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Programme



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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties  
to the Convention for the Protection of the  
Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and  
*its related protocols*

Cairo, 1-2 March 1993

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU  
OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST  
POLLUTION AND ITS RELATED PROTOCOLS**

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by H.E. Dr. Atef Ebeid, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Minister of Administrative Development and Minister in charge of the Environment of Egypt (President of the Bureau).

Mr. Etienne Franzi, Vice-President (Monaco), Mr. Mohammed Ennabli, Vice-President (Tunisia) and Mr. Israel Peleg, Rapporteur (Israel) were present.

Professor Salvino Busuttì, Co-ordinator of MAP and Mr. Ibrahim Dharat, Senior Programme Officer, MAP, represented the Secretariat. Mr. I. Dharat acted as the Technical Secretary of the Meeting.

2. The list of participants is contained in Annex I to this report.
3. In his opening statement, the President welcomed the members of the Bureau and the Secretariat and wished them success in their deliberations.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Agenda

4. The meeting adopted the provisional agenda suggested by the Secretariat in document: UNEP/BUR/42/1.

Agenda item 3: Progress report by the Co-ordinator on the implementation of the activities carried since the last meeting of the Bureau and recommendations on specific issues

5. The Co-ordinator introduced the progress report, on the activities carried out since the last meeting of the Bureau (Cairo, 9-10 November 1992) and the recommendations on specific issues included in the report which is contained in document: UNEP/BUR/42/2. He provided additional information on recent developments related to MAP.
6. He referred to the last meeting of the RAC Directors (Malta, 15-16 February 1993) and informed the Bureau of his decisions concerning the modus operandi to be followed by the Regional Activity Centres and REMPEC on CAMPs and Sustainable Development. In this regard he stressed the importance that MEDU should have overall responsibility for sustainable development projects, of which CAMPs are an integral part, and the need to recruit a professional staff member at P.4 level who would have a full supervisory role over all activities relating to sustainable development.
7. Furthermore, the Co-ordinator informed the Bureau of the new delineation of work between PAP/RAC and BP/RAC and the responsibilities of PAP/RAC, SPA/RAC and the Marseille Centre for the "100 historic sites". The Co-ordinator accordingly requested and obtained from the Bureau approval for the directives, which appear in Annex II to this report, on (i) CAMPs and (ii) co-ordination between the Regional Centres, REMPEC and MEDU.

8. He informed the Bureau of the CSCE meeting to be held next May, which will concentrate on Mediterranean affairs especially security and environment and in which MAP was expected to take a major role. The Bureau so noted and so agreed.
9. The President of the Bureau stressed the importance of co-ordination between MEDU and the Regional Centres as well as with other regional and international bodies concerned with the Mediterranean environment. He suggested that a co-ordination meeting might possibly be convened by MAP/UNEP with a view to bringing together all major actors involved in issues relating to the Mediterranean environment in order to agree on the ways and means of co-ordinating their activities, avoid duplication and repetition and agree on future co-ordinated plans for the Mediterranean. During the discussion on the President's proposal, it was suggested that the Secretariat could prepare a draft paper on this matter, and that it seeks the support of UNEP and EC for arranging a meeting for policy makers and directors of these organs as soon as possible to discuss and possibly agree on modalities to be used for co-ordinating their efforts.
10. In commenting on the problem of the financial situation of MTF, and the constant delay in the payment of contribution, the President suggested the establishing of a reserve fund of about \$ 2,000,000 to be discussed by the Contracting Parties at their next meeting. It was agreed to so proceed.
11. Referring to the delay in the payment of contributions, the President agreed to use his good offices in contacting France, Italy and Libya concerning their contributions. Letters in this regard would be prepared by the Secretariat to be sent by the President of the Bureau.
12. During the general debate on the progress report, the Rapporteur from Israel, Mr. I. Peleg, briefed the meeting on his country's request for a CAMP in Israel and expressed the hope that the Bureau as well as, subsequently the Joint Committee and the Contracting Parties would approve his government's request. In this connection he pointed out that collaboration with Egypt on the Fuka-Matrouh CAMP project could be envisaged, and referred to the benefits (e.g. in training) that could accrue from the offer of the Italian Centre for remote sensing (TELESPAZIO). On SPA activities, he expressed the wish that the Tunis Centre would support his country in the preparation of a feasibility study on the establishment of natural reserves. A formal request would be communicated to MEDU on this matter.
13. Mr. M. Ennabli, the Vice-President from Tunisia, referred to the issue of the existing imbalance among the Regional Activity Centres of MAP, a matter which needs to be rectified. He felt that the newer Centres needed to be strengthened both technically and financially in order to be in a better position to contribute their share to the pursuit of sustainable development projects.
14. Mr. E. Franzi, the Vice-President from Monaco expressed the view, in relation to budgetary questions that it appeared that the budgetary situation of the MTF had improved, in accordance with the chart on the status of contributions to the MTF, attached to the progress report. With regard to the percentage of the overall budgetary increase of 10% to 15% for the next biennium indicatively proposed by the Secretariat, Mr. Franzi questioned the figure of the suggested rate of inflation (of about 10%) and felt that more information on the inflationary issue was required.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

