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Twelfth Meeting of Focal Points for Specially Protected Areas

Athens, Greece, 25-29 May 2015

Agenda item 4: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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The original version of this document was prepared by the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA).

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

In accordance with the Decision of the Eighteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention for the protection of the marine and the coastal region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols, related to the MAP Programme of Work and Budget for the 2014-2015 biennium (Decision IG.21/17), the Thematic Focal Points Meetings under MAP should be held in 2015. The Meeting of the SPA/RAC Focal Points is one of these meetings; it will be convened in Athens from 25 to 29 May 2015, at the NOVOTEL Hotel (4 Michail Voda Str., 104 39 Athens, Greece).

The following annotations to the provisional agenda have been prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting with its deliberations.

Agenda item 1 Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be opened on Monday, 25 May 2015 at 9:30 a.m. by the representatives of the host country, the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and SPA/RAC.

All the SPA/RAC Focal Points have been invited to attend the meeting or to designate their representatives.

The relevant intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations have also been invited to designate their representatives to the meeting as observers.

A number of donor organizations have been invited to attend the meeting particularly its Agenda Item 11 related to the Roundtable on funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities. This Roundtable is scheduled on 27 May 2015.

Agenda item 2 Rules of Procedure

The internal rules adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Appendix XI) will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this meeting.

Agenda item 3 Election of Officers

The meeting will elect from amongst the representatives of the Contracting Parties, a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur.

Agenda item 4 Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work

The Provisional Agenda proposed by the Secretariat and distributed as document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/1 Rev.1 and annotated in this document, will be proposed for adoption by the meeting. The meeting will be also invited to review and adopt the timetable proposed at the end of this document.

The working languages of the meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be available for all the plenary sessions.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/1 Rev.1 *Provisional Agenda*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/2 Rev.1 *Provisional Annotated Agenda*

Agenda item 5 Status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean

Making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/3, the Secretariat will present a summary of the reports submitted by the Focal Points, through the online Reporting System of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The reporting period covered by these reports is the 2012-2013 biennium.

The participants will be invited to provide their remarks and comments about the document and complement it, where necessary.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/3 *Synthetic Note on the Status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol)*

Agenda item 6 Species conservation

6.1. Action Plan for the Management of the Monk Seal in the Mediterranean & Regional Strategy for the Conservation of Mediterranean Monk Seal

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance to the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

6.2. Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 and highlighting in particular the Recommendations of the 5th Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles held in Dalaman (Turkey) from 19 to 23 April 2015. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

6.3. Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.5 and the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1. The Secretariat will also introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/8 containing the Draft Updated Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea.

The representative of ACCOBAMS will be invited to present the main activities and the most burning issues in relation to the conservation of cetaceans in the Mediterranean.

The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations. They will be also invited to review the proposed amendments to the Action Plan with the view of submitting them for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/8 *Draft Updated Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.5 *Status of implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea*

6.4. Action Plan for the Conservation of Bird Species listed in Annex II of the Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 and highlight the Recommendations of the 2nd Symposium on the conservation of marine and coastal Birds in the Mediterranean held in Hammamet (Tunisia) from 20 to 22 February 2015. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas*

6.5. Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

Agenda item 7 Ecosystems conservation

7.1. Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 and highlight the Recommendations of the 5th Mediterranean Symposium on Marine Vegetation held from 27 to 28 October 2014 in Portorož (Slovenia). The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations.

The Secretariat will also inform the meeting about the MedKeyHabitats Project making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6. The representatives of the countries covered by the

project will be invited to briefly report about the activities carried out in their countries within the framework of the project.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6 *Progress Report of the "Project on Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)" (MedKeyHabitats Project)*

7.2. Action Plan for the Conservation of the Coralligenous and other Calcareous Bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.7 and the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 and highlight the Recommendations of the 2nd Mediterranean Symposium on Coralligenous and other Calcareous Bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea held from 29 to 30 October 2014 in Portorož (Slovenia). The Secretariat will also introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/9 containing the Draft Updated Action Plan for the conservation of the Coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations. They will be also invited to review the proposed amendments to the Action Plan with the view of submitting them for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/9 *Draft Updated Action Plan for the conservation of the Coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6 *Progress Report of the "Project on Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)" (MedKeyHabitats Project)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.7 *Status of implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of the Coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea*

7.3. Action Plan for the Conservation of Habitats and Species associated with Seamounts, Underwater Caves and Canyons, Aphotic Hard Beds and Chemo-synthetic Phenomena in the Mediterranean Sea (Dark Habitats Action Plan)

