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Meeting of the Bureau of the  
Contracting Parties to the Convention  
for the Protection of the Mediterranean  
Sea against Pollution

Cairo, 1-3 November 1984

## REPORT

1. The Bureau met on 1 to 3 November 1984 as decided at its previous meeting (Athens, 22-23 June 1984). At the kind invitation of the Egyptian Authorities the meeting was held in Cairo. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr Zivorad Kovacevic (Yugoslavia) and H.E. Mr Abdel Razek (Egypt) and Mr J. Ros (Spain), Vice-Presidents and Ms H. Baccar (Tunisia), Rapporteur were also present. The secretariat was represented by Mr A. Manos, the Co-ordinator. The meeting was opened on 1 November 1984 at 10.00 o'clock and ended on 3 November 1984.
2. Mr Manos provided the Bureau with a written and oral report on activities from the previous meeting to-date. The text of the written report is attached as Annex I.
3. The Bureau took note of the report and in the course of its review of programme activities took the following decisions.
4. The number of meetings and workshops should be kept to the minimum indispensable and every effort should be made in order to ensure full participation from developing coastal States in these activities.
5. In dealing with nautical tourism the serious danger this form of tourism may represent for the coastal environment should be kept in mind. Such dangers can be minimized through integrated planning of coastal areas and through environmental impact assessments prior to port construction.
6. The Bureau was of the opinion that, as a matter of policy, MAP activities should not be organized in conjunction with purely commercial initiatives.

7. The Bureau took note of the support extended to non-governmental organizations in connexion with the EEB Conference on the Mediterranean. Support to them should be mainly through the dissemination to them of information relating to the Action Plan.

Action taken on General Assembly Resolution 38/139

8. The President informed the Bureau of the contents of a letter addressed to him by the Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs in reply to the letter he had written to the Secretary-General in connexion with resolution 38/139 of the General Assembly (UNEP/BUR/21, paragraph 21).

The MEDEAS situation

9. The Co-ordinator informed the Bureau that MEDEAS would be ceasing activities on 31 December 1984 and that proposals from the French authorities for alternative arrangements were expected soon. The Bureau invited the President and the Co-ordinator to meet with the appropriate French authorities soonest in order to discuss the form of their continued support to the second phase of the Blue Plan.

Regional Activity Centres

10. The Bureau held an extensive discussion on the Regional Activity Centres. It requested the secretariat to prepare and circulate to the Bureau before its next meeting, a paper containing :

- a) a systematic review of all legal and other decisions concerning the Centres taken by the Contracting Parties
- b) an analysis of the legal situation and experience in each one of them
- c) suggestions aimed at a better definition of the special status of such Centres, including practical solutions to operational problems.

10th anniversary meeting

11. The Bureau requested the Co-ordinator to prepare the 10th anniversary ministerial level meeting documentation before the next meeting of the Bureau. Agreement on structure of the meeting and on the documentation had been reached at the previous meeting of the Bureau (UNEP/BUR/21, paragraphs 22-24).

12. Advance notification to Governments will be required to enable them to prepare themselves for that meeting

CSCE Seminar on Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean (Venice, 16-26 October 1984)

13. The Co-ordinator informed the Bureau on the above seminar which he had attended in part, as representative of UNEP. The Bureau took note of the support for greater co-operation expressed by that Seminar, particularly in regard to strengthening co-operation in the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

Meetings with Egyptian authorities

14. On 1 November 1984, the President, members of the Bureau and the Co-ordinator met with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Dr Boutros Ghali. He reconfirmed the interest of his Government in regional co-operation in the Action Plan.

15. On 3 November 1984, the Bureau and the Co-ordinator met with the Vice-President and members of the National Academy of Scientific Research and Technology. A review was carried out of programme components and of Egypt's participation in them. The meeting confirmed the readiness of Egyptian scientific and technological institutions to organize training courses and to participate in regional and sub-regional activities, for which the Academy may be able to provide limited local funds.

16. The Bureau was informed that a National Report on marine pollution would be published soon. The book reviews the state of pollution of Egyptian coastal waters, analyzes international obligations and national legislation, and examines the role and responsibilities of national institutions.

Vote of thanks

17. The Bureau and the representative of the secretariat wished to place on record their sincere appreciation to the Government of Egypt for the facilities, hospitality and courtesies extended to them throughout their stay in Cairo.

