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90th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

12-13 November 2020

Agenda Item 3: Progress Report for April – September 2020

Progress Report by the Secretariat on the Implementation of COP 21 Decisions

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	relevance to that mandate;									
	7. <i>Approve</i> the membership of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) for the biennium 2020-2021, as set out in Annex IV to the present Decision;	GREEN								
	8. <i>Call upon</i> the members of the MCSD, the Secretariat and the MAP Partners to mobilize expressions of interest in membership of the MCSD for the biennium 2022-2023, and request the MCSD Steering Committee, with support from the Secretariat, to identify and implement possible ways to keep the outgoing members of the Commission involved in its work;	YELLOW								
	9. <i>Approve</i> the Roadmap for the Evaluation of the 2016-2021 Medium-Term Strategy and the preparation of the 2022-2027 Medium-Term Strategy, as set out in Annex V to the present Decision;	GREEN								
	10. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to prepare the UNEP/MAP 2022-2027 Medium-Term Strategy in close cooperation with MAP components and with the full involvement of the Contracting Parties, under the guidance of the Bureau and through a dedicated steering committee that will be composed by the Bureau complemented by a limited group of interested Contracting Parties (3 additional persons, one nominated by each sub-group, to ensure a balanced geographical representation), and to submit a first draft to an open ended working group, for final submission to the Contracting Parties at their 22 nd Meeting (COP 22);	YELLOW								
	11. <i>Take note</i> of the results of the assessment of the meeting of the thematic focal points for Specially Protected Areas/Biological Diversity organized on a trial basis in the biennium 2018– 2019 and the relevant analysis as set out in Annex VI to the present Decision, and request the Secretariat to organize a SPA/Biodiversity Focal Points meeting based on the lessons learnt and considering organization of the back to back focal points meetings;	GREEN								
	12. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to continue to identify, promote and strengthen the synergies with other Secretariats in spatial-based protection and	YELLOW								

	management measures for marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean Area, by building on existing work at the relevant levels and foster cooperation with the objectives to ensure the conservation and the sustainable use of the marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach;									
	13. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to report to the Contracting Parties at their 22 nd Meeting (COP 22) on the action undertaken in building synergies and fostering cooperation with other Secretariats in spatial-based protection and management measures for marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean Area;	ORANGE								
	14. <i>Take note</i> of the “Refined Appendix to the Updated Resource Mobilization Strategy”, as set out in Annex VII to the present Decision;	GREEN								
	15. <i>Take note</i> of the areas of cooperation with the UNESCO/MAB Programme, as set out in Annex VIII to the present Decision and urge the respective Secretariats to formalize it and ensure the most effective and beneficial partnership in the relevant fields, with a view also to widening the scope of the cooperation with UNESCO in the future;	YELLOW								
	16. <i>Welcome</i> the agreed set of common provisions for Host Country Agreements as presented in Annex IX of this Decision and urge the Secretariat in collaboration with the Contracting Parties hosting the MAP Regional Activity Centres to finalize the set for presentation of the minimum common provisions to COP 22 for consideration, building on the inputs provided by the Contracting Parties hosting MAP Regional Activity Centres.	YELLOW								
Decision IG.24/3 Implementation, Monitoring and Mid-Term Evaluation of the Mediterranean	1. <i>Welcome</i> the work done, <i>taking note of</i> the updated List of Indicators of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard for monitoring the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016–2025, set out in Annex I to the present Decision, and <i>request</i> the Secretariat to populate the indicators, using existing sources of information and data, giving priority to those addressing coast-related and sea-related issues;	YELLOW								

	system to successfully deliver the 2023 MED QSR;									
	5. <i>Endorse</i> the proposed revised roadmap for the MED 2050 foresight study, as contained in Annex III of the present Decision, and <i>request</i> the Secretariat to implement the proposed roadmap;	YELLOW								
	6. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties to participate in the phase II of MED 2050 foresight study, organise on a voluntary basis national or sub-regional workshops, and nominate relevant experts or interested national stakeholders including youth representatives to contribute to the study;	YELLOW								
	7. <i>Approve</i> the elements of the Roadmap for the Consultation of Decision-Makers and Stakeholders on the First Assessment Report on the Current State and Risks of Climate and Environmental Changes in the Mediterranean (MAR 1) as set out in Annex IV of the present Decision, involving the Mediterranean Action Plan Focal Points, the Mediterranean Action Plan Components' Focal Points, and the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development;	GREEN								
	8. <i>Also request</i> the Secretariat to undertake an extensive dissemination and communication campaign for the 2019 State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean Report and communication on the development of the MED 2050 Foresight Study and the Mediterranean Expert Network on Climate and Environmental Changes in the Mediterranean (MedECC) in the context of relevant consultation.	YELLOW								
Decision IG.24/5 Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management	1. <i>Adopt</i> the Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management, set out in Annex to the present decision, as a guiding document to facilitate the implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol;	GREEN								
	2. <i>Recognize</i> the living nature of the Appendix to the Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and the need to keep it under review;	GREEN								
	3. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to continue refining the Appendix to the	YELLOW								