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 and highlight the Recommendations of the 1st Mediterranean Symposium on the conservation of Dark habitats held on the 31st of October 2014 in Portorož (Slovenia). The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6 *Progress Report of the "Project on Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)" (MedKeyHabitats Project)*

7.4. Activities for the elaboration of national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest

Making reference to the relevant sections of document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1, the Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in compiling national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest. In this context, the Secretariat will propose a draft programme of work for Reference Lists of habitat types in the Mediterranean (document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/10 Rev.1). The participants will be invited to review the proposed programme of work whose elements will be proposed for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/10 Rev.1 *Draft Programme of work for Reference Lists of Habitat Types in the Mediterranean*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6 *Progress Report of the "Project on Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)" (MedKeyHabitats Project)*

7.5. Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made in the implementation of the Action Plan making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.8 Rev.1 and the relevant sections in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1. The Secretariat will also introduce document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/11 Rev.1 containing the Draft Updated Action Plan concerning species introductions and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea. The participants will be invited to comment on the presented information and inform the meeting about the activities of relevance for the Action Plan undertaken by their countries/organizations. They will be also invited to review the proposed amendments to the Action Plan with the view of submitting them for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/11 Rev.1 *Draft Updated Action Plan concerning species introductions and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.8 Rev.1 *Status of implementation of the Action Plan concerning species introductions and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea*

Agenda item 8 Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)/Barcelona Convention (EcAp)

8.1. Achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES)

The representative of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made so far in the EcAp process regarding the definition of the Good Environmental Status under the 11 Mediterranean Ecological Objectives (EOs), in particular the EOs of special relevance for the implementation of the SPA/BD Protocol.

8.2. Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme

The representative of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat will inform the meeting about the progress made so far in the elaboration of the integrated monitoring under the EcAp process of the Barcelona Convention.

Making reference to documents UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/5, UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/6 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.3 the Secretariat will inform the meeting about the inputs of SPA/RAC to the development of the integrated monitoring.

The representative of ACCOBAMS will present the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.4) whose results are expected to provide useful information about the cetacean populations in the Mediterranean and a significant contribution in the integrated monitoring under the EcAp process.

The participants will be invited to provide their comments about the working documents. They will be invited in particular to review and adopt the draft list of species and habitats for the EcAp monitoring (annexed to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/6).

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/5 *Initial Gap Analysis on existing measures under the Barcelona Convention relevant to achieving or maintaining good environmental status of the Mediterranean Sea, in line with the Ecosystem Approach.*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/6 *Main elements of the Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.3 *Second Report of the informal online working group on biodiversity and non-indigenous species*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.4 *ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative - Project Identification Document*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.27 *Monitoring guidelines to assess cetaceans' distributional range, population abundance and population demographic characteristics*

Agenda item 9 The Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP BIO) Strategic Goals and Priority Actions

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the implementation of Decision IG.20/4, that provided for the preparation of project portfolios addressing the updated SAP BIO Priority Actions, including: (i) national pilot projects targeting national priorities in the framework of SAP BIO, and (ii) regional

projects that support countries in areas of regional interest; and the establishment of contacts with donor institutions.

The participants are expected to contribute with their experience and opinions about the SAP BIO implementation at regional and national level, bringing, as much details as possible, about the main existing obstacles they can identify for the SAP BIO implementation.

The Secretariat will present a portfolio of 11 project concepts related to the Strategic Goals and Priority Actions of SAP BIO.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/7 *Note on the Funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities*

Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas

10.1. List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)

10.1.1. Ordinary Periodic Revision of the SPAMI List

The Secretariat will introduce the Report on the Ordinary Periodic Review of the areas included in the SPAMI List (document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/12). The Focal Points will be invited to examine the evaluation reports prepared for the following SPAMIs:

- Bouches de Bonifacio Natural Reserve (France);
- Port-Cros National Park (France);
- Pelagos Sanctuary for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (France, Italy, Monaco);
- Marine Protected Area and Natural Reserve of Torre Guaceto (Italy);
- Marine Protected Area of Capo Caccia-Isola Piana (Italy);
- Marine Protected Area of Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo (Italy);
- Miramare Marine Protected Area (Italy);
- Plemmirio Marine Protected Area (Italy);
- Punta Campanella Marine Protected Area (Italy);
- Al-Hoceima National Park (Morocco);
- Alboran Island (Spain);
- Archipelago of Cabrera National Park (Spain);
- Cabo de Gata-Nijar Natural Park (Spain);
- Cap de Creus Natural Park (Spain);
- Columbretes Islands (Spain);
- Mar Menor and Oriental Mediterranean zone of the Region of Murcia coast (Spain);
- Maro-Cerro Gordo Cliffs (Spain);
- Medes Islands (Spain);
- Sea Bottom of the Levante of Almeria (Spain);
- Kneiss Islands (Tunisia);
- La Galite Archipelago (Tunisia); and
- Zembra and Zembretta National Park (Tunisia).

