UN guidelines regarding travel arrangements and DSAs and it was stressed that the relevant procedures should be followed.

23. Regarding the Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award, the Coordinating Unit briefly updated participants on the issue and on the future steps, following reception of the voluntary contribution for the Award by Turkey.

24. On the issue of RAC's procurement, the Coordinator thanked the ECP for participating in the relevant exercise. The ECP members briefly shared their experience on completing this difficult exercise.

25. The meeting was closed by the Coordinator at 17:30 on 30 March 2017.

	Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
15.	ECP members to disseminate the outcome of the discussion on preparation and organization of meetings to their staff	ECP members	April/May 2017
16.	Preparation of public voting survey for the Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award	INFO/RAC	August/September 2017

Annex I

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Annex II
Agenda

Agenda

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