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22nd Meeting of the MCS D Steering Committee

Videoconference, 15-16 December 2020

Report of the 22nd Meeting of the MCS D Steering Committee

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Introduction

1. The 22nd Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) was held on 15-16 December 2020 through videoconference. The list of participants is provided in Annex I.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

2. The meeting was opened by Ms. Ivana Stojanovic, Montenegro, as President of the MCSD Steering Committee, on 15 December 2020 at 09:30 in current local time in Athens, Greece (GMT+2).
3. Welcoming the participants, Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat, expressed gratitude to Montenegro, which shows leadership and commitment, for its generous invitation to host the meeting in Podgorica, an offer that the Secretariat had to reconsider towards a virtual meeting due to the force majeure and travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. The Coordinator presented the meeting as an important milestone to review the progress made in the last six months and the perspectives for the work of the MCSD and its Steering Committee, relying on guidance and advice from the Committee in view of preparing the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.
5. The Coordinator stated that, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretariat continues to deliver remarkable products, as part of the integrated work undertaken in the context of the programme of work agreed at COP 21, towards delivery of relevant outputs by COP 22 to be held in December 2021.
6. The Coordinator insisted on the importance of this biennium to achieve the expected outcomes of the UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2016-2021 and to prepare the MTS 2022-2027, under the guidance of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, mobilizing all UNEP/MAP Components and key partners, in parallel of the participatory and indicator-based mid-term evaluations of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP Regional Action Plan).
7. The Coordinator mentioned that the Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED), prepared by Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (RAC), has been published in October 2020 as a UNEP publication which received a lot of attention from international organizations. In addition, the collaboration between UNEP/MAP and the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) was successful regarding the network of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change (MedECC) and its First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1), which has been released along with its Summary for Policymakers (SPM) in November 2020 towards its submission for possible endorsement by the Contracting Parties at COP 22. Referring to the revamped UNEP/MAP website, the Coordinator explained that many efforts have been provided to improve communication towards more visibility on our work.
8. The Coordinator indicated that the biennium 2020-2021 is an important juncture in the global agenda on the Environment and Sustainable Development: 2021 will mark the entry in the last decade for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Coordinator also referred to major global processes, including the 5th UN Environment Assembly (Nairobi, Kenya, February 2021), the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP 26) (Glasgow, United Kingdom, 1-12 November 2021), the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Biological Diversity (CBD) (Kunming, China, second quarter of 2021) which is expected to adopt the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as a stepping stone towards the 2050 Vision of “Living in harmony with nature”, the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Marseille, France, 3-11 September 2021), the 2020 UN Ocean Conference (Lisbon, Portugal), etc., as opportunities for recovery in a post-COVID era and for making the voice of the Mediterranean heard towards a green renaissance.

9. The Coordinator concluded his welcoming remarks by expressing warm gratitude to the MCSD Steering Committee for its important role within the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system.

10. In her opening remarks, Ms. Ivana Stojanovic thanked the Members of the MCSD Steering Committee for their trust in Montenegro, as President of the MCSD since the 18th Meeting of the Commission held in June 2019 in Budva. She also expressed appreciation to the Secretariat for the substantive documentation prepared for the meeting, as well as for the significant progress achieved regarding COP 21 relevant decisions and following the conclusions and recommendations of the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee (videoconference, 13-14 May 2020).

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

11. The President introduced the Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat, as contained in document UNEP/MED WG.483/1 and annotated in document UNEP/MED WG.483/2. The agenda was adopted by the participants, as provided in Annex II.

Agenda item 3: Work of the MCSD and MSSD Implementation: Review of Progress for the Period May – October 2020

12. The Coordinator introduced document UNEP/MED WG.483/3 and provided an overview of the progress made during the period May – October 2020. He stated that, following the recent ratification by Bosnia and Herzegovina of the 1995 amendments to the Barcelona Convention, we reached the universal ratification of the amendments to the Barcelona Convention by all its Contracting Parties. In addition, The Coordinator invited the participants to use their respective networks to disseminate the SoED, which can be considered as a signal for more ambitious and concrete work.

13. After having renewed her thanks to the Secretariat for the extensive work done and the substantial documentation, the President invited the Members of the MCSD Steering Committee to provide comments and to report on their own activities that contributed to the implementation of relevant COP 21 Decisions and to the implementation and follow-up of the MSSD.

14. Italy expressed support for the submission of the MedECC Report towards its endorsement at COP 22 and for the promotion of the Science-Policy Interface (SPI) on climate and environmental change in the Mediterranean. The delegate referred to national efforts for policy coherence on sustainable development, including through legislative and structural reform, and through a participatory process involving authorities and academia in fora for sustainable development at national and local levels, with the support of the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS). Italy highlighted ongoing measures for greening port infrastructures, mentioning that under the forthcoming presidency of the G20, specific attention will be brought to the creation of a Mediterranean Sulphur Emission Control Area, in line with Decision IG.24/8 adopted at COP 21.

15. Turkey reported on the National Plan for the SDGs' implementation and on the Zero Waste initiative and legislation, indicating that the use of plastic bags decreased substantially after the introduction of fees related to the use of plastic bags. Turkey indicated that the implementation of the national marine litter action plan has started, including a roadmap for single use plastic items in line with the relevant Directive of the European Union (EU). In addition, Turkey is working in collaboration with SCP/RAC on the preparation of a national strategy for the deployment of green and blue economies, with a specific focus on building and housing sectors.

16. Mentioning that the work of the Secretariat is of crucial importance, Morocco referred to the national plan and local schemas (at the regional administrative level) for coastal planification, as well as to improvements in terms of waste management and recycling, and tertiary wastewater treatment. The delegate stated that the Mediterranean region is on the right track and that, together, we can go a step forward towards a shared vision for healthy and productive marine and coastal ecosystems.

