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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Consultation Meeting to review the operational
aspects of the Mediterranean GEF Project

Athens, 14-15 September 1998

REPORT

**CONSULTATION MEETING TO REVIEW THE OPERATIONAL
ASPECTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN GEF PROJECT**

UNEP
Athens, 1998

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
REPORT	1 - 3
Annex I : List of Participants	
Annex II : Role of the <i>Ad hoc</i> Technical Committee	
Annex II : Brief description of Activities	

Introduction and Participants

1. The meeting was convened at the premises of UNEP/MAP in Athens (14-15 September 1998) to review the operational aspects of the Mediterranean GEF Project approved by the GEF Council in April 1998. The conclusions of the Meeting are expected to contribute to the preparation of the extended project document which will contain full details on the activities of the Project.
2. The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the Meeting

3. Mr L. Chabason, Coordinator of UNEP/MAP, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He stressed the importance of the Mediterranean GEF project for the long-term implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) and pointed out that the project component related to pollution hot spots would be the main subject discussed at the Meeting.

Agenda item 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work

4. Mr S. Civili, MED POL Coordinator, presented the documents and the agenda, making also a short review of the activities undertaken during 1997 (TDA, hot spots, SAP). He informed the meeting that project brief had been reviewed by the countries in January 1998. He also welcomed the contribution of French GEF (FFEM) to the activity and expressed the wish that the countries concerned would also be involved in the project activities to the maximum possible extent.

Agenda item 3. Review of the operational aspects of the Mediterranean GEF Project

5. After the adoption of the agenda, the project's activities (annex II of the working document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.148/2) were shortly presented by Mr Civili.
6. During the discussion the operational aspects of the project were addressed, mainly focussing on the coordination of the activities and the involvement of the various partners.
7. Mr Sherif Arif (WB/METAP) expressed the interest of World Bank/METAP to cooperate with MAP and the countries within this GEF project and stressed the crucial role which had to be played by the national focal points to be appointed for the implementation of the activities. He further pointed out the importance of the active involvement and participation of the private sector and of the European Commission from the very start of the activities.
8. A review of the activities of the project was made by the Meeting.
9. Concerning the coordination of the project, the role of the Interagency Steering Committee (UNEP, UNDP, World Bank, METAP) was extensively analyzed as the main coordinating body for all the participating parties. Mr Civili also gave detailed explanations concerning the role and the recruitment method for the post of the Project Manager which was being classified in Nairobi.
10. Concerning the implementation of the activities related to the hot spots, Mr Kamizoulis (WHO-UNEP/MAP), shortly reviewed the work carried out during the PDF phase of the project and presented the proposed methodology concerning the analysis, evaluation and prioritization of hot spots.
11. He explained that these activities would be accomplished in order to define the transboundary importance of the hot spots according to well defined technical and environmental criteria whereas

economical criteria would be added for the final selection of hot spots for pre-investment studies. He also described the work to be undertaken by the proposed *ad hoc* Technical Committee (see annex II).

12. Mr Sherif Arif expressed the view that socio-economic aspects should also be included during the preliminary phase of criteria development, besides the technical analysis of the transboundary importance of the hot spots.

13. Mr Kamizoulis, Mr Civili and Mr Pernetta gave detailed explanations concerning the project's activities related to the analysis, prioritization and selection of hot spots suitable for pre-investment studies. They pointed out that this activity would focus on the determination of the regional importance of some hot spots in the Mediterranean region whereas, during the PDF phase, national priorities had been presented. Mr Kamizoulis further explained that the criteria to be developed for hot spots prioritization would be approved by the countries concerned. Similar approach would be followed for the determination of sensitive areas (analysis, development of criteria, prioritization). However, pre-investment studies would be conducted only for hot spots, whereas, for sensitive areas, the activity would only produce an assessment of the problems and recommendations for action.

14. Mr Adly Hassanein (CBU/METAP) expressed the view that sustainable financing of projects should be addressed at the very start as an important aspect of the pre-investment studies.

15. During discussion concerning capacity building, Mr Caplat (FFEM) expressed the interest of FFEM to contribute to the development of inspectorate in a few countries.

16. Ms T. Akhtar (RCBP/METAP), on the basis of past experience of her Programme, offered the expertise of METAP for capacity building, whereas Mr S. Arif offered METAP's contribution for environmental auditing and impact assessment and for pollution monitoring and inspection within the framework of this activity. It was agreed that activities related to environmental education and integrated coastal zone management should be cancelled.

