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PAP/RAC Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON) on Coast and Hydrography

Madrid, Spain, 3 March 2017

Agenda Item 2: Organizational matters

Provisional annotated agenda

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Introduction

After agreeing to progressively apply the ecosystem approach (EcAp) to the management of human activities in the Mediterranean at the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP15, 2008), the Contracting Parties agreed, at COP17 in 2012, on an overall vision and goals of EcAp, and on 11 ecological objectives, operational objectives and indicators for the Mediterranean.

At COP18, in 2013, the targets were adopted for achieving GES of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal zone by 2020. In addition, through Decision IG 21/3 (the so called "COP18 EcAp Decision") the EcAp roadmap was agreed on. The Contracting Parties also agreed to design an Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) by COP19, which would, for the first time, ensure a common assessment basis for the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment. At COP19, in 2016, the IMAP was adopted. The IMAP provides guidance to the parties on how to practically implement quantitative monitoring and assessment of the ecological status of the Mediterranean Sea and coast in line with the EcAp. Among the ecological objectives included in IMAP adopted at COP 19 were EO7 "Alteration of hydrological conditions" and EO8 "Coastal ecosystems and landscapes".

In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2016-2017 adopted by COP 19, Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016, the PAP/RAC is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON) on Coast and Hydrography on 3 March 2017 in Madrid, Spain (Port Authorities premises).

The main objectives of the meeting are to:

- a) present and discuss the concept for the preparation of the 2017 Quality Status Report (with focus on the chapters of EO7 and EO8)
- b) present the Assessment Fact Sheet for the indicators, i.e. the format in which the countries will provide the monitoring results for EO7 and EO8;
- c) review and discuss open questions regarding the monitoring for all common and candidate indicators concerning EO7 Hydrography and EO8 Coastal ecosystems and landscapes, which will also serve as an input to the existing indicator fact sheets;
- d) share and exchange information with countries' representatives on the current status of national monitoring programmes; and
- e) give specific recommendations for further work.

Friday, 3 March (09:00 – 17:30)

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting (09:00-09:10)

The Meeting will be opened by the Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/AC).

Agenda item 2: Organizational matters (09:10-09:20)

a) Election of officers

The Rules and Procedures for meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis to the present meeting.

The Meeting shall elect a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur.

b) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda

The Provisional Agenda (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.433/2) annotated in the present document (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.433/3) will be reviewed, amended as necessary, and adopted by the Meeting.

c) Organization of work

The Meeting will include sessions in plenary format. Simultaneous translation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting. Coffee breaks will be served from 10.45 to 11:00 and from 16:30 to 16:45. Participants will have time for luch from 13:00 to 14.30. At the end, the Meeting is expected to adopt a list of Conclusions and Recommendations..

Agenda item 3: Mediterranean Quality Status Report (QSR) (09.20-10:00)

The concept for the preparation of the QSR2017 will be presented, process timeline and how the report can follow similar approaches to other Regional Seas and find an appropriate balance between quantitative and qualitative information where data gaps exist. Participants will discuss on potential inputs to the draft QSR2017 concept from their side, and also potential inclusion of case studies to the QSR2017, in relation to EO7 and EO8.

Agenda item 4: Assessment Fact Sheet for the indicators (10:00-10:45)

The Assessment Fact Sheet for the indicators, i.e. as templates in which the countries will provide the monitoring results for the EO7 and EO8 indicators, will be discussed with participants.

Agenda item 5: Common Indicator Guidance Fact Sheets (11:00-15:30)

a) Common Indicator 15: Location and extent of the habitats impacted directly by hydrographic alterations (EO7) (11:00-12:00)

The common indicator 15 of the EO7 will be presented by PAP/RAC consultant, Mr. Olivier Brivois. All open questions regarding the implementation of monitoring of indicator will be discussed among the participants. The open questions are written in detail in the Working Document for this meeting ((UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.433/3).

b) Common Indicator 16: Length of coastline subject to physical disturbance due to the influence of manmade structures (EO8) (12:00-13:00)

The common indicator 16 of the EO8 will be presented by PAP/RAC consultant, Mr. Giordano Giorgi. All open questions regarding the implementation of monitoring of indicator will be discussed among the participants. The open questions are written in detail in the Working Document for this meeting ((UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.433/3).

c) Candidate Common Indicator 25: Land use change (EO8) (14:30-15:30)

The candidate common indicator 25 of the EO8 will be presented by PAP/RAC consultant, Mr. Jaume Fons-Esteve. All open questions regarding the implementation of monitoring of indicator will be discussed among the participants. The open questions are written in detail in the Working Document for this meeting ((UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.433/3). It is expected that the Meeting will propose the inclusion of Land use change indicator on the list of common indicators.

Agenda item 6: National Monitoring Programmes (15:30-16:30)

Representatives of Contracting Parties will be invited to present the current status of the updating of their national monitoring programmes and implementation/testing of agreed indicators, with particular focus on Coast and Hydrography indicators.

Participants will discuss and share experiences and lessons learned, and gather an overview of the different stages of revision and implementation of national monitoring plans, and the challenges encountered. Best practices and possible mechanisms for follow up, exchange and support between countries will be discussed

Agenda item 7: Conclusions and recommendations (16:45-17:15)

PAP/RAC will present the draft conclusions and recommendations. The meeting participants will adopt a list Conclusions and Recommendations.

Agenda item 8: Any Other Business (17:15-17:30)

The participants and the Secretariat will be able to raise any other business related to the subject of the Meeting agreed during the adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting (17:30)

The Chairperson is expected to close the Meeting at 17.30 hours, 3 March 2017.