17. MEPIELAN reported on the progress done in launching MSSD Flagship Initiatives under Objective 6 “Governance”, including the signature with MIO/ECSDE (UNEP/MAP Partner) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the implementation of the MSSD Flagship Initiative to encourage the accession to the Aarhus Convention. In the framework of this MoU, a specific performative agreement has been finalized in view of implementing the MoU activity entitled “Mediterranean Accession Agenda to the Aarhus Convention”. MEPIELAN also referred to the regular publication of its e-Bulletin, which together with the MEPIELAN’s website¹ provides a credible knowledge-sharing and widely-read platform, showcasing the multilevel development of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system and contributing to the dissemination and visibility of its important and pioneering work.

18. UfM indicated that two Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Meetings will be held in 2021, hosted respectively by Malta in February on the Blue Economy and in March by Egypt on Environment and Climate Action. The delegate referred to the publication of “Reaching the 2020 horizon: 14 years of Mediterranean cooperation on Environment – The H2020 Initiative for a cleaner Mediterranean”². Regarding the UfM Agenda 2030 for a Greener Med, UfM mentioned more specifically the promotion of blue jobs in the context of the West Med and Blue Med initiatives.

19. On behalf of Montenegro, the President mentioned the preparation of national reports related to the implementation of the national strategies for sustainable development and for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), and of the UN New Urban Agenda. Ms. Stojanovic referred to national initiatives on the blue economy, in line with the ICZM principles, the EU Directive on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), including pilot activities implemented in cooperation with SCP/RAC and SPA/RAC.

Conclusions:

i. The MCSD Steering Committee expressed its appreciation for the work done in the period May – October 2020, as presented by the Secretariat, and its satisfaction for the consistent efforts, commitment, and fruitful results achieved so far, in cooperation with MCSD Members and other partners, despite the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agenda item 4: Specific Issues

20. The President explained that the Report on Specific Issues (document UNEP/MED WG.483/4) deepened the topics presented in the Progress Report (document UNEP/MED WG.483/3) with substantive elements which are linked with COP 21 Decisions and with the mandate of the MCSD, for review and discussion by the MCSD Steering Committee.

A. Mid-Term Evaluation of the MSSD

21. The President reminded that Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21 gave to the MCSD Steering Committee a leading role for the MSSD participatory mid-term evaluation, which is undertaken jointly with the SCP Regional Action Plan mid-term evaluation, in parallel with the preparation of the MTS 2022-2027.

22. The Secretariat indicated that the UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit and SCP/RAC are supported by consultancy services to carry out the participatory and indicator-based mid-term evaluations of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan. Based on the outputs of the MSSD Mid-Term Evaluation – State of Play and Gap Analysis (document UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4) and on preliminary results of the SCP Action Plan mid-term evaluation, the consultants drafted a Note for the Stakeholder Consultation (document UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5) to support the consultation of

¹ <http://www.mepielan-ebulletin.gr/>

² https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/H2020-report_EN.pdf

decision-makers and stakeholders through: (i) a wide online survey (ongoing in November-December 2020); (ii) bilateral interviews with UNEP/MAP Components; and, (iii) focus groups (webinars, e-workshops) with MCSD Members and UNEP/MAP Partners (planned in January-February 2021).

23. Based on preliminary key findings of the MSSD mid-term evaluation (Annex I of document UNEP/MED WG.483/4), the consultants provided an overview of the methodology and work done, including preliminary results of the online survey and next steps. In addition, they managed an interactive session to test the stakeholder consultation approach with the MCSD Steering Committee.

24. In the ensuing discussion, members of the Committee raised the following remarks:

- From a methodological point of view, it was recommended to establish links between various parameters due to their interconnection and synergetic impact on the implementation of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan: e.g. political will and institutional set-up, financial mechanisms, monitoring and reporting systems, awareness raising and advocacy.
- The importance of the regional dimension has been repeated because it might be difficult to evaluate impacts of many activities and initiatives implemented at the national and local levels.
- Regarding the gaps and opportunities that have been preliminary identified, questions were raised about how the results of the mid-term evaluations will be reflected in the MTS 2022-2027.
- Beyond exploring gaps and opportunities, the mid-term evaluation should also try to assess the effectiveness of the Strategy.
- It was suggested to put the MSSD in perspective with relevant SDGs, addressing in an integrated manner interlinkages and coherence between the Strategy's directions and the SDG targets.

25. The Secretariat stated that the mid-term evaluations are demanding in terms of time and efforts in order to conclude the process in view of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD and COP 22. In addition of the focuses put on gaps and opportunities, and as per the agreed terms of reference, the achievements must be also well covered, using available evidence from *inter alia* the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard, the MSSD Flagship Initiatives, and relevant activities and projects implemented by UNEP/MAP Partners and Components.

Conclusions:

ii. The MCSD Steering Committee noted with appreciation the progress in the participatory and indicator-based mid-term evaluations of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan, taking note of the presentations delivered by the Secretariat and of the preliminary key findings of those evaluations. The Committee recommended that all efforts are made for both evaluation's reports to be timely finalized for submission to the 19th Meeting of the MCSD, giving particular attention to the need for highlighting achievements, gaps, and recommendations to fill the gaps in the remaining period.

iii. Considering that effectiveness is of paramount importance beyond the mid-term evaluations of the implementation of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan (achievements and gaps), the Committee invited the Secretariat to launch a reflection on how the outputs of the mid-term evaluations can feed the preparation of the UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2022-2027, encouraging interlinkages and cross-fertilization between those important regional processes.

B. The Mediterranean Green Business Award

26. The President reminded that the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee encouraged the Secretariat to pursue its efforts for preparing and launching the Mediterranean Green Business Award, as planned by Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21.

