



PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME



MINUTES

THIRD SESSION OF THE INTER-AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IAAC)

on the

CO-ORDINATED MEDITERRANEAN POLLUTION MONITORING AND RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Paris, 4 - 5 April 1977

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MINUTES

The meeting, held at UNESCO Headquarters on 4 - 5 April 1977, was attended by participants listed in Annex I. Dr. S. Keckes (UNEP Programme Co-ordinator) welcomed the participants of the meeting and introduced the provisional Agenda (Annex II) which was adopted without change.

The minutes could not be prepared and cleared during the meeting and Dr. S. El Wakeel was charged to prepare it afterwards and distribute to the participants.

1. Present status of the seven pilot projects

Dr. S. Keckes distributed to participants a printout of computerised information on participating institutions in MED PMRP and promised to have it updated and distributed to them monthly. He asked the participants to compare this information with that which they presented and provide him with their remarks which would be taken into consideration in the updated printout.

Mr. A. Wenblad informed the meeting that 49 institutions were nominated to participate in the four FAO(GFCM)/UNEP pilot projects and that 80 agreements were already made, either signed or cleared. The rest of the agreements are being negotiated. Equipment was delivered and installed in laboratories who had signed the agreements first in June 1976. Training was also provided through fellowships and short scientific visits. These total about 32 fellowships and 26 scientific visits. Some fellowships are already in the job training and the scientific visits are being prepared for principal investigators who are called to expert consultations. Some of the principal investigators are preparing their data to be published and this was discussed with Dr. Keckes, the Programme Co-ordinator. It was decided to ask them to insert a footnote saying the results of the work are within FAO/UNEP Mediterranean projects.

A selected bibliography on studies and research relevant to Pollution in the Mediterranean, including 1200 references, was prepared in January 1977 and will come soon. Mr. Wenblad referred also to a document which he distributed to participants on the status of training in the joint FAO (GFCM)/UNEP Co-ordinated MED PMRP. Dr. Keckes suggested to participants to use the terms 'short-term' and 'long-term' training for scientific visits and fellowships.

He asked participants to provide UNEP with copies of relevant correspondence to laboratories who have refused to sign the agreements in order to intervene and try to solve such problems with national authorities.

G. Ponghis suggested the circulation of signed agreements to different agencies in order to make use of it in the preparation and negotiation of those with WHO. For practical reasons, it was agreed that the distribution of the updated information of UNEP on the status of the pilot projects will be useful in this connection and the agencies are still free to exchange information among each other.

L. Andren informed the meeting that IOC activities are behind and that they could have been started earlier. The use of non-convertible currencies for equipment was another delay. He referred to some problems such as the refusal of some laboratories to sign agreements such as those in Spain, although they are on their way to being solved

With regards to the drift-card experiment within MED-6, an ad-hoc meeting held at Dubrovnik, October 1976 agreed on an operational plan to start as a first phase in the Legurian Sea. The drift-cards are now prepared and hoping to be released in May so that IOC can present the results at the mid-term review meeting at Barcelona in order to get a decision on the outline based on the experiences gained in the Legurian Sea.

The inter-calibration exercises are taking place along with those of the IGOSS pilot project on Marine Pollution (petroleum) Monitoring. Bibliography on petroleum pollution is being prepared.

Dr A. Cruzado reported on the status of the two IOC/UNEP Pilot Projects. For MED-I, seven agreements have been signed, four negotiated, six submitted, one laboratory did not answer (Rijeka) and five laboratories refused to sign the agreement (Spain, Nimes (France) and Split). The expenditure for MED-I is \$56,000 for equipment and \$4,000 for training. For MED-VI, seven agreements are signed, two negotiated, six in preparation, five expected to be submitted and three refused to sign agreements. The expenditure envisaged for MED-VI is \$60,000 for equipment and \$5,000 for training. Equipment is going to be delivered to laboratories soon this month.

