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

Tunis, 21-22 March 1985

REPORT

1. The Bureau met on 21-22 March 1985 as decided at its previous meeting (Cairo, 1-3 November 1984). At the kind invitation of the Tunisian authorities the meeting was held in Tunis. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr Zivorad Kovacevic (Yugoslavia) and H.E. Mr Abdel Razeq (Egypt) and Mr J. Ros (Spain), Vice-Presidents and Mrs H. Baccar (Tunisia), Rapporteur, were also present. The secretariat was represented by Mr A. Manos, the Co-ordinator and Mr L. Jeftic, Senior Marine Scientist. The meeting was opened on 21 March 1985 at 9 o'clock and ended on 22 March 1985.

Progress report

2. Mr Manos provided the Bureau with a written and oral presentation on activities from the previous meeting to date. The text of the written report is attached as Annex I. The Bureau took note of the report and made the following comments :

3. The Bureau stressed the importance of establishing national monitoring programmes in all coastal states in accordance with Med Pol - Phase II procedures and of submitting relevant data to the co-ordinating Unit. Mr Ros indicated that the programme covering his country would be submitted before May 1985.

4. The Bureau noted that progress was made towards a solution of the Blue Plan situation. It stressed the need to concentrate the efforts on the programme approved by the Contracting Parties, to recruit the research staff of the Blue Plan with no change of the approved budget, and continue close co-ordination with PAP/RAC.

5. Satisfaction was expressed for the progress made by the PAP programme. In particular, in view of the importance of aquaculture the Bureau asked the secretariat to explore with FAO the possibility of promoting a general conference on aquaculture in the Mediterranean in 1986 or 1987.
6. The Bureau took note of the progress made in founding the SPA Centre and requested that staff appointments be made as soon as possible by IUCN with experts from Mediterranean countries. The Bureau took note with satisfaction that Tunisia had appointed a full-time staff member to the Centre.
7. With regard to the Oil Combating Centre, the secretariat was requested to evaluate the administrative structure of the Centre. The future role of the Centre should be considered in the report on the evaluation of MAP, but should continue to concentrate on problems of oil pollution.
8. The status of the MTF was found to be satisfactory. In addition to the countries listed in the progress report, Yugoslavia and Spain had recently sent their contributions to the fund.
9. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that all professional posts in the Unit have now been filled and reaffirmed the need of recruiting an international secretary as approved in the budget.
10. The ratification by Greece of the Headquarters agreement was noted with satisfaction and thanks were addressed to the host country for the support it gives to the Unit.

Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties
Genoa, 9-13 September 1985

11. The Bureau was informed by the Co-ordinator on the progress made in the preparations for the fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
12. Agreement was reached with the Municipality of Genoa on their hosting of the above meeting.
13. Necessary steps should be taken by Italy as the host country for the Meeting and by the secretariat, with the help of the President of the Bureau and the Executive Director of UNEP, to ensure that most Heads of delegations are at the Ministerial level.
14. The Bureau was informed that first drafts of the Evaluation of MAP in the first ten years and the Assessment of Pollution in the Mediterranean had been prepared by consultants.
15. After discussing the structure and content of the most important papers for the Genoa meeting it was concluded that :

- the above mentioned papers should give the evaluation of MAP and assessment of pollution without giving recommendations for the future ;

- these papers should be prepared by April 15 and April 30, respectively, and sent to the Bureau members and to Dr Tolba and Dr Keckes by the 5th of May ;
- the draft text of a Declaration on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of MAP should be prepared by the secretariat and sent to the Bureau members, and to Dr Tolba and Dr Keckes by the 5th of May ;
- recommendations on the future of MAP should be prepared by the secretariat by April 30, and sent to the members of the Bureau and to Dr Tolba and Dr Keckes by the 5th of May.

The proposed calendar should be kept so that the documents can be sent to the Contracting Parties in time.