27. The Secretariat indicated that SCP/RAC is proceeding according to the work plan discussed at the previous meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee. The process for the establishment of the Award was slightly delayed, impacting the date for the launch of the Award, which has been postponed at the beginning of 2021. SCP/RAC explained that a communication team is supporting the definition of the Award's visual identity and the dissemination and stakeholders' engagement strategy. Proposals for the name and logo of the Award are under preparation, and the selection criteria, as included in Annex III of document UNEP/MED WG.483/4, are under development with the support of a legal expert. As previously agreed, Med Cities (UNEP/MAP Partner, MCSD Observer) is expected to be consulted for the criteria concerning local authorities.

28. Expressing its appreciation on the work done, as well as its support to this flagship initiative, the MCSD Steering Committee considered that additional efforts are needed to elaborate and fine tune the draft selection criteria. Regarding the basic criteria for the business category, it has been suggested to replace "the sustainable business is profitable" by "the sustainable business is healthy and profitable". Regarding the additional criteria on "equitable working system", it has been suggested to complement "decent job conditions" with "employment equality" and "learning opportunities for employees". Another avenue to be explored could be to focus more on the marine and coastal environment, which remains the core mandate of UNEP/MAP.

Conclusions:

iv. The MCSD Steering Committee took note and welcomed the work done and perspectives related to the Mediterranean Green Business Award, inviting the Secretariat (SCP/RAC) to further work on the elaboration of the draft list of criteria, and committing itself to provide adequate support so that the first edition of the Award can be delivered, as planned, in 2021.

v. The Committee recommended to invite, as appropriate and if rules allow it, the short-listed candidates to the 19th Meeting of the MCSD in view of engaging a discussion between the Commission and green entrepreneurs.

vi. The Committee agreed on the proposal from the Secretariat to include ANIMA Invest Network (MCSD Member) in the Jury of the Award, suggesting rotation and to consider the possibility to include the winners in the Jury for next editions of the Award.

C. Assessment Studies

First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) of the Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Changes (MedECC)

29. Welcoming Prof. Wolfgang Cramer, one of the two MedECC Coordinators, as invited speaker, the President mentioned that, for the second time, the MCSD Steering Committee has an opportunity to interact directly with MedECC.

30. After a presentation on the MedECC's background and most recent work, including key findings of MAR1, Prof. Cramer introduced perspectives and possible actions that would allow MedECC to continue its mission aiming to consolidate scientific knowledge on climate and environmental beyond the publication of MAR1, as summarized in document UNEP/MED WG.483/4.

31. The MedECC Coordinator highlighted the network's ambition to support policies for sustainable development, considering that more effective policy responses to climate and environmental changes will imply both strengthened mitigation of the drivers of environmental change such as greenhouse gas emissions, but also enhanced adaptation to impacts. Prof. Cramer stated that poverty, inequalities and gender imbalances presently hamper the achievement of sustainable development and climate resilience in the Mediterranean countries, and that culture is a key factor to the success of adaptation policies in the highly diverse multicultural setting of the Mediterranean Basin. Policies for climate

adaptation and environmental resilience potentially infringe on human rights; they need to account for concerns such as justice, equity, poverty alleviation, social inclusion, and redistribution.

32. Prof. Cramer said that a more robust support platform is needed in order to reach constructive and representative implication of policymakers during both initial scoping and final communication on the work undertaken by MedECC. Scientists' and experts' engagements are contingent on good interfacing with policymakers, with adequate financial support from supporting institutions and the officialization or institutionalization of MedECC.

33. Reference was made to the fact that, alongside the International Commission against the Death Penalty, MedECC has been awarded the "2020 North South Prize of the Council of Europe".

34. In the ensuing discussion, the MCSD Steering Committee expressed strong support to MedECC, which replies to important needs of policymakers and UNEP/MAP.

35. Reminding its commitment, Italy stated that the momentum should be maintained after the successful Plenary discussion held in October 2020 and the subsequent publication of MAR1.

36. UfM reported about the preparation of the second cooperation agreement with Plan Bleu in view of sustaining the MedECC Secretariat in Marseille, France, as well as on communication and dissemination actions, including in the context of the One Planet Summit to be held on 11 January 2021 in France, the forthcoming Euro-Mediterranean Meeting on Climate and Environmental Action expected to be held in March 2021, and the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

37. The Secretariat expressed recognition to MedECC, which provided a crucial piece of work that responds to the needs of policymakers, congratulating the independent network for the good level of consultation and communication.

38. The Secretariat referred to a conclusion of the 90th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (videoconference, 12-13 November 2020), which urged the Contracting Parties to provide their support to the completion of the important MAR1 report and its Summary for Policy Makers (SPM), in view of the possible endorsement of the latter at COP 22.

Conclusions:

vii. The MCSD Steering Committee renewed its appreciation of the work done by MedECC, and expressed agreement with the recommendation from the 90th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, which urged the Contracting Parties to provide their support to the completion of the important MAR1 report, in view of the possible endorsement of its SPM at COP 22.

viii. The Committee recommended to the Secretariat and MedECC to pursue their efforts in support of wide dissemination and communication of MAR1 and its SPM key messages, and committed to use its Members' channels to enhance such dissemination.

Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED)

39. Under this session, the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) presented substantial key findings of SoED, including new comprehensive infographics on multiple pressures exerted on the environment, pollution, climate change, and biodiversity.

