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**Agenda item 6. Comprehensive Plan of Actions and PoW 2022-2023**

**Comprehensive Plan of Actions, including resource mobilization strategy**

Draft

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2021

## **Note by the Secretariat**

1. Following the call by the Second Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) Sub-Group on Environmental Impact held in Athens, Greece in June 2019, the 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 21) (Naples, Italy, December 2019) requested for the preparation of a comprehensive plan of actions for the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in the framework of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil, adopted by the Contracting Parties in their 19<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting (COP 19, Athens, Greece, February 2016, Decision IG.22/3).

2. Taking into account the progress, challenges and lessons learned from the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan to date, the current comprehensive plan of actions provides foreseen milestones, indicative budgets and manpower for the time horizon period 2022-2024, and a Resource Mobilization Strategy. The aim is to ensure a more effective and sustainable implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan.

The present document is composed of two parts. Part I provides a comprehensive plan of actions for the achievement of the 10 Specific Objectives (action/output) in relation to the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat and its Components in the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan. Part II, the Resource Mobilization Strategy, provides information on the possible ways to mobilize resources in the form of technical and financial contributions, including support from industry parties and other international organizations. It proposes alternative perspectives and modalities to the funding, operation and execution of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in the short and medium term, emphasizing the role that Contracting Parties could play through increased leadership, engagement and co-ownership.

3. **The Meeting is invited** to evaluate the planning and priorities proposed for the time period 2022-2024, taking into consideration the available resources and proposed modalities for a more effective and sustainable implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan.

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### List of Abbreviations/Acronyms

BCRS	Barcelona Convention Reporting System
COP	Meeting of the Contracting Parties
CP	Contracting Party
CRF	Common Regional Framework
EcAp	Ecosystem Approach
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
EOSCA	European Oilfield Specialty Chemicals Association
EUOAG	European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IGO	Intergovernmental Organisation
IMAP	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme
IMELS	Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea
IMO	International Maritime Organization
Info-RAC	Information and Communication Regional Activity Centre
IOGP	International Association of Oil and Gas Producers
IPIECA	International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MTF	Mediterranean Trust Fund
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OFOG	Offshore Oil and Gas Group
OSPAR OIC	OSPAR Offshore Industry Committee
PoW	Programme of Work
PPR	Pollution Prevention and Response
R&D	Research and Development
REMPEC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
RMS	Resource Mobilization Strategy
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SPA	Specially Protected Area
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

## **1. Introduction**

1. The 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 21) (Naples, Italy, 8-10 December 2019) requested for the preparation of a comprehensive plan of actions, including milestones, budgets and manpower required to implement the Offshore Protocol in the Mediterranean countries (Activity 1.3.1.2 of the Programme of Work 2020-2021), including a Resource Mobilization Strategy (Activity 1.1.4.1).

2. Despite on-going efforts by the Secretariat to mobilize external resources in response to the interest shown by the Contracting Parties and industry parties, the progress to date on the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (2016-2024) has been hampered by limited dedicated resources. This is one of the challenges identified in the assessment of the Progress on the Implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (EP/MED WG.498/5).

3. In order to ensure a more sustainable implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan, a comprehensive plan of actions is required, providing detailed information of the required human resources and expertise to assist Mediterranean coastal States in carrying out the obligations arising from the Offshore Protocol. This comprehensive plan is complemented by a resource mobilization strategy (RMS) that identifies ways to mobilize technical and financial contributions for the implementation of the specific objectives.

## **2. Objectives**

4. This document is composed of two parts: Part I provides a comprehensive plan of actions, including milestones, budgets and manpower (whenever possible) required to implement the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan; Part II, the RMS, provides information on the possible ways to mobilize resources in the form of technical and financial contributions for a more sustainable implementation of the Offshore Protocol. The aim of the RMS is to ensure that adequate resources are made available to support the Secretariat and the Contracting Parties in the short and medium term to achieve the specific objectives of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan.

5. The structure of Part I follows closely Appendix 1 of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28), taking in consideration the progress, challenges and lessons learned from the implementation of the action plan this far, as presented in EP/MED WG.498/5. It provides an update of the milestones and timeline (2022-2024), associated budget and manpower for the achievement of 10 specific objectives (action/output) in relation to the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat and its Components.

6. The overarching objective is to provide support and more targeted guidance for facilitating, advancing and accelerating the progress on the implementation of the Offshore Protocol.

## **3. Modalities for a more effective and sustainable implementation**

7. The proposed comprehensive plan of actions and RMS provide alternative perspectives to the funding, operation and execution of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan. Contrary to the approach adopted to-date, with most of the actions initiated and resources provided by the Secretariat, this current plan puts forward a more proactive contribution of the Contracting Parties, international organizations and industry parties. Such an approach that promotes the leadership, stronger engagement and co-ownership by Contracting Parties has proven to be successful in other similar regional cooperation processes, such as in the operation of the OSPAR Offshore Industry Committee (OIC) and the execution of its programme of work.

