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ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

15 April 2022
Original: English

Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring

Videoconference, 27 and 30 May 2022

Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2022-2023 adopted by the 22nd Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, Antalya, Turkey, 7-10 December 2021, the Secretariat is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring (CorMon Pollution) on 27 and 30 May 2022, via videoconference.
2. The main objectives of the Meeting are to:
 - a) Review and approve upgraded assessment criteria for IMAP CI 17 at the regional and sub-regional levels;
 - b) Review and approve the proposal of the new reference and boundary values for TP and DIN related to IMAP CI 13 in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region;
 - c) Review detailed elaboration of NEAT tool application for GES assessment for IMAP CI 17 in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region, along with related GES assessment findings;
 - d) Review and approve the methodology proposed for assessing the status of the marine environment in the areas with limited data reported within the GES assessment for IMAP CI 17, along with related GES assessment findings in the Levantine Sea Basin;
 - e) Adopt Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators 18 and 20 further to their elaboration undertaken to address the proposals of the Meeting of CorMon on Pollution (26 to 28 April 2022).
3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened at 10:00 AM on 27 May 2022 by the Coordinator of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/1 UNEP/MED WG.533/2 |
| Information Document | UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.1 |

- a) *Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Pollution Monitoring*
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.533/1 and annotated in the present document will be reviewed

and proposed for adoption by the Meeting including the timetable contained in the Annex to the present document.

d) Organization of Work

8. It is expected that the Meeting will address all items of the Agenda during the three days. The discussions will be held in plenary sessions, as follows:

- 27 May 2022: 10:00-12:00; 12:30-14:30; 15.30-17:30, (EST- Athens time).
- 30 May 2022: 10:00-12:00; 12:30-14:30; 15.30-17:30 (EST- Athens time).

9. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for the three sessions. All documentation will be in English and French. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session. The meeting will be recorded for future reference.

Agenda item 3: Assessment Criteria

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/3 UNEP/MED WG.533/4 |
| Information Document: | UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3 |

10. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the documents UNEP/MED WG.533/3, UNEP/MED WG.533/4 and UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3, that contain

- i. The regional and sub-regional values of the BCs and BAC for heavy metals and organic compounds (UNEP/MED WG.533/3 and UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3), that are upgraded using monitoring data reported from February to December 2021 with a view of addressing the requests and comments received from the members of the Online Working Group on EO 9, the Meeting of CorMon on Pollution, the Meeting of MEDPOL Focal Points and the 8th Meeting of the EcAp Coordination Group; this upgrade of the assessment criteria also included elaboration of the normalization procedure; the use and statistical treatment of BDL values; the use of the multiplication factor to calculate BACs for TEs, OCs and PAHs;
- ii. The reference and boundary values proposed for Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) and Total Phosphorous (TP) in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region (UNEP/MED WG.533/4), considering the methodology for setting the assessment criteria in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region as discussed during the Meeting of CorMon on Pollution (26 to 28 April 2022).

11. The Meeting is expected to review and approve the documents and make recommendations to the Secretariat on the use of upgraded/proposed assessment criteria within the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda item 4: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 based on the Application of the NEAT Tool in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/5 |
| Information Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.5 |

12. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the documents UNEP/MED WG.533/5; UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.4 and UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.4, that contain

- i. The methodology for NEAT tool application for GES assessment related to IMAP CI 17 in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region, including optimal temporal and spatial integration and aggregation of the assessment findings within nested approach agreed for IMAP implementation;
- ii. The GES assessment findings in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region scaled to the levels that are considered meaningful for IMAP CI 17;
- iii. The spatial scope of the finest areas of assessment and the areas of assessment nested to the levels of integration that are considered meaningful for IMAP CIs 13, 14 and 17.