There are some cases where there are difficulties in reporting results of work through national co-ordinators. It is also noticeable that there are no laboratories from Italy nominated to participate in MED-I.

Dr. S. Keckes asked participants to send copies of their correspondence with laboratories to the national co-ordinator and not through him. In the case of Italy, Professor Macchi is still the National Co-ordinator until we receive the official nomination of the National Co-ordinator for Italy. He also referred to the problem of the Engineering Department of the Middle East University, Ankara which is nominated but so far have not responded to any correspondence. He promised to solve this matter with the national authorities in Turkey.

Mr. G. Ponghis distributed to participants a table summarizing the status of the WHO/UNEP pilot project MED-VII. Eight countries only have submitted draft agreements forms but none as yet are signed. Some laboratories in Greece and Yugoslavia already started the work although

they have not yet signed the agreement forms. He pointed out the difficulties they face when they have only about \$77,000 for equipment to be provided to participating laboratories and thus there is little incentive to offer them. Some laboratories asked for financial support to their personnel from WHO. He enquired if there was any possibility to comply with such a request.

WHO together with UNEP have held two meetings, one in Rovinj in February 1977 on Guidelines for Coastal Water Quality Monitoring and another in Athens, March 1977 on Health Criteria and Epidermeology of Health Risks related to Beach and Coastal Pollution. Mr G. Ponghis hoped to have the report of these two meetings ready by the mid-term review meeting for MED-VII.

Dr. S. Keckes commented saying that the money given to the specialized agencies is specified as assistance in the form of training and equipment. In certain cases, a small cash contribution can be given for purchase of chemicals, limited to \$500-1,000-. He also advised WHO to negotiate with a firm to get the best quotations for equipment and distribute it to the participating laboratories.

Mr. A. Wenblade asked if all agencies are following the same pattern of in-job training, as he noticed the IOC representative talked about a training course in Barcelona. Mr. Andren said that the proposed demonstration to take place in Barcelons was not a training course.

Dr. S. El.Wakeel briefed the meeting on his recent mission to the African Mediterreanean Countries and the potential institutions which he contacted and identified to UNEP's focal points as competent to participate in the seven networks of the pilot projects. He expected UNEP to receive these additional nominations before the forthcoming mid-term review meetings in order to have a better participation covering the southern Mediterranean especially in the IOC and WHO/UNEP pilot projects. The agencies could then invite the principal investigators from the additional institutions to participate in the mid-term review meetings.

A short discussion took place on the correspondence between the agencies and UNEP and Dr. Keckes said that in order to solve problems that may arise due to the absence of the contact person or other engagements, the agencies can send a letter to UNEP nominating officially another person.

With regards to the purchasing of equipment from non-convertible currency, Dr. Keckes said it was finally decided to purchase some equipment such as microscopes, salinometers etc., besides only one unit of the Atomic Adsorption Spectrephotometer and the Gas Chromatograph from the Soviet Union. The latter two pieces of equipment are going to be delivered to the International Marine Radioactivity Laboratory in Monaco to be tested for its effectiveness and possible distribution of similar ones to laboratories in other regional seas. The Soviet Union promised to deliver this equipment in two months from now. After six months from delivery, the Monaco Laboratory have to recommend it for use in other regions.

2. Regional Activity Centres (RAC) for the seven pilot projects

Dr. Keckes briefed the meeting about UNEP's negotiations with the Mediterranean Governments and the discussions among the specialized agencies which resulted in the selection of the seven regional activity centres. Last November, a letter was sent from Dr. Tolba, the Executive Director of UNEP to the Governments with the list of the seven selected centres. Mr. A. Wenblad informed the meeting that the agreement for RAC II at Rovinj was negotiated and signed and is expected to be sent to UNEP for signature. The agreement for RAC III, Ankara will be negotiated at FAO Rome in May. Regarding the negotiations and finalization of the agreements for the other two RAC's (IV and V), the only problem is the difficulty of fixing dates suitable for both UNEP and FAO. Dr. Keckes added that it was preferable to visit these RAC's on the spot but they will try to finish all negotiations with the Regional Activity Centres before the mid-term review meetings. He added that the centres are recognized as existing since they have been selected.