15. Concerning specific recommendations proposed by the Secretariat, the Bureau decided that:

a) Meetings of the Regional Activity Centres

The Secretariat be authorized to ensure that there is full co-ordination between MEDU, the Regional Centres, and REMPEC, which are to discuss and clear beforehand with the MAP Co-ordinator any approaches to regional and international funding organizations.

b) New CAMP projects

i. The Bureau decided to recommend that the requests of Israel and Malta for new CAMP projects in their countries be reviewed by the forthcoming Joint Meeting (Athens, 3-7 May 1993) for subsequent approval by the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Turkey, 12-15 October 1993).

ii. The Bureau decided to recommend that the request of Italy for a CAMP project for the Venice lagoon, which would be totally financed by Italy, be reviewed by the forthcoming Joint meeting for subsequent approval by the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

iii. The Bureau decided that the Secretariat should proceed with the creation of an Ad hoc Consultative Steering Group of three Mediterranean experts with the main responsibility, under the supervision of the Co-ordinating Unit, of reviewing CAMP projects and advising MAP on their implementation. The Group will consist of a Regional planner, an Economist and a Marine Scientist and will meet twice a year.

c) Agenda 21 for the Mediterranean

i. The Bureau decided that the Mediterranean Action Plan should reorient its activities towards sustainable development principally through its two main components i.e., the Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP) and the follow-up mechanism of MAP/EC programme within the framework of the Nicosia Charter. The MED Unit is to have overall responsibility for all Sustainable Development projects, including CAMPs.

ii. The Bureau decided to request the next Joint Meeting to technically review the set of proposals contained in the report of the informal consultation meeting on Agenda 21 for the Mediterranean, held in Malta on 11-13 February 1993 and contained in document UNEP(OCA/MED WG.63/4, with a view to submitting concrete proposals in conformity with the resolutions of UNCED, for the forthcoming Contracting Parties' meeting.

iii. The Bureau decided to create a new budget line for Sustainable Development within the framework of the MAP programme. A specific amount would be proposed by the Secretariat for the next Joint Meeting to cover this budget line for the next biennium 1994-1995.

A Professional staff member (P.4 level, as per annexed job description - Annex III) would eventually be recruited in the Athens office of MAP within this budget line, and he/she would have special responsibility for Sustainable Development projects, including CAMPs. Pending approval of this professional post by the Contracting Parties, and taking into consideration the urgency of this matter; the Bureau noted that the Co-ordinator would fill this post on a temporary basis.

d) Legal matters

Admission of new states and the status of PAP/RAC

- i. The Bureau decided to reconfirm its previous decision to defer the question of the admission of Croatia to the Barcelona Convention to the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- ii. In considering the mission report of the Co-ordinator on his visit to Split (11-13 January 1993) to assess the situation of PAP/RAC, the Bureau decided as follows:
  - That the present supervisory arrangements established at its last meeting (Nov. 1992) regarding PAP/RAC should remain in force till the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Offshore Protocol

The Bureau requested the Secretariat to continue its efforts with the Italian authorities with a view to hosting and partially financing the Conference of Plenipotentiaries during the last quarter of 1993.

e) Administrative and budgetary matters

- i. The Bureau decided to authorize the Co-ordinator to take the necessary actions within the MAP budget with regard to the upgrading of seven general staff posts indicated in the organigram submitted by the Co-ordinator, attached as Annex IV to this report.
- ii. The Bureau requested the Co-ordinator of MAP to prepare a draft programme and budget for the Joint Meeting for the next biennium (1994-1995) taking into consideration inflation rates, exchange rates and the new activities to be proposed.

Agenda item 4: Date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau

16. The Bureau decided to convene its next meeting one day prior to the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Antalya, Turkey, 12-15 October 1993), that is on 11 October 1993 in Antalya itself.