13. The Meeting is expected to review and approve the documents and make recommendations to the Secretariat on the use of proposed methodology in other sub-regions/sub-areas of Mediterranean, as appropriate, within the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda Item 5: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 in the Areas with Limited Data Availability

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/6 |
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14. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.533/6 that contains:
- i. Comparison of the two methodologies i.e. a) IMAP traffic light system; and b) the CHASE+ with the view of their application for the assessment of the marine environment related to IMAP CI 17 in the areas with insufficient data for NEAT tool application;
 - ii. The results of the above methodologies` testing in the Levantine Sea Basin.

15. The Meeting is expected to review and approve the document and make recommendations to the Secretariat on the use of CHASE+ methodology in other sub-regions/sub-areas of Mediterranean, as appropriate, within the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda Item 6: Initial Marine Environment Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 21

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/9 |
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16. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the document UNEP/MED WG.533/9 that contains:
- i. Elaboration of the assessment methodology for assessment of the marine environment regarding IMAP CI 21;
 - ii. The initial results of the bathing water quality assessment in the Mediterranean.

17. The Meeting is expected to review and approve the document and make recommendations to the Secretariat on the use of proposed assessment methodology in order to ensure further progress in the preparation of the comprehensive and reliable final assessment input for the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda item 7: Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators 18 and 20

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| Working Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/7 UNEP/MED WG.533/8 |
| Information Documents: | UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.7 |

18. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the final proposal of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP CIs 18 and 20 that are prepared by addressing the request of the Meeting of CorMon on Pollution (26 to 28 April 2021).

19. The CorMon participants are expected to approve the proposals of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP CIs 18 and 20 for their integration into IMAP Info System with a view of receiving monitoring data from the Contracting Parties for the preparation of 2023 MED QSR.

Agenda item 8: Any other Business

20. Under this Agenda item, participants may raise any other business related to the subject of the Meeting.

Agenda item 9: Conclusions and Recommendations

21. The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 10: Closure of the Meeting

22. The President is expected to close the Meeting at 17:30 on Monday, 30 May 2022.

PROPOSED TIMETABLE

| Friday, 27 May 2022 | | |
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| 09:30 – 10:00 | Registration | |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting | |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters | UNEP/MED WG.533/1 UNEP/MED WG.533/2 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3 |
| 10:30 – 12:00 | Agenda Item 3: Assessment Criteria | UNEP/MED WG.533/3 UNEP/MED WG.533/4 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3 |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | <i>Break</i> | |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Agenda Item 3: Assessment Criteria (Cont.) | UNEP/MED WG.533/3 UNEP/MED WG.533/4 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.3 (Cont.) |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Agenda Item 4: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 based on the Application of the NEAT Tool in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region | UNEP/MED WG.533/5 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.5 |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | <i>Break</i> | |
| 15:30 – 16:30 | Agenda Item 4: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 based on the Application of the NEAT Tool in the Adriatic Sea Sub-region (Cont.) | UNEP/MED WG.533/5 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.5 (Cont.) |
| 16:30 – 17:30 | Agenda Item 5: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 in the Areas with Limited Data Availability | UNEP/MED WG.533/6 |
| Monday, 30 May 2022 | | |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Agenda Item 5: GES Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 17 in the Areas with Limited Data Availability (Cont.) | UNEP/MED WG.533/6 (Cont.) |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | Agenda Item 6: Initial Marine Environment Assessment for IMAP Common Indicator 21 | UNEP/MED WG.533/9 |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Agenda Item 7: Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators 18 and 20 | UNEP/MED WG.533/7 UNEP/MED WG.533/8 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.7 |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | <i>Break</i> | |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Agenda item 7: Data Standards and Data Dictionaries for IMAP Common Indicators 18 and 20 (Cont.) | UNEP/MED WG.533/7 UNEP/MED WG.533/8 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.533/Inf.7 (Cont.) |

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| 14:00 – 14:30 | Agenda Item 8: Any Other Business | |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | <i>Break</i> | |
| 15:30 – 17:30 | Agenda Item 9: Conclusions and Recommendations | |
| 17:30 | Agenda Item 10: Closure of the Meeting | |