Dr. L. Andren informed the meeting about the progress in the negotiations with the RAC's for MED-I and Med-VI. Dr. Keckes and Dr. Andren visited the RAC for MED I in Malta last March and discussed the agreement form with the responsible people at Malta University. Copies of the finalized agreement form are received and the centre will be assisting in the preparation for the mid-term review meeting for MED I. For this particular centre, provisional arrangements were taken for its close co-operation with the IMCO/UNEP Regional Oil Combating Centre in Malta in the preparation of contingency plans in case of emergency. Dr. Keckes proposed that there should also be close collaboration between other agencies as FAO related to the contingency plans. Discussions about the RAC for MED-VI took place in Alexandria last December and the finalized copy of the agreement have not yet been received. Dr. Keckes added that another issue was also discussed in Alexandria and that was the additional support to the RAC through strengthening the National Oceanographic Data Centre at Alexandria established with the UNDP project of Marine Sciences for Egypt. As there are not enough resources for equipment needed for the centre, it was thought necessary to see how to pool the support from UNDP and UNEP to make the Data Centre functional. A small ad-hoc meeting of experts including two from Alexandria was held in UNESCO last December to get concrete proposals for the minimum requirements for the Data Centre.

Mr. G. Ponghis enquired about the contribution for the RAC's. Dr. Keckes answered saying that UNEP decided to give \$10,000 for each RAC but later it was found that an additional support should be given to the RAC's in Algiers and Alexandria, these being the only ones in need of expert help in the running of the RAC's.

Dr. G. Ponghis mentioned that the Director responsible for RAC - 7 in Rome suggested some changes in the agreement form and Dr. Keckes replied that it was acceptable to UNEP if WHO accepts it.

Following a discussion on the role that Regional Activity Centres should play, it was agreed that:-

- The RAC's will not at this stage contact participating laboratories but the agencies might obtain as much help as possible from the RAC's and may give them tasks and get them involved;
- UNEP and the agencies are backing the RAC's only until the end of 1978, at which time they may prove to be able to play this role and it is up to the participating laboratories to decide on a future role;
- RAC's should be involved in the mid-term review meetings and should be briefed by the agencies on how they are co-ordinating the work of the participating laboratories;
- RAC's can be used to work on the scientific material of participants and digest the data but not authorized to disseminate it to other laboratories as leaks of data of any sort may destroy the whole exercise. This is a very delicate matter and should be dealt with very carefully.
- It is up to the Mediterranean countries to decide on the further role of the regional activity centres after evaluation of their performance at this phase.

3. Intercalibration of analytical work

Dr. Ch. Osterberg distributed to participants a progress report on the intercalibration exercises for pilot projects on baseline studies and monitoring of heavy metals and halogenated hydrocarbons in marine organisms within the FAO/UNEP co-ordinated MED PMRP. Dr. Keckes noted that the report was sent to Dr. Charbonier and was not sent to UNEP. When presenting the progress report, Dr. Osterberg informed the meeting that only three laboratories have sent their reports on the intercalibration and only one laboratory has completed the exercise. He added that the report will be updated for use at Dubrovnik and Barcelona mid-term review meetings. Dr. Keckes asked him to send a reminder to laboratories urging them to send their results before the mid-term review report is prepared. UNEP can help in the translation and reproduction of the report if received in good time.

Dr. L. Andren reported verbally on the intercalibration exercise for MED I. He referred to the second Monaco Workshop, June 1976, in connection with IGOSS pilot project on Marine Pollution (Petroleum) Monitoring which recommended this exercise. It was arranged through a contract with Duke University for a period of 12 months starting from the beginning of this year at intervals of three months where information and standard solvent are distributed to laboratories.