10.1.2. Inclusion of sites in the SPAMI List

In accordance with the procedure for inclusion of proposed areas in the SPAMI List, as provided for by the SPA/BD Protocol, the Focal Points will be invited to examine the conformity of the Karaburun Sazan Marine Park (candidate SPAMI proposed by Albania, with the support of the MedKeyHabitats project) with the common guidelines and criteria adopted pursuant to Article 16 of the Protocol.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/12 *Report on the Ordinary Periodic Review of the areas included in the SPAMI List*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/13 *Draft Proposals of areas for inclusion in the List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.6 *Progress Report of the "Project on Mapping of key marine habitats in the Mediterranean and promoting their conservation through the establishment of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)" (MedKeyHabitats Project)*

10.2. Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea

10.2.1. Activities for the identification and creation of SPAMIs in the open seas, including the deep seas

The Secretariat will present the results so far achieved regarding the project aimed to support the identification and creation of SPAMIs in areas embracing the open sea, including the deep sea, which has followed three consecutive phases and will finish on September 2015. Information will be provided for the different subregions worked out with concerned Parties participation. Also other activities supported by the project, such as the elaboration of a common strategy and a letter of intent in the Mediterranean regarding spatial management measures, aimed to be agreed with relevant regional bodies, and the compilation of best practises on management of marine areas including the open sea will be advanced.

Reference will be done also to the related adoption of Mediterranean Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSAs) at the 12th Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea (October 2014). This formal international recognition of the ecological and biological importance of these Mediterranean areas sends strong signals to decision-makers on their priority value for marine spatial management and serves the Barcelona Convention in its work on marine conservation.

The participants are expected to contribute with their experience and opinions on the above activities. The meeting is expected to provide views on the possible elaboration of a new project related to the subject.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/17 *Draft elements for a Common strategy among RAC/SPA, GFCM, ACCOBAMS and IUCN-Med, with collaboration of MedPAN*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.9 *Progress Report of the "Joint Management Action of EC with UNEP/MAP for identifying and creating Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs) in the open seas, including the deep seas" (MedOpenSeas Project)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.10 *Ecologically or Biologically Significant marine Areas (EBSAs) defined in the Mediterranean in cooperation with the CBD*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.11 *Adriatic Sea: Important areas for conservation of cetaceans, sea turtles and giant devil rays*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.12 *Adriatic Sea: Status and conservation of Seabirds*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.13 *Adriatic Sea: Status and conservation of Fisheries*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.14 *Adriatic Sea: Ecology (draft report)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.15 *Alboran Sea: Status of Cetaceans*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.16 *Alboran Sea: Status and conservation of seabirds in the Alboran Sea, with particular attention to the Open Seas*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.17 *Alboran Sea: Status of open seas fisheries*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.18 *Alboran Sea: Ecology and human activities (draft report)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.19 *Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau: Status and conservation of Cetaceans*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.20 *Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau: Satellite telemetry applied to fin whales in the Mediterranean Sea*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.21 *Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau: Status and conservation of Seabirds*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.22 *Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau: Status and conservation of Fisheries*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.23 *Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau: Topography, circulation and their effects on biological component*

10.2.2. Activities for the development of a Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs) network through the boosting of MPAs creation and management

The Secretariat will inform the meeting about the main achievements of the MedMPAnet Project making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.24. The representatives of the countries participating in the Project may take the floor to present the activities undertaken within the framework of the Project in their countries.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.24 *Progress Report of the "Regional Project for the Development of a Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs) Network through the boosting of MPAs Creation and Management" (MedMPAnet Project)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.25 *Study on financial needs of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas*

10.2.3. Evaluation of the Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea

The Secretariat will present an assessment of the implementation at regional and national level of the Working Programme, making reference to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.26. The participants will be invited to provide their opinion on the assessment and where necessary additional information about activities undertaken by their countries/organizations.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

Information document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/Inf.26 *Evaluation of the Regional working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea including the High Sea*