such as preparing guidelines, setting up definitions and measurable indicators, and tailoring global concepts and approaches to the Mediterranean context;										
4. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to establish a directory of Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas according to Articles 16 (guidelines and common criteria), 19 (publicity, information, public awareness and education) and 23 (reports of the Parties) of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, and the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre to elaborate criteria for inclusion of specially protected areas in the directory, for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 22 nd Meeting (COP 22);	ORANGE									
5. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties to promote the role of marine protected areas as reference sites under the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria;	YELLOW									
6. <i>Decide</i> to include the Cerbère-Banyuls Marine Nature Reserve (France), the Egadi Islands Marine Protected Area (Italy), the Landscape Park Strunjan (Slovenia) and the Cetaceans Migration Corridor in the Mediterranean (Spain) in the list of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance;	GREEN									
7. <i>Encourage</i> further cooperation and collaboration in the management and conservation of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance among Contracting Parties as well as among individual Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance, mainly through (i) technical, institutional and financial support; (ii) transfer of technology; (iii) capacity-building; (iv) best practices and experience sharing; and (v) twinning and other appropriate means;	YELLOW									
8. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to draft the concepts in order to set up the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance Day and Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance Certificate (Mediterranean Diploma for Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance), and	YELLOW									

submit them for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 22 nd Meeting (COP 22);										
<p>9. <i>Decide</i> to include the five Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance listed below in a period of provisional nature of a maximum of six years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Palm Islands Nature Reserve (Lebanon), - Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (Lebanon), - Kneiss Islands (Tunisia), - La Galite Archipelago (Tunisia), and - Zembra and Zembretta National Park (Tunisia); 	GREEN									
10. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to support as a matter of priority Lebanon and Tunisia in identifying and launching a set of adequate corrective measures and informing the 15 th Meeting of the SPA/BD Focal Points of the progress made, and encourage other Parties, other SPAMIs and appropriate funding mechanisms to contribute to their implementation;	YELLOW									
11. <i>Request</i> Lebanon and Tunisia to inform the 15 th Meeting of the SPA/BD Focal Points about the identification and launching of the adequate corrective measures for these areas;	YELLOW									
12. <i>Welcome</i> the willingness of the Environmental Fund for Mediterranean marine protected areas (The MedFund) to support the Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance in general, and in particular those included in a period of provisional nature, and encourage support and sponsorship from any other relevant donors;	GREEN									
13. <i>Adopt</i> the updated format for the periodic review of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance, as set out in the Annex to this Decision, and <i>request</i> the Secretariat to reflect it accordingly in the online evaluation system of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance;	YELLOW									
14. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to work with the relevant designated national	YELLOW									

	<p>authorities in Cyprus, France, Italy, Morocco and Spain to carry out the ordinary periodic review for the 11 Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance listed below, in accordance with the procedure established in Decision IG.17/12, adopted by the Contracting Parties at their 15th Meeting (COP 15) (Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008), and bring the outcome of that review process to the attention of the Contracting Parties at their 22nd Meeting (COP 22);</p>									
	<p>15. The following five Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance are to be reviewed in 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lara-Toxeftra Turtle Reserve (Cyprus), - Marine Protected Area of Tavolara-Punta Coda Cavallo (Italy), - Marine Protected Area and Natural Reserve of Torre Guaceto (Italy), - Miramare Marine Protected Area (Italy), and - Plemmirio Marine Protected Area (Italy); 	YELLOW								
	<p>16. The following six Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance are to be reviewed in 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bouches de Bonifacio Nature Reserve (France), - Marine Protected Area of Capo Caccia-Isola Piana (Italy), - Punta Campanella Marine Protected Area (Italy), - Al-Hoceima National Park (Morocco), - Archipelago of Cabrera National Park (Spain), and - Maro-Cerro Gordo Cliffs (Spain). 	ORANGE								
<p><u>Decision IG.24/7</u> Strategies and Action Plans under the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological</p>	<p>1. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to prepare in 2020-2021 the “Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region” (Post-2020 SAP BIO), aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, harmonised with the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework through the optic of the Mediterranean context, and following the recommendations and roadmap proposed in the evaluation document, as set out in the Annex I to the present Decision, and submit it for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 22nd Meeting (COP 22);</p>	YELLOW								