Agenda item 5: Any other matters

17. A letter addressed to the President by the Hon. Dr. Stanley Zammit, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment of Malta was read. In it, Dr. Zammit referred to the meeting of Mediterranean Experts on "Agenda 21 for the Mediterranean" held in Malta from 11 to 13 February 1993 which produced an important input to the on-going international deliberations on the results of UNCED, particularly from the regional dimension of the Mediterranean. On behalf of the Government of Malta, Dr. Zammit requested the Bureau to put on the Agenda of the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties a proposal for the creation of an appropriate institutional mechanism for the implementation of Agenda 21, "a mechanism which could be built on the Mediterranean Action Plan structure and would interact with the recently established United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, acting as a catalyst to the regional dimension of socio-economic development of the Mediterranean region".
18. In conformity with its decision taken during the last meeting, the MAP Co-ordinator distributed to the meeting a new version for a logo for the Mediterranean Action Plan. The President and the Bureau made some proposals relating to the need to colour the central area in green and the addition of a map on the boundaries of the Mediterranean basin, and authorized the Secretariat to subsequently proceed with its adoption and use.
19. The Co-ordinator informed the meeting on the invitation received from the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (ICAMAS) for MAP to co-sponsor the International Conference, on Sustainable Development, Agriculture and the Environment, to be organized in December 1993, and the Bureau gave its approval thereon.
20. The Bureau agreed with the Secretariat proposal for MAP to co-partner the EC in the creation, on the initiative of Malta and with the concurrence of the Council of Europe, of an International Financial Environment Forum, comprising all regional and International funding sources, including Arab sources for Sustainable Development projects in the Mediterranean.

Agenda item 6: Adoption of the report of the meeting

21. The Meeting adopted its report on 2nd March 1993.
22. The Bureau expressed its appreciation to its President and to the Government of Egypt for hosting its meeting in Cairo and for the facilities and hospitality it had provided. The Bureau added its thanks to the Secretariat for its efforts in ensuring the success of the meeting.

ANNEX IList of Participants  
Liste des ParticipantsEGYPT  
EGYPTEPresident

H.E. Mr. Atef M. Ebeid  
Minister of Cabinet Affairs  
Minister of State for Administrative  
Development and Minister in charge of  
the Environment  
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency  
(EEAA)  
11 Hassan Sabry Street  
Zamalek  
Cairo  
Egypt

Tel. 20 2 3550164

Tlx. 91-93794

Fax 20 2 3420768

MONACO  
MONACOVice-President

Mr. Etienne Franzi  
Délégué Permanent Adjoint auprès des  
organismes internationaux  
Délégation permanente auprès des  
organismes internationaux  
16 boulevard de Suisse  
MC 98000 Monaco Cedex  
Principauté de Monaco

Tel. 33 93 151617

Tlx. 42-469796

Fax 33 93 302474

TUNISIA  
TUNISIEVice-President

M. Mohammed Ennabli  
Président Directeur Général  
Agence Nationale pour la protection  
de l'environnement (ANPE)  
14, Rue Khereddine Pacha, B.P. 52  
Immeuble BNA  
1002 Tunis le belvédère  
Tunisie

Tel. 216 1 798 122

Tlx. 409-15190 ANPE TN

Fax 216 1 789844

ISRAEL  
ISRAEL

Rapporteur  
Mr. Israel Peleg  
Director General  
Ministry of the Environment  
P.O. Box 6234  
91061 Jerusalem  
Israel

Tel. 972 2 701 606  
Fax 972 2 513 945

ADVISERS-COUNSELLERS

EGYPT  
EGYPTE

Mr. Salah Hafez  
Chairman-in-charge  
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency  
(EEAA)  
11 Hassan Sabry Street  
Zamalek  
Cairo  
Egypt

Tel. 20 2 341 1323  
Tlx. 91-93794 WAZRA UN  
Fax 20 2 3420768

Mr. Mohamed Fawzi  
Director  
Water and Coastal Areas Protection  
Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency  
(EEAA)  
11 Hassan Sabry Street  
Zamalek  
Cairo  
Egypt

Tel. 20 2 341 6019  
Tlx. 91-93794 WAZRA UN  
Fax 20 2 3420768



UNEP/CO-ORDINATING UNIT FOR THE  
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)  
PNUE/UNITE DE COORDINATION DU  
PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE  
(PAM)

Mr Salvino Busuttìl  
Co-ordinator

Mr Ibrahim Dharat  
Senior Programme Officer

P.O. Box 18019  
48, Vassileos Konstantinou Av.  
11610 Athens  
Greece

Tel. 30 1 7253190  
Tlx. 21-222564 MEDU GR  
Fax 30 1 7253197  
Cables: UNITERRA ATHENS  
E-Mail: UNICEF Network  
(ITT/DIALCOM)-UNET  
UNEP.ATHENS  
USER ID: UNC391