16. The Bureau reviewed and approved the draft Provisional Agenda for the Genoa Meeting as proposed by the secretariat.

Regional Activity Centres

17. A secretariat paper on the RAC's was reviewed in detail and found satisfactory. The Bureau requested the secretariat to incorporate it in the evaluation paper and to expand the recommendations as a set of guidelines on RAC's.

Other matters

18. The support expressed by the Interparliamentary Union for the MAP at their Conference in Nairobi was welcomed by the Bureau. It was hoped that an IPU observer will address the Meeting in Genoa.
19. In view of the special attention given by the Council of Europe to the Environment and to the Coastline zone the Council should also be invited to the Meeting.
20. The Bureau took note of the conclusions and recommendations of the Data Processing Meeting which was held in Athens, March 1985.
21. Also, the Bureau took note of the results of the Concawe Seminar and of other activities.

Vote of thanks

22. The Bureau expressed its gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to it by the Government of Tunisia.

Date and place of the next Bureau Meeting

23. The Bureau decided to hold its next meeting on 31 May and 1 June 1985 in Athens.

Adoption of the Report

24. On 22 March 1985, the Bureau adopted its report.

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

Working Paper No.1
4 March 1985

Tunis, 21-22 March 1985

Progress report by the Co-ordinator

(Working paper on MAP activities from November 1984 to March 1985, and status of MAP as at 15th March 1985).

Long term programme for pollution monitoring and research (MED POL PHASE II)

National Monitoring Programmes

Agreements received:	11	
Signed by National Co-ordinator and UNEP:	6	Cyprus, Israel, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Yugoslavia
Signed by UNEP:	3	Algeria, Greece, Turkey
Under review:	2	Egypt, Tunisia
Not received:	6	France, Italy, Libya, Monaco, Spain, Syria

2. A preliminary mission was carried out in Italy in November 1984 (Mr. Civili), in relation to the participation of the Ministry of Merchant Marine in the National Monitoring Programme. A letter from the President, Mr. Kovacevic, to the Foreign Minister of Italy, on this matter, has received no reply. An interministerial meeting on the subject was held in March 1985.

3. On November 1, 1985, Libya has informed the MED UNIT of its decision of designating the Libyan Co-ordinator for MED POL and the libyan national focal point for the MAP.

Maintenance and intercalibration

4. Intercalibration exercise and consultation on microbiological methods for coastal waters monitoring (WHO) for french-speaking countries, Tunis (12-16 November 1984) in co-operation with the Institut Pasteur. 26 participants from France, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Tunisia and Yugoslavia. Seven participants financed by the project. Report will be issued by WHO.

5. Intercalibration exercise of analytical methods for Petroleum hydrocarbons (IOC) Barcelona 12-16 November 1985. In co-operation with the Institute of Applied Organic Chemistry, High Council of Scientific Investigations. 18 participants from Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Libya, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia. 11 participants financed by the project. Report to be issued by IOC.

6. Meeting on toxicity, carcinogenicity and bioaccumulation of selected substances in marine organisms (FAO/UNEP) - Rovinj 5-9 November 1984. Hosted by the Center for Marine Research, Rovinj. 34 participants from Egypt, Greece, Italy, Tunisia, Turkey, Yugoslavia. 16 participants financed from the project. Report to be issued by FAO.

7. The Working Group on Scientific and Technical Co-operation (WGSTC), originally scheduled to take place in December 1984, has been postponed. The documentation, some of it expected from Agencies, was not ready in the required languages. The postponement will allow the WGSTC to review documentation covering the entire Calendar year 1984. The new date for the meeting is 27-31 May 1985.

Integrated planning of the development and management of the resources of the Mediterranean Basin

Blue Plan

8. The Bureau, during its Cairo Meeting (1-3 November 1984), expressed concern over recent development of MEDEAS and invited the President and the Co-ordinator to contact the French authorities urgently (UNEP/BUR/22, paragraph 9).