17. Discussion continued on the activities related to the long-term sustainability of SAP MED where it was agreed that the economic instruments to be developed would be offered as options to countries, in order to assist them in developing a sustainable financial platform for a long term implementation of SAP MED activities. In order to avoid any misunderstandings, the activity will be renamed as identification of economic instruments at national level. The Meeting agreed that the World Bank should be involved in this activity from the very start.

18. The activity "national action plans" was presented by Mr Civili, who gave explanations on its implementation. He pointed out that funds would be gradually allocated to countries according to monitorable targets, under the supervision of the interagency committee. Mr Chabason stated that this new generation of national action plans (NAP) should be more specific (action oriented) and their link with the provisions of the LBS protocol would be the main scope of this activity, i.e. aiming at a reduction of land-based pollution. In that context economical and financial aspects played an important role and should be carefully considered during NAP preparation.

19. Cooperation between the industrial sectors and governments' authorities was considered an important issue to be taken into account during NAP formulation and implementation. According to Mr Sherif, NAP should be prepared by UNEP/MAP in close cooperation with the private and the public sector. Mr Chabason recalled the work done by UNEP/Industry-Environment Office (UNEP/IE) in this context and informed the participants that similar aspects will be discussed during a meeting in Trieste/Italy (5-6.10.98), linked to the Thematic Group "Industry and Sustainable Development" as part of the work of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development.

20. It was agreed that further exchange of views was needed in order to draft the detailed tasks and the terms of cooperation between UNEP/MAP and METAP for the implementation of the activity on public participation. The network of MEDCITIES as well as METAP networks could, however, form the basis for public participation and dissemination of information in the context of the activities.

Agenda item 4. Conclusions and recommendations

21. As a result of the discussion of the Meeting, a revised summary table was prepared covering the activities, budget and responsibility of each partner (see annex III).

22. A detailed agreement of cooperation between UNEP/MAP and METAP would be drafted and agreed upon, describing tasks and contributions to each activity concerned. It was however agreed that METAP would be actively involved in the following activities described in the annex III :

- activity 1: **project coordination:** participation at the Inter-Agency Steering Committee
- activity 2c **development of criteria (hot spots):** elaboration of socio-economic criteria to be considered for selection of hot spots
- activity 2e **selection of hot spots for pre-investment studies:** participation at the technical committee
- activity 3a **pre-investment studies (hot spots):** drafting of TOR, assistance to the selection of local consultants, review of studies-reports, technical follow up to the implementation of studies
- activity 4d **identification of sensitive areas:** information campaign (public awareness) on identified problems
- activity 4b **development of criteria (sensitive areas):** elaboration of socio-economic criteria to be considered for the identification of sensitive areas
- activity 7 **public participation:** use of METAP networks for dissemination of information
- activity 8 **preparation of regional guidelines:** provision of guidelines for pollution prevention in industry
- activity 10a **env.auditing-impact assessment (capacity building):** assistance to the formulation and implementation of country projects
- activity 10b **pollution monitoring and inspection (capacity building):** assistance to the formulation and implementation of the activities

23. It was agreed that METAP contribution would be in kind, services and expert time. For the activities related to capacity building, METAP contribution would be estimated to an equivalent of US\$ 450,000 while for the other activities, in particular 2c, 2e, 3a above, an estimate would be made by METAP.

24. It was also stressed that the analysis of 103 pollution hot spots would be based on the findings of the PDF phase of the project and the related budget could be at a later stage reduced.

25. Finally, FFEM financial contribution would mainly focus on capacity building and on the financing of pre-investment studies for 4-5 selected hot spots, while the World Bank would contribute to the development of economic instruments to be proposed to countries for the sustainability of SAP.