ANNEX II

Sustainable Development and CAMP's

1. MEDU will have overall responsibility for sustainable development projects, of which CAMPs are part. In particular, MEDU, through the Liaison Officer, will have the responsibility for the integrated planning and management of all CAMPs.
2. The Liaison Officer of MEDU will have, under the Co-ordinator's authority, a full supervisory role over all CAMPs. The Bureau has authorized, in this regard, the temporary recruitment of a P4-level staff member in Athens, who will act as the liaison officer and will have special responsibility for sustainable development projects, including CAMPs. The Bureau recommends to the Contracting Parties the eventual establishment of such a post on a permanent basis.
3. (i) The decisions taken at the January 1992 meeting of RACs Directors (UNEP/OCA)/MED/WG.40/2), para 45, and subsequently amended/added to at the September 1992 (UNEP/OCA)/MED/WG.56/5) and November 1992 (UNEP/OCA)/MED/WG.61/2) meetings respectively, are to be implemented immediately.  
  
(ii) The Liaison Officer at MEDU will ensure that these dispositions are fully adhered to.
4. Concerning the Steering Committee recommended at the sixth Meeting of RACs Directors (UNEP/OCA)/MED/WG.61/2, the Bureau gave the necessary instructions at its meeting on 1 and 2 March 1993 in Cairo (UNEP/BUR/42/3).
5. In CAMPs, the Blue Plan will offer the techniques and the training necessary for the systematic and prospective studies when the level of activity evolves from a national to a local level. On the other hand, the Priority Actions Programme will assist local and national experts by providing the techniques and training necessary for the management of the identified priority action.
6. Furthermore, to avoid confusion, misunderstandings and overlap, the co-ordinator of a specific CAMP should from the start, and regularly thereafter, keep informed the local and national experts involved, of the activities and functions of each of the Centres in the framework of that particular CAMP.
7. Once the Mediterranean Environment Observatory is established, the identification, the collection and analysis of socio-economic and especially environmental statistics, will be the responsibility of the Blue Plan, on the understanding that within the framework of a given CAMP, PAP can collect the data necessary, if the Blue Plan, once consulted, is not able to provide them. Naturally, PAP should then offer the collected data to the Blue Plan/Observatory.

Co-ordination of Activities among RAC's

1. PAP/RAC and BP/RAC

The principal objective of the Blue Plan activities, which are of a scientific nature, is to help the relevant Mediterranean authorities in the formulation of their decisions, while that of PAP, whose activities are technical, is to assist the relevant Mediterranean authorities in the implementation of their decisions.

Systematic and prospective studies in the framework of a global, national, local or sectoral approach are the responsibility of the Blue Plan, while the Priority Actions Programme is in charge of planning and providing technical assistance for the successful implementation of specific priority actions, immediate and short-term.

2. PAP/RAC, "100 Historic sites", Marseilles  
SPA/RAC

Ref.: Historic Settlements and Sites

(i) "Historic Sites", Marseilles is responsible for all scientific and substantive aspects relating to MAP work on historic settlements and sites.

(ii) SPA/RAC is responsible for the juridical aspects emanating from the relevant Protocol in the execution of which task it will regularly seek and obtain, where appropriate, the scientific input of "100 Historic Sites", Marseilles.

(iii) Training in this area will be, as from 1 January 1994, the responsibility of the "100 Historic Sites", Marseilles, in co-operation, where appropriate, with SPA/RAC, and building on the experience thus far obtained by PAP/RAC.

(iv) The 1994/95 programme for these operations is to reflect clearly the above modus operandi.

(v) The above decisions amend, where applicable, the dispositions contained in document UNEP/IG-5/7 of February 1977.

(vi) Separate directives concerning co-operation on CAMPs are given in the accompanying document thereon.

3. Approaches to funding sources

It is essential that approaches to funding sources (e.g. EC, World Bank) should be cleared with, and co-ordinated by, MEDU in Athens.