40. Plan Bleu explained that, compared to scenarios without interventions, the mobilization of stakeholders made it possible to improve the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean region; the ability to gather knowledge and use it in policymaking is increasing. However, those efforts need to be strengthened considerably to reach the SDGs and deliver the MSSD in the region. The COVID-19 pandemic will enhance already existing challenges, and the Mediterranean remains a hotspot of climate change impacts, decline in biodiversity, and water stress, as well as inequalities and migrations, in the context of a carbon economy, which is dependent on

energy consumption and food imports. Reminding recommendations from SoED, e.g. improve and generalize actions to protect and restore marine and coastal ecosystems; apply and enforce legislation, and translate international, regional and national commitments in local actions adapted to the territorial context; invest in transitions towards circular, low-carbon, green and blue economies, Plan Bleu explained that the knowledge gathered in the report will be used to prepare the scenarios of the MED 2050 foresight study. Finally, the MCSD was presented as a relevant forum to promote science-policy-society interfaces on environment and development matters.

41. Congratulating Plan Bleu for the publication of SoED, Morocco encouraged the Secretariat to translate the Key Messages and Summary for Decision-Makers in Arabic and to multiply dissemination efforts at national level.

Conclusions:

ix. The MCSD Steering Committee requested its Members and, through them, the Members of the Commission, to support SoED communication and dissemination towards policymakers in the Mediterranean region and countries.

x. The Committee further supported the development of any complementary action related to specific proposals or initiatives from any Member of the MCSD to support the dissemination of SoED and related communication products.

MED 2050 Foresight Study

42. The Secretariat (Plan Bleu) presented the activities planned and carried out in the context of the MED 2050 foresight study, as described in documents UNEP/MED WG.483/3 and WG.483/4.

Conclusions:

xi. The MCSD Steering Committee welcomed and took note of the planned activities to carry out the MED 2050 foresight study, encouraging the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) to further address the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis for building back better towards a green renaissance in the Mediterranean region.

xii. The Committee requested its Members and, through them, the Members of the Commission, to be involved in and supportive of the work undertaken in the context of MED 2050, reviewing regularly the intermediary products.

D. Introduction of the World Environment Situation Room (WESR) by UNEP Science Division

43. The President explained that, as recommended by the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee, the Secretariat invited representatives of the UNEP Science Division to introduce, through interactive live demonstrations, the World Environment Situation Room (WESR), the Indicator Reporting Information System for Sustainable Development Goals (IRIS for SDGs) and the Measuring Progress II foresight study. The live demonstrations and the presentations provided a general overview and specific aspects of the above-mentioned platforms and tools.

44. In the ensuing discussion, mentioning that IMELS did not yet experience those tools, Italy raised questions about their promotion at the national and regional level, while limiting duplication of reporting efforts. UNEP representatives explained that the Regional Sea Programme ensures a global coordination of reporting for SDG 14 indicators, in addition of liaisons with national statistic offices. National and regional environmental data can be easily transferred to the WESR, without any duplication of reporting.

45. Replying to issues reported by Montenegro about the use of IRIS in the past, it has been explained that this reporting system knew a lot of progress during the last five years in order to reply

to specific needs expressed by countries. In addition, channels have been created between the WESR and IRIS, the latter being part of the former. The WESR corresponds to the third generation of the UNEP Environment Live Portal, which is now more reactive, and which allows data and knowledge sharing in real time, connecting several data sources and centres.

46. Thanking the invited speakers for their presentations, MEPIELAN indicated the necessity of cooperation between the UNEP Science and Law Divisions for IRIS and highlighted the importance of the participatory production of knowledge (e.g. citizen science) for the follow-up of policy and legal implementation of SDG 17 “Partnerships for the goals”, mentioning in particular SDG indicator 17.14.1 “Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development” for which UNEP is the custodian agency and works in close cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Conclusions:

xiii. The MCSD Steering Committee welcomed the live demonstrations provided by the UNEP Science Division on the World Environment Situation Room (WESR), Indicator Reporting Information System for Sustainable Development Goals (IRIS for SDGs) and Measuring Progress II, and recommended to the Secretariat to consider including similar interactive sessions in the Provisional Agenda of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

xiv. The Committee also welcomed the efforts by the Secretariat to collaborate with, and benefit from collaboration with the UNEP global Divisions, especially in support of UNEP/MAP monitoring, assessment and foresight related activities.

E. Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Indicators

47. The Secretariat (Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC) presented activities planned and undertaken on the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and integration of SCP indicators, as included in document UNEP/MED WG.483/4, in line with Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21.

48. Plan Bleu reported about the preparation of updated factsheets that would allow to provide with Mediterranean trends for the preparation of the scenarios under the MED 2050 foresight study.

49. Following-up on recommendations of the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee, i.e. developing indicators related to impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic and on the relationship between health and the state of the environment, and evaluating the inclusion of legal indicators in the dashboard, Plan Bleu expressed reservations not only because those activities are not part of the programme of work but also due to the lack of data on the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis. As agreed at COP 21, the Secretariat will give priority to the update of the dashboard and its indicators.

50. Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC explained that 10 indicators have been identified as common between the two lists of indicators (i.e. MSSD and SCP).

51. SCP/RAC explained that, after the review of the SCP indicators’ list and the update of the database, factsheets are under preparation towards inclusion in the Mediterranean Observatory on the Environment and Development managed by Plan Bleu.

52. SCP/RAC précised that data availability (i.e. countries and years’ coverage) is improving, although some SDG Tier II indicators lack of the complete set of sub-indicators. SCP/RAC is relying on long-term monitoring programs to get continued datasets, as well as to consider relevant SDG indicators for the mid-term evaluation of the SCP Regional Action Plan. SCP/RAC is also preparing proposal towards possible amendments of the list of SCP indicators.