Date and place of next meeting

18. The Bureau decided to meet in Athens on 21-22 March 1985.

Adoption of report

19. On 3 November 1984 the Bureau adopted its report.

## ANNEX

## MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Activities from June to October 1984

MED-POL

1. An experts consultation meeting on reference methods (FAO/UNEP) for the determination of chemical contaminants in marine organisms was held at FAO Headquarters in Rome from 4 to 8 June 1984. Seventeen participants attended from France, Israel, Italy, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, Yugoslavia.
2. An intercalibration exercise and consultation meeting on microbiological methods for coastal water monitoring for English-speaking countries (WHO/UNEP) was held in Athens from 25 to 29 June. 28 participants from Cyprus, Greece, Israel, Malta, Turkey and Yugoslavia attended the exercise.
3. A meeting on the biogeochemical cycle of mercury in the Mediterranean (FAO/IAEA/WHO/IOC/UNEP) was organized in Siena from 27 to 31 August 1984 with 24 participants from Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Monaco. Turkey and Yugoslavia.
4. Participation of Italy in the Med jelly-fish programme was agreed upon in a meeting held at Santa Margherita (5 July 1984) between Unit staff and Italian scientists.
5. The Med Unit sponsored participation of scientists from France, Greece, Malta and Yugoslavia in the Workshop on Jelly-fish organized by the International Centre on Mediterranean jelly-fish (CIMAM) at Trieste on 3-4 September 1984.
6. A meeting on Methyl-mercury (WHO/FAO/UNEP) was organized in Zagreb on 17 - 18 September 1984. 21 participants from France, Israel, Italy and Yugoslavia attended.
7. The VII ICSEM/IOC/UNEP Workshop on pollution in the Mediterranean was held in Lucerne (Switzerland) from 11 - 13 October 1984. 50 participants from Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and Yugoslavia were financed by the Unit.

Blue Plan

8. The Steering Committee of the Blue Plan held its second meeting in Sophia Antipolis on 7 - 8 September 1984 to review work progress. Its report has been distributed to the National Blue Plan Focal Points.

9. A Seminar on Development and Environment reviewing the experience of the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno was held by the Blue Plan in Rome from 21 - 24 May 1984.

10. A joint Blue Plan - PAP Seminar on Nautical Tourism in the Mediterranean was held in Cannes on 27 - 29 September 1984. Fifteen participants from Cyprus, Egypt, Spain, Greece, Israel, Tunisia and Yugoslavia were financed by the programme.

11. Consultations with French authorities were started following their decision to suspend activities of MEDEAS, the supporting organization for the Blue Plan, as of 31.12.1984.

PAP

12. A consultation meeting on Aquaculture was held at the Med Unit in Athens on 12 - 13 July 1984 with the Directors of Programme Activity Centre for Priority Actions Programme and of the FAO/UNDP Mediterranean Regional Aquaculture Project (MEDRAP) to develop a complementary programme in this field. It was included among the proposals submitted to the Meeting on co-operation in Brussels (see item 20 below) and was endorsed by the meeting.

13. PAP/RAC sent review missions in April-May 1984 for its project of water supply to islands and isolated coastal areas to Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Spain and Tunisia. Mission reports are being studied.

14. A study on the use of solar water heaters in Cyprus, commissioned by PAP/RAC, has been completed.

SPA

15. A consultation was held at the Headquarters of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) at Morges on 2 August 1984 with Med Unit staff, the Director of the Tunis Centre for Specially Protected Areas and Mme H. Baccar to develop a detailed work programme for the Centre. The executive Director of UNEP and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs signed the project document in Tunis in September 1984.

Malta Centre

16. In July 1984 Mr. Le Lourd completed his assignment as Director of the Centre. Mr. M. Voirin (France) was appointed to the post from 1 July 1984. Mr. Domovic (Yugoslavia) was appointed as technical expert.

Other Matters

17. The Bureau of the Contracting Parties met in Athens on 22 - 23 June 1984 to review work progress. Its report was circulated to all Governments.

18. Eight participants from Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Syria and Turkey were sponsored by the Unit to attend the IMO/UNDP seminar on port reception facilities, held in London on 30 - 31 August 1984.

19. The Med Unit sponsored participation of five NGO representatives from Cyprus, Israel, Morocco, Tunisia and Yugoslavia in the meeting of NGOs on the Mediterranean organized in Brussels (20-21 October 1984) by the European Environmental Bureau.

20. A meeting on the contribution of Mediterranean bilateral and multilateral programmes to the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan was held in Brussels (23-26 October 1984) at the invitation of the EEC. Participants from Egypt, Greece, Israel, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Yugoslavia were sponsored by the Unit.

21. During this period Spain ratified the Protocol on Land-based sources of pollution (6 June 1984) and the EEC approved the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas (30 June 1984).

22. The Senior Marine Scientist, Dr. Cruzado, completed a three-year assignment with the Unit on 26 September 1984.

23. Mr. I. Dharat (Libya) joined the Unit as Programme Officer (Economist) on 21 September 1984.

24. Ms A. Benomar (Morocco) was accepted as a trainee in the Unit for one month in August 1984.