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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Fourth Meeting of the Task Team on Implications
of Climatic Changes on Malta

Valletta, 14 September 1992

DRAFT REPORT

**OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE TASK TEAM ON IMPLICATIONS
OF CLIMATIC CHANGES ON MALTA**

REPORT OF THE MEETING

Agenda item 1 - Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting was opened by Mr Salvino Busuttil, Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) on behalf of Mr Mostafa K. Tolba, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). He welcomed participants and thanked the Foundation for International Studies and the Government of Malta for hosting the Fourth Meeting of the Task Team on Implications of Climatic Changes on Malta.

Mr Ljubomir Jeftic, Senior Marine Scientist in the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Climate Impact Studies, expressed his appreciation for the work of the Task Team to date and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Foundation for International Studies who provided support to the Meeting.

Agenda item 2 - Election of Officers

The Meeting unanimously elected Mr David Attard, as Chairman, and Mr John Pernetta, as Rapporteur of the Meeting. Mr Jeftic acted as Technical Secretary of the Meeting.

The full list of participants appears as Annex I to this report.

Agenda item 3 - Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda as proposed by the Secretariat was adopted by the Meeting and appears as Annex II to this report.

Agenda item 4 - Presentation and review of the draft chapters

Mr Jeftic outlined some of the technical problems which had been encountered in producing the draft and apologized to participants that it was not available in advance of the meeting.

The external members of the Task Team highlighted the areas which needed further revision: in particular the need for internal consistency of data between the various chapters and, the need to use only the agreed operative scenarios for Malta, with the three time horizons of 2030, 2050 and 2100 in discussing future impacts. This was considered vital given the need to compare results from the Malta study with those of the other four Mediterranean case studies during the subsequent Meeting on Implications of Climatic Changes on Mediterranean Coastal Areas (Island of Rhodes, Kastela Bay, Syrian Coast, Malta and Cres/Losinj Islands) and the publication of the final case studies reports. The lack of information on past relative sea level changes based on local tide gauge measurements was noticed and it was emphasised that without taking into account past trends in tidal height, any predictions concerning the impact of future sea level change makes little sense.

It was noted that the executive summary, and the synthesis of findings, required further substantial work by the Task Team as a whole, and the section on the recommendations has to be redrafted.

There followed extensive discussions on the various individual chapters and the portions of each requiring revision, modification and/or amendment.

Agenda item 5 - Programme for the finalisation of the report

Mr Jeftic proposed and the Task Team agreed, that following the Meeting on Implications of Climatic Changes on Mediterranean Coastal Areas (Island of Rhodes, Kastela Bay, Syrian Coast, Malta and Cres/Losinj Islands), 15-19 September 1992, the Task Team would incorporate all changes consequent upon these two meetings. The procedures to be followed were tentatively discussed and Mr Jeftic indicated that the timetable and methodology for the finalisation of the report would be decided at the above mentioned Meeting.

Agenda item 6 - Adoption of the report

The draft report including its annexes was considered and adopted as it appears in this document.

Agenda item 7 - Closure of the meeting

Mr Jeftic expressed his satisfaction with the progress to date and with the results of the meeting. He thanked the Chairman and Rapporteur, the Government of Malta and the Foundation for International Studies for technical and logistic assistance.

An exchange of courtesies followed after which the Chairman closed the meeting on 14th of September 1992.

ANNEX I

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ANNEX II

AGENDA

1. **Opening of the Meeting**
2. **Election of Officers**
3. **Adoption of the Agenda**
4. **Presentation and Review of the draft chapters**
5. **Programme of the finalization of the report**
6. **Adoption of the report**
7. **Closure of the Meeting**