53. In the ensuing discussion, Italy requested clarifications about the links between the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and the Mediterranean Observatory on the Environment and

Development. It was explained that a new dynamic has been launched to strengthen the regional observatory's functions, based on existing and forthcoming partnerships with regional specialized institutions, national observatories and institutes of statistics, and UNEP/MAP Components. A new version of the regional observatory's website is under finalization: <https://www.obs.planbleu.org/en/>.

54. MEPIELAN stated that to monitor COVID-19 impacts, and to follow relationships between human health and the state of the environment, it is important to consider legal indicators related to illegal wildlife trade and land-use change, e.g. deforestation, agricultural expansion, habitat fragmentation, and interactions between wildlife and human health in which land-use change is a key driver of emerging zoonotic diseases. Plan Bleu replied that a literature review has been engaged, but it is still difficult at this stage to monitor those issues due to the lack of data. The possibility to include new indicators in the dashboard will be explored during the preparation of the Programme of Work for 2022-2023.

Conclusions:

xv. The MCSD Steering Committee welcomed and took note of the activities presented by the Secretariat (Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC) towards the integration of SCP indicators into the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and the preparation of the indicators' analytical factsheets in view of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

xvi. The Committee requested the Secretariat to update and consult regularly the Committee on the activities undertaken and the results achieved on the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and the integration of SCP indicators, as well as on the work done and perspectives in view of possibly complementing the dashboard with indicators related to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including relevant legal indicators.

F. Structures and Processes for Implementing the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Mediterranean Countries

55. The President reminded that, at its 21st Meeting, the MCSD Steering Committee encouraged eight Contracting Party-MCSD Members which have not yet contributed to the consultation launched by the Secretariat on the transposition, implementation and monitoring of SDGs at national level to do so, so that the Secretariat can conclude this process and draft a synthesis paper. The President resumed that this topic is included in document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 and the draft paper prepared by the Secretariat is included in document UNEP/MED WG.483/5.

56. The Secretariat indicated that, submitted to the MCSD Steering Committee for review and comments towards its finalization and possible submission for discussion at the 19th Meeting of the MCSD, the draft paper is based on evidence collected from 16 Mediterranean countries and on the conclusions of the two first editions of the Simplified Peer Review Mechanism (SIMPEER) carried out by Plan Bleu with France, Montenegro and Morocco in 2016-2017 and with Albania, Egypt and Tunisia in 2018-2019. The draft paper identifies commonalities among Mediterranean countries in terms of achievements, challenges and lessons learned regarding the SDGs' translation, implementation and monitoring at country level, as well as national specificities that can be useful for other countries, following a peer learning approach.

57. In the ensuing discussion, Morocco concurred with the conclusions of the draft paper, which results of an interesting work and provides information from various Mediterranean countries' experiences. The delegate explained that, due to the difficulty in involving all ministerial departments in the National Strategy on Sustainable Development (NSSD), a new organization placed the National Committee on Sustainable Development under the presidency of the Head of Government, in addition of a follow-up committee and a committee for the promotion of the SDGs. There is now an efficient national platform, in which all ministerial departments are represented by focal points.

58. Italy mentioned that the draft paper represents an output of a very interesting exercise, indicating that most Mediterranean countries consider the 2030 Agenda as the reference framework on sustainable development, giving priority to the SDGs compared to the MSSD. The delegate concurred with the common identified gaps, e.g. the lack of internal coordination at ministerial level and the important role of Ministries of the Environment, which are not in a leading position. Italy encouraged the Secretariat to prepare a synthesis document for communication purpose, with a summary of key messages to be brought to COP 22 and to relevant international instances, and to provide dissemination efforts to promote key instruments developed by Regional Seas, such as the MSSD under the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system.

Conclusion:

xvii. The MCSD Steering Committee welcomed the draft paper prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation and monitoring of sustainable development policies in the Mediterranean, and encouraged five Contracting Party-MCSD Members (i.e. Cyprus, Libya, Monaco, Slovenia and Spain) to provide their inputs, so that the Secretariat can finalize the synthesis paper in view of its submission to the 19th Meeting of the MCSD and prepare relevant communication actions within the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system and beyond at the regional and global level. The Committee recommended that the 19th Meeting of the MCSD pays attention to this document for possible submission to COP 22.

G. The UNEP/MAP Strategic Response to the COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean

59. The President introduced this agenda subitem by indicating that “The Mediterranean Action Plan’s strategic response to COVID-19: a blueprint for action” is included in document UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7, which is summarized in document UNEP/MED WG.483/4.

60. Through a Power Point presentation, the Secretariat provided a summary of the strategic directions of the UNEP/MAP response to the COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean.

61. In the ensuing discussion, MEPIELAN stated that blocks 1 and 2 of this useful document, namely “the medical and humanitarian emergency phase” and “a transformational change for nature and people” could be merged towards a more relational, integrated approach between them, strengthening interlinkages between relevant Protocols of the Barcelona Convention³ and global Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), international declarative instruments and programmes, and relevant international organizations (e.g. WHO, IMO, FAO and GFCM). In addition, regarding participatory environmental governance, the UNEP/MAP response to the COVID-19 crisis may represent an opportunity to advancing the “public trust approach” principles, in line with relevant MSSD Flagship Initiatives under Objective 6 “Governance”, in view of building capacity of the Contracting Parties and bridging the cooperation gap in that innovative domain. MEPIELAN also stressed the scientific deficit on transmission of zoonotic diseases and the need to pay attention to data on the inter-specific transmission of zoonosis. Referring to block 4, MEPIELAN emphasized the importance of the role of the Compliance Committee in the post COVID-19 governance period and the need for its institutional strengthening, including improvement in public engagement.