8. The comprehensive plan of actions and RMS propose cost-effective ways for advancing on the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan. For example, by conducting the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity building programme through online training

courses as opposed to the organization of in-person trainings, resources previously allocated to the training fund and associated travelling expenses will be better optimized. In order to ensure internal continuity, the plan assumes that a longer-term funding allocation for a fixed-term position at the Secretariat is secured dedicated to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and supporting the relevant UNEP/MAP components. A more detailed description of the proposed way forward can be found in Part II: RMS.

#### **4. Part I: Comprehensive plan of actions (2022-2024)**

9. Details on the plan of actions, including milestones, timeline, associated indicative budget and manpower for the period 2022-2024 are presented in the Annex I.

10. The main aspects of the proposed comprehensive plan of actions, as compared to the plan in Appendix 1 of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28) are:

- i. Conducting training courses using online facilities or back-to-back to the regular in-person OFOG meetings, if possible;
- ii. Capitalizing on strengthened partnerships with industry parties and international organizations for the delivery of online training courses and other technical support;
- iii. Development of outputs and documents e.g. guidelines etc. under the leadership of Contracting Parties through the establishment of correspondence groups;
- iv. Implementing stronger level of engagement by Contracting Parties, e.g. through a dedicated longer-term OFOG chair;
- v. Securing continuity through a fixed-term staff position on the Offshore Protocol at the Secretariat

11. Subject to the outcome of discussions on the Programme of Work (PoW) 2022-2023 (see Annex II), the main technical focus for the next biennium will be on the topic of removal of installations and the continuation of activities related to the offshore monitoring programme. In the biennium 2024-2025, it is proposed to primarily address the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, linking to the ongoing discussion on the amendments of Annexes I-III of the Offshore Protocol (EP/MED WG.498/4), and monitoring. The provision of training and capacity building activities are planned for the biennia 2022-2023 and 2024-2025, as described in more detail below.

## 5. Technical cooperation and capacity building programme

12. Specific Objective 3: To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan, provides a list of topics to be covered through technical cooperation for the development of standards and guidelines and training. Table 1 shows the planning of these activities, prioritizing those topics on which standards and guidelines are already (or will be) developed (Training A and B). The planning of trainings on a selection of other topics (Training C) will be refined based on the prioritization by Contracting Parties and other considerations related to the overall planning, e.g. topics that can be more readily covered through technical cooperation with industry parties and international organizations, as indicated in Table 1.

13. It is envisaged that in addressing each topic, the trainings will cover the requirements of the (i) Offshore Protocol and other relevant policy frameworks/international regulations, (ii) Competent Authorities and (iii) Industry, informing about the best available practices and procedures in the Mediterranean region and elsewhere. The overall objective is to strengthen national capacities and enhance regional harmonization.

**Table 1. Technical cooperation and capacity building programme**

Specific Objective 3: To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	Key milestones	22	23	24
<b>Technical Cooperation for the Development of Standards and Guidelines:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring</li> </ul>	Further development of the Offshore Monitoring Programme under the framework of IMAP planned in biennium 2022-2023 and beyond			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material</li> </ul>	Tentatively in biennium 2024-2025, potentially in cooperation with relevant international associations (e.g. EOSCA)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting</li> </ul>	Adopted by COP 21 (Decision IG.24/9 Annex I)	Completed		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offshore platform Preparedness and Response &amp; Contingency Plan Assessment</li> </ul>	Addressed through REMPEC work in the framework of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of installations and the related financial aspects</li> </ul>	Develop in biennium 2022-2023, in cooperation with relevant international organizations (e.g. UNEP Oil for Development Partnership, London Protocol Secretariat, EUOAG) and UNEP/MAP Partners from the private sector (e.g. IOGP)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire fighting</li> </ul>	Not planned			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum standards of qualifications for professionals and crews</li> </ul>	Not planned			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Granting of authorizations</li> </ul>	Not planned			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection/sanctions (Installation/Discharge/Competent manning)</li> </ul>	Resume discussion on the possibility of establishing a pool of experts in charge of inspecting installations, which could be composed of experts from other experienced regions, as is the case in other areas of expertise			
<b>Training:</b>				
<b>Training A:</b> Indicative length: 2 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the Offshore Protocol</li> <li>• Disposal of Oil and Oily Mixtures and the Use and Disposal of Drilling Fluids and Cuttings</li> <li>• Special Restrictions or Conditions for Specially Protected Areas (SPA)</li> <li>• Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</li> </ul>	Following the development of relevant guidelines (Decision IG.24/9 Annex I and EP/MED WG.498/3), training on these topics will be prioritized in biennium 2022-2023			
<b>Training B:</b> Removal of installations Indicative length: 1 day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of installations and related financial aspects</li> </ul>	Training on removal of installations should follow the development of standards and guidelines in biennium 2022-2023			
<b>Training C:</b> Other topics for 2024-2025 biennium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring</li> </ul>	To be selected based on prioritization by Contracting Parties			To be determined
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material</li> </ul>	Training should follow the development of the corresponding standards and guidelines			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offshore platform Preparedness and Response &amp; Contingency Plan Assessment</li> </ul>	Any additional training to be provided by REMPEC under the framework of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire fighting</li> </ul>	Training should be undertaken as part of the OFOG Safety sub-group			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum standards of qualification for professionals and crews</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Granting of authorizations</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection/sanctions (Installation/Discharge/Competent manning)</li> </ul>	Training should follow the prospective elaboration of a regionally-coordinated inspection programme			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other relevant topics</li> </ul>	As proposed by Contracting Parties			