9. On 5 November 1984, Mr. Kovacevic and Mr. Manos met with Mme Bouchardeau, Minister for Environment. She confirmed the French Government's intention to continue support to Blue Plan, possibly at another location.

10. On 11 December 1984, the Co-ordinator reviewed with officials of the Ministry of Environment in Paris the french proposals for support to Phase II during 1985. They were found satisfactory and were submitted to UNEP Hqs for review and approval. The new project document was signed in March.

11. A group of experts on scenarios was convened in Nice on 22-23 November 1984. 14 experts from six countries participated. 12 participants were financed from the project.

12. The Steering Committee composed of the National Focal Points of Italy (president), Morocco, (vice-president), Spain, Syria, Turkey and Yugoslavia held its third meeting in Sophia Antipolis on 21-23 February 1985. The Co-ordinator attended the meeting. The report will be issued by Mr. Grenon.

B. Priority Actions Programme

13. The post of programme officer provided for in the project document has not been filled pending clarification of his status vis-à-vis the Yugoslav authorities.

14. PAP - bulletins were regularly issued and disseminated.

15. Directories of institutions and experts on human settlements, soil protection and in tourism: Contacts with Coastal States continued through correspondance and local consultants in order to obtain replies to Questionnaire. A mission by Mr. A. Baric of PAP/RAC to Turkey and Malta was undertaken in November - December 1984. On the basis of these activities, relevant data have been completed for a draft version of the Directories in these fields.

16. Integrated Planning and Management of Coastal Zones. Nine Mediterranean countries are taking part in this project. National reports and case studies were obtained from Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta and Spain. A draft summary report was prepared and submitted to an expert meeting (18-19 February 1985).

17. Water Resources Development of Islands and Isolated Coastal Areas. Eight countries are taking part in this project. A fact finding mission visited the participating countries. Reports were prepared and disseminated to the National Focal Points of the participating countries for appraisal, comment and supplementing as well as for suggestions for the follow-up. An expert meeting (October 1985) will discuss a draft summary report containing a proposal for the selection of case studies.

18. Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Historic Settlements

Ten countries participate in this action. National reports have been obtained from Cyprus, France, Italy, Israel, Spain and Yugoslavia. A seminar will be held in Split, May 1985.

19. Land use planning in earthquake zones. 8 countries agreed to participate. National experts have been nominated and terms of reference for national reports have been prepared.

20. Soil protection

This project is in the preparatory stage. Six countries have so far shown their interest for the action. Necessary background material are being prepared.

21. Tourism

Five countries have registered for participation in the project.

22. Solar Energy

The report on the use of solar energy in Cyprus was cleared by the Unit and was distributed to all National Focal Points for PAP.

23. Aquaculture

The envisaged activity in this priority field consists of the familiarization with the state of affair in the Mediterranean, particularly with the activities of MEDRAP. A project proposal for the MEDRAP-MAP/PAP Co-operation has been prepared and accepted by the second session of the MEDRAP Advisory Committee (Nicosia, October 84). Also, the co-operative programme has been developed in detail and considered at the meeting of experts in the field held in Rome (13-14 December 1984).

24. Extensive efforts have been made in the improvement of contacts and strengthening links with PAP National Focal Points with a view to attracting the interest of Mediterranean countries (particularly those developing) for various PAP projects.

25. The PAP project revision for 1985 including January 1986 (ME/5102-83-05) was approved by UNEP Headquarters in February 1985.

26. During a visit to FAO in February 1985 the Director of PAP/RAC established working contacts with FAO officials dealing with soils, energy and aquaculture.

C. Specially Protected Areas (SPA)

27. The project document of support to the Centre was signed by the Executive Director and the Tunisian authorities during ED's official visit in September 1984. An Agreement with IUCN has been signed.

