



**UNITED  
NATIONS**

**EP**

UNEP/MED WG.500/2

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**UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

10 May 2021  
Original: English

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Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Groups on Monitoring (CORMON) Biodiversity and Fisheries

Videoconference, 10-11 June 2021

**Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters**

**Provisional Annotated Agenda**



## Provisional Annotated Agenda

### Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP SPA/RAC Programme of Work 2020-2021 adopted by the 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019, the SPA/RAC is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Groups on Monitoring (CORMON) for Biodiversity and Fisheries, on 10 and 11 June 2021 via videoconference. All the SPA/BD Focal Points, and/or Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group Members and the relevant partners for IMAP implementation, as appropriate, have been invited to designate their representatives to the CORMON meeting. The relevant intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations have been invited to designate their representatives to the meeting as observers.
2. The main objectives of the Meeting are to review the following documents:
  - (i) update guidelines/protocols for monitoring common indicators 1 and 2 related to benthic habitats;
  - (ii) monitoring and assessments elements (Assessment criteria/thresholds/baseline values) for the common indicators (CIs) 3, 4, 5 related to marine mammals and marine turtles and CI6 related to non-indigenous species;
  - (iii) data dictionaries and data standards related to species;
  - (iv) methodological approach for mapping interrelation between pressures-impacts and the status of marine ecosystem components for the biodiversity cluster; and
  - (v) comparative analysis undertaken regarding IMAP and the European Commission GES Decision 2017/848/EU for biodiversity.
3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by SPA/RAC to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

### Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting

<b>Information Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.1
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4. The Meeting will be opened at 08.30 (UTC+1) on 10 June 2021 by the SPA/RAC Director.

### Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/1 UNEP/MED WG.500/2
<b>Information Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.2

- a) *Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Groups on Monitoring (CORMON) for Biodiversity and Fisheries*

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis to the present Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

- b) *Election of Officers*

6. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the Meeting will elect a President, three Vice Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

**c) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda**

7. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.500/1 and annotated in the present document (UNEP/MED WG.500/2) will be reviewed and proposed for adoption by the Meeting, including the timetable contained at the end of the present document.

**d) Organization of Work**

8. It is expected that the Meeting will address all items of the Agenda for two days.

9. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting. Documentation will be in English and French.

10. Sessions are scheduled as follows:

- a. 10 June 2021: 8.30 – 11.30; 12.30-15.30 Tunis time (UTC+1);
- b. 11 June 2021: 8.30 – 11.15; 13.00-14.30 Tunis time (UTC+1).

11. It is expected that the Meeting will address all items of the Agenda during the two days. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 14.30 (Tunis time, UTC+1) on 11 June 2021 after adopting its Conclusions and Recommendations.

**Agenda Item 3: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP common indicators 1 and 2 on Benthic Habitats**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/3
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12. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP Common Indicator 1 and 2 related to benthic habitats (UNEP/MED WG.500/3).

13. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the document, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda item 4: Monitoring and Assessment Elements for the IMAP Common Indicators related to Species**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/4 UNEP/MED WG.500/5
<b>Information Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.3

**4.1. Monitoring and Assessment Elements for the IMAP Common Indicators related to Marine Mammals**

14. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce the document UNEP/MED WG.500/4 “*Monitoring and Assessment Scales, Assessment Criteria, Thresholds and Baseline Values for the IMAP Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to marine mammals*”.

15. The ACCOBAMS Secretariat will be invited to present the main results of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI) Project (UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.3). The meeting will be expected to consider strengthening ways of collaboration with ACCOBAMS for the implementation of the IMAP CI ,4 and 5 related to cetaceans in particular in view of the preparation of the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2023 MED QSR), and recommend further actions to improve synergies with the ongoing work within the EU-funded projects contributing to the implementation of IMAP, namely the “Towards achieving the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast through an Ecologically

Representative and Efficiently Managed and Monitored Network of Marine Protected Areas” (IMAP-MPA) and “Support to Efficient Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach-based Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts and to delivery of data-based 2023 Quality Status Report in synergy with the EU MSFD” (EcAp MED III).

#### **4.2. Monitoring and Assessment Elements for the IMAP Common Indicators related to Marine Turtles**

16. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce the document UNEP/MED WG.500/5 “*Monitoring and Assessment Scales, Assessment Criteria, Thresholds and Baseline Values for the IMAP Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to marine turtles*”.

17. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents under the agenda items 4.1 and 4.2, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

#### **Agenda item 5: Monitoring and Assessment Elements of the IMAP Common Indicator 6 related to Non-Indigenous Species**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/6 UNEP/MED WG.500/7 UNEP/MED WG.500/8
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##### **5.1. Revised Guidance Fact Sheets**

18. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (REMPEC and SPA/RAC) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.500/6 “*Revised Guidance Fact Sheets for the IMAP Common Indicator 6 related to Non-Indigenous Species*”.