## 6. Post-2024 directions

14. In line with the main conclusions and recommendations of the second OFOG meeting held in 2019, in the course of the implementation of the activities included in the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan, every effort will be made to take into account new developments under the MAP Barcelona Convention, especially the Ecosystem Approach and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), as well as other pertinent issues, such as the transition to a low carbon economy through marine renewable energy/blue energy sources (e.g. wind, wave, tidal etc.). This is fully in line with the vision, ambition and commitments of the UNEP/MAP on decarbonization and achieving sustainability.

15. The application of the Common Regional Framework (CRF) for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and its extension to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) present an appropriate tool for the integrated management of different sectors in the sea area, including shipping, fisheries, military activities, tourism etc. The development of marine spatial plans based on the principles and steps outlined in the Conceptual Framework for MSP in the Mediterranean (Decision IG. 23/7), including the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as an integral part of the preparation of MSP plans, can guide the development and regulation of offshore activities. This would thus contribute to the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in synergy with other MAP Barcelona Convention policies.

16. The further development of existing specific objectives, e.g. related to monitoring by fully integrating the offshore monitoring programme and reporting in the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP), should also be taken into account. IMAP monitoring data will be used to complement the more targeted and site-specific monitoring of offshore installations and activities, to provide information on whether the impact of offshore activities affects the wider marine and coastal environment.

17. The outcomes of the Interreg MED project, *Maestrale*<sup>1</sup>, demonstrated that marine renewable energy technologies including wind, waves (offshore and inshore), salinity gradient, thermal gradient, currents, tides can be implemented in the Mediterranean. These results were based on feasibility and sustainability assessments in 20 pilot projects. There is also growing interest from Mediterranean countries to cooperate and promote transition to more sustainable blue economy sectors.

## 7. Part II: Resource Mobilization Plan

18. The 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2013 decided that the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) should be financed through extra budgetary resources. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to identify international bodies that might provide specific sources of financing to assist Mediterranean coastal States in carrying out the obligations arising from the Offshore Protocol.

19. The successful implementation of the Offshore Protocol relies on the mobilization of resources (Specific Objective 4 of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan). This includes financial and technical support (including capacity building), through the exploration and mobilization of innovative ways of cooperation on the basis of the interest expressed by the Contracting Parties, industry parties and international organizations.

## 8. Resource needs

20. Funding from the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) for strengthening the human resources capacity of the Secretariat was allocated for the first time through a consultant position. However, the procurement rules imply potential rotation on the position in the long term, which would be overcome

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<sup>1</sup> <https://maestrale.interreg-med.eu/>

through a **fixed-term and sustainable staff position** focusing on offshore issues, including other offshore industry activities such as shipping, renewable energy, on a full-time basis. Through this position, the Secretariat would be responsible for the fulfilment of specific objectives allocated to Secretariat staff time (Table A.2 in Annex I). This would guarantee continuity within the system lead by Secretariat and its Components, as opposed to the intermittent implementation subject to the recruitment of individual consultants and out-sourcing of specific outputs under the consultancy fund.

21. Funding from the MTF is also allocated to specific key activities, notably the organization of the biennial OFOG meeting. Although the organization of online meetings contributes to cutting costs, it is deemed important to **maintain regular physical meetings** which are more conducive to stimulating exchanges among Contracting Parties and other partners.

22. The contributions of the Contracting Parties, primarily in terms of Contracting Parties time, are essential for advancing on the specific objectives listed in Table A.1 in the Annex I, such as the coordinating / contributing to work activities (where particular expertise exists in the CP), participation in meetings, progress reporting etc.

23. Altogether these contributions do not provide sufficient resources to fully meet the requirements and targets set in the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan. Additional external resources (financial and in-kind) are required to ensure that the Offshore Protocol is effectively implemented and yields tangible results, and that activities are supported through a robust governance and cooperation framework.

## 9. Proposed resource mobilization strategy

24. This section proposes alternative ways to close the resource gap.

### i. Contracting Parties' contributions

25. The implementation of the Offshore Protocol can only be feasible if it can rely on the increased leadership and engagement of the Contracting Parties as an integral and operational component of the implementation process. Increased leadership and a higher level of engagement can be effectuated through a number of ways:

- A dedicated chair for OFOG, appointed for a minimum of two years, to ensure better continuity and ownership during the inter-sessional period;
- Setting up correspondence groups/ad-hoc task groups to address and advance on topics of particular interest;
- Development of documents (guidance documents, background papers etc.) assigned to specific lead Contracting Party/ies in their role of task lead, with inputs from Secretariat and/or ad-hoc task groups. As presented in the Annex I, these topics could include:
  - Common criteria, rules and procedures, and regional guidelines for the removal of installations and the related financial aspects (Specific Objectives 7 h) and 8 d)) in 2022-2023;
  - Common standards and regional guidelines on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material (Specific Objectives 7 b) and 8 b)) and the method to be used to analyse the oil content (Specific Objective 7 e) during the biennium 2024-2025;
  - Other standard and guidelines on topics that are currently not planned, including installation safety, minimum standards of qualification for professionals and crew measures, authorisation requirements) in 2022-2023 or during the biennium 2024-2025

26. Voluntary contributions from the Contracting Parties provide highly tangible ways for closing the resource gap. One recent example includes the 2016 bilateral cooperation agreement between the

Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) and UNEP/MAP, which also benefited directly from the implementation of the Offshore Protocol.

ii. Cooperation with industry partners

27. Strengthened cooperation with industry partners would greatly benefit the implementation through the provision of technical capacities e.g. on monitoring, and support e.g. trainings. A contribution to the delivery of online training courses by the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (IOGP), with involvement of relevant topic specialists, is envisaged for the next biennium 2022-2023 (Table 1), as part of the ongoing cooperation with the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC).

28. Support from industry partners would help Contracting Parties advance on the specific objectives related to the transfer of technology and R&D activities. In this regard, participation in Regional projects and programmes co-financed by industry partners, for example Joint Industry Projects, would enhance knowledge exchange and regional collaboration.

iii. Partnerships with international organizations

29. The establishment of partnerships with international organizations would enable the identification of synergies on issues of common interest, e.g. removal of installations, that is currently a pertinent topic of interest for many organizations. These partnerships enable the exchange of information on, e.g. best available practices, technical guidelines and standards, through participation in events in other regions, networking etc. Since the last OFOG Meeting, the Secretariat has established cooperation with IOGP, the London Protocol Secretariat, UNEP Oil for Development Partnership, European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG) and OSPAR Offshore Industry Committee (OIC) on aspects related to technical support and capacity building/trainings. Formalizing the terms of cooperation with these partners would help mobilizing additional required resources mainly in the form of in-kind contributions. New synergies on ongoing activities by other organizations should also be identified and cooperation/partnerships set up e.g. with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), the European Oilfield Specialty Chemicals Association (EOSCA) on topics related to chemicals, in accordance to Specific Objective 2c.

iv. Strengthen capacities through secondments

30. Other ways to strengthen capacities and enhance knowledge transfer would be through a secondments programme. Such programme would allow for the secondments of national officers and industry partners.

v. Identification of additional potential donors and partners

31. Other contributions could come from industry partners motivated by the co-benefits and strategic outcomes resulting from co-funding aspects of the Offshore Action Plan, including activities and human resources. Successful experiences include the Global Initiative between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA), which represents the interests of government and the oil and gas industry respectively, to enhance oil spill preparedness and response capacity for marine spills at priority locations around the world.