Agenda item 5. Closure of the Meeting

26. The Meeting was closed at 13,00 hours of 15 September 1998.

ANNEX I

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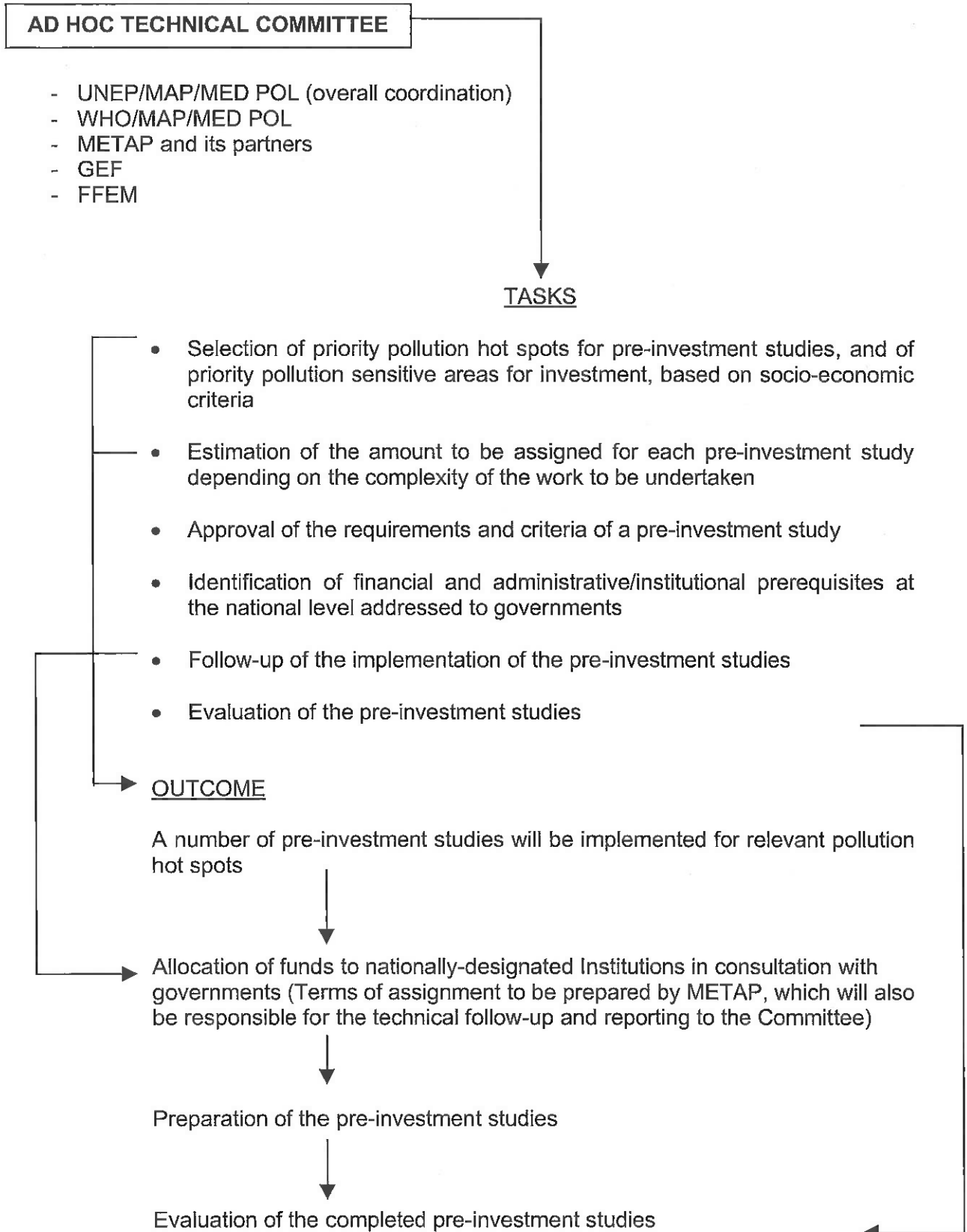
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ANNEX II

Description of the work of the *Ad hoc* Technical Committee



ANNEX III

Brief description of activities

Activity	GEF Budget USD (.000)	MAP Budget USD (.000)	Countries	FFEM USD (.000)	METAP and World Bank	Responsibilities/Actions
1. Project coordination a) Hiring of project staff b) Establishment of coordination and steering committees	569	145	20			
2. a) Establishment of an <i>ad hoc</i> technical committee to oversee activities b) Analysis and evaluation of 103 pollution hot-spots and finalization of TDA c) Development of criteria (including socio-economic criteria) and methodology for prioritization d) Prioritization of pollution hot-spots e) Selection of pollution hot-spots for pre-investment studies	400 20 20	40 20 20	100 50 50		^{1/}	An <i>ad hoc</i> technical committee will be established, composed of MAP/MED POL and WHO/MED POL, METAP and its partners, GEF and FFEM to follow-up all activities. Activities (b), (c) and (d) will be undertaken by WHO/MAP-MED POL. World Bank/METAP will be involved in activity (c) for the socio-economic criteria. Activity (e) will be undertaken by the above committee
3. a) Pre-investment studies for pollution hot spots b) Investment by countries	1800	50	200 1500	1000	^{2/}	Governments under the guidance of the above committee and the technical follow-up of METAP. FFEM will select a number of pre-investment studies where they will be involved financially