62. On behalf of Montenegro, the President updated the meeting participants about the preparation of a package of national measures, noting that within this process the Ministry of the Environment underlined the necessity to not forget the environmental dimension in those policy measures. In that respect, global, European and UNEP/MAP processes are inspirational for decoupling economic activities from the use of natural resources. Stating that the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, as well as the

³ The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (LBS Protocol), the Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA/BD Protocol), the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol), and the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM Protocol).

MSSD and ICZM Protocol are more than relevant in the current context, the President indicated that it is of paramount importance to implement better what already exists. She also referred to the motto of the 2020 World Environment Day, which was “It’s Time to Act #ForNature”⁴.

63. Italy mentioned that the Directorate General for the Sea and Coasts of IMELS is studying the possibility of elaborating policy to respond to environmental impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, considering in priority the existing policies to respond to environmental urgencies.

64. The Secretariat précised that the UNEP/MAP response to the COVID-19 crisis was shared with the Contracting Parties and partners to support their own actions. Internal reflection is still on-going to respond adequately to short, medium- and long-term challenges. Monitoring the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the crisis with new evidence will help to fine-tune relevant policy responses. In addition, the Secretariat is investing on cross collaboration and interdisciplinary partnerships to maintain a good level of commitments that will be reflected in the MTS 2022-2027.

65. MEPIELAN expressed its willingness to contribute to those federative efforts, including through the organization of webinars to enrich and further focus on the UNEP/MAP strategic directions to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

66. Stating that business-as-usual is not any more an option, SCP/RAC referred to the preparation of regional measures for green and circular businesses to promote SCP, with a timely and strong proposal supporting economic recovery with businesses which are not as usual.

Conclusions:

xviii. Taking note with appreciation of the proactive UNEP/MAP’s strategic response to COVID-19, the MCSD Steering Committee committed to support the Secretariat in implementing this “blueprint for action”, encouraging to further establish interlinkages between the four building blocks and showcase the common elements of their respective components, as well as to further support the implementation of existing policy frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, the MSSD and Protocols of the Barcelona Convention in an integrated manner, promoting nature-based solutions and strengthening cooperative schemes and participatory approaches.

xix. The Committee recommended to the Secretariat to address the COVID-19 pandemic crisis in terms of potential pressure and impact on the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region, as well as possible responses, in the framework of the MED 2050 foresight study and relevant processes, such as the preparation of the UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2027 and the mid-term evaluations of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan, as well as in the context of the forthcoming 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

H. MCSD Membership

67. The President introduced this agenda sub-item and referred to the proposal of the MCSD Membership for 2022-2023, as included in document UNEP/MAP WG.483/4.

68. The Secretariat explained that, according to the MCSD Constitutive Documents (Decision IG.22/17 adopted at COP 19 in February 2016), nine MCSD Members have to be considered for replacement after having completed three consecutive mandate of two years, and thanked them for their contribution. The Secretariat also mentioned the six letters of expression of interest received from organizations and individuals to officially become MCSD Members at COP 22 in December 2021.

69. The Secretariat explained the issue we face with the group of Parliamentarians, as described in document UNEP/MAP WG.483/4. The three MCSD Members under this group should be considered for replacement as they will have completed three consecutive mandates by end 2021. Considering the

⁴ <https://www.unep-wcmc.org/news/world-environment-day--its-time-to-act-for-nature>

difficulties in identifying potential candidates under the group of Parliamentarians and following-up on a specific conclusion of the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee⁵, the Secretariat mobilized efforts to identify potential candidates under this group. However, as of today, the Secretariat has not received any letter of expression of interest from regional parliamentary associations in the Mediterranean region.

70. Given these unprecedented circumstances, in order to proceed with the completion of the MCSD membership in due time to ensure the effective functioning of the Commission, and in line with the conclusion of the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee, it was suggested to (i) address this issue with flexibility due to the obstacle to the normal implementation of the MCSD rules of procedure and (ii) to consider the possibility to amend the MCSD Constitutive Documents (Decision IG.22/17).

71. The President of the MCSD advised to distinguish the established rules and the real functioning of the MCSD, which needs all stakeholder categories to be represented. She invited the Secretariat to maintain efforts to identify and mobilize suitable candidates, while suggesting the expansion of the mandates of the active MCSD Members under the group of Parliamentarians.

72. Italy considered challenging both to expand the mandates against the rules and to exclude MCSD Members which are very active within the Commission and the UNEP/MAP system. The delegate recommended to bring to the attention of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties the issue of expanding their mandate for one more biennium, reminding that COP 22 will have to take a decision on that matter, including the possibility of amending the procedures to address adequately this issue.

73. Considering the importance of maintaining Parliamentarians' representatives within the MCSD, as well as the principle of rotation through a limited number of mandates for all members of the Commission, MEPIELAN highlighted the need to update the MCSD Constitutive Documents and enlarge the category of the Parliamentarians, considering that such changes in the rules would allow more flexibility and more consistency.

74. Morocco offered its support in identifying an association of Parliamentarians in North Africa.

Conclusions:

xx. The MCSD Steering Committee thanked the outgoing MCSD Members for their contribution to the work of the Commission:

- **United Cities and Local Governments / UCLG (Local Authorities);**
- **ANIMA Investment Network (Socio-Economic Stakeholders);**
- **Forum Euroméditerranéen des Instituts de Sciences Economiques / FEMISE (the Scientific Community) ;**
- **Mediterranean Programme for International Environmental Law and Negotiation / MEPIELAN (the Scientific Community);**
- **Mediterranean Sustainable Development Solutions Network / Med-SDSN (the Scientific Community);**
- **Union for the Mediterranean / UfM (Intergovernmental Organizations);**
- **Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians on Sustainable Development / COMPSUD (Parliamentarians);**
- **Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean / PAM (Parliamentarians);**

⁵ Conclusion No xxvi: "Taking into account the limited number of Parliamentarians networks in the Mediterranean, if any relevant candidate is not identified or does not express interest to join the MCSD, the MCSD Steering Committee may examine the possibility to recommend to the Contracting Parties to maintain the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians on Sustainable Development (COMPSUD) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) in the MCSD for the next biennium, noting the proactiveness of these organizations in the work of the MCSD and of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system, encouraging the Secretariat to pursue efforts for identifying potential candidates to be considered for this group".