### **Annex I**

Overview of milestones, timeline, associated indicative budgets and manpower

**Table A.1 Overview of milestones and timeline per Action/Output relating to the Contracting Parties (2022-2024)**

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	a) Ratification by all Contracting Parties of the Offshore Protocol, transposition of the Offshore Protocol into national law, and cooperation through the Secretariat to ensure compliance with its provisions	Increase the number of Contracting Parties which ratify the Offshore Protocol (8 in 2021)				Contracting Parties time	Depends on CP
	b) Review of the effectiveness of the Offshore Protocol	Review of effectiveness at the end of the implementation period of the current Offshore Action Plan				Contracting Parties time	Depends on CP
2. To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate in the regional governing bodies	a) Nomination of the National Offshore Focal Point designated by all MAP Focal Points to coordinate at national level activities carried out in the framework of the Action Plan and actively participate in the OFOG Group	Contribute to the update of the National Offshore Focal Point list on a yearly basis				Contracting Parties time	1-7 days, depending on CP
	b) Designation, upon request by the Secretariat, through their National Offshore Focal Point, of the appropriate national entities and/or officials as contact points for each OFOG Sub-Group	Contribute to the update of the OFOG Sub-Group contact points on a yearly basis				Contracting Parties time	
	c) Leadership, on a voluntary basis, of the established Sub-Groups to coordinate with the support of the Secretariat the work assigned to the Sub-Groups	-Dedicated OFOG chair, appointment for a minimum of two years -Assign (voluntary) task leads on the development of standards and guidelines (Specific Objectives 7 & 8)				Volunteering	Depends on CP and task

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
		-Set up correspondence groups or ad-hoc task groups on specific issues -See also Part II - RMS					
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	a) Technical cooperation and capacity building programme endorsed as set in Appendix 2 of the Offshore Action Plan	See Table 1				Participation in online trainings see Table 1	See indicative length of trainings in Table 1
4. To mobilize resources for the implementation of the Action Plan	a) Financial and human resources mobilized to support the implementation of the Action Plan, in particular its provisions related to the OFOG Group, technical cooperation, capacity building and monitoring activities	Implement RMS  Evaluate the implementation of RMS and potential update in 2024				Contracting Parties time, with support from Secretariat under Specific Objective 4 a) (Table A.2)	Depends on CP
5. To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making	a) Template for public information, in line with national and regional rules on access to information	Template for public information at the regional level available				Contracting Parties time, with support from Secretariat under Specific Objective 5 a) (Table A.2)	1-3 days for filling template, depending on CP
	b) Report to the Secretariat every two years relevant information on the offshore installations within their jurisdiction including, when appropriate, information on their disposal for inclusion in the inventory to be maintained by the Secretariat	Reporting in BCRS  Increase the number of Contracting Parties that submit their National Report on the implementation of the Offshore Protocol in BCRS (9 CPs for				Contracting Parties time	See Specific Objective 10 a)

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
		2018-2019, of which 4 reported on offshore installations)					
	c) Report to the Secretariat every two years on discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data in accordance with the monitoring programme to be defined by the relevant OFOG Sub-Group	Reporting in BCRS and MEDGIS-MAR platform  Increase the number of Contracting Parties that submit their National Report on the implementation of the Offshore Protocol in BCRS, and that report on discharges, spills and emissions the MEDGIS-MAR platform				Contracting Parties time	See Specific Objective 10 a)
6. To enhance the regional transfer of technology	a) Active participation of the respective scientific and technical institutions, as well as the industry, in R&D activities and programmes related to prevention, response and monitoring of pollution from offshore activities	Enhance knowledge development and exchange through R&D activities and programmes				Contracting Parties time	As appropriate, depending on CP
	b) Presentation of the results of R&D activities and programmes by their respective national institutions and industry in international fora	Enhance knowledge development and exchange through participation in national and international fora				Contracting Parties time	As appropriate, depending on CP
	c) Information on ongoing R&D activities and research needs provided to the Secretariat	Keep the Secretariat abreast of ongoing R&D activities and research needs				Contracting Parties time	1 day per year
7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards	a) Environmental impact assessment regional standards developed based on existing EIA regional standards taking into	Finalized in biennium 2020-2021 for COP 22 consideration	To be completed in 2021			-	-

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
	consideration requirements referred in Annex IV and other best practices						
	b) Common standards, on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, in line with relevant international standards and conventions defining inter alia limits and prohibitions at regional level formulated and adopted	Tentatively in biennium 2024-2025 (see Table 1)				Tasked to CP/s on a voluntary basis, with support from the Secretariat under Specific Objectives 3, 7 and 8 (Table A.2)	Lead/contribution: 20 - 50 days (see End note <sup>1</sup> )  To be assessed and refined by the task group
	c) Identification of the required modifications of Annex I, II and III and definition of which chemicals should be covered and not covered by such standards and under which conditions	Finalized in biennium 2020-2021 for COP 22 consideration	To be completed in 2021			-	-
	d) Common standards on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting formulated and adopted, and revision of the limits set in Article 10 and the prescriptions referred in Annex V of the Protocol	Adopted by COP 21 (Decision IG.24/9)	Completed			-	-
	e) The method to be used to analyze the oil content is commonly agreed and adopted	Tentatively in biennium 2024-2025, as part of Specific Objective 7 b)				Tasked to CP/s on a voluntary basis, with support from the Secretariat under Specific Objectives 3, 7 and 8 (Table A.2)	Lead/contribution: 20 - 50 days (see End note <sup>1</sup> )  To be assessed and refined by task group



Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
	f) Procedures for contingency planning, notification of accidental spills and transboundary pollution established in accordance with the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea	Address through REMPEC work in the framework of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, as needed				Contracting Parties time, with support from the Secretariat under the framework of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol	As appropriate
	g) Special restrictions or conditions for SPAs defined and adopted	Adopted by COP 21 (Decision IG.24/9)	Completed			-	-
	h) Common criteria, rules and procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial aspects adopted	Develop in biennium 2022-2023 in cooperation with international organizations e.g. UNEP Oil for Development Partnership, London Protocol Secretariat, EUOAG and industry parties (e.g. IOGP) (see Table 1).				Tasked to CP/s on a voluntary basis, with support from the Secretariat under Specific Objectives 3, 7 and 8 (Table A.2)	Lead/contribution: 20 - 50 days (see End note <sup>i</sup> )  To be assessed and refined by task group
	i) Common criteria, rules and procedures for safety measures including health and safety requirements adopted	Not planned				-	-
	j) Common minimum standards of qualification for professionals and crews adopted	Not planned				-	-
	a) Regional Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment	Finalized in 2020-2021 biennium for COP 22 consideration	To be completed in 2021			-	-

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines	b) Regional Guidelines on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material	Tentatively in biennium 2024-2025 See Table 1				Tasked to CP/s on a voluntary basis, with support from the Secretariat under Specific Objectives 3, 7 and 8 (Table A.2)	See Specific Objective 7 b)
	c) Regional Guidelines on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurement	Adopted by COP 21 (Decision IG.24/9)	Completed			-	-
	d) Regional Guidelines on removal of installations and the related financial aspects	Develop in biennium 2022-2023 in cooperation with international organizations e.g. UNEP Oil for Development Partnership, London Protocol Secretariat, EUOAG and industry parties (e.g. IOGP) (see Table 1).				Tasked to CP/s on a voluntary basis, with support from the Secretariat under Specific Objectives 3, 7 and 8 (Table A.2)	See Specific Objective 7 h)
	e) Regional Guidelines on installation safety measures including health and safety requirements	Not planned				-	-
	f) Regional Guidelines on minimum standards of qualifications for professionals and crews	Not planned				-	-
	g) Regional Guidelines on authorization requirements based on the above-mentioned Standards	Not planned				-	-

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
	h) A report assessing national, regional and international, rules, procedures and practices regarding liability and compensation for loss and damage resulting from the activities dealt with in the Offshore Protocol.	Not planned				-	-
	i) Contribution through their OPRC Focal Points to the revision of the Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution – Contingency Planning by the IMO Sub-Committee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR) which will include new information related to contingency planning for offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities	Manual on Oil Pollution: Section II published in 2018	Completed			-	-
9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme	a) A regional monitoring programme for offshore activities building, inter alia, on the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme	Set of indicators to complement IMAP addressing offshore activities developed and adopted				Contracting Parties time, with technical support included under Specific Objectives 3 and 9 (Table A.2)	10-30 days every two years, depending on CP
	b) Results of the national offshore monitoring programme and the related agreed data are reported to the Secretariat every two years	Reporting of the national offshore monitoring programme as part of IMAP implementation				Contracting Parties time	
10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan	a) Report on the implementation of this Action Plan, in particular on the effectiveness of the measures defined in this Action Plan and difficulties encountered every two years	Biennial progress updates presented at the OFOG, MAP and COP meetings				Contracting Parties time, including participation in	For travel budget, see Specific Objective 10 b) in Table A.2

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
						biennial OFOG meetings	2-7 days for reporting every two years, depending on CP  2 days per OFOG meeting, not including preparation time
	b) Biennial review of the status of implementation of the Action Plan on the basis of the regional report prepared by the Secretariat	Biennial progress updates presented at the OFOG, MAP and COP meetings				Contracting Parties time	1-3 days for reviewing every two years, depending on CP

i. Indicative man-days estimated based on the consultancy funds of Euro 20,000 per standard/guideline assumed in Appendix I of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (Decision IG.22/3), accounting for a daily rate of 500 USD (420 Euro). This amounts to 48 days.