^{1/} To be estimated^{2/} To be estimated

Activity	GEF Budget USD (,000)	MAP Budget USD (,000)	Countries	FFEM USD (,000)	METAP and World Bank	Responsibilities/Actions
4. a) Analysis of 51 pollution sensitive areas b) Development of criteria and methodology for prioritization c) Prioritization of pollution sensitive areas d) Identification of pollution sensitive areas for investment	300 20 20	20 10 10	50 50 50			The <i>ad hoc</i> technical committee will follow-up all activities and will undertake activity (d) Activities (a), (b) and (c) will be undertaken by WHO/MAP-MED POL
5. Preparation of SAP for biodiversity	510	40	50			SPA/RAC in cooperation with FAO, IUCN and NGOs
6. Sustainability of SAP MED a) Development of economic instruments b) Adoption and implementation at national level	20 200	20 20	0 100			World Bank, PAP/RAC and National Institutions
7. Public participation a) Development and implementation of a regional programme of public participation b) Identification of the potential role of NGO's c) Facilitation of the public access to activities d) Provisional information to the general public	40 30 20 30	10 10 10 10				MAP in cooperation with NGOs. METAP Networks may be used for the dissemination of information

Activity	GEF Budget USD (.000)	MAP Budget USD (.000)	Countries	FFEM USD (.000)	METAP and World Bank	Responsibilities/Actions
8. Preparation and adoption of regional guidelines						
a) sewage treatment disposal	10	10				(a), (b), (c) and (g) will be undertaken by WHO/MAP-MED POL
b) urban solid waste	15	15				(d) and (e) by CP/RAC-MED POL
c) industrial waste water	10	10				(f) by CP/RAC in cooperation with
d) application of BAT, BEP etc for industries	15	15				FAO
e) application of BAT, BEP for industrial sources of BOD, nutrients and SS	10	10				(h) by MED POL
f) application of BEP for fertilizers in agriculture	15	15				
g) environmental inspection system	15	15				
h) river pollution monitoring progr.	10	10				
9. Preparation and adoption of regional plans						
a) collection and disposal of PCBs	15	15				MED POL is responsible for the preparation of the regional plans, except for (c) which will be undertaken in cooperation with CP/RAC
b) reduction of BOD input by 50% by 2007	10	10				
c) reduction of hazardous wastes from industries by 20% by 2007	10	10				
d) management of hazardous wastes	20	15				
e) regional inventory of quantities and uses of POPs	15	15				
f) regional pollution monitoring progr. for rivers	10	10				
g) regional pollution monitoring progr. for marine environmental quality	10	10				
h) levels and trends of pollution loads	10	10				

Activity	GEF Budget USD (,000)	MAP Budget USD (,000)	Countries	FFEM USD (,000)	METAP and World Bank	Responsibilities/Actions
10. Training programme environmental auditing and impact assessment	0	0	0	0	400	Training programmes for (a) will be undertaken by METAP in cooperation with MAP (b) by WHO/MED POL in cooperation with FFEM and METAP (c) by CP/RAC in cooperation with FFEM (d) by WHO/MED POL in cooperation with FFEM (e) by MED POL in cooperation with FFEM
a) pollution monitoring and inspection	0	30	70	150	50	
b) cleaner production techniques	0	30	60	150		
c) waste water treatment plants	0	30	60	150		
d) river pollution monitoring	0	30	60	150		
11. National Action Plans (NAP)						Activities envisaged under this component include assistance to the inter-ministerial committees of the countries in the development and implementation of individual NAPs. Development of NAPs should include consideration of existing NEAPs, all the components of the SAP/MED and SAP for biodiversity and should be executed in close partnership with country authorities, international organizations, private international institutions, private sector and experts from the region
a) Assistance for NAPs	150	20	50			
b) Assistance for regional guidelines	150	20	50			
c) Assistance for regional plans	150	20	50			
d) Assistance for Hot Spots	150	20	50			
e) Assistance for sensitive areas	150	20	50			
f) Assistance for biodiversity	150	20	50			
g) Assistance for sustainability of SAP MED	150	20	50			
h) Capacity building	150	20	50			
i) Public participation	150	20	50			
GRAND TOTAL	5554	935	2920	1600	450 ^{3/}	
PDF	331	45	120			
ADMIN./IN KIND	405	140				
	6290	1120	3040			

^{3/}

To be adjusted on the basis of METAP contribution for the activities 2. and 3. described on page 1 of this annex, which will be estimated by METAP.

ANNEX II

Description of the work of the *Ad hoc* Technical Committee