IOC is envisaging to apply the same exercise to the Mediterranean laboratories participating in MED-1. The Marine Laboratory of Duke University will take care of the preparation of the intercalibration, collect the results and make out the reports on it.

It was agreed that since the referral samples are available at the Marine Laboratory of Duke University, IOC should inform the Mediterranean laboratories that they must participate in this intercalibration exercise and in the meantime, the Duke University should be provided with a list of the participating laboratories in MED-I in order to get in touch with them and send them the samples so that they can start to work on it. This intercalibration exercise is a must and should be an integral part of the agreement.

Discussions followed on unifying the matrices in the intercalibration exercise, but it was agreed that we should not go too far at this stage.

4. Maintenance Services

Dr. Ch. Osterberg briefed the meeting on the steps taken in this connection when Mr. Barisic, an electronic engineer, was recruited in October 1976 and in November 1976 spent four weeks at the Varian Factory in Zug, Switzerland to be familiarized with the installation, operation and repair of the scientific instruments chosen for the Mediterranean laboratories. He then took part in the installation of the AAS and GC in laboratories at Portotoz and Rovinj, Yugoslavia. He prepared a list of spare parts for repair of liable breakdowns and he is now able to make useful maintenance services wherever he goes around the Mediterranean. In February 1977 a tentative plan for Mr. Barisic for the installation and first service for equipment was elaborated by UNEP Geneva Office. Although there have been some delays in the delivery of equipment, Mr. Barisic is ready to travel at any moment.

It was agreed that the circular letter prepared by FAO and IOC should include information on the ability of this service, primarily for equipment provided by UNEP, besides other equipment which the participating laboratories use in the projects.

Requests for maintenance service should be transmitted to the specialized agencies who get clearance from UNEP for Mr. Barisic's service for all pilot projects, in order to ensure good co-ordination of his travels.

5. UNEP sponsored Mediterranean projects associated with MED PMRP

5.1 Dr. Ch. Osterberg reviewed the progress of the IAEA/IOC/UNEP project "Biochemical Studies of Selected Pollutants in Open Waters of the Mediterranean." The programme is divided into three parts: Laboratory work; open water work and subcontracts. Dr. Osterberg distributed to participants a map showing the cruises prepared for 1977. Principal investigators and other scientists from laboratories will go on board.

Four of five laboratories in the Mediterranean will co-operate fundamentally in a training programme. Three contracts already prepared and sent to IAEA Research Committee at Vienna, a subcontract with France, one with Greece and one with Malta. Negotiations are taking place with Causteau's group, Monaco on a sediment trap and also with Dr. Oren, Haifa for work on heavy metals and PCB's with his cruise on the basis of paying shiptime. Dr. Balkas of Ankara was also encouraged to work with Dr. Banister of Malta on PCB's.

The laboratory work covers experiments on the uptake of sediments and worms for PCB's and heavy metals. There are also some redistribution studies on mussels. Dr. Keckes noted that UNEP's computerised printout does not include such information and that there is a relation between the IAEA and FAO on this programme. He also added that UNEP started negotiations with the USSR to charter a research vessel to work in the Mediterranean during 1978 exclusively for the open waters project. The scientific staff working on board will be wholly Mediterranean. In order to suggest the programme for open waters to be discussed in the forthcoming Inter-governmental Meeting at Monaco, FAO, IAEA and IOC are going to prepare proposals and plans to be discussed at the mid-term review meeting.

5.2 Dr. R. Griffiths presented to the meeting the report prepared by Mr. Da Costa on the progress of the UNESCO/UNEP project, "Role of Sedimentation in the Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea", MED-IX. After listening to the review on the status of the project, the meeting felt that there were several kinds of interest in the different aspects of the project from the Division of Hydrology, the IOC and the Division of Marine Sciences in UNESCO and that there was a need for an umbrella for all of these activities. The project also cannot be separated from the project on pollution from land-based sources through rivers (MED X).