**Table A.2 Overview of milestones and timeline per Action/Output relating to the Secretariat and its Components (2022-2024)**

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	a) Provision of advice and technical assistance to Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, which so request	Secure fixed-term position dedicated to the Offshore Protocol at the Secretariat				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Assistance in reviewing the effectiveness of the Offshore Protocol	Secure fixed-term position dedicated to the Offshore Protocol at the Secretariat				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
2. To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate in the regional governing bodies	a) Participation of the industry and their representatives as observers to the OFOG Sub-Groups	Sustain participation and engagement of IOGP as accredited MAP partner  Encourage participation of representatives from other relevant parties				Secretariat staff time and travels	End note <sup>i</sup>  Secretariat Travels on Official Business
	b) Enhancement of public awareness through the contribution of IGOs and NGOs with a relevant mandate to the topics discussed in the various OFOG Sub-Groups, through their participation as observers, ensuring an open and transparent process through public consultations	Sustain current level of participation and engagement of NGOs, e.g. WWF Greece  Encourage participation of representatives from other relevant organizations				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	c) Establishment of institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions, initiatives and agreements and, at an operational level, identification and use of possible synergies with ongoing activities of	Sustain cooperation with IOGP, London Protocol Secretariat, UNEP Oil for Development Partnership, EUOAG and OSPAR OIC				Secretariat staff time and any travel required	End note <sup>i</sup>  Secretariat Travel on Official Business

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
	bodies such as the European Maritime Safety Agency	Establish cooperation with other organizations and associations, including EMSA and EOSCA					
	d) Publication and update of the composition of the OFOG Group and Sub-Groups on a dedicated website	Publish and update OFOG Group and Sub-Group contact points on a yearly basis				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	e) Updated list of the National Offshore Focal Points and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points	Update National Offshore Focal Point and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points list on a yearly basis				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	f) Definition, in consultation with MAP Focal Points, of the roles and responsibilities of UNEP/MAP Components to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan	Define roles and responsibilities every two years in the preparation of PoW				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	g) Identification of the required means including human resources to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan and the support of the relevant UNEP/MAP Components.	see Specific Objective 4				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	a) Integration of the technical cooperation and capacity building programme in the six-year programme of activities of UNEP/MAP and its relevant Components and in their biennium programme of work	Integrate within the current draft MTS 2022-2027				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Preparation of the corresponding budget for consideration by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention	Integrate in PoW 2022-2023 and 2024-2025				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
		Mobilize support from national technical experts, industry parties and international organizations					
	c) Identification of donors to secure funds required for the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity building programme	Implement RMS Secure financial and in-kind contribution through collaboration with industry parties and international organizations				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
4. To mobilize resources for the implementation of the Action Plan	a) Identification of additional donors to secure funds for the implementation of the Action Plan	Implement RMS Evaluate the implementation of RMS and potential update in 2024, to be presented at COP 24				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
5. To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making	a) Support the preparation of the template for public information in line with existing Decisions of the Contracting Parties addressing public access to information and with UNEP's Access to Information Policy	Compile links to national websites that provide public access to information Template for public information at the regional level in biennium 2022-2023				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Development of an online regional system and for it to be maintained for the purpose of public information sharing	Develop online regional system for public information sharing				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	c) Publication every two years on a dedicated website of the inventory of installations as well as the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties	Harmonize reporting on the inventory of installations in BCRS with MEDGIS-MAR platform in late 2021				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
		Further update of the inventory subject to reporting by CPs under Specific Objective 5 b) (Table A.1)					
	d) Produce a consolidated report every two years on the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties.	Develop a regional system for reporting on discharges and emissions				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
6. To enhance the regional transfer of technology	a) Support in the identification of fields of research in which there is a need for enhancement of the state-of-the-art of offshore pollution prevention, response and monitoring technologies and techniques	Compile an inventory of R&D activities and research needs e.g. through a dedicated questionnaire				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Dissemination and exchange of results of national R&D activities and programmes within and outside the Mediterranean region	Disseminate and enhance the exchange of information related to R&D results e.g. publication on website				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	c) Participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora facilitated with a view to making better known the results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region	Disseminate and enhance the exchange of information related to R&D results				Participation in relevant fora	-
7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards	a) Support the specific OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common standards	Secure fixed-term position dedicated to the Offshore Protocol at the Secretariat				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>



Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
		Mobilize support from national technical experts, industry partners and international organizations					
8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines on	a) Support the specific OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common guidelines	Secure fixed-term position dedicated to the Offshore Protocol at the Secretariat  Mobilize support from national technical experts, industry parties and international organizations				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme	a) The development/adoption of Mediterranean Monitoring Procedures and Programmes for the above, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, building on the relevant work undertaken in the Monitoring Correspondence Groups in the EcAp process in line with Decision 21/3	Develop and adopt a set of indicators to complement IMAP addressing offshore activities  Establish the Mediterranean Regional Offshore Monitoring Programme as part of IMAP				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Development of the Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System (e.g. Regional Data Bank on Offshore activities through the Barcelona Convention Reporting System or other systems defined by the Contracting Parties)	Streamline offshore data-sharing and monitoring platform with Info-MAP data management system  Establish the Mediterranean Regional Offshore Monitoring Programme as part of IMAP				Secretariat staff time, with support from Info-RAC	40,000 allocated to Info-RAC in 2022-2023