- **Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (Parliamentarians).**

xxi. The Committee appreciated the expressions of interest from the proposed stakeholders to become MCSD Members for the biennium 2022-2023 and recommended the Secretariat to submit this proposal to the 19th Meeting of the Commission and possible approval by COP 22:

- **Mediterranean Cities Network / Med Cities (Local Authorities);**
- ***Fondation Mohammed VI pour la protection de l'environnement* (Socio-Economic Stakeholders);**
- **Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change / MedECC (the Scientific Community);**
- ***Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement* / CIDCE (the Scientific Community);**
- **Dr. Fatima Driouech (the Scientific Community);**
- **Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for Conservation of Nature / IUCN-Med (Intergovernmental Organizations)**

xxii. The Committee took note of encountered difficulties to identify and mobilize potential candidates under the group of Parliamentarians, due to the limited number of organizations falling under this category, taking into account the need to consider for replacement MCSD Members which have completed three consecutive mandates, and therefore to proceed with the necessary proposals to ensure the effective functioning of the Commission during the biennium 2022-2023.

xxiii. The Committee requested the Secretariat to continue exploring possible relevant organizations that could be interested to join the MCSD's group of Parliamentarians and to inform the Committee at least two months before the 19th Meeting of the MCSD for its consideration. In case there is not any organization identified and mobilized, then the Committee will authorize the Secretariat to make a proposal to the Commission, asking for expansion of the mandate of the current Members of the MCSD from that category. This has to be accompanied by a proposal to review, as appropriate, the paragraphs 2 and 9(II) of the Composition of the MCSD (Annex I of Decision IG. 22/17), addressing respectively the enlargement of the scope of the group of Parliamentarians and the duration of their mandate.

I. Preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD

75. The President indicated that, in line with the mandate of the MCSD and its Steering Committee, the Secretariat submitted in document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 a series of points to the consideration of the Members of the MCSD Steering Committee for facilitating their discussion on the preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD and the definition of possible agenda items.

76. The Secretariat clarified that a number of agenda items would directly derive from the mandate of the MCSD and therefore should be considered as mandatory, e.g. discussing the analytical report of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Coordinator; producing opinions on the overall draft UNEP/MAP Programme of Work for 2022-2023, with the aim of integrating sustainability considerations; etc. Other agenda items would allow to organize meaningful roundtables and/or to invite key-note speakers on specific issues linked to COP 21 Decisions related to the MSSD and the work of the MCSD, e.g. sustainable and inclusive blue economy in the context of climate change; building back greener in the post-COVID era through the deployment of circular economy in the Mediterranean; the last decade for action to deliver the SDGs: ten years to transform our Mediterranean region; etc. Therefore, a possible avenue to explore is to collectively define an overarching theme and to accommodate various ideas under this commonly agreed theme.

77. In the ensuing discussion, Italy suggested to organize an interactive roundtable on Ocean and Climate Change, considering global conventions such as the UNFCCC and the CBD. Echoing a

suggestion from the Secretariat on “Decoupling development from air pollution from ships in the Mediterranean” about the implementation of Decision IG.24/8 adopted at COP 21 towards the possible designation of the Mediterranean Sea as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides (Med SOx ECA), the delegate mentioned that Italy would be in a position to report on current efforts for greening the ports, e.g. reduction of energy consumption, ports’ energy transition.

78. Morocco suggested to address the green economy in the Mediterranean by putting in perspective the issue of water availability in a context of demographic pressure. The delegate also referred to climate change and the revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the UNFCCC towards reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

79. MEPIELAN recommended to focus in priority on the Mediterranean response to the COVID-19 pandemic and crisis, indicating that we have already a relevant document to build-on towards input from the MCSD to enrich the UNEP/MAP blueprint for action.

80. The question of setting-up parallel sessions was tentatively excluded because it may not be feasible if the meeting is held through videoconference.

81. The Secretariat updated the MCSD Steering Committee about the possible host of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD. Two Contracting Parties expressed informally their interest in principle but without any formal confirmation so far. The Secretariat followed-up through formal correspondence with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), which is an intergovernmental organization and one of the MCSD Member to be considered for replacement, expressed its willingness to organize the meeting in its regional offices located in Naples or San Marino. The Secretariat will follow with those parties and will inform the MCSD Steering Committee on further developments.

Conclusions:

xxiv. The MCSD Steering Committee invited the Secretariat to prepare a detailed draft Provisional Agenda of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD, reflecting the discussions held at the meeting and advice from the participants. “Climate change and ocean nexus in the context of blue economy and green economy in a post-COVID era” was considered of great interest as a possible theme for the meeting.

xxv. The Committee invited the Secretariat to design the structure of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD in a way that it supports interactivity among participants, peer learning opportunities, and visibility of the work of the MCSD and of its Members for the implementation and monitoring of the MSSD and SDGs.

xxvi. The Committee took note of the efforts provided by the Secretariat to mobilize interest from MCSD Members to host the 19th Meeting of the MCSD, inviting the Secretariat to follow-up with those who expressed interest in principle in view of a possible confirmation.

Agenda item 5: Any Other Matters

82. The President invited the participants to consider other issues that may be raised. There was no other issue raised by the Members of the MCSD Steering Committee.

