



UNITED  
NATIONS

EP

UNEP/MED WG.492/2



UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

26 March 2021  
Original: English

Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring

Videoconference, 26-28 April 2021

**Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters**

**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

For environmental and economic reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

## Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2020-2021 adopted by the 21<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019, the Secretariat is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring (CorMon Pollution), on 26-28 April 2021, via videoconference.
2. The main objectives of the Meeting are to:
  - a) Review the Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 18 and Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for Analytical Quality Assurance and Reporting of Monitoring Data for IMAP Pollution related Common Indicators;
  - b) Review the outcome of the inter-laboratory testing and good laboratory practices related to Ecological Objectives 5 and 9 IMAP Common Indicators; and
  - c) Review a proposal for the integration and aggregation rules for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 and a proposal for assessment criteria for contaminants and nutrients.
3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

### Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened at 10:00 on 26 April 2019 by the Coordinator of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention.

### Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

<b>Working Documents:</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/1 UNEP/MED WG.492/2 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.1
---------------------------	---

- a) *Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring*
5. The Rules of Procedure 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 (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).
  - b) *Election of Officers*
6. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the Meeting will elect a President, three Vice Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.
  - c) *Adoption of the Provisional Agenda*
7. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.492/1 and annotated in the present document will be reviewed and proposed for adoption by the Meeting including the timetable contained in the Annex to the present document.
  - d) *Organization of Work*
8. It is expected that the Meeting will address all items of the Agenda during the three days. The discussions will be held in plenary sessions, as follows:

– 26 April 2021: 09:45-11:45; 12:15-14:15; 15.30-17:30, (EST- Athens time);

- 27 April 2021: 10:00-12:00; 12:30-14:30, (EST- Athens time);
- 28 April 2021: 10:00-12:00, (EST- Athens time).

9. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for the three sessions. All documentation will be in English and French. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session. The meeting will be recorded for future reference.

10. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 12:00 PM on 28 April 2021 after adopting its Conclusions and Recommendations.

**Agenda item 3: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 18**

<b>Working Documents:</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/3 UNEP/MED WG.492/4 UNEP/MED WG.492/5 UNEP/MED WG.492/6
---------------------------	--

11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 18 with regards to sampling and sample preservation; sample preparation; analytical quality assurance and reporting (UNEP/MED WG.492/3- WG.492/5). It will also i) present the proposal for setting the proficiency testing and training course for IMAP Common Indicator 18 and ii) provide some reflections on integrated chemical and biological monitoring in order to bring possible further development of the scope of IMAP CI 18 monitoring (UNEP/MED WG.492/6).

12. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda item 4: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for Analytical Quality Assurance and Reporting of Monitoring Data for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20**

<b>Working Documents:</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/7 UNEP/MED WG.492/8 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.13 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.14
---------------------------	--

13. The Secretariat (MED POL) will present the proposal of the Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for Analytical Quality Assurance (UNEP/MED WG.492/7) and Reporting Monitoring Data (UNEP/MED WG.492/8) for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20.

14. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda item 5: State of Play of Inter-laboratory Testing and Good Laboratory Practice related to IMAP Ecological Objectives 5 and 9**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/9 UNEP/MED WG.492/10
<b>Information Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.7 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.8 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.10

15. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the outcomes of the following activities undertaken in 2019 and 2020 to implement the quality assurance and quality control of monitoring data related to IMAP Common Indicator 17 (UNEP/MED WG.492/9; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.3; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.4; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.5; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.6; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.7; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.8):

- i. organization of the trace elements and organic proficiency tests (PTs);
- ii. preparation of the good laboratory practice (GLP) training courses;
- iii. organization of the expert missions to laboratories in special need to support strengthening of their capacities.

16. The Secretariat will then proceed with presentation of the findings related to assessment of the capacities of national laboratories responsible for monitoring of IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20 (UNEP/MED WG.492/10; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.10), taking into account methods for sampling, sample preservation and preparation, as well as analytical determination of parameters, as defined in related IMAP Guidance Factsheets and Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols.

17. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda item 6: Cross-Cutting Issues -The Integration and Aggregation Rules for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 and Assessment Criteria for Contaminants and Nutrients**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/11
	UNEP/MED WG.492/12
	UNEP/MED WG.492/13
<b>Information Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.9
	UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.11
	UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.12

18. The Secretariat (MED POL) will present (UNEP/MED WG.492/12; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.11):

- i. the methodologies that can be applied for establishment of the reference conditions and boundary values for IMAP Common Indicator 13 along with an example of methodology tested for in Adriatic sub-region (UNEP/MED WG.492/11; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.12);
- ii. the proposals of upgraded Background Concentrations/ Background Assessment Concentrations (BCs/BACs) for trace metals in sediment and biota and PAHs in sediment as established by Decision IG.23/6 (COP 20, 2017).

19. The Secretariat will also present the document UNEP/MED WG.492/13 that contains: i) the proposal of the methodology for proposing the spatial scales of assessment from the scales of monitoring as defined in national IMAP Pollution and Marine Litter Cluster – based monitoring programmes, considering also the areas of assessment as defined in national MSFD monitoring strategies by the Contracting Parties which are EU Member States; ii) the rules for integration of monitoring and assessment areas within the IMAP Pollution and Marine Litter Cluster (EO5, EO9, EO10) and iii) the rules for aggregation – integration of assessments for specific IMAP Common Indicators/Ecological Objectives towards integrated GES assessment for IMAP Pollution and Marine Litter Cluster along with application of the assessment criteria and DPSIR approach within the nested scheme (UNEP/MED WG.492/13; UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.9).

20. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents, as appropriate, and make recommendations to the Secretariat on the way forward.

**Agenda item 7: Any other Business**

8. Under this Agenda item, participants may raise any other business related to the subject of the Meeting.

**Agenda item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations**

21. The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

**Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting**

22. The President is expected to close the Meeting at 12:00 PM on Wednesday, 28 April 2021.

**PROPOSED TIMETABLE**

<b>Monday, 26 April 2021</b>		
09:30 – 10:00	Registration	
10:00 – 10:15	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting	
10:15 – 10:30	Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters	UNEP/MED WG.492/1 UNEP/MED WG.492/2
10:30 – 11:45	Agenda Item 3: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 18	UNEP/MED WG.492/3 UNEP/MED WG.492/4 UNEP/MED WG.492/5 UNEP/MED WG.492/6
11:45 – 12:15	<i>Break</i>	
12:15 – 13:15	Agenda Item 3: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 18 (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.492/3 UNEP/MED WG.492/4 UNEP/MED WG.492/5 UNEP/MED WG.492/6
13:15 – 14:15	Agenda Item 4: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for Analytical Quality Assurance and Reporting of Monitoring Data for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20	UNEP/MED WG.492/7 UNEP/MED WG.492/8
14:15 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>	
15:30 – 16:30	Agenda Item 4: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for Analytical Quality Assurance and Reporting of Monitoring Data for IMAP Common Indicators 13, 14, 17, 18 and 20 (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.492/7 UNEP/MED WG.492/8 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.13 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.14
16:30 – 17:30	Agenda item 5: State of Play of Inter-laboratory Testing and Good Laboratory Practice related to IMAP Ecological Objectives 5 and 9	UNEP/MED WG.492/9 UNEP/MED WG.492/10 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.7 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.8 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.10

<b>Tuesday, 27 April 2021</b>		
10:00 – 12:00	Agenda item 6: Cross-Cutting Issues -The Integration and Aggregation Rules for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 and Assessment Criteria for Contaminants and Nutrients	UNEP/MED WG.492/11 UNEP/MED WG.492/12 UNEP/MED WG.492/13 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.9 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.11 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.12
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Break</i>	
12:30 – 14:30	Agenda item 6: Cross-Cutting Issues -The Integration and Aggregation Rules for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 and Assessment Criteria for Contaminants and Nutrients (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.492/11 UNEP/MED WG.492/12 UNEP/MED WG.492/13 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.9 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.11 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.12
14:30	<i>Break</i>	
<b>Wednesday 28 April 2021</b>		
10:00 – 10:50	Agenda item 6: Cross-Cutting Issues -The Integration and Aggregation Rules for IMAP Ecological Objectives 5, 9 and 10 and Assessment Criteria for Contaminants and Nutrients (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.492/11 UNEP/MED WG.492/12 UNEP/MED WG.492/13 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.9 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.11 UNEP/MED WG.492/Inf.12
10:50– 11:00	Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business	
11:00– 12:00	Agenda Item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations	
12:00	Agenda Item 9: Closure of the Meeting	