ANNEX III

Terms of Reference

Professional Post

Post: Sustainable Development Officer

Level: P.4

Functions:

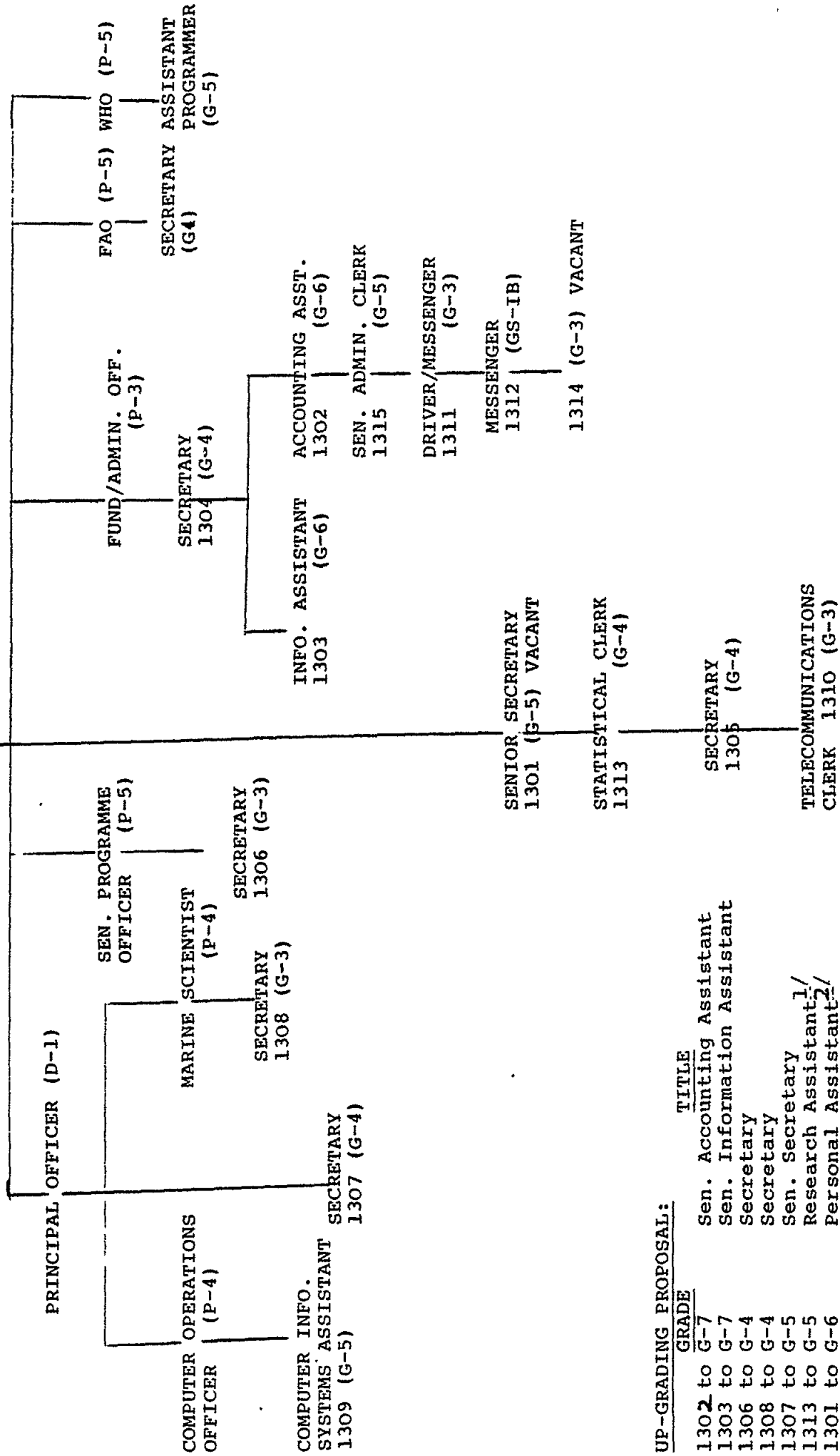
Under the authority of the Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan, the incumbent will be responsible for the promotion, financing, planning and execution of Sustainable Development activities, and in particular:

- (1) to co-ordinate activities relevant to such projects including Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP);
- (2) to supervise the MAP participation in the follow-up mechanism of MAP/EC programme within the framework of the Nicosia Charter.

Qualifications:

Post graduate degree in Economics, preferably in economic development. At least five years professional working experience in environment/development field. Fluency in written and spoken English and French. Knowledge of another MAP language would be an asset.

COORDINATOR (D-2)

UP-GRADING PROPOSAL:

GRADE	TITLE
1302 to G-7	Sen. Accounting Assistant
1303 to G-7	Sen. Information Assistant
1306 to G-4	Secretary
1308 to G-4	Secretary
1307 to G-5	Sen. Secretary
1313 to G-5	Research Assistant <sup>1/</sup>
1301 to G-6	Personal Assistant <sup>2/</sup>

1/ Previously designated Statistical Clerk

2/ Previously designated Senior Secretary