Dr. Keckes made it clear that UNEP needs from UNESCO a consolidated report on the present knowledge of the rivers input of pollutants in the Mediterranean and the biogeochemical processes taking place in the Mediterranean. Such a report has to be presented to the general mid-term review meeting together with a consolidated outline or framework of a project. Data on the levels of pollution in the Mediterranean are now being compiled through the seven pilot projects and this might be extended as there are several components in MED-IX that can be incorporated in the ongoing pilot projects. We are then trying to get data on the input of pollution from the air through the co-operation of WHO and WMO. In this way, a good amount of information can be presented to the Mediterranean Governments.

5.3 Dr. Keckes briefed the meeting on the Mussel Watch programme suggested to UNEP by the USA as a component to GEMS. UNEP would like to test it on a small scale such as in the Mediterranean. Therefore the programme is going to be discussed at the mid-term review meeting at Dubrovnik. Mr. Ponghis suggested that the mussel watch could be used as well for bacteriological studies besides the heavy metals and chlorinated hydrocarbons, as they are also used as good indicators for microbiology.

5.4 Dr. L. Andren referred to the serious considerations given by IOC and WHO on remote sensing and its application for marine pollution monitoring. Three experts are already reviewing the matter and their reports will be ready in two months time. IOC is thinking of presenting these reports to the mid-term review meeting and raise the matter again, although the reaction at the Malta Consultation was very cautious. Dr. Keckes commented that UNEP is interested in remote sensing but as the experts of Mediterranean Governments were reluctant to use it as a useful method for monitoring, we should be very cautious when raising the matter again. UNEP is thinking of using this method as an assistance for the Regional Oil Combating Centre at Malta.

6. Use of models in the MED PMRP

Dr. S. Marcos presented a resumé on the efforts of the Marine Sciences Division, UNESCO for stimulating the concept of modelling the Mediterranean ecosystem. A symposium was held in Malta in 1973 followed by a workshop for modelling the eastern Mediterranean in Alexandria in 1973 and a second workshop held in Dubrovnik in 1976. UNEP assisted in bringing participants from the whole Mediterranean to Dubrovnik to discuss modelling with particular interest to MED PMRP. He continued briefing the meeting on the Dubrovnik Report and the recommendations for modelling as components of the ongoing pilot projects or as a separate project for the whole Mediterranean.

Dr. Keckes emphasized that UNEP was approached by several organizations interested in modelling but the shortcomings of these approaches, although tempting, is that they do not offer training for Mediterranean scientists in order to develop modelling capabilities in the region itself.

Following the Dubrovnik Workshop UNESCO and UNEP jointly convened a working group to prepare some conceptual models for MED PMRP which could be presented to the mid-term review meeting but unfortunately, this attempt failed. UNESCO efforts should be recognized and should be involved in the development of conceptual models for the most critical pollutants in the Mediterranean in order to know what happens to these pollutants. For UNEP, the basic and long-term goal of modelling is to be used as a management tool in the Mediterranean. Therefore, UNESCO was asked to try to prepare conceptual models to be presented to the mid-term review meeting for the FAO/UNEP projects at Dubrovnik.

Dr. L. Andren preferred specific modelling concepts for individual pilot projects and gave an example of pilot project MED-6 where modelling can be useful to predict on the transport of oil.

Because of the shortage of time, it was found practical for UNESCO to prepare 120 copies of an extract of the Dubrovnik Workshop Report including the suggested conceptual models in order to be distributed at the mid-term review meetings.

7. Mid-term review meetings for the seven pilot projects

Whilst introducing the UNEP document on meetings during 1977, Dr. Keckes drew the attention of the participants to the fact that whenever it is mentioned that Keckes is responsible for a joint meeting it is meant from the UNEP side. He added that the mid-term review meetings have restricted audience of the principal investigators of the projects and observers from the UN system, FAO, WHO, IOC, WMO and UNEP besides IAEA and UNESCO who are invited.

Dr. A. Wenblad informed the meeting about the preparations and arrangements for the mid-term review meeting for the four FAO/UNEP pilot projects. The principal investigators were invited since last January and requested to submit reports. FAO received quite good reports although their quality is varying, but they will be compiled in a short summary with the data annexed. The provisional agenda was sent to 80 principal investigators

who either signed the agreements, had it cleared or submitted for clearance. The first meeting for MED-II and III will be held from 2 - 6 May at Dibrovnik and the second meeting for MED IV and V from 8 - 13 May in the same place.

A consultant was asked to prepare a document on statistics of monitoring and an example of the treatment of fixed data from the projects and what evaluation can be made. Additional documents for the meetings will be the updated report on intercalibration prepared by Monaco International Laboratory of Marine Radioactivity, the second new circular letter containing information on the progress of the projects and possibly a document UNEP will prepare on the progress of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

The principal investigators of the four RAC's were invited to a meeting in Rome from 14 - 15 April to work on the compilation of reports which will be submitted to the general mid-term review meeting. It was agreed that the title of the mid-term review meeting would be:-

Mid-term expert consultation on FAO/UNEP Coordinated Projects
on Pollution in the Mediterranean.

Dr. Keckes suggested to use the prepared document on statistics of monitoring as a background document for the other IOC and WHO meetings. FAO will send 70 copies to IOC and 30 copies to WHO.

Dr. Osterberg was asked to submit his reports on intercalibration exercises for MED-II and III separately and a separate report also on maintenance services.

Dr. L. Andren informed the meeting about the preparations and arrangements for the mid-term review meeting for MED-I and VI which will be held at Barcelona from 23 - 27 May 1977. The announcement of the meeting was sent out to participants and the letters of invitation with the agenda have already been sent out. IOC is following a similar approach as that of FAO regarding the collection of reports and their compilation for the meeting. The principal investigators responsible for RAC-I and RAC-VI will act as Chairman, whereas the meeting will start in plenary and then splitting into two separate groups for each of the two pilot projects. The documents relevant to the meeting are as follows: a document which is a digest of national reports; a compiled bibliography on currents in the Mediterranean; IOC Guides and Manuals: No. 7; a document on remote sensing; a document based on a meeting of a group working on intercalibration of oil monitoring in the Baltic; a summary on the participating laboratories and agreements and the UNEP progress report on the Mediterranean Action Plan.

A consultant is expected to work on the preparation of documents besides the two heads of RAC's who will work on the report of the meeting. Dr. Keckes commented that the basis of the report of the meeting would be the results of the work done on the projects. He also stressed the necessity of preparing a manual extracting parts from the IOC Guides and Manuals No. 7 which are relevant to the Mediterranean. Dr. Andren mentioned that there is a cook book being prepared by Duke University which may be ready in draft form to be distributed at the Barcelona Meeting.

Mr. Ponghis presented to the meeting information about the mid-term review meeting for MED-VII which will take place at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome from 30 May to 1 June, 1977. Documents prepared for the meeting are: an introductory document on the project; a compilation of some results for those laboratories who have already started work during 1976; the two reports on the Rovinj and Athens meetings and possibly some of the documents which are prepared for the workshop on Coastal Pollution Control to be held in Athens from 27 June to 1 July 1977.

Mr. Ponghis was asked by Dr. Keckes if the principal investigators can report on the general situation of beaches in their countries as the assessment prepared by WHO sometime ago is now old and does not include much material about the Mediterranean.

8. Mid-term report on MED PMRP activities

An inter-agency general mid-term meeting is proposed to review all UNEP ongoing projects in the Mediterranean. It will be a joint meeting between UNEP and the specialized agencies, basically FAO, WHO, WMO, IOC, IAEA and UNESCO are also invited if they would like to co-sponsor it. The cost of the meeting will be covered by UNEP. A steering committee of the co-sponsoring agencies will meet prior to the general mid-term review meeting in order to consolidate all the reports of the three mid-term review meetings besides reports from IAEA, WHO, WMO and UNESCO on the collateral projects into one single document in English and French.