Agenda item 6: Closure of the Meeting

83. The President congratulated the Secretariat for the preparation of the meeting and its documentation, indicating that the report of meeting will be shared in due time for approval through electronic means.

84. The Secretariat joined the President in thanking the Members of the MCSD Steering Committee for their commitment and important contributions, as well as the invited speakers, considering that the discussion brought constructive and valuable comments.

85. The meeting was closed by the President on Wednesday 15 December 2020 at 18:00.

Annex I: List of Participants

Annex I: List of Participants

Members of the MCSD Steering Committee	
<p>ITALY/ ITALIE Vice-President</p>	<p>Ms Valentina MAURIELLO Expert, SOGESID Technical Assistance Unit General Directorate for Sea and Coasts Ministry of the Environment and Land and Sea Protection</p>
<p>MEPIELAN: MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND NEGOTIATION Rapporteur</p>	<p>Mr Evangelos RAFTOPOULOS Director, Professor of International Law, Panteion University of Athens, Greece</p>
<p>MONTENEGRO President</p>	<p>Ms Ivana STOJANOVIC Adviser Directorate for Climate Change and Mediterranean Affairs – Division for Mediterranean Affairs Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism</p>
<p>MOROCCO/ MAROC Vice-President</p>	<p>Mr Mohammed MAKTIT Chef de la Division des Etudes et de la Planification Secrétariat d’Etat auprès du Ministre de l’Energie, des Mines et du Développement Durable, chargé du Développement Durable</p>
<p>TURKEY / TURQUIE Vice-President</p>	<p>Ms Bahar ÖZÖĞÜT Environmental Expert Dr. Menekşe KESKİ Chemist</p>
<p>UCLG: UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS Vice-President</p>	<p>Mr Jean Baptiste BUFFET Senior Advocacy Officer</p>
<p>UFM: SECRETARIAT OF THE UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN Vice-President</p>	<p>Ms Alessandra SENSI Head of Sector – Environment and Blue Economy Water Environment Blue Economy Division Mr Arnault GRAVES Senior Climate Adviser / Energy Climate Action</p>

Invited Speakers / Intervenant.e.s invité.e.s	
MedECC: MEDITERRANEAN EXPERTS ON CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE	<p>Mr Wolfgang CRAMER MedECC Coordinator <i>Institut Méditerranéen de Biodiversité et d'Ecologie marine et continentale (IMBE)</i> Aix Marseille Université, CNRS, IRD, Avignon Université, Technopôle Arbois-Méditerranée, France</p>
UNEP	<p>Ms Magda BIESIADA Head, WESR Unit, Science Division</p> <p>Mr Dany GHAFARI Programme Management Officer, SDGs and Environment Statistics Unit, Science Division</p>

SECRETARIAT TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION AND COMPONENTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN	
UNEP/MAP	<p>Mr Gaetano LEONE Coordinator</p> <p>Ms Tatjana HEMA Deputy Coordinator</p> <p>Mr Julien LE TELLIER Programme Management Officer (Socio-Economic Affairs)</p> <p>Mr Ilias MAVROEIDIS Programme Management Officer (Governance)</p> <p>Mr Jérémie FOSSE Consultant, MSSD Mid-Term Evaluation</p>
PLAN BLEU REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (Plan Bleu/RAC)	<p>Mr François GUERQUIN Director / Directeur</p> <p>Mr Antoine LAFITTE Programme Officer, Observation of the Environment and Sustainable Development</p>
REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (SCP/RAC)	<p>Mr Enrique de VILLAMORE Director</p> <p>Ms Magali OUTTERS Team Leader</p>

	<p>Ms Ananda ALONSO Programme Manager</p> <p>Mr Manuel CLAR Consultant, SCP Regional Action Plan Mid-Term Evaluation</p>
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Annex II: Agenda of the 22nd Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee

Annex II: Agenda of the 22nd Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee (Timetable)**Timetable** (in local time in Athens, Greece: GMT+2)

Tuesday, 15 December 2020			
Time	Agenda item		Document
10:00 – 10:30	1. Opening of the Meeting 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work	President of the MCSD Steering Committee Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.1 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.2
10:30 – 11:30	3. Work of the MCSD and MSSD Implementation: Review of Progress for the Period May – October 2020	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7
11:30 – 12:00	4. Specific Issues B. The Mediterranean Green Entrepreneurship Award	Secretariat (SCP/RAC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
<i>12:00 – 12:30</i>	<i>Break</i>		
12:30 – 13:30	4. Specific Issues D. Introduction of the World Environment Situation Room (WESR) by UNEP Science Division	Secretariat UNEP Science Division	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
13:30 – 14:30	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) E. Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Indicators	Secretariat (Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
<i>14:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Lunch break</i>		
16:00 – 17:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) C. Assessment Studies: (1) MedECC First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) and its Summary for Policymakers (SPM)	Secretariat Mr Wolfgang Cramer (MedECC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6
17:00 – 18:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) C. Assessment Studies: (2) Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED); (3) MED 2050 Foresight Study	Secretariat (Plan Bleu)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
Wednesday, 16 December 2020			
Time	Agenda item		Document
10:00 – 10:45	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) G. The UNEP/MAP Strategic Response to COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7

10:45 – 11:15	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) H. MCSD Membership	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
11:15 – 12:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) F. Structures and Processes for Implementing the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Mediterranean Countries	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/5
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Break</i>		
12:30 – 14:30	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) A. Mid-Term Evaluation of the MSSD and of the SCP Action Plan	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5
14:30 – 16:00	<i>Lunch break</i>		
16:00 – 17:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) I. Preparation of the 19 th Meeting of the MCSD	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
17:00 – 18:00	5. Any Other Matters 6. Closure of the Meeting	Secretariat President of the MCSD	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.8