D. Regional Oil Combating Centre (ROCC)

28. General training course in anti-pollution combating, MEDIPOL 84, was organized for the fourth time in Marseille 4-14 December 1984. 14 participants from thirteen Mediterranean countries participated in this course. The programme covered the different aspects of anti-pollution combating.

29. Two issues of ROCC News have been published during 1984 in both the English and French versions.

30. The Centre has disseminated the List of Alerts and Accidents. A revised edition of the Directory of Societies offering Services in the Mediterranean in Cases of Emergency, as well as of the Inventory of Oil Pollution Combating Experts in the Mediterranean Region are in preparation.

Preparations for the Meeting of Contracting Parties (Genoa, September 1985).

31. Firm agreement was reached with the Municipality of Genoa on their hosting the above meeting, during a visit of the Co-ordinator on 19-20 February 1985.

32. Consultants have completed the preliminary draft of the document on the 10th anniversary meeting. The text will be presented to the Bureau for comments.

Regional Activity Centres (RAC's)

33. The Bureau, at its Cairo meeting, requested the secretariat to prepare and circulate to the Bureau before the next meeting a paper on the system of Regional Activity Centres (RAC's).

The secretariat has prepared a report based on its experience and the experiences of the regional centres for comments by the Bureau.

Mediterranean Trust Fund

34. The contributions received from November 1984 to March 15, 1985 are as follows:

Malta	19 November 1984	2,081	
France	20 November 1984	108,000	
Turkey	14 December 1984	651	
Lebanon	18 December 1984	3,386	
Italy	8 January 1985	1,196,545	
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(Greek special contribution for 1984)	equivalent to	\$ 401,342	at UN rate of exchange

Outstanding pledges for 1984 and previous years stand at \$ 453,776, of which 76,477 is a reduction in pledge (by EEC).

7. List of Meetings:

35. The list of 1984 and 1985 meetings convened in the framework of MAP is attached.

8. Staff Matters:

36. The following staffing changes are recorded:

The Executive Director approved the appointment of Mr. L. Jeftic (Yugoslavia) for the post of Senior Marine Scientist in replacement of Mr. A. Cruzado. Mr. Jeftic has joined the Unit on 8 March 1985.

37. The Executive Director approved the appointment of Ms K. Altiner (Turkey) to the post of Data Processor, in replacement of Ms G. Yilmaz (Turkey) who resigned from the Unit on 15 January 1985.

9. Office Matters:

38. Two interpretation cabins and equipment were installed in the Unit's Conference room in November 1984. Meetings of up to 50 participants can be conducted in two languages.

39. During January 1985, new computer equipment was installed in the MED Unit. It is used for graphics maps and statistical data will be presented on paper or on its screen with high precision and in colour. It will communicate with the main WANG VS-80 computer installation in order to handle the data.

40. The Greek Parliament ratified on 13 December 1984 the Agreement between Greece and the U.N. regarding the Headquarters of UNEP's Co-ordinating Unit for the MAP.

41. The use of the Conference room was offered to RS/PAC for the meeting of GESAMP Working Group XIV on the Transport of Pollutants through the atmosphere, which was held on 21-25 January 1985.

42. The use of the Conference room was offered to RS/PAC for the meeting of Regional Seas Secretariats in which Arab Coastal States participate. The meeting took place on 16-17 February 1985.

43. The use of the Conference room of the Unit was offered to WHO/EURO for their working group for establishing guidelines for organic carcinogenic air pollutants which was held on 4-8 March 1985.

44. The MED Unit co-sponsored the seminar on "Aspects of the prevention of oil pollution in the Mediterranean Sea", organized by E & P Forum and Concawe, which was held in Athens on 11-13 February 1985. The Unit financed thirteen participants from Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

45. The consultations meeting on Data Processing Requirements for the various components of MED, was held at MED Unit offices on 14-15 March 1985.

ANNEX I

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(Working paper on MAP activities from November 1984 to March 1985, and status of MAP as at 15th March 1985).

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