10.2.4. Roadmap - Towards a comprehensive, ecologically representative, effectively connected and efficiently managed network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas by 2020

The Secretariat will present the Draft Roadmap (document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/14) and the participants will be invited to review it with the view of submitting it for adoption by the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/4 Rev.1 *Progress Report of the Activities of the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)*

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/14 *Draft Roadmap for a comprehensive coherent network of well managed MPAs to achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean*

Agenda item 11 Roundtable on funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities

The roundtable will be oriented to debate on the issue of raising funds for the portfolio of projects, and other actions included in the SAP BIO at national and regional level, as well as on enhancing regional coordination and cooperation to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of SAP BIO implementation. The roundtable will include the following elements:

- Presentation by SPA/RAC on the process launched in accordance with the Decision IG.20/4 of the Contracting Parties that requested the Secretariat to investigate options for ensuring appropriate financial support for the implementation of SAP BIO at national and regional levels. The presentation will include the portfolio of project concepts prepared in this context.
- Presentations by representatives of organizations, including the funding agencies and donors attending the roundtable, about their views regarding the project concepts in relation to their strategies, priorities and experiences in supporting projects in the Mediterranean.
- Interventions by representatives of the Contracting Parties about the national needs and priorities (including those arising from the National Action Plans (NAPs) developed within the framework of SAP BIO).
- Discussion.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/7 *Note on the Funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities*

Agenda item 12 30th Anniversary of RAC/SPA (1985-2015)

In celebration of the 30th Anniversary of SPA/RAC, the Secretariat will present a brief retrospective of its thirty years of activity.

Referring to document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/15, the Secretariat will present the outlines of its future Communication Strategy and the participants will be invited to provide their views and recommendations for this strategy, taking into account the SPA/RAC mandate as defined by the SPA/BD Protocol and the challenges faced by the Mediterranean region regarding the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/15 *Outlines of a Communication Strategy for RAC/SPA*

Agenda item 13 Programme of Work of RAC/SPA for the period 2016-2017

The Secretariat will present the Draft Programme of Work of SPA/RAC proposed for the biennium 2016-2017 (document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/16). Based on the comments and recommendations of the meeting, the Secretariat will elaborate a new version of the document that will serve as basis for the SPA/RAC activities to be proposed to the Contracting Parties.

Working document(s) of special relevance for this agenda item

UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.408/16 *Draft Programme of Work for the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) for 2016-2017*

Agenda item 14 Any other matters

Possible other questions about subjects of the meeting that could be raised by participants or the Secretariat will be examined under this agenda item.

Agenda item 15 Adoption of the meeting report

A draft Report of the meeting prepared by the Secretariat will be submitted to participants for adoption.

Agenda item 16 Closure of the meeting

The meeting is expected to be closed on Friday 29 May 2015, at 5:00 p.m.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

DAY 1: 25 May 2015

8:30 – 9:30	<i>Registration</i>
9:30 – 11:00	Agenda item 1 Opening of the meeting Agenda item 2 Rules of procedure Agenda item 3 Election of officers Agenda item 4 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work Agenda item 5 Status of implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Agenda item 6 Species conservation
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Agenda item 6 Species conservation (continued)
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda item 7 Ecosystems conservation
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:30	Agenda item 7 Ecosystems conservation (continued)
17:30 – 18:30	<i>Side events</i>

DAY 2: 26 May 2015

9:30 – 11:00	Agenda item 8 Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to the management of human activities that may affect the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)/Barcelona Convention (EcAp)
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Agenda item 9 The Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP BIO) Strategic Goals and Priority Actions Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas (continued)
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:30	Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas (continued)
17:30 – 18:30	<i>Side events</i>

DAY 3: 27 May 2015

9:30 – 11:00	Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas (continued)
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Agenda item 11 Roundtable on funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda item 11 Roundtable on funding of SAP BIO priority projects/activities (continued)
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:30	Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas (continued)
17:30 – 18:30	<i>Side events</i>

DAY 4: 28 May 2015

9:30 – 11:00	Agenda item 10 Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, including in the open seas and deep seas (continued)
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Agenda item 12 30 th Anniversary of RAC/SPA (1985-2015)
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda item 13 Programme of Work of RAC/SPA for the period 2016-2017 Agenda item 14 Any other matters
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	<i>Side events</i>

DAY 5: 29 May 2015

Morning	<i>Free (Preparation by the Secretariat of the Draft Report of the meeting)</i>
14:30 – 17:00	Agenda item 15 Adoption of the meeting report Agenda item 16 Closure of the meeting