ECA);										
5. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to update the initial draft submission to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for a proposal for the possible designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for sulfur oxides pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI, under the guidance of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) sulfur oxides (SOx) Emission Control Area (ECA)(s) Technical Committee of Experts referred to in paragraph 4 above in line with the agreed road map;	YELLOW									
6. <i>Call upon</i> the Contracting Parties to provide full support, both technically, in terms of expertise, and financially, in terms of voluntary contributions, where appropriate, to the further work of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) sulfur oxides (SOx) Emission Control Area (ECA)(s) Technical Committee of Experts in order to ensure that the above-mentioned knowledge gathering is completed and the above-mentioned further studies are carried out in a coordinated, timely and effective manner;	YELLOW									
7. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to ratify and effectively implement MARPOL Annex VI, if they have not yet done so, as soon as possible;	YELLOW									
8. <i>Underline</i> the need to ensure the necessary synergy in supporting these efforts, through the technical cooperation and capacity-building activities carried out by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the European Commission and the European Maritime Safety Agency, in the Mediterranean region;	YELLOW									
9. <i>Request</i> also the Secretariat to prepare an information document related to the adoption of the present Decision and submit it to the next session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee for its consideration;	GREEN									
10. <i>Underline also</i> the need to encourage and support preparation efforts	YELLOW									

	implementation of the Guidelines, keeping in mind that they shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions and/or rules with respect to other existing or future national or international instruments or programmes;									
	7. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to report on the adoption of special measures to prevent, abate, combat and control pollution arising from offshore activities in Specially Protected Areas (SPAs), using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS) in line with the reporting obligations under Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention, Article 30 of the Offshore Protocol and Article 23 of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean;	YELLOW								
	8. <i>Invite</i> the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat, relevant international organizations and the industry to explore a collaborative approach to strengthen the financial and human resources of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) System, with a view to establishing a sustainable and commensurate support to facilitate the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan;	YELLOW								
	9. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to support the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the Offshore Protocols and the Mediterranean Offshore Guidelines and Standards, including through technical meetings, sharing of best practices and strengthening of capacities, within available resources, to also ensure a regular review of the guidelines at a frequency not less than two years and their update, as appropriate; and	ORANGE								
	10. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to continue the work and finalize the Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), mandated by the Offshore Action Plan (Specific Objective 8), taking into consideration additional proposals and suggestions to be provided by the Contracting Parties, for the consideration of the next OFOG meeting during the first year of the 2020-2021 biennium, for submission to the 22 nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 22).	ORANGE								
Decision	1. <i>Endorse</i> the main elements and the timeline for the development of six	GREEN								

<p>Phase-out of Single Use Plastic Bags; Provision of Reception Facilities in Ports and the Delivery of Ship-Generated Wastes; Application of Charges at Reasonable Costs for the Use of Port Reception Facilities</p>	<p>2. <i>Adopt</i> the “Guidelines to Phase out Single Use Plastic Bags in the Mediterranean” in accordance with Article 9(2) of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, set out in Annex II to the present Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>3. <i>Adopt</i> the “Operational Guidelines on the Provision of Reception Facilities in Ports and the Delivery of Ship-Generated Wastes in the Mediterranean” in accordance with Articles 9(5) and 10(f) of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, set out in Annex III to the present Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>4. <i>Adopt</i> the “Guidance Document to Determine the Application of Charges at Reasonable Costs for the Use of Port Reception Facilities or, when Applicable, Application of the No-Special-Fee System, in the Mediterranean” in accordance with Articles 9(5) and 10(f) of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, set out in Annex IV to the present Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>5. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to take the necessary actions to implement the relevant measures provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean in line with the timetables, using the above-mentioned guidelines, and sharing best practices and lessons learned in this process;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p>6. <i>Invite</i> all Contacting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to join and contribute to the Global Partnerships on Marine Litter led by the United Nations Environment Programme, the Basel Convention Partnership on Plastic Wastes and the relevant global initiatives to address marine litter;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p>7. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to facilitate the work of the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean and its associated Guidelines and ensure, for this purpose, synergies and regular coordination with other regional organisations working on plastic waste and marine litter in the Mediterranean, with special emphasis on regional processes of adjacent</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	operational costs of the entire Secretariat including MAP Components, considering also the need for adequate MTF allocation required to effectively execute their mandates and operations.									
	18. To this aim, they <i>also request</i> the Secretariat to closely link the preparation of the 2022-2023 PoW and Budget with the process of the preparation of the new MTS 2022-2027 taking fully into consideration the three main pillars of its process mainly contents, priorities, outcomes; and to assess the adequacy of the entire MAP Barcelona Convention system to achieve new MTS objective and its financial sustainability. This may include the identification of methodologies for the calculation of the share of contributions among Parties.	ORANGE								