As participants of the meeting are Government nominees, about 20 competent scientists working on the projects and who may not be nominated by their Governments should be invited to the meeting. The Steering Committee is going to meet at Geneva for about four days starting 6 June 1977. The General Mid-term Review Meeting will be held at Monaco from 18 - 22 July 1977.

9. Co-operation with CIM

Dr. S. Keckes recalled the recommendation of Intergovernmental Barcelona Conference of the Mediterranean Countries, 1975 asking UNEP to establish a mechanism for co-ordinating the scientific programmes making use of the existing bodies or organizations in the region such as the CIM Operational Unit at Monaco. UNEP was asked by the signatories of the Convention of Barcelona, 1976 to provide the secretariate for the Convention and the protocols. An interim Secretariate was established at Madrid and it is now up to the contracting parties to decide on the future secretariate to take over from Madrid.

It was also decided that part of the UNEP Secretariate dealing with the scientific programme, now in Geneva, should move to Monaco as one of the Mediterranean countries. Negotiations are underway with the Government of Monaco and the co-ordinating unit of the MED PMRP will hopefully move to Monaco by next September.

Following discussion held with FAO, IOC as co-sponsors of CIM and the GTC of CIM, the Secretary of IOC prepared a draft "Letter of Understanding between the Co-sponsoring Bodies of the Co-operative Investigations In the Mediterranean (CIM)". This draft letter was distributed to participants for exchange of views and not for taking any decisions.

Discussions on the letter were held without any commitments from participants but simply to clarify the advantages and disadvantages of making use of the operational unit of CIM, in order to enable UNEP to present to the contracting parties of the Barcelona Convention the alternatives of setting up the appropriate body for implementing and co-ordinating the scientific programme in the future. They may decide to use CIM, or continue asking UNEP Secretariate for co-ordination or establish their own mechanism.

Dr. Keckes informed the meeting that UNEP would use CIM's News Letter containing its usual substance and including the updated version of UNEP's progress report on the Mediterranean since 1975 in order to give a good introduction on the MED Action Plan as a whole and a relevant general part on the pilot projects and a list of participating laboratories with names of principal investigators. The News Letter will be distributed to the usual distribution list of CIM besides all UNEP focal points in the Mediterranean countries and Directors of Laboratories. The distribution list is going to be updated by the specialized agencies. UNEP is going to use this News Letter when accepted, as a new co-sponsor of CIM. The News Letter issued by FAO and IOC will continue.

10. Other Business

Dr. L. Andren suggested that UNEP Co-ordinator should write to the principal investigators of projects, other than MED-1, asking them to make visual observations on oil slicks and tar balls during their cruises for sampling. He was advised to get in touch with the principal investigators of MED-I and ask them to arrange this with other principal investigators in the same institute.

It was also suggested to ensure co-ordination between MED-I and MED-VII, since the WHO/UNEP project has also beach tar activities. Results from both projects should be brought together. It was also agreed to see that the same areas are covered by the different pilot projects.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the next meeting of the IAAC should be every six months, but the next meetings could take place in June in connection with the Steering Committee meeting at Geneva.

The meeting was closed at 1.45 p.m.

List of Participants

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THIRD SESSION OF THE INTER-AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IAAC)

to the

Co-ordinated Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring
and Research Programme

Paris, 4 - 5 April 1977

AGENDA

- 1) Present status of the seven pilot projects
- 2) Regional activity centres (RAC) for the seven pilot projects
- 3) Intercalibration of analytical work
- 4) Maintenance services
- 5) UNEP sponsored Mediterranean projects associated with MED PMRP
- 6) Use of models in the MED PMRP
- 7) Mid-term review meetings for the seven pilot projects
- 8) Mid-term report on Mediterranean research and monitoring activities
- 9) Co-operation with CIM
- 10) Other business