Specific Objective	Actions/Outputs	Key milestones	22	23	24	Means required	Indicative budget (Euro)/ manpower (man-days) (2022-2024)
	c) Production, dissemination and publication, every two years of a report on Discharges, Spills and Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Installations, based on data submitted by countries which should be used as a base for the State of Environment Report regarding the impacts of the offshore oil and gas industry	Develop regional system for reporting of discharges and emissions  Update and publication subject to regular reporting by CPs as part of Specific Objective 5c) (Table A.1)				Secretariat staff time, publication and dissemination	End note <sup>i</sup>
10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan	a) Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators	Provide guidelines to CPs to compile and report information presented in Table A.1 to the Secretariat				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>
	b) Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	Organize a biennial OFOG meeting				Travel/DSA	60,000 <sup>ii</sup>
	c) Consolidated report on the implementation of the Action Plan every two years for its submission to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention	Present biennial progress updates at the OFOG, MAP and COP meetings				Secretariat staff time	End note <sup>i</sup>

i. Taking into account the number of tasks to be implemented by the Secretariat, the creation of a fixed position at the Secretariat should be envisaged.

ii. Two meetings in the period 2022-2024, with a budget of 30,000 Euro per meeting.

**Annex II**

Planned offshore-related activities extracted from draft PoW 2022-2023

**Table A.3 Planned offshore-related activities extracted from draft PoW 2022-2023**

Main activity (means of implementation)	Expected deliverable	Lead Component	Other Component(s)	Partners	SDG Targets	MTF/External Resources/Both
<p>4.2.4. Boost targeted actions for a sustainable and inclusive Blue economy transition at regional and national levels.</p> <p>(in-house expertise, consultancy, national consultation, webinars, side events, expert meetings, Med Forum)</p>	<p>a) State of play on integration of Circular Economy principles into key Blue Economy Sectors (i.e. fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, offshore etc.).</p>	<p>SCP/RAC</p>	<p>INFO/RAC, Plan Bleu and other concerned MAP components</p>	<p>Contracting Parties of the BC to be fully involved in the preparation process of the set of recommendations</p>	<p>8.3; 8.4; 8.9; 12.1; 12.2; 12.4; 12.5; 12.6; 12.7</p>	<p>DG NEAR (SwitchMed II)</p>
<p>4.4.1. Implement key targeted measures of the Offshore Action Plan.</p> <p>(in-house expertise, consultancy, online trainings, regional meeting (OFOG))</p>	<p>a) Common criteria, rules and procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial aspects reviewed by the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) finalised.</p>	<p>REMPEC</p>	<p>CU</p>	<p>IOGP</p>	<p>9.4; 14.1; 14.2</p>	<p>External</p>
<p>b) Online trainings organised on subjects from Appendix 2 of Mediterranean Action Plan to be defined by 2021 OFOG Meeting organised.</p>	<p>External</p>					
<p>c) Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) organised and held;</p>	<p>MTF</p>					

	Offshore Protocol implementation kept under review; sharing of best practices and latest relevant developments.					
6.2.3. Further develop IMAP Common Indicators  (in-house expertise, consultancy, IMAP TF, CORMONs)	b) Offshore Monitoring strategy for IMAP and Offshore Indicators developed.	CU	IMAP Task Force, REMPEC		14.1; 14.2; 14.a	Both
6.3.17. Streamline shipping and offshore data-sharing and monitoring platform with Info-MAP Data management system  (in-house expertise, consultancy, IMAP TF, awareness raising)	a) MEDGIS-MAR linked to Info-MAP Data management system.	REMPEC	INFO/RAC, CU		14.1; 14.a; 9.4	MTF
	b) Awareness raised on a Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean.					MTF
	c) Maintain, upgrade and implement REMPEC databases and data platforms.					MTF
	d) List of indicators reviewed; factsheets prepared and reviewed by the OFOG Meeting and CORMON Pollution.					MTF
7.2.3.c Enhance public awareness and outreach on key MAP topics  (in-house expertise, external expertise, Communication TF, digital campaigns, web platforms,	c) Awareness, information materials on marine pollution from ships and offshore produced and disseminated.	REMPEC	CU and other MAP component as relevant	IMO, IOGP, IPIECA and other partners	Cross-cutting especially SDG 14 Targets	
	e) Support to a Green transport: publication of	REMPEC				

outreach events, publications, IT services)	the study on trends and outlook of marine pollution from ships and activities and of maritime traffic and offshore activities in the Mediterranean. Short videos on Med SOx ECA and Post 2021 Strategy.					
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