##### **5.2. Monitoring and Assessment Scales, Assessment Criteria and Thresholds Values**

Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.500/7 “*Monitoring and Assessment Scales, Assessment Criteria and Thresholds Values for the IMAP Common Indicator 6 related to Non-Indigenous Species*”.

##### **5.3. Progress in the Development of the Baseline Values**

19. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.500/8 “*Progress in the Development of the Baseline Values for the IMAP Common Indicator 6 related to Non-Indigenous Species*”.

20. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the documents presented under agenda items 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Data Dictionaries and Data Standards for the Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to Marine Mammals, Marine Turtles and Sea Birds**

<b>Working Documents</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/9
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21. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (INFO/RAC) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.500/9 “*Data Dictionaries and Data Standards for the Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to Marine Mammals, Marine Turtles and Sea Birds*”.

22. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the document, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda Item 7: Addressing Interrelation of Pressures-Impacts for Biodiversity cluster**

<b>Working Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/10
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23. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) will present document UNEP/MED WG.500/10 “*Methodological Approach for mapping the interrelations between Pressures-Impacts and the Status of Marine Ecosystem Components for Biodiversity Cluster*”.

24. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the proposal, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward with regards to its use for the purpose of IMAP implementation and the delivery of the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2023 MED QSR).

**Agenda Item 8: Comparative Analysis undertaken with regard to IMAP and the European Commission GES Decision 2017/848/EU for Biodiversity**

<b>Working Document</b>	UNEP/MED WG.500/11
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25. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) will present document UNEP/MED WG.500/11 “*Comparative Analysis undertaken with regard to IMAP and the European Commission GES Decision 2017/848/EU for Biodiversity*”. The comparison is focusing on how monitoring and assessment frameworks are addressing biodiversity and non-indigenous monitoring elements at the level of criteria/common indicator with the overall scope to further enhance and maximize synergies.

26. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the document, as appropriate, and make recommendations on the way forward.

**Agenda Item 9: Any Other Business**

27. Under this agenda item, the meeting will consider any other relevant matter that may be raised by the participants and agreed during the adoption of the agenda.

**Agenda Item 10: Conclusions and Recommendations**

28. Under this Agenda Item, the Meeting will review and adopt draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the discussions, as prepared by the Rapporteur.

**Agenda Item 11: Closure of the Meeting**

29. The Chair is expected to close the Meeting on Friday, 11 June 2021, at 14.30.

**PROPOSED TIMETABLE**  
**Tunis time (UTC+1)**

<b>Thursday, 10 June 2021</b>		
8.30 – 8.45	Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting	UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.1
8.45 – 9.00	Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters	UNEP/MED WG.500/1 UNEP/MED WG.500/2 UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.2
9.00 – 10.00	Agenda item 3: Monitoring Guidelines/Protocols for IMAP common indicators 1 and 2 on Benthic Habitats	UNEP/MED WG.500/3
10.00 – 11.30	Agenda item 4.1: Monitoring and Assessment Elements for the IMAP Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to Marine Mammals	UNEP/MED WG.500/4 UNEP/MED WG.500/Inf.3
11.30 – 12.30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
12.30 – 13.30	Agenda item 4.2: Monitoring and Assessment Elements for the IMAP Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to Marine Turtles	UNEP/MED WG.500/5
13.30 – 15.30	Agenda item 5: Monitoring and Assessment Elements of the IMAP Common Indicator 6 related to Non-Indigenous Species  5.1. Revised Guidance Fact Sheets 5.2. Monitoring and Assessment Scales, Assessment Criteria and Thresholds Values 5.3. Progress in the Development of the Baseline Values	UNEP/MED WG.500/6 UNEP/MED WG.500/7 UNEP/MED WG.500/8
<b>Friday, 11 June 2021</b>		
08.30 – 10.00	Agenda item 6: Data Dictionaries and Data Standards for the Common Indicators 3, 4 and 5 related to Marine Mammals, Marine Turtles and Sea Birds	UNEP/MED WG.500/9
10.00 – 10.30	Agenda item 7: Addressing Interrelation of Pressures-Impacts for Biodiversity cluster	UNEP/MED WG.500/10
10.30 - 11.00	Agenda item 8: Comparative Analysis undertaken with regard to IMAP and the European Commission GES Decision 2017/848/EU for Biodiversity	UNEP/MED WG.500/11
11.00 - 11.15	Agenda item 9: Any Other Business	
11.15 – 13.00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13.00 - 14.30	Agenda item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations	
14.30	Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting	