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11th Meeting of SCP/RAC National Focal Points

Barcelona, Spain, 3-4 May 2017

Conclusions of the meeting

**Conclusions of the 11th Ordinary Meeting of the SCP/RAC National Focal Points
3-4 May 2017, Barcelona (Spain)**

The SCP/RAC National Focal Points (hereinafter SCP/RAC NFPs):

General conclusions:

Express their acknowledgement to the valuable work and results achieved by SCP/RAC in the development of its activities under the MAP PoW 2016-2017 and congratulate the Center for its efforts to raise further funds both to strengthen actions according to countries priorities and to extend actions relevant to the next MAP PoW so to cover countries for which no funding was included in the current PoW.

Welcome the draft proposal of SCP/RAC PoW 2018-2019 which is fully in line with Strategic Outcomes and Indicative Key Outputs of several core and crosscutting themes of the MAP Middle Term Strategy, specially SCP, pollution prevention and control and biodiversity.

Request the inclusion of new activities related to plastics and ML, namely on prevention and phasing out of single use plastics as well as microplastics including cosmetics in the PoW. Accordingly the updated PoW will be sent for their online revision.

Concerning policy activities

Request to strengthen the activities in support of the implementation of the Regional SCP Action Plan and development and implementation of National Action Plans including in the Western Balkans countries and Turkey.

Support the inclusion of a section on the SCP Action Plan in the simplified MAP Reporting System.

Express their acknowledgement to the valuable work developed by SCP/RAC under the Stockholm Convention, in particular their initiative in bringing the issue of marine litter plastics, microplastics and toxic chemicals in the framework of BRS Convention and in bringing the experience and leadership of the Mediterranean region in that issue.

Recommend to explore the possibilities on working on the prevention and phasing out of the use of microplastics in cosmetics.

Request SCP/RAC to regularly inform the SCP/RAC NFP on the activities developed by the Center under the Stockholm Convention.

Concerning SCP Indicators Framework

For the next steps in the development of the indicators framework work there is a need to:

1. To clearly identify the gaps between data available in international statistics, including those from Eurostat for EU Mediterranean countries, and national ones, in order to help address such differences and ensure country's proper representation in International statistics.

2. To support the improvement of the quality and availability of national information and statistics on identified indicators.
3. To classify the indicators in 3 categories: indicators with high availability of data, indicators with low availability of data, indicators under development.
4. To bring an updated list of SCP indicators to the MAP FP Meeting and invite MAP FP to discuss the opportunity of using the list of macro indicators.
5. To continue the collaborative work between MAP and International Organisations to provide support to the countries for the improvement of their national statistics for SCP indicators.

Welcome the suggestion of a common decision on the SCP indicators and MSSD indicators to be submitted by both Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC at the COP20.

Welcome the joint work of PB and SCP/RAC in the preparation of the indicators and their agreement on relying on PB for the follow-up of the SCP indicators framework.

Request SCP/RAC to include better indicator(s) related to sustainable consumption behaviour (Eg. Share of certified/ecolabelled products, waste generation and recycling, plastic production and consumption).

Concerning activities supporting Green Entrepreneurs, SMEs and CSOs

Congratulate SCP/RAC during the last biennium and in particular appreciate the way in which the SwitchMed programme is designed to provide a full range of technical support to Green Entrepreneurs, SMEs and CSOs, including financial support and networking activities, and the way in which the activities are communicated.

Stress the importance of EU-funded SwitchMed in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in which the development of a *Training and support programme for green entrepreneurs, SMEs and civil society* is identified as key output of the UN environment/MAP Middle Term Strategy 2016-2021 and a strategic direction of the reviewed MSSD.

Highlight the particular contribution of SwitchMed and especially its activities in support to green entrepreneurs and SMEs for the creation of local employment and in boosting the Mediterranean region as region where economy and innovation go hand in hand with the protection of the environment and the social inclusion and hence to support prosperity and economic stability in partnership with other relevant programmes.

Hence strongly support the continuation of the SwitchMed programme in order to increase and strengthen the support to Green Entrepreneurs, SMEs and CSOs and offering them networking and financial opportunities and policy support and will engage to inform the relevant institutions on this important need. In this respect, welcome the conclusions of the UFM working Group on Environment and Climate Change, 14th-15th March 2017.

Will actively ally with SCP/RAC to jointly work to engage possible donors that will fund the extension of the actions to support eco-innovation and ecodesign in entrepreneurs, SMEs and CSOs

Request SCP/RAC to emphasize communication on the environmental benefits provided by the Switchers and Green Entrepreneurs so that they could receive further support by National Governments.

Request the extension of the SCP/RAC activities developed in the framework of the EBRD project within the framework of the UfM MED RESCP Labelled Project, related to eco-design and eco-innovation to other Mediterranean countries not targeted by the project.